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NEWSLETTER

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

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VIII NUMBER I SPRING, 1986

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# calendar of TEXAS events



## APRIL

25-27	Muenster	Germanfest (817/759-2227) (arts, crafts, German food specialties, carnival, dances, polka lessons & dancing, magicians, clowns, tugs-of-war, entertainment)
25		Opening Ceremony, Presentation of Flags
26		Stage Events, 100K Bicycle Rally
27		5K & 10K Fun Runs, Barbecue Cookoff
26	Round Top	Eeyore's Birthday Party (409/249-5215) (games, costumes, food, maypole, Shakespearean play; at Winedale Historical Center)
27	Moulton	Polka Fest (512/596-4221) (several bands; Moulton's famous fried chicken meals)

## MAY

2-4	Rosenberg	Czech Fest (713/342-5464) (arts, crafts, Czech music, food & entertainment mixed with country music, three free dances daily)
3-4	Brenham	Heritage Weekend (409/836-3351; also Apr weekends) (tours of historic homes)
3-4	Ennis	Natl Polka Festival (214/875-2625) (dancing at four Czech halls, Czech foods)
3		Parade, Precision Gymnastic Exhibition
3-4	San Marcos	Heritage Assn's Tours of Distinction (512/396-2495) (tours of homes and buildings of architectural significance)
4	Boerne	Historical Tour (512/249-2131)
8-10	Brenham	96th Maifest (409/836-3574) (German folk festival; arts, crafts, carnival, entertainment)
9-10		Parades, Coronations
9-11	Dallas	Swiss Avenue Tour of Homes (214/826-7402) (in Swiss Avenue Historic District near downtown)
10	Fredericksburg	Founders Day & Spring Pilgrimage of Homes (512/997-2835) (city's 140th birthday celebration; German festival with pioneer crafts, foods, music, wreath laying & ceremony)
10	Fredericksburg	"History in Stitches" Quilt Show (quilted items for sale; food)
18	Dallas	WFLA Kolache Festival (512/444-2169) (Czech music, dancing, foods)

## MAY

Midland	2
Open Camp	3
Patricia	4
Lamesa	5-6
O'Donnell	7
Tahoka	8
Lubbock	9
Levelland	10
Littlefield	11
Spring Lake	12-13
Dimmitt	14
Hereford	15
Canyon	16
Amarillo	17-19
Claude	20
Ashtola (Open Camp)	21
Clarendon	22
Brice (Open Camp)	23
Turkey	24-25
Matador	26
Glenn	27
Dickens	28
Pitchfork Ranch (Open Camp)	29-30
6666 Ranch (Open Camp)	31

## JUNE

Benjamin	1-2
Rochester	3
Haskell	4
Stamford	5
Hawley	6
Abilene	7-8
Albany (Open Camp)	9
Fort Griffin (Open Camp)	10
Throckmorton	11
Olney	12
Archer City	13
Windthorst	14
Wichita Falls	15-16
Henrietta	17
Nocona	18
Muenster	19
Gainesville	20-21
Whitesboro	22
Pilot Point	23
Denton	24
Ponder	25
Argyle	26
Lewisville	27
Irving	28
Grapevine/Colleyville	29
North Richland Hills	30-July 1

## JULY

Fort Worth (Gateway Park)	2
Fort Worth Stockyards/Saginaw	3

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

A REMEMBRANCE.....

Two of our most active members have passed away recently. MISS ELLA GOLD of Fredericksburg and RUDI FUCHS of Denton. I cannot remember a slide show that I enjoyed as much as Ella's about Fredericksburg. Nobody knew more about that part of German Texas. We hope that she left her knowledge in good hands. Ella and Rudi both came to nearly every meeting. Rudi charmed us with his wonderful piano concerts. Nobody else played German songs like Rudi.

Please let us know if we have deaths among our membership. We want to remember them here and to send their families words of sympathy. If there are obituaries, please send them.

We are sorry to lose the faithful membership of Anna Eberle. She is unable to read the NEWSLETTER'S small print. You folks in Fredericksburg need to keep Anna up-to-date on our activities.

Check the list of Patron and Contributing members carefully. Dona left my name off, so she might have missed yours!

Did you notice that there is no INDEX FOR 1985 in this issue? We are giving Lorene and Ann until summer to get it together. They have both been involved in historical activities, plus Ann is directing our meeting for 1986. The INDEX will appear in June.

Our INGRID KOKINDA has been given an award by the San Antonio Conservation Society for her slide show linking Texas with Germany. Ingrid is one of the biggest promoters of German-Texan heritage in this state. She is a tour guide in San Antonio, an organizer for German-Texan cultural events, and generally the person in San Antonio for coordinating German-related activities. She is a special friend to the GTHS and we are very proud of her. Gratuliere, Ingrid!

WHERE COULD WE USE SOME HELP??

- 1) With the compiling, editing and publishing of the GTHS Registry. If you want to volunteer, please call Mary El-Beheri, 512-828-7815.
- 2) With all sorts of things for the 1986 GTHS meeting. Call Ann Lindemann, if you want to get involved in Houston 713-465-7792. Germans, German places, and German facts are popping out of every corner of the Houston area. Join the fun!!
- 3) With the sale of the last of the 1986 Calendars. If you want to volunteer to help the Society, please contact Anna Thompson, 512-282-1933.
- 4) With the GTHS scrapbook. Send pictures, news clippings, etc., about the Society to Leola Tiedt in La Grange. See her address on the front cover.

NOTEBOOK AND CAMERA IN HAND I HAVE BEEN SNOOPING AROUND BEXAR COUNTY LOOKING FOR HISTORICAL MARKERS, BUILDINGS, HOUSES, CEMETERIES AND OTHER MONUMENTS TO THE GERMAN SETTLERS. I HAVE EIGHT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHARING THE FUN WITH ME. I HOPE ALL OF OUR MEMBERS IN ALL PARTS OF TEXAS ARE DOING THE SAME THING. WE WOULD LIKE TO PUBLISH THE REGISTRY OF ALL THESE FINDINGS IN TIME FOR THE 1986 MEETING. THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE FOR GETTING THIS DONE HQS ALREADY PASSED, BUT DO NOT LET THAT DETER ANY KNOWLEDGE OR ENTHUSIASM YOU MIGHT HAVE. IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN IN THE ORIGINAL GROUP DOING THIS SEARCH, BUT YOU FIND SOME GREAT INFORMATION, SEND IT TO THE EDITOR.

newsletter  
EDITOR  
Mary M. El-Beheri  
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## REVISED SPELLING DICTIONARY

The best known German language reference work, the ten-volume "Duden," will soon publish a new, completely revised edition of its first volume, the spelling dictionary, spokesmen for the Bibliographic Institute and Duden Publishing House in Mannheim announced. The major objective behind the 19th edition, scheduled for release on February 22, is the updating of the volume's word list.

The whole text was thoroughly examined and edited in numerous instances, according to the spokesmen, and more than 3,000 new entries have been added. The last time a new edition of this standard work was published was 1980, when the spelling dictionary was revised in time for Duden's centennial anniversary.

The Reform University of Berlin founded by Wilhelm von Humboldt in 1810 became the model for American universities

Today about 25.5 million Americans or about one American in nine is of German extraction.

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HOUSTON ANNUAL MEETING

The 1986 Houston GTHS Annual Meeting will be held September 12, 13, & 14, at the Stouffer Hotel at Greenway Plaza (next to the Summit Arena). The Shamrock the previous site has been sold and will be closed. The Stouffer has been selected as a replacement hotel. The Stouffer is a four star/four diamond rated facility and is offering the same \$50.00 room rates with the additional complimentary of free coffee and newspaper. (The normal Stouffer room rates are from \$115. to \$165., this represents a 56% discount to GTHS.) The \$50.00 discount price is for each room whether being shared by 1, 2, 3, or 4 guests. When registering be sure to state if Single (1 king) or (two) Double beds are required.

The hotel registration deadline is August 15, 1986. Please reserve right away for the discount rate. There is a block of 50 rooms being held for GTHS and early registration will insure the \$50.00 rate.

To make Reservations:

Call the STOUFFER HOTEL at 713-629-1200 and ask for the RESERVATION DESK. You MUST inform the reservation desk that you are with the GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY in order to receive the discount price! (The Stouffer accepts VISA, Master Charge, American Express and Diners Club.)

DIRECTIONS TO STOUFFER

(See map insert)

From North Loop 610:

Right lane exit to Richmond. Left on Richmond under Freeway, travel Richmond to Buffalo Speedway. Right on Buffalo Speedway, then right to Freeway Access Rd. Watch for low, small, black HOTEL sign on right. Turn right to hotel.

(\*Note: The hotel entrance is on Edloe, but if you miss, go Edloe around again to Richmond and repeat.)

From South Loop 610:

Take 59 Exit to right. On 59 (E) right lane exit Edloe, Buffalo Speedway. Left on Edloe over the freeway. Just over Freeway right to hotel. (\*See note for additional help.)

SUGGESTION--

To avoid slow traffic arrive early--anytime after noon. (Rooms ready on availability) Try to avoid Houston Freeways during Friday rush 4:30 to 6:30 P.M.

AIRPORT GROUND TRAVEL INFORMATION

If you plan to come to Houston by air, the following information will assist you. Ground transport exists from each airport to Houston. The nearest airport terminal to the Stouffer Hotel is the Greenway Plaza Terminal (621-8456). Because this facility closes at 9 o'clock P.M. Friday for the weekend, we recommend arriving before 9 P.M., or use of the Post Oak Terminal (621-7370) open until midnight.

The Stouffer Hotel offers free limosene pickup to Greenway Plaza and Post Oak. For the Stouffer Free Limosene Service call 629-1200 and ask for Reservations Manager or Bellman.

SCHEDULE FOR AIRPORT GROUND TRAVELHOUSTON INTERCONTINENTAL AIRPORT:

Travel time is approximately one hour and cost is \$6.50 each way. The carrier is Intercontinental Airport Express (523-8888).

Friday: Departs airport to Houston every 20 minutes

Sunday: Departs Post Oak Terminal to Intercontinental every hour beginning at 7 o'clock A.M.

HOUSTON HOBBY AIRPORT:

Travel time is approximately 30 minutes and cost is \$4.00 each way. The carrier is Hobby Limosene Service (644-8359).

Friday: Departs airport to Houston every 30 minutes.

Sunday: Departs Post Oak Terminal to Hobby every 40 minutes beginning at 5 o'clock A.M.



GTHS ANNUAL MEETING  
 SEPTEMBER 12-13-14 1986

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12

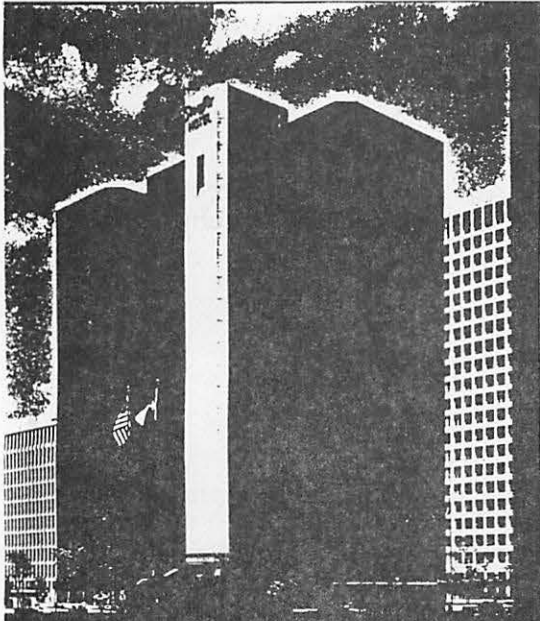
- 2:30 - 5:00 Optional Tour-CLAYTON GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY (\$7.00 fee)  
 Maxine Alcorn, Head Librarian will give tour & details of research & stress German reference materials available, experienced researchers will have work time.
- 4:00 - 7:00 Registration, Exhibits & Sales
- 6:00 - 8:00 WELCOMING RECEPTION
- 8:00 - 10:00 Board of Directors Meeting
- ? - 2 A.M. Stouffer's "City Lights" rooftop club

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13

- Breakfast (hotel or elsewhere)
- 8:00 - 9:00 Exhibits & Sales
- 9:00 - 10:00 "ANOTHER 150 YEARS"-Conservation & preservation ideas and everyday practices to protect heirlooms & keepsakes.
  1. "Conservation of Fiber Objects"-Patricia Collins, President, Textile Consultation and Conservation, Inc.(professional conservator with help for protecting antique clothing, quilts, lace and costumes)
  2. "Outline of Services and Materials Preserved in Barker Texas History Center", Head Librarian (advice on handling paper objects as certificates, photos, documents, etc.)
  3. "Plants in Texas for 150 Years"-Michael Shoup, Horticulturist & Proprietor of the Antique Rose Emporium (slide presentation showing plants, some brought by German Immigrants, thriving and being revived at the Emporium)
- 10:00 - 10:30 Break (Coffee, Exhibits & Sales)
- 10:30 - 11:30 GERMAN INFLUENCE IN HOUSTON-Topics to cover early influence to present
  1. "Frost/German Town"-Jeff Lindemann & Gladys Clark
  2. "Houston Turnverein"-
  3. "Gone But Not Forgotten"- (slides showing German influence in Houston: homes, businesses, schools, churches, etc.)
  4. "Present German (& Texan) Influence in Houston"-Goethe Institut, Federal Republic of Germany Consulate, German-American Chamber of Commerce, Deutsche Welt (newspaper), Liederkranz & Saengerbund, High School German Clubs
- 12:00 - 5:00 TOUR OF HOUSTON-Stops scheduled for lunch, walking tours, presentations and refreshments
  1. BAVARIAN GARDENS-Lunch & Special Music (fees included)
  2. HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY-Special Exhibit: "150 Years of Germans in Houston & Texas"
  3. Guests of the CITY OF HOUSTON for-Ceremony & Special Historical Marker Dedication to honor Houston Turnverein
  4. HARRIS COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY-Tour two structures & enjoy TEA at the Society Tea Room with Special Music (fees included)
- 6:00 - 7:00 Social Hour Stouffer Hotel Lobby Bar
- 7:00 - 10:00 BANQUET, AWARDS, & SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT (fees included)
- 10:00 - 2 A.M. Stouffer's "City Lights" Club (dance music)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14

- 9:00 - 10:15 Breakfast (hotel or elsewhere)  
 GERMAN INFLUENCE IN TEXAS
  1. "German Settlement in Texas"-
  2. "High School German Competition Presentations"-
  3. "Preface to Roemer's Texas"-O. T. Hayward, Baylor U. Professor
  4. "German Language in Texas"-Jos. Wilson Rice U. Professor
- 10:15 - 10:30 Break (coffee)
- 10:30 - 11:00 RELIGIOUS MUSICAL PROGRAM-German Hymn Presentation by Hosanna Lutheran Church Chior, & Chamber Music by "The Good Company" of Houston
- 11:00 - 11:45 BUSINESS MEETING-Mary El-Beheri presiding
- 11:45 - 12:00 Awarding of donated gifts and prizes



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713-629-1200

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\*\*\*\*\*  
REGISTRATION FORM...GTHS MEETING...HOUSTON, TEXAS  
\*\*\*\*\*

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
September 12-13-14, 1986  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

TOTAL COST Before August 15 - \$45.00  
(Optional Friday tour) (7.00)  
(\$52.00)

After August 15 add \$ 5.00 late fee  
Fee includes: RECEPTION, LUNCH, CITY TOUR, MUSEUM ADMISSIONS, TEA, ENTERTAIN-  
MENT, BANQUET

Make Check payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
Mail Registration form to: Anna Thompson, 1986 GTHS Registrar  
2116 Lynnbrock Dr.  
Austin, Tx. 78748

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Bus Tour: \_\_\_\_\_ How many? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$7.00 Each)

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ After Aug.15 add \$5.00)

CLIP AND MAIL THIS FORM TODAY....SEND TO: Anna Thompson....

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTE TO THE WISE: *From your Editor*

If you hate Houston traffic as much as I do, you will start to think of creative ways to get to the GTHS Meeting next fall. Some ideas:

- 1) Find a friend who likes to live dangerously and let him(her) drive.
- 2) Find another friend who has a van or a Suburban and can drive you and 10 of your friends.
- 3) Check out the possibility of renting a van and getting your son or grandson to drive you and 10 of your friends. (Use bribery, if necessary)
- 4) Make friends with a bus driver who drives to Houston regularly and could be conned into letting you off near the hotel and picking you up there.
- 5) Start saving now for a plane ticket. Get a friend in Houston to pick you up at the airport or take the hotel van.

Some of this may sound silly, but I could not be more serious. I promise you that Ann and her committee are planning a meeting that will be worth whatever must be done to get through the Houston traffic. Start planning now.

WELCOME TO HOUSTON!

The GTHS Houston Committee is very excited about getting to show the German Heritage of Houston. A very active and enthusiastic committee is working to present the varied and detailed information about the German Culture of Houston and this area. As the host city of the GTHS Annual meeting, we eagerly await your visit to Houston and plan what we hope will be a memorable experience!

Our committee would like to expand the exhibit phase of the meeting. If you have information in the form of displays or any material you feel would be of interest to the group, please inform the committee. Areas of German customs, cultural traditions, art, crafts, folklore, recipes, picture displays, or photo exhibits of artifacts or keepsakes, or any kind of informative materials others may enjoy, let us know about them. News article and bulletin board displays could let the rest of us know what German Texans are doing around Texas. If you would like to share this information please contact: GTHS EXHIBITS COMMITTEE, 17914 Nanes Dr., Houston, Texas 77090.

INDUSTRY, TEXAS PLANS CELEBRATION

The Historical Society of Industry, Texas has been in existence less than one year. The group is growing quickly and has over 100 members and has produced an historical booklet being offered for sale beginning April 26, 1986. This Society has restored a town building for a meeting hall and plans historical exhibits for display. The dedication of this meeting hall will be held in conjunction with a Sesquicentennial Celebration the society has organized. Everyone is invited to come to Industry, Texas (the oldest German Settlement (1831) in Texas) and help celebrate the Sesquicentennial.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- 10:30 to 5:00 TOWN TOUR (buildings & houses open listed below)
- 10:00 to 10:30 DEDICATION and Grand Opening of Historical Society Meeting Room
- : Noon FOOD (Lionesses of Industry)
- 2:00 to 2:30 HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION (Honoring John F. Ernst, donated by Ernst descendants)
- Held in Frederich Ernst- Lions Park
- 4:00 to 6:00 Traditional German Music (dancing & listening)
- Held in Welcome Hall
- 6:00 to 7:00 SPECIAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
- 8:00 to 10:00 Dance
- Held in Welcome Hall

Buildings open for touring include:

1. Industry-West End Historical Society Meeting Hall (with historical displays)
2. Welcome Hall
3. Raeke House
4. Friedrich Ernst-Lions Park: Old Industry Post Office & Old Doctor's Office
5. Industry Methodist Church (with displays)
6. Kautz House (with Lindemann Store Centennial Displays)
7. Gin (with historical displays)

The members of this historical society have researched historical material, interviewed citizens and documented facts about churches, schools, businesses, organizations and buildings of Industry. This information along with additional genealogical sketches have been compiled into book form. This book Historical Sketches of Industry, Texas, 1831-1986 will be sold beginning April 26, 1986.

The annual Saengerfest of the Deutsch Texanischen Saengerbund will be held May 3 at the Beethoven Home, 422 Perida Street. Participating will be the Houston Liederkrantz, Houston Saengerbund Maennerchor, Houston Saengerbund Damenchor, Dallas Frohsinn, Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor, Austin Saengerrunde Maennerchor, San Antonio Liederkrantz, Hermann Soehne Gemischterchor, Beethoven Damenchor and the host chorus, the Beethoven Maennerchor, the oldest continuing organization in San Antonio. It was organized in 1867. The concert will be held Saturday, the 3rd of May at 4:00 P.M. in the Beethoven Halle on South Alamo in Hemisfair. At 7:00 P. M. a supper will be served at the Beethoven Home, 422 Perida Street, followed by a dance. The price of \$6.00 will cover all three events.

The German Sesquicentennial Concert, sponsored by the Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund, the Texanischer Gebirgs Saengerbund and the Volksfest Association will be held in Villita Assemble Hall, May 4th at 1:00 P.M.

Joining the choruses that sang the previous day, in the Deutsch Texanischen Saengerfest, will be singers from Fredericksburg and New Braunfels, who belong to the Texanischen Gebirgs Saengerbund. Special guests will be singers from the Rheinischer Gesangverein from Chicago, who will present several numbers.

Mr. John Donohue, director of the Beethoven Maennerchor, and Wayne Marty, director of the San Antonio Liederkrantz, will direct the Massed Men's Choruses and Mixed Choruses. Mrs. Shirly Donohue, director of the Beethoven Damenchor, will direct the Massed Ladies' Chorus.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Pankratz, co-chairmen of the Music Committee, invite fellow members of the German-Texan Heritage Society to attend this concert given by choruses dedicated to the preservation of the German musical heritage and the German language.

**Wie J.R. telefonieren**

Immer mehr Bundesbürger wollen einmal wie J.R. telefonieren. Die Bundespost kann zur Zeit die Nachfrage nach ihrem Modell „Dallas-Telefon“ nicht befriedigen. Dies berichtete ein Post-Pressesprecher am Freitag in Neustadt an der Weinstraße. Das Telefon, bei dem die Wähltasten direkt in den Hörer eingebaut sind, wurde aus der gleichnamigen Fernsehserie bekannt, in der Bösewicht J.R. Ewing damit schon mal vom Pool aus telefoniert.

Merva Thompson Pankratz  
George M. Pankratz

Rte. 3, Box 3908  
Boerne, Texas 78006

Deutsche Welt-U.S.A.  
(713) 721-7277

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**\*check/Money Order for \$10.00**



The chronicle of Texas history, travel, and today's events . . .

**Der Kaffeekonsum dominiert**

Kaffee wurde ihr Lieblingsgetränk. 1984 überflügelte der Konsum dieses nach medizinischer Einschätzung nicht ungefährlichen Durstlöschers in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland den Bierkonsum. Diese Entwicklung wird unter anderem auch auf die im letzten Jahr kühle Witterung zurückgeführt.  
(INP/Globus)

Walk the white sandy beaches of Padre Island, explore the prairie grasslands near Amarillo, bask under the tropical sun of the Rio Grande Valley, relive the days of the Alamo, explore the decks of the Battleship Texas, climb the mountains in Big Bend. And then get ready to enjoy the Texas Sesquicentennial. All in the pages of **Texas Highways** magazine. **SUBSCRIBE NOW!** Twelve issues for only \$10 (\$15 foreign—U.S. bank checks only). Make check or money order payable to:

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COMMENTARY ON PRESERVATION:  
Toying with History

-12-

"A nation can be a victim of amnesia. It can lose the memories of what it was, and thereby lose the sense of what it is or wants to be."

Sidney Hyman, With Heritage So Rich

Whether living in an urban metropolis or a smaller setting, a walk through the streets can be sentimental. When we fail to accept the historical importance of our surroundings and only concern ourselves with what new shopping mall is being built or whose fast food chicken chain is replacing the hamburger stand around the corner, we fall victim to amnesia. We forget our history; we forget what our surroundings mean to us, and how they affect our worth as members of this society. And who do we value ourselves as, but avant garde models dashing to get fast food and having no time to absorb the surrounding treasures of our past. If we could just stop and take a quick lesson in our own history, we could certainly gain a sense of worth more personal than that which is in our stomachs or on our backs. When we fail to investigate our personal and city's heritage how can we expect to know ourselves and where we are going? It is just a game, we are toying with history.

One way in which we dabble with history is our ignorance, respect and failure to recognize the historical, architectural and other deeply laden importances of our city's buildings, whether civic, religious, or residential. Thus, we do not see the value of their worth. "Oh, but we must think of our city's plan and move towards progress and our economical needs", one will argue. Progress does not have to mean new. It does not have to succeed by doing away with the old. Progress does not have to exist on tearing down, destroying, making room for bigger and better. However, progress is formed through evaluating and re-evaluating, reconsidering one's plan and the value of something's costs and worth. Is it our right to determine the destiny of the next generation's lessons in history or responsibility to history?

History is not only taught or created through textbooks but also through oral histories, writings, hands-on experiences, and visual contact. We underestimate our history when we fail to understand that it is not just the dates, names, and places; but people like you and I, families, civic and religious organizations that set the stage, created the values and ideologies that greeted our cultural birth and still today affect our lives.

We toy with our history especially when we ostercize historic buildings because they are old. Granted, many of historic buildings are in poor condition, lack the design of today, have been neglected for many years, and may not be centrally located, but they possess the charm we can not reproduce, and moreover, the history that they produced.

Preservation and especially the continued education of how and why we need to preserve must be never ending. This does not mean that we need to save every item, preserve everything we come in contact with, but rather be careful and conserve that which is worthy of preservation and continued use.

I have become aware of the need to address the issue of preservation ever since I became an advocate for the rehabilitation of the two oldest structures of the First Lutheran Church in Galveston, Texas. The two buildings: the 1844 Lyceum building of the Deutsche-Texanische Freundschaft Bund, and the 1868 church building, both used as the church's sanctuaries from its founding in 1850 and renovated in 1915.

13

These buildings faced destruction due to their expensive cost of maintaining. The church could not afford in the long run to let the buildings continue to stand with such minimal usage. A coalition set out to make a stab at restoring/rehabilitating these two buildings for future use and to preserve a part of Galveston's German history as well as religious and architectural history.

The campaign is now on to raise the needed monies to restore and rehabilitate the structures where German Lutheranism was born in Texas. Grants must be matched, funds from all sources must be sought. A fund that has been in existence for several years at the church, has been allocated to aid in defraying the costs of rehabilitation and the possible restoration of the structure, known today as Albert Hall. Plans for the use of the rehabilitated structure are pending. However, I am appealing to all readers to make a tax-deductible donation to this fund. Maybe not because you are of German descent or a Lutheran, but as a gift, a part of a lesson in history and your way to ensure this structure's chapter in our future generation's lessons. Donations, gifts may be given in honor or memory of someone. Please make your check payable to FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, and send to:

First Lutheran Church  
2415 Avenue G  
Galveston, Texas 77550

Let this serve as your stand against toying with history.

Editor's Note:

They must raise \$10,000.00 by July 31, 1986.

This article written by: DANIEL ZORN  
Southwestern U.  
Georgetown  
(Native of Galveston)

## HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 600TH ANNIVERSARY

The University of Heidelberg, Germany's oldest, celebrated its 600th birthday October 23. With 600 professors and a student body of 28,000, Heidelberg, on the banks of the Neckar River, is also the largest university in Baden-Württemberg today. In the coming months numerous events, exhibits and international conferences will mark the anniversary.

On October 23, 1385, Pope Urban VI granted permission to create a "studium generale" in Heidelberg along the lines of the Sorbonne in Paris. The following year the University of Heidelberg was opened with a mass and an inaugural ceremony attended by three professors and a small group of students.

Now is a good time  
for a good time in Germany

TO: GERMAN NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE, 747 Third Ave.,  
New York, New York 10017



Goethe Institut (German Cultural Center)  
One Corporate Square  
2600 Southwest Freeway,  
Suite 110  
Houston, Tx 77098  
Tel: 528-ARTS  
Library 523-0886  
Open Saturdays 9 am - 2 pm

# German contributions to early Texas extolled

The third day of Texas Independence Week was proclaimed Texas-German Day with a flurry of German voices and sounds.

A performance by the San Antonio Liederkrantz, the Soldatenchor (the Soldier's Chorus) der Raketenschule Luftwaffe from Fort Bliss and the Musikkapelle from Markt Erkeheim, led the ceremonies Tuesday at Alamo Plaza.

Councilwoman Helen Dutmer presented Peter Maier-Oswald, consul-general of the Federal Republic of Germany, with a proclamation naming San Antonio and Mainz, West Germany, as twin cities.

"I am very pleased by the welcome I have had in San Antonio and want to give my thanks," Maier-Oswald said.

Related stories.....15-A

Henry Thomas and Henry Courtman, two German defenders of the Alamo, were also remembered.

"We don't know much about those two defenders, but we do know more about the group of Germans who came to San Antonio 20 years later," said Ingrid Kokinda, chairwoman for the San Antonio Texas-Germany Sesquicentennial Committee.

Patty Casey and Stacie Schauer, two members of the MacArthur High School German Club, remembered early German roles in the growth of San Antonio.

"The first city charter of San Antonio was written by a German in German; the first singing society

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TEXAS



was made up of Germans; San Antonio's first factory was opened by a German soapmaker," Casey said.

## Von der „Brünhilde zur Marlene“

dpa London. Die deutsche Frau hat sich nach Ansicht der britischen Tageszeitung „Times“ von „Brünhilde zur modernen Marlene“ gewandelt.

Doch unter der Oberfläche sei der Kampf um Gleichberechtigung „schärfer als in den meisten anderen europäischen Ländern“. Zu diesem Ergebnis kommt das angesehene konservative Blatt in einem am Freitag veröffentlichten Beitrag im Rahmen einer größeren Serie über die Rolle der Frauen in Europa.

„Times“-Korrespondent Michael Binyon spricht von dem Widerspruch, daß „die schicken, reichen, unabhängigen Frauen der Bundesrepublik“ trotz der sozialen und demokratischen Absicherung immer noch gegen die Traditionen männlicher Vorherrschaft ankämpfen müßten. „Es ist auch heutzutage noch schwierig, mehr als ein Dutzend Namen deutscher Frauen zu nennen, die in ihrem Beruf die Führung haben,“ schreibt Binyon.

Zwar habe sich die Zahl der weiblichen Aufsichtsratschefs in der Geschäftswelt seit Mitte der 70er Jahre vervierfacht. Doch dieses sei „nicht unbedingt eine Folge von Emanzipation“. Denn die meisten dieser Unternehmen seien von Männern gegründet und aufgebaut worden. Außerdem hätten zwei Drittel der führenden deutschen Frauen ursprünglich keine geschäftliche Karriere geplant, sondern die Firma vom Vater oder Ehemann geerbt.

Großen Raum gibt Binyon dem Standpunkt von Frauenrechtlerinnen, wonach die CDU-geführte Regierung von Bundeskanzler Helmut Kohl eine konservative Wende zurück zu den überholten Idealen „Kinder, Küche, Kirche“ eingeleitet habe. Die Maßnahmen, die sich gegen die von der SPD eingeleiteten Reformen richteten, seien nach Ansicht von Frauengruppen „symptomatisch für einen neuen Konservatismus“.

Die meisten deutschen Erfolgsfrauen – zu denen Binyon die Quelle-Chefin Grete Schickedanz, die Orchester-Musikerin Sabine Meyer und die Politikerin Petra Kelly zählt – seien zurückhaltend bei der Beurteilung der Rolle ihres Geschlechtes am Zustandekommen des Erfolgs.

# Grant stops church demolition

By MAURY DARST  
News Staff Writer

**GALVESTON** — A \$20,000 Texas historic preservation grant has apparently stopped planned demolition of the original First Lutheran Church at 24th Street and Winnie.

Constructed in 1868, it is the oldest Lutheran parish of German origin in Texas that has had a continuous ministry since 1850.

By terms of the award, however, the congregation must match every dollar of the state-funded allocation with two dollars from other sources.

Abandoned in 1959 as a site for regular worship, the vestry of the parish had voted in May to demolish the old church — which adjoins the 1844 Lyceum Building — for a parking lot.

A spokesperson for the Texas Historical Commission in Austin said the site church was selected because THC believed the site was "especially noteworthy of preservation."

According to documents accompanying the application for state money, church officials stressed the urgency of funding since members of the congregation were "unable to convince the vestry to postpone the demolition for several months so funding for renovation and exploration of future uses could be explored."

In order to qualify, the church had to rate a minimum of 60 points in categories of national, state and local historic significance in order to qualify for the funds.

Lutheran services were first held in the Lyceum, which, until 1855 stood at the southeast corner of 25th St. and Winnie. Since 1868, it has formed the west wing of the original church.

Both structures were covered with brick in 1915.

In 1959, a new Gothic-style limestone sanctuary was dedicated at 25th St. and Winnie.

Since that time, the older struc-

tures have been used as a community youth center, initial quarters for the Galveston Seaman's Center, Trinity Episcopal School, the Ball High German Club and other organizations.

In their application, church officials also stressed the original structure was "in essence the embodiment of the history of one of our state's earliest and most influential congregations."

"As waves of Germans came through the Port of Galveston beginning in the late 1840s, the congregation was brought to its zenith in membership in 1925 and culminated in 1949 with the largest attendance record in its history."

Other factors cited included:

- First church to hold Easter sunrise services over a quarter of a mile over the Gulf of Mexico (at the Pleasure Pier amphitheater);

- The fact parish records were kept in German from 1850 to 1920;

- That services were held in German until 1940;

- Lutherans have worshipped on the same half-block of land continuously since the 1840s and that

- During World War II the parish appointed a chaplain to administer to German prisoners-of-war who were interned at Fort Crockett.

First Lutheran was entered into the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

In a letter to the commission, the Rev. Vernon Rabel, pastor of

the church, noted a consortium of interests in senior citizen programming was strongly considering using the facility as a downtown center for expanded and upgraded nutrition and activity programs.

He also said interest in using the structures had also been expressed by the Royal Ballet Academy and parents seeking to establish a Montessori school.

Assisting in processing the application were Gwen Marcus, Galveston Historical Foundation; Evangeline L. Whorton, a member of the Texas Historical Commission; Keith Folzman, Pat Bowers, and Vera Danner of the vestry; Rabel, State Rep. James Hury and Galveston County Judge C. Ray Holbrook.

From  
DANIEL ZORN  
GALVESTON

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1121 Walker Street  
Houston, Tx. 77002  
Tel: 224-0013/14

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212/308-3100

**German Information Center**  
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New York, N.Y. 10022  
212/888-9840

**Deutsch - Amerikanische Handelskammer (German-American Chamber of Commerce)** 2 Houston Center, Suite 3418 Houston, Texas 77002  
Telefon: (713) 658-8230



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

- 15 -

San Antonio filmmaker, Greg Moring, has begun fundraising for "The German Imprint," a one-hour documentary film about the survival of traditional German values & customs in Texas. The film is sponsored by the German-Texan Heritage Society, as part of its Sesquicentennial contribution for 1986.

Completion of the film is set for late 1986, when public broadcasting stations across Texas will air "The German Imprint."

The projected fundraising goal is \$75,607, with \$15,000 already solicited from the Texas Committee for the Humanities. Major contributors can donate \$20,000 & up to receive a voice & art logo at the end of the film. Supporting contributors, giving \$10,000 - 20,000, receive a title & voice credit at the beginning & end of the film. Contributors donating \$1,000 - 10,000 will receive a name &/or title credit at the end of the film.

Any profits from the film's distribution will go to the GTHS & to Greg Moring, to form the "Texas Documentary Fund," a non-profit organization intended for the production of documentary films on Texas history.

All contributions are tax-deductible. They should be payable to the GTHS - The German Imprint Film Fund.

For more information write Greg Moring, Rt. 1, Box 212-A, Converse, Tx., 78109, or call him at 512/658-1840.

# Yale buys German documents

A EXPRESS-NEWS 16 Oct 1985

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Ten thousand documents relating attempts to colonize Texas with German immigrants prior to the Civil War have been acquired by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University.

The collection, contained in 39 boxes, was sold to Yale for an undisclosed amount by the William Reese Co., a New Haven antiquarian book dealer.

George Miles, curator of the collection of Western Americana at Beinecke, said Thursday the acquisition establishes Yale as having the leading collection of printed works about Texas from 1795 to 1845.

Texas became a state in 1845. It

had been an independent republic since gaining independence from Mexico in 1836.

The collection provides a history of the attempts to colonize Texas by a society of German noblemen, Verein zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer zum Texas, or Association for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas.

The nobleman's association, commonly known as Adelsverein, was formed in 1842 to acquire land in Texas and to recruit Germans to settle there.

According to the documents, Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels, a principality in Germany, traveled to Texas in 1844 and acquired 3.8 million acres from the massive land-grant holdings of colonists Henry F.

Fisher and Burckhardt Miller.

The first German immigrants settled in New Braunfels, outside San Antonio.

The project was a financial disaster for the German noblemen, who had hoped the venture would reap huge profits from land sales, a new market for German goods and a source of raw materials in the New World.

Miles said the Adelsverein suffered a partial collapse and entered provisional bankruptcy in 1847.

The documents were held for more than a century in the castle of Prince Maximilian of Weid in Germany until the heirs sold them to an unidentified auction house in the late 1960s.

# Rest insured you don't have to be German to join Sons of Hermann

By Chris Welin  
Staff Writer of The News

## DALLAS

Who are the Sons of Hermann and why are some of them women?

Not the easiest questions to answer in a few words. But the 1,000 or so Dallas members of this 140-year-old insurance society have a very good response — and an unusual history.

Actually, the Hermann in the group's name is that familiar Germanic general from the past — Hermann the Defender. Hermann who? Hermann — you know, the warrior who staved off the Romans around the first century.

In the 19th century, German immigrants borrowed Hermann's "protective" name for their benefit society in the New World. The group devised a sort of ethnic insurance policy. Today, the Sons of Hermann is strictly a Texas organization open to Joes, Janes and Wolf-gangs alike.

Dallas' SOH lodge in Deep Ellum shows just a hint of Hermann's heritage. In the bar hang lettered signs, the kind with sayings like "Happy is as happy does," only they're printed in German. A German band and dancers are often found practicing polka in the ballroom.

But most of the time, the old five-room, wood-and-asbestos-shingle lodge built in 1911, has a varied ethnic and social life.

The building itself is an urban spectacle. Believed to be the oldest wooden structure in the downtown area, its faded green paint and boxy, two-story frame make it look like a hotel on a western movie set.

Truth be told, the inside of the hall has played a part in other film genres. Several years ago, one of the two meeting rooms was used as an early 20th-century police station for a television movie about Olympian Jesse Owens, says James Stewart, Dallas SOH board president. And the dark-paneled bar upstairs was once filmed as the office of labor leader Jimmy Hoffa.

Except for the neon beer signs and the TV, the bar downstairs would look like the set from a hundred gangster movies. The long wooden bar is backed by shelves of liquor and a large mirror, the stools are herded toward one end of the bar.

The hall also remains popular with TV networks and movie crews who shoot on location in Dallas, Stewart says. After a film or program is finished, or "wrapped," he explains, the bigwigs sometimes use the hall as an out-the-way spot for cast parties. "Saw Robert Mitchum just a few weeks ago," he says.

But for sheer SOH pride, Stewart says, it's the trophy-winning bowling team that's continually exalted. Memorabilia and statues are packed into glass showcases in the lodge's bar and hallway.

Joining the organization, which has 80,000 members at 160 lodges around the state, is relatively easy. The only requirement is buying a life insurance policy worth at least \$3,000. Membership, Stewart says, is open to "any person of good moral character." If someone is not approved for a policy, he or she can still enjoy the fraternal goings-on by applying for a non-voting, social membership.

Added benefits include a youth camp for members' children 9 to 14 years old and a home for the aged — provided free to older members who have paid 20 years of premiums and who agree to will the first \$1,000 of their life insurance to the group.

"We're family-oriented," Stewart says. "I think we're a throwback to the old days."

From  
Munetta  
Coupe  
Dallas

LA  
VERNIA  
NEWS

# ZUEHL FAMILY REUNION

BEXAR COMMUNITY HALL  
SUN. OCT. 13 12pm-2pm

Oct 12, 1986  
A Day for Remembering



BY HILDA PUHLMANN  
GTHS member

Ya, Ya, alles wur shoen! We greeted kissing cousins by the dozens! As we entered Bexar Social Hall on Sunday, October 13, 1985, we were happy to hear the sweet old-timey tunes that Billy Hartmann plays for our Zuehl family reunions. Helen Hehmsoth and Betsy Zuehl registered the guests as they arrived, the count was Fritz Zuehl branch 57, the Wm. Zuehl branch 51, visitors 3, total of 111.

Next year's Chairman will be Edgar Gutz, Sr., Secretary Joyce Zoinitz Cox. Same place and date, Bexar Social Hall, 2nd Sunday in October. (1986)

## Deutsche Lehrbücher in den USA haben Mängel

### Internationale Experten-Tagung

**Braunschweig.** Deutsche Sprachlehrbücher sind, was die amerikanische Landeskunde betrifft, verbesserungswürdiger als gleichartige amerikanische. Das ist das Ergebnis der ersten deutsch-amerikanischen Konferenz über Sprachlehrbücher, die im Sekundarbereich 1 der deutschen Schulen sowie in den Oberklassen der High School und im ersten College-Jahr der USA benutzt werden. An der Zusammenkunft im Georg-Eckert-Institut für internationale Schulbuchforschung in Braunschweig nahmen fünf amerikanische und sieben deutsche Experten sowie zwei Gäste teil.

Deutsche und veraltete Einwohnerzahlangaben sowie - in einem Buch - sogar die alte Zahl von 49 US-Staaten. Außerdem werde oft der Eindruck vermittelt, als lebten Schwarze in den USA in Reservaten wie früher die Indianer.

Nach deutscher Auffassung wird in amerikanischen Deutsch-Lehrbüchern oft die DDR-Lehre aufgegriffen, die DDR sei ein Mehrparteienstaat und Berlin die Hauptstadt. Dies könne so nicht akzeptiert werden. Außerdem werde ein „zu sehr geschöntes“ Deutschlandbild gezeichnet, in dem Bayern als der „sonnige, barocke und harmonische Süden“ dargestellt wird.

Fehler, Verzerrungen und schiefe Bilder über Amerika in deutschen Englisch-Lehrbüchern seien während der Tagung, wie Professor Ernst Hinrichs vom Eckert-Institut anschließend berichtete, wesentlich häufiger kritisiert worden als umgekehrt. Als Beispiele nannte Hinrichs falsche Entfer-

Die deutsch-amerikanischen Schulbuchkonferenzen, die in den 60er und 70er Jahren bereits die beiderseitigen Geschichtsdarstellungen revidiert hatten, sollen im kommenden Jahr in Minneapolis im US-Staat Minnesota fortgesetzt werden.

Ini



## OUR TRIP TO EUROPE, By Gilbert J. and Vera T. Jordan

Last August we took a short trip to Europe with the S.M.U. Alumni Tour. The present essay is a report on the places visited and our reactions to them. We landed in Frankfurt, West Germany, and from there we flew immediately to Wien (Vienna), Austria. After several days we continued by train and bus to Praha (Prague), Czechoslovakia, and from there to East Germany, the so-called German Democratic Republic. As is usually the case when traveling on such a tour, we were rushed along too fast through places we wanted to see and photograph more leisurely. Understandably, the different travelers had various interests, and we could not tarry long at places that only some of us wished to see more thoroughly. But all in all, we got to see places, especially in the East, that we had never visited before, as well as some old familiar ones.

In Wien we saw again the old familiar palaces and castles (Schönbrunn, Belvedere, the Hofburg, etc.), cathedrals and churches (St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Karlskirche, the Peterskirche, and the Votivkirche), theaters and opera houses, like the Staatsoper, the university and parliament buildings, the city hall, all on the Ringstrasse, places of interest about famous people, like the many musicians, such as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and the Strausses, among others, as well as the poet Grillparzer, the Hapsburg rulers, even statues of Goethe and Schiller. We heard a beautiful, free concert of Strauss music in the Stadtpark (the City Park), across the street from our Intercontinental Hotel.

Praha (Prague) in Czechoslovakia was almost as beautiful as it is reputed to be, but it left us slightly disappointed because some parts are a bit delapidated, although the city suffered no significant war damage. This was also true of smaller places and the countryside we saw from our train windows, as well as our rough and noisy train itself. There is not much evidence of prosperity in this communist country. By way of entertainment in Prague, we saw a good, but noisy, folklorica presentation and an interesting "Laterne Magica" show, which consisted of movie scenes combined with the performances by live actors.

Communist East Germany seems to be more prosperous than Czechoslovakia. There has been much rebuilding of war-damaged cities, but the heavy hand of communism--They call it socialism in East Germany--still rests oppressively on the so-called German Democratic Republic (The D.D.R., in German, and the G.D.R. in English). We saw few people on the streets, and they seemed to be afraid or intimidated. We had few conversations with them and sensed that they did not feel free to talk with us. One notable exception was a girl from East Berlin. When asked why she would not go to West Berlin, as we planned to do, she said: "You don't understand because you are from one of the good countries. None of us can leave from here before we reach retirement at the age of 60."

Communism has turned East Germany upside down. I asked a guide what had happened to the large farms and estates, and I was told that they belong to the state now, but the former owners were sometimes allowed to live in their former homes, and they had to share the houses with others. There are still problems with traveling in East Germany. The long and tiring customs inspections at the borders are a sad example of poor public relations. Cars and East German buses passed through much more promptly than our luxurious, West-Berlin, "V.I.P." buses. At one crossing it took nearly three hours, while we sat and waited in our seats. The reputed presence of 400,000 Russian soldiers in East Germany seems to have a depressing influence.

This pressure affects the German authorities and reaches into the home and family life. There is a strange emphasis on large families, our tour leaders told us. While there is a housing shortage, the families with at least four children receive favors and priorities.

The chief purpose of the trip for us was to see Goethe's and Schiller's Weimar, Bach's Eisenach and Leipzig, Luther's Wittenberg and the Wartburg Fortress room where he translated parts of the Bible, and the church where he posted the 95 theses, the art city of Dresden with its treasures like Raphael's "Sistine Madonna," among other paintings in the museums, the town of Meissen and the Dresden china or porcelain factory there. In spite of the shortage of time, I managed to interrupt the brief stay in the Goethe house by reciting from memory Goethe's poem "Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh," in the original German and my English translation:

Über allen Gipfeln	Over all the hilltops
Ist Ruh;	Is peace;
In allen Wipfeln	In all the treetops
Spürest du	Winds will cease
Kaum einen Hauch;	Or scarcely blow;
Die Vögelein schweigen im Walde.	The birds are asleep in the trees.
Warte nur, balde	Wait, soon like these,
Ruhest du auch.	Sweet peace you'll know.

I had no chance nor time to recite a few lines from Schiller's famous Wilhelm Tell, while we were in the Schiller house, but I will recite them to you now, again from memory:

Erzählen wird man von dem Schützen Tell,  
Solang' die Berge stehn auf ihrem Grunde.

They will be talking of this archer Tell  
As long as mountains stand on their foundations.

The closest I got to the two great poets was when Vera took a photo of me by the statues of Goethe and Schiller.

In Eisenach we paused long enough to hear a little girl play some Bach on the harpsichord; and in Leipzig in the St. Thomas Church, where Bach once was organist and choirmaster, we were given an excellent organ recital of some of his compositions. How considerate of the busy and bustling industrial city of Leipzig to give us this restful respite! When we saw all these attempts by the East Germans to honor famous people who lived at one time in this part of Germany, people like Frederick the Great, Bach, Luther, Goethe, and Schiller, we decided that the East Germans are trying very hard to win some respectability in the world. "But," you may ask, "What do Luther, the preacher and theologian, Goethe, the great and somewhat aristocratic poet, and Schiller, the idealist, have in common with modern East German socialism or communism?"

In the art museum of Dresden we saw and enjoyed the great paintings by Rafael, Titian, van Eyck, Rubens, van Dyke, Rembrandt, among many others, and the Meissen-Dresden porcelain (China) figures and figurines, and the crown jewels. We became very sad when we saw the bombed-out ruins of the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady), which seem to be preserved as an anti-Anglo-American propaganda piece, with its inscriptions on a large bronze plaque that reads in translation: "The Church of Our Lady in Dresden was destroyed in February, 1945, by Anglo-American Bombers. The ruins remind us of the ten thousand dead, and warn us, the living, against the imperialistic barbarism,

and for peace and happiness of the people."

And it was in Dresden, as well as in East Berlin, that we saw many propaganda slogans, lettered with red paint on plaques that stretched across large buildings. There were many of these, but they were not really too bad; they proclaimed the glories of socialism, the East German word for communism: "The stronger socialism is, the safer is peace," "High achievement for the welfare of the people and for peace. Onward to the 11th Party-Day." In East Berlin we saw similar mottoes on buildings, reading: "May the victorious, world-transforming doctrine of Marxism and Leninism live long!"

We stayed in Hotel Kempinski in West Berlin and took bus tours of both parts of the divided city and of Potsdam. In the East we saw for the first time the excellently restored Pergamon Museum, which is really a revelation. Built in the teens and the twenties of our century, it was badly bombed during the war, but it has been well restored. It is a real gem of ancient Greek and Babylonian art and architecture. In Potsdam, Frederick the Great's headquarters, the tour people showed us more of the Cecilienhof Castle, where the Potsdam, anti-German agreement was made and signed by Stalin, Churchill, and Truman, than of all the other more important buildings put together.

The tour of West Berlin showed us the west side of the restored Brandenburg Gate, which is to be sold by East Berlin to West Berlin soon, the Kongresshalle, the Reichstag building, the infamous East German wall, the Rathaus, where President Kennedy proclaimed: "Ich bin ein Berliner." Incidentally, the wide overhanging concrete roof of the Kongresshalle, built by America, collapsed recently, and it will be hard to restore this "pregnant oyster," as the Berliners call the building. Of special interest was the Egyptian Museum with its mummies and the colorful, ancient Egyptian Queen Nofretete. The landmark for visitors to West Berlin is, of course, the beautiful, modern Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche (Memorial Church) in the downtown part of the city, and the old tower that was partly destroyed during the war. And for shoppers there is always the large department store, the Kaufhaus des Westens (Ka-de-We). Other points of interest are the Olympic Stadium and the Charlottenburg Castle, among others.

Our return trip, via Frankfurt and Atlanta, Georgia, took only from the morning in Berlin to 3:00 P.M. Dallas time. What a relief to have only perfunctory customs inspections at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport!

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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Years of Faith  
1528 - 1986  
March 14, 1986

1-A

St. Mary's School, Fredericksburg:

## Celebrating 130th Anniversary

by Patricia Zapp

On May 8, 1846, 120 German immigrants, under the auspices of the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas arrived at the place they named Fredericksburg. Among them were a number of Catholic families. They were hardy people who had survived the three months' voyage from Germany to the port of Indianola, Texas (since destroyed by hurricanes) and the overland trek by foot or two-wheeled cart the year before to their first destination, New Braunfels.

To give some idea of the hardships these pioneers endured, out of the 7,400 German immigrants who arrived in Texas between October 1845 and April 1846 only 2,800 were living in 1847.

The small Catholic congregation was without a priest, but gathered regularly in the home of John Leyendecker or the "Vereinskirche," the community church. In the fall of 1847 Fr. Claude M. Dubuis visited the settlement and celebrated the first Mass in Fredericksburg. At his urging, the people made plans to build a church and rectory with the promise that on completion they would get a resident priest. An outbreak of cholera, then a crop failure delayed the building's completion until 1849.

Fr. Gottfried Menzel arrived in 1848 and during his stay planted a large wooden cross on a nearby hill (Cross Mountain). It served as a guidepost for missionaries and other travelers in those days and today is a testimony to the strong faith of these early settlers.

The religious training and education of

their children was of prime concern to the German Catholics. On August 26, 1856, just ten years after their arrival, they opened the first Catholic school in the unoccupied parish house. Fran Stien, a Catholic teacher musician and recent arrival from Germany, started classes with seven students.

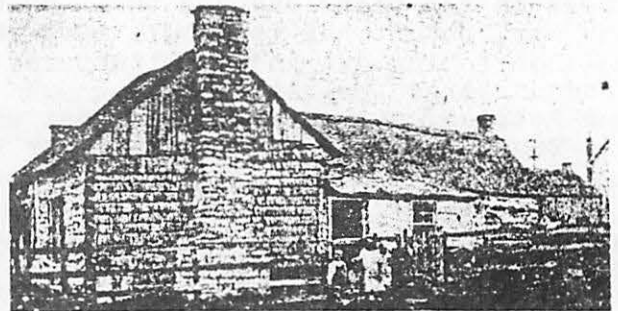
In November of that same year, two log houses were purchased and joined, forming the first real school house with living quarters for the teacher. By January, 1857, enrollment had increased to 47. A crop failure that summer forced the school to close for a year. Several teachers took over after the school re-opened in 1858, among them was William Kelly, a strict taskmaster who demanded order from his "hillbillies." In 1863, Stein resumed his role as teacher.

During these years, the congregation of pioneers had a number of priests who came to serve them, but they were often without a resident pastor. In 1861 under the supervision of Fr. Peter Baunach, the people began building a new stone church.

Their beautiful "Marienkirche" was consecrated in 1863 by Bishop Claude M. Dubuis of Galveston, the same missionary priest who had urged them in 1847 to build their first log church.

Stein continued to serve in the parish in the dual capacity of teacher and organist until 1870, when the Sisters of Divine Providence began their 109 year administration of St. Mary's School.

As the community grew, the parish and school continued to grow. In 1873, Fr.



St. Mary's first school, which Franz Stein opened in 1856 with seven students.

Peter Tarrillion, pastor, purchased a large building to house the school and also serve as a residence for the Sisters. By 1906, however, the school was again overcrowded. When the present St. Mary's Church was completed that year, the "Marienkirche" was converted into a two-story school.

Ten years later, 1916, the parish and their pastor, Msgr. Henry Gerlach, purchased a large lot adjacent to a similar lot already owned by the parish. They envisioned the construction of the "ultimate school building." In 1924, the imposing two-story structure with the motto "Science - Religion - Patriotism" etched above its portico was consecrated. It had classrooms for 400 elementary and high

school students as well as living quarters for the Sisters.

Enrollment continued to increase and a Sister's home was bought in 1949 in order to alleviate the overcrowding. The 1950s saw continuous growth in enrollment necessitating the construction of a separate grade school. In 1959, the parish opened their modern glass, steel, and concrete school. Fr. Joseph Hildebrand was pastor at the time.

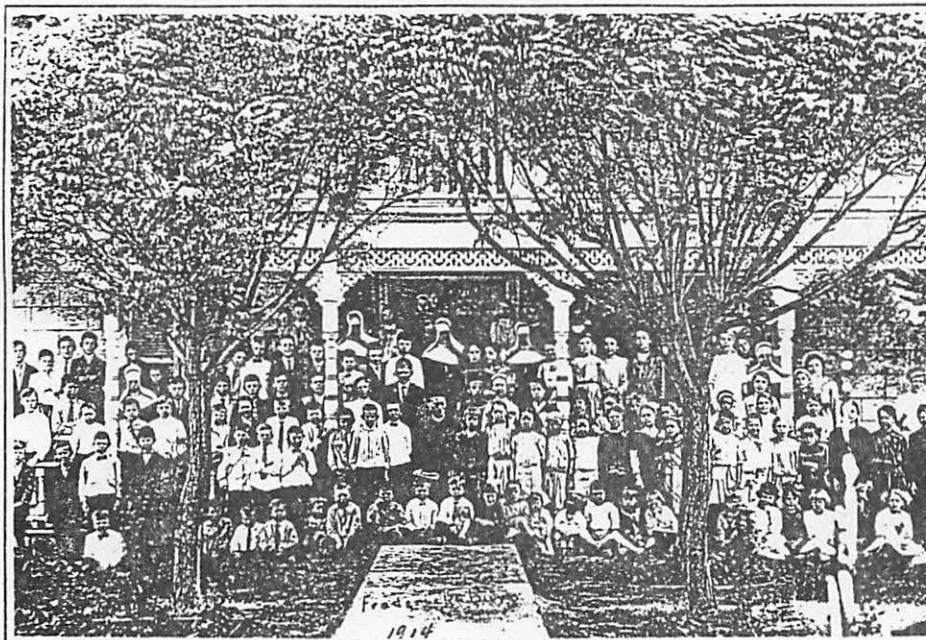
The Sisters and lay staff continued to provide their students with academic excellence in a Christian atmosphere. Both schools had been accredited with the Texas Education Agency since it continued to grow; their peak years were the mid 1960s with an enrollment of 600.

The 1970s brought a decline in high school enrollment and by 1975 the Sisters of Divine Providence could no longer staff the school. Reluctantly, the high school was officially closed at the summer graduation July 13, 1975.

In 1979, the Sisters of Divine Providence ended 109 years of quality service to St. Mary's. Since that time the school has been operated by a lay staff.

In the words of Billy Pahl, its first lay principal since Franz Stein, "Today St. Mary's School carries on the tradition of service and excellence. In the past 130 years many things have changed-- but many things remain the same."

"A glass and steel building has replaced the log structure and electric bells have replaced Franz Stein's hand bell. But the school still exists to serve the same need as it did in 1856. The school is possible because parents and parish members are still willing to make sacrifices for the sake of Catholic education."



The Sisters of Divine Providence and their students, circa 1914, in front of the building which served as the school and sisters' residence for 30 years.

**Texas**  
SESQUICENTENNIAL  
1836 - 1986

Peter C. Merrill  
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Boca Raton, Fla. 33432

Institute Established to Study Contemporary German Affairs

The American Institute for Contemporary German Studies is a private nonprofit center which was created in late 1983. The institute is affiliated with Johns Hopkins University, but is separately organized and is located in Washington, D.C. The institute conducts and sponsors research on German politics, society, and history since 1945, including research on literature and culture in a social and political context.

As soon as possible, the institute plans to organize a series of lectures by prominent German scholars and public figures. There are also plans to establish a selective seminar of scholars and experts which will meet monthly to analyze German issues. The institute welcomes suggestions of topics for its meetings, research, and lectures. For further information, write The American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, 1755 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 324, Washington, DC 20036.

New Systems Display German Diacritics on the Screen of Your Personal Computer

There is some good news for people who need to write German with their word processors. Two new systems which have recently come on the market offer an improved way of dealing with special German characters, such as unaluted vowels. Unlike some existing systems, the two new systems will permit the user to display the special characters on the computer screen. The first of these systems is the "Brink Screen Customizer", a kit which is available from Research Corporation, 6840 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ 85710 (Attention: Mark Ogram). The Brink system is designed for use with the Wordstar word processing program. The kit is designed to work only with the IBM-PC computer or with a fully compatible machine.

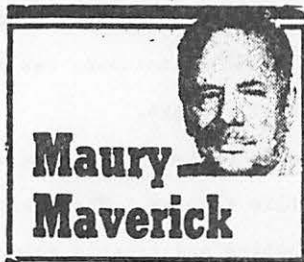
The other new system which will enable you to display foreign characters on the screen of your personal computer is the versatile new Volkswriter Deluxe word processing program. The program, which sells for \$285, is available for use with the Digital Rainbow 100, the Texas Instruments PC, the Victor 9000, or the IBM-PC.

Further information about these systems can be found in the Spring 1984 issue of the German Studies Association Newsletter, available from the Editor, German Studies Review, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. For a general discussion of the Volkswriter Deluxe program, see vol. 3, no. 11 (June 12, 1984) of PC Magazine, published by Communications Corp., One Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

Sunday, February 9, 1986

# German song of the frontier

**Express-News**  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



You doggone Altgels, Oppenheimers, Herfs, Strauses, Kothmanns, Goodes and all the rest of you folks with a German heritage like great-grandma Martha Fischer gather around this here pot-bellied stove because Uncle Dudley is going to tell you some good things about your people who came to Texas long, long ago.

But first you have to pay the fiddler.

Rush to your favorite book store and for \$12 buy Texas Fahrten (Travels in Texas), verse by H. Seele, music by C. Wilke, translation by Dr. Theodore Gish of the University of Houston, 112 pages, Nortex Press, Austin. The musical score is included.

Before the day is out, send off for advance tickets (see instructions above) so that you won't miss the premiere performance. It may very well be a sellout, and I don't want any of my readers left standing in the rain.

The English narration of the play will be done by Barron Schlameus, a New Braunfels school teacher, while the songs in German will be by a group known as the "Round Robin" of Houston. Word for word, score for score, the musical will follow the book.

## Delightful discovery

In 1880, Theodore Gish, professor of German at the University of Houston and an authority on the history of the Germans in Texas, was at the Sophienburg Memorial Association Archives in New Braunfels studying the diary of Hermann Seele (1823-1902), one of the great old time leaders of that community.

To his astonishment and delight, Gish unexpectedly came upon a manuscript by Seele which may very well be the only German-Texan musical in existence. Seele called it Texas Fahrten and wrote it in the style of the 19th-century American patriotic musical pageant or the 19th-century Viennese Singspiel.

According to Professor Gish, "The work chronicles the adventures of four immigrants to Texas. . . . Seele named his four immigrants Frisch (fresh), Fromm (pious), Frohlich (happy) and Frei (free)."

The musical begins at Galveston with these words: "It was in the year 1843, when out in the Bay of Galveston the ship 'Orion' lay at anchor." After the immigrants make it to the site of present day New Braunfels, they tell of hard times, of farming, camping, hunting and taking their best girls to San Antonio on occasion for supper at Veramendi Hall, then off "to the fandango."

## 'Ich bin dahin'

But there are sad moments in the musical, especially when an old Indian chief, pushed off the land and driven towards the Rio Grande, knows that the time has come for him to die: "Ich bin dahin; bin durres Gras" — I finished, I am dry grass.

While Seele wrote the narration and the lyrics, the composer of the music was "C. Wilke," listed in the 1860 census as a music teacher from Saxony. Born in 1800, Wilke was a member of the La Grange Gesangverein (Singing Club) in the 1850s where he was known as "Professor Wilke." Existing records establish that Wilke died in La Grange during a yellow fever epidemic.

Seele, unlike Wilke, is given fairly prominent mention in the Handbook of Texas. An original settler, Seele was a "charter member of the First German Protestant Church of New Braunfels" and later took the lead among German settlers against the Know Nothing Party, whose candidate won the office of mayor of San Antonio in 1854.

## Not so well known

Most Americans seem to know little about the impact of Germans on the State of Texas, but the truth is that Texas happens to be one of the four states with the greatest concentrations of German immigration. The other states are Pennsylvania, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

At one time in the 19th century, according to Professor Gish, "As much as 40 percent of the population of the cities of Galveston, Houston and San Antonio were estimated to be German."

To keep one jump ahead of readers of this column I have had to acquire what I call "working research

books." One of the best is the 1980 Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups, which took over a quarter of a century to be written. It describes every ethnic group in America, beginning with Acadians and ending with Zoroastrians. There are 25 pages on German immigrants and here are a few facts from that source:

"Germans began immigrating to America in the 17th century and in the post-colonial period contributed more immigrants than did any other country: over 6.9 million between 1820 and 1870, or some 15 percent of the total immigration.

"Outside New Orleans, only Texas had extensive German settlements, the result of colonization schemes, favorable climate and soil, and generous land politics of the Mexican and Texas governments. Core settlements once established attracted later-comers, and a large agricultural area, . . . centered on New Braunfels and Fredericksburg, remained heavily German.

## Staunch unionists

"Political loyalties formed before the Civil War tended to persist. Radical (German immigrant) Forty-Eighters, meeting in convention in 1863 and in 1864, criticized Lincoln for his foot-dragging on total emancipation and his leniency toward the South."

Germans like John Goode, the "brave old lion" of San Antonio, are the only people in the history of Texas who got to be Republicans for the right reason. Their position is rooted in the courageous acts of their ancestors who looked on the greed of free enterprise with suspicion.

When I bring this up around John he changes the subject, and when I remind the Altgels and Herfs that their people were democratic-socialists who operated communes which would have been the apple of Norman Thomas's eye, they roll their eyes back in their heads.

Being serious now, the intellectual history of German Texans has the rest of us beat by a country mile. The ones who came here before the Civil War were especially a cultured people. Thanks to Professor Gish I was delighted to find the granddaughter of Hermann Seele.

She is Ruth Seele Aniol of Alamo Heights, the widow of Claude Aniol. We had a high old time talking over the telephone, and here's some of that conversation:

"No, Maury, I will not tell you my age, but I am a bit younger than your mother.

## Shocking habits

"My grandmother was a 17-year-old girl, an American from Tennessee who married my grandfather, Hermann Seele, when he was 38. My



HERMANN SEELE

## . . . New Braunfels settler

grandmother's father was very upset about the marriage because Germans drank beer and played cards.

"Tell your readers that by all means they should go see the musical. For one thing, the Round Robin singing group from Houston which will do the songs in German is made up of teachers and graduate students from Rice and the University of Houston. It is a semi-professional group and its members are quite good.

"Professor Gish, who discovered the lost manuscript and has done endless work on all this, deserves much credit and so does the University of Houston, which has such a fine study program in the German language and Texas German history."

A lot of nice people are working hard to make the play in New Braunfels a success. They need your help and my help and the way we can contribute is by sending off for tickets before the day is over. Don't let those "Dutchmen" in New Braunfels get all the tickets.

Come March 22 I'll see all you Altgels, Oppenheimers, Herfs, Strauses, Kothmanns, Goodes and great-grandma Fischer in New Braunfels for some German singing and a high old time.

Here's to your ancestors who made Texas a better place, who were loyal to the Union, opposed slavery (unlike the Mavericks), kept their word with the Indians and brought literature, music and art to these parts as nobody else. Be there to honor those early Texans, but most of all be there to have a delightful evening. No kidding, send off for your tickets today, while they last.

Maury Maverick is a former university instructor in political science and a former Texas legislator.



# The Schiege Cigar Factory still standing after 110 years

La Grange Journal, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1985

From Frieda Franke  
La Grange

By Marjorie Lawson

A quaint old building in Round Top and a few tools of the trade are about all that remain to bear witness to a once thriving industry, growing tobacco and making cigars, in Fayette County.

In the 1880's the growing of tobacco and the manufacturing of "Segars" became widespread in Texas. (Segars was the common spelling of cigars in the 19th century.)

In an 1892 Gasetter and Business Directory, there were 28 towns in Texas listed as having cigar makers. By the next year, 1893, San Antonio alone had 19 cigar makers and there were 50 small cigar factories throughout Texas.

The Town of Willis attracted national attention around 1895 with 7 cigar factories. One plant alone employed over 100 people, who hand rolled cigars from tobacco grown in the vicinity. A story is told that production at Willis, in Montgomery county, was brought to a dramatic end when Cuban workers who wanted to form a

union were denied the privilege and retaliated by rolling gun powder and asfetida into a batch of cigars, making what were probably the first "exploding" cigars.

Cigar manufacturing flourished statewide until the 1920s.

A cigar manufacturer in Round Top, Charles Schiege, built his Segar Factory in 1875, according to a news article that appeared in the La Grange Journal on Sept. 30, 1968. He continued operations until the 1930s.

In 1932, special 50th anniversary boxes of "Boss" cigars were put out by the Schiege Cigar Factory. The wooden boxes had the words "light, mild" in Spanish stamped on the side. The boxes carried the dates 1882-1932 on them.

Charles Schiege was also a Cabinet maker and a Justice-of-the-Peace. His old factory building is still standing in Round Top. It is the only original building of the cigar

manufacturing era in Texas that is still standing.

During the years the factory operated, tobacco grown in the area and tobacco brought in from Missouri and Ohio was hand-rolled into cigars and distributed to areas like San Antonio, Houston and Austin. Schiege's products carried the names of "Texas Star," "Great Sport" and "LaRosa Suprema," and the popular "Boss."

H.E. von Rosenberg and Henry Bahr, Jr. were also cigar makers in Round Top. There were 8 or 9 others within a 20 mile radius of R.T. who were also in the cigar business.

Frieda (Schiege) Franke, of La Grange, is one of the 3 remaining children of the late Charles Schiege. She is proud

of her father's accomplishments and proudly displays on a wall in her home 2 cigar molds that were used in the Schiege Cigar Factory. She is pictured holding a cigar cutter that was used by workers in the factory. In the background is an oil painting of the factory and the 2 cigar molds.

The old factory building is now owned by Mrs. Charles Bybee. It was restored in the 1960's by Mrs. Hazel G. Ledbetter.

Were it not for the old building, and relics kept by Schiege family members and others, most of us would probably never know that years ago tobacco was grown commercially and cigars were manufactured here in Fayette County.



This picture of Charles Schiege appeared on his 50th anniversary cigar boxes in 1932.

**CARL GUENTHER**

Carl Hilmar Guenther arrived in New York City in 1848 and ended up in San Antonio where he founded what is today the Pioneer Flour Mills.

He traveled around the country as a young man before settling on a site nine miles west of Fredericksburg on the banks of Live Oak Creek for his first grain mill. He quickly paid off debts incurred by the construction of the mill and married Dorthea Pape in 1855.

Following the Civil War, he purchased two ice machines and started the Southern Ice Co., which was run by his son Hilmar.

The railroads came in 1877, bringing a plentiful supply of grain and increased goods for his new mill at the intersection of Washington and Arsenal streets.

He and his family built the Pioneer Flour Mills into one of the largest and most enduring businesses in San Antonio. His accomplishments are still benefiting the city today.



Mrs. E.H. (Frieda Schiege) Franke is pictured holding a Cigar Cutter used in the Schiege Cigar Factory. In the background are 2 cigar molds and an oil painting of the factory. Mrs. Franke remembers that when she was a child, she and her brother Friedolin ("Hamster") would sneak into the factory without their father's knowledge where they learned how to make

cigars from an old man named Henry Kock. She said that a cigar has to be rolled just right so that it will draw properly. She added that she could make a cigar today if she had the tobacco.

**ED STEVES**

In the 1860s, San Antonio was a town in transition. The large influx of German immigrants that was to have such a significant cultural impact on the city was just beginning and along with it came men like Ed Steves.

He was born in Germany in 1829 and, at the age of 19, came to Texas with his family. They settled in New Braunfels and he began work as an apprentice carpenter.

In March 1866, he moved to San Antonio where he bought a house on property behind the Menger Hotel and the Alamo on Blum Street, acquired a stock of lumber and started the Ed Steves lumber yard.

As his family and the business grew, he brought his sons into the business in 1879 and formed Ed Steves & Sons. The business soon became the largest lumber yard in the city and eventually branched out into the construction business.

By 1943, the business had become so diversified it was consolidated into Steves Industries Inc.

Among the businesses which became a part of the Steves' holdings were the Tampo Manufacturing Co., the Steves Sash and Door Co. and Steves Industries Inc.

Ed Steves created a San Antonio dynasty from the site on Alamo Plaza to which he hauled lumber via oxcart from the then-thriving port city of Indianola, south of Victoria. He started with \$6,000 when San Antonio had a population of 3,000 people and his legacy lives on today.

**Houston Liederkrantz & HKV 81**  
5100 Ella Blvd  
Houston, Tx 77018  
Tel.: 957-9004

**Houston Saengerbund**  
3926 Feagan St.  
Houston, Texas 77007  
Telefon: (713) 862-0887  
(Herr Pfingsten)

**Deutsche Lufthansa**  
1221 Lamar Street  
Suite 1313 Houston, Tx. 77010  
713/659-6590

**German National Tourist Office**  
(für Reiseprospekte)  
747 3rd Ave  
New York, N.Y. 10017

# A Column by Dorothy Jean Richter's husband

1985  
Dorothy Jean Richter  
1914-1985

## POOR RICHTER'S ALMANAC

BY WALTER H. RICHTER, DOROTHY JEAN RICHTER'S HUSBAND

Just took off from there.

Fact or fiction, this yarn reminds us once again of the really of man's abuse of woman, sometimes in bizarre and unseemly ways. I see no good reason for not giving Luckenbach the credit for getting the process of liberation off the ground. And while today the emancipation process is real, robust, and gaining, we've still got a long ways to go, baby.

Have I ever got a scoop for you? Well, how does this grab you? It was in no other place than Luckenbach, Texas, where the Women's Liberation Movement got its start. My informant, a usually reliable source if there ever was one (although he insisted on remaining anonymous), swears this is what happened there. It was back in the days before cattleguards were commonplace, and wherever it was that most farmers or ranchers wanted to go, a lot of peaky gates had to be opened.

Well, a Mr. Hufstetler and his wife lived thereabouts, and whenever they struck out in their pickup with their dogs in the back and got to the gate-heavy stretches of the road, he had Mama Hufstetler get in the back with the dogs. This was so she could jump out easily and open the gates with a minimum waste of motion.

On occasions when it was raining, Mr. H. would move the dogs up in the cab with him since, of course, the dogs were not involved in opening the gates, unlike Mrs. H. who stayed back there to do her duty. This was the regular routine when it rained, year in, year out.

Finally, on one particular day, Mrs. Hufstetler decided enough was enough and simply moved up into the cab with the dogs and her husband. And, quoting my informant, "The whole thing

delivered, with deadly timing, a huge shipment of styro-foam cups emblazoned in bright red with "Dorothy Jean Richter and Husband, Oktoberfest 1985." (D.J., if you didn't know, is my wife.)

Now, I wonder how many of you, in reading the above, discerned anything unusual in the dates revealed for my great grandparents' lifespans. My reference is to the fact that she was 16 years older than he and that he lived 35 years after her death. Because it has a very special meaning for me personally, I'd like to share with you the story behind the difference in their ages.

Rudolf Richter was born in Germany and at an early age was apprenticed to Huidreich Schroeter, a jeweler/watchmaker, from whom he learned this trade and became quite proficient. Schroeter was married to our heroine, Wilhelmina, with whom he had four children, a boy and three girls. Falling seriously ill, he realized that he would soon die, so he called Rudolf to his bedside and extracted from him the promise "to take care" of Wilhelmina and the children. Rudolf, being quite con-

scientious — as is the wont of all Richters, took this pledge quite seriously, and what began as duty soon developed into something more, and the two were wed, the 16-year difference in their ages notwithstanding. At age 44, Wilhelmina gave birth to a son, Herman, her fifth child, Rudolf's first and, likely because of her advanced age, only. At age two in mid century, Herman, his parents, and his four step-siblings came to America, notably Texas.

Consider the unique sequence of events leading to the birth of Herman Richter. How often is it that a dying man asks a younger man to "take care" of his wife and children after his death? How often does any young man for any reason marry a woman 16 years his senior? How often, indeed, when she already has four children? And just how often does a 44-year-old woman have any more babies?

Why does it matter? Well, when I think of the odds against all of those things happening to one couple, I tend to break out in a cold sweat — for the simple reason that Herman eventually became my grandfather. I would have truly missed being here, and I came so very close.

Perhaps now you can appreciate why I've made all this fuss about Wilhelmina and Rudolf. I particularly want her to get her share of

the credit for pulling the whole thing off, and I want both of them to rest in peace forevermore.

Having said all of the above, I feel impelled to report that our Oktoberfest for 1985, which would have featured such celebrities as Liz Carpenter, CBS' Bill Moyers, three members of the Texas Women's Hall of Fame, and another 20 of Texas' finest women leaders, was literally washed out. It rained all day, marking the first Oktoberfest at the Rickshack in 10 years not blessed with beautiful fall weather.

But wait. It was not a total washout. Some 80 brave souls, friends who were adventurous as well as true, showed up, and the Rickshack walls which had known the presence of Wilhelmina, Rudolf, Herman, my grandmother, my father, and his eight siblings received them in the spirit of good will and good fellowship. Besides, any Texas ranch can always use a good three-inch rain.

While only about a third of those who had planned to attend made it, those who did really had, if you'll pardon the expression, a damp good time. And, frankly, if four or five more good pilgrims had shown up, I do believe those venerable old walls would have come tumbling down. Seriously now, have a very Happy New Year!

### Ein gutes Gericht von übergebliebenem Fleisch.

Man schmore eine große Zwiebel gelb, gebe etwas Wasser dazu, schneide 2 oder 3 Kartoffeln in Scheiben, und 2 große Pfefferkörner, einige Tomaten, einen Zeller voll übriggebliebenem Fleisch, Salz und Gewürz, zuletzt 3 bis 4 Eier. Alles lasse man nochmal durchkochen.



GERMAN HERITAGE TOUR XI



LANDSCAPES OF MEMORY: THE OLD EUROPE

with

Professor and Mrs. Glen E. Lich



Depart on Saturday, 14 June 1986 || Return on Saturday, 28 June 1986

The eleventh annual German Heritage Tour departs from San Antonio and other cities for a two-week, fully escorted excursion through Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Austria. Focusing on the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the German-speaking countries, this educational tour will highlight the ways in which traditions shape and guide modern life. Art and architecture, geography and religion, politics and commerce reveal many insights into everyday life in this beautiful but dynamic part of Europe.

The unique historic background of this wonderfully interesting region has, of course, left its mark on rural and urban life even today. The folk groups, accustomed to diversity and exchange, have nonetheless retained remarkably distinct identities and ideas. This tour will show the observant traveler a mosaic of heritages that have contributed to the building of a European community.

German Heritage Tours feature group rates on regular airlines, deluxe motorcoaches, exquisite hotel accommodations, and carefully selected menus. All arrangements are made with comfort, interest, and variety in mind. These tours have made a name for themselves through careful attention to details and through their personal nature.

The tour directors are well acquainted with their subject matter. Dr. Lich teaches English and German at Schreiner College and publishes extensively on folklore, history, and literature. Mrs. Lich teaches at Ingram Tom Moore High School. A small, convivial group of people interested in observing first-hand the authentic and traditional way of life of these cultures will be selected for this tour. All tour members receive personal attention from the moment they sign up until after the tour is over. For members who have never made a transatlantic trip, the directors will provide step-by-step instructions. Packets of brochures, maps, and booklets about the cities and regions highlighted on the trip will be sent to all travelers. During the trip, the tour directors serve as guides and coordinators, offering comments, information, and occasional wit to the itinerary.

The schedule is carefully planned, but is flexible, allowing time to make occasional side trips or to concentrate on a special group concern--whether farms, castles, museums, shopping, or art and opera. The bus will be frequently directed onto the slow, narrow country roads rather than onto the corresponding superhighways linking cities on the tour.

For an itinerary and illustrated brochures, please write or telephone Professor and Mrs. Glen E. Lich, Westland Place, 718 Jackson Road, Kerrville, Texas 78028. Tel. 512-257-3439 after four. Reservations are made on a first-come first-served basis. Only a limited number of tickets to the famous Vienna Opera are available for performances of Turandot and Aida!

From: Meredith McClain, Lubbock

- May 1 - 3: Arrival of 20 professional folkdancers from Salzburg, Austria.
- June 1: Opening of an exhibit of cowboy art from the Texas Tech Ranching Heritage Center in Saarbrücken, West Germany, during the "Texas Week" to be sponsored by the German-American Institute there.
- June 30: Two Texas Tech Graduate Students from the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages to participate in a special three week seminar for Texas teachers of German in Hannover, Bonn, and West Berlin.
- Fall 1986: Banking Apprentices arrive from Hannover for a three week exchange seminar in the School of Business at Texas Tech. Approximately 20 students.
- Spring 1986: Electrical Engineering students from Lower Saxony, West Germany, to arrive in Lubbock for a three week exchange seminar in the School of Engineering at Texas Tech.

*Sequicentennial German Events in Lubbock, TX. include the following*



# dancers' schedule

By ERIC STEELE  
University Daily Lifestyles Reporter

This Sunday in Slaton will be only the tip of the iceberg of events and appearances by the Texas Tech German Dancers this year.

The annual Wursthfest in Slaton always is one of the highlights of the year for the dancers. The Wursthfest traditionally has been a time for people from all across Texas to meet in Slaton for a German/Texas celebration.

Meredith McClain, director of the Southwest Center for German Studies at Tech, described the Wursthfest in a 1973 article published by Texas Highways. "The down-home food served up on Wursthfest Sunday in this rural Texas setting by spirited German-Texans of St. Joseph's Parish saves February for hundreds of food festival fans who feel a twinge of wander just after a bland January.

"Before or after they indulge at buffet tables laden with wurst, sauerkraut, beans, potatoes, homemade breads and cakes, guests can enjoy a variety of other activities," McClain wrote.

The Wursthfest is as much about eating as anything else. The event has grown in popularity through the years and in 1983, 6,500 pounds of meat was consumed during the festival. A 200-year-old Austrian recipe is tediously put into effect when the huge amounts of sausage are made.

The Tech German Dancers will be a part of the festivities when they perform at around noon Sunday. Slaton is about 15 miles southeast of Lubbock on U.S. 84 for those interested in attending.

Founder and Director of the Tech German Dancers, Randy Kirk, will be busy hosting two groups of 20 German visitors in late February and early March. The groups are visiting Texas as part of the Sesquicentennial celebration this year.

Kirk, a senior German major, has been the director of the German dancers since he first conceived the idea in 1978. He is responsible for much of the group's organization and management.

"They're going to see some things many Texans haven't seen. For many of these visitors, it's going to be like it was heaven sent. This is history-making for them," Kirk said.

The two groups, consisting of 20 band members from Munich and members of the Memmingen Western

Corral, will have a hectic schedule that ranges from participating in the Governor's Parade in Austin to spending an evening at Billy Bob's in Fort Worth.

"We're going to expose them to as much Sesquicentennial events as we can manage within a week."

Kirk's responsibilities don't end once the visitors board a plane and head back to Germany. He'll be busy preparing for the arrival of a new batch of visitors from Heidelberg, Germany.

"They are the equivalent of a 4-H type club. The Heidelberg group hosted us when we were in Germany over the summer and now we have the opportunity to return the favor. We're going to try to make them feel as comfortable as they made us feel," he said.

The German dancers will host the visitors at their homes during the group's stay in Lubbock. While in the Hub City, the group will meet with mayor Alan Henry and Tech president, Lauro Cavazos.

From Lubbock, the Heidelberg group will travel across Texas learning more about its history and culture. Their travel will take them to, among other cities, Dallas, Austin and Houston.

"It's extremely expensive for Germans to come here, yet they're all doing it because of what's going on in Texas this year. It cost us about \$800 to go overseas last summer, but triple that cost for them (because of the money exchange)," Kirk said.

But the benefits of traveling abroad seem to outweigh the costs. Rose Hurst, a German teacher at Lubbock High School, and McClain have been working to coordinate an exchange program between a high school in Munich and Lubbock High.

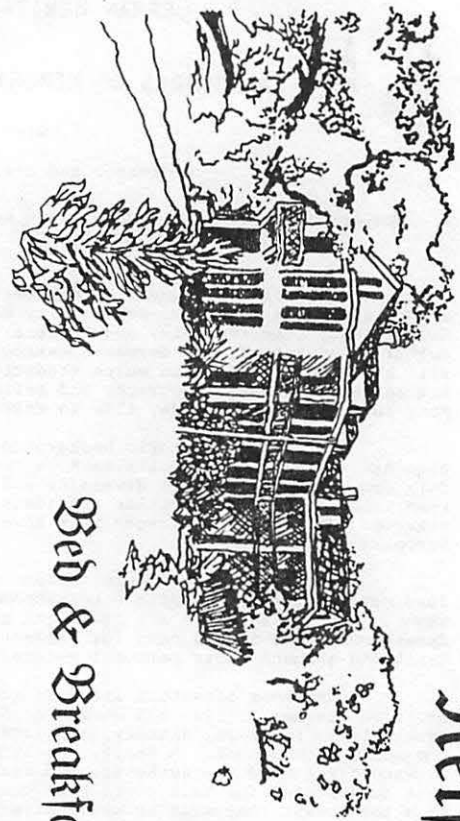
It may be as soon as March when the German half of the exchange arrives in Lubbock. They will be housed in the homes of the Lubbock students where they'll learn about Texas culture and lifestyle.

The Lubbock students may complete the exchange this summer by traveling to Germany and staying with German families, Kirk said.

The dancers have been asked to perform on German Day (Oct. 11) at this year's Texas State Fair in Dallas and they will also have a presentation at the Lubbock Civic Center March 2 as part of the state's Sesquicentennial Day celebration.

From Meredith McClain

Lubbock



Bed & Breakfast

Reiffert Mijige Inn

The Reiffert-Mijige Inn  
304 W. Sprainie St.  
Cuero, Texas 77954  
512-275-2626



mil Reiffert was a German immigrant, Confederate veteran and President of S. Stange & Co., the first chartered bank in Texas. In 1868 he built his home at the prospering seaport of Sabinola on Matagorda Bay. There it withstood destruction by two Sinc-Sn-21-Century hurricanes in 1875 and 1886. Sabinola bid not. Devastation was all but complete. Curioibors with salvageable buildings, had them dismantled and shipped inland. Many like Mr. Reiffert came to Cuero. Here the home was reassembled and enlarged in 1887. It served as the residence of Mr. Reiffert's family until 1980.



# THE STEVES HOMESTEAD

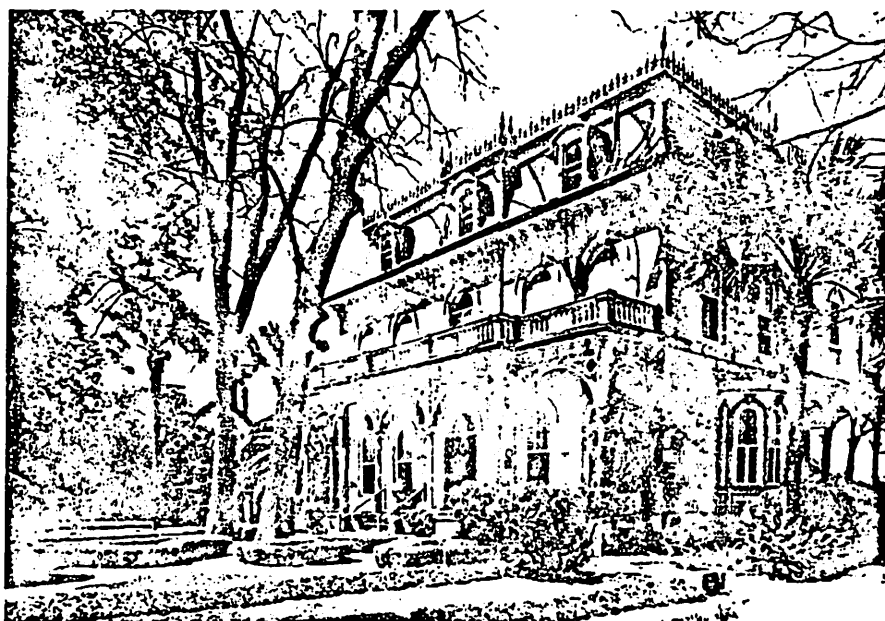
## A Family Gift to the City of San Antonio

By Mary Lance

Out front of the splendid three-story Victorian mansion, with its slate-covered mansard roof topped in delicate wrought iron, is an unpretentious wooden fence painted a creamy ivory color to match the trim on the home. Made of tidewater cypress and fitted together with wooden pegs, this fence is 110 years old—sturdy, functional, still demarking the land around the Steves Homestead at 509 King William Street. This fence is characteristic of family founder Edward Steves, an industrious German immigrant whose faith in his new country has been passed on to seven succeeding generations in San Antonio. Constructed even before the house, this fence was built to last a lifetime and more, using only the best of materials. A plainly functional fence that's standing today as a silent symbol of a family that has returned to the community as much as it has received.

Edward Steves was part of a wave of German immigrants who came to America in the 1840s, a nineteen-year-old lad who first farmed the rolling hills near Comfort, Texas and then moved to San Antonio where he called on his cabinetmaking skills and founded Steves Lumber Company in 1866. By 1874, the lumber business was prospering, and Edward Steves began to build his dream home in San Antonio's first subdivision, the King William area, then called "Sauerkraut Bend," so named because of the many German families who settled in this area of the San Antonio River. Alfred Giles, the renowned San Antonio architect, is reputed to have designed this eclectic Gothic Revival mansion.

In 1952, Edna Steves Vaughan, who inherited the home, donated it to the San Antonio Conservation Society as a memorial to her grandparents, the Edward Steves, and her parents, the Albert Steves. The Steves Homestead is the only home along King William open to the public on a regular basis. Tour guides are volunteers from the



The Steves Homestead is a delightful combination of Gothic, Renaissance, and Victorian influences.

LARRY PEARLSTONE

Conservation Society, their genuine care for the home clearly evident, adding to the warmth and fun of a tour.

The sweet grape-like scents of the purple mountain laurel in the side garden greets visitors in the spring. The beautiful house looms upward, a delightful combination of Renaissance, Gothic, and Victorian influences. Graceful wooden arches with carved jigsaw designs frame the front porch, while five limestone arches outline the floor-to-ceiling windows and one door on the first two floors. On the third floor, five more arches, in appropriately smaller scale, frame the upper windows. Hints of deep red and a soft gray outline the arches and windows. A balustrade balcony runs across the second-floor porch, the steel-gray slate roof is a filigree wrought iron railing, intricately silhouetted against the sky. The slate of the roof is laid in both a horizontal and diagonal pattern, creating an almost gingerbread-house look.

The Steves Homestead stands as a social statement, one that announced during the Centennial year in America that San Antonio had arrived.

Chairman of the Steves Homestead for the San Antonio Conservation Society, Nancy Steves, believes it was Edward Steves' passion to help refine San Antonio society, to participate in the making of a city. He threw himself into community affairs, was active in the arts, was known for his patriotism, and then built his house as a statement about what fine living was like in San Antonio, a part of America still considered a frontier.

The grand hallway sweeps the entire length of the house and is so wide a carriage could have been driven through. The walnut staircase is covered in an Oriental runner and rises steeply to the second floor. On the first floor, there is a sitting room to the right and a parlor to the left. Three bedrooms are upstairs. Little of the original furniture remains, but the home is now furnished with examples of Victorian pieces appropriate to the times. On display is a seven-piece matched parlor set of Belter furniture, a 130-year-old piano made by Chickering (donated by Yale University) and a canopy bed in which Robert E. Lee once slept. Spaciousness best describes the interiors,

sunlight streaming gently from the ceiling-high windows in every room.

As a visible sign of what to them was a blessed and fruitful marriage, Edward and Johanna gave a 25th anniversary party on December 26, 1882, in their home. It was to be the social event of the year. The Steves decorated the third floor and served a twelve course meal to 250 invited guests. Since there was no dumb waiter, servants patiently carried all twelve courses up and down three flights of steep stairs. After the party, the happy couple left for Europe. On an end table in the south parlor is a framed copy of the invitation for the silver wedding anniversary party.

There is a carriage house and the "River Haus," on the grounds also. The river house was built as the "Natatorium," one of the earliest indoor pools in San Antonio. Johanna, who outlived her husband by forty years, took her daily water exercise here. Other ladies may have thought it unseemly to swim, but Johanna seldom missed her daily dip. This strong-willed woman, known as "The Mother of the Lumber Industry in Texas," encouraged her grandchildren to have fun in the water. The brass bell she used to ring to signal her grandchildren that their swim-time was over still hangs in the kitchen. In addition to mountain laurels, landscaping of the homestead includes fifty-foot and taller pecan trees, cypress, magnolia, palm, black walnut, and anaqua trees.

Marshall T. Steves, great-grandson of Edward, today heads Steves & Sons, as the original Steves Lumber Company is now called. One of the world's largest manufacturers of doors, Steves & Sons is the oldest company under the same continuous family ownership and management in the building materials industry in the United States. The now 119-year-old firm manufactures 12,000 residential and light commercial doors daily in plants in San Antonio, Richmond, Virginia, and Lebanon, Tennessee.

When asked to tell about his family, Marshall Steves laughs heartily. "Which family?" he chuckles, thinking of the seven generations of Steve progenitors numbering now nearly a hundred. "There are sixteen blood relatives who have been mayors or alcaldes of the city of San Antonio and my father, Albert Steves, Jr., was mayor of Terrell Hills." Then, beginning to speak about his father, a quiv-

er of emotion flickers across Marshall's face. "Every single day we were gone, we got a letter from my father. Weekdays, he would dictate them, on Sunday, they would be written in longhand. I've saved every one of them. My father's life was his five sons."

From Edward Steves down through Marshall, this attitude of family-comes-first 'is alive and flourishing, explains Nancy Steves

The San Antonio Conservation Society also sponsors a Community Guide Service. For a group walking tour of King William (and other historic sites in San Antonio) contact chairman Jane Foster at 224-6163.

These tours are customized for the individual group and besides the King William area include tours of downtown San Antonio as well as special neighborhood tours. The focus of the tours is on historic preservation and the architecture, history and development of San Antonio. Tour guides are volunteers and members of the San Antonio Conservation Society.

(Marshall's daughter-in-law). Marshall talks with each son every day, and if one is sick, there is a daily visit in person, Nancy relates.

"We always celebrate the holidays together as a family," explains Nancy Steves, remembering many a July 4th gathering which she characterizes as a little Texas picnic in the Hill Country, with firecrackers and a lot of red, white, and blue. You are apt to meet the governor and a slew of senators. But it is Christmas that Nancy remembers most, gathering at the Steves Homestead, sometimes more than a hundred of them on every December 23rd for an evening of singing to neighbors in King William. We call it 'Cousins Caroling.' Even those who aren't speaking come," quips Nancy, "so important is the tradition of being together. Personalities are put aside and for that night we all hold hands." On a cold December night, kids fidgeting, grownups laughing, everyone talking at once before the singing begins, one can sense Edward and Johanna Steves' spirits smiling down on this now century-old clan, and they must be saying, "It is good." ■

The Steves Homestead, 509 King William Street, San Antonio, Texas, 78204 is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Telephone 225-5924. Chairman of the Steves Homestead for the San Antonio Conservation Society is Nancy Steves; Co-chairman is Carroll Nelson.

## Marie Fortin, Dallas

By Anne K. Kolesar  
*Texas Catholic*

When Marie Fortin first sent for her beginner's rosary-making kit, little did she suspect that she would create thousands of rosaries that would be sent all over the world. Years of practice with the wire now allows her to make uniform turns that produce the chain spaces in the rosary. This was the most difficult step for her to learn, she confided.

"I don't do the steps exactly the way the instructions say but it comes out the same," Marie said, modestly adding, "Some of the people that I taught are able to make the chains better."

Marie works carefully at her craft. Her hands move quickly and efficiently in creating a decade of Hail Mary beads for a new rosary. For many the task might seem monotonous or tedious, but for the Dallas woman, it is a labor of love.

Marie is founder of Our Lady of Fatima's St. Jude Rosary Making Club at St. Pius X Church, where she has been a parishioner for 20 years. She and the other members of the club work diligently to produce rosaries to fill the needs of those who request them in the national organization's monthly newsletter.

**MARIE'S ROOTS** are deep in the German Catholic traditions of Texas. She grew up in Pilot Point, a close knit community where the Boerner family is well known. As a young girl, Marie carried lunch to the workers in the field outside of the town. One of the young workers was Thomas Tschoepe, now bishop of the Dallas diocese. Marie and Bishop Tschoepe are still close friends, she said.

Her father, William "Frank" Boerner and two of her brothers still live in the small farming community. Marie's mother, Rosa Fisher Boerner, died some years ago. Marie visits her 88-year-old dad frequently.

From  
Mrs. Albert  
Haupt  
Dallas

Dear Reader:

I am a second year history major at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. I am beginning my senior research thesis on the topic of German-Texan Pioneer Women. My thesis covers the years between 1820-1920 dealing with the issue of the German Texan woman as a Southern lady. I am in need of primary sources and I am asking for your possible assistance.

I have already produced a paper on this subject using autobiographies, biographies, short stories, letters, journal articles, addressing the issue of the German-Texan frontier woman. I wish to expand my sources in order to fully develop my thesis.

I am hoping someone reading this letter may wish to share with me such valuable information either in the original form, photocopied or general summary in order for me to become aware of what type of resources can be at my disposal. I am really looking for any type of information.

I would gratefully appreciate anyone's help and assistance. I have come to many dead ends due to the fact that little is written concerning women, especially German-Texan women and that many books and articles are no longer in print or were published privately.

Please let me know if you can help me. I would be more than happy to arrange some type of correspondence/ literature exchange with you.

Sincerely,  
Daniel R. Zorr.  
Box 6059  
Southwestern University  
Georgetown, Texas 78626

512-863-1193

## Gute Nachricht für Schmidt, Müller und Meier Bielefelder Sprachwissenschaftler schrieben aufschlußreiche Familienbücher

Wiesbaden. Auch Allerweltsnamen haben ihre historisch verbürgten Wurzeln, wechselvolle Entwicklungsgeschichten und „namhafte“, oft in die Geschichte eingegangene Träger. Bundesbürger namens Schmidt, Müller, Meier oder Schneider, die sich hinsichtlich besonderer Eigenarten ihres Zunamens bisher keinen großen Illusionen hingaben, haben jetzt Gelegenheit, zu mehr Selbstbewußtsein und einem völlig neuen Namensgefühl zu kommen.

Bei der Gesellschaft für deutsche Sprache (GfDS) in Wiesbaden hat der Bielefelder Univers Verlag auf die erste Buchreihe aufmerksam gemacht, die sich ernsthaft mit solchen Namen auseinandersetzt. Nach diesen ersten vier „Familienbüchern“ haben die beiden Autoren, zwei angehende Sprachwissenschaftler von der Universität

Bielefeld, bereits die nächsten Werke für Anfang 1985 in Arbeit, die allen Beckers, Wagners, Fischers und Webers gewidmet ist.

Im „Schmidt-Buch“ der ersten Serie erfährt Leser Schmidt, daß der Ursprung seines Namens eigentlich bei den griechischen Göttern liegt, in deren Welt die Schmiede eine hervorragende Rolle spielten. In der Urform sei der Name mit dem anspruchsvollen „Bildner“ zu übersetzen, versichern die Autoren nicht nur allen Schmidts, sondern auch denen, die Schmitz, Schmitt und Schmid heißen. Dank des geballten Vorkommens der Abwandlung „Schmitz“ hat die Namensgruppe in Köln mit 1,37 Prozent der Einwohner (davon 53,6 Prozent Schmitz und 35,4 Prozent Schmidt) auch die höchste Häufigkeitsrate aller Großstädte im Gebiet der Bundesrepublik, erfährt man.

Ein festes Gefühl der Zusammengehörigkeit mit all den anderen Trägern dieses Namens überkommt den lesenden Schmidt beim Aufschlagen des Kapitels „Familienalbum“ über die großen Schmidts dieser Welt. Es fängt schon bei „A“ wie „Apokalypse-Schmid“ an, worunter an den Stifter der thüringischen Geißlersekte, Konrad Schmid im 14. Jahrhundert, erinnert wird. „Hottentotten-Schmidt“, so das Schmidt'sche Familienalbum weiter, machte sich um 1750 als Missionar Georg Schmid im Süden Afrikas verdient, und „Heißdampf-Schmidt“ (Wilhelm) verdankt die Welt (1897) die Erfindung eines Dampf-Überhitzers für Lokomotiven. Der Auflistung, die in den Politikern Carlo Schmid und Helmut Schmidt gipfelt, folgt das wichtige Kapitel „Was Sie schon immer über Schmidt wissen wollten“.

Auf einer Weltkarte schließlich kann jeder Schmidt nachprüfen, wo sein Name Niederschlag in der Geographie gefunden hat. Das geht von „Schmidt bei Aachen“ über „Ostrov Schmidt“ in der UdSSR bis zum „Schmidt-Otto Seamount“, einem Unterwasserberg in 1480 Meter Tiefe bei Kapstadt.

Nach dem gleichen Schema aufgebaut und mit der selben Informationsfülle versehen wie das Buch Schmidt sind auch die allen Müllers, Meiers und Schneiders gewidmeten Werke. Allen gemeinsam ist ein Kapitel, das den Leuten mit Allerweltsnamen ausführliche Hinweise gibt, wie neu gewonnenes Namensbewußtsein vertieft werden kann, indem man sich als Namensforscher auf die Spuren der eigenen Familien-Geschichte begibt.

Richard Schmidt



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ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF

# DR. NOT AFRAID

## E. R. Kellersberger, M.D.

A Definitive Biography of  
EUGENE ROLAND KELLERSBERGER



Dr. Kellersberger's  
1916 passport photograph

Biologist, Researcher, Physician, Surgeon  
Medical Missionary, Ordained Minister, Leprologist  
Author, Administrator, World Traveler, Fisherman

Faithfully-kept diaries record the warm and tender life-story of Dr. Eugene Roland Kellersberger. "Dr. Not Afraid", his leprosy patients called him, because he was not afraid to touch them.

His uniquely adventurous biography has roots in Germany, where in 1844 his great grandfather was given a Bounty Land Grant in the Republic of Texas, honoring a fallen hero of the Battle of San Jacinto. The 277-day voyage of his Swiss grandfather from New York around Cape Horn to San Francisco is described, with first hand accounts of energetic engineering feats, vigilante vs. violence, and speculators' intrigues during the California Gold Rush.

Dr. Kellersberger's boyhood was spent at Cypress Mill amid the hazy, mesquite-framed distances of the beautiful "Texas Hill Country." Three times during his student days he had the narrowest of escapes, impressing upon him a sense of destiny and purpose for his life. He had the prettiest of classmate sweethearts, one who, amazingly, shared with him the same birth hour, birth date and birth year — high noon, on August 6, 1888!

A hazardous, wartime journey in 1916, during the grim days of World War I, took the young couple to their chosen medical missionary field in the Belgian Congo. The doctor's daily diaries record the hard, concerted efforts of the years spent in the eradication of African sleeping sickness, spurred on by his wife herself having contracted the disease. There is a bitter family tragedy that snatches away the one whom Congolese Christians had named "The Beloved", leaving two little motherless daughters.

There is a second romance, extorting six years of waiting and heartache for the gifted woman who would later walk by his side for 36 years. This life story also includes the thirteen years of brilliantly active public life that Dr. Kellersberger served as president of the American Leprosy Missions. He literally covered the globe in this determined fight against Hansen's Disease, doing battle on behalf of its sadly discriminated-against victims.

## Luther-Bibel wurde entdeckt

**Würzburg.** Bei Ordnungsarbeiten im Würzburger Stadtarchiv ist eine Luther-Bibel entdeckt worden. Das mit zahlreichen Holzschnitten illustrierte Exemplar aus dem Jahr 1541 erschien bei Hans Lufft, dem „Bibeldrucker“ Luthers, in Wittenberg. Nach Angaben des Stadtarchivs gewinnt der Band zusätzliche Bedeutung, weil auf der Innenseite des Einbanddeckels ein von Luther stammendes Schreiben eingelegt ist. Hierin erläutert der Reformator eine Stelle aus dem Johannes-Evangelium (5,39), wo es um das Studium der Heiligen Schrift geht. dpa

*Austin American Statesman*

For cocktail party chitchat, ask someone to name the first best seller about Texas. The answer is *Das Kajutenbuch — The Cabin Book* by Charles Sealsfield. The book was written in 1841 and translated into English by Sarah Powell in 1871. Texana

Tuesday, March 25, 1986

Mike Cox

### Spruch des Tages:

Der Mensch gönnt seiner Gattung nichts; deshalb hat er die Gesetze erfunden. Er darf nicht, also sollen die anderen auch nicht dürfen.

Kurt Tucholsky

According to Texas German historian-writer Glen Lich of Kerrville, *The Cabin Book*, had the record as the best-selling Texas book until another person with some German blood, Mason writer Fred Gipson, wrote *Old Yeller* in 1956.

The early Texas novel by Sealsfield, out of print in English, has been republished by Eakin Press of Austin, with a foreword by Lich and an "afterword" by Alexander Ritter taken from a 1982 German edition of the novel. The Eakin Press edition is 283 pages and sells for \$14.95.

By modern fiction standards, the book is ponderous. But its real import is that it was written in 1841, and gives insight into the Texas of that time, even though it is a work of fiction.



**The German Heritage in the Lone Star State**  
by Hubert P. Heinen

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The following is the text of a talk given on 15 February 1986 to members of Phi Sigma Iota, an international honorary society for foreign language majors, at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. The informal style designed for oral presentation has been retained.

More than 150 years ago the first German settlers came to Texas. The first settlements predominantly populated by Germans antedated the War of Texan Independence, and there were Germans (on both sides) at most of the battles of that war. However, though Stephen F. Austin had specifically wanted to attract German settlers, reasoning that they would be hard-working and would probably not own or want to own slaves, the few Germans who arrived in Texas before or during the formative years of the Republic did not constitute a major part of the population. That situation started to change, for certain regions of Texas, towards the end of the decade of Texas as a nation when organized settlement by Germans, especially as promoted by the Society for the Protection of German Emigrants in Texas, began. By the time Texas became a state there were a few regions where significant concentrations of German speakers had settled. Those who immigrated in groups tended to remain in groups, and these clustered settlements attracted other German speaking settlers, some of whom had come to Texas alone, or only as a family. Though there are a number of unanswered questions about the motives of the German nobles who sponsored emigration, one clear motivation was to solve a perceived overpopulation of Germany, and there were also vain hopes of financial reward for those contributing to the project's woefully inadequate capitalization. The immigrants themselves sought financial independence and, in some cases, a greater political freedom than they enjoyed at home. The political element should not be overemphasized, for though the immigrants left a Europe boiling with repressed democracy, few became actively involved in politics upon their arrival in Texas. In fact, it is only in recent times that we have a large number of politicians such as Krueger and Loeffler vying for state-wide public office, and it has been observed that Krueger's backing by German Texans has been strikingly weak (Jordan et al. 145).

There are a number of excellent reports on the early Germans in Texas; the ideal place to start is with Glen Lich's book on the German Texans, written while he was at Southwest Texas. Travelers to Texas reported on their observations, and an account such as Ferdinand Roemer's gives a fascinating eyewitness account of the German settlers. German pioneer women have been exceptionally well represented by such works as Crystal Ragsdale's anthology and Otilie Fuchs Goeth's memoirs, and Southwest Texas is a center for ongoing research into such sources, as well as more recent oral histories. Family histories, which often have contained nothing more than lists of names and dates and, at most, a few generalizations (a good man, an exemplary mother) and a few hazy photographs poorly reproduced, can sometimes be done with the care devoted to the two-volume history of the Herff family. Even in the case of less-prominent ancestors, a family historian may find letters, diaries, and memoirs as well as newspaper accounts to flesh out the bare bones; family history can become and in some cases has become local history as well. An outstanding example of such a fuller account, a family story that is also a valuable historical source, is Minetta Altgelt Goyne's edition of family letters from the Civil War period. More and more, the German heritage has become a part of the general heritage of Texans.

Interestingly enough, as Joseph Salmons has variously remarked (and as he points out in his forthcoming book German Like We Talk It Here), the typical image a Texan has of things German has little to do with either the heritage of the German Texans or with the culture of German-speaking Europe today. Beer steins and Lederhosen, Tirolean hats and dirndls have become so stereotypically German that even the German governmental agencies responsible for promoting their national interests make use of them; straight-laced Prussians or their equivalents present their country as if it were populated totally with Bavarian peasants cultivating

the tourist trade. Therefore it is not surprising that attempts to profit from an awareness among Texans that their state has a German component utilize these stereotypes. The North Germans of Austin, Washington, and Fayette counties gather in costumes totally foreign to their ancestors; the Opas of New Braunfels practically yodel and the souvenir shops of Fredericksburg and Boerne sprout Black Forest cuckoo clocks; at most we can spot some of the Hessian and Saxon heritage of the Hill Country Germans in their half-timbered sheds, usually built in typically American styles, many of which have been remodeled as cottages. But if we look at the Germans of Argentina or Australia, say, or (to mention another foreign land) of Cincinnati, Ohio, we see the same stereotypes and distortions at work.

What then is the true German heritage? It is the history of the inhabitants of Texas born in German-speaking Europe and those of their descendants who identify with their ancestors. In a strict sense, a German Texan might be defined as someone who grew up speaking, or at least hearing, German at home, but among young Texans such people are few and far between. To be sure, quite a few young people have one or both parents who came to Texas from Germany after the Second World War, but more often than not such recent immigrants do not consider themselves German Texans, but rather Germans in Texas. I would certainly include the new immigrants, such as my wife, and their descendants as part of the German heritage in Texas, but there clearly is a difference between this group and the older one.

What is the German heritage? More than anything else, I would suggest, it is the consciousness among a segment of the Texas population of a European background shared with friends and neighbors. As such, it has in the past often been a hindrance to full assimilation into the mainstream of Texas life. A certain cliquishness, narrow-mindedness, and prejudice has often marked those whose consciousness of being German Texan was strongest. But it can also lead to a beneficial feeling of having roots and to an identification with virtues such as industry, neatness, fiscal prudence, a cultivation of music and the arts and so on that may, to be sure, be based on an erroneous notion of national characteristics (Germans are not necessarily harder working, tidier, more thrifty, or more cultured than any other group) but is nevertheless a worthwhile source of values.

I am most interested in heritage as history, and most interested in history as an account of human emotions in the face of diverse experiences. Thus I should like to isolate several moments in the history of Germans in Texas and German Texans in a non-German world. My sources have not been not treated in the standard histories of Texas or in the accounts of Germans in Texas. First, I detail some actions and reactions of a German youth turned Indian scout, Confederate soldier, and with the course of time solid citizen; then I give some reactions of a middle-aged student raised in German Texas to the exotic American world of San Marcos; last, I make some remarks about a country boy with a calling for preaching to the Germans around Waco who went on to other things, a son of Texas who died some years ago on his ranch near Wimberly.

It is not surprising that histories of the Germans in Texas do not utilize the memoirs of Hugo Oswald Heffter, even though he was an outstanding citizen, the co-founder with August Siemering of the Freie Presse für Texas and the son-in-law of one of San Antonio's mayors. After all, he returned to Germany in 1874 to visit relatives and wound up remaining there. His memoirs were privately published in Germany during the First World War, and though his American in-laws probably eventually received copies, the Thielepape family by that time had returned to Chicago.

Let me excerpt a few passages for you from Heffter's memoirs, written in the mid-teens of this century. Heffter's oldest brother, Hermann, had come to Texas in the mid-1840s. When he returned home on a visit in 1855 he found Hugo, some eighteen years old, suffering from rheumatism. Hermann's descriptions of the wonderfully warm Texas climate persuaded Hugo to return to Texas with him. They arrived in Galveston on 12 December 1855, traveled on to Indianola, and proceeded from there to the "Neuntöter" farm near Seguin. As Hugo had trained to be a mer-

chant, farming was doubly strange to him, but he learned quickly. For example, he soon learned that wood was the sole fuel used, and found out what was entailed in going to the river bottom to chop firewood (I have translated this and the other passages):

We learned how to use the American axe, a hilarious sight for the oldtimers when we greenhorns didn't understand the first thing about using an axe. I can still see the first tree that I wanted to chop down and around which I hurried for some time, chopping away with little effect. Finally an old farmer showed me how to swing the axe and then I could fell a thick tree in a few minutes.

We had blisters on our hands and blisters from sunburn on our chests, which we had naturally bared in order to appear true Texans. That was a mistake. The friendly sun had decorated our chest and arms with such huge blisters that our cries of anguish rang out at night as we lay on our straw mattresses. (3)

Note that Heffter went right to work and was eager to adapt; in this last respect he was different from many of the Germans, perhaps because of his youth.

Another vignette, and one perhaps more pertinent to my specific topic, since the anguish of the greenhorn is by no means peculiar to the German immigrants, is presented as an anecdote within Heffter's tale of his early experiences with farming.

In Sequin, a new town below the Neuntöter farm, a teamster arrives with a freight-wagon drawn by four mules. The teamster, clad in Texan clothes, brought freight from the coast to the settlements. He stops in front of the only eating place in Sequin for a bite, sees a piano in the dining room, puts his whip in the corner, opens the piano, sits down at the instrument to the wonderment of the owner and, after limbering his fingers, plays a sonata by Beethoven.

All the Germans listen quietly and reverently; nostalgia and homesickness stirs the German hearts.

The teamster had formerly been a teacher in Germany!

The American owner of the eating place, however, understands nothing and says:

Can't you play something we know like Yankee Doodle?

The splendid music of someone like Beethoven was unknown to him. A school textbook used in 1846 can explain that.

The geography section described Germany marvelously with the portrayal of a woodcutter in the forest, in the act of boiling pitch.

The backwoodsman had leaned his axe against a tree and was stirring diligently with a piece of wood in his tarketle; below the picture was this description of Germany:

"Germany lies north of Turkey, their inhabitants make their living by cooking tar!"

The astonishment of Americans that a pitchboiler could play the piano simply couldn't be comprehended! (4)

The astonishment of a German, writing sixty years after the event, that a teacher should have turned teamster and his surprise at the lack of culture with a capital C and information about Europe among Americans permeates this little anecdote. It is by no means atypical, and the fact that many non-German Texans had had similar cultural attainments before coming out west does not affect a stereotype most German settlers developed of a gulf between the cultured Germans and rude Americans. Like many stereotypes, this one had enough foundation in fact to withstand contradictory evidence.

After a year of farming, Heffter tried his hand as a postrider, a merchant, a sutler at an army post (Camp Colorado), and an Indian guide under the tutelage of Capt. Kirby-Smith (later the commanding general of the Confederate troops west of the Mississippi). When the Civil War came, Heffter moved to Fredericksburg, serving with Siemering and others in the home guard, and was detailed after a time to San Antonio, where he became quartermaster of Taylor's battalion, a unit charged with guarding the disarmed members of the U.S. 8th Infantry Regiment. He com-

ments in his memoirs:

Among the prisoners were many Germans, including remnants of a band. The prisoners felt at ease with us and erected splendid arbors under the beautiful pecan trees in the camp, as well as a theater. The musicians had found some Americans among the prisoners who had belonged to a minstrel troupe, and these people were glad to get permission to build a theater and give performances.

It was a splendid sight, the performances of the minstrels who made themselves up as Negroes and portrayed scenes of the life of the Negroes on the plantations.

The musicians accompanied them. The band was small, to be sure, but in an army camp every bit of variety is enjoyed.

A German lived close to the camp. In peacetime he had put on Sunday entertainments for picnicking San Antonians at his place some three miles from San Antonio, which was not possible during the war. We officers visited this gentleman, whose name was Schleyer, one day, inspected his attractive little hall with alcoves, and I asked if we could organize a dancing circle there--we had the music.

Schleyer was delighted to give us permission, and during off-duty hours some of our horses were hitched to a borrowed wagon, and Lieutenant Max and I drove to town to pay visits at the homes where young ladies could be found and to publish our plans for dances. Our proposals were accepted, and the very next Sunday we were happily dancing at Schleyer's place, where I met my present wife for the first time, at that time Miss Marie Louise Thielepape, and danced with her. A visit to her parents was made later. (20)

The "Germanness" of this experience I will discuss later; at this point it will suffice to note that his stay in San Antonio was idyllic. But this idyll did not last long, soon Heffter was ordered to take the prisoners to be exchanged; subsequently he was stationed at Sabine Pass and then took part in the battle of Pleasant Hill. After returning to Houston to recover from a sort of trench foot and after visiting his brother at his farm not far from San Marcos he escaped in September 1864 to Mexico, where he stayed until after the war. Then he led a group of Germans through the bandit-infested South Texas brushland to San Antonio, where they arrived in time to see the American flag raised for the first time in five years over the Alamo. And the tale goes on, but I will leave it here.

About the same time Heffter left Texas to visit Germany and wound up staying there as the heir to his uncle's wine importing business, my grandfather was born in Comfort, Texas. As a very young boy he moved with his parents to a ranch between Comfort and Fredericksburg, where he spent most of the first twenty-three years of his life. Except for three years spent in Comfort with his grandparents so that he could attend school he herded sheep; as a young adult he quit the sheep business, passed a preliminary exam, and embarked on a career as a school teacher. It was not unusual for men and women in the decades before and after the turn of the century to teach school for a while before going on to other things; it was, however, fairly unusual to make a career of it. By the time my grandfather started teaching, in addition, it was expected of all teachers that they teach in English. My grandfather, however, had spoken little English; in fact, he was eighteen before he met someone who could not speak German. He buckled down and learned English, and learned all the things his four and a half years of schooling had not taught him, but it didn't come easily. In fact, since he could not afford to go to college, but rather had to study for and pass certification exams with the help of brief summer normal classes, it took him over twenty years to attain his permanent teaching certificate. In the summer of 1915 he attended classes at Southwest Texas State Teacher's College in San Marcos, and his experiences there, as detailed in a series of German letters which I excerpt in translation, show a pattern similar to that discernible in Heffter's memoirs of a life among, but not completely one with, Americans.

He went to San Marcos with the intention of studying toward a degree, probably a two-year

associate of arts. At forty-two he had been functioning as de facto school superintendent and wanted the position officially, but the prerequisite was a college degree. In a letter to his wife and children dated 2 June 1915 he announced his arrival and described his impressions (the words underlined are in English in the original).

Beautifully situated place here, but everything very American. Have a room together with Wertheim. ... we have to pay eighteen dollars a month. ... We got our lessons this morning, cannot judge yet how it will suit and please me. Yesterday afternoon I felt rather like a lost mutt and would have preferred to turn around and come home. ... Today things are looking up and when I am up to my ears in work these funny notions will probably disappear. ... The place is full of students, especially female students.

In a letter to his wife dated 5 June he continued:

I cannot get away from here before 30 July, I can tell you that now, unless I dispense with all credit for my work. Am taking four courses, and in three I will try to take the examinations. Have bit off quite a bit to chew. We do not come home from school till one thirty. Lunch at two. Our boarding house is more or less all right, but it is filled up completely. Males and females may not, according to the rules of the school, live in the same house. Misses Theis and Lawhon are also attending school here. The teachers here are all very capable; they seem to be dulled by the eternal repetition of the same thing and some are already pretty grumpy.

A week later he had really caught fire and was at the height of his enthusiasm. In a letter to his wife dated 13 June he wrote:

Have been reading poems from Am[erican] lit. the whole day today and making excerpts. We have been assigned about thirty poems to study and must hand in a written plan or a review next week for each. Is an enormous amount of work but just what I need and what I have never had an opportunity to do and thus I want to try my best. In addition I am taking geometry, hist[ory] of education, and chemistry. Don't know whether I already wrote you that it would take me about six summers to get a diploma. Last year they tacked on a term of one more year and three summer terms count one year. I am working now primarily for the examinations, but I get credit, too (if I pass). Last night the teachers gave the students, male and female, a reception. Consisted of some seven hundred students squeezing through a door, shaking the teachers' hands, then shoving themselves around and meeting people as best they could.

Some chronic health problems flared up again and he decided to work only for a few examinations and not for credit, so that he could return home on 15 July. In a letter written 4 July he detailed his final decision:

Have just finished the last chapter of my Am[erican] literature. Am also through with my history of education, now I want to review the whole mess carefully next week--and then--well--if I bomb out then, then I cannot help it. D--ned junk doesn't want to stick in my dried-up skull any more.

On 15 July 1915 he passed examinations for English and American literature and the history of education.

There is, on the surface, nothing peculiar to the German Texan heritage about all of this, and yet these few letters tell us a good deal about many German Texans. For one thing, though my grandfather had been to Taylor, to Galveston, to San Antonio, and to New Braunfels, his world was so fixed on things German that his first reaction to San Marcos was how American it was. For another, he was clearly drawn most to his class on American literature. For many Germans, especially those from Sisterdale, Boerne, Comfort, and Kerrville, as for many from New Braunfels, German literature served much the same function that religion played for other immigrants, including the majority of the other German Texans, as I have discussed elsewhere. In common with many of the German shepherders, my grandfather had grown up reading voracious-

ly, mostly the newspaper novels of the Freie Presse; he had also memorized German songs and poems both in school and in singing groups. His enthusiasm for German literature was easily transferred to English and American literature when he had an opportunity.

One of the things he was used to was frequent entertainments; his account of the reception thinly disguises his wonderment at such impersonal conviviality. One of the letters from which I have already quoted excerpts begins:

Today is Sunday and the great "Fourth of July." Wonder if you are all at the picnic now? [A big Fourth of July picnic is a common feature at many of the German Texans communities to this day.] I hope so, and that you all have as much fun as you might wish. Life in Comfort is monotonous, you often say, dear, but it should console you to know that San Marcos is a place with 4,000 inhabitants, many young people, and I see nothing of any sort of entertainments--everyone seems to spend Sunday sleeping--or are things not going to get underway till this evening? Most likely--get underway to church.

And now we might return to Heffter's idyll in San Antonio. What marked the innocent amusements of the soldiers in camp as being typically German? On the one hand, nothing much; as a matter of fact Heffter didn't even stage a German musical, but rather a minstrel show. However, when the opportunity presented itself to arrange dances, he arranged them for Sunday afternoons. Only two groups in Texas danced and drank on Sunday; the Mexican Americans and the Germans. With few exceptions, these two groups stayed separate, and only the Germans tempted some Anglo-Americans to join them. From Heffter's account, however, the Sunday dances were largely German affairs; similarly, 55 years later, when the Fourth of July fell on a Sunday, it was apparently predominantly the Germans who celebrated it. It is hard for us to realize how thoroughly Texas was a part of the Bible Belt throughout the 19th century and far into the present one. My grandfather's roommate at San Marcos was a colleague of his who left Boerne because, as he wrote, it was getting infested with the Puritan spirit.

In fact, many of the Germans in this one section of German Texas had been and remained freethinkers who had left Germany to escape religion and who did not tolerate religion in their midst. My grandfather, to be sure, had not been raised a freethinker; his paternal grandfather was a devout Catholic and his grandmother was markedly pious. My grandfather told a story of how he never understood their table grace when he stayed with them while attending school in Comfort; when he asked his younger brother, Carl, how he dealt with the situation, Carl said he just bowed his head and mumbled too. I suspect the mumbling they couldn't understand was in Latin. There was no church in Comfort during my grandfather's youth, however, and he was not used to public piety. Though he was an early member of the Episcopal Church in Comfort and was himself an occasional churchgoer in later years, he seems to have found the churchgoing predilections of the San Marcos Americans more than he could take.

If he had grown up in Fredericksburg, with its long tradition of Catholic and Lutheran Germans living in relative peace side by side, or in Mason or Washington counties among the German Methodists, he would probably have reacted differently. Not only the German Methodists, but also many of the German Lutherans and most of the Evangelical Germans (many of whose churches later became Presbyterian or affiliated with the Church of Christ) also frowned on dancing; all of the Methodists and some of the others also opposed drinking. The beer halls as centers of conviviality do, however, constitute one of the most lasting and evident aspects of German heritage in Texas, together with the symphonies, the bands, the choral societies, and the schools they helped support.

The Evangelical Reformed Church brought a young Polish man trained in Germany to Texas to serve a German congregation; his son, who grew up on a farm near Seguin and then moved with his father and (German Texan) step-mother to Waco, first wanted to be a minister, and in fact served as an unordained, but clearly called, supply pastor to a number of rural German churches around Waco as a teenager. He was troubled by the anti-German sentiment expressed during the

World War and immediately after it, since he considered himself both German and American. Upon completing a Bachelor of Laws at Baylor he went to George Washington University and completed a Master of Laws, after which he was admitted to the Texas bar at the age of nineteen.

The history of his legal career is an interesting one, but one assignment above all others made him the most famous lawyer in Texas. When, thirteen years ago, Richard Nixon was on the verge of being impeached for what is generally called the Watergate affair, Leon Jaworski was appointed special prosecutor. I am not interested here, however, in that high-point of his career, but with the man as a German Texan.

In some ways, he might seem atypical; after all, his parents weren't pioneers or the descendants of pioneers. I have already mentioned that relatively recent immigrants from German-speaking countries, though they may regard themselves as Germans (Swiss, Austrians) and Americans, or even Texans, do not usually think of themselves as German Texans. However, as Terry Jordan has pointed out in his German Seed in Texas Soil, the migration to Texas was not at an end in the 1850s; the bulk of immigration took place after 1870. And even later immigrants, to the extent that they assimilated with the older German populations rather than with non-Germans, would tend to consider themselves German Texans; certainly Jaworski did, though perhaps not unequivocally. Let me cite a characterization he himself gives of the German Texans (one in which he puts some distance between himself and them).

German immigrants have come to America for many years, and wherever they settled thriving communities developed. Moreover, the German communities in our land have been known for their law-abiding practices. German immigrants have become some of the finest naturalized Americans. They have made great contributions to growth and progress in the United States. In my State, communities founded by German immigrants are known for the exemplary [sic] of its [sic] residents. Having lived near one of these communities in my youth, and having associated with its residents, I saw the value they attach to the spiritual side of life. (After Fifteen Years 10)

There are aspects of Jaworski's life and personality that do not fit the common stereotypes of German Texans. For one thing, he was a devout Presbyterian, and until I started tracing the history of the Evangelical Reformed Church in Texas I did not think of the Presbyterian Church as a logical place for Texans with a sense of their German ethnicity. For another, and this is a more significant difference, he was, in his conservative and legalistic way, a civil rights advocate; despite the fact that many Germans in Texas opposed slavery at the time of the Civil War, their descendants and other more recently arrived Germans in Texas have tended to share the unenlightened prejudices of their Anglo-American compatriots towards blacks and Mexican Americans. Jaworski's attitudes towards civil rights seem to have been based in his understanding of his religious faith and, even more, in his understanding of the rule of law.

Jaworski was also active in the National Council of Christians and Jews, and one might, given the history of Germany, think of such activity as incongruous. The relationships between German Texans and Jewish Texans were not, however, invariably marked by the virulent anti-Semitism that broke into the open with the rise of Nazi Germany. Of course, many German Texans have been anti-Semites; being so is, historically, as American as apple pie. However, many Germans who came to Texas were also Jewish; their being Jewish did not make them less German: they joined the German singing societies, considered themselves a part of and were considered a part of the German community. What discrimination there was tended to be subtle and social rather than overt. And since wherever three Germans got together they formed four groups and started feuding among themselves, anti-Semitism would be subsumed under cliquishness. Then and now, however, German Texans did and do not usually stand at the forefront of Christian and Jewish ecumenism.

The most interesting facet of Jaworski's career for me is the fervor with which he prose-

cuted Nazi war criminals, both during and after the war. He had grown up identifying being German with a rigid sense of moral behavior; as a prosecuting attorney for cases at POW camps and in the American occupation zone in Germany after the war he was confronted with instance after instance of Germans with essentially the same background who out of conviction or for reasons of expediency had willingly committed crimes against humanity.

Let me cite some of his words from his After Fifteen Years [The particular incident he refers to is a mass murder of prisoners-of-war in the streets of Rüsselsheim near Darmstadt]:

So ended the true story of a diabolical crime, shocking to all humanity. It occurred in what had been an enlightened and civilized country. It is true that this happened at the height of war and that the conditions that then prevailed in Germany were calculated to bring out the worst in people. Yet, here is a case where all human instincts had been lost and beastly dishonor substituted. And the war was in the Twentieth Century. (85)

His experiences in these cases led him to think that not just the Nazi fanatics were to blame for the holocaust, but the German people as a whole, including those who opposed the Nazis, but did so ineffectually. And from this belief, apparently, stemmed his conviction that America, too, could well go the way of Nazi Germany unless the constitutional guarantees of civil rights were defended regardless of the consequences, a conviction that made him less than universally popular in the conservative circles he frequented.

I have given three brief glimpses at what one might term case histories of German Texans. Do the traits I have outlined define "the German heritage in Texas"? Of course not. Are these three figures typical? No. There is no one typical German Texan and there is no one typical heritage. In fact, the three men I have touched on, who represent as it were almost half of the seven or eight generations of Germans in Texas, are each in some way or another atypical, unique; the values they espoused are by no means the values of German Texas. But I do feel that these three, though not typical, are representative of the sorts of people and the sorts of experiences and reactions one finds when one goes in search of the German heritage in Texas.

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Janice Jordan Shefelman, Willow Creek Home. Austin: Eakin Press, 1985. \$8.95.

Here is the sequel to Janice Jordan Shefelman's delightful children's book about her own great aunt Mina. The further adventures of Mina take her to the age of twelve and her encounter with her future husband Daniel Hessler. The Jordans have moved from Fredricksburg to Willow Creek, a far less civilized settlement, but one affording better economic opportunities. Although the German have made friends with the Lipan, and have a treaty with the Comanches, some of the Indians are hostile. Mina must face a brief kidnapping by a renegade Comanche and execute a daring escape. she also bears much of the responsibility for the protection of her stepmother, Tante Lisette, and her new baby brother, while her father is supplementing their meager income by hauling freight.

All children's books seem to have a Christmas chapter (or in some cases, the day the missionary barrel arrives). This was always one of my favorite parts of the book and Mrs. Shefelman has not disappointed me. But one very contemporary and realistic addition is the birth of baby Peter. Unlike earlier children's literature, where the new baby arrives as a surprise (during the night or while the children have been sent to a neighbor's house), Mina and her father await the birth together, and Mina helps during the labor until the arrival of the midwife in full awareness of Lisette's pain and possible death. After this ordeal, Mina thinks seriously (if temporarily) of never having any children herself.

Willow Creek Home, like its predecessor, A Paradise Called Texas, is beautifully illustrated by the Shefelman men: Tom, Karl, and Dan. The jacket painting, showing Mina with her beloved horse Tucan, in front of the Jordan cabin, is especially striking. I hope Mrs. Shefelman continues Mina's adventures. In her, Texas is developing its own Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Hanna B. Lewis

Sam Houston State University

*supported by GTHS donation*  
**Music program celebrates Texas' German heritage**

**By Jerry Young**  
 Special to the American-Statesman

Forty young musicians from the Austin Chamber Music Center will present a program Sunday that reflects the musical tradition brought to Texas by German settlers. This Sesquicentennial celebration is one of the many unusual projects the Austin Chamber Music Center has mounted since its beginning in 1981.

The Sesquicentennial Heritage Concert will feature works of Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn and others that were popular during the early days of the Texas Republic, as well as music by an early German immigrant to Texas, Adolf Fuchs. Irma Guenther, Fuch's great-granddaughter, is a violinist and lives in Austin. "It was really interesting to find that almost all his relatives were musicians," she said. "One was Broadway songwriter Oscar Fox."

Felicity Coltman, director of the music center, said Guenther provided copies of the manuscripts of the music they are using. Musicians from the center will perform a song by Fuchs as well as *Der Stern von Texas*, written by a German friend of Fuchs.

"The majority of the players

are from 14 to 18 years old, and there are a few that are younger," said Coltman. The program will feature two 11-year-old pianists, Maureen Frank and Sophia Chiang, in two divertimenti for piano and strings by Franz Josef Haydn. "We have invited a group of 13 Suzuki string students from the Hastings School of Music who will play arrangements of folk songs," Coltman added. "None of them is older than fifth grade."

The Austin Chamber Music Center began as a six-week summer workshop five years ago. It drew so much enthusiasm that it became a permanent, year-round project, offering students a chance to meet and play chamber music with other young players under the guidance of music teachers from the Austin area.

In 1983 the center became a non-profit institution and began an exchange program, which has taken many young Austin musicians to Europe and brought European players to Austin for concerts.

*The Austin Chamber Music Center will present a program of chamber music in celebration of the Texas Sesquicentennial at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Caswell House, 1404 West Ave. Admission is free but donations will be accepted.*

**NINE YEARS WITH THE INDIANS** received the "Western Heritage Award" of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in 1963 as an outstanding western story published by Frontier Times Magazine.

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— George Carmack  
 San Antonio Express News

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**Schumann-Haus wieder eröffnet**

Bonn. Mit den Worten „Bonn ist nicht nur Beethoven-Stadt, sondern auch Schumann-Stadt“ hat der Bonner Oberbürgermeister Hans Daniels das Schumann-Haus nach knapp halbjährigem Umbau eröffnet. An der Feier nahmen die Urenkelin des Komponisten Robert Schumann, Käthe Walch-Schumann, und die Urenkelin Barbara Schumann teil. Der vor zwei Jahren gegründete „Verein Schumann-Haus“ kommt für ein Fünftel der Umbaukosten auf, die 300 000 Mark betragen. In dem Haus in Bonn-Endenich starb Robert Schumann am 29. Juli 1856. dpa

I am still looking for someone in the Austin, Texas area that can help me trace any living decendants of the John August Foster and his wife Ida Kristine (Gustafson) Foster. They would be early pioneers of the Austin area. In the early 1880's the family homesteaded a farm near Hornby Bend, about 8 miles from Austin. Earlier, they lived near Decker where they were members of the Methodist Church. The children were: Mary, born 1888, never married; Amanda, Born 1890, never married; Ruth, born 1892; David, born 1894; Edward, born 1896, never married; Lillie, born 1898, married a Swift, and daughter Connie, married a Sterling; and Belle, Born 1901, married a May. I do not think Belle F. May had any children. The last known address for David Foster and Belle F. May were in Austin, but the last correspondence with Belle F. May was Christmas 1972. Anyone know of these familéés, possibly still in the Austin ares. In addition, John August Foster had a sister, Mrs. Ben Knapa, a also resident of Austin, and another sister, Mrs. Clara Rosen, who lived at Manor. Ida Gustafson Foster's family also came to the Austin area. They included a brother, Malcolm Gustafson, sisters Hulda and Amanda Gustafson, and a half sister Amalia Peterson. I have picture of the family to be returned, and ship passenger lists, which give a great deal of information. The decendants of the Gustafson's all came to McPherson or Salina, Kansas, and were brought over by their cousin, Andrew Gustafson. Later, some of them moved to be near their sister Ida Gustafson Foster in the Austin area. As a genealogist, I really would like to visit with the family, and complete the family tree. Andrew Gustafson was my husband's grandfather, and Ida(Gustafson) was his first Cousin. Please Help!

Sincerely,

**Idealfrau**

Trula E. Gustafson  
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McPherson, Kansas 67460  
Tel: (316) 241-0565

Die ideale Frau des deutschen Mannes ist nach einer Umfrage etwa 1,70 Meter groß, hat blaue Augen, mittellanges, welliges blondes Haar, ist treu und kinderlieb. Was der deutsche Mann an seiner „Idealfrau“ nicht leiden kann, sind Eifersucht, die Neigung zu Flirts und Wehleidigkeit. Eine ihrer wichtigsten Eigenschaften: der gute Umgang mit Geld. Das verlangen 92 Prozent der befragten Männer. 69 Prozent erwarten von ihren Frauen „Unterordnung“. Die deutsche Idealfrau: Sie sollte außerdem offenherzig und ein bißchen altmodisch sein, sich politisch möglichst nicht engagieren.

mit diesem Brief möchte ich Ihnen das Buch "Solange noch die Wälder rauschen" vorstellen.

Der Autor Walter Merten ist mein Vater und hat dieses Buch im Selbstverlag herausgegeben. Es ist ein Heimatbuch für die Generation der Zwanziger Jahre, findet aber auch bei jüngeren Menschen mehr und mehr Interesse.

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\*\*\*\*\* REGISTRATION: Mail to Indianola Pilgrimage \*P. O. Box 986, Port Lavaca, TX 77979

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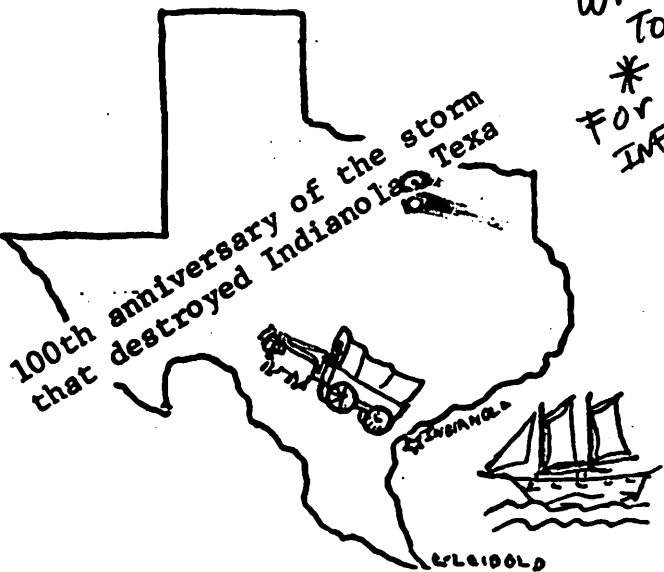
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Indianola, Texas. Of the many ghost towns of Texas, none lived longer, none thrived better, none died as tragic a death as Indianola, on the west shore of Matagorda Bay near where René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle,<sup>1674</sup> is thought to have landed in 1685. Originally called Powderhorn and later Karshaven by German immigrants, the town was named Indianola by Mrs. John Henry Brown.

Many colonists, including the German immigrants led by Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels<sup>1733</sup> in 1843, entered Texas at this natural port. The town was chosen in 1849 by Charles Morgan as a landing place for ships of the Morgan Lines<sup>1849</sup> from New Orleans and Galveston when Port Lavaca, near by on Matagorda Bay, exacted what Morgan thought were excessive port charges. In 1850 a federal commission met in Indianola to fix the boundary between the United States and Mexico under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo,<sup>1848</sup> and from 1850 until 1861 the town was the military depot through which United States Army posts in Texas were supplied. During this period also the county seat was moved to Indianola. In 1856 two shiploads of camels<sup>1856</sup> imported by Jefferson Davis,<sup>1856</sup> then secretary of war, were landed at Indianola. One of the first railroads in Texas, the Indianola Railroad, began there in 1859.

Gefüllte Schweinerippen.

Man nimmt die ganzen Rippen, reibt sie mit Salz ein, knickt die Rippen in der Mitte ein ohne das Fleisch zu verlegen, füllt in 4 Theile geschnittene saure Aepfel hinein, biegt das Stück zusammen und näht es von allen Seiten fest. Darauf legt man die Rippen in kochende Butter, macht sie auf beiden Seiten gelb, gießt kochendes Wasser darunter und läßt sie fest zugebedt braten.

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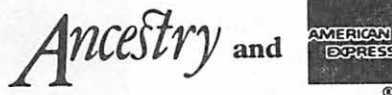
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In the mid-nineteenth century, Galveston was a busy port of entry for German, Irish, and English immigrants. Many of these individuals went on to settle in the midwest. This volume contains over 9,000 names and gives age, sex, occupation, port of departure, name of vessel, and destination for each.

Hardbound 5½ x 8½, 167 pages  
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This is a comprehensive history of the people, places, and events that shaped the Schoenau area's history. The **"Scissortails Still Return to Schoenau,"** written by Geraldine Mittanck Luetge, is a fine quality publication which will include factual information about such areas of interest as the Moses Austin land grant of 1821, early settlers, including the first family to move to the area in 1831; early bands, singing groups, early schools, businesses, public services and *over 140 family histories.*

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Read about the Fordtran family, the Ernst family plus over 140 other family histories. Bring back memories with old pictures of such places as the Industry Gin, Skull Creek school, the early homes, Industry school, telephone company, water and electric systems and the people who made these places worth remembering. Learn how Schoenau got its name and what it means.

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New Ulm, TX 78950

STATE MARKER DEDICATION  
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JOHN FRIEDRICH ERNST

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Friedrich Ernst Memorial Park

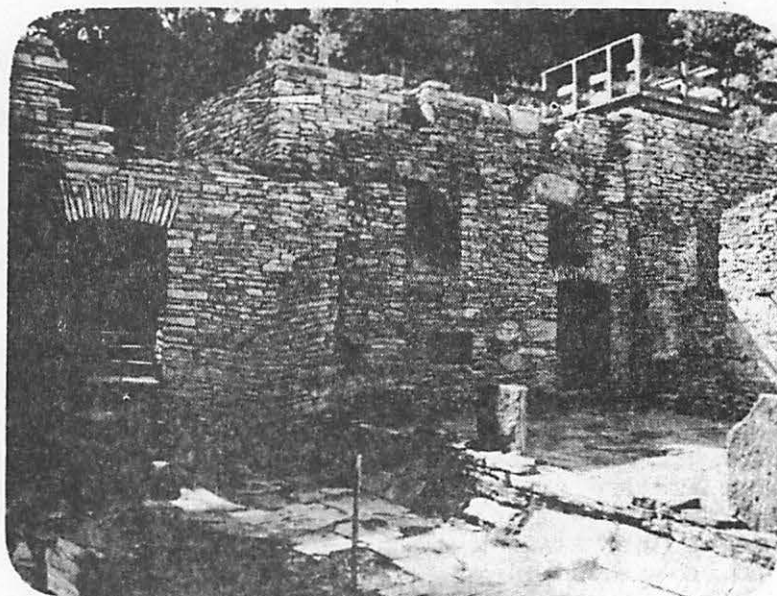
Saturday, April 26, 1986

2:00 P.M.

Industry, Texas

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From Rodney Koenig, Houston  
Page Sixteen, La Grange Journal, Wednesday,



## **Kreische's Brewery opens October 5th for weekend tours**

The Kreische Brewery will be open for weekend tours beginning Saturday, October 5th. Tours will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays and at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Sundays. Each tour will be limited to 15 persons. A tour will take approximately one hour. Appropriate footwear should be worn because the tour is approximately three fourths of a mile long up and down walkways to and from the brewery. There are benches along the trails where one may rest briefly during the tour. Advance reservations can be made for groups of 15 by phoning 409-968-5658. The charge is 25c for children 6-12 years of age and \$1.00 for adults. Senior citizens over 65 are admitted free of charge.

The restoration-stabilization of Kreische's brewery is part of a project the Texas Parks and Wildlife began in 1979 after purchasing the property.

The tour is very educational in that it shows the genius of Kreische as an engineer as well as a stonemason. As Park Manager Ellen Buchanan said, Kreische always used gravity to his advantage in the operation of the brewery. Ironically, it was gravity that caused the death of Kreische when a cart loaded with stones overturned and fell on him. He died in 1882 after having built and operated the brewery since the 1860s.

Other facilities of the park will continue to be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

### **Schinkenbegräbnis.**

Den Rest vom Schinken kochte man, schneide ihn ganz fein und dann kochte man Nudeln gar. Darauf lege man eine Schicht Nudeln in eine Schüssel, auf diese eine Schicht Schinken und so abwechselnd eine Schicht um die andere, bis die Schüssel voll ist. Mit Nudeln macht man den Schluß. Dann zerklöpfe man 2 Eier in einer Tasse Milch und gieße dieses über die Nudeln, ebenso etwas Butter und bade dann, bis es gelbbraun ist.

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BOOK REVIEWS



Paul A. Nielson. *Swiss Genealogical Research: An Introductory Guide*. Virginia Beach, VA: Donning, 1979.

This rather small book by a professional genealogist familiar with the peculiarities of Swiss genealogical research, yet also mindful of the problems of American records on Swiss immigrants, shows a methodical, sound approach to research in the field. Nielson rightfully stresses the key concept - the importance of the Swiss place of citizenship rather than the place of residence.

Standard American sources are listed after place of citizenship: family papers, a family Bible, newspaper obituaries, historical publications, emigrant or passenger lists, census records, and other official records, e.g. military pensions. The Swiss tools described include the *Familien-namenbuch der Schweiz*, the *Bürgerregister*, the *Familienregister*, parish registers, population tables, registers of households, and other sources, such as court records, notarial files, land records, etc. Stress is almost entirely on the German-speaking Swiss, and samples of documents, all duly cited, show examples of old German script with transliterations.

Among others, there are sections on handwriting, extraction of information, a multilingual table of genealogical terms pertinent to Switzerland, and highly practical checklists for those seeking a) immigrant ancestors or b) previous Swiss ancestors. Nielson is obviously aware of the pitfalls Americans are likely to encounter when attempting Swiss genealogical research.

The Swiss American Historical Society is to be commended for its support of this fine publication. To my knowledge, Maralyn Wellauer's more popular comprehensive, and eclectic *Tracing Your Swiss Roots* and some Latter Day Saints research papers are the only other publications to cover the topic of Swiss genealogical research for Americans. This book should be bought by individuals tracing Swiss ancestry and libraries in areas with strong German-Swiss populations.

Ernest Thode  
Marietta, Ohio

HESSIANS IN AMERICA

Scholars are seeking information on areas and locations in the U.S. where Hessians have settled. Contact: Chatto-Hans Hoos-Rinninsland Giersbergstr. 164, 5900 Siegen 1, West Germany.

Leslie A. Willson, ed. *The Image of America in Contemporary German Writing*. Austin, TX: Dimension, 1983. 568 pp., \$10. Available from *Dimension*, P.O. Box 26673, Austin, TX 78755.

*Dimension*, and its editor, A. Leslie Willson, need no introduction. For years it has been an outstanding journal, and Willson has done more than any other individual to disseminate contemporary German literature in English translation. This special issue, another of the numerous products of the tricentennial celebration, contains prose and poetry by forty-eight contemporary German authors, in *Dimension's* dual-language format. Most of the authors are young, and the contributions quite recent; several appear in German for the first time and, as always, none of the translations has previously been published.

There are poems and prose that seem fictional and prose that seems factual, like a diary (although the relationship between a given author's American experience and the literary result is impossible to determine), and even one scene from a drama. The picture of the United States that emerges is not very positive. Social problems - especially race relations and poverty - figure prominently. New York and Los Angeles are the most popular settings, although other places appear - e.g. university towns like Madison, Oberlin, and Austin. A few American Germanists are directly identified, others are disguised but readily identifiable. Although some contributors have spent time in this country as guest professors, or "writers in residence," at colleges and universities, references to American students are virtually nonexistent. (Long-time residents of the United States, e.g. Richard Exner and Lisa Kahn, are also included.)

The group of contributors is well-defined and coherent, and there is ample material for a formal study of their collective "view of America." Some authors are insightful, others are self-righteous and arrogant, even though each, as one expressly observes about himself, is a "greenhorn in north American affairs." I wonder about their sources and even question their "facts" (does the FBI really use Navajos to patrol the border, watching for illegal aliens? I seriously doubt it; perhaps these instances are not intended factually). In any event, the reading is fascinating as literature no less than as a sociological document.

It is rarely possible to fault the word in a translation in *Dimension*. In this issue, the contributions by Ueli Zingg and Gerhard

Roth could have fared better (although neither original is among the stronger pieces). The translations range from good to excellent, those by prominent names (Middleton, Osers, Willson, and others) as well as those by less known and unknown, translators. Hilde Spiel's creative renditions of her own poetry are especially noteworthy. Considering the length of the issue, the quality is impressive.

Jerry Glenn  
University of Cincinnati

Unpublished Patriotic Musical Offers Rare Glimpse into the History of German-American Pioneers in Texas

*Texas Fahrten*, the only known Texan-German Musical ever written, sheds light on the experiences German immigrants encountered when they arrived in Texas, and offers a glimpse into the patriotic feelings of these pioneers, as seen through the eyes of Mr. Hermann Seele.

*Texas Fahrten* chronicles the adventures of four young immigrants who came to Texas during the time of the colonization of the state by the *Adelsverein*. It describes the travelers' arrival in Galveston, farming along the Colorado River, visiting San Antonio, and fighting Indians with the Texas Rangers. There are extensive descriptions of the lush and "wildly romantic" (Seele's words) virgin countryside which these intrepid young pioneers encountered on their *Travels in Texas*.

Seele, the author of the musical, arrived in Texas from Hildesheim, Germany in 1843 at the age of 20. He participated in the founding of New Braunfels, where he became the colony's first school teacher. Seele became the city's cultural and political leader, serving as a charter member of New Braunfels' first protestant church and as the church's secretary and lay pastor until his death in 1902.

Until now, *Texas Fahrten* lay largely forgotten in the archives of the Sophienburg Memorial Museum in New Braunfels. In 1980, Dr. Theodore Gish, University of Houston-University Park professor of German, and Texas-German scholar received permission to microfilm the document, along with the historically important diary which Seele kept from 1843, shortly before he left Germany, until the 1860's.

Seele's musical consists of an introduction and 12 narrative scenes, written in rhymed couplets, interspersed with solo and choral songs. The music was composed by C. Wilke, an engineer and assistant to Nikolas Zink, the man who platted the town of New Braunfels. Contact: Media Relations, University of Houston, University Park, Houston, TX 77004, (713) 749-2247.

Balance-Sheet: Oktoberfest

Between six and seven million revelers thronged the 150th Oktoberfest in Munich, which began September 22 and lasted through the first week of October. Despite some 300 beer-tent brawls and 4,000 Red Cross calls, city police called it a "normal" Oktoberfest. Nor is there anything unusual, according to organizers, about the fact that five million liters of beer were quaffed and one million roast chickens and one hundred oxen devoured. Organizers also took the 150,000 missing beer mugs in stride, surmising the steins were stolen by souvenir-thirsty tourists.

From Society For GERMAN American Studies Newsletter

**RECENTLY PUBLISHED**

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**THE ONLY TEXAS-GERMAN MUSICAL EVER WRITTEN**

# Texas Fahrten

## TRAVELS IN TEXAS

By Hermann Seele (1823–1902)



*Illustration courtesy of Texas Memorial Museum*

- Recently uncovered at the Sophienburg Memorial Association Archives, New Braunfels
- Written in the 1850s by Hermann Seele, the pioneer cultural and civic leader of New Braunfels
- Music by the pioneer La Grange music teacher C. Wilke
- A pageant of immigrant adventure during the time of the Texas Republic
- In the spirit of the Sesquicentennial celebration

**Original text, with translation, introduction and notes by Theodore Gish, Professor of German, University of Houston; musical scores; illustrated with drawings by Texas-German pioneer artist Richard Petri and reproductions of the original manuscript.**

**\$12.00 (incl. postage and tax)**

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401 COLL, NEW BRAUNFELS 78130**

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(512) 629-1572**



Doris Wiede Mellor, 1919 Bethlehem, Houston, TX 77018  
Upon reading the Spring 1985 issue of the GTHS Newsletter, I <sup>47</sup> discovered that Christian Wiede had signed the Provisional Consitution of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Berlin, TX. I believe this man to be my great grandfather who organized another church in 1869 in Brenham, TX, known formally as Immanuel Lutheran Church. He donated the land for the church and cemetery, hence the community, church and cemetery are commonly called Wiedeville. I am trying to trace him back to Brandenburg, Germany.

Christian Wiede and his wife Louise adopted a son by the name of Carl (Schulze) Wiede. Carl's natural parents were Frederick George Schulze and Wilhemine Wiede Schulze who came from Prussia. I believe Wilhemine was a sister to Christian Wiede.

The other families I am tracing are as follows: Ludwig and Engel Stegemueller who came from Westphalia, Germany in 1882; Friedrich and Mary Schultz who came from Perleberg, Germany in 1871; and John Geick and Marie Malinda Wiede Geick who came from Brandenburg, Germany.

All of the above-mentioned ancestors were Lutherans and settled in Washington County. With the exception of the Stegemuellers, all lived in Wiedeville, attended the Wiedeville Church and are buried in the Wiedeville Cemetery.

### **The 15th Annual Texas Folklife Festival**

**July 31-August 3, 1986**

The Texas Folklife Festival blends education and entertainment into an enjoyable experience for the whole family. This annual celebration of the state's ethnic diversity and pioneer heritage is sponsored by The University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures and is held on the Institute's 15-acre grounds on HemisFair Plaza in downtown San Antonio. Nearly 6,000 participants representing the various ethnic and cultural groups who settled and built Texas are on hand to share their traditions, crafts, skills, music, dance and food with visitors from across Texas and the nation.

**Dates:** July 31-August 3, 1986 **Hours:** Thursday, 5-11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon-11 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 10 p.m. **Admission:** \$5 for adults, \$1 for children 6-12, free for children under six. In honor of the Festival's 15th anniversary, no gate admission will be charged from noon to 1 p.m. on Friday, August 1. For more information or to order tickets contact: Texas Folklife Festival, Institute of Texan Cultures, P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio, Texas 78294, (512) 226-7651.

GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

The Immigrant Genealogical Society has a large library of German resources and also a German Research Committee which researches cases. Their German Genealogical Exchange Committee handles requests from abroad for those trying to find families in North America in exchange for reciprocal research. The Newsletter is full of interesting items about German genealogical research. (Your Genealogy Editor as learned a lot from it! And also enjoyed meeting these folks at the NGS Conference last summer in Salt Lake City!) Included in the library are a complete set of telephone directories for West Germany (which IGS members will search for \$5 and a SASE) and many other research volumes. Membership is \$15 per year which entitles members to the monthly Newsletter and the forthcoming quarterly, unlimited use of the library, and discounts on research by the IGS. (The IGS would also like to have the old telephone book from your city or any foreign city to expand the collection.) Write to: Immigrant Genealogical Society, 5043 Lankershim Blvd, North Hollywood CA 91601.

A warning from the Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter Beware of a researcher named Frank or Franz Ebhardt of Staffenburg Strasse, Leipzig. He has advertised in the Genealogical Helper and has taken money in an unethical manner.

1986 National Genealogical Society Annual Conference will be held May 28-31 in Columbus OH hosted by the Ohio Genealogical Society. For a brochure, write to Ohio Genealogical Society, P O Box 2625, Mansfield OH 44906. There's still time--preregistration discount is available by May 1 postmark.

German Genealogical Digest has increased its subscription price to \$22.00 for one year, \$42.00 for two years, or \$60.00 for three years. This is Larry Jensen's quarterly and it's still well worth the price! Order from the Digest at P O Box 780, Pleasant Grove UT 84062.

Genealogy Column The La Grange Journal carries the column "Genealogy Notes" by Jean Byerly Hufnall. To submit a query, write to her at the paper, 127 W. Travis St., La Grange TX 78945

Ostfriesland Ancestors If your ancestors left East-Frisia (Ostfriesland), then Herr Eilert Ommen, a teacher and ethnologist, wants to hear from you. He is obtaining impressions of Ostfriesland and promises to respond if you provide your name and address. Write: Herr Eilert Ommen, Rote Strasse 35/35, D-3400 Gottingen, West Germany.

Temple (TX) Genealogical Society disbanded as of Nov., 1985. Limited inquiries may be addressed to Temple Public Library, 101 N. Main Street, Temple TX 76501 with advance payment. The librarian also has a list of persons in the Temple area willing to assist with genealogy problems. (From your Genealogy Editor: Is interest in genealogy waning?)

1990 Census will be here before we know it. The U.S. Census Bureau is interested in the public's view on: what questions should be asked, the length and content of the questionnaire, and improved census-taking techniques. To register your opinion, write: Peter A. Bounpane, Assistant Director, Bureau of the Census, Room 3049-3, Washington DC 20233.

Texas State Genealogical Society The editor of TSGS's quarterly Stirpes has invited your Genealogy Editor to write a page for each issue on German-Texan genealogy. The first offering describes the German Texans and their heritage and outlines the benefits of membership in our GTHS. For information on the TSGS, write to: 2507 Tannehill, Houston TX 77008.

Books by and from our members

History of the Pfluger Family, 1803-1985 This 123-page hardbound book contains the narrative history of the family and lists of descendants into the eighth generation in outline form with dates and generational identification numbers/letters for each person. The complete name index is in a separate 24-page booklet with over 2,500 names. All are descendants of Henry Pfluger, his two wives and 12 children who lived and farmed near present-day Pflugerville in the vicinity of Austin, Travis County. The family has held annual reunions since 1934 and published the first family history about that time. This is the sixth edition. Although no individual name shows as author or compiler, this certainly is the work of GTHS member Julia Muellenbruch of Austin.

The Eckerts, Golden Opportunity written and compiled by Julius E. DeVos of Mason, second printing. The first printing was in 1977, so two supplemental booklets are inserted. The family history consists of biographies of each of the children and grandchildren of Georg Bernhardt Eckert, both those who came to the Texas Hill Country and those who remained in Germany. This 223-page hardcover book also lists the descendants with birth, death, and marriage dates and includes a 34-page complete name index with over 4,000 names.

Look Unto The Hills, The Leifeste Family in the United States compiled and edited by Ruby E. and Julius E. DeVos, 1985. This book begins with a sketch of the family history in Germany back to 1725, but is really the story of the five children of Johann Heinrich Conrad Lefeiste/Leiweste who came to Texas in 1845, 1848, and 1852. As of the end of 1982, there were 4,612 known direct descendants of the family. The Preface chronicles the extensive research done to document the family, with the conclusion that all Lefeists or Lefiesters found in the U.S. are relatives, with descendants of this family in virtually every state as well as England and Australia, with the largest number in Texas.

Books and other publications for you

Gone, But Not Forgotten, Vol II is a survey of cemeteries in Boerne and surrounding areas, researched and published by the Boerne Area Historical Preservation Society to complement the previous volume and also includes 11 pages of corrections and additions to Volume I. This is the type of book that each local historical society ought to publish, since it is of great historical and genealogical value. The 100-page softcover book is \$5.00, add \$1.31 for tax, postage, and handling, and order from the Society at P O Box 178, Boerne TX 78006.

St. Mary's Parish, High Hill, 125th Anniversary is subtitled "Remember...the Last 25 Years!" And the years 1960-1985 are exactly what it covers. Since the Centennial history covered the first 100 years so well, this volume concentrates on the last 25 years by reprinting newspaper clippings of community people and happenings, weddings, anniversaries, and obituaries, complete with photographs. This book is a real treasure for the genealogist with a High Hill connection. High Hill is located in Fayette County, near Schulenburg, and the church is on the National Register of Historic Places as

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an outstanding example of decorative interior painting. Order for \$13.00 from Loretta Pauler, Rt 1, Box 18-A, Schulenburg TX 78956.

Texas State Library Circulating Genealogy Duplicates List The Genealogy Collection of the Texas State Library has published a guide to the materials available on interlibrary loan. This is not a list of the complete holdings of the Genealogy Collection, but only of the duplicate holdings that are available for circulation. Materials must be requested for you by a library through the interlibrary loan procedure. Copies of this booklet are not available to individuals but are available to libraries, archives, genealogical societies, and historical groups at no charge. Please tell your local group to request a copy from: Genealogy Collection, Texas State Library, Box 12927, Austin TX 78711.

A Catalog of Texas Properties in the National Register of Historic Places is much more than a catalog. Organized alphabetically by county, the 230-page Catalog describes each site, district, and group and has one or two selected photographs or maps on each page. A limited number of copies might still be available at no charge from the Texas Historical Commission, P O Box 12276, Austin TX 78711.

Texas Museums, A Guidebook by Paula Eyrich Tyler and Ron Tyler covers over 500 museums in all parts of the state with information on location and collections. Ten maps help the museum goer locate the town where a museum is located. A topic index is included. Order for \$8.95 plus tax from University of Texas Press, P O Box 7819, Austin TX 78712.

Our Ancestors is the ancestor chart book prepared by members of the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society. It contains 284 ancestor charts (many go back seven generations or more) and over 2,000 indexed surnames. In softcover, spiral bound, it is a whopping 586 pages in 8 1/2" by 11." Until June 15, 1986, the price is \$27.00 with \$1.52 tax and \$3.00 for postage; after June 15, the price goes up to \$30.00 and the tax to \$1.69, with postage remaining at \$3.00. Order from San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, P O Box 17461, San Antonio TX 78217.

Familienkundliche Nachrichten (FANA) is a small German publication devoted solely to queries, mainly on German surnames. It is published every two months and is sent as an enclosure with virtually all German genealogical societies' publications. Of course, it is written in German. Anyone may place a query in the publication. Just send your query (in English and they will translate it) and they will send you a bill and a copy of the FANA in which your query appears. Write to: Familienkundlich Nachrichten, Postfach 1340, D-8530 Neustadt/Aisch, West Germany.

New Periodical We have received a complimentary copy of Issue #1 Sept/Oct 1985 of Heritage Quest, 113 pages, plus index. The bimonthly magazine will include articles on research techniques, local history, periodical index and copy service, and columnists (including one by Fred W. Hilbig on German research) in addition to the usual queries and book reviews. Those becoming "members" are entitled to discounts on seminars, tours, books, supplies, and cassette tapes. Fee is \$25.00 per year for six issues. To join, write Heritage Quest International Genealogy Forum, c/o Subscription Dept., Drawer HQ, Orting WA 98360.

Other new books that might interest you Your Genealogy Editor has not reviewed these:

German Immigration to America in the Nineteenth Century, A Genealogist's Guide by Maralyn A. Wellauer. Although your Genealogy Editor has not seen the book, the subjects in the Table of Contents look interesting. Cost is \$12.00 postpaid from Roots International, 3239 N. 58th St., Milwaukee WI 53216.

Scissortails Still Return to Schoenau by Geraldine Mittanch Luetge is a comprehensive history of the people, places, and events that shaped the Schoenau area's history and includes over 140 family histories. Order at \$29.95 from the author at Rt 2, Box 143, New Ulm TX 78950.

Baptismal Records of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Serbin, Texas, 1854-1883 of the Rev. John Kilian, translated and edited by Joseph Wilson is now available for \$25.00 plus \$1.95 postage from Southern Historical Press, P O Box 738, Easley SC 29641.

First Census of Texas, 1829 to 1836 also includes Texas Citizenship Lists, 1921-1845, and other early records of the Republic, in a book of 63 pages for \$9.25, including postage and handling. Order from National Genealogical Society, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington VA 22207. (20% discount to members of NGS.)

Wuerttemberg Emigration Index, Volume I is the first of a proposed six-volume set and is an alphabetical list of 11,500 individuals who applied to emigrate from Wuerttemberg between 1800 and 1900. It is \$15.95 and available from Ancestry, Inc., P O Box 476, Salt Lake City UT 84110.

The Origin, Development, & Meanings of German Names by Arta F. Johnson covers not only surnames but also given names and naming practices in various times and places in Germany. Dr. Johnson also covers the development of the German language. This was reviewed in the National Genealogical Society's Quarterly, Sept. 1985. Order this 40-page book for \$6.00 plus .80 for postage from the author, 153 Aldrich Rd., Columbus OH 43214.

A Bibliography of American County Histories by P. William Filby presents a comprehensive 449-page list of the 5,000 county histories published to date. Order for \$24.95, plus \$1.25 postage from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore MD 21202.

If I Can You Can Decipher Germanic Records by Edna M. Bentz compares German and Danish alphabets and has dictionary style tables of German type and script versions of hundreds of words found in genealogical records along with their English, Latin, and Danish equivalents. You may order this 84-page paperback for \$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage from Genealogy Unlimited, 789 S. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove IL 60089. Heritage Books of Bowie MD has the same for \$12.00, and Pathfinders Genealogy Books of Pueblo CO also has it for \$10.00.

In search of Your European Roots by Angus Baxter covers 31 countries, including Germany, Austria, Czechslovakia, Poland, and Switzerland, among others. The brochure claims that the book describes in detail the special characteristics of each area and the archival resources of each country from the national to the local level. As complex as the recordkeeping is in Germany alone, one wonders how much detail can be included on 31 countries in one 300-page book. Perhaps a library ought to have this as a more general reference work. If interested, order for \$12.95 plus \$1.25 for postage from Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore MD 21201.

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.

Another note: If you plan to submit an article for publication, please note the manuscript specifications published inside the back cover of each issue. Here they are again: We will consider only materials typed, single spaced, on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4" margin on all sides. Although you see a nice margin in the final Newsletter, our printer does this for us. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Your Genealogy Editor and the Editor-in-Chief evaluate all materials for the readership value of both the content and the typed format.

Noma Rorie Edge P O Box 128, Colorado City TX 79512 would like to correspond with descendants of Jadwig (Hedwig) Teresa Sowa and John Skrzycki. [Note from your Genealogy Editor: According to the book The Sowa Family History, Six Generations of Polish-Texans by Janet Dawson Ebron and Richard Allan Sowa, the children of this couple, as named in John's 1955 obituary, were: Mary Domicella (Mrs. G. H.) Kuhlman, Mrs. E. O. Shey, Cecilia (Mrs. Adam) Woitena Mrs. John Felux, and sons John, Tony, and Gene Sowa. The family lived at St. Hedwig, near San Antonio.] Can anyone help find these relatives?

Rudolph A. Engelking 107 Briar Circle, Sealy TX 77474 is interested in the genealogy of the Engelking family as well as the Sack and von Roeder families, since Ferdinand F. Engelking (1810-1885) married Otilie Elizabeth Caroline von Roeder (1823-1905) daughter of Sigismund Anton von Roeder and Caroline Louise Sack. The Sack and von Roeder families are part of the Sack Foundation and are found in "The Silver Book" which has been covered in previous issues of this Newsletter. According to Mr. Engelking, Rudolph Sack of Frankfurt, Germany, hopes to publish a new edition of "The Silver Book" to bring the descendants up to date.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Goebel 1213 McArthur, Cuero TX 77954 are conducting a survey of all cemeteries in DeWitt County. They are also interested in these families: Krueger, Schorlemmer, Geobel, Rabke, Hartmann, Sager, and Koenig.

Mike Hennech 2602 Chevy Chase, Irving TX 75062 is interested in various Texas historical research for his junior high school history classes and also for his family research on the Hennech/Henneck family.

Margaret Hopkins Edwards 2013 Williamsburg Court South, League City TX 77573 wants GTHS member Melton Koch to contact her. She has been gathering information about Kochs and found a John Koch's Confederate service record, but she does not think this man is related to the Kochs she is researching. She has copies of these records to share.

William R. Orton 1641 Halsell Road, Fayette AR 72701 is interested in his ancestors Wilhelmina Rabel or Raibel and Gustav Herrer and their daughter Bertha who arrived at Galveston in 1848. Family tradition relates that they

were destined for La Grange, but apparently Gustav died shortly after arrival, since Wilhelmina married Capt. Peter Johnson in Indianola in 1854. William wants to learn the exact place of their origin in Germany--in later Census records Bertha gave her birthplace as Baden and Wilhelmina gave hers as Pfaltz.

Joan Shawver Waldrop Box 96, Maud OK 74854 is looking for members knowing of the name Shawver. She is interested in Alexander Shawver who was born about 1815 in Virginia, married in Macon County, MO, and moved quite frequently--to Monroe Co., MO; Appanoose Co., IA; Putnam Co, MO; Nebraska; Howard Co., KS; and Chautauqua Co., KS. In 1950 a Carl Shawver of San Antonio wrote "Shawver Family Historical Sketches," but she has been unable to locate him. Members, please look in your telephone directories and send Joan names and addresses of any Shawver you find.

Elinor Steinhagen Burrus 1470 Thomas Road, Beaumont TX 77706 is researching her great grandparents: Steinhagen, Schatz, Froelich, and Sobbe. She is also planning a publication on Christopher Frederick Carl Steinhagaen (he came to Texas in 1849 and his furniture is displayed at Winedale) and is looking for anyone with the surname Sobbe.

Peggy Shock 29624 S. Marshall Road, Mulino OR 97042 is researching the surnames Fuchs and Reuter of Goliad and De Witt Counties. They came to Texas in the mid- to late 1800s.

Jane and Henry Binz 317 Cape Aron Dr., Corpus Christi TX 78412 are tracking ancestors and relatives near and around New Braunfels and San Antonio with surnames: Binz, Englemann, Holzmann, Scheel, Luersen, Link, and Georg.

Marie Gottfried P O Box 1279, Waller TX 77484 is researching the German settlements of Spring Branch, Bear Creek (Addicks), and Rose Hill (Tomball) in Harris County. She contributed to "Inventory and Assessment of Cultural Resources at Addicks Reservoir, Harris County, Texas" in 1983.

Mrs. J. J. Pfeiffer 7225 N. E. 116th, Kirkland WA 98034 is compiling genealogies on: Carl Eberling (1794-1846), August Martin Gerhard Wolfshohl (1813-1892), Leonard Pfeiffer (1789-1869), Johann Pfeiffer (1830-1892), Nicolaus Pfeiffer (1842-1912), Conrad Ewald (1822-1880), and Jacob Schmidt (1808-1876). All these are ancestors of her husband.

Janice Stoebner 2617 Brisbane, Austin TX 78745 is working on the Johann Stroebner family history and is translating St. Jacob's Parish (Jacobi Gemeinde) records. More information on her surnames of interest appears in the Genealogical Exchange section.

Melvin E. Steger 12514 RivaRidge, Houston TX 77071 has published five family history books and has a sixth in preparation, a revision of the "Steger History." He wants to cover: the origin of the German language, the history of Germany, the German immigration, the German settlement of Texas, and the settlement of Travis County. [Sounds like a quite ambitious and scholarly project!] In addition to his interest in the Stegers, who settled outside Pflugerville in 1877, Melvin is interested in these families: Stern, Walther, Jessen, Oertli (from Switzerland), Hoch, Schräpfer, Schlittler, and Mahlandt. Melvin also says he has a lot of information on Pommer from two American-Pommeranian societies in Wisconsin, but did not send the exact names and addresses. Members interested in Pommerania should write to Melvin for the addresses of his contacts.

Bunnie Brooks 3108 Crystal Circle, Taylor TX 76574 writes to send her new address. Her article on Anton Pieper appeared in the previous issue, Fall, 1985.

THE AUGUST AND ADELAIDE (STUMPF) MORRIS FAMILY

Compiled by Elizabeth Shircliff, granddaughter of Mary Augusta (MORRIS) and Fritz LINDENBERG  
Submitted by Martha Shown Weiser, granddaughter of Martha (TULLY) and Henry Theobald MORRIS

AUGUST MORRIS was born in the year 1811 in the Electorate of Hesse Kassel in the town of Fulda, Germany, and died in 1873 at Hochheim, DeWitt Co., Texas. Family tradition is that his father was English and went to Germany for his health--recuperated, liked the country and remained there. AUGUST had a fine education and strong anti-monarchical political views. In 1845, he married ADELAIDE (or ADELHEID) STUMPF who was born 26 Nov. 1821 near Fulda, Germany, and died 13 Dec. 1902 at Hallettsville, Lavaca Co., Texas. She was a determined and strong-willed woman, helpful traits for survival in the time and place she lived; yet her disposition was kind and affectionate.

AUGUST and ADELAIDE came to Texas soon after their marriage. They arrived at Galveston on 3 Dec. 1845 on the bark, Neptune, which left Bremen, Germany, on 2 Oct. 1845. There were 214 immigrants on the ship.<sup>1</sup> According to the ship list, he was a farmer, 33 years of age and she was 24. The land contract dated 23 Sept. 1845, stated they were from Fulda, Kurhessen.<sup>2</sup> Fulda, presently in the West German State of Hesse, was at that time (1845) in the Prussian province of Hesse-Nassau or Hessen-Nassau. They went from Galveston by water to Indianola, brought lumber by water and built a house at Indianola, at that time an important Texas port in the southern part of Calhoun County and at one time the County Seat.<sup>3</sup> In addition to the hardships encountered on their voyage from their homeland, they arrived during the winter season which was one of extreme cold and unusually heavy rainfall in Texas. The coastal flatlands were turned into quagmires and the streams into unfordable torrents and a great number of the immigrants perished.<sup>4</sup>

Their grant for 320 acres of land from the German Immigration Company was part of the Fisher-Miller Grant for colonization from the Republic of Texas. After the Bexar District was divided into counties, this piece of property was in Irion County.

There were grave disadvantages to the location of the Fisher-Miller Grant which was between the Llano and Colorado Rivers. It was too far from the coast (300 miles), 100 miles west of Austin and 150 miles from San Antonio, the only cities where supplies could be bought. The land was not fertile and the greatest barrier to the settlement was the presence of Comanche Indians on the land.<sup>5</sup> No immigrant could proceed to the land granted him until peace had been made with the Indians.

Many immigrants went to New Braunfels or Fredericksburg. AUGUST moved his family to Hochheim in the Northeastern part of DeWitt County in 1847.<sup>6</sup> MARY AUGUSTA was born in Indianola and all the other children were born at Hochheim. The family lived there until AUGUST's death. In her later years, ADELAIDE lived with her oldest daughter and her family in Hallettsville until her death.

**Their children:**

- i. MARY AUGUSTA, born 9 Feb. 1847 at Indianola; died 14 Oct. 1904 at Hallettsville. married FRITZ LINDENBERG on 1 Jan. 1867 at Hochheim, TX.
- ii. JOSEPH PHILLIP, born 1849; died 12 Nov. 1937, at Coleman, TX; married (#1) MATTIE M. PINCHAM on 17 Dec. 1872; (#2) BETTY \_\_\_\_\_.
- iii. ROSA, born 1852; married CHARLEY TIMM on 27 Dec. 1870.
- iv. ELIZABETH (LIZZIE), born 1854; married WILLIAM BEASLEY.
- v. EUGENE (JOHN), born 1859; married MOLLY \_\_\_\_\_.
- vi. ELLA, born 1861; married DAN T. PRICE.
- vii. HENRY THEOBALD, born 6 Dec. 1862; died 30 Nov. 1931 in Houston, TX; married MARTHA L. TULLY on 5 July 1888 in DeWitt Co., TX.

**Notes and references:**

1. Geue, Chester W. and Ethel H., "A New Land Beckoned, German Immigration to Texas 1844-1847", Texian Press, Waco, Texas (1966), pp 127 and 168.



THE AUGUST AND ADELAIDE (STUMPF) MORRIS FAMILY - continued

2. Land contract from Texas State Archives. (My grandmother said Grandma Morris was from what sounded to me (not speaking German) like Courhouse or Courhase on the Fulda River. It was probably Kurhaus which I find means a spa hotel or Kurhesse another from of Kurhessen.)
3. Because of it's exposed location, Indianola was severely damaged by a hurricane in 1875 and completely destroyed by another hurricane in 1886.
4. Malsch, Browson, "Indianola, The Mother of Western Texas", Shoal Creek Publishers, Inc., Austin, TX, page 10.
5. Geue, "A New Land, etc.", page 4.
6. DeWitt County deed records show that Augustus Morris of Indian Point (near Indianola) bought 807 acres of the Joseph Clement Survey (near Hochheim) on 23 Nov. 1847.

GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the Newsletter. It gives readers the names, areas, and other facts "at a glance." Also, it is quicker for you to submit--and easier for your Genealogy Editor to compile! Let's have more for this section.

Member	Researching Families	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Janice Stoebner 2617 Brisbane Austin TX 78745	Stöbner/Stoebner Stübner/Steubner Hoherz Kurtz/Kurz Boecker	Travis, McLennan Travis, Washington Travis, Washington Washington	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Margaret Ramm Standlee 10605 Royal Club Ln Dallas TX 75229 214 352-0770	Ramm Neitsch Behrens Krause	Williamson, Bell, Jones Coryell, Uvalde, etc. Lee, Wmson, Bell Wmson, Lee, Gonzales Coryell, Williamson	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran(?) Lutheran
L.R. Giese #5 Colony Angleton TX 77515	Giese	Fayette	
Doris R Mellor 1917 Bethlehem Houston TX 77018	Wiede Schultz/Schultze Geick Stegemuller	Washington Washington Washington Washington	
Mark S Heep 5415 Mossgrey Spring TX 77373	Heep Lips	Hays, El Paso, Gillespie Hays	Lutheran, Cath. Lutheran, Ch of Christ
Bernice N Mistrot 12800-83 Briar Forest Houston TX 77077 713 531-1956	Danish Kerlick Kirlicks Maas Woenne	Harris, Galv, Bexar DeWitt, Goliad, Karnes Robtson, Harris, Galv, Dallas Dallas (TX Hill Country)	Catholic Lutheran Epis. ? ?

Genealogical Exchange, continued

Member	Researching Families	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Evelyn M Kalina Rt 1, Box 145 Orange Grove TX 78372 512 384-2231	Tschoepe Boerner Kraemer Metzler Fey Binz Holzmann Still Acker	Guadalupe, Denton, Nueces, Jim Wells Comal, Denton, Nueces, Jim Wells Comal Comal Comal, Bexar Bexar, Nueces Comal(?) Comal Comal	Protestant, Catholic Catholic Catholic Catholic Catholic Catholic Catholic Catholic
Willie M Stuebner Route 1 Burlington TX 76519	Stuebner/Stuebner Hohertz Ohlenbusch	Travis, Milam, McLennan Travis Austin, Milam	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Iona Hart Becker P O Box 94 Marble Falls TX 78654	Becker Rieger Biegel Mueller	Fayette, Bexar Bexar Fayette, Bexar Bexar	Unknown Unknown Unknown Unknown
Jean M Meier 2710 Good Shepherd Brownwood TX 76801	Meier Behringer Kohn/Cohen Rance/Rentz Grusendorf/Grussendorf Groeszendorf Ebers Wellmann Hartung Fulz Gaus	McLennan Freestone Falls, McLennan Freestone Bastrop, Lee Bastrop Washington Comal Bastrop McLennan	Methodist Methodist Methodist Methodist Methodist Methodist Methodist Lutheran
Sharon D Shafer P O Box 391 Willis TX 77378 409 856-5083	Jutz Afflerbach Junker Mosteit/Musteidt Langheit	DeWitt DeWitt DeWitt DeWitt DeWitt	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran ? Lutheran
Martha W. Weiser 6409 Patal Houston TX 77041	Morris Stumpf Jordan Tully Roberts Shown Wilkins Ragland Espitia/Espada Weiser	Lavaca, DeWitt Lavaca, DeWitt DeWitt DeWitt, Harris Waller Waller, DeWitt, Harris Victoria, Refugio Victoria, Refugio, DeWitt Victoria, DeWitt, Bexar Llano, Harris	Catholic Catholic Epis, Cath Catholic Ev. Luth
Ruben Klaevemann Rocksprings Rt, Bx 552 Uvalde TX 78801	Schuldt Klaevemann Herbst	Bexar Jim Wells Colorado	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran

Bernice N. Mistrot  
 12800-83 Briar Forest  
 Houston, Texas 77077  
 1 October 1985

Theresa B. Gold, Genealogy Editor  
 106 Ranchland  
 San Antonio, Texas 78213

Dear Theresa,

You asked for success stories from the GTHS Annual Meeting in New Braunfels, and this must be a classic, so here goes. First a little background....

In June 1985, I started working on my husband's KIRLICKS line (in Harris and Galveston counties). At that time, Gus could name exactly five members of that family, including himself, and going back to his grandparents. After talking with a cousin, and doing several months of research, I was up to 17 direct descendants of the immigrant (excluding spouses). I had also discovered a KERLICK family in Dewitt, Goliad, and Karnes counties, which was a complete surprise to Gus. We believed there must be some connection however, as we have a photograph (taken about 1900) labeled (by a Kirlicks) as "Kerlick family".

Now the real story... Realizing that traveling to the meeting in New Braunfels would also put me near the state archives in Austin, I arranged to spend the three days immediately prior to the meeting reading birth and death records on a dozen or so families, including Kirlicks and Kerlick. After copying data madly from 65 certificates, I thought I had made real progress. Then Friday evening in New Braunfels, I was wandering through the display area, wondering if anyone there knew anything about Germans in Yorktown, when suddenly I saw it: "STANCHOS-KERLICK GENEALOGY (YORKTOWN, TEXAS)!" I probably quite literally pounced on it, explained my interest, and of course purchased a copy.

Naturally, the seller, Lynn Highley, was delighted, but told me that this was but a small part of the Kerlick family, and that she would bring her files and a copy of the "real" Kerlick book (by Beverly Bruns of Victoria) on Saturday. Well, I tried to get something out of all those workshops, but my mind was clearly elsewhere: How could I get my (Houston-based) Kirlicks family connected to her (Dewitt County) Kerlick family? Another irony in this: Lynn and Beverly had been corresponding just within the last three months trying to identify a Kirlicks in Houston—who was none other than my husband's grandfather, one of the five Gus knew about!!

In her preface, Beverly mentions that Patsy Hand had done much of the research in the Kerlick book. Reading this Saturday afternoon, it occurred to me that I had met Patsy earlier in the day! Later in the afternoon, while sharing my good fortune with a friend from Houston, Patsy happened by, and was quickly caught up in the same spirit. Out came all the books and notes, and spread out all over the table again. It's a good thing we were at the last table to eat!

A further aside--just before dinner, someone else came up to me with the exclamation, "You're a Mistrot? -- I'm a Mistrot!" And so she was. A comprehensive genealogy was written about this family about 25 years ago, which I had begun attempting to index prior to a possible future update. I just happened to have the first couple of pages with me, and there she was on the first page. So I sat at dinner between a Mistrot and a Kirlicks--representatives of both sides of Gus' family. What a small world!

But my glorious weekend wasn't over yet. A quick look at a map showed that I could easily return to Houston via Victoria, if Beverly was home. As luck would have it, she wasn't planning to be, but she was waiting for me when I arrived. Again, the books and papers flew about madly for several exciting hours. I had Kerlick data which Beverly didn't have, and she had Kirlicks information I hadn't seen, and both of us had been trying to make it fit the only world we knew. (Of course, the fact that some individuals used both spellings, depending on where they were living at the time, didn't help!)

While we still don't have proof of the connection, we know that several members of the Kerlick family were in the Houston-Galveston area and at least two of them married there, and we have a theory. I have volunteered to type/co-author an update of the Kerlick book, and the scope of my knowledge of the family has expanded from five persons to a list of over 300 direct descendants (plus spouses), with probably another 150-200 whose names we do not yet have.

And all this because Lynn put a big sign on the Stanchos genealogy at the GTHS meeting, not to stir up family interest, but because she liked the format, and thought it might be useful as a style guide!

Hurray for the GTHS Annual Meeting! See y'all next year in Houston!



Bernice N. Mistrot

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A GENEALOGICAL WINDFALL

Frank Crain Schleicher, 1505 Ridgecrest Dr., Austin, Texas 78746

Theresa Gold's Genealogy Section in the 1985 Spring issue of the German-Texas Heritage Society Newsletter contained a notice stating that the Hessische Staatsarchive Marburg is computerizing all names and personal data on emigrants from Hesse-Kassel from 1840 through 1866. Not knowing that Hesse and Hesse-Kassel were separate states I wrote the Marburg Archives asking for information about my grandfather, Gustav Schleicher, who was born in Hesse, Darmstadt on the 19th November, 1823 and had emigrated to Texas with The Colony of Forty in 1847.

These meager facts were practically all I knew of my grandfather's origins and German roots. My father died when I was very young and we did not live near any of his relatives who might have been able to pass on some knowledge of my grandfather's family and early life. We knew that his father and two sisters had joined him in Texas a few years after his arrival but we did not even know his parents names or how many children they had had.

I cannot begin to express my elation over receiving the wealth of family history contained in the following letter which was translated for me by Mrs. Edward Miles Strieber, Sr. of Austin:

HESSE STATE ARCHIVES DARMSTADT

The Director  
Hesse State Archives, Castle, 6100 Darmstadt

Mr. Frank Crain Schleicher  
1505 Ridgecrest Drive  
Austin, Texas 78746

6100 Darmstadt June 20, 1985  
Castle  
Telephone (0 61 51) 12 57 53  
Document #536 Sch - T 2272/85  
(Please refer to this number  
in correspondence)

Subject: Gustav Ferdinand Schleicher (1823-1879)

Reference: Your questions from May 30, 1985 (to the Hesse State Archives in Marburg)

Dear Mr. Schleicher,

Gustav Schleicher's hometown of Darmstadt did not belong to Hesse-Kassel but instead to the former grand duchy Hesse (-Darmstadt), so that your inquiries were forwarded to us from Marburg.

The emigration of the so-called "Forties Group", which departed in April 1847 from Darmstadt to Texas, stimulated a great amount of interest at that time because the majority of the members were sons of highly regarded officials and citizen families. It was also later treated in literature. A quite interesting booklet containing notes from two of the members of the group was published in 1937 under the title, "Zwei Erbacher in Texas. Lebenserrinnerungen von Ernst Dosch und Eberhard Ihrig" (Two Settlers in Texas. Memories of Ernst Dosch and Eberhard Ihrig) which was published by Karl Esselborn (Hesse Popular Prose Bd 95-97, Darmstadt, 1937, 180 pages. I am submitting to you the short summary derived from the city history of Darmstadt (Darmstadt's History, 2 Publications, 1984, pages 338-339.

Gustav Schleicher, who is always named as one of the controlling and most successful members of the group, was born on November 19, 1823 in Darmstadt as your records correctly show. The other names and dates about the family cannot be verified. George Schleicher was the name of the father. Since Gustav had a brother of the same name, he died in any case as a small child. In the inventory of the property of the mother who died in 1841 six children lived, five of whom were daughters. The oldest, Elise, who had previously married minister August Storck, died in 1887 in the state hospital--Philipps Hospital in Hofheim after suffering many years from mental disorder. I assume the two younger daughters, Wilhelmine and Henrietta, 1849/1850, moved to their brother in Texas with their father whose local wealth had been declared bankrupt. In the address book of 1850/1854 only the daughter Dorothea is named, and she had just married. Later in 1861 as the property of the minister's widow Elise Storck was noted, her two eldest sons Georg and Carl Storck (born 1840/42) were placed under guardianship and were noted in a history of Texas to be

with their mother's relatives, thus doubtless with Gustav Schleicher; later they went to Mexico. 59

From the submitted documents I can share the following dates:

Johann Gustav Ferdinand Schleicher

Born November 23, 1823, Darmstadt; died January 10, 1879, Washington, DC  
1837/38 student in the higher trade school in Darmstadt

November 3, 1940 matriculated as a student of architecture (Engineer) at the University of Giessen

By 1843 he was an engineer at the construction of the Main-Necker Railway

April 2, 1847 departure with the "Forties" to Texas (you already know the remainder of this biography).

Parents

Georg Friedrich Schleicher, born about 1786/87 in Strodthagen

Cabinetmaker, shortly before his marriage was recorded as a citizen of Darmstadt, on April 29, 1815 lived on Waldstrasse (today called Adelungstrasse), whose 1849 approved emigration application was remanded because of bankruptcy, nevertheless shortly thereafter left illegally married May 4, 1815 in Darmstadt,

Marie Eleonore Lösch, born about 1786/87 in Darmstadt; died April 23, 1841 in Darmstadt

Grandparents

Leonhard Schleicher, died before 1815, cabinetmaker in Strodthagen (District of Einbeck)

married Eleonore geb. Klien

Zacharias Lösch, died before 1815, citizen and manor carpenter in Darmstadt, married to

Marie Catherine geb. Breidert, died before 1815 (presumably the daughter of manor cabinet-maker Johann Georg Breidert, d. 1813)

Siblings

1. Elise Schleicher, born November 3, 1816 in Darmstadt; died October 26, 1887 Philipps Hospital Hofheim (mentally ill in hospital since 1861)

Married December 14, 1837 in Darmstadt

Johann Friedrich August Storck, born November 18, 1803 in Darmstadt, (son of the educator Johann Justus Storck), died November 19, 1847 in Bausheim, minister in Zwingenbourg and Bauschheim, (5 children, of whom the eldest sons, Georg born about 1840, and Carl born about 1842, later went to their Schleicher relatives in Texas; the daughter, Johanna born December 29, 1845, later went to New York.

2. Friederike Dorothea Schleicher, born August 9, 1818 in Darmstadt, lived alone in Darmstadt 1850/54 until her marriage

Married September 28, 1854 in Darmstadt

Joseph Iganz Anschel, born November 11, 1812 in Mainz (son of Professor Dr. Franz Carl Friedrich A.), Doctor of Medicine, practicing doctor in Mainz.

3. Anna Margarethe Schleicher, born January 17, 1820 in Darmstadt

Married December 12, 1846 in Darmstadt

Karl Friedrich Christian Alberti, born July 26, 1806 in Darmstadt (son of the district master of horse Friedrich Wilhelm A.), court painter in Darmstadt, later in Munich.

4. Johann Gustav Ferdinand (see above)

5. Marie Wilhelmine Schleicher, born December 15, 1826 in Darmstadt.

6. Henriette Louise Auguste Schleicher, born May 18, 1829 in Darmstadt. [Married ca 1860 Rudolph H. Dresel in San Antonio, later moved to Mexico City. - F.C.S.]

If you wish to pursue further the genealogy of Schleicher, you should write directly to the evangelical parish office in Stodhagen.

With friendly greetings,  
(Professor Dr. E. G. Franz)

I now have a whole new family tree, with roots of Löschs, Kliens and Breiderts and branches of Storcks, Anschels and Albertis. If any of you have any information about them to share please write to me. Who knows, maybe I can pass on a bit of information that can help you find a windfall of family roots and branches too.

GENEALOGY OF THE ZUEHL FAMILY

By Joyce A. Zaiontz Rt. 1 Box 293 LaVernia, Tx. 78121

NOTE: This is the continuation of the Zuehl saga told  
by Erwin Reininger in VI, 210, and myself in VII, 2-188.

Carl Christian Zuehl, his wife Marie Wrede Zuehl, and their three children Friedrich(Fritz), Wilhelm and Wilhelmine, left their home in Tribhess, Stralsund Greifswalde Vor Pommern, Prussia on Aug. 24, 1846, and arrived in the port of Indianola on the ship "Mercure" after a 12 week voyage. The family lived briefly in Indianola, then moved to New Braunfels where they lived for a number of years. The daughter, Wilhelmine, married Julius Rennert in 1847. Two years later the beloved mother, Marie, died during the cholera epidemic.

Following her death, Carl Zuehl and his two sons moved to the Rennert farm. Fritz Zuehl married Wilhelmine Karbach in 1849, and moved to the Santa Clara community. The marriage records of Comal County show that on June 25, 1855 Wilhelm Zuehl bought a marriage license and was betrothed to Justine Marchwardt. There is no record of this marriage ever taking place.

NOTE: ANY READERS FAMILIAR WITH THE NAME  
JUSTINE MARCHWARDT, PLEASE CONTACT ME...Joyce

In October of 1857, Wilhelm Zuehl married Katrina Gembler. He took his bride to his farm on the Santa Clara; later they resided on the Salado near San Antonio.

Wilhelm and his 17 year old bride, Katrina, had a happy marriage. They were blessed with two fine sons. Carl was born Oct. 13, 1858, and Johann was born Oct. 11, 1860. They were named after their Grandparents. Five short years after the couple's marriage, Wilhelm experienced another bitterness in his life. His young bride, Katrina, died in May of 1863. She is buried in the family cemetery in Zuehl, Texas.

It was no disrespect to his first love, if a bereaved husband and father of two small children wipes his tears and convinces himself of the necessity that his children should have a new mother.

Five months after Katrina's death, Wilhelm found an excellent mother for his two children and a true helpmate in Wilhelmine Gutz.

Wilhelmine Gutz was born on March 22, 1844 in Geersdorf, Pommern, Prussia. They were married on Oct. 25, 1863. The union of Wilhelm and Wilhelmine was blessed with ten fine children: Carolina (B. Nov. 25, 1864), Herman (B. Oct. 5, 1865), Henry (B. Aug. 6, 1867), Wilhelm (B. Oct. 4, 1869), Marie (B. Feb. 18, 1875), Louis (B. Oct. 26, 1876), Emma (B. Dec. 25, 1878), Olga (B. Feb. 9, 1882), Oscar (B. July 30, 1884), and Francisca (B. Dec. 18, 1886).

CLEARING THE LAND

Wilhelm was a Zuehl and full of life and the zest for living; he was also a good manager. He and Wilhelmine (Gutz) accumulated land by hard work. He drove an oxen freighter to the coast over the Spanish Cart Road (Chihuahua Road) for the extra cash it brought in. This was in the earlier days of his life. With this extra money, he bought more land.

This land had to be grubbed and cleared by hand. In these holes where the trees had stood, good Frau Wilhelmine, with the aid of the children, planted sweet potatoes. While doing this, she kept a gun close at hand for roaming Indians.

Her grandchildren said of Wilhelmine, "Grandmother took a little time out each year to have another baby." They were a large prosperous family, and prominent in the whole area.



ZUEHL, TEXAS

In 1870, Wilhelm Zuehl purchased an estate that was the old Wicks Plantation. This estate was not only a farm, but included a complete farm complex. There was a cotton gin, sorghum press, threshing machine, and corn shellers. Two years after purchasing this plantation, Wilhelm Zuehl opened the County Mercantile store (1872) and from this grew the community which bears the family name. Wilhelm was also Postmaster at one time.

The Zuehl community on the Cibolo was originally known as Perryman's Crossing on the Old Wood Road, between San Antonio and Gonzales. It was established as a well-traveled road sometime before 1830. This road was used for hauling heavy timber from the woods along the Guadalupe River.

The banks of the stream were quite steep and along its entire length which is the boundary line between Bexar and Guadalupe counties were few places where the pioneers could find crossings before the days of bridges.

In the early days, when the Indians would stampede buffalo to the banks of the Cilolo, the herd would go over the banks and land in the bed of the stream. Many of the buffalo were unable to rise because their legs were broken. This made buffalo hunting easy for the Indians.



HAULING COTTON SEED FROM  
THE ZUEHL COTTON GIN AT  
THE ZUEHL HOMESTEAD  
Circa 1890

Shown: Herman Zuehl,  
Carl Zuehl, Ed Hanel,  
Louis Zuehl, John Zuehl,  
Henry Zuehl, Willie Zuehl,  
August Zeiske and some  
unidentified men.

The first cotton gin at this community was a one-mule arrangement and it took all day to make one bale. All the machines Wilhelm had were the first in the area. These machines would service all the farmers in the area, and Wilhelm would always have refreshments around the machines as they were being worked. He bought bourbon and corn whiskey in 25 and 50 gallon kegs. There was always plenty of work and no one ever seemed to mind the work or suffer from any tensions!

Wilhelm Zuehl had his birthday on the 4th of May. This was always a memorable day for all who knew him, and he always celebrated it. He would start the day by welcoming his many friends and family. They would drop in all day long, as there was food and drink for all. Since this was the day before the holiday that all Latins in the area celebrated ("Cinco De Mayo"), it gave his hired hands an early start. Wilhelm would invite all his farm help over towards evening. They would bring an orchestra, and a merry birthday started all over again.

His farm help looked forward to this day. Wilhelm provided in German-style with keg beer. Often he would yodel for his guests, as he was considered one of the best yodelers in the area.

Wilhelm loved to dance, and on these great occasions he really had himself a ball. The orchestrathat had come the night before would stay on for the next day, which was "Cinco De Mayo", and celebrated nearby. In later years, the celebration was always held in the town of Zuehl, in Willie Zuehl's pasture, directly in back of the Zuehl store.

Wilhelm Zuehl's passing in 1912, at the age of 84, was of county-wide concern.

# Kodak Sponsors National Photo Album

KODAK has announced that it is compiling and organizing the largest family picture album in history. All of the pictures that Kodak is compiling will become part of the historic exhibit at the Statue of Liberty National Monument. At the monument will be an electronic photo exhibit which will begin in July, 1986 at the 100th anniversary celebration of the rededication of the Statue of Liberty.

What may a person do to have a picture placed in this exhibit? Simply send KODAK a picture of your family. It may be a treasured old one or a photo you've just taken. Send in \$10 along with the picture. You will receive a certificate to display and I.D. card to help you locate your picture at the exhibit. The \$10 check goes to help support the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island restoration project now underway.

You may submit as many pictures as you wish. (1) Prints (only) must be no larger

than 8 x 12; (2) each photo must be accompanied by a separate entry coupon (write to Kodak), if several pictures are sent at once, a coupon must be taped to the back of each one, do not staple. (3) A \$10 check of money order must be enclosed for each picture, you may write one check for the total. (4) Kodak is not responsible for the destruction of any pictures sent through the mails, it recommends that you pack them carefully. (5) It will take approximately 8 weeks to receive your certificate and (6) the offer ends on December 31, 1986.

Photographs will not be returned, they will become a permanent part of the public exhibit at the Statue of Liberty. On the certificate (you must obtain one) the information requested about each family will be: (1) the Principal surname of the people in the photo (family name); (2) the country of origin; (3) year of first entry into the United States, if known or applicable; (3) year, city and State/County of photo.

## Kodak invites you to be part of the largest family get-together in history.

**The Time:** Starting now and for decades to come.

**The Place:** The Statue of Liberty National Monument in New York Harbor.

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America's Family Album will consist of millions of electronically displayed images of our country's greatest resource: her people. We'd like you to become a part of it simply by mailing the attached coupon, along with any treasured family photo and a check or money order for \$10.

Join as many times as you wish. Your photos can be anything from an old favorite picture of ancestors to a color print of a recent family get-together, anything that captures what your family means to you.

Your photo(s) will then become a part of America's Family Album at the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Within 8 weeks after receipt of your material, you'll get a certificate for display stating that you are a member of America's Family Album, and an identification card telling you how to find your picture(s) when you visit the Monument. While you're there, you may also look at other images.

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- Your check or money order in the amount of \$10 for each photo submitted.

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 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

### Photo Information (Please print or type)

Principle Family Name in Photo: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name Only \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country of Origin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year of first entry into U.S. (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year and Location photo taken \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Your participation will help Kodak meet its pledge to restore the Statue of Liberty.

Mail your check or money order made payable to:  
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# How to Trace Your Family Tree

BY ROBERT MURPHEY

Here's a simplified method and chart for determining whom you're related to, and how.

WHAT RELATION to you is your mother's brother's great-granddaughter?

Can you answer this question in 30 seconds? If you can, you're either a genius or a genealogist. A genius is a person to whom things like this come easy. A genealogist is someone who had to learn about cousins as part of his profession. Since there are only a few hundred trained genealogists in the country—and not many more geniuses—it is safe to assume you are one of the many millions who has never been quite sure whether Cousin Harry was your third cousin, once removed, or your second cousin, twice removed. It is for you that the Simplified Foolproof Cousinry Chart and the Basic Laws of Cousinry have been developed.

The Basic Laws are these:

1. For two people to be cousins, they must share a common set of grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents, etc., somewhere back up the family tree.
2. The children of your first cousins, and their children, and their children's children, and so forth, remain your first cousins. However, they may be once removed, twice removed, or three times removed, as the case may be.
3. Similarly, the first cousin of your great-great-great-grandmother is still your first cousin, six times removed. This is a handy rule to know when you're looking for a relative slightly more respectable than old Uncle Albert to brag about. That many generations

back, you had altogether 64 different great-great-great-great-grandparents, and at least one of them must have been famous.

4. The same rules apply to the descendants of your second cousins and third cousins as well as to the second cousins and third cousins of your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, all the way back to Adam and Eve.

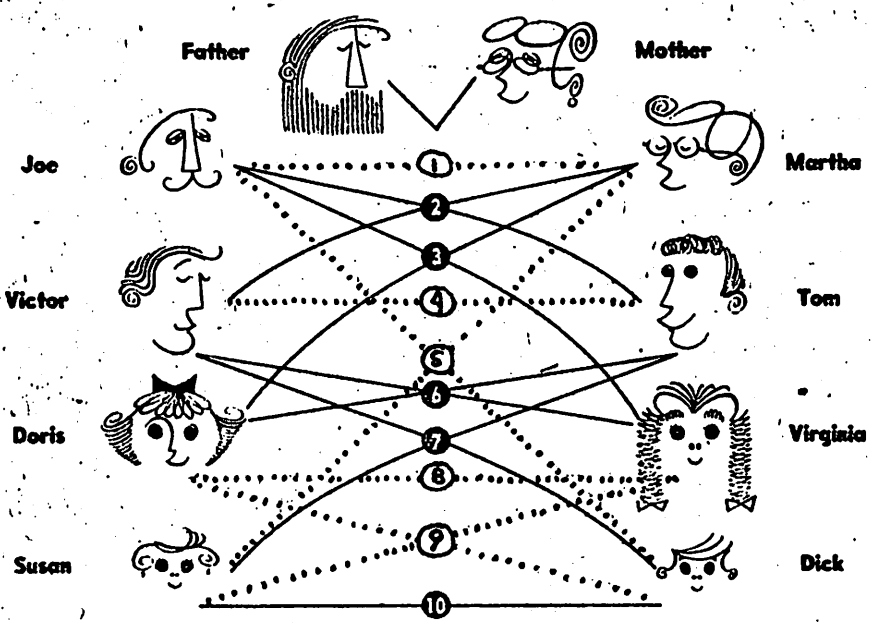
5. If you have a first, a second, or a third cousin, without any "removed's" involved, you both belong to the same generation. This may come as a slight shock if you remember remarking yesterday that Cousin Irma is really beginning to look quite gray.

The above rules are useful to remember if you don't happen to have a Cousinry Chart handy, but the chart is much easier to use. Here's the way it works:

All you do is place yourself and your relative in your proper spots in the chart. Then you look at the number of the dotted line that connects the two of you, and the corresponding number below the chart will tell you how you are related.

As an example, let's take the poser we started with. Let's say you're Tom. Well, obviously your mother's brother is Joe, and his great-granddaughter is Susan. The line between Tom and Susan bears the number 7. So that means you're first cousins, twice removed. As you can see, it's really very simple. But it's guaranteed to astound long-lost cousins when you nonchalantly explain to them precisely how you're related.

From: Family Weekly Magazine, Feb. 12, 1956, p. 13  
Sent by: Lorene F. Windle, 13167 Barryknoll Lane,  
Houston TX 77070



1. brother-sister.
2. uncle (aunt)—nephew (niece).
3. great-uncle (aunt)—grandnephew (niece).
4. first cousins.
5. great-granduncle (aunt)—great-grandnephew (niece).
6. first cousins, once removed.
7. first cousins, twice removed.
8. second cousins.
9. second cousins, once removed.
10. third cousins.

## Wanted: Personal Histories

What was life like for your grandfather? Or your great-aunt? What about your own experiences—would you want them recorded for your children or grandchildren? Writing a personal history is a wonderful way to pass on events and life-styles. *Southern Living* is researching an article on this topic and would appreciate your help. If you have written about your life or know of someone who has recorded his, we would like a copy (not the only copy, please). We will return it if requested. The written accounts need not be published works; typed manuscripts are fine. And we ask that you submit personal histories only, not genealogies.

Please send your personal histories to the Family History Editor, *Southern Living Magazine*, Box 523, Birmingham, Alabama 35201.

From Southern Living  
Feb. 1986, p. 123

Austin American-Statesman, Saturday, October 12, 1985 "Ellie Rucker" Column

...  
Q. My mother is doing some genealogy research and has seemingly exhausted all leads available in the U.S.

She was told the European churches are the best resources for such records and now wants to write a church in Germany to inquire about individuals who lived in Nebra AFU, Sachsen Provinz, Germany in the 1800s.

We know the city of Nebra still exists in East Germany. Our problem is knowing how to address the letter. We do not know what kind of church or if there is more than one church, nor do we have a general address for the town of Nebra itself.

Provided we get the address, should we have the letter translated into the German language? —S.D.

A. Your best bet, according to the East German Embassy in Washington, is to write the Sachsen Research Center for Genealogy (Sachsen is the province the city of Nebra is located in).

Peter Vincenz, at the Embassy, says they've referred a lot of Americans to the center. "They are experienced in this and they are working closely with the churches."

The center's address is: German Democratic Republic, Zentralstelle fuer Genealogie, 7010 Leipzig, Georgi-Dimitroff-Platz 1.

He says it's better to write the letter in German. Call the UT Department of Germanic Languages at 471-4123 for a list of people to translate your inquiry.  
...

**BEATTITUDES OF A FAMILY GENEALOGIST**  
by Wilma Mauk

**BLESSED** are the great grandfathers, who saved embarkation and citizenship papers, for they tell when they came.

**BLESSED** are the great grandmothers who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters, for these tell the story of their time.

**BLESSED** are all grandfathers, who filed every legal document, for this provides the proof.

**BLESSED** are grandmothers, who preserved family bibles and diaries, for this is our heritage.

**BLESSED** are fathers who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry, for (to some) the only link to the past.

**BLESSED** are mothers, who relate family tradition and legend to the family, for one of her children will surely remember.

**BLESSED** are relatives, who fill in family sheets with extra data, for to them we owe the family history.

**BLESSED** are the children, who will never say, "Grandma, you have told that old story twice today."

**BLESSED** is any family whose members strive for the preservation of records, for theirs is a labor of love!

From: St. Mary's Parish, High Hill, 125th Anniversary, with permission of Loretta Pauler, chairman.

Sent by: Charlotte S. Hartung  
Box 624, Bastrop TX 78602

**HOELSCHER-BUXKEMPER FAMILY REUNION**

Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, Westphalia, Texas. Expected attendance: over 1,000 descendants of Anton and Mary Katherine Hoelscher and their sons Anton, Joseph, William, and Ben, and daughter Elizabeth (Hoelscher) Buxkemper, immigrants from Westphalia, Germany, to Texas. For information on the reunion, contact Doris Voltin, Rt 2, Box 188, Rosebud TX 76580 or Rosamond Bedrich, 413 Apache Dr., Temple TX 76501.

Lillian Schlissel (Brooklyn College), Helen Bannan (University of New Mexico), Vicki Ruiz (University of California-Davis) and Kathy Morrissey (Yale University) are working on a bibliographic project entitled Pioneer Women of the West: A Guide to Manuscript Sources. The first phase of the project will result in a book, to be published by Garland Press, with listings by repositories for all states west of the Missouri River. Each entry will include a description of holdings relating to women in the pioneer period, 1610-1910, as well as information about the special strengths of the collection, and its usefulness for research in multicultural women's history. The editors are committed to making this bibliography as complete as possible--including small, local collections as well as those of major research institutions, and highlighting holdings with information about ethnic natives and newcomers--Native Americans, Hispanics, Asian-Americans, Blacks, and Europeans of various nationalities, as well as Eastern "Anglos." The definition of

manuscript sources is similarly inclusive: oral histories, WPA interview collections, personal and family papers, educational records, census materials, governmental, church, and health records--virtually any unpublished source.

Anyone willing to share information about a collection of relevant materials is urged to contact the appropriate editor: for Arizona, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Utah, contact Helen Bannan, Women Studies, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; for California, Colorado, Hawaii and Texas, contact Vicki Ruiz, History Department, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; for Alaska, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming, contact Kathy Morrissey, 5425 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520; for any collection outside the geographical West, contact Lillian Schlissel, American Studies, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY 11210.

**St. Joseph's Society:**

# Centennial Celebration

Founded in 1885, St. Joseph's Society celebrated the Centennial anniversary on Sunday, October 6th with a Mass of thanksgiving offered by Bishop Charles V. Grahmann at three-thirty in the afternoon at St. Joseph's Church in downtown San Antonio. In addition, Bishop Bernard F. Popp and a large number of religious and civic leaders were present. Following the Mass, a reception was held at the Society's Hall located at 420 Durango Blvd..

The Society was first organized to assist the pastor with development of St. Joseph's Church; to provide financial aid and assistance to members and their family in the event of illness, accident, or death; to promote the Catholic faith; encourage participation in the democratic process of government as many of the members were German immigrants. Also, the Society Hall served as a center of

family social and recreational activities.

Many of the members were leaders in Church civic, and the business community. The Society nurtured and developed a German singing club called the "San Antonio Liederkrantz"; founded the first parish credit union in the city; organized a fraternal life insurance group called the "Catholic Life Insurance Union"; A federation of German Catholic Societies called the Catholic State League of Texas; and a sister organization called St. Elizabeth's Society.

The Officers of the Society are: Rev. Donald Brouillard, Spiritual Advisor; Edward M. Dausin, President; Donald V. Reininger, Vice-Pres.; Alvin H. Hannasch, Treasurer; Thomas L. Stuebben, Financial Secretary; and Edwin R. Huth, Secretary. The Trustees include Max Hartmann, Joseph Mainz, David Mayer, and Ottmar Vogel.

## Schoenstatt's 100th Birthday

by Sr. Maria Grazie, CCVI  
 The Schoenstatt International Apostolic Movement celebrated the 100th birthday of its father and founder, Fr. Joseph Kentenich, by undertaking a pilgrimage in his honor to the roots of the movement in Germany, Switzerland, and Rome. The Holy Father greeted the Schoenstatt family gathered in Rome and delivered a special talk to the group.  
 Shrines  
 Our Lady wishes to invite you to visit her at one of her Schoenstatt shrines:  
 Schoenstatt Training Center - Rockport, Lamar, Texas 78382. Phone 729-2711 or San Antonio local shrine - 119 E. Petaluma Street, 78221. Phone: 923-2040

AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION IN AUGUST 1985

# CHURCH RECORDS OF THE PIONEER GERMAN FAMILIES OF BERLIN, TEXAS

Translated by Dr. Edward C. Breitenkamp and Dr. Jack Antrey Dabbs

LC #82-071839 ISBN 0-943162-04-1

Dr. Breitenkamp and Dr. Dabbs are retired professors of modern languages at Texas A&M University. They learned of the existence of the Berlin records from E. Dale Herring, a rancher of Talpa, Texas, who is a descendant of the pioneer Berlin settler, Heinrich Hering. In May 1980 they visited the Berlin Church and became acquainted with the pastor, Rev. Dan Zimmermann, who showed them the records and made the records available for xeroxing, transcribing, and translating. The Church Records of the Pioneer German Families of Berlin, Texas contains a wealth of historical and genealogical data.

For each tax deductible donation of \$50.00 you may designate a library as a recipient of a hardbound copy of the book. The contribution makes one a member of the Family History Foundation. Copies for personal libraries may be purchased from the Foundation at a price of \$35.00 per copy, postage paid.

The FAMILY HISTORY FOUNDATION will donate bound and indexed copies of The Church Records of the Pioneer German Families of Berlin, Texas to university, state and private libraries in Texas. Libraries wishing to acquire copies directly are welcomed as institutional members of the Foundation.

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67



# Willkommen

Violet Historical Society  
 David Kircher, Curator  
 Rt. 3, Box 152  
 Robstown, Texas 78380

Violet Historical Community Sesquicentennial  
 Master Plan - 1986 -



June - Violet 4-H Reunion Picnic Lunch includes games  
 Violet, Texas

October 12 - 33rd Annual Beef Barbecue - Violet, Texas  
 Violet Parish Hall  
 Violet Historical Museum feature:  
 "Farm Heritage Day"

CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine - Youth)  
 Displaying Heritage Posters in the Parish Hall  
 Contest Winners will be announced at 2:00 p.m.

November 2 - Founder's Day Mass Celebration - Violet, Texas  
 St. Anthony's Catholic Church - 9:30 a.m.  
 Offered for the Community and its pioneers

December 7 - St. Anthony's Parish Christmas Party and  
 Violet Community Founder's Day Celebration  
 1908 - German ethnic food and caroling  
 CCD Youth will present a community historical  
 event in costume.

## Gemütlichkeit

Eiband & Fischer's Kochbuch Neu-Braunfels, Texas  
 from a copy in the Wendish Heritage Museum at Serbin  
 Druch der "Neu-Braunfelser Zeitungs"

### Ein braunes Ragout von Ochsenzunge.

Die Zunge wird mit Salz abgerieben und gut gewaschen bis alles Schleimige entfernt ist. Sie wird gut geklopft, mit Wasser und Salz aufgesetzt, gut 3 Stunden gekocht, dann abgezogen und in Scheiben geschnitten. Man läßt Butter gelb werden, zerschneidet eine große Zwiebel, läßt diese gelb schmoren, fügt etwas Mehl, Pfeffer, Muskatnuß und auch fein geschnittene Pizels hinzu und gießt die Zungenbrühe darüber, daß es eine sämige Sauce wird. Auch kann man nach Belieben einige Sardellen, fein geschnitten, dazu geben.

*See  
 Recipes  
 on  
 other pages  
 from  
 this  
 book*

### Bachhähnchen.

Junge Hähnchen werden in 4 Teile geschnitten, gefalzen, in guten

Copyright © 1986 by E. J. G. ... in sehr heißem Fett schnell gebraten.

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# Catholic Life To Celebrate 85th Anniversary

Catholic Life News

Beginning in January Catholic Life will celebrate its 85th year in operation. Special anniversary programs will be introduced during the year to commemorate the achievement.

As a prelude to this special celebration, we have compiled, using a variety of sources, this brief history of Catholic Life.

Just before the turn of the century following the wave of immigrants who left Europe seeking a better life, a group of German speaking pioneers organized a confederation called the Deutsch Romisch Katholischen Staatsverband fuer Texas (The German Roman Catholic Staatsverband for Texas).

The purpose of the Staatsverband was to unite fraternally German speaking societies; foster religious principles; promote social justice and provide for the spiritual and temporal well-being of their members.

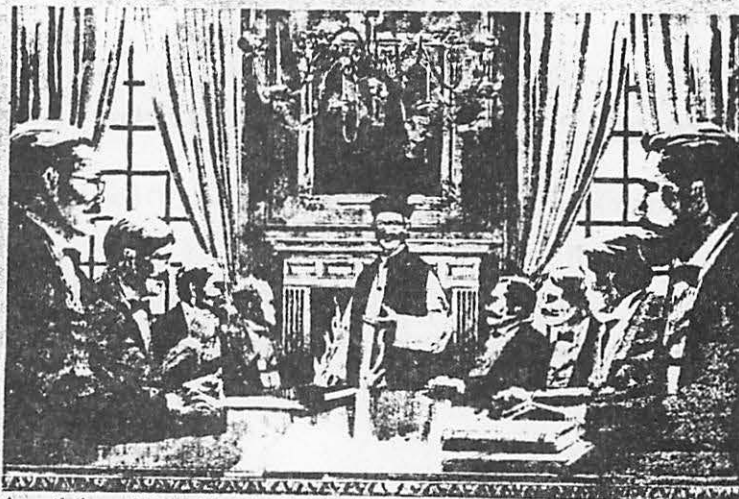
Recognizing the need for sound life insurance protection, the Staatsverband began drafting constitution and and by-laws. On November 25, 1901, a charter was granted by the State of Texas to the "Sterbekasse der Deutschen Katholiken von Texas" (Death Fund of the German Catholics of Texas).

The incorporators named by the charter are: Rev. Henry Gerlach and Anton Kalich, High Hill; William Kleypas and John G. Bockholt, Westphalia; Charles Skarke, Galveston; J.C. Dielmann, George Mandry, B.J. Lange, and Frank Lange, San Antonio. The purpose clause in the charter reads: "proposing and intending to organize and incorporate a fraternal beneficiary association for the sole benefit of its members and beneficiaries and not for profit".

Operations of the new society began January 1, 1902 with the issuance of policy No. 1 to Rev. Henry Gerlach, Spiritual Advisor of the new society. Sixty-two other policies were also issued that day.

In the early years, growth was exceedingly slow. Progress was extremely cautious and conservative. Insurance protection was limited to \$500 per member and membership was limited to members of the Staatsverband.

By 1915, membership had grown to 305 members with \$159,000 of insurance in



An artist's rendition of the organizing of Catholic Life.

force. Ten years later membership increased to 802 members with \$612,500 of insurance in force, and by 1935, the membership reached 1,071 members with \$892,500 of insurance in force.

## Archives to be Established

Catholic Life has a truly rich heritage that all members should take pride in.

As part of this anniversary celebration Catholic Life will establish an official archives room at the Home Office.

To help us build our collection, we ask that members who have early day Catholic Life artifacts loan or donate these materials to our archives.

Before sending any materials, please write or call the Home Office with a description of the item.

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries more than six million German immigrants – the largest single ethnic group – poured into the United States. They came for numerous reasons; for freedom, religious toleration, economic opportunity, adventure, or in pursuit of a dream. And they left their imprint upon America. Aside from the cities and towns with their German names, there are the names of the immigrants themselves: Johann Peter Rockefeller emigrated early in the eighteenth century; John Jacob Astor arrived some years later. The Brooklyn Bridge – known in its time as the eighth wonder of the world – was built by the German immigrant Johann Augustus Roebling. H. L. Mencken, Theodore Dreiser, Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig descended from German immigrants. Clark Gable was a son of the Pennsylvania

Home Office:  
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GERMANS, GERMANS EVERYWHERE...

AND ALL ARE VISITING TEXAS FOR THE BIG BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION. NEARLY EVERY BIG CITY AND EVERY TOWN OF GERMAN DESCENT HAS HAD GERMAN VISITORS... MAYBE A CHOIR, AN ORCHESTRA, A DELEGATION FROM A GERMAN STATE, A COWBOY CLUB OR OTHER GERMAN GROUPS. TEXANS HAVE OPENED THEIR HOMES AND THEIR HEARTS TO THESE VISITORS. IT IS A PROUD TIME FOR US. WE NEED TO PUBLISH A LIST OF ALL THE GERMAN GROUPS WHO VISITED TEXANS IN 1986.

It was a German who christened America. In 1507, the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller, assuming incorrectly that the new world had been discovered by an Italian merchant Amerigo Vespucci, named the continent America. Six years later, a better-informed Waldseemüller corrected his error, but it was too late. A continent called America, risen from the sea, had captured the imagination of the Europeans.



# German-Texan Heritage Society

Founded in 1978, the German-Texan Heritage Society is a non-profit organization devoted to building pride in the heritage of the German-speaking settlers who brought an important cultural ingredient to Texas. The Society is united in its effort to disseminate information about archives, research projects, cultural events, folklore, publications, and meetings related to German-Texan topics.

The Society seeks members from the general public....descendents of all German-speaking peoples, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

A NEWSLETTER is published three times a year (50-75 pages). It is sent to all members. The NEWSLETTER features a genealogical section which includes hints about research in German-speaking countries, Texas, and the United States; brief family histories submitted by members, and a genealogy exchange column. Other sections of the NEWSLETTER include reprints of articles from other publications, announcements about activities and events, a book review column, an annual index, and original essays about various topics related to German-Texana.

An ANNUAL MEETING is held the second weekend in September in various German heritage areas of Texas. The program emphasizes the German-Texan heritage and includes talks, slide shows, show-and-tell sessions, and discussions by researchers, preservationists, folklorists, authors, members who have a story to tell and guest experts in specific fields; informal social events; plays and music; and tours of historical sites in the host city.

Membership categories are:	Student	\$ 3
	Regular	\$ 5
	Contributing	\$10
	Institutional	\$10
	Foreign	\$10
	Patron	\$25

The Society has actively participated in the plans for the 1986 Texas Sesquicentennial through the Texas Germany Sesquicentennial Committee. Projects of the Society are: 1) The reprint of ROEMER'S TEXAS, which has been completed and may be purchased through the Society. 2) A KALENDER(calendar) for 1986, which may be ordered from the Society. 3) Sponsorship of the reprint of THE CABIN BOOK (DAS KAJUTENBUCH) by Charles Sealsfield which may be ordered from Eakin Press. 4) The creation of a German-Texan Registry, and 5) The sponsorship of a film about the German-Texan experience.

The German-Texan Heritage Society Calendar Year is from January to December. Membership and renewals should be made accordingly.

For more information contact: *Dona Reeves*  
Southwest Texas State University  
Department of Modern Languages  
San Marcos, TX 78666

# German-Texan

74



## Heritage Society

FOUNDED 1978

**MEMBERSHIP**  
Dona Reeves  
Southwest Texas State Univ.  
Dept. of Modern Languages  
San Marcos, TX 78666

### Membership application

#### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- \$3 STUDENT (verified by teacher)
- \$5 REGULAR
- \$10 CONTRIBUTING
- \$10 FOREIGN (out of U.S.A.)
- \$10 INSTITUTIONS
- \$25 PATRON (saints of the society)

(Mr. & Mrs. address may have a joint membership if only one NEWSLETTER is desired.)

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City \_\_\_\_\_

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County \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (if retired, former occupation) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Projects (relating to German-Texana)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Publications (relating to German-Texana)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please check the following interest categories:

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- I would like to help out with only the categories I have checked.
- Typing for the NEWSLETTER.
- Writing articles for the NEWSLETTER.
- Transcribing/translating old German hand-writing.
- Showing visitors historical site in my town/city/area.
- Doing research in archives, libraries, etc.
- Genealogical exchange. (What names?).
- Photographing historical sites; Annual Meeting.
- Speaking German.
- Other?

RETURN THIS PAGE TO:

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GTHS NEWSLETTER

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

DEADLINES

SPRING.....JANUARY 20  
SUMMER.....MAY 20  
FALL.....SEPTEMBER 20

The actual date of publication varies .

Back issues are available for \$2.50 each for members, or \$3.00 each for non-members. Order from Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Rt. 2 Box 239 A, Buda, Texas 78610.

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 on or before the deadlines listed above. All articles should be typed, SINGLE SPACED on 8 1/2" by 11 1/2" paper, with a 1/4" margin on all edges. For sharpness and clarity, try to use film or a new cloth ribbon. And do not forget to clean your typewriter keys!!

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GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETINGS  
10 Year Plan

1986..SEPT. 12-14  
HOUSTON  
Ann Lindemann

1987... SEPT. 11-13  
GALVESTON  
Frances Knappe

1988... SEPT. 9-11  
AUSTIN  
10th Anniversary  
Anna Thompson

1989...SEPT. 8-10  
SAN ANTONIO  
Mary El-Beheri

1990...SEPT. 7-9  
LA GRANGE/BRENHAM/ROUND TOP

1991...SEPT. 6-8  
CORPUS CHRISTI

1992...Sept.  
SAN ANGELO  
Otto Tetzlaff

1993...Sept.  
FREDERICKSBURG

1994...Sept  
KERRVILLE/BOERNE/COMFORT

1995..Sept.  
NEW BRAUNFELS

1996..Sept.  
INDUSTRY  
Texas Statehood 150 Year  
Celebration



*German-Texan Heritage Society*  
*1986 Membership Receipt*

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