

# GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

# THE JOURNAL



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FOUNDED 1978

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**MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY...  
GIVE THEM A GTHS  
MEMBERSHIP!**

# THE JOURNAL

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GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

## The Editor Writes . . .

Mary M. El-Behadi

In 1990 the German-Texan Heritage Society enters its 12th year. Our Society has been blessed with fantastic members, who are enthusiastic and loyal. Together we have set an enviable pace for ourselves and for others who would emulate us. As the new year begins we start a new decade under vigorous leadership. ANN LINDEMANN has taken the reins as the second president of the GTHS. She is not only a capable leader, but is dedicated to the ideals of this Society. We applaud her efforts in industry, her organization of the GTHS meeting in Houston, and her willingness to lead this Society into a new decade

It was my privilege to not only be a founder of this Society, but to also serve as its president for eleven years. I am happy to give this job to Ann. She brings to it a new perspective and vision.

### NEW PUBLICITY AGENTS

Patsy Hand, Victoria  
John Kothman, Dallas

### NEWSLETTER

Send dated news items to Anna Thompson in the GTHS Office. She will send out a Newsletter periodically.

We regret that Bob Thonhoff could not be with us at our Annual Meeting in September as originally planned due to emergency illness. He is recovering nicely at his home in Karnes City--and he has sent us an article for this issue on his original program topic, the German heritage of Fashing, Texas.

The author of several books, Bob is a fellow of the Texas State Historical Society, and recently retired after many years as principal and teacher at Fashing, Texas. Many know him as "Professor Katzenjammer," his stage manager role at the annual Texas Folklife Festival.

### JOURNAL

The next semi-deadline is February 20 or thereabouts. The editor is suffering from burnout, so the deadline may be extended.....

### A PIECE OF THE WALL

Call Bob Robinson-Zwahr if you want to get a cheapie fare to either Deutschland. 1-800-368-5965 Here Today There Tomorrow travel service.

### NEXT GTHS BOARD MEETING

January 20

Isn't it wonderful to see the end of World War II in our lifetime! Europe is nearly one again. Who could have predicted that it would happen so quickly, so completely, so peacefully? What a way to end a year and a decade! 1989 will be a great historical year like 1492 or 1776.

### „Ein Traum wird wahr“

Eine Revolution fand statt: Freudentänze auf der Berliner Mauer, deutsch-deutsche Verbrüderung an offenen Grenzen und ein SED-Regime mit dem Rücken zur Wand. In nur einer Woche ließ sich die DDR-Führung von ihrem aufmüpfigen Volk ein neues Pollbüro, Reisefreiheit für alle und das Versprechen auf Demokratie und Wirtschaftsreformen abtrotzen. Egon Bahr: „Ein Traum wird wahr.“ Sind die Deutschen jetzt wirklich „das glücklichste Volk auf der Welt“? Der amerikanische Historiker Gordon A. Craig warnt vor einem ungezügelden Drang zur Wiedervereinigung der beiden deutschen Staaten: „Die Konsequenzen könnten schlimm sein.“

### BARGAIN FLIGHTS TO GERMANY!!

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# Leaders of Germanys Meet Amid Cheers



On his first official visit to East Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany was greeted yesterday by thousands of people who called for reunification.

Sign at right urged "reunification in your program, Mr. Modrow," a reference to the East German Prime Minister, Hans Modrow.

## In Symbolic Act, They'll Reopen Berlin Gate

By SERGE SCHMEMANN  
Special to The New York Times

DRESDEN, East Germany, Dec. 19 — The leaders of the two Germanys met today for the first time since the East fell into the throes of protest and change, and in a symbolic reconciliation agreed to reopen the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin and introduce free movement across their border for all Germans by Christmas.

The announcement was the centerpiece of the first official visit to East Germany by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, an emotional journey on which he was greeted at every stop by thousands of East Germans, many waving West German flags and clamoring for reunification.

### Reunification Called Goal

In the sort of public adulation that has usually eluded him at home, the crowds often broke into chants of "Helmut! Helmut!" Their cheers were loudest when the Chancellor mounted a platform in front of the memorial ruins of the Frauenkirche at dusk and declared to a throng of about 10,000:

"My goal, when the historic moment makes it possible, is the unity of our nation. I know we can reach this goal. It is a difficult way, but it is a good way in our common future, though it won't happen overnight."

At the end of his address, Mr. Kohl wished the East Germans a merry Christmas and then, his voice breaking, concluded, "God bless our German fatherland."

### MOTORIZING

## The Trabant put-puts West, bringing its smoke with it

The Trabant, the ugly little East German car with the smoke-belching two-stroke engine, has become a common sight on West German roads since the second week this month. West German motorists have been warned to be careful because accidents involving Trabis are increasing. They are slow and, because of their dull tail lights, are hard to see at night, especially by drivers of BMWs and Mercedes hurtling along the no-speed-limit autobahns. This story appeared in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

The Trabant, an outmoded two-stroke small car made in Zwickau, East Germany, may be a gas guzzler and a vehicle emission offender, but it has shown its mettle since the GDR opened its borders to let East Germans travel to the West.

An old-timer by Western standards, but still running off the assembly lines for a long waiting list of would-be car-owners in the GDR, the Trabant, fondly known as the Trabi, was seen by the thousand as East Germans queued to pass the border between Czechoslovakia and Bavaria.

Now the GDR has opened its borders with Berlin and the Federal Republic, West Berliners and West Germans will have found out at first hand what it is like to queue behind a dozen Trabis at a crossroads as they belch noxious exhaust fumes into the night air. By 9 November, the day on which the GDR authorities decided to let East Germans visit the West, triggering

a mass trek over the weekend, over 16,000 GDR-registered vehicles (and their owners) had headed west.

Well over half are Trabants. The vest-pocket Trabant is much more popular in than the Wartburg, which is driven, among others, by the police.

It does have a certain flair. The Landesmuseum in Brunswick and the Deutsches Museum in Munich have both invested in a Trabant as an exhibit. It looks so small and helpless, like a toy car, that it automatically rouses protective instincts — and not just among ADAC road patrolmen.

Appearances are deceptive. The Trabi has run off the assembly lines almost unchanged since 1964. The Zwickau works has manufactured 2.5 million Trabis with their plastic car bodies mounted on a pressed steel frame.

The Trabi's 594cc two-stroke engine comes in the motorcycle category, but it only has to move an unladen weight of 615kg (1,353lb, or 12cwt). It is 3.51 metres (11ft 6in) long. The 26hp engine reaches a top speed of roughly 100kph (62mph). Fuel consumption is about 10 litres per 100km, or 30mpg, which makes it a gas guzzler by today's standards.

The two-stroke engine is scheduled to be retired next year. It will be replaced by a four-stroke engine manufactured under licence from Volkswagen that will take it to a breathtaking 40hp and 125kph (78mph). Two dealers in the Federal Republic, one in Hanover, the other in St Au-



A triumph of Communist technology, planning and management... the Trabant.

(Photo: dpa)

gustin, near Bonn, claim to be able to supply most spare parts that are likely to be needed.

Neither care to say how they come by them. In the past they have mainly mailed them to the GDR on payment in hard currency. The influx of Trabis in the West has added another string to their bow.

Vehicle licensing regulations had to be amended to allow Trabis to be driven regularly by residents of the Federal Republic. A special exemption was granted at the beginning of October.

All cars brought over to the West by East German refugees were exempted from compliance with vehicle emission and noise abatement regulations. Vehicle licensing procedures (for re-registration in the West) have been simplified too. Owners have 20 days' grace before they need to re-register and re-insure their ve-

hicles in the Federal Republic. For 20 days they have complimentary insurance cover.

They may be resold — and the demand is there. Many dealers have persuaded refugees to part company with their cars while they are still being processed in transit camps.

They resell them in the GDR, where used cars can cost more than new ones (for which there is a waiting list of up to 15 years). The Trabi has made new friends in the West too. As the Hamburg weekly *Die Zeit* has rightly observed:

"The Trabi seems to prove the good luck we had with our 'economic miracle' system in the West. It symbolises socialism as the huffing, puffing loser."

Boris Schmidt

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 14 November 1989)

# The cold, hard facts are still there the morning after

**STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG**

After the jubilation which followed the decision to open the inner-German borders the risk of disillusionment has increased.

Hardly had East German citizens ejected former leading figures such as Erich Honecker and Günther Mittag from office and returned home from the reunion celebrations in the West than they were confronted with the old day-to-day problems: queues in front of the shops, the lack of consumer goods and a currency which has no value.

The welcoming money East Germans receive in the West (DM100) is just enough for a weekend of bananas, ground coffee and a visit to the Beate Uhse sex shop in Berlin. It cannot, however, resolve supply problems.

They can only be improved if the washed-out economy of the GDR is reformed. But how?

The 16 million East Germans know roughly what they want in the political field: borders which are permanently open, the end of the SED's claim to leadership, free elections and a free press.

It is not so clear what it is to be done with the economy.

It is obvious that the end of state socialism is also nigh in the economic sector too. But will it be succeeded by a market economy modelled on the West German system (or even with West German predominance) or by a different variant of socialism?

The extreme form of a planned economy, as practised in the GDR, has undoubtedly failed.

Bureaucracy and centralism have paralysed industry. Inflexible combines have been unable to even partly satisfy the needs of the population.

More responsibility must be delegated to grass roots level. Private initiative must be encouraged and not discouraged. Competition must shake up monopolies.

Even the most pigheaded party official has now realised this. Yet to believe that this insight is enough would be an illusion.

A little bit of market to make sure that the planned economy functions more smoothly — this is how some GDR economists picture a future economic policy.

Concepts such as market economy socialism or socialist market economy are being tossed to an fro; catchwords which mainly conceal the lack of true concepts. In the final analysis, an answer will have to be found to the following question: Is the GDR willing to take the Hungarian road to the West?

Is the GDR willing to categorically reject what it has propagated as a superior concept in the competition between the systems for forty years?

A political leadership under Egon Krenz hardly seems likely to make the decisions needed. Yet who knows how long Egon Krenz will be in charge.

Attempts to muddle through with half-hearted reforms are doomed.

Following the opening of the borders the GDR can no longer cut off its economy from the rest of the world.

Millions of East German Marks are already accumulating in West Berlin department stores. One possible result of the new policy is that visitors from the West will use this money to buy up everything they can find in the shops in Berlin, Leipzig and Dresden.

How can East Germans be prevented from trying to earn some West German Marks on the side if the hourly wage in the West amounts to a whole day's wage in the East?

The GDR must push through radical solutions: a monetary reform which aligns the huge stock of money in the GDR with the extremely poor range of goods on offer without depriving many East Germans of the money they have saved for forty years; a price reform which fills the shelves after a transitional period, but does not lead to a situation in which the artificially reduced rents and food prices increase drastically.

## Well off in comparison with others in East Bloc

The fact that even Mikhail Gorbachov has announced all this in the Soviet Union but has been unable to implement it shows just how difficult the task is.

The GDR economy, however, could be brought onto a market economy course. It is not a hopeless case right from the outset.

In comparison with the West the country is not in good shape, but in comparison with the Soviet Union, Poland and even Hungary it is well-off.

Western, above all West German firms are waiting to set up joint ventures in Saxony or Thuringia as soon as possible. This is not a generous contribution towards development aid, but calculated business.

A GDR without the socialist bureaucracy has plenty to offer. The people are qualified, are willing to work harder and achieve more than they have done so far.

With western technology and western management goods could be produced at a high standard in the GDR — and, in the foreseeable future, at a low cost.

It is understandable that the idea of becoming an extended workbench of the Federal Republic of Germany does not trigger a storm of enthusiasm on the other side of the Wall.

As an independent concern, however, the GDR has been a failure.

Uwe Vorkötter

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 16 November 1989)

# At a Plant in East Berlin, Men Are of Two Minds

By DAVID BINDER  
Special to The New York Times

EAST BERLIN, Dec. 17 — There are no more members of the Communist Party working in the turbine balancing unit of the Bergmann-Borsig electrical machinery company on the northern edge of this city.

The last one, Heinrich Reefke, the longtime shop steward, quit the party on Oct. 31, two weeks after Erich Honecker, the party chief, was ousted.

The rest of the 17 members of the unit, mostly men in their 40's and 50's, never joined the party, but they are working three shifts a day to fill in for the four 21-year-olds who fled to West Germany earlier in the fall.

"We do their work," said Jürgen Plath, the unit leader. "Last Sunday, we were seven here. We have little time to talk to each other. I can understand their leaving, but it leaves me in a very sad mood."

### Reasons to Stay

Asked whether he had considered going to the West, Olaf Knispel, a machinist who is also 21, said: "I've got family here and nobody over there. I have a good job. I enjoy the work. I also think a lot of the German Democratic Republic."

Martin Richling, a 54-year-old turbine engineer, said he and the rest of the men were motivated to work the extra shifts because "we know the electric power situation is bad here, so we have to help to prevent the lights from going out."

The People's Own Bergmann-Borsig Enterprise was created in 1945 as a fusion of two proud old Berlin concerns, the Bergmann Electricity Company here in the East, which was damaged by Allied air raids in World War II, and the Borsig Electricity Company of West Berlin, which was flattened by bombs. The remaining Borsig workers moved over here, and the company now has 4,200 employees.

The workers with the turbine balancing unit showed little eagerness to follow those who defected earlier, though some have taken advantage of the opening of the Berlin wall.

"I was born and raised in West Berlin, so I went over and saw the streets where I played as a kid," said Hans Paulke, a 56-year-old machinist. "But move over and live there? That's not for me."

### Favors Separate East Germany

Mr. Plath, who had worked at Bergmann-Borsig for 35 of his 51 years, said he took part in a "human chain" stretching across East Germany on Dec. 3, organized by the Lutheran Church to show support for maintaining this country as a German state separate from West Germany.

But he said he did not take part in any of the mass demonstrations in October and November that shook East Germany and ousted not only Mr. Honecker but also his successor, Egon Krenz. "I was washing windows at home on Nov. 4," Mr. Plath said of the day of the million-strong demonstration in the Alexanderplatz in Berlin.

Other Bergmann-Borsig workers were in the vanguard of the protest

marches in this capital, and it was their boos and whistles on the evening of Dec. 2, in a confrontation in front of the huge Central Committee building on Marx-Engels-Platz, that finally caused Mr. Krenz to step down along with the entire remaining party leadership — some 163 men and women.

"With three shifts going, we don't have time to demonstrate," Mr. Reefke said.

The only member of the turbine unit who said he joined in a demonstration was Berndt Kappler, 39. "It is a beautiful revolution," Mr. Kappler said. "We are friendlier to each other. In the last years there was a lot of grimness and frost — the police, the citizenry, even among ourselves here."

### 'Different Cultures' in Factory

"Keep in mind," said Mr. Richling, the engineer, "that we have different cultures in this factory. The guys who make boilers, hammering away with their hard hands, were the first to go into the streets to demonstrate. Next came welders who make the turbines. We are the reflective ones, the last to go."

Mr. Knispel said he would not join the Communist Party, even if it called itself Socialist or democratic, at this point. "The moment the party has a program that works and is for the working class, I will join," he said.

Mr. Reefke, the oldest man in the

**'With three shifts going, we don't have time to demonstrate.'**

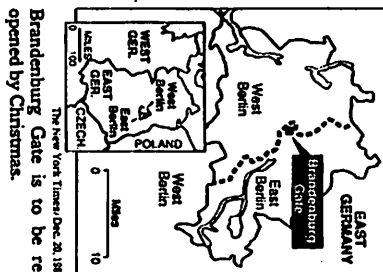
unit, said that having quit after 22 years in the party, he would never re-join it, and that he would wait until the new political forces had defined themselves before deciding how to vote in the parliamentary elections on May 5. "We all have to learn democracy," he said.

The turbine workers seemed skeptical about Gregor Gysi, the new head of the Communist Party, although Mr. Plath allowed that "he has courage."

Mr. Richling painted a dark picture of what East Germany might be facing in the next months.

"At the end of the year they're going to let West Germans and West Berliners come here without paying the 25-marks-a-day fees," he said.

"Soon any washerwoman will be coming over here with her hard currency and living better than our best opera singer," he said. "We won't get seated in our own restaurants. We won't get places at the beach. Our vacation resorts will only accept Western visitors. Then our workers will strike, our Government will fall and West Germany will swallow us."



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I feel very honored to have been elected to lead the German-Texan Heritage Society this year. My objectives are to serve the membership of GTHS and fulfill the Society's purpose: to inform, educate, collect and disseminate all aspects of German-Texan culture.

With the help of every member of GTHS together we will move toward the high ideals established by this Society. My personal goal is to serve each member.

The newly elected 12 person Board of Directors is dedicated to fulfill the guidelines of the new Bylaws of GTHS. The Board is determined to follow the memberships' wishes and make the organization the best German-Texan cultural group possible.

In preparing to take the leadership role of GTHS, I reviewed some of the editorial remarks of the past. The founders of this organization stressed the deep concern and care they felt about the goals and purposes of GTHS-- that the Society be a non-competitive, inexpensive, non-stringently organized means of disseminating information and to share ideas, projects, and research. These dedicated founders (i.e.: Mary El-Behri, Dona Reeves-Marquardt, and Ann Thompson) have done a superb job and have fulfilled those goals admirably. I would like to carry this momentum further and also reiterate the preservation aspect of the German-Texan culture.

The newly elected Board of Directors has already begun the task and is asking the efforts of every member to help build and even brighter and broader future for GTHS.

It must be stressed that this strong, vibrant German-Texan Heritage Society could not exist without caring interested and involved members. Your support, advice and opinions are the most vital aspect of the successful continuation of GTHS. Please communicate your personal suggestions, ideas, needs, aims and desires for the organization to me. GTHS needs to utilize the knowledge of every person to make it the best for all members!

Send your remarks right away! Thank you!

Ann Lindemann, President

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 218 - Industry, Texas 78944

## GTHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

The Board of Directors met on Oct. 14, 1989. Guidelines, & activities were outlined. The following calendar was developed:

Jan.	20	-(3rd Sat.) Board Meeting
Feb.	1	-"Newsletter" delivered to members
	20	-JOURNAL articles due from members
April	1	-JOURNAL (#1) delivered to members
May	5	-(1st Sat.) Board Meeting
June	1	-"Newsletter" delivered to members
	20	-JOURNAL articles due from members
Aug.	1	-JOURNAL (#2) delivered to members
Sept.	7,8,9	-ANNUAL MEETING & Board Meeting
Oct.	1	-"Newsletter" delivered to members
	20	-JOURNAL articles due from members
Dec.	1	-JOURNAL (#3) delivered to members

All dated information for German-Texan activities throughout the year (i.e.: festivals, celebrations reunions etc.) is requested in January or as soon as calendars are established. This will allow ample lead time to permit timely publicity to appear in the appropriate "Newsletter".

Please note guidelines and form required for JOURNAL material (found in the back cover of the JOURNAL). These guidelines are a MUST to insure inclusion. All editors are volunteer and retyping time is virtually impossible until we have a fully staffed office.

"Newsletter" information can be sent to GTHS 1011 Meredith Dr. (P.O. Box 262), Manchaca, Tx. 78652. JOURNAL information can be sent to the specific (cont.)

(Board Report cont.)

GTHS editor listed in the JOURNAL cover or all information can be sent to: GTHS, P.O. Box 218, Industry, Texas 78944 and it will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

The following "Standing Committees" were filled: [(\*) denotes chair.]  
MEMBERSHIP: Dona Reeves-Marquardt (\*); GIFTS & MEMORIALS: Rodney Koenig (\*), Frances Harrison; GENEALOGY: Theresa Gold (\*), Fredericka DeBerry, Miriam York; NOMINATIONS: Lewis Marquardt, (\*); PUBLICITY: Fredericka DeBerry (\*); PUBLICATIONS: JOURNAL-Mary El-Beheri (ed.), Theresa Gold (genealogy ed.), W.M. Von-Maszewski (topic index ed.), Cathleen Stahmer (name index ed.), "NEWSLETTER"-Ann Thompson (ed.); BUDGET & FINANCE: Jim Lindemann (\*), Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Ann Thompson.

Other committee appointments include: TRANSLATIONS: HelgardSuhr(co.\*), Helga von Schweinitz (co.\*); GRANTS & FUNDING: Ann Thompson (\*), Theresa Gold; EDITORIAL REVIEW & SEARCH: Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Ann Thompson, Mary El-Beheri, W.M. Von-Maszewski, Miriam York; RESEARCH/HISTORICAL RECORDS: Directory-W.M. Von-Maszewski; ARCHIVES: Helga von Schweinitz (\*), Ann Thompson; HISTORIAN: Leola Tiedt (\*); PUBLIC RELATIONS/SPEAKERS BUREAU/RESOURCE DATA: Ann Lindemann (\*), Lewis Marquardt, Dona Reeves-Marquardt.

Feasibility Studies initiated at the Board Meeting included: 1. Permanent Headquarters: Helga von Schweinitz, 2. Annual Meeting Cost Reduction Plan: Helgard Suhr & Frances Harrison, 3. Association Affiliations: Mary El-Beheri.

In conjunction with the RESOURCE DATA Committee the establishment of a GTHS Resource File was begun. Information will be maintained in a permanent file and disbursed upon request from the central office. Your help in gathering this data is requested.

#### GTHS RESOURCE FILE

In an effort to expand GTHS' purpose of "advancing all aspects of German-Texan culture", your help in creating a comprehensive "RESOURCE FILE" of German-Texan subject matter is needed. Please send the name, address, phone #, director, contact person and any other pertinent information (flyers, brochures, etc.) about the following subjects:

1. Cultural Centers: (ex. Institute of Texan Cultures)
2. Museums: (ex. Soephienburg)
3. University, College, & other Language & History Depts.
4. Libraries
5. Heritage Societies (ex. Industry-West End)
6. Musical Organizations:
  - a. Singing Societies (ex. Winedale Gesang Verein)
  - b. Bands (ex. Brenham Community Brass Band)
  - c. Individual Musicians or Small Groups
  - d. Folk Dancers (ex. School & other)
  - e. Music Festivals (ex. German Hymn Fest-Cost & Hilda)
7. Yearly Folk Culture Festivals & Events (ex. Octoberfests, Maifests Christkindlmarkts, etc.)
8. Special Celebrations (ex. Anniversaries, centennials, etc.)
9. Speakers, Lectures, Folklorists or Persons who present programs on German-Texan subjects (including early Texas history, pioneer times, crafts, "specific topics" etc.)
10. Researchers &/or Genealogists
11. Translators
12. Authors (including everyone with publications relating to German-Texan subjects)
13. Other subjects or Ideas---

Please forward this information to GTHS RESOURCE FILE, P.O. Box 218, Industry, Texas 78944. Send every subject you are aware of, we may receive duplications but we don't want to overlook any subject.



GTHS ANNUAL MEETING

SAN ANTONIO'S ANNUAL MEETING WAS FANTASTIC!

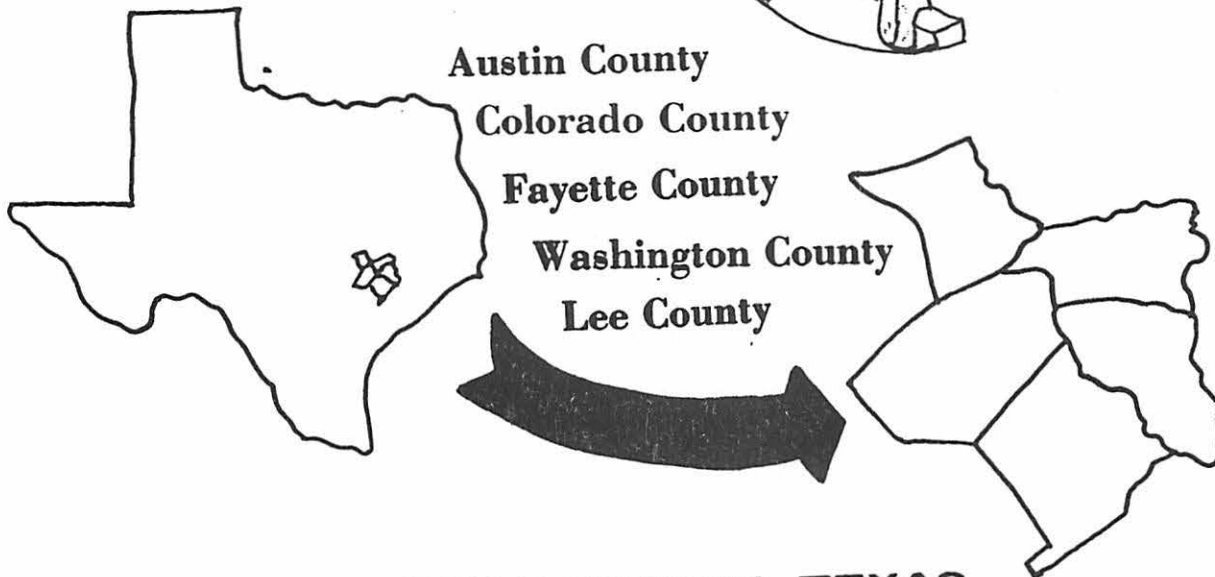
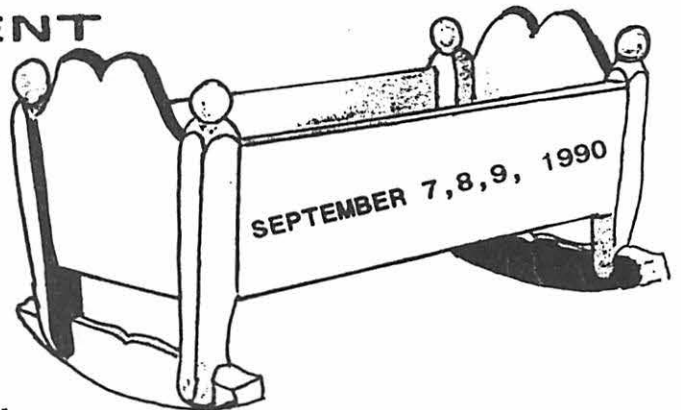
The Annual Meeting in San Antonio rates among GTHS' finest! The facilities, programs events and people continue to get better every year. Just when you believe the meetings can't get any better or be more informative or that everything German-Texan has already been covered the people of the area show you more. It was superb!

Francis Harrison is to be commended for heading the arrangements and overseeing the entire event. The very capable, talented and hardworking committee members of San Antonio deserve a very special thank you for all they did to make it so enjoyable. As the subjects were being presented, we all felt added pride to be able to claim such a unique city as part of the proud German-Texan Heritage.

We thank every individual who played a part in making this a very special meeting for GTHS.

COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING IN 1990

"CRADLE  
OF  
GERMAN SETTLEMENT  
IN  
TEXAS"



HOST CITY BRENHAM, TEXAS

## GERMAN PIONEERS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

1840's - 1860's

176

Research for this project began while researching my ancestral roots. This documented data was undertaken to preserve these and other records of the 1840's through 1860's, and to identify resources available for research of the persons named. Hopefully, these names and dates will serve as a guide to persons seeking their family's history.

The United States Census for Washington County in 1860 was used as a guideline. The early census is known to be incomplete. Contradictions are found in dates and names. The variant spellings are due to language difficulty of the new immigrant and the census enumerator. Yet, the census is the only known record of persons on that date, and requires patience and ingenuity to identify by surnames spelled phonetically. The 1850 census of the county includes some German surnames identifiable if given names and birthplaces are known. It is only a quasi-official record for the county. Often the spelling of both the surname and the given name were guesswork. For instance: Mieus could be Michael with the German pronunciation of Michael. Often the handwriting was difficult and even impossible to read, therefore many persons are not on this list. It was helpful to know the German language to identify names. For example the 1850 U.S. Census for Washington County listed: Leitman, L. (for) Ludwig, age 56. Wife, Caroline, age 50. Children: Louis age 25, Chulius (for Julius) age 18, \_\_\_\_\_, age 16, male. The family was simple to identify because the given names and birthdates coincided with names and dates in the old family bible, plus the German pronunciation of Julius and Lehmann.

Over one hundred names of the 1860 census for the county are listed separately because, in most instances, there were no other public records to verify the surname. Names of 23 men were added (ADDENDUM) from the newly revised edition of Waul's Texas Legion 1862-1865. Every effort was made to identify every person listed and to record accurately all facts and references of these public records.

In this research burial records were used to verify residency and names. With permission of the authors, Judy and Nath Winfield, Jr., Cemetery Records of Washington County 1820-1960 were extensively referred to and used to verify names and dates. There are many unmarked graves in the county cemeteries as well as unknown family cemeteries. To find these the translated records of two first German Lutheran churches in the county were used. These records are inclusive beginning in 1855 with family registries, birthdates and baptisms, marriages, and deaths. In many instances the records also name birthplaces in Germany for the parents there, and even in one instance, the date, time and place of embarkation to Galveston. Not only statistical information but also pertinent geographical location of the immigrants homeland is given by the translators. These two books referred to are listed in the footnotes, and have served as the foundation of this research. (Footnotes No. 3 and 4)

In most instances it is difficult to establish authentically, early German settlements in any specific area of the county except through Land and Deed Records. These were not researched for this study. In German Seed in Texas Soil (1966) Terry G. Jordan writes that the southwestern part of Washington County, Austin and Colorado Counties were settled by immigrants from East Prussia, Brandenburg, Posen and West Pomerania. "In Washington County by 1866 ninety different pieces of land totaling over 10,000 acres were sold to Germans in 6 months." He quoted from J.H. Randle, County Clerk for Washington County. (The Texas Almanac for 1867.)

Ship passenger lists were valuable in tracing the roots of the immigrants. Most of the persons who disembarked at the port of Galveston during the inclusive years are recorded in the several books mentioned in the footnotes. There are more recent publications of ship passenger lists available.

Naturalization records in Washington County are not complete. Many persons applied for naturalization but failed to return to file the documents.

Reasons for immigration to a new, raw, and fresh land were many. Germany was not a unified country until 1871. In the mid-1800's there was harsh military conscription, lack of religious freedom and social restrictions. Persons were politically dissatisfied, especially the better educated. They were usually liberals who hoped for a free press, trial by jury, and a German parliament. This, plus the trend toward industrialization and overpopulation brought economic stress. The failure of the 1848 revolution in Germany brought disillusionment. These persons,

people with property that could be turned to cash, came to Texas on their own.<sup>177</sup> The exception, however, were the several thousand of German immigrants who came under the auspices of The Society For The Protection of German Immigrants in 1844. This sponsorship bought land and settled the immigrants in the New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, San Antonio, general areas.

There were no immigrants during the Civil War years, and by 1860 the Germans in Texas totaled 7634 according to Texas historian Gilbert G. Benjamin in The Germans in Texas. A Study in Immigration. The laboring class, as a rule, did not immigrate until the 1870's and later. Flakes Daily Bulletin of Galveston, July, 1870, published the numbers of German immigrants and their destinations, and shows that children under twelve years of age outnumber the adults. Another prominent Texas historian, Rudolph Leopold Biesele whose book The German Settlement in Texas 1831-1861, states that by 1860 there were 1000 Germans in Washington County. (This book was reprinted in 1987 and is available from the German-Texan Heritage Society)

The date of the first German to arrive in this area is unknown. In Austin Colony Pioneers, by Worth S. Ray, Pemberton Press, 1980, several names are given as German natives. Captain Louis/Lewis Kratz, born in Germany in 1773, served under Napoleon, immigrated to Pennsylvania, then to Texas in 1835, fought in the battle of San Jacinto. He died at the age of 85 years and is commemorated with a cenotaph on the square of Independence in Washington County. Louis Becker is named in 1844 as a music teacher in the town of Washington. German surnames were often anglicized, as example the German, Fischer of Fisher-Miller Land Grant.

Latium is named as the first German settlement with Viktor/Victor Witte as the first German settler by Biesele, (7), and Berlin as the second settlement of German pioneers with the Valentin Hoffman family of eight who immigrated to Texas in 1846 from Hesse, Germany. Washington County historians (Footnotes 5, 6, 8) name Berlin as the first German settlement in the county. The first German Lutheran church in the county was founded in Berlin July 1, 1855. (A Texas State Historical marker was erected in 1974.)

The area of Rehburg near Burton is not mentioned in any historical account other than by Washington County historians (5, 6, 8). From church records it is known that this area was settled in the 1840's by a group of immigrants from areas of the Kingdom of Hannover, Winzlar, Rehburg, and other villages in that area of Hannover. (According to the 1860 county census immigrants from Hannover outnumber every other area of Germany for the 1840's-1860's.) The 1850 U.S. census names several Braziers/Broesche families and others whose homestead farms are owned by decendants today. These pioneers were served by visiting pastors as early as 1855, and worshipped in homes of the community. St. Paul Lutheran Church was founded in 1870 in the community Rehburg, named after the homeland village.

According to records of the German Lutheran church of William Penn, this area was settled in the mid-1840's. Also, from Brenham Banner Press Golden Anniversary edition, an article by Mrs. R.E. Pennington, names William Bohne, William Schlottmann and Friederick Eicholt who came to this area as laborers on the John H. Seward plantation near Independence. The family of Henry Eicholt were the first settlers of that area. The church was founded in 1860.

The families of William Lehde, Henry Niemeyer and several Struwe brothers settled about five miles northwest of Brenham in the area now known as Zionsville. The Zion Lutheran church was organized there in 1870. A German Baptist church, Ebenezer Baptist, known as the Mother Church of German Baptists in Texas was founded in 1861 in Greenvine, several miles northeast of Latium. The founders were Michael Mueller and Henry Schmetz, the pastor, Frank Kiefer.

No doubt there were any number of sparsely settled areas in Washington County through 1860. The listing contains approximately 650 families with 481 surnames. Of these 366 were from the census plus 275 from other public records. Over one hundred names of the 1860 census for the county are listed separately because in most instances there were no other public records to verify the surnames. Names of 23 men added from the Revised Edition of Waul's Texas Legion 1862-1865, by Robert A. and Captain Leif R. Hasskarl.

The compiled records are available to GHTS members upon request and a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each surname sent to the address below. The sources of information and bibliography shown by footnotes will be included.

Elizabeth Lehmann  
604 Atlow  
Brenham, Texas 77833

# Visit Historic Downtown Brenham

The City of Brenham, founded in 1844, during the era of the Republic of Texas, was established as the seat of government for Washington County. Its downtown area was platted around the central courthouse square, with businesses conveniently located around the square. As commercial transportation on the nearby Brazos River diminished, more businesses moved to Brenham. By 1860, the Washington County Railroad was in operation, making Brenham an active center of commerce.

The growth of downtown continued from the 1860's through the 1920's. Immigrants from Western Europe brought with them many industrial skills, which expanded the commercial diversity of Brenham. It was during this period of growth that many of Brenham's present businesses were established and the majority of the buildings in downtown were constructed.

## Visitor Information

### Special Events

Spring Heritage Tours, April  
Maifest Celebration, 2nd Weekend of May  
Washington County Fair, September  
Downtown Christmas Stroll, 1st Friday of December

### For More Event Information Call:

Washington County Chamber of Commerce  
314 S. Austin  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
(409) 836-3695

### G. Hermann Furniture Store (1885)

213 West Alamo Street

This business was founded in 1881 at this location by Gottlieb Hermann, a native German, and was the first furniture store in Washington County. The building underwent numerous changes, as Mr. Hermann continually worked to keep the property updated. Presently it depicts a white, cast stone face and details of the classical Beaux Arts period of the 1920's.

### Schurenberg Equipment Company (1880's)

113 - 119 West Alamo Street

Master blacksmith Captain Frederick Wilhelm Schurenberg, a native of Germany, immigrated to Texas in 1848. With the help of his sons, Robert Alexander and F. W. Schurenberg Jr., he established the Old Brazos Forge at this location in the early 1880's. The building located at 205 West Alamo housed the first Ford dealership in the county. An adjoining building to the west, was later built to provide additional space to assemble automotive parts. In 1916, the Schurenberg Company built the massive two and one-half story brick building. A bridge connected this building to the building once used by the Brenham Feed Store.

### Schmid Brothers Grocery (1900)

101 West Commerce Street

The Schmid Brothers, from Industry, Texas, had this elaborate, two-story Romanesque Revival building constructed to house a grocery, a feed store and an upstairs saloon. Ornate metal details were employed for Corinthian, acantha leafed capitals above the engaged columns on the second floor, as well as for the pressed metal cornice that once capped the top of the building. The first floor store front is original and typical of this period.

# Visit Historic Chappell Hill Texas

*A District listed on the  
National Register of Historic Places.*

Let Chappell Hill help you plan a special private tour for twenty or more. Tour includes the finest examples of Early Texas private homes, all on the National Register. You will be served a lovely lunch in one of the historical sites —

**ALL FOR A FEE OF \$15.00 PER PERSON.**

Please note that a portion of this fee will support the Chappell Hill Historical Society, which in turn supports three significant buildings: the Museum, the Rock Store Museum and the Library.

To book your private tour for twenty or more please contact:

HISTORIC TOURS  
P. O. Box 339 or P. O. Box 5  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426  
(409) 836-9515 — (409) 830-1311

*Ask about our evening candlelight tours!*

## THE STAGECOACH INN (1850)

The Inn, built in 1850 by Jacob and Mary Haller, the founders of Chappell Hill, was a favorite stopping place for many noted Texans traveling from Houston to Austin or Waco over the first stagecoach line organized in Texas in 1811 by Smith and Jones.

## THE WALLIS - EVANS HOUSE (1853)

This home was originally built three miles southwest of Chappell Hill in 1853 by B.W. Goodson and his wife Melinda. It was built on 1,000 acres purchased from the estate of W.B. Travis, of "Alamo" fame, and is across the street from the Stagecoach Inn.

## THE MULBERRY HOUSE (1855)

Home of John Sterling Smith, Jr. and Marie Smith from 1874 to 1983. Sterling Smith was a prosperous cotton farmer and rancher in Washington County, founder and president of Farmers State Bank and a leader in the economic and cultural life of Chappell Hill.

# Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Sites

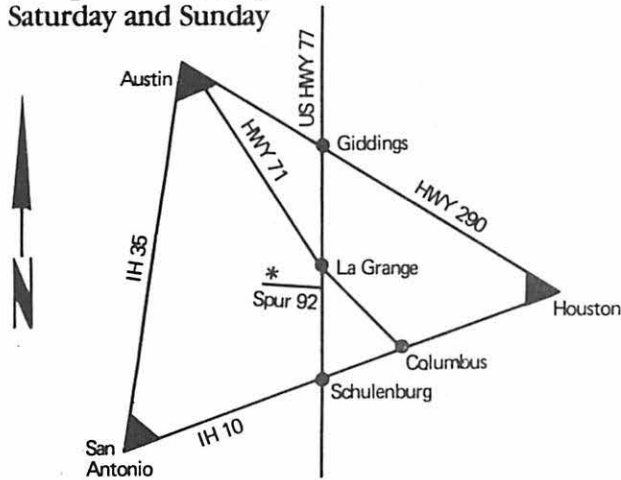
Route 1, Box 699  
LaGrange, Texas 78945  
(409) 968-5658

## HOURS

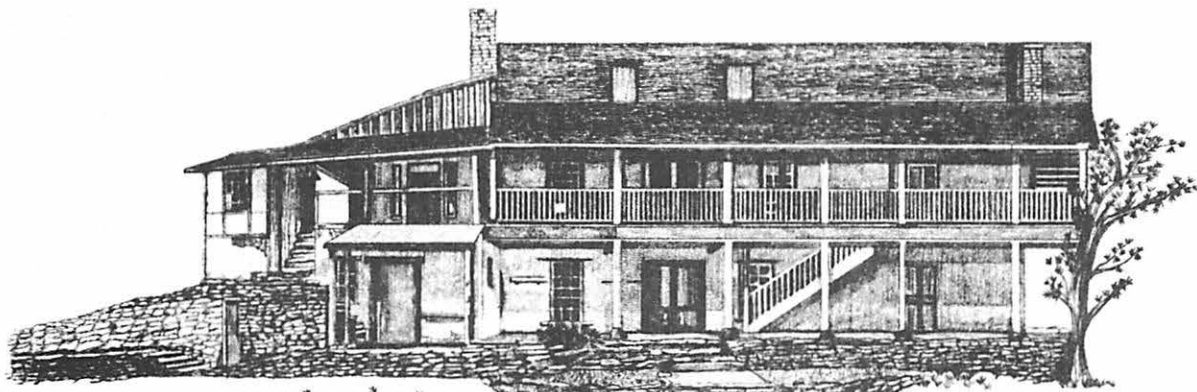
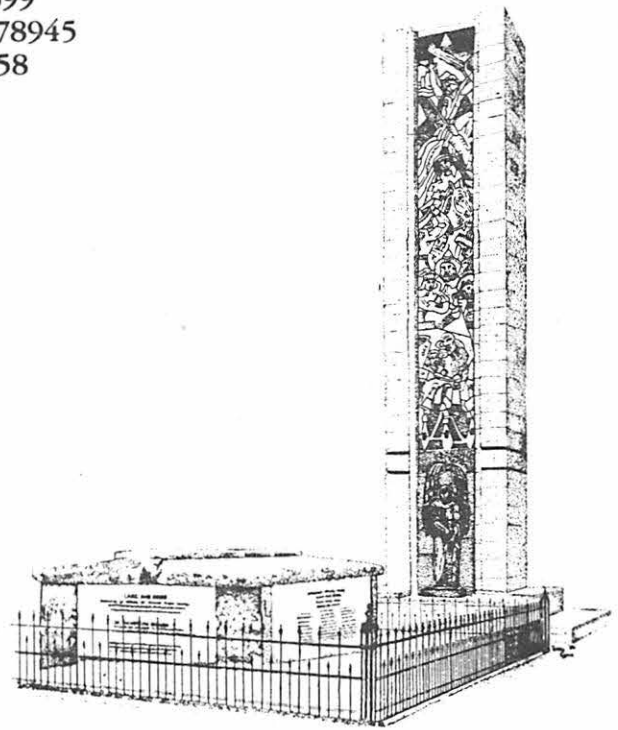
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Seven Days a Week

## BREWERY GUIDED TOURS

2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday



Take Highway 77 South from LaGrange to Spur 92



KREISCHE HOMESTEAD AND BREWERY  
La Grange, Texas

Dispersal of this publication conforms with Texas State Documents Depository Law, and it is available at Texas State Publications Clearinghouse and Texas Depository Libraries.

1989 Patron Members, May 2-Oct. 13

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- Becker, Mr. Herbert H. Austin TX
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- Beethoven Maennerchor, Inc. San Antonio TX
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- UTSA Library, Serials Dept. San Antonio TX
- Van der Dussen, Renate 7413 CL Deventer
- Wegner, Verlie Burton TX
- Wendt, Herman Edward Houston TX

## Emil Braeutigam Family Reunion

The Emil Braeutigam family of Fredericksburg recently had a family reunion at LBJ State Park in Stonewall, Texas during the 19th of August from 3 P.M. until dusk.

Emil Braeutigam was born on February 11, 1869 in Drei Krichen (Luckenbach). He was the ninth child of eleven children born to John and Cristina Braeutigam of Fredericksburg, Texas. Emil married Anna Stoffers on October 10, 1891 in Fredericksburg. Emil and Anna had eight children-four boys and four girls: including Max Henry, deceased; Antonie, deceased; Sophie, deceased; Udo, deceased; and Elfrieda Clara, deceased. The three living children are Walter Braeutigam-89 years old of Fredericksburg, Emil Alfred Braeutigam-80 years old of San Antonio, and Dora Behrends-77 years old of Fredericksburg.

Trophies were awarded to the oldest member present-Walter Braeutigam-89 years old of Fredericksburg, Texas. The youngest member present was Bryce Poncik-8 months old of Little River, Texas. The farthest to travel was awarded to Max William Braeutigam of El Paso, Texas.

There were 96 people in attendance from Roundrock, Austin, San Antonio, Fredericksburg, Schulenburg, Cedar Hill, Little River, Bulverde, Ft. Worth, Hallettsville, Adkins, Cypress, Universal City, Garland, and El Paso.

This was the first Braeutigam Reunion that most of the family can remember for quite a while. Plans are being made to make this an annual event in the Fredericksburg area.

**B**is Freitag noch unvorstellbar heute Realität: Ein westlicher Kino-Hit hat Premiere in der DDR und keiner geht hin. Das Kino „Kosmos“ in der Ost-Berliner Karl-Marx-Allee ist fast leer, als Barbara Streisand in dem Streifen „Nuts... durchgedreht“ von der Leinwand flimmert. An diesem Wochenende drehen die DDR-Bürger lieber selbst durch. Westliches Leben aus der Film-Dose interessiert keinen mehr, alle wollen es live erleben. Ost-Berlin scheint fast geschlossen in den Westen gegangen zu sein. Die Hauptstadt der DDR bleibt eine zugeparkte Geisterstadt.

Die Straßenzüge nahe der Grenzübergangsstellen sind vollgestopft mit Autos aus Rostock, Erfurt, Halle, Leipzig, Dresden und anderen Städten der DDR. Der Mittelstreifen der parallel zur Mauer verlaufenden Leipziger Straße ist zugeparkt. Die hat wohl der Tausend geritten“, sagt ein Volkspolizist resignierend, angesichts der aufgeregt aus ihren Fahrzeugen springenden und zum Sektoren-Übergang Checkpoint Charlie hetzenden Menschen in der Friedrichstraße. „Wir müssen 28 Jahre nachholen“, ruft ihm ein Leipziger Arbeiter zu. Kreuz und

quer stehen die Autos auf den Bürgersteigen. Straßmandate werden nicht ausgestellt. „Falsches Parken fällt bei einem weltgeschichtlichen Ereignis nicht ins Gewicht“, sagt ein anderer Vopo.

Bis zum Donnerstag war noch Ost-Berlin für die Provinzler zwischen Rostock und

selbst am Checkpoint. 15 Mark Ost pro Person dürfen hier zum Kurs von 1:1 in D-Mark getauscht werden.

Die sonst nicht nur an den Wochenenden völlig überfüllten Diskotheken sind beinahe leer. Keine Menschentrauben bilden sich vor dem Amüsierladen am Operncafé Unter den

Linden. „Früher noch ein Knüller, heute schon kalter Kaffee“, kommentiert ein junger Punk. Er ist unterwegs zum Übergang Heinrich-Heine-Straße. Gleich dahinter liegt Kreuzberg. „Hier ist die Musikszene zu Hause“, meint er.

Mit dem Verkauf von West-Berliner Stadtplänen könnte man binnen Stunden reich werden. In den Ost-Berliner Straßenkarten ist der Westteil der Stadt nach wie vor nur als weißer Fleck erkennbar – sie sind schon jetzt Relikt einer

jahrzehntlang geübten Abgrenzungs-Politik.

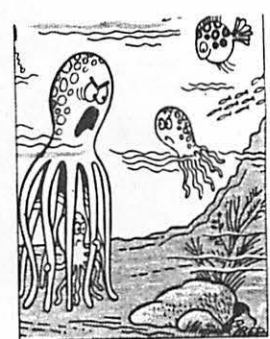
Am Nachmittag beginnt der Rückreiseverkehr durch die Stadt, vorbei am totenstillen Alexanderplatz. Total aufgekratzt packen die Provinzler aus Thüringen, Sachsen und Mecklenburg ihre Trabis und Wartburgs mit Einkaufstüten voll. Eine Familie aus Magdeburg ruht sich erst mal auf einer Bank aus, die beiden Kinder schlafen auf dem Schoß der Mutter ein. „Es war wunderbar“, sagt der erschöpfte Vater. „Nächste Woche sind wir wieder da.“

Dieser Ansturm nach Westen hat sich in der ganzen DDR schon fühlbar ausgewirkt: „Am Freitag gab es Produktionsausfälle, weil Arbeiter in West-Berlin spazierengingen“, hieß es in einem Kommentar der (Ost-) „Berliner Zeitung“. Die Freude über die neue Kaiserregulung sei verständlich, schrieb das Blatt. „Muß man aber Verständnis für leere Werkstätten und fehlende Waren aufbringen?“ Ohne Arbeit laufe nichts, deshalb müsse jeder an seinem Platz seine Pflicht tun. Doch Kommentator Dieter Reisch schloß mit den Worten: „Wer arbeitsfrei hat, dem wünsche ich ein schönes Wochenende – auch in West-Berlin.“ (sp)

### „Die Sause läuft doch drüben ab“

Ost-Berlin war nur noch eine Geisterstadt  
Von Ingomar Schwels

Zittau die erste Adresse. Hier deckte man sich mit Obst und Konsumgütern ein, hier ging man zum Amüsament in Discos mit „hauptstädtischem Flair“. Doch jetzt hat der Magnet seine Anziehungskraft verloren, lieber drückt man sich an den Schaulustern am Ku'damm die Nase platt als Unter den Linden, heißt es. „Die Sause läuft doch drüben ab“, kommentiert eine Studentin aus Erfurt und stellt sich in die geduldig wartende Menschengänge vor der Wech-



„Nein, Paulchen kommt nicht raus zum Spielen – er hat Stubenarrest.“



**SPECIAL GUEST** -- Mariam York was the special guest speaker at last Thursday's meeting of the Bellville Lions Club. She spoke on the history of Austin County relating to early German settlements at Industry and also at Cat Spring. Left to right are: Dr. James Lamp, club president; Ernie Koy, who introduced the guest speaker; Mrs. York; BHS Superintendent Bill Shaver; and James Lindemann, West End Lions member and also a historical society officer. -- Times photo

## GERMAN INFLUENCE ON OLYMPICS

### INFLUENCE CONTINUES TODAY

FRIEDRICH LUDWIG JAHN (1778-1852), German teacher and patriot commonly called "Turnvater Jahn", invented gymnastics and became the father of the gymnastic movement in Germany. In 1809 he became a teacher at the gymnasium in Berlin. However, his wartime experiences in the Prussian Army caused him to brood over the humiliation of his native land by Napoleon. It was then that he conceived the idea of restoring the morale of his countrymen by developing their physical and moral power through the practice of gymnastics.

In 1811 he set up the first "Turnplatz" or open air gymnasium, teaching the members to regard themselves as a kind of guild for the emancipation of the Vaterland. He build crude devices that became models for the equipment now used throughout the world. His followers formed clubs known as "Turnvereins", which were very popular between 1840 and 1914. They held many large festivals and contests, including the national Turnfests.

German immigrants organized the first Turnvereins in the United States at Philadelphia and Cincinnati in 1848. Others followed in the centers of large German population. Although now more

Von-Maszewski, W.M. ed. **HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE**. San Marcos: German-Texan Heritage Society and Southwest Texas State University, 1989. 232p. Illustrations. Index. Paperback: \$8.00, ISBN 0-94479-03-4.

This handbook and registry is a project of the German-Texan Heritage Society founded in 1978. It is a state-wide non-profit educational organization actively involved in researching the history and culture of the German-Texans. The group produces a large newsletter several times a year and has also reprinted *Roemer's Texas*, Biesele's *The History of the German Settlements in Texas, 1831-1861*, and Sealsfield's *The Cabin Book (Das Kajutenbuch)*. Originating as a Texas Sesquicentennial project, volunteers compiled information on early Texas German institutions, using procedures developed by the Texas Department of Agriculture in its Texas Family Land Heritage Registry. The volume of information collected contributed to the delay in publication to 1989. The categories of institutions covered in the handbook and registry include old businesses, societies, churches, cemeteries, schools, farms, and ranches. It also includes examples of Fachwerk construction, museums, libraries, and other institutions, and historical markers, monuments, and statues. The text includes brief descriptions and historical sketches and is indexed by location. While this book concludes with the 1920s, it will be followed by a second edition within the next several years. As a German-Texan and native of the Hill Country, I certainly know of places and institutions omitted, but society officials promise subsequent editions to deal with that problem. This handbook can be a handy reference for those beginning to study German-Texans.

JoAnn Stiles

REVIEW OF TEXAS BOOKS  
LAMAR UNIVERSITY-BEAUMONT  
P. O. Box 10021  
Beaumont, TX 77710

like social clubs, the Turnvereins still exist in many places in the United States today.

The gymnastics competitions held during the Olympic Games are largely an outgrowth of the ideas of Turnvater Jahn. \*\*\*

Article by Nephi Hacken, from *Der Blumenbaum*, publication of the Sacramento (CA) German Genealogy Society. reprinted from *Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter*, July-Aug, 1989.



The German Gulf Coast Association celebrated its "HOUSTON THIRD ANNUAL GERMAN FEST" on October 7, 1989 at the Wyndham Hotel with afternoon activities from 2 to 5 and a dinner dance from 8 pm till the wee hours in the morning. As both events were well attended by Houstonians and out-of-towners, it seems that this affair, along with other ethnic festivities in and around Houston, will have its place in the future of a city becoming more and more metropolitan in character and international in taste.

There is ample reason for Americans and Texans of German descent to celebrate. Former President Reagan, President Bush and our own Mayor, Kathryn Niederhofer Whitmire, have proclaimed October 6th to be "German American Day" in the United States in recognition of the many contributions Germans have made to the life and history of the United States during the past 300 years. The achievements of German immigrants are well known. Famous names like Carl Schurz, Baron von Steuben, Prinz Solms of Braunfels, John Jacob Astor, Albert Einstein, Werner von Braun and Henry Kissinger are testimony of German industriousness and loyalty and shall never be forgotten. To date, approx. 52 million Americans of German descent constitute the LARGEST ethnic group in the United States. They have every reason to be proud of their heritage, proud of the work of their forefathers.

The German Fest at the Wyndham Hotel in Houston offered both, great fun and food for thought. The picture

# GERMAN GULF COAST ASSOCIATION celebrated

## "Houston Third Annual German Fest"

by Hilde Graeter

Deutsche Welt - U.S.A.  
P.O. Box 35831  
Houston, TX 77235



Presentation of the Mayor's Proclamation of HOUSTON GERMAN DAY

Rodney C. Koenig, President of the German Gulf Coast Association, Mayor Kathy Whitmire, Consul General Peter Maier-Oswald (l. to r.)

exhibit "40 Years Federal Republic of Germany" presented rather graphically the fact that, although 40 years ago still an occupied country, Germany has made a remarkable comeback, politically as well as economically, still another reason for someone's pride.

Afternoon activities on October 7th included exhibits of arts and crafts, toys, food and clothes, especially dirndl dresses AND splendid musical entertainment by the "Jägermeisters" (a great band!), the Friendswood Cloggers and the Houston Sängerbund. During the evening the guests were entertained by the Rathkamp Dancers, Nancy's School of Dance and a Fashion Show. AND THEN THERE WAS THE DANCE BAND OF THE DEUTSCHE BUNDESWEHR, freshly flown in from Germany! These young guys, wearing the uniforms of the German Army, Air Force and Navy, did a fantastic job. Not only did they play the best German dance music I have heard in a long time, they didn't just perform, they thrilled the audience! It was "kick-up-your-heels" time. Every one loved it, no one wanted to go home. We want them back next year!

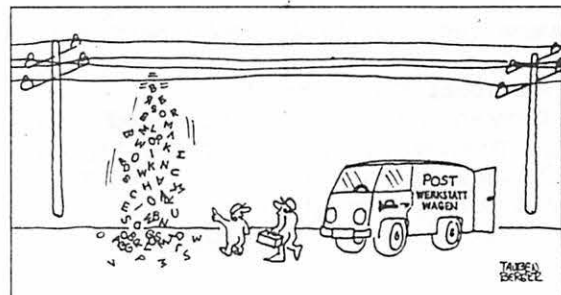
I think that this year's annual Fest of the German Gulf Coast Association which, by the way, comprises ALL German Clubs in and around Houston, has been a great success and surely has established its place among the other ethnic groups in Houston. The Greeks, the Mexicans, the Italians and the Chinese celebrated their heritage and had their festivals long before we did.



(l. to r.) Ted Stanzel, Eleonora Kerstner, Hilda Graeter, Ursula Quentel, Erika Teske, Ted Gish, Rodney Koenig, Mayor Kathy Whitmire, Peter Maier-Oswald, Maria Fritsche, Rosina Christensen, Gerd Hippe, Ingrid Blankenburg, Mr. Niederhoffer, Jutta Schulte-Ladbeck



The ladies are showing off their dirndls at the "GERMAN FEST"



„Das scheint die undichte Stelle zu sein.“



Letters to Oma: A young German girl's account of her first year in Texas--1847, Marj Gurasevich. Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press (A Chapparral Book), 1989. \$9.95.

This is the first German-Texan children's book in a long time and follows in the wonderful tradition of Janice Jordan Shefelmann-- from whom we have had heard anything in ages, worse luck!. Although the heroine of Letters to Oma, the fifteen year-old Christina Eudora von Scholl is a completely fictional character, (unlike Shefelmann's heroine), she still serves as a vehicle to transmit the story of the experiences of a young immigrant in the New World. Gurasevich, who comes from a German family found the inspiration for her book in the picture of a cuckoo clock in a magazine, during research she was conducting about the history of Industry. Her framework is a series of letters from "Tina" to her beloved "Oma" back in Germany. The letters are within a narrative text which describes Tina's feelings and experiences. It is amazing how well this book fits in with Mrs. York's book, because, since the Scholl family settles in Industry and is from Oldenburg, they interact quite frequently with Friedrich Ernst and his family.

Tina faces various dangers including the attack of a panther, which she dispatches with an unerring gunshot, and encounters with the Lipan Indians. Since this is a novel for adolescents, this also a romance with a handsome neighbor. A trip to Sisterdale shows another German community. Pioneer novels frequently include childbirth and death, as well as the almost obligatory culminating Christmas celebration, and this book does not fail us in any of these aspects.

Letters to Oma is very attractively presented. It would make an excellent Christmas or birthday gift to a girl-- it is slanted toward a feminine audience-- from a German-Texan family. It may be ordered from

Texas A&M University Press  
 Drawer C  
 College Station, TX 77843-4354  
 (800-826-8911)

Hanna B. Lewis

Sam Houston State University

Miriam Korff York, Friedrich Ernst of Industry. Giddings, Texas: Nixon Printing Co., 1989. No price given.

This privately printed book by Mrs. York gives the history of Friedrich Ernst of Industry, Texas and the town he and Charles Fordtran founded in 1831. Industry was the first German settlement in Texas. (It is by no means certain that Friedrich Ernst was his full name, since he might have been a "man on the run" from a never-proven embezzlement charge in Germany.) One of the problems in Ernst research is the number of "Friedrich Ernst"'s who lived in Texas at that time period (1831-1848). Mrs. York confines herself to what she was able to discover factually about the particular Ernst who founded Industry and the documentaary evidence about him. This includes probate records, a memoir by his oldest daughter Caroline and various other writings by his children, including an account book by his son, Herman [sic].

Friedrich Ernst of Industry is a well- documented book about a controversial Texas pioneer. There are lavish photograph and charming inked illustrations. No way to order the book was given, but I am sure a note to the GTHS office would be forwarded to Mrs. York.

Hanna B. Lewis

Sam Houston State University

# Liederkrantz tour took twist of Texas to West Germany

By DIANE WINDELER  
Classical music critic

If *Liederkrantz* is accurately translated as "a wreath of songs," then the San Antonio group by that name spread musical garlands and priceless good will throughout southern West Germany during its recent 12-day tour, July 13-25.

While international politicians were discussing such issues as reducing American forces in Germany, or the country's reunification, the 38-member predominantly Catholic men's choir of amateurs devoted to the folk song traditions of their German forbears was quietly (for the most part) giving *gemuetlichkeit* a Texas twist.

Witness the enthusiastic nationwide press (plus newswire coverage in the United States) given to the group's performance for Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker in Bonn.

Or the almost unheard-of applause following their singing during the Sunday Mass in the famed baroque Pilgrim's Cathedral at Goessweinstein.

Or the warmth of the village of Sulz am Neckar, which turned out *en masse* - complete with community band - to meet the Americans at the train station on its arrival, linked arms for a street parade to the town square for a special reception, took them into their homes for four days of rare one-on-one interaction that few tourists ever experience, and concluded back in the square with an *al fresco* party not unlike our own NIOSA.

Members of the *Liederkrantz* put this tour together, using connections with personal friends, relatives and business acquaintances.

With choristers, wives and several children, accompanist Janine Parker and her husband, the entourage numbered nearly 80.

Most details of the tour were arranged by tenor Gerhard Boech, a native of Saarbruecken, and his Vienna-born wife, Ingeborg.

Through their efforts, we stayed in a castle-turned-hotel, dined in quaint restaurants, traveled via two state-of-the-art Mercedes buses, had excellent English-speaking tour guides and visited numerous off-the-beaten-path places.

Among these was a cave beneath a cathedral in Halgerloch, where nuclear testing took place during World War II, an opportunity to sing in the splendid main hall of Weikersheim Castle, and supper in a famous winery estate, with the group singing (what else?) drinking songs among the vineyards.

Baritone Bernard Buecker, an attorney whose speciality is German-American law, was responsible for such unusual opportunities as a reception in the offices of the mayor of Mainz (San Antonio's sister city), securing the date to sing for the president and working with a German friend to set up a singing festival with several other groups at Veldenstein Castle.

Another friend of Buecker's, Hanswolf J. Haunhorst, a distinguished diplomat and political journalist/broadcaster who has been a guest of San Antonio's Council on World Affairs, quietly arranged further remarkable opportunities for the *Liederkrantz*.

Because of his intercession, the chorus sang on the stage of the jewel-like baroque opera house (now a museum) in Bayreuth, were treated to a playful fountain demonstration in a hidden grotto that usually is closed to tourists at Wilhelmina's Palace and were taken on a fascinating, sobering ride along the East/West German border with a hand-picked German guide who had worked with the American military police and spoke English with a near-flawless American GI accent.

Like the barbershop quartet in "The Music Man," this jovial ensemble tended to burst into song at every opportunity.

Impromptu offerings of "Gruess Gott" and "Ein Prosit" took place on the train from Mainz to Sulz and in assorted restaurants, *biertaverns* and *weinstubes* - and then there were the expected on-bus renditions of such memorable fare as "Rubber Ducky" and Tom Lehrer's "Poisoning the Pigeons in the Park."

There were moments of song just to "check out the acoustics" in several churches and cathedrals, but it was the scheduled performances that made this trip most memorable, musically.

The first, just hours after having been shamelessly pampered on a 10-hour Lufthansa Air Lines flight, was a shared performance at the Kurfuerstliche Castle in Mainz with the famed Mainz Hofsaengers.

Before an enthusiastic capacity audience, the *Liederkrantz* presented German songs and such Americana as "Deep in the Heart of Texas" (complete with audience participation), a Texas medley and a stirring rendition of "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The Hofsaengers, a tightly-drilled semi-professional ensemble of 18 men, delivered a gloriously stentorian Russian set and a salute to American musicals.

The itinerary called for the *Liederkrantz* to sing only two songs for President von Weizsaecker at the German White House, the Villa Hammerschmidt. This amiable, enormously popular head of state, who spoke impeccable Oxford English, seemed genuinely delighted with Texans' visit, and not only spent extra time chatting with the group (having been presented with a custom-made branding iron, a

Stetson hat and a color photo of the *Liederkrantz* in front of the Alamo), but insisted on hearing three more songs.

Quoting his friend, Maestro Jesus Lopez-Cobos of the Berlin Opera, Weizsaecker stated that the conductor finds American choirs unique because they combine "professional capacity with the dedication of amateurs."

He was surprised, incidentally, to learn that the only city outside Washington, D.C., visited by members of the Berlin Opera this summer was San Antonio.

"I'm ashamed to admit I've never been to San Antonio," he said, noting that his representative came to the Alamo City during the Sesquicentennial.

□□

There were moments of song just to "check out the acoustics" in several churches and cathedrals.

□□

Admitting he does not have absolute control over his calendar, he said he intends to come to San Antonio in 1992, on the occasion of the *Liederkrantz's* 100th Anniversary. "You may print that," he said with a laugh.

The most emotionally satisfying singing engagement was the Sunday Mass at Goessweinstein Cathedral on July 23.

Perched high above the overflow congregation in a rear organ loft, the choir sang beautifully.

For a long time afterwards on the cathedral grounds, worshipers stopped the Americans with profuse thanks and words of praise. The morning was topped off with a special sidewalk performance for the Americans by the city youth band, highlighted by a charming Offenbach medley.

Proof positive that music is an international language, shared experiences with other singing groups added immeasurably to the trip.

In Sulz am Neckar, the little town that hosted members of the San Antonio *Liederkrantz* in 1984 for its 700th anniversary and whose own *Liederkrantz* came to San Antonio in 1986 for the Sesquicentennial, stages were shared on several occasions, as was the music one Sunday morning in a protestant church service.

Combined informal performances also took place with groups in Velden, as well as participating in a Saturday vesper Mass at a nearby Catholic Church.

As news reports increased in local newspapers, more and more Germans became aware of the *Liederkrantz's* presence.

For example, during a short "pit-stop" enroute to Wuerzburg, in a tiny village one morning after the presidential visit, Bob and Dorothy Rose were stopped on the sidewalk by a pleasant little woman who took them into her home and showed them a copy of a regional newspaper bearing a story about the *Liederkrantz*, with a publicity photo in front of the Alamo.

She feted the couple with coffee and cake, gave them bottles of wine and champagne and expressed her happiness at their presence. And neither spoke the other's language!

Perhaps Klaus Hartmann, the county commissioner of Velden, expressed it best during his remarks at the community saengerfest: "Our main goal is to have harmony together; songs unite people across frontiers and even across oceans."

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Many thanks to the San Antonio *Liederkrantz* for the music at the Ecumenical Prayer Service in German at our GTHS Annual Meeting, Sept. 10.

NDP.V. AUGUST 6, 1989

SAN ANTONIO LIGHT

## DEFINITIONEN

ALTE SCHACHTEL - Bejahrtes Pöckchen

BABYSITTER - Ein Kind, das sich wie ein Erwachsener benimmt, während die Eltern sich in der Disco wie Kinder benehmen.

GEBURTSDATUM - Ein Gerücht, das Frauen durch ihr Aussehen dementieren können.

GENTLEMAN - Meist nur ein zu alt gewordener Draufgänger.

GRAUER STAR - Altgewordener Schauspieler.

HERZENSBRECHER - Ein Mann, der eine Frau seine eigenen Wünsche von den Augen abliest.

IRONIE - Sich für die letzte Mark noch ein neues Portemonnaie zu kaufen.

NOCKENWELLE - Frisur für modische Autofahrerinnen.

WÖRTER - Haken zum Aufhängen von Gedanken.  
HELGA METZKOW



„Er hat Holzwürmer.“



„Stehl deme Tasse noch an der gewohnten Stelle. Liebeng?“

## LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK

(Estate Planning for Germans)  
By Rodney C. Koenig

The German Gulf Coast Association helped celebrate German-American Day (October 6, 1989) recently at the Wyndham Hotel in Houston, Texas. A number of German exhibits and German singers participated in this celebration of German-American Day. A significant number of German-Texans in the greater Houston area enjoyed a day of German entertainment, German exhibits and a very interesting and delightful evening featuring music by members of the Deutsche Bundeswehr Musikkorps. The Rathkamp German Dancers performed during the evening, we were entertained with a fashion show featuring Dirndls. The Jaegermeisters helped entertain during the afternoon along with the Houston Saengerbund singers. An interesting memorial pin was designed for the German Gulf Coast Association German Fest. One of the exhibits at the German Fest involved potential charitable giving to various German-Texan organizations. The Goethe Institute participated along with many others with an exhibit for promoting teaching the German language. It was my honor to serve as chairman of this German Fest. In an effort to leave our German mark, it would be appropriate to have each community in Texas organize a celebration for our German heritage.

The German-Texan Heritage Society has decided at its most recent convention, to promote awards to several of the German departments throughout the state. The award will be the gift of a book to a top German graduate student with the gift being either the Beisele book, the Registry or a similar book. Another possible award would be a one year membership to the German-Texan Heritage Society. We wish to keep the name of the German-Texan Heritage Society before our outstanding students. We hope to leave our German mark on the various German classes and hopefully they will leave their German mark as well.

Another charitable planning device with which you could leave your German mark would be to donate currently your home or your farm to your favorite German department at your university, reserving the right to live in such home or farm for the rest of your life. By making such donation, you would obtain a current income tax deduction equal to the actuarial value of the remainder interest in your home or your farm and ranch. You also would guarantee that your favorite German department would have funds available in the future to help provide scholarships, a lectureship or a professorship. What better way to honor a loved one than to create a memorial gift

such as this. Another very simple way to leave your German mark is to change a life insurance beneficiary designation form to leave a percentage of your insurance or your IRA to your favorite German-Texan charitable.

Consider a Codicil to your Will which should be completely in your own handwriting and which would say the following:

Version One

Codicil

This is a codicil to my will in addition to other gifts made in my will, I hereby give \$5,000 to German-Texan Heritage Society, to be used to further scholarship, research and writing in the German-Texan area. I wish to leave my German Mark.

Signed on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1989, in Germantown, Texas.

J. M. German  
Witness  
Emma Texan  
Witness

Hilde Hasalot

Version Two

Codicil

This is a codicil to my will. In addition to other gifts in my will, I give ten (10%) of my residuary estate to the Institute of Texas German Studies at the University of Houston in memory of my mother. This gift is to endow a lectureship annually on a worthy topic concerning German-Texan history.

Signed on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October 1989 in Houston, Texas

J. M. German  
Witness  
Emma Texan  
Witness

Dieter Deutsch

If the above Codicils are completely in your handwriting it likely would work as a Codicil to your Will. Having two witnesses will add some insurance. In any event, your lawyer should review the documents. For current memorial gifts, use the form below and leave your German mark.

MEMORIAL GIFT  
TO  
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PLEASE PRINT

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_ (Tel. No.) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Send notification of my gift to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I plan to leave a portion of my estate to the German-Texan Heritage Society in my Will or through a life insurance policy. Please call me.

RETURN TO: German-Texan Heritage Society  
1011 Meredith Drive  
P. O. Box 262  
Manchaca, Texas 78652

# „Laßt die Leute raus“

*Aus Spiegel*

Die Nacht, in der die Berliner Mauer brach

**D**er Mann trug nur einen Mantel über dem Pyjama und war nicht zu stoppen: „Wir wohn'n Bornholmer Straße, im Osten, wa. Ick wa schon inne Heia, die Alte jeht noch mit'm Hund runta, kommt ruff und sagt: Mensch, du, die jehn alle nach'n Westen! Ick nischit wie anjezogen und rüber.“

Ein Trabi-Fahrer kurbelte die Scheibe herab und brachte atemlos hervor: „Ick fass' mir pausenlos an' Kopp. Ick fahr' mit der Karre übern Kurfürstendamm.“

An der Ruine der Gedächtniskirche stammelte eine: „Det war schon imma mein Traum, einmal um'n Hohlen Zahn.“

Ebenso fassungslos vernahmen die West-Berliner, was ihre Ost-Berliner Gäste heraussprudelten. Viele mochten nicht glauben, was sie da gerade erlebten. Es war die Nacht, in der die Mauer brach.

In dieser Nacht vom 9. auf den 10. November feierte ganz Berlin einen neuen Tag der Einheit.

Das Betonmonster, das West-Berlin auf 165,7 Kilometer Länge umschließt und seit seiner Errichtung über 70 Todesopfer gefordert hat, überlebte seinen Schöpfer nur knapp. Genau 22 Tage und acht Stunden nach dem Rücktritt des Bauherrn Erich Honecker, nach des-

sen Willen sie hundert Jahre existieren sollte, war die Mauer stehend k.o.: Noch ist sie nicht gefallen, aber sie hat ihre Funktion verloren.

Für Walter Momper, Berlins Regierenden Bürgermeister, wurde das Unfaßbare gegen 22.25 Uhr zur Gewißheit. Um diese Zeit reichte ihm einer seiner Sicherheitsbeamten ins Studio E des Senders Freies Berlin, wo der Sozialdemokrat in einer Live-Runde gerade die Folgen der neuen Reisefreiheit für DDR-Bürger diskutierte, einen kleinen Notizzettel: Der Lagedienst der Berliner Polizei hatte soeben den Durchbruch gemeldet; die ersten Berliner Ost wie West hatten unkontrolliert die Sektorenübergänge passiert.

German at Texas Tech: A Formula for Strength and Stability  
Dr. Meredith McClain

-----Abstract-----

Three German programs were invited to participate in a special session of the AATG annual conference last year in Monterey, California. The title of the session was "Building German Enrollments at Colleges and Universities". Dr. Dorothy James, Chair of the Department of German at Hunter College, City University of New York, opened the session. Dr. Meredith McClain followed with a report from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and Dr. Renate Schulz completed the spectrum with her comments on the program at the University of Arizona at Tucson.

Now, in the fall of 1989, with 3 new faculty members (total =4 in German, 2 in Russian, 2 in Japanese, and 1 in Chinese), we are experiencing increased activities and new energies as the established momentum offers a basic stability to the program.

The third Chairman in the history of the department, Dr. Ulrich Goebel, is guiding the unit through a major restructuring, which has already resulted in increased research and grant funding, faculty publications and a heightened awareness of intellectual exchanges through an expanded network of contacts. This paper offers then a brief retrospective report on how we got to be as a department where we were in the fall of 1988 and points to some programs, now discontinued, which were essential in establishing the strength and stability which now allows progressive change.

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It was an unexpected honor for those of us in the German program at Texas Tech University to be invited to give a report on the success of our German enrollment at the annual meeting of the AATG last year. We felt, however, like the legendary cowboys of our area, who, while fighting the dreaded range fire, get word from headquarters to send somebody back to the ranch with a report. The situation of emergency offers little time to notice progress made during the struggle. So, my colleagues and I are glad to hear that by national standards we have more in the corral (so to speak) than in the stampede. Sharing some details of our struggle is a positive assignment, although in taking time off from the front line whiffs of smoke waft by in new directions and one hears the faint howl of the coyote, that administrative critter which sniffs weakness, then darts in soundlessly to thin out the herd.

This opening analogy is not just an ingratiating whimsy. The fighting spirit and total dedication to the departmental mission is at the center of any success we are having teaching German in Lubbock, Texas. I cannot help but notice that just as our program represents the tough, raw area of the American frontier, the other two programs represented in this session come from equally harsh geographical environments of our country: the arid desert of Arizona and the dense jungle of New York City. I suspect that a common thread connecting each of our three German programs is the determination to reach a goal in spite of--perhaps even because of--adversity.

In this rare moment of calm reflection, when I look into the careers of my departmental colleagues in Lubbock, I sense that our most important commonality is what one can call the "pioneering spirit". We were all drawn to the somewhat primitive isolation of the Llano Estacado and we stayed there

because we sensed the potential, not the achievement; we were invigorated by the freedom to create rather than by the assignment to protectively hoard something already fully established; we have been called by challenge rather than by comfort. There's an ol' ranch-hand saying in these parts which actually captures the spirit of our department. It reads: "Sleep with your boots on and know the coyote!"

For you to understand how this West Texas motto gets translated into the Gestalt of departmental activities, I offer a brief overview of the history of the place. To understand the strength we show today, one needs a sense of the vastness and youthfulness of our frontier setting.

After the gold rush, when settlers began filtering back into the middle regions of America, one area was skirted completely and that was the escarpment known since Coronado's trek through Texas as the Llano Estacado or Staked Plains. As late as 1875 the official Texas Almanac described the area thus: "The Llano Estacado is almost an unexplored region but little known, at present the tramping ground of the wild Indians and the buffalo." In the 1880's the cattle industry began after General Mackenzie routed the Indians and the white buffalo hunters had depleted their herds. The vastness of the ranches of the area is simply incomprehensible to people who have never visited the plain which we inhabit. The first cattle empire, called the 10A, comprised 245,000 acres, and the famous XIT cattle brand stood for the geographical holdings of that ranch, namely ten counties in Texas: XIT. Lubbock was founded in 1909 and has expanded rapidly. Today, with a population in greater Lubbock of 250,000, it is one of the youngest, large cities of the nation and truly the "Hub of the Plains". Thanks to irrigation techniques, the city is surrounded by an agricultural belt extending several hundred miles. Where underground water is not available for pumping, vast ranch lands buffer the city from immediate outside influences. The old-timers in Lubbock say that during the great American depression of the thirties, thanks to the protecting zone isolating Lubbock, it was the last large city in the U.S. to sense that something was going wrong with the economy. Today the largest industry in the city is Texas Tech University. Founded in 1023, the doors opened to the first class in 1925, and now, at age 63, with its 23,000 students, and sitting on a 1,839 acre campus, it is the largest contiguous landmass campus in the world. (The Air Force Academy in Colorado covers more territory, but that is because one adds in the runways.)

The point of this thumbnail sketch is that at Texas Tech University history does not stretch very far into the dim past. We have a sense of what has gone before, how it came about, and given the wide-open spaces in which we work, we see blank places in the canvas where potential for creating can be realized. We also see clearly that our palette of colors is limited. Tech has not had high entrance standards, the students we find in our German classes are generally from the rural, agricultural area Tech was built to serve, and their experience with and enthusiasm for foreign language study can be formidable factors in the classroom.

The profile of our present department actually took shape in the 1940's with the work of an emeritus professor whom we still see periodically in our halls. Professor Theodore W. Alexander came from Austria to Texas because of a youthful "Wanderlust" fueled by the gripping descriptions of the Wild West he had read in the works of Karl May. (The subtitle of one of May's novels is Der Geist des Llano Estacado.) It was Professor Alexander who established the energetic student-teacher model which built up the department from scratch and which is still at the heart of our stability in enrollment. He always focused on the active use of spoken German among his Texas students and devised programs which made the speaking/learning situations attractive

to them.

For example, Professor Alexander started the annual production of German plays in 1947. This tradition, maintained after Professor Alexander's retirement by Dr. Thomas Bacon, celebrated its 41st anniversary last spring and has been a highly distinctive feature of our department. A Kinderschule was established as a forum where student teachers could practice their pedagogy with elementary school students while building community interest in German in general. This program of long-range dividends paid off over the years when those former Kinderschüler came to college and selected German as their required foreign language.

A Puppentheater was added to the plan to offer the practice of spoken German and to entertain the Kinderschule. The team spirit behind the Kinderschule, the Puppetplays, and especially the evening drama performances was a driving motivation of the students to practice spoken German, a cohesive force impossible to overvalue in the department's "success". Besides providing a hub of German activity for our undergraduate as well as graduate students, these performances had great value in promoting the name and the activity of the department throughout the campus, across town, and even within the state of Texas, since the play went on the road each year to the Texas Association of German Students annual meetings. By 1967 the strength of the German section of the department of foreign languages at Texas Tech was great enough that a division was made officially between Romance and Classical Languages (presently 24 full-time faculty) and Germanic and Slavic Languages (presently 9 full-time faculty). The first chairman was Dr. Karl Hammer, Jr. (1967-1977). Now, 21 years later, under the direction of the third Chairman, Dr. Ulrich Goebel (1979- ), the autonomy of our small unit is more secure than in previous years when the howl of the coyote emanated more distinctly from the Administration Building, the place where raids on pastures with weak fences have traditionally been organized. After all, seen from the budget office, all kinds of administrative monies could be saved by the consolidation of the two foreign language departments, but seen from our offices, autonomy was absolutely necessary to allow us to set our own standards (and raise them), to set our own goals (and reach them), to work hard and closely as a small group to constantly nurture the vitality of our own program where each faculty member is completely visible and totally essential.

If the autonomy of the department sounds attractive, the responsibility for success and failure which rests on the chairman and faculty first, and then on the teaching assistants and the staff, is awesome and constant. The ratio in our department of workers available to work to be done is as lean as a steer in a drought year. Consider, for example, that according to the Southern Conference formula a department is only allowed to offer a masters program when there is a minimum of four faculty accredited by the Graduate Faculty. Then the Texas State law allows a graduate seminar to be taught only when five graduate students enroll. Each year we have just enough faculty and just enough graduate students to meet the standard for teaching and taking classes at the graduate level. Sometimes there are a few extra participants, but more often we see each crucial seat filled by the requisite candidate with almost no room for change or error. The faculty must perform all duties at once and on-going: teaching must be outstanding, visibility in the profession and number of publications must satisfy the Graduate Faculty requirements and its periodic checks on departments and programs, the momentum of existing programs must be maintained or changed to reflect the interests and abilities of the individual faculty members.

In summarizing the first ten years of our department, we pay homage to



Professor Alexander's leadership and pedagogical philosophy which placed the highest departmental value on energetic teaching and enthusiastic student participation in German-language events. This was a period of creating an oasis of German Gemütlichkeit on the dusty, open Texas range. The success of the departmental effort to continue to do just that has been consistently celebrated each spring by an annual Awards Banquet, a tradition unique to our small department and symbolic of our commitment to our students. During the Awards Banquet outstanding students at all levels are honored, new members are initiated into the student honorary society, Delta Phi Alpha, the annual play awards are distributed, scholarships are announced, the staff is thanked, the faculty applauds the students and everyone has a happy, if brief, sense of satisfaction in what has been accomplished by all. It is always a relaxed evening of security behind well-tended fences which have kept--at least this year again--the coyote from the door.

You now have a sense of the legacy created during the department's first ten years and passed down in the second decade. The developers are now retired and we, really the second generation, have taken over. We each valued, upon our various arrivals, the philosophy of the department which had engendered such a vitality over the years and we all understood the need for extra-curricular programs to enhance the visibility of the department and ensure student participation. The sheer geographic isolation of Lubbock makes it immediately clear that the measure of our success is our ability to keep the necessary student numbers at each crucial level. Approximately 200 students pass through the first four semester sequence, then about 20 go on for a minor, 20 for a major and, at the highest level, we succeed in retaining 5 to 7 students in our two-year graduate program. Our ability as a faculty to motivate and integrate our students firmly into the German program is clearly based on competent teaching. Over and above the daily basis of on-going interaction in the classrooms and the faculty activity in professional organizations and publication of research, the unique strength of our program has been generated from the multiple extra-curricular programs we offer our students. Several new programs were established in the second decade of our department's history and have begun to pay off major dividends just in the last few years.

In the summer of 1976 Dr. Thomas Bacon (second Chairman of the department from 1977-1979), offered the first Summer Study Program Abroad. This opportunity for our students to earn six hours of credit during a five week stay in a German-speaking country is an enrichment to our Lubbock program which all the faculty believe in. The momentum of the Summer Abroad Program is building and recently we have realized an important trend whereby committed undergraduates participate in the European summer program as a preparation for beginning graduate classes in our M.A. program. This summer, for the second time, we will be able to offer one scholarship to encourage a student to participate in the program. A measure of faculty commitment to this endeavor is the fact that the scholarship endowment has been built in part by faculty contributions.

One of the four German positions in the department is designated as coordinator of first year German. The faculty member in that slot is responsible for the organization of the multiple sections of first and second semester German and for the weekly meeting of the T.A.'s where teaching technique is practiced. A further responsibility of the coordinator is the "Stammtisch", an opportunity every second Thursday for the faculty, T.A.'s, undergraduates, and interested German-speakers from the community to gather at a local restaurant. In theory, this meeting offers everyone a chance to practice conversational German over a beer. That happens, of course, but

also important is a cohesive spirit of goodwill which pervades and encourages a sharing in the language of choice.

During my first years at Texas Tech, I was constantly surprised to discover that many of our undergraduate students had German names and came from two small communities near Lubbock: Nazareth and Slaton. Although Central Texas has a well documented and highly visible area of German-American communities, no one had paid much attention to the German heritage on the Panhandle Plains. I was able to hire a graduate student as a research assistant and the information we gathered led to her writing a masters thesis on the ethnicity of the community of Nazareth, Texas. We co-authored a published article and the graduate student presented our research at a conference in another state. Both of these events were firsts for a graduate student in our department.

This sort of local research provided materials for many numerous local and state appearances which in turn, advertised our area of the state as well as the university. In 1981 the University granted permission for the establishment of the Southwest Center for German Studies and private contributions established an endowment account. The interest from the account supports activities for which there have been little or no university funds.

Exactly ten years ago an undergraduate named Randy Kirk started a German Folkdance Group at Tech. From very humble beginnings, this student group has distinguished itself over the past 10 years and is now known throughout the state. It is not unusual for the group to perform at 30 different occasions within the city and on campus during the academic year. They are featured annually in New Braunfels at the largest Wursthfest in America, and have made three summer performance tours through Germany. The Texas Tech Ex-Student's Association awarded the group a citation for outstanding community service. Annually the Texas Tech German Dancers receive some financial support from the Texas Tech Student Association for travel to promote Texas Tech, but the dancers are also well paid for their many performances and a glance at their ledger indicates that more than \$11,000 has passed through their account during the last seven years.

We discover each year that the best advertisement for our program comes from the students themselves who graduate into the larger world beyond Lubbock. Our masters students go on to many kinds of careers and have many opportunities to influence others to consider coming to Tech. Just last week the Chairman opened a letter from a prospective graduate student on the other side of the nation who wants to come here because "she has heard how good our program in German is." It has not hurt our reputation at all that we have been able to place our M.A. candidates successfully at major Ph.D. programs in America: at Illinois, Rice, U.T. Austin, Princeton, University of Virginia, Washington University, and Berkeley, to mention a few.

The genuine care taken at every turn of the student's career, starting with attentive advising, moving through dedicated teaching and personal involvement in extra-curricular activities, and ending with faculty applause at graduation and at the award banquet promotes a positive atmosphere for student growth and keeps the coyote at bay.

# Münster mayor to visit Muenster, attend German Day at the Fair

Muenster's 100th year centennial will be recognized at German Day in Texas, which has been designated by Governor Bill Clements to be Oct. 14 and 15 for the year 1989. Two events during the Texas State Fair will mark the occasion.

The City of Münster, Germany will be represented by the Lord Mayor of that city, Dr. Jörg Twenhoven, and friends. Also present from Münster, Germany will be Joachim Korth, patron and friend who has been instrumental in fostering friendly relations between the two cities.

Muenster's Mayor Ted Henscheid has issued an invitation to the Lord Mayor of Münster, Germany, Dr. Jörg Twenhoven, and friends to visit Muenster, Texas while they are in the United States for German Day. They will visit Muenster immediately before German Day activities. Mr. and Mrs. Joachim Korth of Münster, Germany have also been invited to visit Muenster at that time.

Mayor and Mrs. Ted Henscheid will be hosts to the visiting German mayor, while Mr. and Mrs. David Bright will host Mr. and Mrs. Korth. Sightseeing, recep-

tions, etc. are in the planning for these visitors to Muenster on Oct. 13 and 14.

The 27th Annual German Day Pioneer Ball will take place in the Grand Kempinski Hotel, 15201 North Dallas Parkway in Dallas on Oct. 14, 1989. Along with honoring Muenster's centennial, this year's German Day in Texas will also honor Muenster's namesake, Münster, in the state of Westfalen, Germany, the town it was named after.

Mayor Ted Henscheid and his party will be honored guests at the ball, representing Muenster.

A cocktail hour, starting at 6 p.m., begins the night's activities. Dinner will be served to seated guests in the Grand Ball Room of the Grand Kempinski Hotel. The Dallas Town North Concert Band, under the direction of Max Tunnell, will provide the dinner music. The program opens with official greetings and various presentations. The program concludes with German songs by the Dallas Frohsinn Singing Society, and the 22nd appearance of the Soldiers Chorus of German Air Force from Fort Bliss, Texas. Dancing to 1 a.m. will conclude the Saturday

night program.

The next day, Sunday, Oct. 15, Muenster's anniversary will be recognized in the Band Shell at German Day at the Texas State Fair. There will be German folk singing, dancing and music by the Dallas W.T. White High School German Club Folk Dance Group, Dallas Frohsinn Schuhplattlers, W.T. White High School German Club Oompah Band, Dallas Frohsinn Kappelle Band, Soldier Choir of the German Air Force and the Dallas Frohsinn Singing Society. The Muenster Hornet Marching Pride Band is being urged to take this opportunity to represent our city at German Day.

The Chamber of Commerce will be setting up an exhibit in the German tent with samples from various Muenster businesses.

The retreat ceremony and a salute to Germany and Muenster's 100-year anniversary will take place in front of the Hall of State building at 5 p.m.

Chairman of German Day in Texas is Teddy Trept of Dallas. Alvin Fuhrman represents Muenster, Texas on the German Day Council.

The German Day Council co-sponsors are the German Consulate General of Houston, German-American Clubs of Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, International Trade Association of Dallas, Lufthansa German Airlines, State Fair of Texas, German American Women's Clubs, Consular Corps of Dallas, Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Dallas Frohsinn Singing Society and the Dallas Goethe Center. Officers include Consul Gershon Canaan, founding chairman; Teddy Trept, general chairman. Members of German Day Council include "out-of-town co-chairmen" in cities of Austin, Arlington, Brenham, Fort Worth, Fredericksburg, Garland, Houston, Irving, Muenster, San Angelo and San Antonio.

THE MÜNSTER ENTERPRISE - SEPTEMBER 8, 1989

SEPTEMBER 15, 1989 - THE MÜNSTER ENTERPRISE

## Münster postcard mailed here

While rummaging through boxes of old papers and other personal effects in the attic of a relative, Theresa Gold discovered a letter written to one of her Hoelscher relatives from Jo Wiesman on or about March 1, 1890.

Mrs. Gold didn't think much more about the letter until she met Sr. Ann Theodore Wiesman at Our Lady of the Lake Convent. As the two discussed Muenster's approaching centennial, Mrs. Gold suddenly realized that the letter in her possession was connected to Muenster, Texas.

A copy of the letter was sent to

the Muenster Centennial Committee and now appears in Muenster's Centennial History Book.

Recently Mrs. Gold was visiting in Olfen, Germany, the homeland of the Hoelscher family, during the town's 1100th anniversary celebration. She thought of Muenster, Texas and its centennial celebration and graciously mailed a beautiful postcard from Münster in Westfalen. The card was post-marked Aug. 22, 1989, Münster.

Theresa Gold is a native Texan and genealogy editor of the German-Texan Heritage Society.



"In Fashing ist das Leben schön und süß."

By Robert H. Thonhoff  
(alias Professor Katzenjammer)

Ach! I am so very, very sorry that I am unable to address the GTHS in person to tell them how the German heritage lives on in the area just to the south of San Antonio. My recent bout with a "ruptured diverticulum" (Zum Donnerwetter noch mal!) changed a lot of my plans--like the Texas Folklife Festival, this meeting, and the Boerne Oktoberfest.

Most people know about the rich German heritage north of San Antonio--places like New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, Comfort, Boerne, usw. Not many people, however, are aware of the delightful German tradition that continues in the region south of San Antonio, specifically in the counties of Wilson, Karnes, and Atascosa counties. My intention was to tell you, for instance, about the Teltschik Family Band and the Hoelscher Familie of Floresville, of the German-speaking Austrians in and around Poth, of the places like Germania Hall, New Bremen, and Lenz in Karnes County, and mainly about my beloved Fashing in Atascosa County. That not being possible, I take this means and opportunity to give you a brief written account of what I wanted to relate to you orally at the annual GTHS meeting in the Menger Hotel in San Antonio on September 9.

Fashing, Texas, is a quaint little rural community in eastern Atascosa County about 30 miles east of Pleasanton, about 20 miles west of Karnes City, and about 50 miles southeast of San Antonio. A veritable stream of history coursed through the Fashing area from earliest times until its settlement in 1915, mostly because it was astride the main thoroughfare from San Antonio to Corpus Christi and Brownsville called at one time, the San Patricio Trace. In 1915, the 5000-acre Hickok Ranch was subdivided into 160-acre plots by the Warnecke and Stieren Land Company. First settlers were farmers of German ancestry, mainly from the New Braunfels area. A town of "Hickok" was surveyed and platted. Soon area residents petitioned for a post office to be called "Hickok," which was turned down because of its similarity to Hitchcock, Texas. A second name, "Hindenburg," was submitted, but World War I was just getting underway in Europe, Gen. Paul von Hindenburg was one of the top German generals, and there was such great anti-German sentiment in our country, that that name was declined. By this time, Albert Schroeder, who operated a store and spearheaded the movement for a post office, was stumped and looked around his store for another name. He saw a can of "FASHION" tobacco. He liked it and submitted it. It came back approved, but for some unknown reason the spelling was changed to "FASHING." I theorize that someone in the Post Office Department knew of the German background of the community and knew of the popular German mid-winter celebration of "FASCHING." The name came back as "FASHING," a misspelling and blending of both.

Eventually three churches and a school were built to serve the hardy German families of the 40-square-mile community. It was my distinct honor and pleasure to be the school principal and teacher at Fashing for 32 wonderful years. It was a dream-come-true for me and my wife, Vicie, to live, work, and raise our three children at Fashing. Up and down the roads of the community one sees names like Henke, Kellner, Hierholzer, Homburg, Ahrens, Samsel, Weigang, Riedel, Krueger, Rudolph, Retzloff, Boening, Schroeder, Esse, Giese, Seiler, Schumann, Richter, Coldewey, Lieke, and Pfeil. The name of Thonhoff fit in with them well. I was even tagged with the name of "Professor Katzenjammer" 25 years ago.

The German tradition lives on in many ways in Fashing. Many greet one another in German and converse in it over the telephone and after church. The woman's society in the Methodist Church is still called "Die Frauen Verein." Fashing ladies are famous for their "Kaffe Klatsch" refreshments. The Fashing School Folkdancers specialized in German folkdances and performed widely, including the Texas Folklife Festival. Each spring our community would have a "BESTFEST" (wo haben wir die Besten von Alles!) Last Feb. 13, 1988, we were honored to have the Boerne Village Band perform at a "FASCHING IN FASHING" celebration. In 1972 Fashing was acclaimed the "GRAND CHAMPION RURAL COMMUNITY OF TEXAS." No wonder that we say with pride, "In Fashing ist das Leben schön und süß!"

**"The Painted Churches of Texas"**  
 contributed by Theresa Gold

Fifteen religious structures of varying denomination and construction in nine counties have been designated as the thematic group "Churches in Texas with Decorative Interior Painting" by the National Register of Historic Places.

From A Catalog of Texas Properties in the National Register of Historic Places (published by the Texas Historical Commission) we learn that most are from German and Czech areas in central Texas; these reflect Central European and Catholic inspiration, and present religious symbolism in the form of stenciling, freehand work, infill, graining, and marbling. Purely decorative painting is found primarily in Protestant examples. Along with interior painting, the church structures themselves are considered significant.

The 15 churches, by county, are:

- Austin County: Church of the Guardian Angel in Wallis and Wesley Brethern Church in Welcome;
- Cooke County: St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lindsay;
- Fayette County: St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at Ammansville, Nativity of Mary (St. Mary's) at High Hill, and St. Mary's of the Assumption at Praha;
- Galveston County: St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Galveston;
- Gillespie County: St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fredericksburg;
- Lamar County: First Methodist Church in Paris;
- Lavaca County: Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church at Moravia, Church of the Immaculate Conception at St. Mary's,

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church in Shiner, and Mary Queen of Peace Church at Sweet Home;

Potter County: First Baptist Church in Amarillo;  
Randall County: St. Mary's Catholic Church in Umbarger. These and other outstanding rural Texas Churches have been the subject of several recent articles.

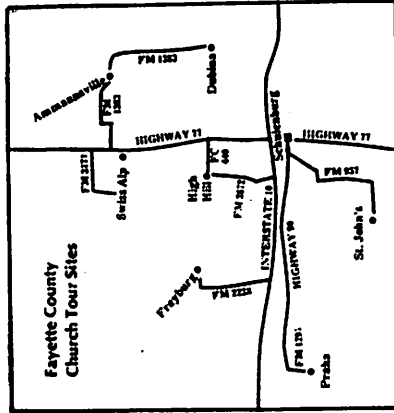
Be sure to see the October, 1989, issue of Texas Highways featuring the Catholic churches at Ammansville, Dubina, High Hill and Praha, with beautiful color photos.

The Sunday Magazine section of the Victoria Advocate, October 1, 1989, featured seven Fayette County churches, some on the National Register, others not, but all historic and interesting.

See brief description and map from that article.

According to that article, you may obtain a self-guided tour brochure from the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce (Schulenburg TX 78956) or guided tours may be arranged for groups of ten or more.

Look for more on the "painted churches of Texas" in the December, 1989, issue of Southern Living.



## Seven Churches Described

Ammansville, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church - Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the present church was constructed in the Gothic Revival style. The interior features stenciling, in-fill, free hand and marbling techniques. According to early settlers, the painting was done by a European drifter. The parish will mark its 100th anniversary in 1990.

Dubina, Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church - The interior of the church is decorated with frescos and stenciling. Frescoes are done by pressing earth colors dissolved in water into fresh plaster. Such artistry was common in the 1800s in Germany. The present church in Dubina was built in 1912, although the history of the church goes back to 1877.

Freyburg United Methodist Church - The church was established in 1868, and the building was built in 1879. Church member Elsa Gabler said the church bell was bought by Gottlieb Stickler with a gold coin, and was inscribed with the words: "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

The church is due to receive a state historical marker. The interior of the church is simple and contains the original wooden benches and altar.

High Hill, St. Mary's Catholic Church - Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the church interior is a well crafted example of Gothic Revival style. The pulpit, communion rail and baptismal enclosure were built by Carl Muehr. In 1912 Ferdinand Stockert and Herman Kern of San Antonio were hired to add decorative painting to the interior.

Praha, St. Mary's Catholic Church - The church is located in the community known as the "Czech Capital of Texas." The interior features free hand symbols and floral patterns painted by Swedish artist Gottfried Flury, who settled in San Antonio in 1891. Flury painted the church ceiling in 1895. The church is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and has been called one of the finest examples of 19th Century church architecture.

Swiss Alp, United Evangelical Lutheran Church - The church is 122 years old and is listed by the National Registry of Historic Places. The church actually is the location for three congregations which merged in 1967 - Swiss Alp United Evangelical Lutheran Church, Salem Lutheran Church of Freyburg and Trinity Lutheran Church of Black Jack Springs. The present church building was built in the 1890s. One addition was constructed later. The masterpiece in the interior is the church altar. The old Freyburg Lutheran church building was moved to the site and it used as a fellowship hall.

St. John, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, has a vintage 1888 building. The church was recently renovated by the great nephew of the original builder. Some of the renovation included reworking the foundation. Original stones quarried in the 1880s were removed, cut into smaller pieces and used to form an exterior wall around the base.

## Painted Church Tour Featured In October "Texas Highways"

The Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce. "Scenic Driving Tour Featuring Painted Churches" is being featured in the October issue of "Texas Highways" magazine. Issues are now available locally at Andy's Food Mart and The Hitching Post.

The cover of the magazine features the High Hill Church interior. The photographs inside the magazine give breathtaking views of the Ammannsville Church, Praha Church and Dubina Church in addition to High Hill. The article features historical background on the four churches, as well as other information.

Chamber manager Sandra Michna is quoted in the magazine. "A century ago, rural churches customarily included painted interiors, but as styles changed, the murals began to disappear. We're fortunate to have four examples of the folk art so close together."

The colorful photographs show how each church is very beautiful yet distinctly different. High Hill's interior is painted in hues of gold and blue, with brown altars trimmed in gold. Praha's interior

features a white ceiling highlighted with Goussard's 1895 painting of angels above a white altar, as well as other artwork. Ammannsville's interior is predominantly pink, with white altars. Dubina has a bright blue ceiling with colorful interior decorations, and brown wooden altars.

Following the "Painted Church Tour" story, the magazine gives a two-page article called "The Skillet's On in Schulenburg." The variety of places to eat in Schulenburg are listed, with a brief description of what each has to offer.

On the inside back cover of the magazine, there is a photo of the 600th block of North Main St. in Schulenburg with model T's parked in front.

Praha, Dubina, High Hill and Ammannsville disappeared from most maps years ago. However, the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce - with statewide coverage in publications such as "Texas Highways" - is hoping to put these rural communities back on the tourist map.

Friday, September 29, 1989 ■ Brownwood Bulletin

## Priddy church to mark centennial

By SHERI LEWIS  
Bulletin Staff Writer

PRIDDY The tiny community of Priddy will grow from one of the smallest communities in Mills County to one of the largest as more than 1,000 people are expected for the Sunday centennial celebration of the Zion Lutheran Church.

The church originated in 1889 when a group of German settlers, under the leadership of the Rev. R. Seils, began meeting in the Bismark School House two miles south of the present-day Priddy community. The church, which began with 23 charter members, was known as the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Late in 1903, a large group of families organized the St. John's Lutheran Congregation. The group met in the Becker Mountain Schoolhouse, which was located some two miles east of Priddy. By 1906 both German Lutheran congregations were being served by the same minister, but it was not until September of 1941 that the two congregations merged to become the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In celebration of its 100th year, special services led by Bishop Mark B. Herbener of the Northern Texas/Northern Louisiana Synod in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have been scheduled at the church, followed by a fellowship meal and the 2 p.m. dedication of a Texas Historical Marker by the Mills County Historical Commission. The festivities will conclude with the opening of a time capsule which was sealed at the congrega-

tion's 80th anniversary celebration.

A large tent is being erected in the church parking lot and more than 1,500 chairs have been borrowed from neighboring churches in an effort to accommodate the expected crowds. Food for the celebration, which will include 850 pounds of brisket, will be provided by members of the congregation and will be served at the community school, located directly across the street from the church building.

Former pastors of the church expected to return for the celebration include the Rev. John Rossing of Decatur, Georgia; the Rev. Donald Vlasek of Rosebud; the Rev. Andrew Mild of Lubbock; and the Rev. Richard Winkelmann of Fort Worth. Present pastor of the church is the Rev. Philip J. Geleske.

Several mementos of the church's centennial celebration have been collected, including the "Our Heritage Cookbook," complete with over 500 recipes which span the generations represented by members of the congregation. Other items, such as a historical book and a commemorative plate, will also be made available Sunday.

Plans for the centennial event began more than two years ago with the formation of a historical committee. This committee, chaired by Wilford Schuster, researched church records in order to make application for the historical marker.

The Zion Lutheran Church is located on State Highway 16, 14 miles north of Goldthwaite.

## St. James Of New Wehdem To Observe 120th Anniversary

St. James Lutheran Church of New Wehdem will celebrate 120 years of blessings on Oct. 8th with Bishop Martin Yonts conducting the service at 10 a.m.

A barbecue noon meal will be served with tickets available from any member, or by calling 836-7504. The evening will have messages given by past Pastors.

As the 120th anniversary of St. Jacobi (now St. James) Kirche (church) and Germinde (congregation) of New Wehdem is being celebrated, a number of happenings in the church's past are now recalled.

In the 1860s, services were held in various homes of Lutherans in the area. On Nov. 7, 1869, the congregation was organized with 15 charter members. This was the nucleus of what is now St. James Lutheran Church of New Wehdem.

One of the first projects of this new congregation was the establishment of a building program. Money was collected from these 15 members to start the project, and while they continued to work toward having their own church building, the members kept meeting in homes, and in the school.

St. James continued its work in New Wehdem, and in 1871, it was voted that the Pastor was also to teach school for six months of the year (December, January, February, March, June and July).

Just a few items of historical note to be remembered this anniversary year include:

The first person baptized at St. James was Herman Brandt on Feb. 19, 1870. The most Baptisms performed on a Sunday was seven, on Oct. 23, 1886. The most Baptisms in one year was 57 in 1888.

The peak membership for St. James came in 1901, when the church had 814 members.

The largest confirmation class was in 1902, with 32 confirmands.

On April 10, 1923, Fritz Koehn deeded a tract of land to the school, the land between the church and school to the public road.

The present church building was dedicated on Feb. 28, 1928. The candelabra in the present church was a gift in 1898.

The New Wehdem School was purchased on June 13, 1965. The building was built in 1925 by Otto

Herberg of Industry. It is currently being used by St. James for Sunday School classes and meetings.

There are 470 graves recorded in the cemetery. The oldest grave is dated Sept. 3, 1870, Carl Gustav Stearn.

The oldest person buried in the cemetery was 97 years, four months, 16 days and was buried on April 10, 1923, Mrs. Louise Kaechele.

The large oak tree now standing on the cemetery stands on Emma Hesselmeier's grave. She was buried Feb. 7, 1886 at the age of four years, nine months and two days.

In 1989, the Wehdem Kirche (church) in Wedem, Westphalen, Germany, is 1,020 years old and has approximately 600 members.

To the 120th anniversary year, there have been: 2,519 Baptisms in St. James, 1,248 Confirmations, 546 marriages and 784 deaths.

Membership at present is 298: Baptized, and 242 Confirmed.

Under the leadership of Pastor David L. Bulgerin, St. James has endeavored to "Know Christ ... and to make Him known." With this as its motto and goal, the church has continued to grow.

Tickets for the noon barbecue meal are also available at Star Rentals, Buccancer Food Stores, A Cut Above, Wittner Plumbing, Brenham National Bank, or from any member of the church or by calling Geneva Martin at 836-7504.

## Replica of World's First Computer Constructed

German engineer Konrad Zuse, the inventor of the world's first computer, turned a switch last week in Berlin (West) to demonstrate his exact working replica of the model "Z-1", on display at the Berlin (West) Museum of Transportation and Technology. Zuse reconstructed the "Z-1", which was originally built in 1936 and destroyed together with all blueprints during World War II, entirely from memory.

The computer has a surface area of two square meters and can store up to 1,536 bytes. Zuse's invention was the first program-operated computer and was based on the dual representation of numbers and commands. Despite modern aids, making the drawings of the new "Z-1" and completing its assembly took as long the second time around as it did originally, Zuse reported.

"The most difficult task - the interplay of all parts - still causes the same headaches today as it did then," he said.

WW II to NASA's shuttle program

# Muehler brought wartime skills to space program

By BEVERLY MILLER  
Contributing Writer

The 50th Anniversary of World War II and the 20th Anniversary of the Apollo lunar landing — each the subject of great publicity this year — brought forth vivid memories for rocket scientist Dr. Joachim Muehler.

Muehler, who now lives quietly in Webster, has applied his talents in both times of war and peace. And at 76, he now reflects now on a life dedicated to advancing mankind scientifically.

Muehler developed the guidance system for the German rockets that bombed England toward the end of the war, and also worked on the American space shuttle. Muehler, who says he developed



Dr. Joachim Muehler

the transponder without knowing what it was for, says also he is the

only German he knows of who worked both on the German V-2 rocket and on the American space shuttle.

He was with the group of German scientists who came to the U.S. with Werner von Braun, who ultimately went to Huntsville, Ala. to develop the Saturn V rocket for the lunar landing mission.

And Muehler says that although rockets were developed and used by the Germans as military weapons, they were developed mainly because von Braun always wanted to go to the Moon.

But before Muehler arrived in the U.S. and worked on peaceful pursuits for rockets here, he lived through many dreadful wartime misadventures. Those included his being briefly held by the SS, along with other scientists. American troops later

found the scientists and brought them to the U.S.

"During the major part of World War II, I was working at the Peenemünde Rocket Center at the Baltic Sea. That is where Germany developed the V-bomb and the V-2 rocket, rockets specifically developed as war weapons," Muehler said.

"The V-1 was a pilotless aircraft that carried a ton of bombs and could fly guided or unguided. And at the time we developed the V-2, we thought it was a huge rocket," he said.

The center was almost completely destroyed in a 1943 British bombing raid, and Muehler was away that night. "But my wife and infant son had gone to our underground shelter and barely survived a phosphorus bomb hit and they escaped to a safe

house I had picked out in a nearby town," he recalls. "I returned from Vienna, where the transponder was being manufactured, to find the town leveled."

Of the 400 scientists who were eventually located by U.S. troops in Bavaria, 120 were selected to go to America, and they were taken to a barracks behind barbed wire and were guarded. "But we were fed well," Muehler said, "and to pass the time, several of us taught courses."

Eventually, a meeting was called by the Americans to determine which of the German scientists wanted to sign contracts to go to the United States.

Muehler said only von Braun signed up. "He knew the conditions no one else knew," he said. "Every-one else walked out and it was two

weeks later that we signed a mutually negotiated contract for one year with extensions. And if we stayed, the Americans said they would make an effort to bring our families over."

The contract, he remembers, called for \$6 pay per day, and the families left behind in Germany would continue to receive the German salary and housing.

"With 16 others, I landed in New York in December 1945," Muehler said, "and went by train to an El Paso military hospital annex. I lived in a barracks with about 100 other scientists, and although we complained about the primitive conditions and the barbed wire and the guardhouse we were otherwise treated well. We could go to El Paso to shop, but only accompanied by an American. They explained they did not want to be responsible for what might happen if the Americans in El Paso happened on a German alone."

Eventually, the German scientists were divided into two groups: one to go to White Sands, New Mexico to fire the V-2s, and a second to Huntsville, Ala. with von Braun. Muehler was sent to White Sands, where he became technical director of the range instrumentation development division.

"I was invited to give a talk about what I was doing and a Lockheed Missile and Space Co. official heard it and asked me to take a job with the company. I was made manager of the research department in Palo Alto, California," Muehler said.

He lost that job in 1967 after a family tragedy. His wife, who the government had brought over in 1948 became a quadriplegic. "My work fell apart," he said. "So, at age 54 I had no job. The aerospace industry had just laid off 3,000 people. And a Lockheed vice president intervened and insisted I be kept on until I found something," Muehler said.

He was hired by Lockheed Electronics in 1969 and remained until he retired in 1978. "I had a few assignments there relative to the space shuttle, and the last one was to select from 32 possibilities an automatic radar system for landing it," he says.

Life in retirement is quiet, Muehler finds, but he has recently filled several tapes with his memories of the war years at the request of his son, who, along with his daughter-in-law, is a research physicist at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. His daughter, born here, owns a bookshop with her husband in Vancouver, British Columbia. Each has presented him and his wife, Gisela, with a grandchild, and he visits Gisela in the Webster nursing home for several hours each day.

Newly published, *Records of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wiedeville, Washington County, Texas, 1871-1940*, translated from German by Drs. Jack Autrey Dabbs and Edward C. Breitenkamp (Texas A&M University retirees).

The new volume contains family-history information about numerous German immigrant families who settled in Washington County, Texas; among them: Addicks, Albrecht, Becker, Bohne, Bosse, Bothe, Brinkmeyer, Buck, Bürger, Burmeister, Dreyer, Eichenhorst, Emshoff, Fabianke, Fahrenkamp, Fischer, Franke, Fritz, Fuehlberg, Geick, Gc(i)ssler, Graeber, Heckmann, Hodde, Höfelmeier, Hofschneider, Holle, Jahnke, Jeske, Jürgens, Kalbow, Kettler, Kiecke, Klärner, Kramer, Kunkel, Lammert, Lange, Lehde, Lehmann, Loesch, Martins, Meyer, Moench, Mohr, Muchow, Mügge, Müller, Naumann, Neumann, Nussmann, Pap(p)e, Peter(s), Priesemeyer, Prigge, Rau, Reue, Rodenbeck, Roessler, Rogge, Schawe, Schendel, Schlottmann, Schroeder, Schul(t)z(e), Spreen, Weidner, Wellmann, Wiede, Wiese, Wiesepppe, Winkelmann, Ziesemer, and many more.

Order from J. A. Dabbs, 2806 Cherry Lane, Austin, TX 78703. \$25.00 (Texas sales tax: \$1.88).

# WUNDERBURG

The SUNDAY EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, October 22, 1989

## 'New' in New Braunfels, thanks to energy, pride

By **CHUCK McCOLLOUGH**  
Express-News Business Writer

**NEW BRAUNFELS** — There is a lot that's new in New Braunfels these days.

The one-time sleepy German village 30 miles northeast of San Antonio on Interstate 35 has turned into a "wunderburg."

Consider the following:

- The Comal County seat has nearly doubled its population since 1970 from 17,859 to an estimated 35,000 plus by 1990.

- Since 1970, 27 industries have located here creating 3,000 new jobs. Approximately 2,000 of those jobs were created since 1980.

- In the 18 months ending Dec. 31, 1989, about 60 miles of city streets (one third of the total) will be resurfaced, more than in the past decade combined.

- \$6 million in infrastructure improvements are being made this year.

- Six local banks have set up a \$100,000, low-interest loan pool for repairing or sprucing up downtown businesses.

- Traffic on Loop 337, which serves as a westerly by-pass, has doubled in the past five years to 20,000 cars a day and traffic on Interstate 35 through town is currently 40,000 cars a day.

- The state Highway Department will expand Highway 46 between New Braunfels and Seguin to four and five lanes in the next several years.

- The city is considering adding another 18-hole municipal golf course. Some 80,000 rounds of golf are played at the present course per year and at least 35,000 rounds are turned away.

- New Braunfels' crime rate dropped 7 percent last year and its fire insurance rate is tied for the lowest in the state.

Civic and business leaders describe the current situation in New Braunfels as "quality growth" rather than a boom.

"We have been laying the groundwork for our current economic activity for the better

NEW BRAUNFELS AT A GLANCE	
Location:	30 miles northeast of San Antonio in Comal County
Population: (1987):	32,041
Form of government:	Council-manager
Per capita income:	\$14,954
Per family income (all of Comal County):	\$33,838
Major industries:	Tourism, manufacturing, mining, agriculture
Source:	Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce

EXPRESS-NEWS GRAPHIC

part of two decades," said Tom Purdum, president of the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce and a long-time civic player.

"It is now coming together very well."

About 350 jobs have been created during the first three quarters of 1989 through industrial development expansions, Purdum said.

"There is an axiom in this business that says 85 percent of a city's growth comes from expansion of existing business. Expansions account for about 500 positions or 30 percent of the 2,000 new jobs created here in the 1980s. The rest have come from 13 new companies locating here," Purdum said.

One of the key attractions for relocating businesses is New Braunfels' quality of life.

"It is not incidental, it is a prime factor. Take the case of Lone Star Die Casting. They had every kind of reason to move to Arkansas. One of their major customers is there, the state of Arkansas and the community they were to move to made them an attractive deal. The company owner did not want to leave New Braunfels," Purdum said.

The Coleman Co., which has

had a plant in New Braunfels for many years, recently closed down a Canadian plant that makes canoes.

That operation will either be moved to the home office in Wichita, Kan., or New Braunfels.

"We are trying to get it moved here. If we do it will mean another 75 jobs," Purdum said.

New Braunfels' present situation, Purdum added, is both good and bad.

"The good news is we have arrived at building a good reputation and image with the Texas Department of Commerce and other professional site locators.

"The bad news is other cities who are our competition for relocated business have become a lot more sophisticated. Cities like Round Rock, San Marcos, Seguin, Georgetown and San Antonio know how to effectively use tax incentives and other inducements," Purdum said.

While New Braunfels is now in the thick of a race to attract out-of-state investment, it wasn't so long ago the city was content to be a signpost.

In 1961 the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce thought something needed to be done.

The city's tourist season was only three months long, many downtown stores were empty and there was only one major employer in town, a textile mill.

The chamber called a town meeting and ideas were kicked around to create a year-round tourist business and diversify the economy.

One of the first new tourist ideas was to capitalize on the city's German character with a "Sausage Week" based on Germany's Oktoberfest. That grew into Wurstfest, an event which has made New Braunfels world famous.

In 1965 Wurstfest netted \$1 million for the non-profit corporation set up to manage it. In recent years Wurstfest has raised more than \$30 million an-

nually for community improvements.

In 1967 the city adopted a council-manager form of government and had its first major bond issue in 25 years.

"We have had several years since then where the majority of council had a sort of no-growth mentality like what Austin went through. But for the most part the city government has been pro-growth as long as it is quality growth," Purdum said.

"Economic development is more than just industrial locations. It is a whole inventory of assets the community must present if it expects to be successful."

City Manager Paul Grohman believes cooperation has been a key factor.

"In the past 18 months New Braunfels has been as successful as it has ever has. That's because of a dynamic, growing relationship between the city government and different agencies affecting our economy," he said.

"The city and the chamber work hand in glove. I've heard comments on both sides that it has never been better."

Grohman believes both groups want growth, but not at any cost.

"Quality growth is what we all want. Mill Plaza and Wal-Mart are good examples," he said.

"We see a lot of our future in developments like Mill Plaza. It attracts upscale patrons who come from as far away as 150 miles. Attracting those shoppers also helps our lodging and restaurant sectors."

Even before Mill Plaza came on line, New Braunfels was a favorite spot for out-of-town shoppers who like to browse in its Bavarian atmosphere.

Those upscale shoppers and people with more average incomes like to shop in downtown New Braunfels as well. The low-interest loan pool offered by six local banks for downtown businesses is part of the city's Downtown Project to revitalize its commercial heart.

"The program is working well. Less than 20 percent of downtown is vacant. In fact, you won't see that

many vacant commercial spots in town," Grohman said. "Many of the city's established firms, like Glastron/Conroy, which makes pleasure boats, and Coleman, have expanded. But our growth is also in smaller start-up companies. We have a company that makes outdoor play equipment. Five years ago it had five employees. Today it has 200. That is the kind of energy this city has."

And the beautiful part is we haven't had to sell our soul to get the growth we want. In fact, the city's charm and quality of life are our greatest strengths," Grohman said.



„Mag er schon 500.000 gekostet haben - ich finde diesen Auftritt abern!“



Schulenburg Historical Museum

LEGACIES AND LEGENDS

SCHULENBURG CITY CEMETERY

The Schulenburg City Cemetery started as the Lyons Family Cemetery upon the burial of Clarissa C. Lyons who died Nov. 7, 1834, age 15 years, 6 months and 6 days. She was a daughter of James and Martha Lyons who had purchased 500 acres of land from E. Anderson the previous October for \$100.00.

The family had moved from Jackson County to what was then the Municipality of Colorado; Fayette County was created in 1838. John L. Lyons, son of James and Martha, who died June 5, 1835 at age 25 years, 9 months and 23 days, was the second burial in the cemetery. James Lyons, the father, his cowpen about 500 yards northeast of the Lyons Cemetery on Oct. 15, 1837 at age 59 years, 6 months and 5 days, and buried in the family cemetery. The last to be buried there was Seymour C. Lyons, son of James and Martha, who died Feb. 13, 1848, age 40 years, 10 months and 29 days.

Martha Lyons sold 238 acres and the double log cabin to Franz Russek Dec. 18, 1869 for \$1695.00 and, as the deed stated, "reserved one-quarter acre from the sale which is being used as the family cemetery."

Carl Hillman, probably a ginner, and Sally Henderson, wife of Alfred Henderson, first mayor of Schulenburg, were buried near the Lyons Cemetery in 1872 even though the area had not been designated as a public cemetery. Rosina Havran and Rosina Russek were buried in 1873, the first burials after Schulenburg was founded, in the plot just east of the Lyons Cemetery designated by Franz Russek as the Russek Family Cemetery. Johanna Misesag was buried there in 1874 in the plot containing the grave of Carl Hillman, the plot having been purchased directly from John H. Wittbecker.

The first burials after Schulenburg became an incorporated city were those of Lillie Blanch Richter, Edgar Merrem and Robie, a stranger, all buried in 1877 and there still was not a designated public burial grounds.

The Schulenburg Argus edition of Apr. 20, 1877 published this article: "The Cemetery. The Argus has heard nothing recently in regard to the purchase of a site for the proposed cemetery. At the recent meeting at Baring's Hall, subscriptions were taken for the purpose of paying for a site. We would suggest the city authorities take the matter in hand and purchase no less than a 5-acre plat. Then have lots laid out for purchase by the people. No difficulty will be experienced in procuring a cemetery."

A citizen wrote the following letter to the Argus published Nov. 9, 1877: "Editor Argus: Please tell us what has become of the grave yard that a committee of citizens were appointed to buy six months ago. The recent death in our midst, and the necessity of a place to put our dead ought surely to teach that committee that 'procrastination is the thief of time.' -Citizen." The "recent death" referred to in the citizen's letter was that of Henry G. Metzger who was murdered on Main Street and buried in the Old High Hill Cemetery.

An article in the Nov. 30, 1877 Argus stated "City Cemetery. The question has been propounded to us by several parties as to what has been done by the committee to select and procure a suitable location for a cemetery. Some of these parties say if nothing is going to be accomplished, they would like to have their subscriptions refunded. Let us hear from you, gentlemen of the committee! Should you fail to do your duty, some fellow may get on a 'high lonesome' (get drunk) and start a grave yard on his own account (shoot someone), and then you will feel bad."

Christian Baumgarten's advertisement in the Dec. 14, 1877 Argus: "Gentlemen, see Chr. Baumgarten if you want lumber for a coffin or for a grave fence. He will sell you some which will turn rain and stock and preserve your mortality with alcoholic propensity."

Another Argus article: "We presume the City Cemetery question will never be revived again. Those dying will be buried upon their private premises. Every household will have a graveyard of his own. This seems as though it would become a very grave matter after all."

The Schulenburg City Cemetery was established Dec. 5, 1879 when Franz Russek sold for \$150.00 to the Corporation of Schulenburg, a 1.56-acre plat of land on his southern boundary 261 feet X 261 feet, including the Lyons and Russek Family Cemeteries, and a road 20 feet wide by 2194 feet long, the present Russek Street from West Avenue to the cemetery. The Western Star Lodge No. 174, International Order of Odd Fellows, represented by M. Hockwald, August Sengelmann, H.P. Brown and Charles Karsch, purchased a 2.04-acre plat of land, 298 feet X 298 feet, from John H. and Sophia D. Wittbecker on Feb. 26, 1880 for \$100.00. The deed referenced a large survey live oak tree near the center of the plat which is still standing; it is the large live oak nearest the grave of Dr. W.W. Walker Jr.

John Matula sold about an acre of land, 210 feet x 210 feet, to the Colored Cemetery Association (now the Schulenburg Community Cemetery) represented by Andrew Beverley and Ben Upton for \$75.00 on Oct. 2, 1888.

From 1879 to early 1894 the cemetery was not kept clean, it was somewhat of a thicket with vines, saplings and tall weeds and it was feared that graves would be opened in a haphazard manner, all of which necessitated a cemetery association.

The Schulenburg Cemetery Association was organized Feb. 26, 1894 with Mrs. Fred Ebeling as president, Mrs. R.A. Wolters vice president and Mrs. Gus Cranz secretary. The association started with 36 charter members.

The Neuhaus Family Plot, purchased directly from John H. Wittbecker or his heirs, was established south of the Hillman-Misesag Plot and outside the City and I.O.O.F. Cemeteries, in 1901 upon burial of Ludwig Eduard Neuhaus, Nov. 17, 1822 to Mar. 15, 1901.

A few years after 1901, the City, I.O.O.F., Hillman-Misesag, Neuhaus Cemeteries and Plots and the Community Cemetery were consolidated into the present-day Schulenburg City Cemetery. The objective of the Cemetery Association was to "put the cemetery in order and keep it in repair." The association raised funds by selling plots, promoting children's theatricals and masquerade balls at Sengelmann's Hall, ice cream socials in the Turner-Verein Garden and Cedar Park, the sale of lemonade, soda and a fish pond at Cedar Park and raffles, besides membership dues. They spent money for destruction of ants, clearing brush, cutting weeds, building a fence and stile on the south side along with hitching racks, planting cedar trees, shrubs, wisteria and coleus. They dug a well and put up a summerhouse to cover it at the intersection of Russek Street and Schulz Avenue (named after Emil Schulz Sr.) at the center-front of the cemetery. There were six benches in the summerhouse and decorative rocks against the outside of the house.

The present cemetery encompasses about 5 acres of land, the amount the editor of the Schulenburg Argus envisioned in 1877 to be an appropriate size. There are in excess of 1261 marked graves in the "silent city" and probably up to a hundred graves without gravestones.



„Es wird ein interessantes Spiel - abgesehen davon, daß es noch gar nicht angefangen hat!“



„Wenn Sie weiter so roh spielen, sehe ich mich genötigt, Sie vom Platz zu stellen.“



DUZ-Zeichnung: Matthias Schwoerer

LEGACIES AND LEGENDS

**FRITZ BERNER,  
FIRST TOWN MARSHAL**

Fritz Berner was elected Marshal of Schulenburg when the town was incorporated in March, 1875. Fritz was born June 23, 1850 and lived in the vicinity of High Hill in 1872. He met 18-year-old Antonia "Toni" Berger, born Feb. 27, 1854, who worked for the Seydler family of High Hill.

Fritz, "a young man with curly black hair and mustached, who cut quite a figure on horseback with his shiny boots," came occasionally to visit Mr. Seydler. The visits became more frequent after he met Antonia at the Seydlers and he let it be known that he wished to marry her.

Antonia's mother was against the relationship because she was Catholic and Fritz was Lutheran. Fritz and Antonia eloped on horseback, she wearing a sun bonnet. They crossed the ferry at La Grange and were married Aug. 7, 1872 by P.Y. McAshen, J.P.; later the marriage was blessed in St. Mary's Church, High Hill.

Fritz was a constable in Fayette County and, when Schulenburg was founded, moved to the new town where he practised his trade of saddle maker.

Antonia's mother, Beata (Ehler) Berger and brother, Josef Berger, moved to town also and established residence in a house at the northeast corner of Anderson and Wolters. Josef started a tailor shop in a back room of the residence and in 1881 had an assistant, Josef Krischke, who had just arrived in Texas from Silesia, Austria. They made suits of a soft cotton twill called "silesia" for 10 to 40 dollars and had them delivered on horseback.

Fritz was again elected marshal of Schulenburg in April 1877. The Schulenburg Argus of June 29, 1877 reported a close call for Fritz and a constable when they tried to arrest a desperado. The story is as follows: "A LIVELY TIME. It seems that last Saturday one Charlie Dolman, charged on warrants in this county, was in town. Constable Tuttle of Flatonia and Fritz Berner undertook his arrest. They found him in Russek's Saloon where he was drinking with a friend. Each lawman went through opposite doors. The officers knew they had a desperate man to deal with, so they went prepared. As they approached him, one of them told him they had a writ for him, whereupon all the parties drew their pistols, when Dolman commenced cursing the officers, saying, "I don't give a damn if you do, you go ahead and execute it." He then walked off with pistol in hand. A friend of his on horseback, happening to be passing, got an extra passenger. Dolman jumped up behind him and they rode out of town. We heard of no attempt being made to follow and capture him with a posse."

The Argus of July 27, 1877 reported an arrest made by Berner: "ON THE RAMPAGE. On last Saturday a young man named Thomas Coffee, a resident of Lavaca County, came to town and was arrested by City Marshal Fritz Berner for the alleged offense of assaulting and abusing Mr. Ignatz Russek, a merchant of this place. He told Berner he would give bail whereupon he was turned over to ex-marshal Tom Black. Black discovered Coffee was armed and demanded his six-shooter. To this Coffee demurred and Black made an effort to disarm him. Coffee managed to get his pistol out, cocked it and tried to use it. They tussled for possession of the pistol for some time before Marshal Berner returned. Berner struck Coffee a couple of blows on the head to subdue him. During the melee the pistol was discharged, the ball passing through the floor of Arnold Joseph's store in which the rumput occurred. The prisoner then gave the

children in Schulenburg: Robert, Lottie, Fritz Jr. and Emil. They then moved to Victoria where Fritz operated a large saloon which had an attractive small zoo on the grounds. Two children, Felix and Ella, were born in Victoria.

Fritz bought one of the first steam paddle-wheel pleasure boats which plied the Guadalupe River in Victoria County; he named it "The Fritz Berner."

The family moved to Houston where Fritz worked in a railroad shop. Three children were born to them in Houston: Richard, Marguerite and Clara Belle. Antonia died May 16, 1919 and Fritz died Nov. 23, 1919.

**Peter Adalbert Balling** beschreibt in seinem im Verlag Mariannhill erschienenen Büchlein „Gute Worte heitern auf“ den witzigen Einfall eines humorvollen Pfarrers, um Tempolinder auf unseren Straßen und Autobahnen „zu bremsen“. Er empfiehlt den Autofahrern, auf längeren Strecken Lieder aus dem „Gotteslob“ zu singen: Bei Tempo 70 Nr. 309 „In Gottes Namen fahren wir“, bei Tempo 100 und mehr Nr. 656 „Wir sind nur Gast auf Erden“, und bei einem Tempo über 130 Nr. 659 „O Welt, ich muß dich lassen...“ – Ich wünsche Ihnen ein schönes Wochenende!

*Peter Buch*

**"Sind Sie stolz, Deutscher zu sein?"**

ZUSAMMENGEFASST VON DAVID GOREE

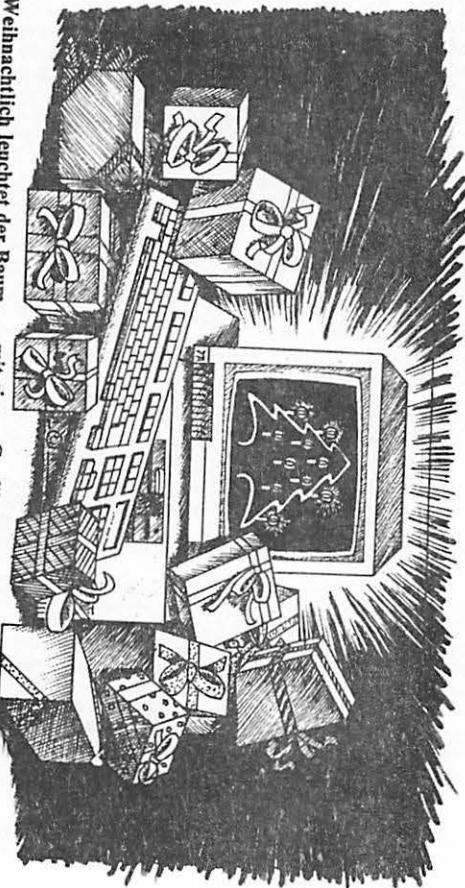
Durch eine Umfrage hat die Zeitschrift QUICK entdeckt (Mai 1989), daß die meisten Deutschen stolz sind, Deutsche zu sein. Als sie gefragt wurden, "Sind Sie stolz ein Deutscher zu sein?" haben 73% mit "ja" und 15% mit "nein" geantwortet. Der Rest der Befragten hatte keine Meinung.

In dieser Umfrage gibt es eine interessante Korrelation zwischen Nationalität und Alter: 89 Prozent der Leute, 60 und älter, haben die obengenannte Frage mit "ja" beantwortet (52% "nein"). Aber nur 60% der 16-29jährigen haben mit "ja" geantwortet (25% "nein").

Es überrascht nicht, daß es eine Verbindung zwischen diesem Stolz und Parteizugehörigkeit gibt, wenn man das folgende Umfrageergebnis betrachtet: 90 Prozent der CDU/CSU-Wähler sind stolz, Deutsche zu sein. Das gleiche gilt für die Mehrheit der FDP-Wähler (84%) und SPD-Wähler (68%). Aber nur 40% der Wähler der Grünen haben die Frage mit "ja" beantwortet.

Nach einem Vergleich mit einer ähnlichen Umfrage von 1971 findet man, daß 3% weniger Deutsche sagen, sie seien stolz, Deutsche zu sein.

Weihnachtlich leuchtet der Baum... mit einem Grafikprogramm erstellt, nicht nachahmbar, brand-sicher und umweltfreundlich. (Zeichnung: Jochen Benemann)



EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, Friday, September 29, 1989

# Restored Seguin landmark set to be unveiled Friday

By **TINA BARNBURG**  
Express-News Staff Writer

SEGUIN — Sebastopol, a 135-year-old landmark significant to the architectural history of this city and once the home of former Mayor Joe Zorn, will reopen to the public Friday for the first time since restoration was started in 1981.

Its renovation and designation as a State Historical Park will be celebrated at 2 p.m. with a handful of state and local dignitaries presiding over grand opening and open house ceremonies.

The imposing Greek Revival-style structure stands at the corner of Zorn and Erkel streets in testimony to the onetime widespread use of limecrete, an early form of concrete, in construction of homes and buildings here.

At one time more than 100 such structures were in place in Seguin. Today, only a handful remain.

"Its low cost, ease of construction and durability led many people to use the material with different mix formulas," said Sebastopol Restoration Project Architect Jim Bigger.

"Seguin sits on a bedrock of gravel," added Don Whited, park superintendent. "You could go 30 feet from where you wanted to build, dig a pit, mix sand, water and lime with the gravel, and if you proportioned it correctly, build a house that would last forever."

Architects and engineers involved in the restoration project took great care to use many of the same materials that went into the making of the split-level house, built in 1854 by slave laborers and commissioned by Col. Joshua W. Young as a home for his family.

Flooring and fireplace mantels are of pine; structural framing is of box elder; elm was used for joists between lower and upper floors; cy-

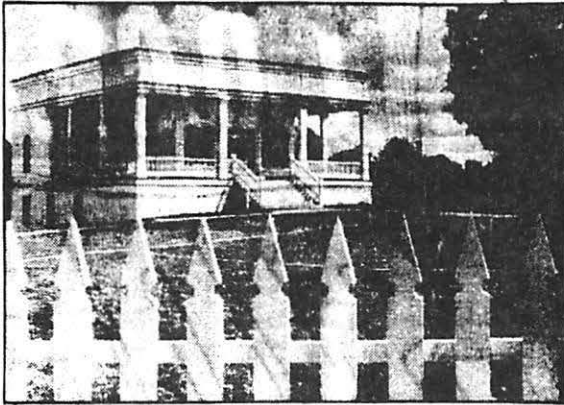


PHOTO BY MORRIS GOBIN

Sebastopol State Historical Park will open Friday with ceremonies heralding the eight-year restoration effort.

press was used for structural beams and timbers and interior doors; windows and baseboards were hewn from black walnut.

The home was restored to its late 1870s appearance, or how it would have looked when occupied by Zorn, whose father purchased the house from descendants of Young's sister. The sister, a young widow named Catherine Young LeGette, ended up living in Sebastopol when the colonel's wife died just before construction was completed.

Joseph Zorn, a prosperous merchant with extensive property holdings in Seguin, bought the house in 1874. His son Joe would not have similar success in business but would go on to serve 20 years as mayor of Seguin from a first term in office that began in 1890.

Under his leadership, the city got

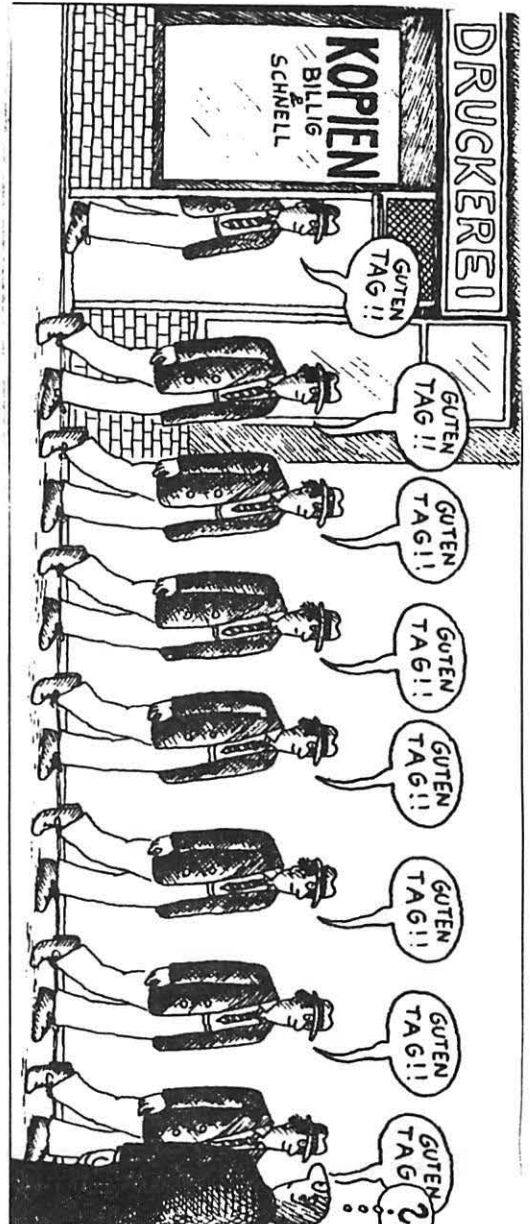
electric service and a free public school system.

The mayor's personal finances and the house apparently did not fare as well.

A portrait of Joe Zorn, his wife and family taken in 1898 on the front porch of the upper gallery shows supports broken or missing from a section of the balustrade captured in the photograph, evidence that already the house was in disrepair.

Zorn family members occupied the house until 1952, when the last descendant died. The house was leased until 1961, when it was sold to the Seguin Conservation Society.

It was purchased by Texas Parks and Wildlife in 1976 for \$82,000 and closed to the public in 1981 for a \$625,000 restoration and landscaping job that will be revealed to the public for the first time Friday.



Friday, September 15, 1989 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

## Ann Lindemann Elected President Of G.T.H.S.

The German-Texan Heritage Society met at the Menger Hotel, Sept. 8, 9, 10 in San Antonio for the 11th convention.

Ann Lindemann of Industry was elected president; Mary El-Beheri of San Antonio, vice-president; Dona Reeves-Marquardt, of Buda, treasurer; and Helgard Suhr of New Braunfels, secretary. Other members of the new 12-persons board are: Miriam York of Giddings, Helga von Schweinitz of Austin, Rodney Koenig of Houston, Theresa Gold of San Antonio; Bob Robinson-Zwahr of Washington, D.C., W.M. Von Maszewski of Pasadena, Fredericks De Berry of Clear Lake and Francis Harrison of San Antonio.

The group enjoyed two tours. The San Antonio River Barge and the King William.

The speakers, telling of the German Heritage of San Antonio both past and present, were Mayor E. Cockrell, Henry Guerra, Anne Fox, James Patrick McGuire, Mary El-Beheri, Candie Lener, Russell Kyse, Jane Foster, Patricia Osborne, and Paul Gotschalk.

Gay Ann Happe Martinez reported

on "German Records in the LDS Family History Library."

On Saturday night the group enjoyed dinner, band concert, folk dancers, Beethoven Maennerchor and Damenchor sing-a-long and dancing at the Beethoven Gartenfes.

Sunday morning there was an Ecumenical Church Service by Father Charles Neumann for the Catholics and by Dr. R. Clarence Lang for the Lutherans.

The Consul General of the Republic of Germany, Peter Maier-Oswald, and Thomas Pawel, the honorary consul, spoke on the future relations between Texas and Germany.

Dr. Ted Gish, Dr. Erika Nielsen, and Niels Nielsen reported on the Dairy of Herman Seale.

Mrs. Leola K. Tiedt, historian and scrapbook editor, served on the nominating committee.

The 1990 Convention will be centered in Brenham, so the people in this area interested in becoming members should send their \$8 membership to Anna Thompson, executive director, German-Texan Heritage Society, P.O. Box 262, Manchaca 78652.

# SCHULENBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM

## BARING HALL

Baring Hall, also called "Depot Hall," was the two-story saloon and dance hall owned and operated by Otto A. Baring during Schulenburg's early years.

The building, located on the northeast corner of North Main and Lyons (Galipp's west parking lot), was built sometime between 1874 and 1876.

A picture, owned by the Schulenburg Historical Museum, of the interior of the saloon, lower floor, shows Otto Baring behind the bar with August Sengelmann. Otto is dressed in a long-sleeved shirt, open collar and suspenders; he is displaying a six-shooter pistol indicating the picture was posed. August is dressed in the same manner and both men are sporting moustaches, the style of the times. The wall at the back bar is decorated with 14 pictures; one of, perhaps, the High Hill Brass Band and another of a small drummer girl with frame decorated with flowers. A sign at the back bar advertises: "Ask your dealer for S-K Pants and Full Suits made in Waco, Texas." The bar is highly polished, has a bar towel attached and has what appears to be, a container of sandwiches and pretzels at one end. In the old days sandwiches were free on purchase of a beer or mixed drink. One 5-cent schooner of beer entitled the customer to eat as much as he wanted. The spittoons on the floor in front of the bar were low wooden boxes about 12 x 12 inches square, half filled with sand. Baring showed off the elegance of the saloon with an ornate French mirror behind the bar.

The Schulenburg Argus of July 6, 1877 published this article: "Otto Baring received yesterday and placed in its proper position in his elegant saloon, Depot Hall, a splendid French mirror 8 feet in length and 4-1/2 feet in width. It cost near \$200 and, with its walnut finish, is quite an addition to his establishment." A table and two chairs reflected in the mirror are the same style as the tables and chairs used by C & G Sengelmann in their "Two Brothers" Saloon on Main Street from 1894 until the saloon became the Western Auto Store.

Baring's commercial advertisement in the Schulenburg Argus states that the saloon had a billiard table, probably the first in Schulenburg. Back in 1877 there was a new innovation. Straight whiskey must have been boring and saloon keepers turned to cobblers and punches to sell their wares. The Schulenburg Argus reported: "The saloons of our town keep a plentiful supply of ice on hand and whiskey straight has given way to sherry cobblers, mint juleps, punches, etc. And yet the average drinker cannot or will not be happy."

Otto A. Baring and his wife, Josephine Baring, moved to Houston in 1883 and sold his residence and saloon to August Sengelmann and Charles Sengelmann for \$7000.00 on Oct. 2, 1883. August Sengelmann returned to Germany to marry his sweetheart and did not re-

turn to the United States. His younger brother, Gustav "Gus" came to Schulenburg and went into partnership with Charles and they named their saloon the "Two Brothers Saloon."

The second story of Baring Hall served as Schulenburg's first community center until 1886 when the larger Turner Hall (American Legion Hall) was constructed. Baring Hall was used as a meeting room to organize a Sunday School and a baseball club; it was used to attempt to organize a fire company and a city cemetery association and other civic endeavors. It was used as a Justice of the Peace Court presided over by Edgar Merrem until his death in 1877 and then by A.D. Paulus. Other uses were plays and benefits. One play was "The Watchman's Hat" by the Germania Club of Schulenburg and others were titled "East Lynne" and "Spanish Rink Dominoes" by Faye Templeton and a traveling troupe. One benefit was given in the hall in 1877 for a Mr. Repsdorff who lost a leg in a train accident; his daughter provided entertainment by playing the piano. Blind Tom performed at Baring Hall Feb. 19, 1877 as reported by the Schulenburg Argus with this article: "Baring's Hall was full to capacity last Tuesday to hear Blind Tom perform. His imitations of the music box, fife and drums, the hand organ, firing of cannon and the clatter of small arms, are truly miraculous. He is also a good vocalist."

Balls were given at the hall throughout the year. Victory (or defeat) dances were given in the hall following each local baseball game at which a trophy was awarded to the winner of the match. Professor Whitehead and the High Hill Brass Band provided music at the dances.

The Schulenburg Argus reported on the ladies' dress at one such dance in its edition of Nov. 9, 1877 as follows: "We would like to comment on the ladies' dress at the dance. One girl, a perfect brunette, who wore a black silk en-train with tulle overskirt and coral ornaments was the 'belle of the ball'."

The 1902 F. Louo book "Fayette County, Her History and Her People" shows the building in use by Boetcher Bros. General Merchandise. Later the building housed the Southern Produce Company and Appelt's Furniture. The building was removed in the early 1950s.

A Schulenburg Argus article of July 20, 1877 described moderate drinking: "What is Moderate Drinking? Moderate drinking is that which is consistent with a clean tongue, a good appetite, a slow pulse, a cool skin, a clear head, a steady hand, good walking power and light refreshing sleep." The saloons of yesteryears are no more.

## WHAT SHIP WAS GRANDPA ON?

Did your forbears emigrate from Europe to America? Were they Poles, Russians, Germans or some other West European nationality? And did they leave for America via Hamburg between 1850 and 1914?

If you want to know more about all that, you can turn to the *Historic Migration Office* in Hamburg.

The office keeps lists of passengers who left Hamburg by ship for overseas, directly or via other European ports, from the period from 1850 to August 1st, 1914 (with the exception of the months January to June 1853) and from 1919 to 1928; a 60-year archival confidentiality ban applies in each case.

The lists contain data on family names, given names, sex, age, place of birth and former place of residence, with province, occupation, port of destination, name of ship and departure date.

For direct emigrants such lists were only kept, however, for ships carrying more than 25 passengers. It must also be borne in mind that part of the Hamburg emigration traffic went through Bremen and Bremerhaven. Unfortunately the lists there, also containing five million names, have been almost completely destroyed.

The Passenger Arrival Records pro-

served in the National Archives in Washington have not been broken down to registers of name yet for the period 1847 to 1896. To get information from the National Archives one has to name the ship and the arrival date.

Since the passenger lists kept in Germany are only broken down into roughly alphabetically-ordered registers of names, certain prerequisites are necessary for the work of the Historic Emigration Office.

The time-consuming search through the records is only possible if the inquirer can name roughly the year of emigration.

If the emigration year is known, a fee of DM 75 is charged to search for one name, or a family. The fee covers a copy of the ship's list, the sealed certificate on cardboard, a translation or transcription, the brochure "Hamburg als Auswandererstadt" in German and English and the mailing costs. The same amount has to be paid for each additional year to be researched. There is no refund if the search is unsuccessful.

Further information: Historic Emigration Office - Museum für Hamburgische Geschichte - Heistenwall 24 - 2000 Hamburg 36 - Phone (040) 30 05 12 50.

## STILBLÜTEN: Was sehen unsere Ohren?

Die Bande wird beschuldigt, bei einem Überfall in Nijvel drei Menschen und einen Polizisten erschossen zu haben.

Verführungen eines Glasbläasers sollen weitere Anziehungspunkte sein.

Sein Gesicht ist narbig und hat auffallende Hänigeschultern.

Philipp wurde 336 v. Chr. ermordet. Kurz danach wollte er zu einem Feldzug aufbrechen.

Nach zwanzig Minuten hatten die Zuschauer bereits drei Tore geschossen!

An der Isar siedelten sich Mönche an. Diese vermehrten sich ungeheuer, und so entstand die Stadt München.

Drei weitere Verletzte konnten unverletzt geborgen werden.

Verkaufsprobleme beim Wein: Eine Bärensauleser ist beispielsweise zur Zeit so gut wie nicht zu verkaufen.

Antonioni hat seine langjährige Freundin geheiratet. Frau Antonioni teilte in Rom mit, daß die kirchliche Trauerfeier im kleinsten Kreis stattgefunden habe.

Die tote Herzogin plauderte aus ihrem Leben.

Stripperin zum Ausziehen verurteilt!

Gelähmte suchen neue Marschrichtung.

Statt die ganze Rasse zu verteuern, sollten scharfe Auflagen her, um die Halter börsartiger Hunde zum Tragen eines Maulkorbes zu veranlassen, meinte der Tierrüch-ter.

Der genügsamste Hund für den Tierhalter ist die Katze.

Ein Jubiläumsereignis, denn Alban Berg wurde 1985 geboren und starb 1935.

SÜDBEUTISCHE ZEITUNG

## The Ago

### of High-Speed

### Trains is Dawning

The first of 82 locomotives for the new high-speed trains, Intercity Express, was officially delivered to the Federal Railroad, the Bundesbahn, by a consortium of major West German manufacturers in Munich. The chairman of the Bundesbahn, Reiner Gohlke, announced at the accompanying ceremony that the first scheduled service is to start June 2, 1991. The locomotive is the first installment of a DM 2 billion order, the largest single order to date for the German locomotive industry.

The 1990 federal railways budget, Gohlke said, already provides for the acquisition of high-speed trains amounting to DM 1 billion for the period up to 1995. Altogether, the Bundesbahn will invest DM 50 billion in this technology between 1985 to 1995. It hopes to regain its competitiveness with the new train, which holds the world speed record of 407 kilometers per hour (253 miles per hour).

# Germans offer pragmatism with stylish continental flair

Associated Press

**DUESSELDORF, West Germany** — Germans hold the edge in such things as fast cars, beer and sauerbraten, and now they're claiming the edge in fashions.

German fashions? No. 1 in Europe? Ahead of the French and the Italians?

"German fashion has the same reputation as German food. It's actually good, but everyone thinks of it as bland and fattening." Herwig Zahm, the head of Mondri apparel near Munich, remarked at a recent fashion fair in Duesseldorf, a new European fashion mecca in the heart of West Germany's industrial heartland. No one questions that the West Germans have become leading exporters of women's wear, but the French and Italians have something to say about the Germans becoming No. 1 in Europe: Maybe they turn out clothes, but do they design and create?



Chic customers are flocking to Duesseldorf for haute couture.

For years style-conscious buyers associated continental chic with the established couturiers of Paris and Milan, where famed fashion houses like Chanel and Armani turn out their twice yearly collections to the accolades of the rich and famous.

Now, with an expanding world market of well-paid professional women and globe-trotting tourists, West German designers say they are upstaging their foreign rivals with the right mix of panache and pragmatism.

Duesseldorf's showings may not draw Princess Caroline of Monaco or the actress Catherine Deneuve, but royals and other discriminating clientele have applauded West German fashions with their pocketbooks, if not their presence.

The German designers also point to the sharp rise in interest among foreign buyers for German-made clothing, shoes, cosmetics and jewelry aimed at the upper-middle income brackets.

"Our exports are very high and increasing each year, which shows that our reputation is growing," said Claudia Timm, spokeswoman for Duesseldorf's sprawling Igedo fashion market that has given focus to design centers scattered throughout West Germany.

Nearly a third of the \$13 billion in West German apparel manufactured last year was exported, and the foreign sales account for an even larger share of output this

year, according to the Cologne-based Women's Outerwear Association.

Salamander Shoes of Kornwestheim is Europe's largest producer of footwear, and Klaus Stellmann's motto, "Fashion for Millions, Not Millionaires," has made him the continental king of contemporary sportswear with nearly \$600 million in annual sales.

The West Germans contend it is their attention to quality and marketing that has won them the No. 1 rank in performance in Europe, if not in repute.

"The French have all the image, but they don't have a product anymore," said Wolfgang Ley, president of Munich-based Escada firm that expects to sell \$400 million in exclusive apparel this year.

"The designers create a couture line, but the managers leave it to any manufacturer to produce a ready-to-wear line," he added. "Some of what is being produced under very famous labels is absolute junk."

Ley's company, for which his Swedish-born wife, Margaretha, is chief designer, posted a phenomenal 40 percent sales increase in 1988 and has seen an even brisker sales pace so far this year.

"We design our own fabrics and our own color stories," Ley said. "We make our own market and give it a direction. We don't wait around to see how the wind is blowing."

In France, Jacques Mouclier, president of the French Federation of Couturiers, said Ley is right in saying French-designed clothes are made in other countries, but he maintained Paris remains No. 1 in fashion.

"France long ago won the battle in terms of creation, design," he said. "We have the designers, the reputation around the world. The best proof of that is the number of people who come to our shows every season. Why, the number of accredited journalists comes to 2,000. We not only have French designers showing their creations but also Japanese, Italian and American, because the capital of fashion is Paris. And it will remain so, for Paris is open and generous to the creative spirit."

The major Italian fashion houses in Milan were closed for vacation and officials could not be reached for comment.

But Italian fashion experts have maintained in the past that while the West Germans have made inroads in the more economically priced women's clothes, their fashion is less stylized than Italian ready-to-wear and high fashion garments.

The West Germans use names like Escada, Mondri and Tuzzi, which conjure a Mediterranean image, and that is part of the strategy of those designing for an international customer.

Zahm and Ley said they chose easily uttered names with an international ring to add flair to their image.

Mondri sells \$213 million in clothing each year and counts among its customers the Princess Diana, wife of Britain's Prince Charles. She caused a run on the firm's designer socks in 1985 after wearing them to a polo

match, and still places regular orders with Mondri each season. For this fall she ordered a wardrobe of burgundy, black and vanilla.

Jil Sander of Hamburg has captured another impressive corner of the up-market with classic styles, subtle colors and natural fabrics that pack well and wear long enough to justify their high-end price tags.

"You can start with a few pieces and build up a basic wardrobe over the years," said Sander, a slender 45-year-old who still models for some of her advertisements. "That's much less costly than getting a lot of clothes and having no style."

Her clothes are produced in West Germany and shown exclusively at the fall and spring fashion fairs in Milan.

Many West German firms have begun farming out some of their production to Eastern Europe and other countries where wages are lower.

Women's Outerwear Associated reported a 22 percent increase in out-of-country preparations last year, although the share accounts for only about 5 percent of total production.

Designers of exclusive sportswear, like Sander and Ley, contend production costs concern them less than

maintaining quality, and they plan to continue overseeing their operations close to home.

But for the broader field of clothing producers competing for the middle-income market, contracting out to Eastern Europe or Mediterranean countries is likely to become an attractive means of cutting costs.

Another West German success story is Karl Lagerfeld, who continues to boost his countrymen's image, although he has switched to the Paris house of Chanel.

Lagerfeld still markets the KI line from West Germany and retains a showroom and boutique at the Igedo market.

Part of the attraction for West German designers to the more renowned fashion capitals is likely the glitz and glamor that Duesseldorf lacks, despite its better balance sheet.

"Those things probably matter — that French designers show up with their Beautiful People," Ley noted. "But the Princess of Wales sneaks into our boutique in London at least twice a season. They don't go to the shows, but we have the princes and queens of Europe buying Escada."

## Oktoberfest activities planned Oct. 7-8

Former Alvin Community College deans, Elmo Marburger

**ROUND TOP** — The 17th annual Winedale Oktoberfest will be held on the grounds of the University of Texas at Austin Winedale Historical Center near here in Fayette County on Oct. 7 and 8.

Activities run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students and under 6 are free.

Tours of the restored 19th-century buildings will be given along with pioneer demonstrations such as fireplace cooking, weaving, lace making, crocheting, soapmaking, spinning, goose plucking, hay pressing, wood-

working, furniture making, corn shuckery, basketmaking, horse-hair braiding, quilting and blacksmithing.

A series of German one-act comedies will be performed on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the restored theater by the Texas A&M German Department. A reception with German singing and refreshments will follow the performance.

On Saturday, a special exhibition of "Binz Bro. Circus, The Smallest Show on Earth," will be set up in the theater.

German music will be provided by several groups including The Royal Bavarians, The Brenham

Community Band, The Austin Ethnic Dance Theater and The UT International Dancers. Other groups such as the North Harris County Dulcimer Society, Dog Days of Summer, The Double Eagle String Band, and Nobody's Reel will provide bluegrass and traditional folk music and songs.

German food and drink will be available on the grounds.

The Winedale Oktoberfest is held in conjunction with the Round Top Antiques Fair, the Round Top DYD Club's Square Fair featuring a wide variety of arts and crafts, the Shelby Antique Show, and the Warronton Antique Show.

The Round Top Antiques Fair will be held Oct. 7 and 8 at the Rifle Association Building and Pavilion from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$3.50.

More than 65 artists will be showing and selling their wares on the town square for the Square Fair that will be held the same weekend. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission is free.

For a complete schedule of times of events contact the center office at (409) 278-3530 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or write P.O. Box 11, Round Top, Texas 78954.



THREE FORMER DEANS were honored the other day when Alvin Community College celebrated its 40th anniversary at a gala reception hosted by the ACC Foundation.

Dr. A. Rodney Allbright, college president, and Catherine DeWitt, foundation president, presented commemorative medallions to Deans Elmo Marburger and Henry Meyers with Dean Neal Nelson presented his in absentia.

The first German-Soviet industrial space mission ended successfully with the landing of an unmanned space capsule in the Soviet republic of Kasachstan, a spokesperson for the West German partner organization in the project, "Intospace," announced in Moscow. During the 16-day flight, liquid crystals were cultivated and additional experiments conducted with new medications, the spokesperson said, adding that univer-

sities and research organizations in the Federal Republic had financed three quarters of the experiments.

According to the announcement, contracts were signed by Intospace and Moscow for four additional space flights. Intospace is a consortium of some 95 firms from nine European countries and has its headquarters in Hanover (Lower Saxony).

# German native regrets family's life of misery

By KIM COBB  
Houston Chronicle

Hilda Graeter's heart swelled when she heard that the East German border was finally being opened. She only wished that her parents had lived long enough to experience it.

A longtime Houston resident, Graeter talks now about Germany and World War II as though it were only yesterday. But her childhood in what became East Germany was a lifetime ago.

"I was born and raised in East Germany, but I left in 1941 and I have never returned to live there," Graeter said. "I last visited in 1982 when my mother died."

Graeter was living with her parents in Cottbus, about 85 miles southeast of Berlin, in April 1941 when she was "drafted" into the German Civil Service. She was only 17, and was ordered to Poland, though her father was loath to let her go.

It was her civil service during the war which separated her from her family and eventually resulted in a life in the West. At the end of the war, she was interned for more than a year by the British and was not able to contact her parents until April 1946.

But by then, Germany had been divided into control sectors, and Graeter's family was in the Soviet sector.

"They said, 'please do not come.

The conditions are so awful, please don't come and share our misery. Build a new life in West Germany.' Since I have children of my own, now, I know what this must have meant to them," Graeter said.

She took their advice, and was lucky enough to find a job with the new democratic German government. She first went back to visit her parents in 1948, at a time when it was still easy to pass between the two countries.

"Things started really to build up in West Germany, and the discrepancy between the two countries became more and more obvious," Graeter said.

At the end of 1953, she immigrated to the United States to marry. The new couple lived in New York for a short time, and then moved to Houston. Graeter soon went to work for the German Consulate here — a job she was to keep for 32 years.

She and her husband made a trip back to West Germany in 1958, and Graeter's parents came out for a brief visit. It was not until 1963 — after the Berlin Wall was built — that Graeter went back into East Germany herself.

"Oh, that was kind of a shocking experience," Graeter remembered. "After 14 years, I had never seen the rest of my relatives and had never seen my friends again.

"I think I cried a lot during that period."

Life had been so cruel to the people she left behind.

"The West Germans had not worked as hard, and they had so many good things," Graeter said. "My cousin waited seven years for a car."

Graeter's father died in 1968, and her mother in 1982. Neither ever really entertained the notion of leaving.

"My father was too old," Graeter said. "My family had always been in our hometown for generations. We had no one in the West."

When her mother died, the break with the East was really complete.

"I have relatives, but they were not allowed to write me," Graeter said. "They could not have any Western contact. So I wrote letters, expecting them not to reply."

She did exchange letters with a few friends of her mother. "They're old ladies, so they don't have anything to be afraid of," Graeter said.

She's watching the news with more than interest, and can't wait to make the journey back. And she hopes that her homeland will become a place where people will want — and be allowed — to return.

"I expect that probably within a year a lot of the people who are just now leaving everything behind, if they don't find work and adequate housing, they will probably go back."

It would be smart of the East German government to allow them to return, unhindered, she said.

"They cannot all run away."

## Führerscheln — endgültig leichtgemacht



Sie haben erkannt, daß nicht jeder Tunnel ein Autotunnel ist. Wie verhalten Sie sich nun?

Mit welchen Gefahren müssen Sie an dieser Stelle rechnen?

- A Ich fahre rückwärts in den Tunnel zurück, um nach einer Abzweigung zu suchen.
- B Ich kaufe das Grundstück und benutze den Tunnel als Garage.
- C Ich warte noch eine Stunde. Dann gehe ich den geplanten Versicherungsbetrag auf.

- A Die Straße könnte hinter der Straßenkuppe ins Meer münden.
- B Mit einer Krötenwanderung.
- C Hinter der Straßenkuppe könnte eine Radarfalle lauern. Oder vielleicht sogar die Russen.

## Das Fernsehen ist...

eine Erfindung, die es uns ermöglicht, Störungen, die wir früher im Radio hörten, nun auch zu sehen.

Anonym

eine Art Unterhaltung, bei der Millionen Menschen zur gleichen Zeit über den gleichen Witz lachen und doch allein bleiben. T.S. Eliot

das einzige Schlafmittel, das mit den Augen eingenommen wird.

Vittorio De Sica

Es gibt keine publizistische oder künstlerische Organisation, in der die schöpferisch Tätigen derart in der Minderzahl sind wie beim Fernsehen.

Fernsehjournalist Peter von Zahn

die Rache des Theaters an der Filmindustrie. Peter Ustinov

die aktive Form des Faulenzens. Kabarettist Henning Venke

eine Krankheit, die von der Krankenkasse finanziert werden müßte. Entertainer Otto Waalkes

Kaugummi für die Augen. Orson Welles

### FRANKFURTER BUNDSCHAU

DIE STÖRUNG Unterbrechung; techn. Fehler — das Schlafmittel sleeping drug/soporifique — derart so — das Faulenzens Nichtstun — die Krankenkasse health insurance/caisse de maladie.

## MRS. ERNA SASSE CELEBRATES 94th BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Erna Sasse celebrated her 94th birthday Thursday, June 15, 1989, at her home.

The "Happy Birthday" song was sung and also a sing-song of old families songs were enjoyed.

With other goodies a birthday cake was served. It was baked by her niece, Mrs. Marguerite Schmidt. Also present were Mrs. Annie Schroeder, Stephen Schroeder, Mrs. Anita Lipke and Johnny Schmidt.

## FRANKE-BLUHM REUNION OCT. 8

The 24th Franke-Bluhm reunion will be held on Sunday, Oct. 8, 1989, at the Fire Station in Yorktown. A covered dish dinner will be served beginning at noon.

Anyone having pictures or news clippings of family interest to be included in the notebook, please bring or send a Xerox copy.

## Sprüche und Witze

Die Arbeit brennt mir heute auf den Nägeln, sagte der Feuerwehrmann, der seine Handschuhe vergessen hatte.

Einmal ist keimnal, sagte der Lotto-Millionär und gab seinen Gewinn zurück.

Du kannst ruhig dableiben, sagte der Mann zu seiner Frau, als das Haus brannte: Ich gehe für dich durchs Feuer!

Mit einem Brett vor'm Kopf ist man immer auf dem Holzweg.

Besser zwölf Minuten nach fünf als fünf Minuten vor zwölf.

Ein Vegetarier ist ein Mensch, der dem Braten nicht traut.

Muße ist, wenn man nicht müssen muß.

Der Straßenverkehr ist die Fortsetzung des Krieges mit anderen Mitteln.

Die besten Flinten sind noch immer die, die ins Korn geworfen werden.

JDM. BRENNT etw. auf den Nägeln jdn. muß dringend etw. tun — der Feuerwehrmann fireman/pompier — für jdn. durchs Feuer gehen alles f. jdn. tun — ein Brett vor dem Kopf haben etw. absolut nicht begreifen — auf dem Holzweg sein s. irren; nicht recht haben — fünf Minuten vor zwölf (fam.) etw. suspekt finden (der Braten roast/röti) — die Müße Freizeit; Nichtstun — die Flinte ins Korn werfen i. resignieren; 2. die Lust am Krieg verlieren — erklimmen ersteigen — der Bergführer mountain guide/.

## Tunnel verbindet Ostriesland mit Holland

Mit einem Volksfest wurde ein Autobahntunnel eingeweiht, der unter der Ems hindurch künftig den Autoverkehr zwischen Norddeutschland/Standamwinen und den Niederlanden flüssiger gestalten soll. Die Tunnelröhre ist einen Kilometer lang, sie liegt 15 Meter unter dem Meeresspiegel, und sie hat in fünf Jahren Bauzeit etwa 200 Millionen DM gekostet. Außer einer Polonaise durch den Tunnel gab es auch einen Segelwettbewerb im Tunnel, bei dem Segelboote auf Rädern, angetrieben von den Ventilatoren des Bauwerks, eine Regatta unter Wasser veranstalteten.

EXPRESS-NEWS — Saturday, December 26, 1987

Evelyn Bolton Kneupper  
4210 Mabuni Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78218-4316

## Glimpse of life 500 years ago is found

Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Two pieces of paper discovered glued inside a book at Harvard University's Houghton Library have provided a window on the past: the 500-year-old pieces of paper printed in German turned out to be most of a 15th century almanac.

The two yellowed sheets folded four ways are eight pages of a 12-page almanac for Cracow, Poland, published in 1493. Chronically the prospects for 1494, the almanac predicted weather, planetary eclipses and the astrological fates.

"It's not earth-shattering," James Walsh, whose title is Keeper of Printed Books, said recently of his discovery. "Yet it is something to have assembled something printed that never was known before."

"Just as we throw away our calendar for 1987 when 1988 comes along, so they threw away their almanacs," he said. "They're as a result quite rare."

Walsh found the pages at the start of a much bigger scholarly expedition. Since July 1988, he has been compiling a catalog of Harvard's 4,000-volume collection of books published before 1501.

The technical term for such books is "incunabula." Derived from the Latin word meaning cradle, incunabula were published in the infancy of printing, which began in the mid-1400s with the Gutenberg press.

According to the Houghton's chief librarian, Lawrence Dowler, Walsh is one of the few people in the world capable of the massive and unprecedented undertaking because of his background in Latin and Greek.

Walsh expects to be finished in another five years. The fruits of his work will become the several-volume "Catalogue of Incunabula in the Harvard University Library." The State University of New York at Binghamton will publish the volumes.

The almanac pages Walsh found were recycled as book lining, a common 15th-century practice for disposing of misprinted and outdated material. The sheets were inside the front and back covers of a copy of Justinian's "Institutiones" belonging to the Harvard Law School.

The pages were removed by Marjorie Cohn, conservator of Harvard's Fogg Art Museum. When Walsh realized he had a nearly complete book, he searched for the rest of it. A catalog of such ancient materials led him to the missing pages at the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif.

The librarians exchanged photocopies of their treasures. Walsh said he plans to bind the photocopies with his pages to make a facsimile of the original.

When the catalog is completed, the almanac will go on exhibit.

In the meantime, Walsh hopes more treasures are buried in the pages of the distant past.

"I have seen other leaves like that, but usually they're for very large books and trying to identify them would be difficult and would take too much time," he said. "What was interesting about this was, I could see I had almost the whole thing. Maybe in the next few years I will turn up more."

### Sticker Selling High Hill, St. Rose Books

Two local parish history books, "High Hill, Mother Of Schulenburg, 1860 - 1960" and "St. Rose Of Lima Parish Centennial History 1889 To 1989," are being sold by The Schulenburg Sticker.

The High Hill centennial history book, published in 1960, is now in its fourth printing. The book is also available from Mrs. Alvin Winkler or Ewald Demel at High Hill.

The St. Rose centennial history book was published this year by The Sticker. This book is also available at the St. Rose Parish Office, 1010 Lyons Ave.

The High Hill book costs \$7.00 while the St. Rose book is \$10.00. For mail orders, \$2.00 per book should be added for postage and handling. Orders may be placed by contacting The Schulenburg Sticker, PO Box 160, 405 North Main St., Schulenburg, TX 78956, 409-743-3450.

### Heil Reunion Held at Fire Station June 10

Saturday, June 10, 1989, marked the 9th annual reunion of the Valentine and Katherine Kampf Heil families.

Twenty-nine family members, including 5th and 6th generations, gathered at the Yorktown Fire Station Auditorium for an afternoon of visiting, reminiscing and recording history of the Heil family.

A covered dish meal was enjoyed by all. The food was delicious.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Childs and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Heil hosted the affair.

The next reunion will be on Saturday, June 9, 1990 at the Yorktown fire station with Mr. and Mrs. Jay Heil and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Semper serving as hosts.

### Lesikar Family Reunion Held

The 15th annual F.G. Lesikar family reunion was held recently at the Garcitas Creek Campground in Inez.

Hosting the event were Patsy Berger and Jerry Holub. Fifty-three members attended.

Special honors were awarded to the George and Annie Hanus family and the Jerry and Viola Hanus family, both with ten members, largest families; Frank Lesikar, age 78, oldest member; Paige Hanus, two and one half years, youngest member; Frank and Francis Lesikar, 84 years wed, longest married; Clyde and George Gabriel, eight and one half months wed, shortest married; and Emil and Doris Koenig, of Midland, Texas, travelling 450 miles, longest distance traveled.

Demae Lesikar and Lita Micek were elected as officers.

The next reunion will be held the third Sunday in August of 1990 at the same location.

### Windberg Reunion Set

The fourth annual family reunion of the descendants of Andreas Windberg will be held Oct. 7 at St. Luke's Parish Hall in Schroeder.

Families are asked to bring one meat and one vegetable or dessert to the parish hall by 11:30 a.m. for a covered dish luncheon to be held at noon.

Dominoes, games, prizes and live music will be seen during the day. Members are asked to bring and share any Windberg memorabilia.

### LANDGREBE FAMILY REUNION

The Landgrebe family held its sixteenth annual reunion at the V.F.W. Hall in Yorktown on September 3, 1989. Of the one hundred twenty-five persons attending, 37 were from the Willie and Hulda Landgrebe family. This gave that branch of the family recognition for having the "most members attending".

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Landgrebe were the longest married couple to attend and Tammy and Jerry Schmiedlin were the most recently married. Willie Afflerbach was the oldest and 8-week old Meghan Heinold was the youngest person at the reunion. Travis Franke and Regina Alexander traveled the farthest. They came from Fort Worth.

Helping with the drawing for the door prizes were Crystal Franke and Brandie Rickman. Michael Mitchell, Channing Rickman, Luke Curry, Kori Brandt, and Kyndall Brandt won some great kids prizes. Adult winners were Kevin Franke, Toby Kennedy, Pete Sievers, Jo An Moritz, and Brenda Schaller.

Next year's reunion of the Heinrich and Katharina Borth Landgrebe family will be held at the V.F.W. Hall on the first Sunday in September. The "family tree" will be updated by then and copies will be available at the reunion for anyone who is interested.

### Wieland-Metting Reunion June 25

Descendants of Friedrich Wieland and Otto Metting will hold their annual reunion at the Yorktown Hermann Sons Hall on Sunday, June 25, 1989.

A covered dish dinner will be served at noon. Each family is requested to bring a meat dish, side dish, and eating utensils.

### Weise Reunion Set For July 2nd

The Paul Weise reunion will be held on Sunday, July 2, 1989, at the Yorktown American Legion Hall with registration beginning at 10:00 a.m.

A covered dish meal will be served so please bring enough food for your family and also bring your eating utensils, etc.

### Bruns Family Reunion Held

The 11th annual Fred J. Bruns and Helen Doehmann Bruns reunion was held recently at the "Lazy B" country home of Louis and Vergie Bitterly in Weser.

Following an old fashioned luncheon, family member recognized were Sophie Bruns, oldest member; Karen Arnold, middle aged member; Morgan Hale, youngest member; Sonny

and Freida Bell Bruns, longest married couple; Neil Tiedt of Dallas, farthest traveled; Brian Bruns and Dale Howard, military service; and Travis Neese, Morgan Hale and Trent Wacker, new members.

Forty-nine members attended.

The next reunion will be held Sept. 15, 1990 at the Ray and Karen Arnold home in Weser. An afternoon luncheon will be served.

### Schroeder Reunion Held Here June 18

The descendants of Emma (Wunderlich) and Adolph Schroeder gathered at the Yorktown Hermann Sons Hall on Sunday, June 18, 1989, for a family get together. A covered dish noon meal was enjoyed by 50 descendants attending.

Mrs. Erna Sasse was the oldest member present, 94 years. Mrs. Sasse and Mrs. Anita Lipcke were the direct descendants present. Other direct descendants are Hulda Spill and Emma Wessels of Winters who were unable to be present.

The family of Adolph Schroeder, Jr. hosted the affair this year.

The happy birthday song was sung to Mrs. Erna Sasse, 94; and Annie Schroeder, 86.

Picture taking, video taping, card playing and swimming were the order of the day along with good fellowship.

A meeting was held and the history book was updated. It was decided to meet again next year at the same place.

### Urban Family Holds Reunion

The Fred and Louise Schutz Urban family recently held a reunion with 35 descendants present.

Hosting the event at their home were Wayne and Rhonda Urban and their children Jerheme, Molly and Caleb Urban.

Six of the twelve living Urban children born to Fred and Louise are L.F. Urban, Katherine Jarrell, Renette Granberry, Louise Adcock, Irene Lockman and Julie Chisum.

Recognized were Tara Marshall of Mason City, Ill., farthest traveled; David Chandler, youngest present; and Leo Granberry, eldest present.

### KLAEVEMANN REUNION

The 28th annual Klaevemann reunion will be held on Sunday, June 25th at the Weesatche Community Center, Weesatche, Texas.

A covered dish dinner will be served at noon. Each family is asked to bring enough food for their family and any other side drinks they may desire.

Plates, tea, coffee, utensils and etc. will be provided.

A short meeting and white elephant auction will be held after lunch.

Hope to see you there.

Otto and Ida Koenning, Ogo Lee and Ollie Mae Koenning, Bill and Lilly Hillrich, Edna Hartsbech and Billy Ray and Sue Hillrich were in Yoakum Sunday to attend the 50th anniversary of the Frels reunion. The event was held in the Yoakum Community Center and was hosted by Leonard and Wilma Barth.

The families of the late Herman and Lillian Oehleke held their second annual gathering on Sunday, June 11th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Oehleke in Meyersville. A picnic type lunch was served to the forty-one members and two guests in attendance. Games of horse shoe pitching and swimming were enjoyed in the afternoon. Family members came from China Spring, Houston, Cuero Pasadena, Universal City, Dayton and Meyersville. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Berthold Oehleke from Northheim, Thurg, You Marlene.

The Karnei family reunion will be Sunday, June 11, at the Weesatche Community Center. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. Games will be played in the afternoon and you are asked to bring a small prize. Hope to see you there!

### Lola Family Plans Annual Reunion

"Remember When" will be the theme of the Lola reunion to be held at the Victoria Community Center August 27 beginning at 10 a.m. Families are asked to bring a meat dish plus a vegetable or dessert. If any member has undecipherable family pictures, they should bring them to have them identified. Activities are planned for children. John, Joseph and Mathis Lala immigrated to the United States in 1864.

The majority of John Lala and Joseph Lala's descendants settled in Austin county in the early 1800's in the Shilohville area. Mathis Lala's descendants settled in Williamson county.

Dr. Abbott - April 19, 1989

Karnei Reunion Set June 11th

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Brent O. Peterson, *Popular Narratives and the Constitution of Ethnic Identity: Literature and Community in "Die Abendschule"*. Ph.D. diss. University of Minnesota, 1989. German-Americans in the 19th century found models for their search for identity in popular narratives. The raw material for the investigation comes from *Die Abendschule*, a well-known German family journal published between 1854 and 1900 in St. Louis. Historical fictions published in the journal address the nostalgic longing for a pre-industrial community as well as the need for an ethnic myth of origin.

*Hessian Documents of the American Revolution, 1776-1783: Transcripts and Translations from the Lidgerwood Collection at Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey*. (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1989). A microfiche publication of over 30,000

pages of transcripts and translations on experiences and activities of the Hessian soldiers hired by the British to fight in North America from 1776-1783. Their official journals, correspondence and orders for supplies show the religious, political and material culture, the interplay of economics and the military, the European attitudes toward colonial society and the behavior of the Hessians' British masters toward their American foes. William Van Lidgerwood in the early 20th century arranged and funded the hand-copying of documents from originals in the archives at Marburg and Wolfenbüttele, which was completed in 1914. Due to WWI, the transcripts arrived in New Jersey only in 1922 and resided in the Ford Mansion Museum of the Washington Association, the army commander's residence during the Morristown encampment of 1779-80. In 1933 the association presented the transcripts to the Federal government which from 1935-1943 edited and translated more than 90%. The remainder is now being translated and will be automatically supplied to subscribers as a 1990 supplement. A printed guide enables users to locate information on specific people, places, and events. \$1500.

Karl Baeumerth, Eugen Ernst, Rolf Reuter, *Führer durch die Baugruppe Lahn-Dill-Ohm, Hessenpark. Schriftenreihe des Hessischen Freilichtmuseums*. (Neu-Anspach, 1987). Highly informative about the lifestyles of rural dwellers in 19th century Hesse on the eve of their departures for the New World. Many color photos, sketches and cutaways to illustrate peasant construction. House 21 on pp. 72-73 describes the Hessians who emigrated especially those to aid the British in Colonial America, and to Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri. Also displayed are those who migrated to South Russia, and those who immigrated from the Sudetenland after WWII. Helpful also for genealogists who want to show more than just a dated name on a page.

*History of the Carson Brewing Co.* (Carson City, Nevada: Brewery Arts Center, 1988). The brewery was founded by Jacob Klein in the 19th century. Contact the center at 449 West King St., Carson City, NV 89703.

Willi Wanka, *Opfer des Friedens. Die Sudetensiedlungen in Kanada*. (Munich: Langen Müller, 1988) 352 pp. 40 DM. The story of how refugees from Czechoslovakia after the Hitler annexation of the Sudetenland in September 1938, fled via Poland first to England, then to Canada where they have demonstrated that Social Democrats, be they worker or sophisticated civil servant, were able to take up farming and pioneering near Dawson Creek in far northern Canada. Before and during WWII, there were theatrical and musical performances, a library and many cultural events that have kept the community viable to this day.

Donal B. Kraybill, *The Riddle of Amish Culture* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1989), 304 pp. \$35 hardback, 19.95 paper. Mentioned already in the June issue of the newsletter before receiving a copy, we can report now that the "riddle" is the fact that in 1993 Amish society will mark its 300th anniversary. But it has thrived only in the 20th century. From a meager band of 5,000 in 1900 the Amish have blossomed to over 100,000 in North America today. A social scientist, Kraybill studies Lancaster County PA, home of the oldest, most densely populated, Amish settlement in the world. Resting on the fringe of urban sprawl, the community guides its struggle against modernization with seeming puzzles that in reality are reasonable solutions to modern problems: care for the elderly, maintenance of a non-English language, the rejection of tractors in the fields but not at the barns, refusal to drive but not to ride in cars etc. Research methods and procedures are described in two appendices. Good footnoting, bibliography, index and many excellent bw photos.

Wolfgang J. Helbich, *Alle Menschen sind dort Gleich... Die deutsche Amerika-Auswanderung im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert*. Historisches Seminar Bd. 10 (Düsseldorf: Schwann-Bagel, 1988). Distributed by Cornelsen Verlag, 4800 Dielefeld 1, Postfach 8729. 176 pp. 28 DM paperback. Bibliography and footnotes, tables and graph, two maps, no index. Helbich breaks the subject down into three major

headings 1) The current state of research with observations as to their significance. 2) The second lengthy section offers a host of annotated, now quite unknown sources from an 1824 lexikon, to Friedrich List (1842), Georg Grünwald (1847), Traugott Bromme (1848), many letters both official and private as well as semi-official reports, the railroad advertisements of the 1880s, plus many other commentaries including those by H.L. Mencken and Samuel Gompers not to mention the voluminous Report of the US Immigration Commission of 1911. 3) Section 3 offers various theses about the complicated causes and implications of emigration as it affected the economies of nations, labor markets, the "uprooted", social values, melting pot, marginal man (cultural hybrid), marginal culture, chain migration and more.

La Vern J. Rippley with Rainer Schmeissner, *German Place Names in Minnesota - Deutsche Ortsnamen in Minnesota* (Northfield, MN: St. Olaf College German Department, 1989) 106 pp. \$10 postpaid. 70 photographs 5 maps. A bilingual edition showing the distribution, typology, settlements and bodies of water which were named for German places or people, some 500 in all. Based on Warren Upham's 1969 reprint of his 1920 work *Minnesota Geographic Names* (St. Paul: MHS) and *Müllers grosses deutsches Ortsbuch* (1988).

William C. Sherman, *Plains Folk: North Dakota's Ethnic History*, with Playford V. Thorson, Warren A. Henke, Timothy J. Klobberdanz, Theodore B. Pedeliski and Robert P. Wilkins (Fargo: Institute for Regional Studies, 1986) 419 pp. plus maps, appendices, bibliographic essays and index. Excellent team project with sections on the Germans by Henke and on the Germans from Russia and other settlements beyond the borders of the Reich, by Klobberdanz. Constructed in the shape of the state of ND, the volume includes brilliant photography and maps.

Heinz Lehmann, *The German Canadians 1750-1937: Immigration, Settlement and Culture*, trans. ed. and intro by SGAS member Gerhard P. Bassler (St. John's Newfoundland: Jespersen Press, 1986). Bassler took the two dissertations and two articles of Lehmann (b. Berlin 1907 and d. Tübingen 1985) and translated them, excising repetitive parts and adding his own material to bridge gaps. Six appendices and six maps together with pictures render this a most valuable overview. Conclusion: The vast majority of Germans in Canada did not come from Germany but were Auslandsdeutsche or Germans of second or third generation origins, especially from Russia and Eastern Europe.

Thomas J. Morain, *Prairie Grass Roots. An Iowa Small Town in the Early Twentieth Century* (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1988) 287 pp. Treats life in Greene County (just west of the city of Ames) with reference to social identity (religious and ethnic), gender, morality (drinking and Sunday laws), with a good chapter on World War I.

*Allernueste Beschreibung der Provinz Carolina in West-Inden Samt einem Reise-Journal von mehr als Tausend Meilen unter allerhand Indianischen Nationen. Auch einer Accuraten Land-Carte und andern Kupfer-Stichen*. (Hamburg: Thomas von Wiering: 1712). unveränderter fotomechanischer Neudruck der Originalausgabe 1712 von der Zentralantiquariat der deutschen demokratischen Republik, Leipzig, 1980. An unusually beautiful reprint with a large foldout map in the rear indicating the extensive information potential immigrants to North America possessed long before they departed from the secure but frustrating European continent. Glossary for Indian terms. Order from nationales Druckhaus, Betrieb der VOB, 1055 Berlin-East, DDR.

The Musical Culture of German-Americans: Cultural Identity and Ethnic Thought

Die Musikalische Volkskultur Der Deutsch-Amerikaner: Identität und Mentalität

During its Centennial Year (1991-1992) the University of Chicago will host a conference on the musical culture of German-Americans. The conference will be a forum to examine a wide range of concepts concerning the nature of musical styles, repertoires, and traditions that constitute German-American culture. The conference will be one of many celebratory events in the Centennial Year, which are intended to focus on the University's contributions to many different fields and special areas of study and research at Chicago. The conference on German-American music will coincide with the revitalization of the Wieboldt-Rosenwald Collection of German Folk Songs, the largest archive of German folk music (ca. 200,000 individual songs from virtually every major archive and library with German-language collections) outside of Central Europe. Assembled between 1929 and 1939, the Wieboldt-Rosewald Collection resulted from the collaboration of Archer Taylor of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago and John Meier, Director of the Deutsches Volksliedarchiv in Freiburg. The 1992 conference will be organized by SGAS member Philip Bohman (University of Chicago) and Otto Holzapel, Oberkonservator at the Deutsches Volksliedarchiv. The University will also coordinate a number of conference events with the Goethe-Institut of Chicago.

Folk music specialists from both the United States and central Europe will speak at the conference. Concerts will feature musicians from Chicago's Central European communities, with both choral and instrumental ensembles expected to perform. The conference is scheduled for April 23-26, 1992 in order to precede the Annual Symposium of the SGAS at the University of Kansas by one week, thus allowing both conferences to take full advantage of European colleagues visiting the United States. Further information about "The Musical Culture of German-Americans" will appear in this Newsletter as 1992 approaches. Contact Philip Bohman, Department of Music, University of Chicago, 5845 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago, IL 60637.





## GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

## BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

1989 Annual Meeting Many thanks to Gay Martinez who gave us a program at our 1989 Annual Meeting on the use of Mormon records for German genealogical research. See next item for obtaining copies of her handouts.

Handouts Available You may obtain a copy of the 5-page handout from the genealogy program at the 1989 Annual Meeting by sending a SASE to your Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. This handout is a reprint of information available from the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City and consists of a 3-page guide to writing letters in German and a 2-page outline of sources and hints for locating your ancestor's birthplace using the facilities of the Family History Library. The letter-writing guide has sentences in English/German that you can patch together and fill in the blanks to prepare a letter requesting information from a parish or registry office. We reiterate the advice in the handout--please be careful in using these sentences to ensure that your letter reads logically. And, type (or print) your letter. And, follow the instructions for addressing the envelope. (See article elsewhere in this section on German Postal Codes.)

Preservation of Documents, Letters, and Other Papers This was the topic of another 1989 Annual Meeting presentation, not only for genealogists. The program was given by Candie Lener of Preservation Emporium. If you missed her program, or if you want more detailed information on paper preservation techniques, we recommend purchase of the Leners' handbook, Paper Preservation, for \$19.95, plus 8% Texas state tax, plus \$2.50 postage. Preservation Emporium's 1989 condensed catalogue of preservation and archival supplies in small quantities is \$2.50, with this amount refunded on your first order. Order from: Preservation Emporium, P. O. Box 226309, Dept. C, Dallas TX 75222-6309, or call (214) 331-8902.

Houston Genealogical Forum has furnished GTHS with its August 1989 Bulletin, listing the group's programs for the 1989-90 year. Several programs will be of particular interest to German-Texans, especially the April 7, 1990, presentation "Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor" by Lloyd D. Bockstruck of the Dallas Public Library. For information on time and location, contact the Forum at P. O. Box 271466, Houston TX 77277-1466.

"Family Tree Climbing Can Be Fun" is the title of workshops given across the country by Mr. & Mrs. George Everton of Genealogical Helper fame. In 1990, at least three workshops will be given in Texas: On Saturday, March 3, in La Marque (sponsored by Galveston Genealogical society), on Wednesday, March 7, in Uvalde (sponsored by Southwest Texas Genealogical Society), and on Saturday, March 10 in San Marcos (sponsored by San Marcos-Hayes County Genealogical Society). The contact persons are: Johnnye Carlson, 1024 Ross, LaMarque TX 77568, phone: (409) 938-1710; Nell Evins, Box 295, Uvalde TX 78801, phone: (512) 376-4571; and Pat Young, 22 Willow Creek Circle, San Marcos TX 78666, phone: (512) 353-5823 or 353-3201. Let them know now of your interest in attending, since details on time, place and cost are not available to us yet. Your Genealogy Editor attended one of these workshops several years ago and recommends them very highly, both for beginners and for experienced researchers.

Czech Immigration Passenger Lists, Volume III is now available. This book identifies over 7,400 Czech immigrants who arrived in Galveston 1907-1914. It also lists the home village for a majority of the immigrants as well as the stated destination in the U.S. The data were abstracted from National Archives microfilm sources. Order from: Leo Baca, 1707 Woodcreek, Richardson TX 75082.

Interested in Flags? The North American Vexillological Association was established to promote vexillology, the study of the history and symbolism of flags. Membership fees begin at \$18.00. Contact the Membership Committee at

Box 580, Winchester MA 01890. The group held its 23rd annual meeting recently in Dallas.

Looking for Relatives in West Germany? If you don't know where those relatives live, the trained volunteers of the Immigrant Genealogical Society will check the West German telephone books for ten cities or towns and copy the pages containing your specified surname. To help you write to these potential relatives, they will also send you a sample letter in German with English translation, instructions for addressing your letters, and the zip code for each area. Note, this search is not effective for common surnames. The cost is only \$15.00 for either ten major cities in Germany or ten certain cities in any of seven states, or \$3.00 for West Berlin only. Before sending your money, ask for their listing of the towns these searches cover. Write: Immigrant Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510.

Looking for Fellow Researchers in Germany? The Immigrant Genealogical Society's trained volunteers will also search the indexes of several important German genealogical resources to identify persons in Germany researching the surname of your interest. As above, this technique is not intended for common surnames. Send for information: Immigrant Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510.

If You Have Mennonite Background, or even if you don't, you might be interested in the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, which publishes a bimonthly newsletter and a quarterly and offers discounts on research service by mail, books, and other services. Contact: Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster PA 17602.

New York Research will be easier now with the publication of Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area. This handbook tells you which repositories hold genealogical and biographical materials, local history and newspaper collections, maps and gazetteers, census records, probate records, naturalizations, vital record indexes, name changes, marriage and divorce records, birth and death records, voter registrations and much more. It covers 52 government agencies and courts, 32 libraries, and 20 archives. Cost is \$24.95, plus \$2.50 postage. Order from: Jewish Genealogical Society. P. O. Box 6398, New York NY 10128.

CAUTION! AGAIN (and AGAIN) Now someone who calls himself James Yourname is offering a book "Yourname Immigrants and Worldwide Descendants." This is similar to offers we have described in the past. These are not genealogical works or histories on your family. They contain general information on the origin of family names and how to do your own research, the meaning of Yourname, and a Yourname coat of arms. And, a listing of persons sharing that same surname, compiled from telephone books and similar sources, with no claim that they all share a common ancestry. The offer we received was from James Gold for the "Gold Immigrants and Worldwide Descendants." The return address was that of Halbert's in Bath, Ohio. This has gone on for several years, with various people offering essentially the same product. Please use caution in ordering such a book and be aware of exactly what you are buying. Usually, these offers include a money-back guarantee. Exercise your right to a refund if you are dissatisfied with the product.

Hilda (Bethel) Methodist Church The book One Hundred Years of the Hilda (Bethel) Methodist Church and Parent Organizations, 1856-1955 was given to the GTHS by Julius E. DeVos. It contains a running history of the early Methodist Church in Mason County and the Hilda Methodist Church specifically. It also contains records of: Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Llano Circuit, 1856-1869; Methodist Episcopal Church, Hedwigs Hill and Llano Circuit, 1870-1897; Methodist Episcopal Church, Beaver Creek (Hilda) and Hoersterville Charge, 1898-1939; and Bethel Methodist Church (Hilda), United Methodist Church, 1939-1955. Records include births, deaths, marriages, and membership rolls. For your own copy of this 73-page softcover book (no index), send \$3.50 to: Julius E. DeVos, Fredericksburg Route, Box 55, Mason TX 76856.

Anderegg Family History Book was donated to GTHS by James Honig, Hwy. 90 East, Hondo TX 78861. This 162-page book was compiled and edited by Clementina Greenburg and Dora Stein with much of the information compiled over a 20-year period by Edna Anderegg Cosper and an interesting family history narrative written in 1976 by Walter E. Sattler. Johann Ulrich Anderegg was born in Mieringen, Switzerland. He and his brother left that village and spent some time in France and later in Africa. They came to America, staying first in Minnesota. Later, in a roundabout way, John came to the Fredericksburg vicinity, probably in the 1850s, and settled on Cow Valley Creek, a tributary of Beaver Creek. He married Margaret Fritze, a native of Dillenburg, Nassau, who had come to Texas with her parents in 1845. They had 12 children. The book contains brief stories, photos, and lists of descendants of these children, in varying typestyles, but with a consistent format. The 162 pages are printed on one side of the page, punched and placed into a soft cover binder. There is not a name index.

#### FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following section was compiled by your Genealogy Editor from the information 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 \$5.00 query fee. Please submit a concise paragraph or two, or simply list the surnames you are researching along with the Texas counties the families settled and the religion they practiced.

If you wish to submit a longer article for publication, please be sure it is camera-ready. The manuscript specifications are published inside the back cover of each issue, but here they are again: We will consider only materials typed, single spaced, on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4 inch margin on all sides. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Your Genealogy Editor and the Editor-in-Chief evaluate all materials for readership value of both the content and the typed format.

Bertha Ranft wants to make contact with anyone knowing about or doing research on any of three families. She will share her information. The first family is that of George Christoph Brune, born in 1807 in Herfurt, Westphalia, Germany, and died in 1869 at New Ulm TX. He married Henrietta von (?) Zabiensky. She was born in 1820 and died in 1903 at Bernardo TX. Another person of interest is Gus Kertzschmar, born about 1829 in Glasten, Saxony. He married Amelia Augermann. She was born about 1831; both died near Cat Spring TX. The third family of interest is that of Paul Gustav Ranft, born in 1865 in Germany, died in 1929 at Weimar TX. His wife was Emilie Gloff, born in 1868 in Germany and died in 1958 also at Weimar.

Jeane Bitterly P O Box 70, Hochheim TX 77967 reports this is her new address in Hochheim. She recently moved there from Baytown. For 13 years, Arliss Treybig had been looking for the German origin of her Hennecke ancestors--and Jeane found them through LDS sources!

Maxine Krueger Codert 514 Burnside, San Antonio TX 78209 is a granddaughter of Maxamillian A. P. Krueger. The family published his autobiography as Pioneer Life in Texas and Texas A&M Press republished it in 1978 under the title Second Fatherland. Maxine has the original translation of Pioneer Life in Texas as well as a cookbook brought to Texas by the Meusebachs (in German, of course).

Rudy Tschoerner 14645 Sweetwater, Corpus Christi TX 78410 is tracing his ancestors in both the Tschoerner and Kassler families. The Tschoerner family immigrated to Williamson County from Heinersdorf in the Sudetenland of Austria in 1893, and the Kasslers immigrated to Bexar County from Thueringen in Saxony in 1884. He is interested in obtaining records from the Sudetenland, now part of Czechoslovakia, as well as from Germany.

Raimond Tullius 40 Nanook Crescent, Kanata, Ontario, Canada K2L 2A7 is interested in information on Breslau in Lavaca County, particularly in the origin of the original settlers of the town and their religious affiliation. He is also interested in Texas settlers who immigrated from Silesia, Pomerania, Prussia, Posen, Bohemia, Moravia, and Saxony. This is for his research dealing with European immigration to the U.S.

Marianne E. H. Little 11423 Sagewhite Dr., Houston TX 77089 sends information on three persons. The first is Frederick Wilhelm Hundhausen or Holtzhausen, later known as Fred House. He was born in 1833 in the kingdom of Hanover. In later years, he reported he immigrated to Texas at age 9 in 1846. A single man named Johann Peter Hundhausen and Christian Hundhausen and family of six are listed in Geue's An New Land Beckoned as arriving in 1846 aboard the ship "Colchis." According to Geue, Christian was from Rosbach and settled in Gillespie County. Fred anglicized his name to House, although he also is listed on at least one Civil War record as Hund and his brother's name was listed as Hause. Marianne has sent us an article she wrote for the DeWitt County View on Fred House that gives more details on his life. Look for it elsewhere in this issue. She wants to know if anyone can help her pinpoint the location of Rosbach, the place of origin listed in Geue. Marianne has also found a Fred House living in Wilson County, the husband of Adelaida de Martinez and the father of a large family. This Fred House stated he inherited his land from his father, Henry Holdusen. Marianne has a portrait of this family taken about 1890-1900 and wedding portraits of several of the children. She believes this Fred to be a brother to the Fred House of DeWitt County.

The second person of interest is Clemens George Ludwig Gottlieb Hartmann, born in 1819 in Hildesheim, Hanover, the son of August Friedrich Carl Hartmann and Anna aMargaretha Bahre. He, his sister Marie, and his brother Hermann came to Texas in 1845 aboard the ship "Margaretha." Clemens married Sophia Theresa Strüber/Strieber. Does anyone know who Hermann and Marie married and where they settled? Marianne adds information concerning Sophia: she was the daughter of Johann Andreas Joseph Strüber or Strieber and Johanne Henrietta Amalie Louise Schrader and was born in 1833 in Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Hanover. The family came to Texas in 1846 aboard the "Friedrich" and settled at Yorktown in DeWitt County.

Loretta Leonhardt Rt 1, Box 62, Red Rock TX 78662 reports the Krebs family held its 32nd reunion on Sept. 17, 1989, at the American Legion Hall at Shelby. The 86 persons attending represented descendants of three of the eight children of Heinrich and Dorothea (Keidel) Krebs, 1847 immigrants from Braunsweig to Galveston. Terrell Krebs is president of the family organization, and reunion arrangements were handled by Terrell and Sandra Krebs, Stephen and Patty Polasek, and Milroy and Patsy Krebs.

Elmo Schwab 306 22nd St., Galveston TX 77550 is looking for information on the Riemenschneider and Foerster families. Lorenz F. Riemenschneider is believed to have been born on May 19, 1833, in Nehrengen, Kurhessen (Allmonsehen Kreis) and came to America in 1859 with his sister and her family. Since no minors were admitted without parents, he used the name Wendel. He later married Agatha Lee Grunwald. He died in 1917 and is buried in the St. Andrew Lutheran Cemetery in Weesatch. His son Lorenz J. Riemenschneider married Anna Marie Foerster. This couple is also buried in Weesache. Elmo would appreciate any additional information on this family.

Jane Schwarz Combs P O Box 8331, Waco TX 76714 reports her great grandfather's name was William Schwarz and his wife was Mary Rosenberg. They arrived at Galveston, but Jane does not know the date. Her grandfather's name was Albert Henry Schwarz, born in 1879, in or around Goliad. They lived in the Victoria area and later moved to Austin. She has so little information about them that any tidbit would delight her.

Mina W. Lamb 6002 W. 34th, Lubbock TX 79407 belongs to the Boeer/Böer family researched by Lillian Schneider of San Antonio. This family, from Langenbielaub in Prussia, arrived at Galveston in 1851 aboard the "Bassermann." She is also

interested in the family of Wilhelm Wolf from the Westphalia province of Germany. His wife was Wilhelmina Hedrich, and Mina's father was their oldest child, born in 1876. Mina says she never heard of another Hedrich in Texas besides her own mother. Descendants of this family live primarily southwest of Houston in Wharton County and near Weimar and Columbus in Colorado County.

Arliss Treybig P O Box 1236, El Campo TX 77437 reports that two descendants of Franz Glueck/Glück/Glick and Ludwina Koy are working on an updated version of the family history begun by David Smalley in 1953. The data from the earlier book have been entered into a computer and new information has been added. The compilers hope to have much of the material entered for the next reunion in 1991, however many names, dates, and places are still missing. Would members of the following families please contact Arliss to complete their family information: Theodore Glueck and Theresa Renz, Alvina Glueck and Joseph Frank Tipp, Paulina Glueck and Andreas Braden, Frank Glueck Jr. and Selma Lux, Frances Glueck and Johann Ramm, Mary Glueck and Alois Koegler/George Adamik, Herman Glueck and Mary Jvorka, and Matilda Glueck and Thomas Stasny.

Arliss also reports she is in the process of updating the history of the descendants of Joseph Hennecke/Henneke and Anna Maria Middeke. When the history was begun in 1983, Arliss had not located the village in Germany from which the family emigrated. Jeane Bitterly (see above) located the village, and local researchers now have German records to add to their Texas records. Arliss plans to visit the village in May, 1990, but in the meantime, if any relatives have additional information, now is the time to furnish it. These are the families concerned: Anna Marie Henneke and John von der Werth, Mary Theresa Henneke and Conrad Jürgens/Samuel Redgate, Frank Henneke and Susanna Maas, Elizabeth Sophia Henneke and Jacob Foerster/Bernard Joseph Miller, Henry Henneke and Hedwig Miller, Conrad Henneke and Barbara Glober, and Joseph Henneke Jr. and Katherine Burtschell. Spellings of most family names vary from record to record.

Helen Novosad 8725 Lugary Dr., Houston TX 77074 has exciting news. She wrote to the mayor of Bergheim in West Germany, asking if any Hartmann still lived in the town. This is the town where her great grandfather Michael Hartmann lived until he emigrated in 1846-47. She received a reply from the mayor reporting a resident named Rudolf Hartmann searched and found a document on Michael Hartmann. This document verifies the name of Helen's great grandmother as Charlotte Kömm (see previous issue, page 133), although Rudolf Hartmann could not say if he was actually related to Helen's ancestor, Michael Hartmann.

The Most Rev. Bernard F. Popp P O Box 28410, San Antonio TX 78228, auxiliary bishop of San Antonio Archdiocese, is a new GTHS member. He contributed to the publication of the book on the Popp and Schneider families of Nada in Colorado County. The book was edited by Patricia Cahill and was published in 1988. It has especially outstanding chapters on the background of the German-speaking immigrants from Moravia (Mähren in German), then in Austria as part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but now in present-day Czechoslovakia. Many of these ethnic German families came from four specific areas and when they immigrated to Texas settled in Fayette, Colorado and other counties of that area.

## ORGANIZE A FAMILY REUNION THIS YEAR

**H**ow long has it been since all the members of your family gathered for a reunion? If it's been a long time, this may be the year to bring everyone together, whether it's for a day, a week or a weekend.

The following are some tips for organizing your family reunion so that everyone arrives expecting to have a great time and leaves with many wonderful memories.

Contact relatives at least three times before the big event – as soon as the date is set, later with more specific details and a couple of weeks before the reunion with a reminder

and last-minute information.

Plan your reunion to coincide with a milestone such as an anniversary or special birthday.

Don't overorganize. Arrange activities for all ages and encourage participation. You don't want anyone to feel left out, but you also don't want anyone to feel obligated about participating.

While potluck meals are usually the rule for family reunions, cooking contests can be tasty fun. Crown the family's champion cake baker or cookie or candy maker. A panel of family experts can judge the entries, while the rest of the family can eat the entries.

Following the reunion, mail each family that was represented a list of your clan's addresses and phone numbers to help them keep in touch throughout the year.

GTGS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the JOURNAL. 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 Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Mary Jane Schaefer Rt 1, Box 107C Port Lavaca TX 77979	Real Riedel Schaefer Werner	Kerr/Guadalupe Comal/Guad'pe Guadalupe Guadalupe	Catholic & ? Catholic ? ?
Berta Ranft Rt 1, Box 18A Grapeland TX 75844 409/544-2456	Augermann Brune Gloff Hund Kretzschmar Ranft Zabienksy	Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado Austin/Colorado	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Sewall B Wilde Rt 2, Box 101 New Ulm TX 78950	Wilde (settled at first with Castro's Colony)	Bexar/Colorado	Catholic
M. Lawrence Naumann 3606 Kentfield Rd Austin TX 78759 512/345-3211	Naumann Rosenbusch Gerstmann McInnish	Travis/Burnet Travis Travis Travis/Burnet	Baptist Baptist Baptist Methodist
Lucille Ricke 1302 Overhill Dr Houston TX 77018 713/681-4514	Ricke Siegert Beckmann Kulow Schultz Kohlhoff	Galveston Austin Austin Austin Austin Austin	Catholic Lutheran ? Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Hal Franklin Perrenot Dreyer 1128 Chumley Rd Virginia Beach VA 23451 804/428-3310	Weller Pelzer	Lavaca/Colorado Lavaca/Colorado Comal	Lutheran? Lutheran Lutheran
Mary Ann Niswanger P O Box 597 Prosper TX 75078	Koerth/Korth Renn Sturm Ulrich Kurtz Weiser/Wieser Sitz Kaulfus	Washington/Falls Washington/Fayette Washington/Falls Washington Washington/Falls Austin/Falls Austin/Falls Austin/Falls	Luth & Ev. Luth & Ev. Luth & Ev. Lutheran Luth & Ev. Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran

**Genealogical Exchange, continued**

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Joyce Willcox 15703 Elk Park Ln Houston TX 77062 713/486-6535	Helweg	Austin	Lutheran
	Neumann	Austin	Lutheran
	Zander	Austin	Lutheran
Rodney C. Koenig 6 Valley Forge Houston TX 77024	Albrecht	Fayette	Lutheran
	Bolling	Fayette	Lutheran
	Buehring	Fayette	?
	Dinklage	Fayette/Wash'tn	Lutheran
	Gruelich	Fayette	Luth/Wendish
	Joost	Fayette	Lutheran
	Klaevemann	Fayette	Methodist
	Koch	Fayette	Lutheran
	Koenig	Fayette	Luth/Meth
	Laux	Fayette	Catholic
	Mueller	Fayette/Bastrop	Lutheran
	Munke	Fayette	Luth/Cath
	Oeding	Fayette	Lutheran
	Pauli	Fayette	Catholic
	Suhren	Fayette	Lutheran
Rebeca Koenig 6 Valley Forge Houston TX 77024	deLauseaux	Fayette	Catholic
	Fallier	Fayette	Lutheran
	von Rosenburg	Fayette	Lutheran
	von Struve	Fayette	Catholic
	von Sach	Fayette	Lutheran
	Weyland	Fayette	Lutheran

## *Ancestor search starts in Hamburg*

Many Americans come to Hamburg to get something they can find nowhere else: information about their ancestors.

The Historic Immigration Office has preserved ships' records from 1850 to 1914. The records are among the few that survived World War II and are

considered the most complete in all northern Europe.

If your ancestors are among the 5 million emigrants from Germany, Poland, Russia or Eastern Europe and sailed from Hamburg, there is a good chance their names and other pertinent information are in the 274 microfilm files.

For the trained researchers to begin a search, they must have the name of your ancestor and the exact year of emigration. Any other information, from a family Bible, old letters or birth certificates, may help.

Each search costs \$30. If the exact

**EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, August 6, 1989**

year of emigration is not known, searches will cost \$30 for each year. Searches take about an hour if the exact year of departure is known. If the search is successful, you will receive a certificate with an excerpt of the original ship's list containing your ancestor's personal data — age, occupation, marital status, number of children and city of origin — as well as the name of the ship, its destination and date of sailing for the New World.

If the search is unsuccessful, you will get a certificate stating you were in Hamburg tracing your family's roots, as well as the "Emigration" brochure.

Written requests are accepted, but only with prior payment in a cashier's check.

The office is located in the Museum fuer Hamburgische Geschichte (Museum for Hamburg History), only a few minutes' walk from downtown and a couple of blocks from the harbor. The address is Historic Emigration Office, Museum fuer Hamburgische Geschichte, Holstenwall 24, 2000 Hamburg, 38, West Germany. (Phone 30-05-12-50).

— RON WILSON

This is another example of the misleading information being published on the Hamburg Passenger Lists. It is not true that this is information that you "can find nowhere else." The Hamburg Passenger Lists are among the microform holdings of the LDS, so you can look at them at a Family History Library in or near your own hometown. See GTGS Newsletter, Fall, 1987, pp. 181-183, for an article on the use of the Hamburg Passenger Lists.

## SOME COMMENTS ON THE GALVESTON PASSENGER LISTS, 1846-1871

by Harold Mueller

For many years I have been searching for the elusive arrival date(s) of ancestors who arrived, according to family lore, in Galveston/Indianola in 1851-52. After many frustrating years of searches, many letters (some unanswered), some results have been obtained. For those who may be pursuing the same kind of searching, a few caveats may be mentioned. In the process of searching, I don't recall seeing any discussion of problems relating to the passenger lists. From the program of the German-Texan Heritage Society's meeting in Galveston, September, 1987, these matters may have been covered in the "Short Report" of Margaret Edwards entitled "Missing Ship Lists." (German-Texan Heritage Society Newsletter, Vol. IX, No.2, p. 96)

My search for at least one date was resolved when I chanced upon the two volumes of Blaha's Passenger Lists for Galveston, 1850-1855, in the Sophienburg Archives in New Braunfels. See below for more about this publication.

I think my serious searching began at least 22 years ago, with the two Geue books (references at end), beginning with A New Land Beckoned in 1967. Later I received an autographed copy of New Homes In a New Land from Mrs. Geue in February, 1970. Although there is no statement by the Geues in their books claiming to have listed all voyages and all passengers from 1844 to 1861, since I did not see a disclaimer to this effect, I assumed, perhaps naively, that the two books covered all voyages and all passengers for the years 1844-61. They do not!

When I could not locate my ancestors in these publications, I assumed (incorrectly) that they had landed elsewhere, despite family tradition to the contrary. I tried to locate the source of Mrs. Geue's information, but learned from her daughter that she was no longer living, and I was referred to her adviser, Dr. Chester V. Kielman, Librarian-Archivist of Barker Texas History Center at that time. Dr. Kielman replied that "Mrs. Geue acquired this source from the National Archives and not from our holdings in the Barker Center."

Before I discovered that the Geue notes were in the Barker Center (which I have not searched), I tried to find other sources. The Geues state that they used many sources for their information. This was obvious; much information such as final destinations of passengers, deaths subsequent to arrivals, etc., could not have been obtained solely from the passenger lists. It would have been helpful to have had more documentation on their sources!

Much time was spent in the National Archives in Washington going over the microfilm copy (National Archives, Microcopy 575, Roll 3) of the Galveston passenger list (reference below), and I finally purchased my own copy in order to continue the study. I assumed it would be complete. It is not!

After receiving my copy, a cursory glance revealed many gaps. When I called this to the attention of the Archives, I received a reply to the effect that the microfilm "contains copies of all the original passenger lists or abstracts received by the National Archives for the port of Galveston....These records are not complete, however, and there may be many gaps in the lists for a particular port." This understatement is understandable, considering the age of the documents, the lack of earlier care, and events such as the Civil War and hurricanes. What I do not understand is why there is no caveat to this effect in their catalog (Immigrant & Passenger Arrivals: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications, Washington, D. C., 1983, p. 4)



Recently I decided to review the microfilm again in order to see what the film actually contains. For what it may be worth, the following is my reading of the film.

Contents of Microcopy 575, Roll 3, National Archives

YEAR	QUARTERS INCLUDED	NUMBER MISSING
1846:	1st, 2nd quarters (missing pages in 2nd quarter); [Kreisle family arrival, <u>Andacia Valley</u> , Mar. 27, 1846, not Mar. 29, as in Geues, <u>New Land</u> , pp. 116, 167] (pp. 1-38 missing, noted on film)	2
1847:	4th quarter;	3
1848:	1st, 2nd, 4th quarters;	1
1849:	2nd & 4th quarters;	2
1850:	1st, 2nd, 4th quarters; [Bleicke family arrival, <u>Reform</u> , Nov. 29, 1850, Geue, <u>New Homes</u> , pp. 40, 55]	1
1851:	missing, a one year gap! [Thomas family arrival, <u>Ammerland</u> , Oct. 28, 1851, Blaha, Ship No. 5]	4
1852:	1st, 3rd quarters; [Anna Baldinger return, <u>Neptun</u> , Dec. 29, 1852, Blaha, Ship No. 29]	2
1853-56	missing, a four year gap!	16
1857:	1st, 3rd quarters; [Southern: 3rd, 4th quarters] [Gaston, "Bremen, Sept. 6, 1857; Galveston, Nov. 7, 1857," Geue, <u>New Homes</u> , p. 39]	2
1858:	1st, 2nd quarters;	2
1859-65	missing, a seven year gap, including Civil War years;	28
1866:	Sept, 4th quarter; [Southern: 3rd, 4th quarters]	(2)
1867:	1st, 2nd, 4th quarters;	1
1868:	1st, 4th quarters;	2
1869:	4th quarter;	3
1870:	2nd, 3rd, 4th quarters; [Southern: 2nd, 3rd quarters]	1
1871:	1st, 2nd quarters quarters included=30	quarters missing=721

[Bracketed comments refer to arrival dates of families under study.  
Southern=Contents listed for the Galveston County Genealogical Society  
publication in the Southern Historical Press Spring, 1987 Catalog]

Thus, of the 102 quarters of the 25 1/2 years spanned, only 29.4% of the quarters are included, and the record is more than 70% incomplete.

As indicated above, I was particularly interested in the period 1851-52, for which there are gaps in Geue's book. The arrival of the ship Ammerland on Oct. 28, 1851 is also omitted from other recently published versions (Filby/Glazier; Galveston County Genealogical Society). This is readily explained by the fact that the primary source, the microfilm of the National Archives has these same gaps (see chart, above).

It is possible that some gaps in the film may not have existed when the Geues used the film. For example, Geue, p. 39, New Homes, lists the ship Gaston as arriving in Galveston "7.XI.1857," but this quarter is missing in the microfilm. This seems to indicate that the information disappeared from records after the Geues consulted them, or that they found this information in other sources. Strangely, Mrs. Geue uses a photograph of the Johann Peter Tatsch home in Fredericksburg, but his name appears nowhere in her book, text or index, because the names of the passengers of the ship on which the Tatsch family apparently traveled, the Ammerland, were not known to her.

For several years I tried unsuccessfully to locate copies of the New Braunfels Zeitung cited by the Geues. My letters went unanswered, or I was told that reprints were not available. I finally saw a copy of the anniversary issue of the Zeitung of 1952 in the Sophienburg Archives in New Braunfels. I had assumed that it contained a complete list, but apparently, from a brief examination, it does not!

When the Galveston County Genealogical Society published their version (reference below) of the lists, I tried to ascertain if the gaps in the microfilm were covered in their publication. I could get no assurance that they were, but I was sent a copy of the Spring, 1987 Catalog of the Southern Historical Press, Inc. The listing of the volume in this catalog does have a warning in regard to the missing quarters. Except for minor differences noted in the list above, their reading of the number of quarters covered is essentially the same as mine. When I had a chance to see the book briefly in 1988, I determined that the same gaps in the film were present in the book. Later I examined the book again at the Sophienburg, and I discovered errors in the names of my ancestors for whom I knew the arrival date, as well in the spelling of the name of the ship, the Andacia Valley, on which they arrived (p. 4, for "Fireisle", read "Kreisle;" p. 5, for "Joseph M. Berk," read "Joseph M. Beck").

A brief test of the prestigious and expensive volume, Germans to America; Passengers Arriving 1850-55. Ed. Ira A. Glazier and P. William Filby, Vol. 2, May 1951-June 1852 (references at end), also provided no help for the elusive date and seems to preserve the missing links in time periods. The scope is much larger, covering all U. S. ports, apparently.

My search was finally resolved when I consulted the Blaha book (reference below), which lists the passengers from German departure ports from 1850-1855. My great-grandmother's family departed from Bremen and arrived on the Ammerland, Oct. 28, 1851, Ship No. 5 in Blaha's list. Although this resolved one question, other questions now arise, but at least the elusive arrival date and the ship's name for one family have been found!

The source of the passenger list of the Ammerland was the Allgemeine Auswanderer Zeitung of Dec. 13, 1851, and the page carries the note "Found by Eva Lembcke, Hamburg." The page also carries the comment, "Also in the GEUE'S collection." If "collection" refers to the two Geue publications, not so!

Reading the family's village of origin required some license. Instead of the name, "Rabespeichern?," the name must be read as "Raversbeuren." This and other acknowledged misreadings are the result, apparently, of several readers and transcribers.

I thought this enumeration of my experiences might be helpful to others in avoiding some of the pitfalls in my search.

#### REFERENCES

Blaha, Sr., Albert J. Volume I, Passenger Lists for Galveston, 1850-1855. Privately printed 1985 by the compiler, now deceased. A later (limited) edition has corrections and index. The title page lists the volume as available from Bernard Kneuper, 1203 Brooklyn Ave., San Antonio, Texas 78212, however, Mr. Kneuper has indicated that copies are not available.

Filby, P. William, and Ira A. Glazier. Germans to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U. S. Ports, 1850-1855. Two Volumes, additional volumes forthcoming. Volume 1, 1850-1851. Volume 2, 1851-1852. \$75.00 per volumes, 10% discount on standing orders for all volumes. Scholarly Resources, Inc., 104 Greenhill Ave., Wilmington, DE 19805.

Galveston County Genealogical Society. Ships Passenger Lists, Port of Galveston, 1846-1871. Southern Historical Press, Inc., 1984. \$28.00

Geue, Chester, and Ethel Hander Geue. A New Land Beckoned; German Immigration to Texas 1844-1847, c. 1966.

Geue, Ethel Hander. New Homes In a New Land; German Immigration to Texas 1847-1861, c. 1970.

Among some of the errors, A New Land, p. 166, the ill-fated Nahant did not sail from Bremen, but Antwerp, as correctly shown on p. 167. In New Homes, p. 40, Mrs. Geue lists no voyages by the Neptune after 1854, however, in the German-Texan Heritage Society's Newsletter (Vol. IX, No. 1, pp. 35-39), there are two accounts of anonymous travelers who arrived in Galveston on the Neptune in December, 1856. (The 1852 date given on p. 37 should be 1856, according to the translator, Mr. Bernard F. Kneuper.)

National Archives, Microcopy 575, Roll 3, Copies of Lists of Passengers Arriving at the Port of Galveston, Texas 1846-1871, 1964.

New Braunfels Zeitung, anniversary issue, 1952.

Submitted by Harold Mueller, 518 Fourth St., Marietta, Ohio 45750

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#### HERMAN LOUIS KOERTH

HERMAN LOUIS KOERTH born March 14, 1909 near Mooreville in Falls County, Texas--a son of WILLIAM FREDRICK KOERTH and MARTHA MARIE "RENN" KOERTH--married on November 23, 1938 in Falls County, Texas to O'TILLIE JUILANNA KAULFUS born March 18, 1912 in Falls County, died August 31, 1967 in a Rosebud Hospital buried in Cottonwood Cemetery near Mooreville --a daughter of PAUL JULIUS KAULFUS and HERTHA CAROLINA "WEISER" KAULFUS. Herman and Tillie are the parents of two children, Mary Ann and Jimmie.

MARY ANN KOERTH born August 22, 1942 near Barclay, graduated from Chilton High School in 1960--married on May 18, 1962 in Robinson, Texas to CHARLES EDWARD NISWANGER born February 16, 1939 in McLennan County, attended Axtell High School and Enlisted in the United States Navy in August 1956 and was Honorably Discharged in August 1962--a son of LEE FRANKLIN NISWANGER and MATTIE AMANDA "SHELTON" NISWANGER. Mary Ann and Charles now live in Prosper, Texas where Charles and his son own and operate a Optical Business. Mary Ann and Charles are the parents of two children, William and Sherry.

WILLIAM LOUIS NISWANGER born February 28, 1963 in Dallas, Texas graduated from Prosper High School in 1981 and from Tarleton State University in 1985 with a degree in Education and Business. William also played Football for Tarleton being their starting center for the 1984 and 1985 seasons--married on September 10, 1988 in Dallas, Texas to JENNIFER ANNALEE BLANTON born November 12, 1963 in Dallas, graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas in 1982 and from Southern Methodist University in 1986 with a degree in Communications--a daughter of LAWRENCE CARD and GEORGE ANN "BROCKMAN" BLANTON. William and Jennifer live in Prosper where William works in the Optical Business and Jennifer works for E D S .

SHERRY JUILANNA NISWANGER born September 9, 1964 in Dallas, Texas graduated from Prosper High School in 1983 and from Tarleton State University in 1988 with a degree in Elementary and physical education--married on May 16, 1987 in Prosper to ARLON HUGH RAGSDALE JR. born September 1, 1967 in Greenville, Texas graduated from Early High School in Early, Texas in 1985 and from Tarleton State University in 1988 with a Agricultural degree-- a son of ARLON HUGH and JUNE "HARRISON" RAGSDALE SR.. Sherry and Hugh are Teachers and will be parents in October 1989.

JIMMIE HERMAN KOERTH born November 2, 1950 in Rosebud, Texas graduated from Chilton High School in 1969 and attended TSTI in Waco, Texas. Jimmie entered the United States Army in February 1981 and served in South Korea and was Honorably Discharged in September 1982--married on May 3, 1983 in Waco, Texas to STARRLYNN CARTER born November 22, 1949

continued on next page

Herman Louis Koerth, continued

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on the Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi, graduated from Poudre High School in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1967--a daughter of SAMUEL FRANCES and ELIZABETH "DANNER" CARTER. Starrlynn has a son by a previous marriage, JAMES GREGORY EAGER born March 20, 1971 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Jimmie and Starrlynn live in Robinson, Texas. Jimmie is a Supervisor for a Major Company in Waco, Texas and Starrlynn is a Mary Kay Beauty Consulant in the Robinson and Waco area

Herman was a farmer in Falls County and lived on his home place until he retired from farming. Herman and Tillie then moved to Chilton, Texas.

by;

MARY ANN "KOERTH" NISWANGER, P.O. BOX 597, PROSPER, TEXAS 75078

WILLIAM FREDRICK KOERTH

WILLIAM FREDRICK KOERTH born January 7, 1879 in Kamienica, Prov. of Posen Germany died February 21, 1961 in Falls County buried in Cottonwood Cemetery near Mooreville--a son of LUDWIG and EMILIE SOPHIA "STURM" KOERTH JR., came to the United States with his parents, two sisters, and one brother in December 1881 when he was Two years and Eleven months old. William became a citizen of the United States on February 27, 1919--married on November 15, 1906 in Falls County to MARTHA MARIE RENN born February 17, 1884 in Washington, County died October 14, 1927 in Falls county buried in Cottonwood Cemetery near Mooreville--a daughter of AMALIE "CHRISTOPH" RENN and step daughter of AUGUST KURTZ. William moved to Falls County at about the age of Twenty One years old and was a farmer all his life owning his own farm in Falls County north of Mooreville, Texas. William and Martha are the parents of seven children, Lillie, Herman, Lydia, Johnnie, Elsie, Albert, and Alfred.

LILLIE EMILIE born August 22, 1907--married on February 21, 1927 to CHARLIE FRED HABEL JR. born August 17, 1906 died March 9, 1986 in a Waco Hospital buried in Cottonwood Cemetery--a son of CHARLIE FRED and EMMA "ROTHE" HABEL SR.. Lillie and Charlie are the parents of three children--Charles, Robert, and Helen Komorowski.

HERMAN LOUIS born March 14, 1909--married on November 23, 1938 to O'TILLIE JULIANNA KAULFUS born March 18, 1912 died August 31 1967 in a Rosebud Hospital buried in Cottonwood Cemetery--a daughter of PAUL JULIUS and HERTHA CAROLINE "WEISER" KAULFUS. Herman and Tillie are the parents of two children, Mary Ann Niswanger, and Jimmie.

LYDIA MINNIE born September 21, 1910--married on February 25, 1937 to ADOLPH RIENHOLD NEWMAN born October 5, 1910--a son of OTTO GUSTAV PAUL and OLGA AMILIE "HAHN" NEWMAN. Lydia and Adolph are the parents of two children Melvin, and Jeanette Schrader.

JOHNNIE ADOLPH born September 16, 1913 died February 19, 1988 in a Houston Hospital buried in McLennan County--married on December 18, 1937 to LEONA PAULINE MARIE ZETTLER born July 18, 1917.

ELSIE HULDA born October 26, 1915 died January 22, 1918 in Falls County buried in Cottonwood Cemetery.

ALBERT HENRY born November 12, 1919 died December 17, 1985 in San Antonio Veterans Hospital buried in Cottonwood Cemetery.

ALFRED WILLIAM born October 21, 1922 died December 10, 1985 in Robinson buried in Cottonwood Cemetery--married on October 21, 1944 to BETTY JENE GRIFFIE born June 24, 1925. Alfred and Betty are the parents of three children, Martha, Judy Richardson, and Pattie Ondrej.

by:

Mary Ann "Koerth" Niswanger

MARY ANN NISWANGER  
P. O. BOX 597  
PROSPER, TX. 75078

In our previous issue were Mary Ann's stories on Wieser, Kaulfus, and Sitz.

LUDWIG KOERTH JR. born March 3, 1848 in Germany died January 5, 1937 buried in Robinson, Texas--a son of LUDWIG and WILHELMINE KOERTH SR.-- married in Germany to EMILIE SOPHIA STURM born September 21, 1848 in Germany died June 30, 1942 buried in Robinson, Texas. Ludwig and Emilie and four of their five children born in the Posen area of Germany came to the United States in December of 1881, they settled in Washington County near the towns of Zoin and Gay Hill. Ludwig farmed in these areas. They attended the St. Peters Lutheran Church near Gay Hill. Ludwig and his family left Washington County during the 1900's moving to Bell County for a few years and then to Falls County. Ludwig and Emilie are the parents of ten children, Emma, John, Adolph, William, Bertha, Emil, Otto, Annie, Hulda, and Wilhelmine.

EMMA OTTILIE born July 24, 1871 in Sarbka, Prov. of Posen Germany died December 9, 1956 buried in St. Paul Cemetery in Falls County-- married on November 16, 1893 to EMIL WEGWERTH born April 4, 1866 died February 4, 1918 buried in St. Paul Cemetery. Emma and Emil are the parents of eight children, Herman, Martha, Edward, Paul, Selma, Charlie, Henry, and Alma.

JOHN born in Sarbka, Prov. of Posen Germany died before 1881 in Germany.

ADOLPH AUGUST born October 19, 1876 in Sarbka, Prov. of Posen Germany died July 26, 1969 in Bruceville--married on October 11, 1901 to META TEETZ born August 22, 1879 in Germany died May 4, 1973 in Bruceville. Adolph and Meta are the parents of eight children, William, Annie, Rosa, Louis, Edwin, Hattie, Robert, and Edna.

WILLIAM FREDRICK born January 7, 1879 in Kamienica, Prov. of Posen Germany died February 21, 1961 buried in Cottonwood Cemetery near Mooreville--married on November 15, 1906 to MARTHA MARIE RENN born February 17, 1884 died October 14, 1927 buried in Cottonwood Cemetery-- a daughter of AMALIE "CHRISTOPH" RENN and stepdaughter of AUGUST KURTZ. William and Martha are the parents of seven children, Lillie, Herman, Lydia, Johnnie, Elsie, Albert, and Alfred.

BERTHA EMILIE born August 22, 1881 in Sarbka, Prov. of Posen Germany died September 3, 1974 buried in Blevins Cemetery--married on January 18, 1903 to CHRISTIAN H. HUBER born September 2, 1875 in Germany died October 14, 1913 buried in Blevins Cemetery. Bertha and Christian are the parents of seven children, Elsie, John, Otto, Willie, Albert, Paul, and Ernest.

EMIL HERMAN born November 13, 1883 in Zionville died May 28, 1976 in Falls County--married on December 25, 1907 to BERTHA MARSTALLER born March 18, 1888 died February 21, 1959 in Falls County. Emil and Bertha are the parents of two children, Emia, and Benjamin.

OTTO REINHOLD born February 16, 1886 in Washington County died June, 14, 1957 in Houston--married on October 14, 1909 to HULDA CLARA KURTZ born October 30, 1892 died February 16, 1963 in Houston. Otto and Hulda are the parents of four children, Hildigard, Esther, Herbert, and Helen.

ANNIE AUGUSTA born June 16, 1888 in Washington County died September 20, 1958 buried in Robinson--married on December 14, 1911 to HENRY HERMAN WUEBKER born July 21, 1884 died May 3, 1940 buried in Robinson.

HULDA MARIE born August 10, 1890 in Washington County died May 16, 1931 in McLennan County--married on November 28, 1912 to CHARLIE HENRY MARSTALLER SR. born July 11, 1889 died in McLennan County. Hulda and Charlie are the parents of five children, Lydia, Lillie, Charlie Jr., Viola, and Florian.

WILHELMINE EARNESTINE born July 31, 1893 in Washington County died in 1981 in Falls County--married on December 25, 1914 to WILEY BENJAMIN HUNT born January 24, 1894 died November 9, 1966 in Falls County. Wilhelmine (Minnie) and Wiley are the parents of two children, Willie and Lillian.

by:

Mary Ann "Koerth" Niswanger, P.O. Box 597, Prosper, Texas 75078

From: Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter, April 1989, pages 6-7.

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WAS YOUR ANCESTOR REALLY FROM "HANNOVER"?

To: Various German-American Genealogical Societies.

From: Ernest Thode

The church book keeper at the Evangelical Lutheran Church Archive of the City of Hannover has asked me to publicize the fact that the origin "Hannover" almost always refers to the Kingdom or Province of Hannover, not the city of Hannover. Please publish the following letter, if possible. (My translation.)

Herr REESE, Church Book Keeper  
Evangelisch-lutherischer Stadtkirchenverband Hannover  
(Lutheran Church Association of the City of Hannover)  
Stadtkirchenkanzlei (Municipal Court Chancery)  
Kirchenbuchamt/Kartei (Church Book Office and Card File)  
Arnswaldstrasse 28  
Postfach 5740  
D-3000 Hannover 1  
Federal Republic of Germany

Dear Mr. Thode:

Every year we receive several hundred inquiries to assemble family trees from the classical emigration lands of the 19th century.

In over 99% of all cases in which the place of origin of "Hannover" is given, it pertains to the former Kingdom, namely some place out of the 4,352 localities in this huge region. For a long time we have been seeking a possibility to make this fact clear to a wide public in the U.S., Australia, and Canada. Perhaps we might ask you to make the media and specialized journals aware that by "Hannover" the province or the kingdom is always meant, and that we can only begin genealogical research here if the exact name of the place of birth is previously determined in the U.S. from old documents, perhaps from archives, old family Bibles, or historic tombstones, inasmuch as all the church books today are found in local churches.

Herr REESE

[Note by Ernest Thode]:

Also note that the same holds true for other cities whose names correspond to the territory, such as Baden-Baden, Braunschweig (Brunswick), Darmstadt (Hessen-Darmstadt), Kassel (Hessen-Kassel), Luxembourg, Nassau, Oldenburg, Posen, Waldeck, and Zweibrücken. Some analogies to make this clear would be that not everybody from "New York" is from New York City; some are from Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, Scarsdale, etc.; not everybody from "Washington" is from the city in the District of Columbia, but might be from the State (continued on next page)

Continued from previous page

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of Washington (or Washington County in various states, or Washington city in various states). Several of these places, such as Baden-Baden and Darmstadt, have developed form letters to answer the numerous inquiries from people seeking their roots.

Also, American genealogists might do well to consider that few people would leave a large bustling capital city in Germany and wind up out in the country on a farm in Ohio or Iowa, keeping cattle and hogs and chickens, facts which they might very well know about their ancestors from "Baden-Baden" or "Hannover" or "Darmstadt."

#### ADVICE FROM THE IGS

Even in this country, genealogists get into trouble with local county records keepers when they write for records which do not exist for the time period or do not belong in that jurisdiction. All of us need to learn to do a better job with our homework before we start off with pen in hand. There are resources in the Immigrant Library which could help avoid such mistakes in European research.

If you don't know where your ancestor originated, let the IGS give you some suggestions. Perhaps, they can direct you to someone who is doing research on your surname who may already have the answer or at least can give you an idea as to the place of origin of the family.

Someone of your surname in the telephone books of the area might offer suggestions as to the original area. Many times the surnames are in distinctly separate parts of the country. Note the success story from using the telephone directories in the Fall 1988 issue of German-American Genealogy.

If you can come in person to the Library, volunteers will be on hand to help you with these resources--the largest German genealogical collection in the U.S. outside of Salt Lake.

Write for a schedule of fees for such Immigrant Library resource use.

Contact: Immigrant Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369

## EARLY EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PALATINE EMIGRATION

*Walter Allen Knittle*

Between 1708 and 1710 over three thousand Palatine emigrants landed in New York, and at approximately the same time nearly a thousand others arrived in Virginia and North Carolina. In due course, they were joined by thousands of other Palatines, the vast majority of whom settled in Pennsylvania. Prior to the appearance of the Knittle work there had been random studies of these various immigrations, but of the movement of the Palatines as a whole, no complete or continuous narrative existed. Knittle, of course, more than made up for the deficiency. His work examines the causes of the early Palatine emigrations, the migrations themselves, and the activities of the emigrants in the New World, with considerable emphasis on their settlements in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and the Mohawk and Hudson Valleys of New York. For the genealogist, the appendices are utterly invaluable. They contain the names of some 12,000 Palatine emigrants and give the number of persons in their families and the dates of emigration.

*"The book is heartily recommended to every historian and genealogist, not only for the splendid informative lists . . . but for the background it gives to family research for those whose genealogical interests reach beyond the point . . . of collecting only dates and names."*— The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, Vol. LXVIII, No. 1.

xxi, 320 pp., illus., indexed, cloth.

(1937), reissued 1989. \$20.00

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## German Postal Codes

Observant *BULLETIN* readers will have noticed that the first reference in each issue to a German locality (other than a large city, such as Berlin, Köln, or Dresden, which will appear on almost any map of any scale) is preceded by a postal code. This is done to prevent confusion: at last count there were 48 localities named "Neukirchen" in both West Germany and the German Democratic Republic, and the clearest way to distinguish between them is by reference to the postal code.

The United States and Canada both contain many localities with the same name. However, the postal services of both countries did not permit more than one post office with any given name to exist in any single state or province. This in effect prevented the proliferation of localities, all with the same name, within close proximity to one another, with the result that, even today, there is only one town or city by a given name in any given state.

Germany, however, was settled far earlier than either the United States or Canada, and became a unified state only in 1871. Indeed, prior to 1806, Germany consisted of almost 400 separate, independent states, some of them only a few square miles in size. With no central authority regulating the naming of localities it was quite possible for two localities with the same name to exist within a few miles from one another, although they often belonged originally to separate German states.

Continental European postal codes consist of a single letter or series of letters which identify each country, followed by a series of numbers. "D" is the international letter code for West Germany. "DDR" the code for the German Democratic Republic. Other letter codes genealogists may come across while researching ethnic German ancestry are "A" for Austria, "CH" for Switzerland, "DK" for Denmark, "F" for France, and "NL" for the Netherlands.

In West Germany and the German Democratic Republic, the postal letter code is immediately followed by a "-" and a four-digit numeric postal code. These codes are arranged geographically around certain large cities. In West Germany the codes for these cities consist of a single non-zero digit followed by three zeros: D-1000

Berlin, D-2000 Hamburg, D-3000 Hannover, D-4000 Düsseldorf, D-5000 Köln, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main, D-7000 Stuttgart, and D-8000 München.

The German Democratic Republic does not retain zone numbers (see below), but incorporates these directly into the four-digit numeric code, so that, with two exceptions, the numeric code for each of the principal postal centers does not consist of a single non-zero digit followed by three zeros, but of a single non-zero digit followed by a zero followed in turn by a "10" or, in one case, a "20": DDR-1010 Berlin, DDR-2000 Neubrandenburg, DDR-3010 Magdeburg, DDR-4020 Halle, DDR-5010 Erfurt, DDR-6000 Suhl, DDR-7010 Leipzig, DDR-8010 Dresden, and DDR-9010 Karl-Marx-Stadt [formerly Chemnitz].

In both West Germany and the German Democratic Republic, each additional non-zero digit in a postal code indicates a smaller community within the vicinity of one of the major cities. Thus the code D-8235 represents a village in the area of D-8230 Bad Reichenhall, which is itself in the larger area of D-8200 Rosenheim, in the postal district of D-8000 München. In like manner, the code DDR-4321 represents a village in the area of DDR-4320 Aschersleben, in the larger area of DDR-4300 Quedlinburg, in the postal district of DDR-4020 Halle.

In West Germany, many of large cities and wide-spread rural districts have retained zone numbers, which are written immediately following the city or district name, i.e.: D-1000 Berlin 33. A zone number does not necessarily indicate a section of the "historic" city itself, but can represent a suburb or outlying area many miles from the city center.

Readers will notice that in certain instances the postal code for a village does not seem to correspond to the name of the village, i.e.: the postal code for Bergkirchen is D-4990 Bad Oeynhaus. This is a result of the increasing "rationalization" of government services throughout Europe, and indicates that the village of Bergkirchen does not have a separate post office; all mail addressed to the village is routed through Bad Oeynhaus.

*Michael Palmer and Kevin Tvedt*





GTHS Members Attend 1100th Anniversary Celebration in Ancestors' Hometown



# 1100 Jahre Olfen 889 – 1989

GTHS members Theresa Gold of San Antonio and Emma and Albert Helpert of Dallas attended the opening ceremonies of the 2-week celebration of the 1100th anniversary of Olfen, a town of 10,000 in Nordrhein-Westfalen, the hometown of the Hoelscher and Buxkemper Families. First, they met with the mayor, city manager, and director of the festival, pictured at right with the Texas visitors and their two host couples. The two women were presented large bouquets of flowers in bright red and yellow, the town's colors. See photo below. As the news article states, there are now 12,000 descendants in the U.S., with 1,000 or more attending the biennial reunions. The next reunion will be held June 16-17, 1990 in San Antonio. Olfen is much older than 1100 years; 889 marks its first mention in writing. Above circles show the two sides of a medallion commemorating the anniversary; the reverse side shows the quote from 889. The medallion will be a prize at the next family reunion.

Ruhr-Nachrichten

Freitag, 18. August 1989



Emma und Albert Helpert (3. u. 4. v.l.) sowie Theresia Gold (7.v.l.) und ihre Olfener Verwandten wurden gestern im Olfener Rathaus von der Stadtspitze empfangen.

## Familie Hölscher hat heute in Texas 12 000 Nachfahren

Olfen.(thas) Die Sprachmischung aus Hochdeutsch, Platt und sattem amerikanischen Slang ließ keinen Zweifel beim Empfang der Stadt aufkommen, die ersten auswärtigen Gäste zur 1100-Jahr-Feier sind da. Im Sitzungszimmer des Rathauses wurden gestern Emma und Albert Helpert sowie die Historikerin Theresia Gold begrüßt. In ihrer Begleitung waren Verwandte der Familie Buxkämper.

Bürgermeister Albert Knümann nannte in seiner Begrüßung die Hintergründe des Stadtjubiläums, wies auf geschichtliche Daten hin, stellte die enorme Entwicklung Olfens in den letzten Jahrzehnten heraus. Die amerikanischen Gäste, Emma Helpert hatte ja auch

im Rahmen der WDR-Sendung aus der Steverstadt über die Familie berichtet, informierte über Olfen in Texas, zeigte Unterschiede zum hiesigen Leben auf.

Beim Gespräch über die Familienchronik erfuhren die Teilnehmer des Empfangs, daß die Nachfahren des 1846 ausgewanderten Anton Hölschers heute die größte Familie in Texas ist. Sie weist heute 12 000 Nachfahren auf und besitzt eine Computer-Anschriftenliste mit 3 000 Familienadressen. Rund 90 Prozent wohnen davon in Texas. Die Familie hat bisher drei Bücher mit Namensverzeichnungen der Nachkommen veröffentlicht: 1954, 1958 und 1978. Seit 1954 veranstaltet die Familie in jedem

Jahr mit gerade Jahreszahl ein Treffen, das von wenigstens 1 000 Mitgliedern besucht wird. Dabei handelt es sich um das größte Familientreffen in Texas. Bereits jetzt steht fest, daß man am 16. und 17. Juni 1990 in San Antonio wieder zusammenkommen wird.

Nachdem sich die Gäste aus den USA in das Goldene Buch der Stadt eingetragen hatten, überreichte ihnen Bürgermeister Knümann Blumen. Die amerikanischen Gäste werden auch der Eröffnungsfeier am Samstag beiwohnen, bevor sie am Montag Olfen schon wieder verlassen. Ihren dreiwöchigen Aufenthalt in Deutschland wollen sich auch zum Besuch weiterer Verwandten nutzen.



# Fredericke Wilhelm House and Sarah Elizabeth Powell House

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(~By Marianne Elizabeth Hall Little, Houston)

Fredericke Wilhelm House was born February 26, 1833 in the Kingdom of Hannover. It is thought that his father was Christian Hundhausen from Rosbach, Hannover. His mother passed away before the family moved to Texas on the Colchis in 1846 and his father remarried shortly after they arrived at Indianola, Texas. It is thought that Fred had more than the one brother, Christopher who died in battle during the Civil War. And probably one sister who married a Mr. Weber in Gillespie Co., Texas where they and Hundhausen settled. Fred made his way from Indianola to San Antonio riding behind "Old Mr. Campbell" on Campbell's mule. He was 13 years old when he came to Yorktown which was comprised of the Strieber family, C.G. Hartmann family, the Hoppes, the Hardts and Peter Metz. John King lived near the settlement and Fred hired out to him for two years. For these services Fred was given ten acres of land, five cows and a horse. His next employer was Elijah Ray near Kenedy and in 1854 went into Old Mexico with Mr. Newman, taking cattle down and bringing horses back to Texas. Fred's first house was in upper Yorktown, near where Henry Menn's place was and near to Fred's Butcher Shop which was under the oak trees there. Fred continued the butcher shop for about three years before he moved out on Salt Creek and began ranching shortly after he married Sarah Elizabeth Powell, daughter of Samuel S. and Agnes Stone Powell of Madison County, Kentucky, in Jan., 1855.

Sarah Elizabeth Powell had been born in Henry County, Kentucky on December 30, 1838 and her parents had a plantation that adjoined that of

Samuel's father, LittleBerry Powell near Richmond, Madison Co., Kentucky. LittleBerry was the son of William Powell, Sr. and had married Samuel's mother, Sarah Sally Kerr (daughter of Samuel Kerr) on December 16, 1807 in Madison Co. Ky. Sarah Elizabeth Powell married Fred House soon after the Powell family moved to DeWitt County.

Fred and Sarah's children were John R. born Oct. 12, 1855, Harriet Jane Agnes born February 12, 1857, Annie born Oct. 6, 1859, Laura born Oct. 13, 1861, Martha born Aug. 21, 1865, Christopher born Oct. 10, 1867, Mary born Sept. 27, 1870, Elizabeth born Aug. 22, 1872, Henry born Nov. 21, 1874, Robert born Jan. 9, 1877 and Ola May born Oct. 31, 1880.

The House Ranch prospered and Fred began furnishing cattle for the Kansas Drive and was an agent, under power of attorney, for 700 brands, over territory extending from the mountains to the Rio Grande for over ten years. He accumulated many thousand acres before he moved back to Yorktown in 1910 after buying the Danysch residence.

After Sarah Elizabeth Powell House died in January, 1895, Fred later married Mrs. Ada Tulley Coleman, daughter of a A.J. Tulley and widow of Mr. Coleman, on Dec. 23, 1899. There was a son by this second marriage, William Frederick House.

Fred began his service to the Confederate Government in 1861 when he drove 1,220 head of cattle to New Iberia, Louisiana. Fred enlisted in Capt. Henry Gonzales Woods Company, 2 Regiment Carter's Brigade, Texas mounted volunteers at Camp Carter, Hempstead, Texas on April 21, 1862 after having joined on Feb. 3 at Yorktown with Capt. Cupples holding the rank of Sergeant at the age of 27. This company

became Co. K., 24 Regiment Texas Cavalary. Fred, his brother Christopher, and other members of this regiment were taken prisoner of war by the Union Soldiers on Jan. 11, 1863 at Arkansas Post, Arkansas. His name appears as "F. Hund" on the prisoner of war rolls and Chris' name is "Hause". They were held prisoner at Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois until April, 1863 when they were exchanged at City Point, VA. The regiment was retained in the Battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mt. and at this latter engagement, he pulled the first battery up the mountain. He was later in the Atlanta Campaign, where they fought every day down to the Battles of Ringold and Dalton. His youngest brother was killed in action at Resaca. (This may or may not have been Chris).

There is an excellent article on Fred House in A History of Texas and Texans, Vol. 3, issued by the American Historical Society, pages 1521-1524. There is also mention of Fred in The Trail Drivers of Texas and Reminiscences of the Boys in Gray 1861-1865.

In his obituary which appeared in the Yorktown newspaper on May 21, 1921, it stated that Fred "was a man who united sound sense with strong convictions, and candid, outspoken temper, eminently fitted to mould the rude elements of pioneer society into form and consistency, and aid in raising a high standard of citizenship in our young and growing state." Fred died at his home in Yorktown on Saturday morning at 6 o'clock May 21, 1921 at the age of 88 years, 2 months, and 25 days and was buried at his family cemetery, House Cemetery, at Davy with the Rev. A.T. Cocks of Davy Methodist Church officiating. He is buried next to his first wife, Sarah Elizabeth Powell House.

## IN SAXONY

Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs was born ca. 1800 and was the eldest child of the Beckendorff family of Kalbe an der Muelda. She had two younger brothers, Carl Beckendorff, Sr. and August Beckendorff, Sr. Family tradition has it that Friedericke married Frederick (Fritz) Kobs, Sr. ca. 1826. He was born ca. 1798 at Kalbe an der Muelda.<sup>1</sup>

Friedericke and Fritz Kobs had three children born at Kalbe an der Muelda. They were:

Wilhelm, born May 25, 1831  
 Frederick (Fritz), Jr., born April 30, 1833  
 Friedericke Marie, born November 9, 1837.

Kalbe an der Muelda was a town in Saxony which was controlled by Prussia. Life was hard politically and economically. Friedericke's brother, August Beckendorff, Sr., emigrated with his family to Texas in 1847.<sup>2</sup> He settled on Brays Bayou about four miles south of downtown Houston where Rice Institute now stands.<sup>3</sup>

## SAILING TO TEXAS

The Kobs family followed the Beckendorffs to Texas the next year. The shipping record of the family states that the family was from Kalbe, and Fritz Kobs, Sr. supported his family as a musician. They left Bremen on the brig, *Canopus*, which arrived at Galveston on December 19, 1848.<sup>4</sup>

Descendants of Wilhelm Kobs recall the story he told of the journey. According to his story, the Kobs family spoke a Schaumbin dialect. When their ship arrived at Galveston Island, the island had been ravaged by a storm, so they had to sail to Indianola.<sup>5</sup>

Another story of the journey is believed to have been written by Hulda Kobs Brandt, daughter of Fritz Kobs, Jr. This written story was found in Hulda's papers by her granddaughter, Eileen Brandt Raschke. According to the story, the Kobs family left their home at Kalbe an der Muelda on October 6, 1848. The voyage from Bremen to Galveston took them about ten weeks. They went from Galveston to Houston. While in Houston they stayed at Peter Buck's immigration house until they could find a home.

## SETTLING AT ROSE HILL

A German by the name of Franz Fritz furnished the Kobs family transportation from Houston to Rose Hill. The journey was described.

"The women rode in an oxen wagon with trunks, baggage, and a base fiddle that grandfather had played in a band that specialized in playing for weddings. The men had to walk along beside the wagon for the five days of the journey."

The Kobs family arrived at Rose Hill on December 31, 1848. They bought a furnished home and forty acres of land. Food was needed so.

"He (Fritz Kobs, Sr.) went to a neighbor to purchase a beef. This neighbor gave

him his choice of any beef on the ranch for only \$7.00. The man shot the beef of grandfather's choice and dressed the meat for him in the spirit of welcoming a new neighbor to their thinly settled community."<sup>6</sup>

Wilhelm Kobs told his descendants that they arrived at Rose Hill on New Year's Day. They first settled west of present day FM 149 and south of Brown Road. The land was too sandy to farm, so they moved to the Kobs Road area. The road was named after them.<sup>7</sup> The Beckendorff family left Brays Bayou and moved near the Kobs family.

## CROPS & NEIGHBORS

The 1850 U.S. Census shows Fritz Kobs, Sr. working as a farmer. Neighbors were the Ryders, Osbornes, Stracks, and Jacob Krug family.<sup>8</sup> The enumerator spelled the Kobs surname, "Copes". He spelled the name phonetically which proves that the correct way to pronounce the name is with a long "o" vowel sound and a soft "b" that sounds closely like a "p". The modern pronunciation of Kobs with a short "o" and hard "b" sound like "corn on the cob" is often heard but is not correct.

The Agricultural Census of 1850 shows "Fred Copes" with 15 acres of improved land and 70 acres of unimproved land. The farm was valued at \$160. Farming implements and machinery were valued at \$25. He owned 3 horses, 4 milch cows, and 2 working oxen. Livestock was valued at \$120. He also farmed 60 bushels of Indian corn.<sup>9</sup>

Fritz Kobs, Sr. began paying taxes on land in 1850. His property was in the House League. However, he did not record a deed for any property until 1852. This deed was for 200 acres in the Edwards League. In 1860, he divided his 200 acres three ways. He kept 70 acres and gave each of his two sons 65 acres.<sup>10</sup>

## THEIR DEATHS

The last tax entry for Fritz Kobs, Sr. was in 1861. It seems that he died between 1861-1865. There is no church record of his death. Since this time period was during the Civil War, records were not very well kept. Dora Kobs Hillegeist recalls that her grandfather, Wilhelm Kobs, told his children that when Fritz Kobs, Sr. died, he was buried in the cemetery that later was included in the Salem Lutheran Cemetery. (The Salem Lutheran Cemetery was established in 1869.) A fir tree was planted at the head of his grave.<sup>11</sup>

Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs appeared on the Harris County tax rolls in 1865.<sup>12</sup> In 1867, she deeded each of her two sons 70.2 acres.<sup>13</sup> The original Kobs property was probably not a full 200 acres, and the exact acreage was not known until surveyed and deeded to the sons.

The 1870 U.S. Census does not list Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs. It is believed that she died between the years 1867-1870. Her death is not listed in the Salem Lutheran Church records. Wilhelm Kobs also told his children that she was buried in the cemetery that became part of Salem Lutheran Cemetery, and a fir tree was planted at the head of her grave as a marker.<sup>14</sup>

Wilhelm Kobs remained on the Kobs homeplace and expanded his acreage to include part of Montgomery County. He received his brother's share of

the property when Fritz, Jr. deeded it to him and moved to Bear Creek.<sup>15</sup>  
 Descendants of Wilhelm Kobs are still living on this property.

## NOTES

1. Lydia Kobs Peterson and Lorina Brannies Kobs, "A Family Record of the life of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Kobs", written for the 1965 Fritz, Jr. and Dorothea Meyer Kobs Reunion.

2. "Brig Helen & Elise, December 7, 1847".  
 Copies of Lists of Passengers Arriving at Galveston, Texas, 1846-1871, microfilm A-416, Texas A & M University Library, College Station, Texas.

2. Ethel Hander Geue, *New Homes In a New Land*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1982, pp. 39, 52.

3. "Beckendorffs Hold Reunion in Park". *The Brookshire Times*, Katy, Texas, (after August 6), 1978.

4. "Brig Canapus, December 19, 1848". Copies of Lists of Passengers Arriving at Galveston, Texas, 1846-1871, microfilm A-416, Texas A & M University Library, College Station, Texas.

4. Ethel Hander Geue, *New Homes In a New Land*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1982, pp. 39, 92.

5. Lessie Upchurch, *Welcome to Tomball*, D. Armstrong Co., Inc., Houston, Texas, 1976, pg. 12.

6. (Hulda Kobs Brandt?), "The Journey of the Frederick Kobs Family", undated, Collection of Eileen Brandt Raschke, Houston, Texas.

7. Dora Kobs Hillegeist interview, Rose Hill, Texas, Summer 1985.

8. U. S. 1850 Census, "Schedule I.-Free Inhabitants in the County of Harris, State of Texas, House #590, Family #582, December 4, 1850.

9. U. S. 1850 Agricultural Census, "Schedule 4.-Production of Agriculture in Harris County", pg. 355, owner #17, December 2, 1850.

10. Assessment of Taxes for Harris County, Texas, Made for the Years 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861. (Found on microfilm in Houston Public Library.)

10. Isaac W. Brashear deeds to Fritz Kobs, 200 acres land in Edwards League on April 8, 1852, recorded January 25, 1855, Volume R, Page 490. Harris County Deeds.

11. Dora Kobs Hillegeist interview, Rose Hill, Texas, Summer 1985.

11. Lessie Upchurch, *Welcome to Tomball*, D. Armstrong Co., Inc., Houston, Texas, 1976, pg. 196.

12. Assessment of Taxes for Harris County, Texas, Made for the Year 1865, pg. 38. (Found on microfilm in Houston Public Library.)

13. Fredericka Kobs releases to Fredrick Kobs Jr., 70-2/10 acres in Edwards League on March 22, 1867, recorded July 11, 1867, Volume 5, Page 347, Harris County Deeds.

13. Fredericka Kobs releases to Wilhelm Kobs, 70-2/10 acres in Edwards League on March 22, 1867, recorded February 20, 1868, Volume 5, Page 688,

## Harris County Deeds.

14. Dora Kobs Hillegeist interview, Rose Hill, Texas, Summer 1985.
15. Frederick Kobs releases to Wilhelm Kobs, 70-2/10 acres in Edwards League on December 21, 1870, recorded January 13, 1871, Volume 9B, Page 152, Harris County Deeds.

By Marie Neuman Gottfried, 35531 Stenzel Road, Brookshire, Texas, 77423. 713-934-4525.

This is a chapter taken from her book, *The Descendants of Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs*. Volume I includes specific information about the descendants of Wilhelm Kobs and his wife Louise Brautigam Kobs of Harris County, Texas. For information on purchasing the book, write Marie Gottfried. In previous issue: Marie's story on Christian Meyer.

### Kulow-Schultz, Beckmann-Siegert Reunion Held

The Cat Spring Agricultural Hall was the scene of the first annual family reunion from four lines, consisting of the Kulow-Schultz, Beckmann-Siegert ancestry.

The event was held on Saturday, July 15 from 2 until 6 p.m. Everyone enjoyed taped music reminiscent of times long past.

The reunion was held in commemoration of Theodore Siegert and his wife, Minnie Schultz Siegert. They grew up in the Cat Spring-Peters community, and moved to Eagle Lake when they married.

Theodore Siegert played clarinet in the Cat Spring Band at the age of 18. Minnie Schultz Siegert attended the old one-room schoolhouse at Cat Spring under the tutelage of Mr. Charles May.

Augusta Kulow Schultz came to America at the age of 12, along with her mother Dorothea Frehse Kulow and her brothers and sisters. Their starting point in Germany was from the community of Teschendorf.

Genealogical research proves that Berthold Siegert, a young man from Mecklinberg Schwerin, Germany, arrived in America with some money in his pocket and settled in Peters to start a general mercantile store, dealing in many items needed by farmers of the area.

He married Mary Beckmann,

and they had four children together. She helped him get started in the grocery business, and she often baked pies, cakes and cookies for him to sell. He then applied for and was appointed postmaster of the area from June 24, 1889 until his death.

In March of 1926 a new postmaster was appointed. Mr. Siegert donated the land the present "Hacienda Hall" stands on. The rest of his property is called the "Siegert Addition."

Henry Beckmann, his brother-in-law, was co-owner of the business. As a sideline, he manufactured bricks. He later moved to Eagle Lake, where he opened a cigar store.

August Schultz Sr. was a farmer and horsebreeder. His mother, Maria Kohlhoff, then married William Schultz Sr., who was a farmer and saloon owner in Cat Spring. Most of the early settlers were farmers, and were the very "backbone of the community."

Trying to recreate a touch of the old world influence, Lucille Siegert Ricke put on a version of a skit called "Mein Hut," along with all the children present at the reunion. Dorothy Siegert Storenski made costumes for those persons wishing to dress in the German custom. Earl Siegert was master of ceremonies for the event. G.O. Cain gave the blessing before meals.

This barbecue with all the trimmings was enjoyed by all, along with lots of covered dishes, deserts, coffee, tea, and the bar was open for beer and sodas. The children were not forgotten. They enjoyed popcorn, candy and balloons.

The event was honored to have Mrs. Joyce Brock, historian for the Cat Spring area, give an informative talk on the history and culture of the area, along with her collection of pictures and other memorabilia.

There was a drawing for the door prize, and many other prizes were given out, too numerous to mention. The persons making the reunion a success were given "thank you" gifts as well.

Laverne Schultz Manuel led the sing-a-longs of old time favorites. Leroy Schultz read a part of "Guten Abend, Gut Nacht," and the reunion was over after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Auf Wiedersehn until next year for the second annual reunion.

From: Bellville Times, Aug. 10, 1989.  
Sent by Lucille Ricke of Houston.

Next Journal deadline is February 20, 1990.  
Send all notices of Summer 1990 family reunions  
to your Genealogy Editor before February 15, 1990.



Museum of the Western Prairie 1100 North Hightower P. O. Box 574 Altus, OK 73521

17 October 1989

Director  
 German Texas Heritage Society  
 Rt. 2, Box 239-A  
 Buda, Texas 78610

Dear Director:

I write articles for The Chronicles of Oklahoma, the quarterly publication of the Oklahoma Historical Society. I am currently researching early German architecture of the region.

I am focusing on a group of rock structures built in Childress County before the turn of the century. These buildings were constructed by a German named Jacob Kreis. Apparently, he came to the area around 1880.

Jacob's grandson, Herman, lived on the property until he passed away a couple of years ago. It is incredible, but I have been unable to find out anything about the Kreis family. I would like to know where they lived before they settled in Childress County.

- |                                |                |                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| The skimpy information I have: | Jacob M. Kreis | b. May 29, 1848<br>d. May 2, 1902                               |
|                                | Belle Kreis    | b. 1850<br>d. 1917                                              |
|                                | Herman Kreis   | b. April 4, 1911 in Uvalde, Texas<br>d. Nov., 1987 in Childress |

Thanks so much for any information you may be able to provide. I have tried everything I know but have come up with a blank.

Sincerely,

Leo Kelley  
 Assistant Curator

**EIN WITZ BLEIBT SELTEN ALLEIN**

Der Optiker zu seinem Kunden: „Dieses Mini-Hörgerät kann ich Ihnen wirklich empfehlen. Kein Mensch sieht es. Hier, schauen Sie, ich trage es selbst.“ – „Sehr schön“, meint der Kunde, „und was kostet es?“ Der Optiker: „Nein, nein, es rostet überhaupt nicht!“

„Bernie, wenn auf dem Tisch zwei Fliegen sitzen, und ich erwische eine mit der Klatsche, wieviel Fliegen sind dann übrig?“ – „Bernie, der Dreikäsehoch: „Eine, Herr Lehrer.“ – „Richtig...“ Da hakt Bernie nach: „Nämlich die tote...“

„Ich mache jetzt in Karate.“ – „Nicht schlecht. Brillanten werden immer gekauft!“

Herr Lehmann hat seine wöchentliche Sitzung beim Psychiater. Der Arzt: „Nachdem ich Sie nun in Ihre Pubertätszeit versetzt habe, was

sehen Sie?“ – Der Patient: „Lauter nackte Teenager.“ – „Ob?“ ruft da der Psychiater. „rutschen Sie schnell ein bisschen zur Seite – das muß ich mir mal ansehen!“

Der Polizist hält eine hübsche Autofahrerin an. Routinekontrolle. Und die Frage: „Trinken Sie schon mal... na sagen wir: ein Gläschen Sekt?“ – „Bevor ich diese Frage beantworte“, meint die Schöne, „muß ich erst wissen: Gehört sie zur Sicherheitsüberprüfung oder soll sie eine Einladung sein?“

Auf einer stillen Stranddüne sagt der blonde Gerd zu seiner hübschen Stupsi: „Schrei mal aus voller Brust um Hilfe. Wenn keiner kommt, bleiben wir hier!“

Es sagte... der zerstreute Professor, als ihm der Arzt den Rücken abklopfte: „Herein!“



Von KLAUS PETERS (Text) und WERNER GABRIEL (Fotos)

„Woodrow 11 Meilen“, Tahoka 28 Meilen“, „Fort Worth 270 Meilen“ versprechen die Wegweiser auf dem Dorfplatz. Doch die Hinweisschilder sind ebenso gefälscht wie die gesamte Ansiedlung. Lubbock ist keine Westerntown, sondern so etwas wie ein Potemkinsches Dorf. Hinter der Fassade des „Marshall-Office“ verbirgt sich ein deutsches Wochenendhäuschen mit Plüschsöfa, Teewagen und Fernseher.

**Perfekte Nadrasur**

Eine heimelige Atmosphäre herrscht ebenso in den vier Wänden des „Barber Shop“, auch wenn das Werbeschild im Fenster eine perfekte Nadrasur verspricht. Immerhin wohnt dort wirklich eine Friseurin. Alle Gebäude wurden mit einer ordentlichen deutschen Baugenehmigung errichtet. Denn Lubbock liegt nicht in Texas,

wie die Wegweiser weismachen wollen, sondern in der Eifel, mitten in einem Naturschutzgebiet. Die Großstadt Köln sowie Zulpich, Weilerswist und Euskirchen sind nur wenige Kilometer entfernt.

Aus diesem Umkreis stammen auch die Bewohner von Lubbock. Der Dachdecker Hans E. Daubach streift hier samstags mit seiner Alltagskleidung und seinem Namen auch seine bürgerliche Existenz ab und pendelt als „Bilby“ zwei Tage lang in lederen Bekleidern und einem 2000-Mark-Colt im Gürtel zwischen seiner Wochenend-Wohnung und dem Saloon hin und her. Dort trifft er seinen Vater Richard, der als „Ringo“ am Tresen gegenüber dem riesigen Spiegel sein Kölsch trinkt. Und die etwa 35 anderen Kameraden, die sich samstags und sonntags in der Tracht der „Oldtimer“ und Trapper dort befinden. Die Bezeichnung „Cowboy“ wäre den Mitgliedern des Vereins „Western-Indianer-Freunde Köln“ zu

ungenau: „Oldtimer“ waren die landläufig als Cowboys bezeichneten amerikanischen Viehhirten in der Zeit zwischen 1860 und 1880. Der einzige Indianer des Vereins, Karl Hauschild, trägt seine Tracht nur noch selten. Dafür ist der mittlerweile 63jährige zum Ehrenmitglied aufgerückt.

**Zwei Jahre Bewährung**

Als Ehre gilt auch schon die bloße Mitgliedschaft im Verein. Da der Baugrund begrenzt ist, können Neulinge nur aufgenommen werden, wenn ein anderes Mitglied stirbt oder sein Haus verliert. Zur Zeit gilt ein Aufnahme-Stopp. Zwei Jahre lang müssen sich die Anwärter auf jeden Fall bewähren, bevor sie, mit dem Segen der Vollversammlung, als Aktive akzeptiert werden. Bewährung heißt zuerst Teilnahme an Vereinsleben. „Das wichtigste ist bei uns das gemütliche Beisammensein“, sagt der Vereins-Vorsitzende Christian „Chris“ Hülser. Gemein-

sam arbeiten die Westerbegeisterten an ihren Trachten und studieren historische Vorlagen. Denn die Kleidung soll möglichst originalgetreu sein. „Was im Fernsehen zu sehen ist, so repräsentativ“, sagt Karl-Heinz Hülser, Sohn des Vorsitzenden, „ist doch zum größten Teil Quatsch.“

Die Ruhe auf der „Main Street“ wird mit behördlicher Genehmigung nur sonntags vormittags zwischen 10 Uhr und 12 Uhr unterbrochen. Dann treten die Oldtimer zum Collischieren an. Geübt wird mit Platzpatronen auf Luftballons, die in etwa fünf Meter Entfernung, beschwert mit einem Metallring, an einer genau auszurichteten Waage hängen. Wenn der erste Schütze getroffen hat, schnell der zweite Ballon hoch, der Kontrahent hat damit verloren. So wird auf eine hundertstel Sekunde genau der schnellere Schütze ermittelt. Ein zehnteltes Auge ist auch nachmittags beim Rodeo gefragt. Dabei wird die Kunst des Lassow-

„Originalstadt“ Lubbock in Texas eine Ortschaft mit 185.000 Einwohnern. 1973 fuhr eine erste Abordnung von neun Mitgliedern in die Stadt, um sich dort die Namensrechte zu holen. Sie bekamen den Namen und dazu viele Ehrungen. Am Flugplatz lag ein roter Teppich ausgerollt. „Chris“ Hülser ist mittlerweile Ehrenbürger der Stadt.

**Grüße aus Texas**

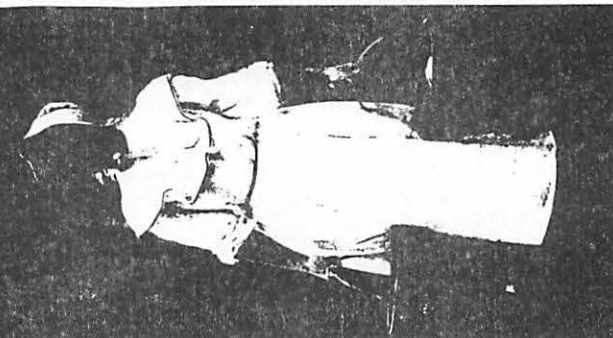
Theo Hurtz, ehemaliger Kampfliege der Bundeswehr, fährt sehr häufig in die Partnerstadt. Er hat dort seine Frau gefunden und bringt nach Verwandten-Besuchen stets Grübe und Geschenke vom texanischen Stadtrat mit. Die Bilder, Fahnen und Plaketten schmücken nun die Wand des Saloons. Dabei sehen die Kölner Westerntreue über einen Schönheitsfehler großzügig hinweg: Lubbock in Texas wurde erst 1989 gegründet – die originalen Oldtimer haben also auch dort nie gelebt.



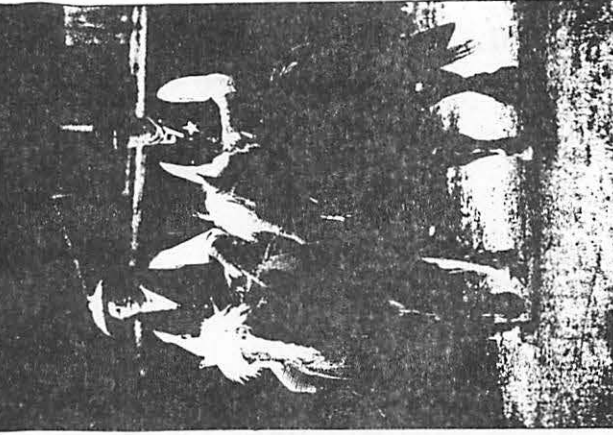
Immer auf dem Posten: Der Sheriff von Lubbock

**3000 Interessierte kommen jedes Jahr**

Der Verein „Western-Indianer-Freunde Köln“ wurde 1957 gegründet. Ab 1961 pacheten die Mitglieder ein Gelände in der Nähe von Montabaur seit 1972 bauten sie ihre Häuser auf dem Gelände in Lommersum. Als letztes Gebäude wurde eine Kirche errichtet. Bislang hat dort nur ein Geistlicher gesprochen, ansonsten wird der Raum für Versammlungen genutzt. In der Westerntstadt dürfen zwar originale Colts getragen werden, die Patronen im Gürtel müssen jedoch unbrauchbar gemacht werden. Jedes Jahr im Spätsommer lockt der Verein mit einem „Tag der offenen Tür“ 3000 Interessierte nach „Lubbock“. Auch an den anderen Wochenenden können sich Spaziergänger die Stadt ansehen. Der Kölner Verein gehört zum Niederrheinbund, in



Frau in Originaltracht



Sheriff und Deputy inspizieren die Umgebung

Etwa 30 Kilometer hinter Köln, am Ortsrand von Lommersum, liegt versteckt hinter hohen Bäumen die Westerntstadt „Lubbock“. Dort betreiben etwa 40 Männer und Frauen mit seltener

Ernsthaftigkeit ein Hobby, auf das andere Zeitgenossen, oft aus Mangel an besseren Ideen, nur zu Karneval verfallen. Verkleidet treffen sie sich dort zum gemütlichen Beisammensein.

**Am Tresen des Saloons**



JACOB BRODBECK

231

# Aviation Pioneer



This monument was erected in Dec. of 1986 in the quadrant of MARKET SQUARE on the southwest of the VEREINS KIRCHE in Fredericksburg, Texas. The idea of the monument was conceived by Richard Cook, the sculptor of the bust and Sherman Brodbeck, great-grandson of Jacob Brodbeck.

With the cooperation of the Fredericksburg Independent School District and the Gillespie County Historical Society and many helpful descendants; Jacob Brodbeck was finally honored for his efforts in AVIATION HISTORY and Community Service.

For this occasion a Memorial Book was compiled and edited by Anita Tatsch, a great-granddaughter of Jacob Brodbeck. The book contains a Chronological History of the GERMANS coming to a new land, TEXAS and their hardships to build a new life. It gives the life and the struggles of JACOB BRODBECK to build better transportation for his countrymen. The book contains pictures etc. never before published; plus a list of ships that brought the GERMANS to Texas.

Jacob Brodbeck had developed a model of his AIR SHIP by 1863, which was powered by a CLOCK SPRING. He demonstrated his model at public gatherings to promote interest by the general public. He later sold shares to build a larger model which he developed and flew in 1865 only 30 miles north of San Antonio, Texas.

Anita Tatsch named her book : " Jacob Brodbeck Reached for the Sky in Texas "

\*\*\*\*\*

Anita Tatsch  
 Rt. 2 Box 314  
 Spicewood, Texas 78669  
 (512) -693-2894

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# Oompah Time in Hermann, Mo.

In a town with German roots, Oktoberfest is just one of many festivals

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1989

By ROBIN GARR

**D**ISGUSTED with their life in Philadelphia and hoping to create a Teutonic empire in the wilderness, a band of hardy German-American settlers founded a new town, Hermann, in the rolling hills of central Missouri just before Christmas in 1837. The site they chose, on the banks of the Missouri River, must have reminded them of the Rhine.

They named their town after Arminius, the larger-than-life tribal leader who crushed Varus's army of Roman legions in A.D. 9, and they dreamed that Hermann would eclipse Philadelphia some day.

The settlers wanted their children to speak German, not English, and to be raised in an entirely German environment. They built sturdy brick houses, established schools, planted grapevines and erected a huge stone winery on a hill. They named their main street Market Street to match the broadest thoroughfare of the City of Brotherly Love — but they made it 10 feet wider.

The strict rules laid down by the Deutsche Ansiedlungs Gesellschaft zu Philadelphia (German Settlement Society of Philadelphia), which planned the town, purchased land for its development and organized expeditions of settlers, declared that the town would be "thoroughly German in every particular." It was a noble dream, worthy of Arminius himself, but the dream was soon dashed.

Early settlers were horrified by the region's harsh winters and plagued by poor soil and disease, and the society quickly collapsed. Its founder, George Bayer, died broken-hearted in 1839, and the remaining settlers crankily denied permission for his remains to rest in the town cemetery.

The expected flood of settlers abated to a trickle or less, and today Hermann has only about 2,800 inhabitants, virtually all of whom claim German descent and participate in an annual Oktoberfest that packs its streets with tourists every weekend in October. The village, particularly its 10-block historic section, is neither a restoration nor a museum-piece setting; it is a living, working community passed down from the early 19th century with its architecture and style largely intact.

Save for paved streets, automobiles, utility wires and electric lights, block after block appears much as it must have been more than 100 years ago, when school was taught in German and the Stone Hill Winery on a rocky slope southwest of town was the second largest winery in the United States and the third largest in the world.

Tiny Hermann boasts more than 100 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, including many of its nearly two dozen bed-and-breakfast accommodations, which range from diminutive cottages to hulking Victorian brownstones.

Several restaurants are adequate; one, Vintage 1847, at Stone Hill Winery, is superior. And, although Missouri's wine industry is not widely known outside the state's borders, three wineries in the Hermann area offer tours and produce award-winning wine.

While the village may be short on big-city night life (it generally rolls up the sidewalks early, save for horn-honking local residents who ride through its main streets late into weekend nights), Hermann offers more than enough history, antiques shopping and relaxation to justify a weekend stay, even without one of the frequent festivals that dot its calendar. During the festivals, however, Hermann dons its best lederhosen to welcome visitors seeking its special kind of small-town German-American fun.

From the sausage-redolent air of the Wurstfest in March through the Maifest in May; the Great Stone Hill Grape Stomp in August; the Erntefest (Harvest Festival) in early September to the Old-Fashioned

Christmas shopper's weekend in December, hardly a month goes by without a special event in Hermann. But Hermann's biggest festival is its Oktoberfest.

**E**VERY weekend in October, German bands fill Hermann's air with oompah tunes, amid a cornucopia of wine, sauerkraut, sausages and cheeses. The three wineries that form the Hermann Vintners Association sponsor the event, and visitors are urged to wear their best "German-related dress." (On Nov. 11, the wineries will join for Nouveau Day, the first public tasting of the new wines; the Hermannhof Winery sponsors a Jaegerfest — or Hunter's Feast — then and a Madrigal Dinner on Nov. 18.)

During October, the town's restaurants will offer special bills of fare, and Hermannhof Winery's cavernous Festhalle building will open for German music, food and wine in a scene not entirely unlike a miniature version of Oktoberfest in Munich. The resemblance could hardly have displeased Hermann's founders, who even named its avenues after such Germanic heroes as Schiller, Gutenberg, Mozart and Goethe.

The town is situated in a bowl-like valley surrounded by low, wooded hills. Most of the roads that lead from Hermann crest those hills and provide excellent views of its red-brick row houses and church steeples along the river below.

The German School at Third and Schiller streets is a good place to start a walking tour of Hermann. This blocky brick building houses the Hermann Museum. It is as cluttered and cozy as an old attic, filled with 19th-century memorabilia of the town and of the steamboats that plied the Missouri.

More views of Missouri life a century ago are found in the Deutschheim State Historic Site at Second and Market Streets, which incorporates the 1840 Pommer-Gentner House and the Strehly House, a former winery. The museum is lovely but rickety, with hardly a right angle or level floor, but the building is as solid as its German heritage. Exhibits focus on old-time Missouri German handwork, folk art and culture, and include a backyard herb garden.

The White House Hotel, a three-story building on Wharf Street along the river, was considered the ultimate in hosteleries when it opened around the time of the Civil War. Its high ceilings have gently turning fans that provide a cool atmosphere on a muggy summer day.

The proprietors, Bob and Judi Plummer, like to tell the story of a turn-of-the-century politician, William Jennings Bryan, three times unsuccessful candidate for President, who stayed in the hotel in 1896 and reportedly said, "It took the town of Hermann to put me in the White House!"

The 36-room hotel offers only limited bed-and-breakfast service now, but the Plummers give tours, sell antiques and gifts and operate a Victorian-style ice cream parlor.

Some of the commercial buildings that line First Street, Hermann's main business street, show the effects of 20th-century modernization, but nostalgic rules at the Concert Hall & Barrel Bar, where good beer and hearty snacks have crossed the bar since 1878 — even during Prohibition, when it was known as Boehm's Ice Cream Parlor but continued to operate a lively back room. A

recent owner, Harry Heberle, a former county sheriff, restored the second floor and resumed the tradition of weekend parties, dances and concerts; the main bar is informal, filled with elk heads and dark wood.

One of Hermann's more unusual spots is Whiskey Jack's Museum on Fourth Street, where Jack Haney, a 62-year-old retired Navy electrician, displays his collection of whiskey stills and Prohibition-era memorabilia in a musty basement that once housed a wine cellar. Particular oddities include bottles of highly alcoholic "tonics" and a still that once doubled as a washing machine. "Ninety percent of the people in this town were involved with wine, whiskey or beer," says Mr. Haney. "When it went out with Prohibition, it pretty well put everyone out of business."

Indeed, if Hermann had any remaining chance at glory after the German settlement society collapsed, it could have come of wine. The Missouri valley's icy winters don't foster the culture of the grapes used in fine European-style wines, but the hardy native American grapes and French-American hybrids that grow here make wines that many people prefer over the strong-flavored native grapes favored by old-time wine producers in New York and along the Eastern seaboard.

Stone Hill Winery was established on a hill just south of town in 1847, and by the 1890's it was producing 1250,000 gallons of wine a year. Its wines won world renown and captured gold medals at eight world's fairs before the turn of the century.

However, its reputation faltered after George Stark, the owner, died and as anti-German sentiment before World War I cut into sales. The winery was closed when Prohibition began, in 1920; its stone cellars were converted into mushroom farms.

In 1965, more than 30 years after the repeal of Prohibition, Jim and Betty Held purchased Stone Hill and started making wine once more. Production is up to 100,000 gallons a year, and the wines — particularly the Norton, an oak-aged red wine made from an unusual native grape — are winning medals again.

Stone Hill's 1985 and 1986 Nortons are dry, European-style red wines, redolent of fruit and oak, and similar to a good California Zinfandel. Its oak-aged 1988 Seyval somewhat resembles a first-rate Chardonnay. There are about 20 varieties of Stone Hill wines, ranging from \$4.40 to \$14.95 for a 750-milliliter bottle; Stone Hill offers tours of the winery.

**A**NOTHER old (1852) Hermann winery that has come back to life in recent years is Hermannhof, with a capacity to produce 50,000 gallons of wine a year. Situated on First Street, within walking distance of the town's historic district, the winery offers tours, tastings and snacks, which include its own sausages, made from a 150-year-old recipe. Hermannhof Norton has also won awards in national competition, and its dozen varieties range from \$6.25 to \$16 a bottle. The Brut is an exceptional dry sparkling wine, and the 1983 Norton (which won a silver medal earlier this year) is a fine, claret-style red.

Bias Vineyards & Winery, with seven acres of grapes, was founded in 1980 and is situated amid more than 100 acres of vineyards about 10 miles east of Hermann. Jim and Norma Bias, the owners, are usually on hand to pour samples of their dozen varieties, which are priced in the \$5 range.

Hermann's small scale is perfect for strolling. There's something delightful to be found around almost every corner, from quaint old buildings and intriguing shops to abundant hollyhocks and gnarled old grapevines that still abound.



The New York Times/Sept. 24, 1989

Hermann is about 75 miles west of St. Louis, by way of Interstate 70 and Missouri 19 or Interstate 44 and Missouri 100.

### Historic Places

Deutschheim State Historic Site, including the 1840 Pommer-Gentner House, 108 Market Street, and the Strehly House, a former winery, 130 South Second Street, 314-486-2200. Open daily, admission 50 cents.

The German School Historic Hermann Museum, 312 Schiller Street, 314-486-2017. Daily admission \$1.

Whiskey Jack's Museum, 127 East Fourth Street, 314-486-2871. Open festival weekends 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., otherwise by appointment. Admission \$1.

The White House Hotel, 232 Wharf Street, 314-486-3200. Tours \$2.

### Wineries

Bias Vineyards & Winery, Route 1, Berger, Mo., 314-834-5475. Free tours daily.

Hermannhof Winery, 330 East First Street, 314-486-5959. Tours daily, admission \$1.50.

Stone Hill Winery, Stone Hill Highway, 314-486-2221. Tours daily, admission \$1.50.

### Information

Hermann Visitors Information Center, 306 Market Street, 314-486-2744. Hermann Chamber of Commerce, 115 East Third Street, 314-486-2313. R. G.

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Return to: The Austrian Club, P. O. Box 802007, Dallas, Tx. 75380-2007

Further info: Friedl Lake 528-8412, Inge Boeck 436-5011, Inez Seaney 250-3846

**SEND US NEWS ABOUT GERMAN-TEXAN EVENTS!**

**Europeans Plan an East German Trade Pact**

BRUSSELS, Dec. 19 (Reuters) — The European Commission disclosed proposals today for a wide-ranging trade and economic pact with East Germany, one day after it signed a similar deal with the Soviet Union.

The 10-year pact, outlined at a meeting of foreign ministers by the European Community's external relations commissioner, Frans Andriessen, was originally conceived to cover only trade. But the replacement of East Berlin's hard-line Communist leadership by rulers promising a more market-oriented economy has led the European Commission, the community's executive branch, to broaden the pact.

The West German Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, told reporters he had urged the European governments to agree to a mandate for the talks by the end of the week.

A commission spokesman said Mr. Andriessen also told ministers he had received a letter from Czechoslovakia's new Prime Minister, Marian Calfa, asking for talks on enlarging a 1988 pact on trade in industrial goods.

Mr. Andriessen also announced that negotiations with Bulgaria on a trade and cooperation agreement, held up by the community in recent months in protest over the previous Government's treatment of ethnic Turks, would resume in January.

The 12-nation European Community began negotiating bilateral agreements with the Soviet Union and its former satellites last year after they established diplomatic relations with the East bloc for the first time.

**Professorinnen bleiben Minderheit**

Frauen mit Habilitation (Lehrbefähigung für Universitäten und Hochschulen) sind in der Bundesrepublik weiterhin eine kleine Minderheit. Unter den 1 050 Wissenschaftlern, die sich im Jahre 1988 an den westdeutschen Hochschulen habilitierten, waren nach Angaben des Statistischen Bundesamtes genau 91 Frauen, das sind 8,7 Prozent der Gesamtzahl, und die Tendenz ist gleichbleibend.

Die Statistik stellte auch fest, daß die meisten Habilitationsschriften von Humanmedizinern verfaßt wurden (37,7 Prozent). Vier Prozent der Habilitanden waren Ausländer. Das Durchschnittsalter der Habilitanden lag bei 39 Jahren.

# GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

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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 . . . descendants of all German-speaking peoples, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

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The publication schedule for each year is:

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