## GERMAN=TEXAN HIERITAGE SOCIETY



Volume Xill Number $\mathbb{S}$ Spring, 1990

Affiliated With: The Society For Germannamerican Studies

# German-Texan Heritage Society 

Anna Thommson Executive Director 1011 Mereclith Dr. (D.D. IBOX262) Maniliaca, IX 78652 512-280-3351

| Officers/Directors Standing Conaittees |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| President |  |
| Ann Becker Lindamann | MEMBERSHIP |
| P. O. Box 218 Industry, TX 78944 | Dona Reeves-Marquardt |
| vice-president | GIPTS \& MEHORIALS |
| Mary M. El-Bcher 507 Pariand Place | Rodney Koenig |
| 507 Pariand Place <br> San Antonio, TX 78209 |  |
| ETARY | genealogy |
| Helgard Suhr | Theresa Gold |
| 8 Mission Drive |  |
| New Brunfels, TX 78130 | NOHINATIONS |
| treasurer | Levis Marquardt |
| Dona Receves-Marquardt |  |
| RL. 2, Box 239A Buda, TX 78610 | PUBLICITY |
|  | Predericka Richter DeBerry |
| board of directors |  |
| Fredericks Richter DeBerry 1023 Kemberton Drive |  |
| 1023 Kemberton Drive <br> Houston, TX 77062 | PUBLICATIONS |
|  | Journal: Mary El-Beheri |
| Therssa Gold106 Ranchland |  |
|  |  |
| San Antonio, TX 78213 | BUDGET \& PINANCE |
| Frances Heimer Harrison <br> Jin Lindenann |  |
| 118 William Classen Drive |  |
|  | TRANSLATIONS |
| Rodney C. Koarig Helgard Suhr |  |
| 6 Valley Forge |  |
|  | GRANTS \& PUNDING |
| 152412 ch Street, NW Anna Thorpson |  |
| Washington, DC 20005 |  |
| W, MPITORIAL REVIEN \& SEARCH |  |
| 2222 Cherry LanePasadena, TX 7502 |  |
|  |  |
| Helga van Schweinita | RESEARCH/HISTORICAL RECORDS |
| 2319 village Circle | h. H. Von-Maszevski |
| Austin, TX 78745 |  |
| Miriam York | ARCHIVES |
| 1409 East Austin Giddings. TX 78942 | Helga von Schreinitz |
| STATE HEADQUARTERS Anna Thompson Executive Director 1011 Meredith, P. O. Box 262 Manchaca, TX 78652 (512) 280-3351 | HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK |
|  | Leola riedt |
|  |  |
|  | PUBLIC RELATIONS/SPEAKERS |
|  | BUREAU/RESOURCE DAPA |
|  | Ann Lindenann |

Editorial Board<br>EDIFOR-IN-CHIEP (Tenporary)<br>Theresa Gold<br>106 Ranchland<br>San Antonio TX 78213<br>(512) 344-7229<br>YANAGING EDITOR<br>Anna Phompson<br>2116 Lynbrook<br>Austin $7 \times 78748$<br>(512) 282-1933<br>MEMBERSHIP EDITOR<br>Dona Reeves-Marquardt<br>Rt. 2, BOX 239-h<br>Buda TX 78610<br>(512) 295-5901

GENEALOGY and RELATED SUBJECTS
Theresa Gold
106 Ranchland
San Antonio $7 \times 78213$
(512) 344-7229

FOLKLORE
Gilbert Jordan
4100 Jackson Ave., $\$ 216$
Austin TX 78731
(512) 451-4535

GERKAN-TEXANA BOOK REVIEWS
Hanna Lewis
185 Circle Dr.
Cleveland TX 77327
(713) 294-1443

WBMORIALS/ESTATE PLANNING
Rodney Koenig
1301 McKinney, 41st Floor
Houston TX 77010
(713) 651-5151

Bditorial Board, continued
JOURNAL TOPIC INDEX and GERMAN-TEXAN REGISTRY
H. K. Von-Maszewski

2222 Cherry Lane
Pasadena TX 77502
(713) 477-2318

JOURNAL SURNAME INDEX
Cathleen Witt Stahner
8115 Hazen
Houston TX 77036
(713) 771-5331

CALLIGRAPHY
Barbara Dielnann
3338 Stoney Square
San Antonio TX 78247
(512) 494-7139

SPECIAL CONSULTANTS and COKTRIBUTORS

Lisa Kahn
4106 Merrick
Houston TX 77025
(713) 665-4325

Patsy Hand
417 cottonvood
Victoria TX 77904
(512) 575-0049

John Kothran
2625 Hudnall $\$ 225$
Dallas TX 75235
(214) 528-5646

JOURNAL PRINTER
Sergei Kabantschuk
11809 Dove Haven
Austin TX 78753
(512) $836-4635$

The JOURNAL is published three tines a year by volunteers of the Gernan-Texan Heritage Society. Subscription and rembership information is found on the last page of each issue of the JOURNAL. Back issues are available for $\$ 3.00$ each for nenbers, or $\$ 3.50$ each for non-zerbers.

REGISTRATION FORM
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7,8,9

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUG. 7
Registration cost of $\$ 27.00$ (before August 7) or $\$ 32.00$ (after August 7) includes the following:

Registration, Friday Reception, Saturday Barbecue Dinner, Programs and Entertainment

Date: $\qquad$
Registration Fee:
(Before August 7)
(After August 7) $\quad \square_{x}^{x} \$ 27.00$

Total
List the name of each person attending as you want it to appear on the name tag: $\qquad$
Street:
City:
State:
Zip Code $\qquad$ Phone\#

Make check payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
Mail REGISTRATION and CHECK to:
Anna Thompson Ex. Dir.
P.O. Box 262

Manchaca, Tex. 78652

HOTEL RESERVATION
A block of fifty rooms is being held at the special GTHS rate of $\$ 36.00$ plus tax at Brenham's PREFERENCE INN. Registration deadine at PREFERENCE INN is Aug 7, 1990. Please reserve early to insure the special GTHS room rate.

Name
Address:
Street: $\qquad$
City
$\qquad$ State z zip $\qquad$
Phone number and area code: $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ Mail hotel reservation to:

## PREFERENCE INN

201 Highway 290 Loop East Brenham, Texas 77833

For additional hotel details or phone reservations call: 409-830-1110. See Hotel location on Brenhan map (elsewhere in Journal)

## GERZAAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

FRONT COVER - Board, Officers, Committee Chairpersons, Editorial Board
GBOUTY GT5S 2 - President's Message: Ann Lindemann
3 - Want to Help?: Wendel Voigt; Nominations Committee: Lew Marquardt
4 - Leave Your German Mark: Rodney Koenig
5 - Patron and Contributing Members: Dona Reeves Marquardt
6 - GTHS 1990 Meeting, Brenham, Tentative Schedule
7 - Registration and Hotel Reservation Forms
8 - About the Area of the 1990 Meeting
13 - Map Showing Meeting Location
14 - From the 1990 Meeting Chairperson: Elizabeth Lehmann
15 - "Old Main" Blinn College, Brenham
17 - Contributors to GTHS Office; Notes from Editor; East-West Honesty

19 - Headlines from the Federal Republic since 9 Nov. 1989
20 - Geography of Germany: Conrad Goettig
21 - Geographical Map of Germany: Conrad Goettig
23 - Popular Babies' Names in Germany and USA; German Radio in La Grange
24 - Travel: Beautiful Passau
25 - Oberammergau Passion Play; Havel Drama in San Angelo: Geneva Tetley
26 - Early Texas Painters Exhibit in San Angelo; German Work Ethic
27 - Polkafest Cruise; How Tall Was Charlemagne?; Nowotny's Coats of Arms
28 - Students; Centenarians; and Fossils
29 - The "Our Father," Three Ways; Sealsfield's Book; Folklife Articles

31 - Calendar of Events: Anna Thompson
32 - Houston Liederkranz Schedule; Violet Anniversary Celebration
33 - Ney Museum; Menger Hotel
34 - Maifest 100; Polka Fest Weekend
35 - Germanfest at Violet; Early Oldenburg: Leola Tiedt
36 - 120-Jahr-Feier Neu Wehdem: Fredericka Richter DeBerry
37 - Schulenburg Sights, Legacies, and Legends
38, - San Antonio Liederkranz; High Hill and St. Rose Books, Kreische Brewery
$39^{\circ}$ - Education on West Texas Frontier

41 - Rise of the Lone Star, Book Review: Hanna Lewis; Museum Directory
42 - Pioneer Jewish Texans, Review: Hanna Lewis; Yorktown News, Rare Books
43 - Pilot Point; Recent Publications
44 - Immigration from Germany, 1820-1988, Numbers and Comments
46 - St. Peter's Church, Spring Branch: Herbert Beinhorn
51 - A Texas Child's Harvest; Olmstead Connection
52 - Beneath the Cherry Sapling, Legends from Franconia
PEOPbef53 - A. Helperts; K. Klotzbach; E. Sasse; I. Kokinda; T. Gold
54 - Grading the Chancellor (Hans M. Mark)
55 - Obits: M. Holck; A. Simmang
56 - Asta Grona; GTHS Officers; Niederwald, Uhland Hermann Sons Officers
GRERGOGY57 - Bits \& Pieces \& News, From Our Members, Genealogical Exchange
59 - News from German Genealogical Society of America
65 - Books for Sale; Genealogy Column; Locating Ancesotrs' Village
66 - Gerstanberger and Boeer Families: Lillian Schneider
68 - William Schwarz: Jane Combs
69 - Fortunate Stumbling Stone: Clare Chilers; Library of Congress
70 - Heritage Genealogical Tours; New Braunfels Records Books
71 - Blaha Collection; Huegenot Society; Lithuanian Immigrants
72 - Family Reunions, Future and Past
78 - Willman Family: Terry Jordan; Seguin Workshop; M. York's Programs
79 - Texas Baptist Historical Collection, Fort Worth
80 - Message from M. C. Forister

83 - Name Index: Cathleen Witt Stahmer
98 - GTHS Available Publications (including back issues)
99 - Information about GTHS
100 - GTHS Membership Application
INSIDE BACK COVERyifglPabiceation Schedule imannual/ Meetings; Helpful Addresses

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE<br>by Ann Lindemann

Progress is underway to develop a more far reaching GTHS. Your help in spreading the message of the German-Texan Heritage Society is needed. Contacting persons that might be interested in GTHS is very important. We would like to increase our membership with the aim of doubling our size. Let us know about individuals who might be interested, or even better present them with a gift membership.

One of our objectives is to give members the best possible service. Our new schedule for JOURNAL and Newsletter delivery is not perfect, but hopefully improving with each issue. Our thanks to Theresa Gold for serving as acting editor for this issue of the JOURNAL. Thank you also to Anna Thompson for producing the Newsletter.

At the GTHS Board meeting held Jan. 20, at Industry, various projects and plans were set in motion.

Collection of material has begun for Volume II of our Society's HANDBOOK/REGISTRY. Please send material for this volume. All categories that were covered in the original publication will remain, dates have been extended to include all German-Texan entities in existence through the 1920's. There is no longer a one hundred year age requirement for inclusion. W.M. Von-Maszewski is heading this project (see details elsewhere in this JOURNAL). Volunteers are needed now to organize and chair each section.

A publicity network is being organized. If your local paper does not carry GTHS news please contact publicity chairperson Fredericka DeBerry. Would you be willing to deliver the GTHS news releases to your local papers, or libraries, or local organization newsletters? Contact Fredericka $(1023$ Kemberton Dr., Houston, TX. 77062) to be added to the press network being created.

The collection for GTHS RESOURCE FILE (see JOURNAL XI, \#3, 1989, p. 174) is progressing. Please send information to GTHS to file into an information data base. GTHS hopes to become a center for German-Texan information. Thank you for items already recieved.

A study to develop a streamlined mechanical operation for GTHS has been instigated. A sophisticated computerized plan to connect persons preparing the JOURNAL would greatly reduce the work and time involved. Wendel Voigt is heading a committee analyzing the possibilities for this. As soon as a step by step plan is prepared, GTHS will solicit grants and donations to help implement the plan.

GTHS is seeking information and preparing a schedule of Community Fests and Celebrations in German-Texan areas. Please send information about activities in your city, town or community. GTHS would like to be represented at these events. If you are willing to help with a publicity booth at events in your area please volunteer.

As this message to you, the members of GTHS, indicates there are many opportunities for you to help, support and get involved to make GTHS an even better organization. I hope you will join in the voluntary operation of GTHS. Your suggestions for improving GTHS are welcomed and needed. Please volunteer to help with any of the above opportunities just write to: GTHS, P.O. Box 218, Industry, Texas 78944. THANK VOU!

OOME TO THE GTHS ANMUAL MEETINE<br>BRENHAM, TEXAS<br>SEPTEMEER 7,8,9, 1990

## Want to Help?

President Ann Lindemann in the January 20, 1990 Board of Director's of GTHS meet ing appointed a Computer Committee chaired by Wendel Voigt, an Engineer with IBM, to analyze the needs and make recommendations to best serve the needs of GTHS now and in the future.

The committee recommends acquisition through donation of equipment or funds of the following prioritized items:

1. IBM PS/2, IBM-AT, or IBM-AT compatible Computer (80286 or 80386)
2. Color monitor
3. 40 Megabyte Hard Drive
4. Printer (Laser or high quality dot matrix)
5. Modem ( 1200 or 2400 baud external)

A membership of over 1000 people necessitates a large storage capacity with rapid access to membership information. Printing of labels, office correspondence and preparation of financial statements requires acquisition of office equipment leading to increased office productivity. The proposed equipment will lead to greater efficiency in serving the membership.

Furthermore, printing and assembling GTHS publications will be facilitated and improved by the availability of word processing equipment. The office equipment will also be used to maintain and develop a number of large scale data bases for membership use, such as a state-wide genealogy surname list, a resource data file, and registry information materials.

You can help support this GTHS goal by contributing funds or by donating new or used equipment. We remind our members that any donations made to the Society are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. All donations will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

The committee also requests new ideas concerning sources which may lead to acquiring the above equipment. Please send your ideas or donations to the GTHS Computer Committee, P.O. Box 262, Manchaca, TX 78652. Any and all assistance will be welcome.

## GIHS Nominations Committee

According to the Restated Bylaws of GTHS, President Ann Lindemann has appointed the following Nominations committee for our Fall 1990 Convention: Norman Damerau, Beeville; w. M. Von-Maszewski, Pasadena; Miriam York of Giddings; and Lew Marquardt of Buda as Chairman. The Committee is charged with the task of selecting three candidates to serve a four-year term on the Board of Directors.

Directors who are presently completing their interim one-year term are: Frances Harrison of San Antonio, Helgard Suhr of New Braunfels, and Helga von Schweinitz of Austin.

The committee welcomes comments from GTHS membership in regard to suggestions, names, or ideas. Newly elected candidates at this Fall's convention shall serve for the four-year term 1990-19944.@1990 German-Texan Heritage Society
for gifts made to a qualified charity such as the German-Texan using a charitable remainder unitrust or a charitable foundation. using a creating such gifts, you can leave a memorial in your own name and to your own German-Texan heritage or you can honor your parents, Your grandparents, Your favorite German teacher, Your favorite German "Onkel", German "Tante" or other favorite person. follow in the type gifts that Asta Grona has made. The type gift that you might wish to make is limited only by your imagination and by your generosity. If the gifts are appropriately made, they can have significant income and estate tax benefits the gratification of knowing that you have made worthy gift to a good cause.

If you are interested in making charitable gifts to the
German-Texan Heritage Society or to the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship, please complete the form below and attach your gift to it.
Mryorial girp

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

## Amount enclosed $\$$ <br> <br> Name of Donor

 <br> <br> Name of Donor}Address
Zip

In Honor of
In Memory of
Send notification of my gift to:
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Heritage Society in my Will or through a life insurance policy. } \\ & \text { Please call me. } \\ & \text { RETURN TO: German-Texan Heritage Society } \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \text { P. Oll Meredith Drive } \\ & \text { Manchaca, Texas } 78652\end{aligned}$

With the momentous activities occurring in Eastern Europe 0 society may be becoming even more important. Many good feelings were engendered in the press and in the hearts and minds of Accordingly, this is a very opportune time to encourage all who proud of our German heritage to take action to leave our German mark. Recently, at the University of Houston a new scholarship HERITAGE SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP". Asta Grona and I attended a
 enthusiastic about the course. Later, Asta consented to becoming a member of the Damenchor of the Houston Saengerbund. Asta enjoyed heritage. Unfortunately, Asta died on February 6, 1990 after an
she has furnished the monetary resources to cause the publishing of a history of the Houston Saengerbund, the oldest musical society in Houston. Such history is being published currently and is

Houston, Texas 77270 for $\$ 7.00$ per copy, which includes postage and handling.

Additionally, the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society
Scholarship, a permanently endowed scholarship created recently, Will have its income used for research assistantships in the Texas-German pursuits at the University of Houston. We can all missed by her many friends at the Houston Saengerbund, in the German-Texan Heritage Society and other organizations, as well as the scholarship fund that she has created and will continue to live on in the history of the Houston Saengerbund which she so scholarship fund known as the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship, donations should be sent to the University of Houston, Institute of Texas-German Studies, 4800 Calhoun Street, added to the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship. We should all attempt to leave our German mark as Asta has
left her German mark. For those of us who wish to make charitable
contributions currently, an income tax deduction will be available



# GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 ANNUAL MEETING CRADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 

## Tentative Program

Friday, Soptember 7,
4:00 REGISTRATION
7:00 RECEPTION - Social Hour (cash bar)
THE HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY - Slide presentation
MUSIC - Winedale Froehliche Gesangverien.

Saturday, September 8
BREAKFAST (on own)
8:50 WELCOME
9:00 EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN AUSTIN COUNTY (Industry, Cat Spring, Shelby, New Wehdem) - James Lindemann
9:30 EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN FAYETTE COUNTY (Biegel Settlement,
Nassau) - Mrs. Daphne Garrett
10:00 COFFEE BREAK
10:30 THE WENDS AT SERBIN - Jack Wiederhold
11;00 EARLY SETTLEMENTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY
11:30 EARLY SETTLEMENTS IN COLORADO COUNTY - Miss Arliss Treybig
12:00 LUNCH (on own)
1:30 GERMAN IMAIGRANT LETTERS - Dr. Walter Kamphoefner
2:00 BLUEBELL ICECREAM PRESENTATION
2:30 THE GERMAN IMMIGRANT'S TRIP FROM BREMEN TO INDUSTRY, TEXAS Jeff Lindemann
3:00 ELIZABETH NEY IN EUROPE AND IN TEXAS - Ms. Marjorie von Rosenberg
3:30 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND OF GERMANY AS IT AFFECTS FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH WRITING LETTERS TO GERMANY SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN RESEARCH IN THE DDR Mrs. Theresa Gold and Robert Robinson-Zwahr
[3:30 OPTIONAL TOUR OF INDUSTRY, TEXAS (self driving - with published map and guide) HISTORICAL STRUCTURES AND SITES OPEN WITH DOCENTS]

6:30 SOCIAL HOUR (cash bar)
7:00 BARBECUE DINNER PROGRAM MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT - Community Band

Sunday. September 9
BREAKFAST (on own)
9:00 GERMAN CHURCH SERVICE
9:30 GERMAN POETRY - Dr. Lisa Kahn
10:00 COFFEE BREAK
10;30 THE GERMAN VOLKSFEST IN BRENHAM - W. M. Von-Maszewski
11:00 BUSINESS MEETING

## ELECTION

The Theme of this Meeting is the "CRADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS*. The program is planned to emphasize the arrival of the earliest Germans settlers to Texas, and show the magnitude of their influence in this "CRADLE" region of TEXAS!

REGISTRATION FORAM
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 MEETING SEPTEMBER 7,8,9

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUG. 7
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P.O. Box 262

Manchaca, Tex. 78662

HOTEL RESERVATION
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Name
Address:
Street: $\qquad$ City State \& zip Phone number and area code: $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ Mail hotel resenvation to:

PREFERENCE INW
201 Highway 290 Loop East Brenham, Texas 77833

For additional hotel details or phone reservations call: 409-830-1110. See Hotel location on Brenham map (elsowhere in Journal)

## Austin County

HISTORIIC SIII FRIIPR de dissili


## Washington County

# STAR of the REPUBLIC MUSEUM <br> The Historical Museum of the Texas Republic 

## WMum

The Brenham Maifest, celebrated annually, has become one of the most cot orful, widely attended spring festivals in Texas. Two gala parades with bands, clowns and elaborate floats kick off the activities on Friday and Saturday mornings. The evenings are capped by elaborate coronation ceremonies involving more than 1000 young people. One of the highlights is the Mailestival, an old fashioned German folk festival. During 1990 we will be colebrating our 100th Maiiest. Be prepared to have a fun filled weekend.

Malfest
May10-12,1990
(409) 836-3695
P.O. Box 1588

Brenham, TX 77833
Washington-on-the Brazos, Texas



HIGH HILL
It's Sunday in Neudeck, Austria, 1860. Rev. Monzel, who was a "Texas tourist" in 1849, speaks to his congregation and encourages them to emigrate to Texas for new opportunities. Bednarz, Billimek, Molas, Adamek, Heinrich, Schilhab, Wick and Besetzny families sail for two months to reach Texas. Then by ox-wagon from Galveston, they join early German settlers Hillje, Graf, Tauch, Seydler and Eschenburg who had settled as early as 1844.

## 

Legend has it that a German-Swiss family settled on these green rolling hills in 1848 and named it after their native Switzerland. Good soil and favorable climate soon made this a productive settlement.

state historic site

La Grange


HISTORICAL ENTER

Round Top, Texas

## FREIBURG

The motto here is "gemutlichkeit." Loosely translated from German, it means "have a good time." And where do you go to have a good time? Freyburg Hall, with dances and parties scheduled throughout the year. There's an annual Maifest too.

Lee County Julie $\mathfrak{A l t o c}$ be $\mathbb{C}$ ald fuel


The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum
Colorado County
columbus


## Suturaty

INDUSTRY. situated in the scenic rolling hills of western Austin County is the "Oldest Permanent German Settlement in Texas." Friedrich Emst Park boasts a restored 1837 Republic of Texas Post Office - one of Texas' oldest. Self-guided area tour brochures, or guided historic sites tours available from Industry-West End Historical Society. P. O. Box 218, Industry. TX 78944. (409) 357-2772.

## "THE CRADLE OF TEXAS" GERMANS



## LA GRANGE

Beautiful, pastoral scenery, rolling hills, Bluebonnet Trails, huge Oak, Pecan and Cedar trees. Early Texas and German-Czech Heritage reflected in music, foods, picturesque churches, well-kept homes, gardens, farmsteads, historic sites. HOSTYN - Park-like churchyard. outdoor shrines, panoramic vistas, self-guided tour. Monument Hill/ Kreische Brewery State Park - Scenic site of Dawson and Mier Expeditions Monument overlooks La Grange and Colorado River: Old Buffalo and Indian Trails, and La Bahia Road crossed the river near here; picnic areas; tours. LA GRANGE - Faison Home/Museum, Fayette Heritage Museum. historic churches. "Town Square" - 1890 Courthouse with striking clock. Old Fayette County Jail, Veterans Memorial, Historic Muster Oak and Marker. FAYETTEVILLE Area museum, tree-shaded benches, bandstand, town clock at Old Precinct Courthouse on Town Square, 1880's false-front buildings. ROUND TOP - 1866 Cedar/sandstone Church, antique/craft shops: Henkel Square - Early Texas restorations, collections, tours, book/gift shop, bed/breakfast: Antique Fairs - April and October: Festival Hill Beautiful. rural setting, classical music concerts/study. WINEDALE Winedale Historical Center - Restored Early Texas farmstead, tours, theater, April/October festivals. LEDBETTER - "General Store, Working Museum, Old Saloon," bed/breakfast, day hunt/fish. hayrides/cook-outs. In each area town - Dining and/or lodging. antiques/crafts, smokehouses, bakeries!

BRENHAM/WASHINGTON COUNTY ©
Washington County is "History in Living Color." Visit Washington-on-theBrazos State Park and see where the Republic of Texas was established in 1836. Travel to the small historic towns of INDEPENDENCE and CHAPPELL HILL and tour The Independence Baptist Church/Museum, The Mrs. Sam Houston House, The Antique Rose Emporium, The Browning Plantation and The Stagecoach Inn. Tour the Blue Bell Creamery in Brenham - a free ice cream cone is waiting! Browse in the unique Historic Downtown District. Enjoy a delightful stop at The Monastery of St. Clare Miniature Horse Ranch. The Poor Clare Nuns welcome visitors to see the prize winning miniatures, the carousel and carriage display and the ceramic art barn. Washington County is beauty! A vibrant backdrop of Bluebonnets in the Spring. Blue Bells in the Summer, Roses in the Fall and Poinsettia in the Winter will thrill sightseers and flower buffs alike. Century-old celebrations like the Brenham Maifest and the Washington County Fair showcase the best of the area's heritage and tradition. Cozy Bed and Breakfast Inns dot the rolling countryside while fabulous Horse Ranches speak of an exciting new industry.

## SCHULENBURG

"Gateway to the Rolling Hills" of the blackland Fayette Prairie. Schulenburg is wildflower rich in lush scenic views and heritage proud in colorful 1800's-era American. German, and Czech cultures. Come stroll our old graveyards, and learn about our hilltop churches see longhorns and thoroughbreds, discover unique shops and fragrant bakeries, antiques and country crafts. Our area-wide sense of community leads to frequent country music and energetic CzechGerman polka festivals. We still measure time by train whistles even though our historic downtown is vibrant. For country pleasures, many free for the taking, Schulenburg bids you welcome! Vitame Vas! Area attractions include a tour of rural churches, especially "The Painted Church Tour" featuring hand-painted murals. This can be self-guiding, using the Chamber's brochure available at most local tourist stops, or guided tours for groups of 10 or more can be arranged in advance through the Chamber office. The Schulenburg Historical Museum. located at 631 North Main, can be visited on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by special appointment. Our fabulous three day Schulenburg Festival is held every year the first full weekend in August. This


\title{

features name entertainers, many games, booths, music, dances, contests. and offers lots of fun.

## Washington County . . . you'll love our "Good Nature." <br> <br> <br> $\bigcirc$ <br> <br> <br> $\bigcirc$ THEAS THEAS <br> <br>  

 <br> <br> }

## COLUMBUS 0

Take a step back to the present. The elegance and charm of a bygone era nestled among century-old Live Oaks and stately Magnolias is Columbus. The oldest continuously occupied AngloAmerican settlement in Texas, Columbus boasts 57 historical sites. Arrive on the first or third Thursday of the month to join our Historical Walking Tour of Columbus when 10 sites are open. Take the self-guided tour at your own pace. Docents in period dress at each site tell you all you want to know. Unique shops, including antiques shops and a multi-dealer market guarantee the perfect keepsake. Whether your taste is tea room or barbecue, we have it - and everything in between.
 Come to a presentation of our 102 year old Stafford Opera House. Come in the spring to see the beautiful wildflowers or to join the fun at our annual Magnolia Homes Tour and Live Oak Arts and Crafts Festival. Come in the fall to celebrate our German and Czech heritage at ColumbusFest . . . or a country county fair. Come any time for a weekend of championship golf and elegant dining in a beautiful wooded setting, or country music talent in the Nashville manner on Saturday nights. Step back to the past where life moves a little bit slower, streets are a whole lot safer. family counts. generations mix and where every day is your chance to have a good time. We do. Come let us share!

## WEIMAR 6

Founded in 1873 by T. W. Pierce. President of the GH\&SA Railroad and D. W. Jackson of Weimar on land granted to Henry Austin. Weimar has a population of 2.198 with trade area population of 5.000 . The town was first settled by people from the Southem States. Later. many German and Czech immigrants who had settled in the area moved into town. St. Michael's Catholic Church is one of four congregations in Weimar that is over 100 years old. The present church building was dedicated in May 1914 and is on the State Historical Register. The city became an early cotton center with a cotton oil mill, believed to be the first in Texas, built about 1876. Cotton was an active industry in Weimar from 1876 until the H. H. Seifert Gin closed in 1972. Jackson Square, the 100th block of East Jackson, is the site of the annual Weimar Gedenke.
 a one-day "block party" held on the Saturday before Mother's Day every year. Jackson Square is the
2. location of the restored Southem Pacific Depot that is now the Weimar Public Library and Learning Center. The Weimar Country Inn is on the site of the original Jackson Hotel built in 1870. OAKLAND, one of the communities in the area that predates Weimar, was laid out along the Navidad in 1856 at its intersection with the "Old Gonzales Road." It still has an active Post Office and celebrates "Oakland Heritage Days" the first weekend in June.

${ }^{12}$ Austin County

WEST END
——Compiled by the Industry-West End
Historical Society

## INDUSTRY

Industry, "the first permanent German settlement in Texas," was settled in 1831 by two Germans, Ernst and Fordtran. The town's name was derived from an 1830's cigar industry. Hand-made cigars were delivered to customers and comments about the industriousness of the German cigar makers led to the town being named Industry.
A Republic of Texas Post Office was established in Industry in 1837. The restored stone Post Office building (1838) can be seen in the Lion's ERNST ME. MORIAL PARK. The park was established in 1970, and is at the original town site.


## SHELBY

Shelby is named for early colonist David Shelby. In the early 1840's German immigrant Otto von Roeder operated a gristmill and a settlement known as "Roedersmuehle" (Roeder's Mill) evolved. The communlty was renamed Shelby in 1846 when David Shelby became Post Master.

Primarily settled by German immigrants, Shelby still has two organizations from early German roots. "Harmonie Verein" is an 1875 singing society that functions in the 1883 Harmonie Hall, and the 1890 Hermann Sons Lodge meets regularly.

Shelby's early citizens were well educated German Intellectuals, many of whom settled In nearby Latlum In the 1840's.

## NEW ULM

In 1841 a community known as Duff's Settlement evolved on land owned by James Duff. By 1850 Immigrants from UIm, Germany comprised the majority of the citizens, so the community changed its name to New UIm to honor the Germans' homeland. The town slogan, "Leben in New Ulm Ist Wunderbar", reflects the German heritage and translates to mean "Life In New Ulm Is Wonderful".
The 1892 arrival of the MKT Rallroad Company established a new town one mile south of New Ulm. The entire community relocated to the newly-platted town and left only the cemetery with its impressive Iron gateway to mark "old town" New Ulm.

The railroad created a thriving commercial cen-
 ter in New Ulm. West End agricultural produce of enormous proportions left for market through New Ulm and volumes of manufactured goods entered the West End here.


## BLEIBLERVILLE

Settlers began living here as early as the 1850's. The first business was opened around 1864 and by 1887 a post office was established in the general store. In 1889 Robert Bleibler came into the area and purchased the local store. This structure served as a saloon, general store, post office and the Bleibler residence, all in one. Bleibler was made Post Master in 1892 and the community became known as Blelblerville.

Paul Albert purchased
 Bleibler's store in 1898 and built a large new general mercantile business [

NEW WEHDEM
New Wehdem was established in 1841 on the main
stagecoach road from Nelsonville-Bleiblerville to
Brenham. Prior to German immigration, the area was
referred to as Cooper's Settlement and St. Jacobi. New
Wehdem's pioneers immigrated from the Province of
Wehdem, Germany and formed a prosperous farming
village. A general store which operated from 1896 until
1969, is slated for restoration. The "Schuetzen Verein"
a German Shooting Club still actively functions.
The imposing St. James
Lutheran (formerly St. Ja-
cobi) Church, established
in 1869, and the public
school building (1870.1952),
now owned by the church,
are two remaining struc-
tures that signal how the
community once thrived.

## WELCOME

Welcome got its name from German immigrants who came in 1852, "because forest, meadows and flowers seem to give a friendly welcome." Immigrant J. F. Schmidt said, "Nature gave such a cordial greeting to settlers the town should be christened WELCOME." Another settler posted a sign at his place to announce, "You are welcome to rest" and Welcome became the town name.


Welcome's oldest business is appropriately named "Welcome Store." This 1890 store was known as the John Reichle General Merchandise and was a twostory "barn-shaped" building. Today's look occurred during a turn-of-the-century remodeling.


1990 GTHS ANNUAL MEETING Theme:

ORADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENT INTEXAS

Host city:
BRENHAM, TEXAS
September 7, 8, 9, 1990
Featuring towns and communities in:
AUSTIN OOUNTY
OOLORADO OOUNTY
FAYETTE OOUNTY
LEE OOUNTY
WASHINGTON OOUNTY


GIHS Annual Convetion September 7-9 Brenham


This theme was chosen for the 1990 annual meeting in Brenham by the five-county area of Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lee and Washington Counties. Our theme borrowed from Rudolph L. Biesele's THE HISTORY OF GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN TEXAS 1831-1861, refers to the small town of Industry in Austin County as the first German settlement in Texas.

Friederick Ernst and his family emigrated from Oldenburg to Texas in 1829, received a league of land in Austin County on 16 April, 1831. This pioneer is credited with the early German settlement of this general area. It was through his influence both here and in Germany that immigrants came to Texas in the 1830's. The story of this predominant personality in history is authentically recorded by Miriam Korff York, a descendant, in her recent book, FREDERICK ERNST OF INDUSTRY.

Early history of this general area is unique. A brief review will give a perspective of that point in time. According to AUSTIN'S COLONY PIONEERS, Worth S. Ray, Austin County was the heart of the Stephen F. Austin Colony. Colorado was one of the original counties. Fayette County was created from Bastrop and Washington County, and Washington County was all the territory now comprising Grimes and Montgomery Counties.

Only a few years after this colonization the German pioneers came, bought land and began farming. They quickly absorbed the large slave owner's plantations after the Civil War, yet did not themselves own slaves.

The second German settlement in Texas was Biegel's Settlement in Fayette County founded by Joseph Biegel in 1832. In 1834, again Austin County, another settlement known as Cat Spring southwest of Bellville was founded. Colorado County's first German settlement was Frelsburg in 1835, named for William Frels, who fought in the Texas Revolution in both San Antonio and in the battle of San Jacinto.

In 1840, in Colorado County over seventy persons began a community near Frelsburg which they named Blumenthal (Valley of Flowers). There was another settlement in Austin County (north west) Roedersmuehle, so-named by the Germans, and changed to Shelby in the early 1840's.

A league of land was bought in 1843 in Fayette County by Count Boos-Waldeck for officials of the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas / Verein zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer in Texas. This plantation was named Nassau in honor of the duke of Nassau. Ross Prairie in the same county was a German settlement before 1845. At about this time another German settlement in Fayette County, named Oldenburg, was established.

Also in 1845, the fertile valley of Mill Creek in Austin County was the first home of German pioneers who later bought land and moved to Washington and other counties. This settlement was named Muehlheim, changed to Millheim.

San Bernard, on the south banks of the San Bernado in Colorado County had an undetermined number of Germans who came to Texas in the 1840's with the Society/Verein. The La Bahia prairie settlement of the Latium began with professionals and intellectuals from Germany in the middle of the 1840's. This area is named by Biesele as the first German settlement in Washington County in 1848. Local historians, including Charles Frank Schmidt in his book HISTORY OF WASHINGION COUNTY, TEXAS (1949) name Berlin, a few miles north of Brenham, as the first German settlement in Washington County. This well-founded fact has been established through Land and Deed records, of the county and family documents. The first settlers, a family of eight, immigrated in 1846, lived in Austin County and bought 158 acres of land and settled in Berlin in 1848.

In 1849 families with sons immigrated to this area as refugees of the German revolution. A blacksmith, wheelwright, firniture maker, who were unable to buy land in the plantations area of the county established their families on farms in the general Berlin area according to local legend.

A small town known as Union Hill in early Texas history, situated in northwestern Washington County became a German settlement of immigrants from the large area of Rehburg, then known as The Princely Kingdom of Hannover in the 1840 's. Some of the families who moved here from Austin County joined their countrymen from Hanover. Many of these farms are inhabited by descendants. According to Land and Deed records of the county and the U.S. Census of Washington County in 1850 this area was settled in the 1840's.

Another influential German settlement, extant today, is Salem, about $2 \frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of Brenham. This general section of the county was known as Tiger Point in early Texas. After the founding of the German church the name was changed.

A number of German young men from Westphalia, Germany, came to Washington County in the mid-1840's as laborers on plantations around Independence. (Schmidt and other local historians). This area became a German settlement a few miles west and named William Perm, and contimues as an important and thriving farm community.

Logically, Lee County is not in "the cradle of Texas" but because of the unique Wendish colony of Serbin, near Giddings, it is interesting and noteworthy to be included. Although the county had no early German settlements. German pioneers were scattered in various regions of this predominant group of Wends. In 1854 approximately 500 religiously oppressed Wends from Dauban, in Saxony, Germany, led by the Reverend Johann Killian immigrated to Texas and Lee County. They acquired land, built homes, a church and school and continue their interest and pride in their ancestral history. The Texas Wendish Historical Society operates the Texas Wendish Museum in Serbin.
(Principal names and dates are from Biesele's book, unless otherwise noted, with the exception of the last paragraph-from Wendish authors, Anne Blasig, Sylvia Grider, and others.)


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Blinn's "Old Main"
special significance was the removal of aluminum windows. Installed in the 1960s, they were replaced with wood sash windows similar in configuration and detail to the building's original windows. Other work included restoring the clay roof using as many original tiles as possible, refurbishing hallway details, and reusing some existing historic doors. The renovation was carried out by the architectural firm of Killis Almond and Associates of San Antonio.

Texas Historical Commission architect Rick Lewis, who reviewed all renovation plans, said he is pleased that such a prominent and important building has been sensitively restored for the future. The restored landmark will be officially dedicated in March.
"From the very beginning Blinn College officials were committed to a first-rate rehabilitation," he said. "Old Main, having respectfully reclaimed its rightful identity as the campus' most worthy academic and architectural benchmark, is ready to serve Blinn College well into the next century and perhaps beyond."

In same issue of "The Medallion"-Panna Maria: oldest Polish community in U.S. clings to traditional customs and language and "Brownsville combats cemetery vandalism"

Contributors to Equipent for Manchaca Office

| Mase |
| :---: |
| Biesele, Join J. \& Marguerite M. |
| Breshears, Geraldine Weige |
| Cristofich, Mrs. Catherine |
| De Vos, Juisus E. \& Ruby E. |
| Edgar, Betty K. |
| Ehier, Rev. \& Mrs. Ciarence C. |
| Engelhardt, Dr. \& Mrs. H. |
| Engelkirg, Mr. \& Ars. Rudolph A. |
| Fritz, Sr. Marlene k. |
| Fuchs, ir., Mr. \& Mrs. Ott |
| Serfers, Alice K. |
| Groeschel, Luduig \& Edna |
| Guthrie, Inez M. |
| Habenicht, Henry 8. |
| Harrowing, Mr. \& Mrs. Frank T. Hennech, Mike |
| Joyner, Fiorence L. |
| Kloppe, Ed |
| Koehl, Michael F. MD |
| Krause, Jr., Lee A. \& Giadys J. |
| Lehonoff, Kurt F. |
| lyons, Mayda 1. |
| Marburger, Mr. \& Mrs. Elao 6. |
| McGrory, Marie lippriar |
| Mellor, Doris R. |
| Moses, Neliie Kinkier |
| Novosad, Mrs. Helen |
| Rossner, .ouis Mi. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Hiliouceen |
| Schuldt: Mr. \& Mrs. Erben |
| Tayior, Vivian Froehlich |
| Trer.ckaann, Mrs. Kelen |
| Uecker, Jeraid |
| Halker, Boboy Jean |
| cidner, Mr, \& Mrs. Alvir |

Biesele, Jonn J. \& Marguerite M. Breshears, Geraldine Heige Cristofich, Mrs. Catherine Vos, Juisus E. \& Ruby E
Ehier, Rev. \& Mrs. Ciarence C.
Enge!hardt, Dr. \& Mrs. H. T.
Engelking, Mr. \& Mrs. Rudolph A.
Fritz, Sr. Marlene K.
Fuchs, ir., Mr. \& Hrs. Otto $i$.
Serfers, Alice K.
Groeschel, Luduig \& Edna
Guthrie, Inez M.
Habenicht, Henry 8.
Harrowing, Mr. \& Mrs. Frank T.
Hennech, Mike
Joyner, Fiorence L.
Kloppe, Ed
Koehl, Michael F. KD
Krause, Jr., Lee A. \& Gladys J.
Lehnhoff, Kurt $F$.
Lyons, Mayda L.
Marburger, Mr. \& Mrs. Elao 6.
McGrory, Maris lippriar
Mellor, Doris R.
Moses, Neliie Kinkier
Novosad, Mrs. Helen
Rossner, ouis Mi: Hi!louceen
Schuldt. Mr. \& Mrs. Erben
Tayior, Vivian rroehtic
Trer.ckanan, Mrs, Kelen
Uecker, Jeraid
Halker, Boboy Jean
Weidner, Mr, A Mrs. Alvir

## East, West, Honesty's Beat

A citizen of the German Democratic Republic gave new meaningto the age-worn saying "better late than never" when he appeared recently with books in hand at the American Memorial Library, a large public library in the Kreuzberg district of Berlin (West), after the recent opening of the Berlin Wall. A representative of the library told the press that the gentleman in question returned books he had borrowed 28 years ago, shortly before the Wall was built, and kept in the hope of some day being able to return them. After crossing into the western part of the city, his first stop was at the library to discharge his 28 -year-old obligation, the representative said.

NOTES PROM BDIYOR (Teaporary)
As we sign "30" to another JOURHAL issue, this Bditor Pro fea sends thanks to all who sent naterials for this issue, especially to Conrad Goetting of Binbeck for his article on the geography of Gernany, to Herbert Beinhorn for the history of St. Peter's Church in Spring Branch, to Ingrid Lansford of Georgetown for her assistance in editing and typing. A special thanks to H. H. Von-Maszeuski and Cathleen Vitt Stahner for the annual indices. Thanks also to Patsy Hand of Victoria who clips the Victoria and Yorktown neuspapers, to Rodney Roenig who watches the La Grange and Schulenburg papers, and to all the others who sent an article or two from Austin, Dallas, San Angelo, Corpus Christi. German-Texans are everywhere!

Because we knou that you, the nerbers and readers, vant a publication delivered tisely, we ask that you, the contributors, send us ataterials on a tinely basis. Then, we, the editors, will do whatever is necessary to hassle vith the technical details to produce the publication. You vill note the JOURHAL deadlines are on the 20th of Pebruary, May, and October. But, don't wait 'til the 19th to write up and vail in your iten. Give us tine to evaluate it and return it for a re-do, if necessary.

If there is any doubt as to who should receive a specific article, you nay send it to Theresa Gold, ann Lindenann, or Anna Thonpson (at our office), and we will distribute it to the proper person. He do ask that you send all fanily reunion infornation directly to the genealogy editor, Theresa Gold. This is especially critical with the popular reunion season coning up soon.

In between issues of the JOURNAL is a leaflet "Heusletter" uith brief itens of a tinely nature. Deadline for next "Neusletter" itens is Hay 20. Send iteus to GTHS office in Hanchaca.

REMINDER to Board Menbers: your next thrice-a-year report is due to the President by April 3. Also that date, iteas for the agenda of the Board neeting on Saturday, May 5 at the office in Manchaca.

## 

The Week in Germany, Jan. 5, 1990
The opening of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989 was a joyous occasion, the effects of which are still echoing throughout Europe. Almost immediately, the souvenir hunt began. Entrepreneurs shipped crateloads of the Wall to the U.S.for sale (cf.TWiG 11/24/89). $\downarrow$ The proliferation of souvenir seekers even led to the creation of a new word: Mauerspecht (Wall woodpecker). Our photo shows such a creature with hammer and chisel in the West Berlin neighborhood of Kreuzberg.

At first, profits from the sale of chips off the old wall flowed exclusively into western pockets, but in late December, the GDR announced that it would begin selling hard concrete for hard currency through an import-export firm, with the accrued monies going for humanitarian purposes.


The Week in Germany, Nov. 24, 1989

## Chips Off the Old (East) Bloc for Souvenir Hunters?

San Antonio, Texas, Thursday, December 17, 1987 EXPRESS-NEWS

Although most of the Berlin Wall is still standing following the official opening of the border in the divided city on November, entrepreneurs may be looking to cash in on the part that has been torn down. Souvenir hunters and collectors in the U.S. hoping to get their hands on their own "piece of history" may soon be in luck: some 19 wooden crates containing eleven tons of fragments from the once-dreaded barrier were reportedly flown from Hamburg to New York Sunday (November 19). The final destination for the mementos was reported to be St.Louis, where the owner of a chain of souvenir stores plans to sell small pieces of the wall for ten dollars apiece.

What a difference two years make! This article appeared in our GTHS Newsletter, Spring 1988 issue, p. 76.

## E. Germans add concrete to wall

Associoled Press
BERLIN - East German soldiers are placing fireproof concrete panels along part of the Berlin Wall to thw'art fires occasionally set by protesters on the Western side.
Construction workers accompanied by border troops on Wednesday dumped a load of large concrete panels at the section of the wall around the Brandenburg Gate in East Berlin, police said.

The 275 -yard section of the wall forms a half circle around the gate and has been the scene of construction in the last two days.
"This area has been damaged frequently by explosives and
fires," Heinz Jenisch, a West Berlin police spokesman, said Tuesday.

Soldiers on Tuesday poured a knee-high concrete reinforcement around the base of the 6 -foot-high barrier. Soldiers drilled holes and installed bolts in the top of the older concrete barrier, designed to allow the new concrete slabs to be fastened into place.
The slabs measure about 2 yards by 3 yards.
A guard house was also erected near the site.
The section of the wall around the Brandenburg Gate is about two yards lower than the rest of the wall.

HEADLINES FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
Since 9 November 1989, all our news publications have featured headlines on the opening of the border between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic (GDR). Here is a sample of headlines featured in "The Week in Germany," a weekly publication of the German Information Center summarizing the news from the Federal Republic. To request "The Week in Germany," an eight-page bulletin sent at no charge, write to German Information Center, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. Specify if you prefer it in the German or English language.

EC, GDR to Negotiate on Economic Agreement


German Unity
Kohl to U.S. Senators: Bonn's Roots Are in the West
West German Banks Open Offices in GDR

> Economic Policy Radical Lufthansa, Interflug Expand Cooperation

MATO Ministers Welcome Chance for German Unity
Yon Wetzolicker Presses GDA "Pcacotul Revolution"

## Bundesbank to Return

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Kohl Looks Into the 1990's
-sining ont the CDR
Denorefirete
Bavaria Opens East-West Manager Training Center

Council: Joint Efforts Toward GDR Reforms Needed

Gorochen,
Ropier Sees more Ecological Cooper n
Ecologists Cell tor Upgrading of GDR Autos
A New Year In Intra-German

GDP - NATO in a United Germany
GDR Returns Old Manuscripts to Hamburg Library 1990 Berlin Film Festival to Show in East and West Bonn, GDR Agree on Economic Accords


## GEOGRAPHY OF GERMANY

by Conrad Goettig, Assistant Master, German Geography Einbeck, Niedersachsen, BRD

There are many different kinds of land and a great variety of scenery in Germany. In the 500-mile stretch from north to south, the terrain of Germany varies greatly, with coastal lowlands in the north, low mountains in the center, and the high Baverian Alps in the south.

The center and the south contain vast forests such as the Weserbergland, Eifel, Harz, Hunsrück, Taunus, Swabian and Franconian Jura, Black Forest and the Spessart with its giant oaks. In the heart of West Germany is the largest volcano, the Vogelsberg. It had its latest activities some 60 million years ago.

The Rhine River is the most important commercial waterway in Europe; the river passes by such great cities as Basel (Switzerland), Mainz, Cologne, Düsseldorf and Rotterdam (Netherlands). On both banks of the Rhine, a truncated West German nation is one of the most densely populated areas in Western Europe. West Germany has about 65 million people. East Germany has about 16 million people. The West German people live in an area about 96,000 square miles.

Nine countries border on West Germany: France, Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands to the west; East Germany and Czechoslovakia to the east; and Austria and Switzerland to the south. In the north, there are the Baltic Sea, the North Sea, and the country of Denmark.

The area of the North German Plain is to the west of the Berlin area, but to the east it consists of morainic hills more or less parallel to the Baltic coast and usually less than 600 feet high.

In the western section, the land lies low, with reclaimed coastal marshes providing rich pasture land behind which lie moors and sandy heaths. of the two morainic belts in this area, one contains many lakes; the other is practically a continuation of the Fläming and is called the Altmark toward its eastern end, and the Lüneburger heath in the center, from which it dies down toward the North sea coast south of Cuxhaven.

A great difference can be seen between the coast of the North Sea and that of the Baltic. On the former, where the sea has broken up the ranges of dunes formed by bygone times and divided them into separate islands, the mainland has to be protected by massive dykes, while the Frisian Islands are being gradually washed away by the waters. There are now only seven of the East Frisian Islands, of which Norderney is the best known; of the North Frisian Islands, on the western coast of Schleswig-Holst ein, Sylt is the most considerable.

Besides the ordinary waste of the shores, there have been extensive innundations by the sea within the historic period, the Gulf of the Dollart having been so created in the year 1276. Sands surround the whole coast of the North Sea to such an extent that the entrance to the ports is not practicable without the aid of pilots.

Heligoland is a rocky island, but it also has been considerably reduced by the sea. The tide rises to the height of 12 or 13 feet in the Jade Bay and at Bremerhaven, and 6 to 7 feet at Hamburg.

The coast of the Baltic possesses few islands, the chief being Alsen and Fehmarn off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein, and Rügen off Pomerania. It has no extensive sands, though on the whole it is very flat; it has no perceptible tides and a great part of its coastline is covered with ice in winter which also blocks up the harbours so that navigation is interrupted several months every year.

The rivers of the great lowland, the Ems, Weser, Elbe and Oder, are naturally navigable and need very few locks. Post-Pleistocene land sinking has brought the sea up the river mouths so that most of Germany's ports are river ports and have developed outports below themselves, as Bremerhaven below Bremen on the Weser, Cuxhaven below Hamburg on the Elbe and Warnemünde below Rostock on the Warnow. The east-west sections of two rivers--in different parts of the same low area between morainic hills--have been linked together in many cases by canals, so that a system of river and canal communication crosses Germany from its eastern to its western border. This system converges upon Berlin ahd helps

to account for the growth of the city from its insignificant position in the middle of the 17th Century.

Where the mid-German hills merge into the northern plain is an area of rolling country called the Börde. The soil is largely loessic, making it very fertile. From prehistoric times this area has been inhabited. Running into the hills from the plain are great bays of lowland, the two biggest being the Cologne and Leipzig bays.

In the western half of the central plateau the hills trend almost southwest to northeast, the main lines being sharply cut at right angles by the Rhine gorge from Buigen to Bonn. Beyond the eastern rim of the Rhine basin are large volcanic masses, the chief of which are the Vogelsberg and the Rhön. They are about 3,000 feet high. This is an area of much faulting, drained mainly by the Weser and its tributaries which start close to the northern tributaries of the Main. There is thus a way through the mid-German hills from Frankfort in the south via Cassel to Hanover in the north, an important factor of the greatness of these cities.

East of the Weser, the hill lines of the Harz Mountains (Brocken, 3,747 feet) and the Thuringian uplands are outlines and cut by faults with the result that both, and especially the Harz, have long been famed for the mining of metals.

The Main and the Neckar are right-bank tributaries of the Rhine. Their basins are framed by the Swabian and Franconian Jura on the south and east, the Black Forest on the west and the mid-German hills on the north. The climate in these lowlands is warm and dry and they are among the most fertile lands in Germany, growing mainly vines and grain.

The Neckar escapes to the Rhine south of, and the Main north of, the Odenwald. In the Neckar basin Stuttgart is the biggest city. In the valley of the Main, Nürnberg, Bamberg, Würzburg and Frankfort are the great centers.

The main port of the Danube rises in the Black Forest, and the basin is framed by Lake Constance and the Baverian Alps on the south and by the Alpine foreland and the southwest border of the Bohemian block on the north. The river flows near the northern side of the basin, following the line of the Jura down to Regensburg, beyond which it flows beneath and parallel to the granite edge of the Bohemian block, and then onward past Passau.

The large tributaries of the right bank are the Iller, Lech, Isar and Inn; on the left bank, the Wörnitz, which joins the Danube at Donauwörth. Much land on the south of the Danube basin is poor, but some areas toward the center, where the soil is loessic, are fertile.

Only the northern fringe of the Alps, from Lake Constance to about Hallein, is in Germany, and the frontier here lies along the northernmost of the east-west ridges of the Alps; the highest point in Germany, the Zugspitze (9,720 feet) stands on the border of Tirol.

The Baverian Alps are of great beauty, with some exquisite mountain lakes, and farther down the northward valleys long lakes behind morainic dams, one of which, the Wurmer See, has given its name to a moraine held by Albrecht Penck to mark one of the ice maxima of the pleistocene glaciation. The slopes toward the Danube have much boulder clay and there are large swampy areas called Moose, but the better-drained valleys are relatively rich.

A very special area is on the Ruhr River, a branch of the Rhine in northwestern Germany. Here developed the greatest industrial area in Germany. This industrial district includes a large group of cities; Essen and Dortmund are among the best known. The area is crowded with coal mines, coke furnaces, iron and steel mills and steel-finishing plants of all kinds.

Two advantages are important in the development of this area: mineral sources and location. The best coal mines in Europe are here. In former times, there were also excellent deposits of iron ore nearby. (Legend tells that even Siegfried, the Nibelungen, made his famous sword "Balmung" right there!) Now, however, the local mines cannot supply the needs of modern industry. Most of the iron ore nowadays is imported from Sweden, France, Spain and lands in northwestern Africa.

The other great advantage is location. Nearly all the mills are located on rivers or canals that connect the area with the Rhine River. There are also railroad connections with most of the countries of Europe.

But industry is only one part of today's Germany. Everywhere there are sleepy little villages with their characteristic half-timbered houses; agriculture and country life have changed within the last 30 years, but at local markets it is still common to see traditional costumes (Trachten).

Germany has always been known for its legends and folktales. Especially in Hesse and the lower Saxonian country, the story of the Pied Piper of Hamlin, Till Eulenspiegel's pranks and Baron Münchhausen's adventures are still alive. Most famous is the collection of fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm (1812-1815), which includes tales going back even to Stone Age times!

Editor's Note: Herr Goettig has promised additional essays on the geography of specific areas of Germany, concentrating on the ones that sent so many people to Texas, such as Niedersachsen, Baden, Rheinland-Pfalz, Hessen, and so forth. Here are explanations of some technical words used in the above article.

Loess: loamy deposits believed to be chiefly deposited by the wind.
Moraine: an accumulation of boulders, stones or other debris carried and deposited by a glacier.

Pleistocine: referring to a geologic period of prehistory.

## Choice of Newborn's Names Changed Since 1889

Daniel, Patrick, Alexander, Christian, Sebastian and Jan for boys and Julia, Laura, Jennifer, Lisa, Sabrina, Katharina and Anna for girls were the most popular names for the approximately 9,400 babies born last year in Frankfurt, according to a statement released last week by the Frankfurt Press and Information Office. The director of the cily's registry office, Peter Neun, said that the names were also among the most often selected country-wide.

The list shows that for the most part popular names of a century ago are much less common today. One exception to the rule is Anna, which was number one in 1889's list of names and number seven last year. Other names very common one hundred years ago and still in the top ten today include Katharina and Elisa, which lost an " $E$ " during the course of the last century.

Christian is the only boy's name which has remained near the top over the last century in Frankfurt. A century ago, half of Frankfurt's male offspring were either called Carl, Wilhelm, Heinrich, Friedrich, Johann or Georg.



Weatberliner Studenten an der Ostberliner Univerathat
$\mathbf{S}_{\text {kotnenten }}$ aus Berlin (West) Skornen jetza gegen eine monatliche Gebaltr zwischen 10,- und 40,DM als Gasthörer an der Ostberibner Humbold-Universitut studieren. In einem an der Westherliner Technischen Universilatat verbreiteten Merkblatt tellt der Rektor der Humboldt-Universtith weiter mit, Bewerbungen fitr cin Vollstudium "auf kommerieller Basis" nehme das "Exportbetro" sciner Hochschule entgegen.

# Beautiful PASSAU 

## By' NINO LO BELLO <br> Special to the Express-News

PASSAU, West Germany My quest over a quarter of a century for the world's most beautiful small town - along hill and dale, down rivers and up mountains, into trains and out of buses - climaxes now to an eye-opening end.

Eureka, I have found it. Pass word on - the password is . . Passau.

Though I found Passau quite on my own, I admit I should have been paying attention to some clues that had already been spread around.
(1) Napoleon Bonaparte, who had besieged the town in 1807, confided to his biographer that he had not seen a more beautiful town in Germany;
(2) Renowned world traveler, Alexander voir Humbolt, classified Passau, shortly before his death in 1859, as among the seven most beautiful towns in the world, and;
(3) Composer Richard Wagner, eager to build a music temple to honor his own works, had already decided Passau would be the proper place to commemorate his operas, before he changed his mind at the last minute and opted for Bayreuth where he was promised eager financing from the city fathers.

Leaving aside a bag of adjectives and superlatives and an ever-ready thesaurus, I nevertheless want to paint Passau beautiful, but let's just have the facts bring the message home to every veteran traveler and would-be tourist who's looking for the "bestest" of the best.

## 'Flocting city'

Map-makers and geographers describe passau as a "floating city." And a better designation could not be made for this town of 52,000 people. Known as the "Bavarian Venice" and moored in the south-east-most corner of Germany just over the Austrian border, Passau embraces three rivers - yes, three rivers meet in one of the most $\mu$ nique, nature spectacles to be found anywhere.

Coming to a junction at the Passau peninsula are the bluegreen Danube (which originates in the Black Forest), the muddy-gray Inn (which rises in a mountain lake in the Swiss Alps), and the peat-brown Ilz (which flows out of the Bavarian Woods).

In a town that is hugged by these three very active rivers, as you could guess, there is a history of floods. For a devastatingly graphic picture of the lineup of Passau's most destructive floods, go to the City Hall building, flanked by an outdoor cafe on the banks of the Danube, and there at the right-hand corner is a large thermometerlike drawing with visual markings of how high the water rose in specific years.
Officially, the three worst floods ever are the ones that took place in 1501, 1595 and 1954. In all three instances, both the Danube and the Inn surged over their banks simultaneously, literally filling up every house in town with water up to the second story.

## Rivers mingle

As for the pinpoint where the three rivers mingle, swirl and embrace, the best spot for a visitor to zero in on the hydro-trio center stage is the so-called Veste Oberhaus, 345 feet above the Danube. This imposing old stronghold can be reached by taxi, bus or on foot (uphill). Built in the year 1219 by the prince-bishops, the fortress is a mighty tourist attraction in itself.

The citadel houses a museum, art gallery, observatory, battlement parapets, torture chambers, dungeons and princely halls. The stone symbol of power, serving as a retreat for yesteryear's politicos with many tales to tell, also provides a glorious panorama at its knees below.

Passau is probably the only small town in Germany that draws unending busloads of oneday tourists every day, winters and summers alike. It seems
that every German and Austrian in creation has the intent of paying at least one visit to Passau during his lifetime; the irony to all this is that foreign travelers are hardly aware of Passau's stellar magnetism.

Even if it weren't for Passau's remarkable location, the town would draw its lion's share of curi-osity-seekers anyway. Just before noontime, for instance, every visitor to Passau heads automatically toward the reconstructed baroquestyle St. Stephen's Cathedral, one of the most significant Christian monuments of the lower alps and the Danube region, to hear the world's biggest church organ with 17,388 pipes and 231 stops.

Come early in order to get a seat for the noon explanation and concert (daily except Sunday) for this incredible, massive musical instrument (which was built between 1978 and 1981 by the masters Ludwig and Wolfgang Eisenbarth). But you'll always find shoulder-toshoulder standing room along the sides if you're late.

- After a detailed voice-on microphone explanation of everything you ever wanted to know about the mammoth organ, the chief organist then gives a resounding "live" concert that lasts about 25 minutes.

Thine ears have not heard such rich echoing tones like these, sounds which you begin to believe

are coming from heaven with God Himself at the keyboard. Luckily, you can take this sound experience home with you, for there are several albums with different programs available in the souvenir
shops (mine features works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Max Reger, Jean Langlais and Leon Boellmann).

Recommended ways to imbue yourself with. Passau are walks through the picturesque alleys and lanes that remind you of Venice. Besides doing the inner town on foot, make sure you saunter along each of the two long riverside promenades, one flanking the Inn and the other paralleling the Danube - especially wunderbar if done at dawn and/or at sunset.
Rewarding as these are, don't miss taking the ultra-spectacular "Three River Tour" aboard a ferry boat that bobs along the Danube, the Inn and the IIz for 45 minutes. Boats leave daily every half hour from March until the end of October, and most visitors do the boat thing before they chase down Passau's innumerable museums.

No doubt the most fascinating museum in town, the Passau Glass Museum is housed in the "Wilder Mann" Hotel whose owner, Georg Holtl, keeps a private collection of the most arty 19th-century glasses from Bavaria, Bohemia and Austria. In some 150 showcases on four majestic stories there are more than 10,000 beautifully crafted drinking glasses dating from 1780, most of which are classified as true masterpieces.
In the same hotel, located on Rathaus Platz, Holtl runs a gourmet restaurant that equals the fame of his museum, and warmweather dining on his terrace overlooking two of the rivers can't be duplicated.
As for the history of the City of the Three Rivers, Passau dates back more than 2,000 years when settlements were made on the em: bankments where the Danube, the Inn and the Ilz converge.
No matter how you look at it, Passau - the city built on the banks of three rivers - is a three time winner. And you can bank on that.

Nino Lo Bello is a free-lance writer living in Vienna.



## Passion play performance

One of the:travel highlights of 1990 will be the world famous Ob erammergaU Passion Play, which is performed every 10 years and attracts thousands from ciround the world to this town in West Germany. The play is performed only once a decade as fulfillment of a
vow made in the 17 th century. Only village residents can participate, with as many as 1,000 richly costumed players on the stage at once. Each performance lasts from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is accompanied by a full orchestra and choir.

## Oberammergau unterliegt vor Gericht: Maria darf verheiratet und über 35 sein

$\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{in}}^{\mathrm{p}}$ngefangen hatte alles damit, daß Am Jahre 1633, als die Pest wieder cinmal durchs Land ging, die Bewohner des bayerischen Dorfes Oberammergau ein Gelübde ablegten: wenn ihr Dorf diesmal vom "Schwarzen Tod" verschont bliebe, wollten sie alle zehn Jahre die letzten Tage im Leben Jesu Christi als Passionsspiel unter Beteiligung des ganzen Dorfes aufführen. Die Seuche ist damals offenbar an Oberammergau vorbeigegangen, denn schon 1634 fand das Spiel zum ersten Mal statt, und inzwischen ist es weltberühmt.

Die Darsteller der 124 Sprechrollen und die mehreren hundert Statisten sind ausnahmslos Laien. Die Aufführungen dauern von morgens bis abends, Eintrittskarten kosten zwischen 70 und 100 D-Mark.

Nun hat die Gleichberechtigung der Frau auch die Oberammergaucr Passionsspicle erreicht, und zwar mit gerichtlicher Hilfe. Es war nämlich bisher so gewesen, daß nur
solche Frauen bei den Spielen mitwirken durften, die unverheiratet und nicht alter als 35 Jahre sind. Es begab sich aber, daß einige Oberammergauer Frauen dies als Benachteiligung empfanden, denn ähnliche Beschränkungen für Mănner enthalten die Oberammergauer Spielregeln nicht. Die Frauen zogen vor Gericht, und der Bayerische Verwaltungsgerichtshof sprach am 22. Februar sein Urteil in letzter welticher Instanz.

Voraufgegangen war cine mündliche Verhandlung, in der der Vertreter der Gemeinde Oberammergau die Gründe für die ungleichen Spielregeln dargelegt hatte: wenn für Frauen gewisse Restriktionen gelten, so hatte der Anwalt vorgetragen, so hänge das mit der historischen, Wahrheit des Passionsspiels zusammen. Zur Zeit Christi seien in Palästina die Frauen weitgehend aus dem öffentlichen Leben verbannt gewesen, und um dieses historische Geschlechterverhältnis auf die

Bühne zu bringen, habe man bei den Frauen schärfer differenzieren müssen als bei den Männern.
Was die Altersgrenze von 35 Jahren angehe, so der Anwalt weiter, müsse er darauf hinweisen, daß die Lebenserwartung der Frauen vor 2.000 Jahren nicht sehr hoch gewesen sei. Verheiratete Frauen seien von der Mitwirkung ausgeschlossen, weil man ihnen die zusätzliche Belastung durch Proben und Aufführungen ersparen wollte.

Das alles muB nun anders werden, denn das genau wie der Oberammergauer Gemeinderat nur mit Männern besetzte Gericht in München gab den Klägerinnen in allen Punkten recht. Die bisherigen Oberammergauer Spielregeln, so befanden die Richter, verstoben gegen drei Verfassungsgrundsat/e: den Gleichheitsgrundsatz, den Grundsatz der Gleichberechtigung von Frau und Mann sowie den Grundsatz vom Schutz von Ehe und Familic. Da die Richter cine Retision nicht zulicßen, ist nunmeht t:ile geboten, denn am 21. Mai findet dic erste Aufführung der Spielsaison 1990 in Oberammergau statt.

Angelo Civic Theatre presents "Largo Desolato" by Vaclav Havel, English adaptation by Tom Stoppard, March 29-31 and April 5-7. Havel, a popular playwright in Czechoslovakia, has been censored and imprisioned. By popular demand, he was made president of Czechoslovakia in December, 1989. Info: A.C.T., 1936 Sherwood Way, San Angelo TX 76901.

Women Win Equality in Oberammergau Passion Play

TThe Bavarian Administrative Court in Munich ruled last weck that the Oberammergau (Bavaria) Passion Play - the depiction of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ performed by the Bavarian community's residents once every ten years - may no longer discriminate against women. The court held that all female Oberammergau residents could participate in the playthis summer regardless of age or marital status. Up to now, only single women under the age of 35 have been permitted to take part. The play has been performed every ten years in the alpine town since its residents took an vow following the plague of 1634 .

The court cited in its judgement the requirements of equal rights and the protection of marriage. "In view of the high standing of those basic rights, the reasons advanced by the community for the discrimination of married women and women over 35 , especially the reference to the social position of women in ancient times, cannot justify the obviously unequal treatment," Chief Justice Johannes Wittman said.

# Early Texas painters on display 

"Looking At the Land: Early Texas Painters" will be on view at the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts from Thursday through March 25.

The exhibit includes rare and early views of Texas life and regional scenery. It contains 32 paintings and works on paper dating from 1848 through mid-20th century by 18 notable artists who worked in Texas.
Works are by Robert Onderdonk, Julian Onderdonk, Theodore Gentilz, Hermann Lungwitz, Ida Hadra, Everett Spruce and others. In addition, the museum's Vistas Series continues with narrative paintings by San Antonio artist Deborah Maverick Kelley.
The new exhibits will open Thurs. day with the public invited to attend the opening reception at the museum 5:30 to 8 p.m.
"Looking At the Land: Early Texas Painters" is on loan from the San Antonio Museum Association, with local sponsorship provided by Bank of the West of San Angelo. The exhibit captures the essence of the Texas landscape which one writer suggests is an extension of a Texan's soul. The exhibit of primarily paintings illustrates Texan's long-standing and continuing relationship with the land.
Early depictions of Indian tribes that roamed the Texas Plains, scenes of Spanish mission outposts, grassy open prairies and Central Texas hills offer an important historical point of view.
Selected from the Texas Collection at the San Antonio Museum Association, the group of works has not been exhibited as a whole beyond the San Antonio area. Texas Collection curator Cecilia Steinfeldt is preparing a book, "The Texas Collection 1845-1950: Regional Art in the San Antonio Museum Association," in conjunction with Dr. Ron Tyler and the Texas Historical Association for publication by 1991.
The earliest work in the exhibit is by soldier-artist Seth Eastman, who after landing along the coast in 1848 traveled widely throughout Texas. His scene of Mission San Jose, 1848-49, provides an accurate and valuable record of one of Texas' major historic landmarks.
German artist-settler Hermann Lungkwitz was one of the only
 work of father and son Robert and Julian Onderdonk, two notable Texas artist whose work suggests a form of Impressionism applied to the Texas landscape. Both father and son studied at the Art Students League in New York City, and then interpreted the Texas Hill Country in lively brushstrokes with an impressive quality of light and atmosphere.
Julian Onderdonk painted Texas' most characteristic subjects: dusty roads, aged live oaks, Hill Country streams, and hillsides blanketed in seasonal bluebonnet flowers.

## Germany: what <br> work ethic?

It goes without saying that the West Germans are perhaps the most industrious of citizens - or does it? A recent survey has brought some surprising statistics to light..

Contrary to popular belief, today's German works hard at his leisure time. Weekends often kick off at 3 pm on Friday and stretch on - Monday are frequently taken as "sick leave" - and six weeks holiday a year has been a privilege for some time.
Ten countries throughout the world were investigated with regard to hours worked per year and a table of results was published. Perhaps predictably, the Japanese emerged with flying colours. The West Germans came bottom.
On average, hours worked in Japan totalled 2,166, in Switzerland 1,936, USA 1,912 , Greece 1,864, Spain 1,808, Sweden 1,800 , Britain 1,778 , Italy 1,776, France 1,763 and West Germany $1,708$. Sheraton Magazine vol 1., no. 5.


Contact:
Ed \& Marlene Kadlecek
415 California
New Braunfels TX 78130
(512) 625-9441
or:
Christine Walters
Anchors Aweigh/Eagle Travel
4043 Trinity Mills \#112
Dallas TX 75287
(214) 307-8640 or (800) 326-7172

Hurryl Earlybird discount date
is already past!
Ed and the Baverian Village Band are the fun-loving group that played for the Friday evening reception and riverboat ride at our GTHS meeting in San Antonio last September!


## Wie groß war Karl der Große?

MOglicherweise firt inmer ungelost bleifit die Frage, welche Rorpert gr8Be Ksiser Karl der GroBo (747-814; Roúlg der Frankea sefit $768 ;$ Rönischer Kaiser seit 800) hatto. Sein Biograph Ztalhard sette vor metir
 Fuß groß gewesen sel. Damit begannen die Unldarlietien, weill ind titheen Mittelalter nicht so genau definiert war, wie lang din Puß sei; die Angabén schwanken zwischen (nach beutigen MaBen) 25 und 34 Zentimetern jo Fuß.

Seit dem 19. Jahrhundert sind die Gebeint dè im Aachener Dombestatteten Frankenkaisers mehrmals vermessen wiorden. Auch dantit wir die Frage jedoch nicht zu ldsen, dean diè Porscher kamen zu ganz unterschiedlichen Ergebnissen: zwischen 1,79 und 1,92 Metern.

1983 beschloB das Aachener Dornkapiteh, den vom Verfall bedrohten Karlsschrein konservieren zu lassen. Vorher jedoch sollte endgalhig geklärt werden, wie groß der Kaiser gewesen sci. Man beauftragte den Diplom-Biologen Joachim Schleifring und seinen Assistenten Wifried Maria Knch mit der Vermessung der Knochen Karls des Großen. Schleifring veröfentichte jetzt seinen Bericht, in dem er zu dem Engebais kommt, der Kaiser sei 1,82 Meter groß gewesen. Außerdem, so Schleifring. gebe es keinen Hinweis auf die Vermutung, es handele sich bei dea Gebeinen nicht um die sterblichen Überreste Karls des Großen.

In einem Punkt scheint allerdings Einigkeit unter den Wissenschattlern zu bestehen: Kaiser Karl erhielt seinén Beinamen "der Grode" üicht wegen seiner KörpergroBe:

## Charlemagne's Height Still a Mystery

Hrow tall was Charlemagne (called Charles the Great in German), the founder of the Holy Roman Empire? Historians and scholars have long puzzled over this question, but may have to resign themselves to leaving it unsolved, as the chapter of the Aachen cathedral, where Charlemagne rests, have decided to no longer permit his remains to be disturbed.

Over 1,000 years ago, Charlemagne's biographer Einhard asserted that the king was "generally known" to be seven feet tall. It is unknown, however, how long a foot
was in those days. Measurements of the remains of the emperor by physicians and scholars in the 19th and 20 th centuries have ranged between a more nrodest 1.79 meters ( 5 ft. $101 / 2$ inches) and 1.92 meters ( 6 ft. $31 / 2$ inches).

In 1983, the Aachen cathedral and the Office for the Preservation of Monuments commissioned biologist Joachim Schleifring to determine the sovereign's true dimensions. Schleifring concluded that "all in all the new measurements speak for a body height of 1.82 meters" ( $5 \mathrm{ft} .111 / 2$ inches).

Frankrstch will Brandenburger Tor resteurieren

Tn cinem Gesprich mit DDR-Kul1 turninister Dietmar Keller in Paris ktundigte der franzosische Kutturminister Jack Lang am 27. Januar en, Frankreich werde international renommierte Reslaurateure nach Berlin entsenden, die bei der Wiederherctellung des Brandenburger Tores und vor allem der bei den Sil-vester-Feierlichkeiten stark beschsdigten Quadriga helfen sollen. - AuBerdem will Frankreich im Rahmen der "komplexen Stadierneuerung" Weimars die Restaurierung des Pramiliszt-Hauses Ubernchmen.


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German-American Youth

## Exchanges

In 1989, some 6000 young Americans traveled to the Federal Republic to take part in GermanAmerican exchange programs, while 12,000 of their West German counterparts participated with the help of government scholarships in corresponding programs in the U.S. Of these projects, the school exchanges were the most popular, drawing more than 3500 American and 5000 West German participants.

## Dripping Springs

Fifteen West German teenagers will arrive in Dripping Springs in mid-March for the start of an exchange in which 11 or 12 Dripping Springs students going to Germany for a month this summer.
The German students will stay with families. When the Dripping Springs students go to Germany, they will stay with families.
The American students will attend classes in Germany for three weeks for $41 / 2$ to 5 hours a day and will be with their Dripping Springs German teacher, Terry Wicke, for an hour a day. The final week of their trip, they will travel. They will leave Dripping Springs June 4 and return July 4.
"I think it's very exciting now because of the (Berlin) Wall coming down," Wicke said. "We're looking into traveling into East Germany. It would be a fantastic opportunity."
The students will receive onehalf credit for the trip, but the credit will not count toward their grade point average or their class standing. The school board approved the half-credit at Wicke's request.
"It sort of gives backbone to the trip," she said. "It challenges them to use their German in everyday situations.... Student behavior is also tied to this credit."

A German Booster Club of parents and students was formed a year ago to raise money for the trip. Each student must pay $\$ 1,000$ to $\$ 1,200$ for plane tickets, she said.

The boosters have raised $\$ 2,300$, and have several fundraising events planned this spring. An anonymous donor contributed $\$ 300$ to start a scholarship fund for one of the students, Wicke said.

Who studies for how long


## Studies: West German Students Today Are Older...

According to a recent report by the Science Council, a national agency which makes recommendations and prepares position papers on the development of universities and on academic affairs in general, students in the Federal Republic are taking more time to complete their university degrees than has been true in the past. Using figures from 1987, the report shows that students take an average of 13 semesters to complete their degree, which is roughly equivalent to a U.S. master's degree.

The Chairperson of the Science Council, Dieter Simon, spoke of the rising tendency for students to complete their studies at a relatively late age as "truly catastrophic." The average age for all graduates in 1987 was 28.1 years, but the averages for some disciplines were higher, according to the report. Thus, the average graduate in psychology had reached her thirtieth birthday before graduating, while the average graduate in political science or sociology was 29.5, in architecture 28.5 years old.

## ...and More Career-Conscious

Other research shows that West German university students today seem to be more "career-conscious and pragmatic" than those of ten years ago. This is the primary conclusion reached in a study presented Monday (November 6) in Bonn, in which 10,000 university students were asked about their political attitudes and their expectations of society and of themselves. The study was commissioned by the Federal Education Ministry and carried out between 1982 and 1987 by the Konstanz (Baden-Württemberg)based Working Group on Research in Higher Education.

[^0]
## West German Centenarians on the Rise

More than 12,000 people over the age of 100 will live in the Federal Republic by the year 2000, the minister for Youth, Family, Women and Health, Ursula Lehr, reported last week in Bonn. The minister indicated that 2717 West Germans were at least a century old last year, with 74 of them 105 ycars or more. The millenium-old desire for a long and healthy life has become a reality for many people, Lehr said. Life expectancy has jumped from approximately 35 years at the end of the last century to the current 72 years for male and 78.6 years for female newborns, according to the minister. Men who are 60 years old today will live an average of another 17.3 years, women another 22 , she noted. Some 20.7 percent of West Germans are currently 60 or older and the figure will jump to over a third by the year 2030, she said.

## Autobahn Construction Uncovers 25,000 Fossils

Some 25,000 fossils were recently uncovered during the construction of a section of the StuttgartMunich autobahn. Paleontologist Gert Dietel told journalists Tuesday (February 20) in Stuttgart that the fossils, which will be stored in an airconditioned basement of the Stuttgart Museum of Natural Science, amount to many times more than the number a geologist finds during her or his entire career. A single excavator shovel full of earth from the site occasionally contains 500 or more fossils, Dietel said.

Some 1000 of the 5000 species known to have existed during the Middle Jurassic period between 157 and 172 million years ago have been found at the sight. Deitel reported that an international meeting of experts on the Jurassic period will be held in Stuttgart in September to discuss the artifacts, which, he said, have attracted worldwide attention. The paleontologist noted that nowhere else has the $150-200$ meter layer of earth accumulated during the 15 million years of the Middle Jurassic period been exposed in one piece, thus making possible chronological distinctions to within a previously unknown precision of 100,000 years.

## In Standard German

In Plattdeutsch

> Dat Vater unser
 alltied hielig Dien Name, Dien Riek kuem us to, Dien Wille gescheih
wi in'n Hiemel
so auk up Äern.
 All Dage giff us usse Braut
un vergiff us usse Schuld, auk wi willt vergiewen,
we us wat schüllig sind;

[^1]von all dat, wat von Üewel is.
now

In English
Our Father
Our Father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,Thy will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And, lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.
The American Folklife Center seeks
articles for "Folklife Annual", a year-
ly publication on the traditional ex-
pressive life and culture of the United
States. All folklorists are encouraged
to submit articles, which may be based
on recent fieldwork or represent the
analysis and interpretation of lcng-
term projects and study.
For more information write The Editors,
American Folklife Center, Library of
Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540 or
call or write James Hardin $202 / 707-1741$.

Amen.
The American Folklife Center seeks
articles for "Folklife Annual", a year- ly publication on the traditional expressive life and culture of the United
 to submit articles, which may be based on recent fieldwork or represent the term projects and study. F

| 行 | *** A BOOK FOR YOUR RESOURCE LIBRARY *** <br> Charles Sealsfield, THE CABIN BOOK. 283 pp. <br> "Sealsfield's hopes for America focused on Texas when he wrote Das KajUtenbuch in 1841. This novel, in part about Texas life in the 1830s, became a best-seller." <br> For the first time, this book has become available through GTHS. Send orders to <br> P. O. Box 262, Manchaca, TX 78652. Price: <br> $\$ 8.00$ plus $\$ 2.00$ for postage and handling. <br> There is no tax on books reprinted by GTHS. <br> See page 40, "Charles Sealsfield in Context". |
| :---: | :---: |



Marion Perry and Dr. Doug Hall, dressed as Texas seffers from Gerthany, eirca: 1860-1870, enjoy the 'Toast to Texas' fetivities to mark Independence Day outside the Institute of Texan Cultures.

# Independence Day: 

Texans celebrate republic's freedom

## Book Compiled From "Schulenburg Argus"

Copies of a book prepared by Norman Krischke are now available for purchase. The book contains excerpts from "The Schulenburg Argus" which was published from Mar. 301877 to Mar. 8, 1878.
"The Schulenburg Argus" contains the earliest known history of Schulenburg and allowed Krischke to correlate information with the 1880 U.S. Census, the 1881 Augustus Koch drawing of Schulenburg, the Fayette County Deed \& Tax Records, and with an early map of the city of Schulenburg to determine owners of the early business houses, types of businesses, residence owners, and information on the daily lives of the people during the early years of the town.

This book is available for persons to read at all of the local libraries. Or a person may purchase a copy of this historical information at the Schulenburg Historical Museum, City Cafe and Wolters Office on North Main St., or from Norman Krischke. Copies are $\$ 5.00$ each.

Schulenburg Sticker-
-Thursday, Aug. 3, 1989

1907 Daniel W. Kempner Home 2504 Avenue $O$

1915 Samuel I. Miller Home 2602 Avenue $O$
1896 Alfred S. Newson Home 1801 Ball
1905 U.S. Appraisers Building Adaptive Reuse for Residential 101 21st Street
1898 St. Patrick's Church
In Process of Restoration 3402 Avenue $K$

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| 20-29 | SAN ANTONIO: 99.th Fiesta San Antonio. 512/227-5191 |
| 21 | FREDERICKSBURG: World War II Symposium. 512/997-4379 |
| 21 | NEW BRAUNFELS: Old Gruene Market Days. 512/629-2351 |
| 21-22 | BOERNE: Antique Tractor \& Steam Engine Show. 512/249-8000 |
| 21-22 | SEALY: The Airing of the Quilts. (Regional foods) 409/885-3222 |
| 21-22 | SHINER: Half Moon Walkers Volksmarch. 10-K walk. 512/594-3304 |
| 22 | VIOLET: 39th Springfest (see page 35). 512/387-2308 |
| 25-2 | NEW BRAUNFELS: Springfest on Comal Fairgrounds. 512/625-7037 |
| 27-29 | MUENSTER: Germanfest. German community plays host to more than 50,000 visitors with miles of sausage, etc. 817/759-2227 |
| 28 | BRYAN: Springfest at Messina Hof Wine Cellars. 409/778-9463 |
| 28 | ROUND TOP: Eeyore's Birthday \& Spring Shakespeare Performance. |
|  | Family festivities at Winedale Historical Center. 409/278-3530 |
| 28-29 | STONEWALL: BLUMENFEST at LBJ State Historical Park. 512/644-2252 |
| 29 | MOULTON: Polka \& Waltz Celebration. 512/596-4910 |
| May |  |
| 1-31 | AUSTIN COUNTY: Back Roads Wild Flower Tours. Trail maps available from Sealy Chamber of Commerce. 409/885-3222 |
| 4-6 | ROSENBERG: Czech Fest. On Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. 713/342-5464 |
| 5 | COLORADO CITY: May Fest. 915/728-3403 |
| 5 | FREDERICKSBURG: 20th Founders Day Celebration. Festivities honoring 1846 German settlement led by John 0 Meusebach. 512/997-2835 |
| 5 S | SCHULENBURG: St. Rose Funfest in Wolters Park. 409/743-3080 |
| 5-6 | NEW BRAUNFELS: Folkfest. Celebration of city's heritage and culture at Conservation Plaza. 512/658-7796 or 625-5974 |
| 5-6,12-13 | GALVESTON: Historic Homes Tour. (See page 30). 409/765-7834 |
| 5-6 | SAN MARCOS: Tour of Homes. 512/353-3339 |
| 9-12 | ROUND TOP: Spinning \& Dyeing Workshop. Hans-on workshop at Winedale Historical Center. Call for reservations. 409/278-3530 |
| 10-12 | BRENHAM: 100th Maifest. German folk festival with elaborate costumes, regal coronations and colorful parades. See page 34. 409/836-3695 |
| 10-13 | SAN ANTONIO: Tejano Conjunto Festival. Celebrates the lively mixture of Mexican and German music born in South Texas. 512/271-9070 |
| 11-12 | WEIMAR: Gedenke. 409/725-9564 |
| 12 | PFLUGERVILLE: Deutschen Pfest Street Dance. 512/251-7799 |
| 13 | MARION: Die Deutschen Adler Open Air Concert. Afternoon of entertainment at Schulz Nursery gazebo. 512/420-2384 |
| 19 | FREDERICKSBURG: Heard Ranch Roundup. Real working cowboys herd, rope and brand cattle. 512/997-6110 or 734-6595 |
| 19. | NEW BRAUNFELS: O1d Gruene Market Days. 512/629-2351 |
| 19 | pFLUGERVILLE: Deutschen Pfest. Delightful German celebration with plenty of good pfood, pfun and pfellowship. 512/251-3076 |
| 19 | PlaNO: Blackland Jamboree. At Heritage Farmstead Museum. 214/424-7874 |
| 19-20 | COLUMBUS: 29th Magnolia Homes Tour \& 36th Live Oak Arts \& Crafts Show. 409/732-5881 or 732-5135 |
| 24-Jun 10 | KERRVILLE: Folk Festival. More than 100 musicians from the U. S., Canada and Austria perform at Quiet Valley Ranch. 512/257-3600 |
| JUNE |  |
| 9-10 | VIOLET: 80th Anniversary of St. Anthony's Church. 512/387-7697 |
| For 1290 | Events of the Houston Liederkranz, see page 32. |
| For 19.90 | Events of the San Antonio Liederkranz, see page 38. |




For information, call: Pat Hoelscher (512) 387-7697 or Loretta Boerner (512) 387-2308.

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { See article elsewhere in this issue on } \\
& \text { "Germanfest at Violet" the Violet Historical } \\
& \text { Society's annual benefit festival. Each } \\
& \text { year, they serve over } 1,250 \text { persons! }
\end{aligned}
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# Staff and funding shortages slow advances of Elisabet Ney Museum's 2-year program 

## New curator sets course for accreditation

## By Gina Romero

Special to the American-Statesman
Six months into her new post as Elisabet Ney Museum curator, Mary Collins Blackmon said the museum will not be able to meet her two-year accreditation prediction because of shortages of staff and money.
"To do what we have to do, we need additional staff," Blackmon said.
When she came to Austin in August to become curator and director of the museum, she outlined three goals: accreditation acquisition and recognition.
So much progress has been made in the first two areas that the third won't be long in coming, said City Museum Administrator Jim Fisher. "She's gotten a lot done since she's been here," Fisher said.
To meet the accreditation standards, Blackmon is following a two-inch-thick report prepared in 1987, which details cleaning procedures for the 508 museum artifacts and suggests environmental changes.
"Most of the soulptures are in pretty bad condition," Blackmon said. The $\$ 500,000$ renovation begun in 1982 took care of serious structural deficiencies in the building, which was Ney's studio until her death in 1907. But the museum still lacks a climate- and humidity-control system, Blackmon said.

Before any further structural changes are made, Blackmon said her priority is to reorganize and reinterpret the collection to reflect Ney's personality and her place in art history.


Photo by Gina Romero
Curator Mary Collins Blackmon says of plan for accreditation: "It will take a while, but it will eventually get done."

[^3]world's largest collection of Ney sculptures, owns several unusual gowns worn by Ney dating from the 1860 s, as well as the ornate Arab-style burnooses of which Ney was fond. These and other personal artifacts will figure more prominently in future displays, Blackmon said.

The collection's present arrangement in two rooms - "The Texas Room" and "The European Room" - will be changed to highlight periods or themes in Ney's work.
"The present arrangement doesn't show off these pieces to their best advantage," Blackmon said.
To pay for the expensive conservation or restoration of practically every piece in the museum, Blackmon is seeking government and foundation grants. "It will take a while, but it will eventually get done," she said.
"We are currently re-evaluating that (two-year) deadline in the light of current conditions at the museum," Blackmon said But everything we do is proceeding toward our accreditation plans."
The museum also has begun a series of educational and community activities to acknowledge past community support and encourage volunteerism, so the staff can speed up the accreditation process.
The museum will host a party Feb. 4 to honor Ney's birthday and to present a newly acquired work. Museum support groups will be honored at a later party.
The museum staff hopes to attract the help it needs to develop new exhibits and build exhibit cases and benches for them at a coffee Wednesday for docents and volunteers, Blackmon said.

Young visitors also will get a look at the state's past through the educational program being developed around Ney's portrayal of Texas heroes and prominent citizens, Blackmon said.
The demands of reorganizing and reinterpreting the collection have caused Blackmon to push back an exhibit of newly recovered Ney artifacts and works titled "Lost Treasures of the Ney." The staff hopes to ready it during the spring or fall, Blackmon said.

## Menger Hotel Listed in Historic Hotels Directory <br> San Antonio's historic Menger <br> "Our interest is not only in en-

Hotel has been chosen for inclusion in a new directory, "Historic Hotels of America," published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
The 32 charter hotels listed in the directory are all at least 50 years old, listed in or eligible for the $\mathrm{Na}-$ tional Register of Historic Places, and have preserved their historic architecture and ambience. Other hotels meeting this criteria, as well as historic significance, will be added in the future.
couraging the rehabilitation of historic hotels nationwide, but in helping to maintain the economic viability of these wonderful old facilities," says National Trust President J. Jackson Walter.

The directory launches a new National Trust program to promote and recognize historic hotels through the use of a 24 -hour toll free number (1-800-678-8978) to book hotel, airline and rental car services. Each time a reservation is made through this number, a
portion of the cost is returned to the Jenny Lind. The original hotel has Trust as a donation.
undergone several additions and The Menger Hotel was built by restorations. William Menger in 1859 and grew 'Copies of "Historic Hote.s of out of an earlier boarding house America'" are $\$ 2$ each and may be and brewery on the same Alamo ordered from the National Trust, Plaza site. Famous guests over the Corporate Marketing, 1785 years have included several U.S. Massachusetts Ave. N.W., presidents, Robert E. Lee, Buffalo Washington, D.C. 20036. Bill, O. Henry, Sidney Lanier, Sam Houston, Oscar Wilde, and

[^4]


Old St. Anthony Church is now museum in Violet
Sausage dinner, entertainment and demonstrations slated

Germanfest means food. Lots and lots of food. And fun. And time.
The eighth annual Germanfest will be staged Sunday at the Violet Hall and Violet Museum. Located on Hwy. 44, it is 12 miles west of Corpus Christi
or three miles east of Robstown and is easily located by the billboard of "Matilda and Heinrich" who greet all visitors and passersby.
A sausage dinner will be served from $11 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. to $3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. for $\$ 4.50 \mathrm{a}$ plate. The menu includes mild sausage with barbecue sauce, sauerkraut, hot buttered potatoes,
green and pinto beans, pickles, onions, bread, dessert and tea or coffee. There is also a drive-up window.
Albert Kline will play his accordian from 11 a.m, to 2 p.m.
There also will be a country store filled with baked items, in cluding apple strudel, breads cakes, cookies, rolls and kolaches.

It also will stock canned items, crafts, gift items, plants and fresh eggs.
Many items will be sold during a silent auction that will last throughout the day.
The Violet Museum will be open during the day. It features a circa-1900 kitchen with furnishings and demonstrations of cream
being separated from milk and then churned into butter. There also will be a quilt display, and an all-day quilting demonstration is planned.
Crocheted, tatted and embroidered works will be on display. All proceeds from this event will go to the maintenance of the museum. It is sponsored by the Violet Historical Society.


Early German Settlers of Oldenburg, Texas Honored by Oldenburg Ex-Students and Teachers

The Oldenburg Ex-Students and Teachers have been busy applying for a Historical Marker for Oldenburg, Texas. In the later eighties, Oldenburg was a thriving German village with most of its inhabitants coming from oldenburg, Germany. Today, there is one store--and an empty filling station.

Besides getting a marker, a report was sent to The Handbook of Texas to be included in the new edition.

Also a book, Wo Bist Du?, was printed. The book tells the historical facts used in the marker narrative with pictures of the businesses that had made Oldenburg more than "a wide spot in the road."

Plans are to dedicate the marker on October 20, 1990.
--submitted by Léola Tiedt, La Grange, TX


1811 bis 1878 und kōnnte eventuell in der Nähe des heutigen Wehde-
mer Pfarrhauses gewohnt haben. Der Grabstein eines anderen Chri-
toph Emshoff kundete davon, daß
 Wilhelm Niermann fand auch die in

 schen Sprache schwierig auszu-
sprechen war und somit einfach als
Losch weitergefuhrt wurde.
schlechten Zeiten kaum ernăhrt
werden konnten, suchten sich viele
Stemweder in den Staaten eine neue Existenz.
Die Ubersiedler müssen in der
Gegend um New Wehdem vor-
 ben. Der US-Staat Texas ist noch
immer ein sprichwōrtlich unbe-
grenztes Land - auch heute leben
 auf einer Flảche, die dreimal so
groß ist wie die Bundesrepublik...

Gibt die 100-Jahr-Chronik Geheimnisse preis?
ausführlich aber die. Entstehungs-
geschichte der Kirchengemeinde
New Wehdem berichten.

Bekanntlich wanderten aus den Stemweder Dorfern im viele Menschen nach Amerika aus. Mit dem Zusammenbruch Luabbecke (preisgūnstigere, indu-
strielle Fertigung kam auf) sowie der zunehmenden Anzahl von Kin-
dern in den Familien, die in jenen
 ges Bestehen feiern. Wilhelm Niercannte in den USA etwas von der Geschichte der Kirchengemeind Chronik existiert. Diese, so Wilhelm Niermann, kōnnte anlāßlich sein. Die RAHDENER ZEITUNG
wird, falls diese Chronik auftaucht,
 DeBerry


## 120-Jahr-Feier der Kirchengemeinde

## mit Gästen aus der alten Heimat?

Auf dem Friedhof viele Grabsteine mit bekannten Wehdemer Namen
Wehdem/New Wehdem/USA (weh). konden davon, daß sich auf diesem texanischen Schwarzbraune Bisons mit urigem Kopf grasen aur Fleckchen unweit der 10000 -Einwohner-Stadt Brenmilden Klima, vereinzelte Farmen liegen weit ver-. Houston gelegen, so etwas wie ein Ort oder eine
streut im Umland. Nur die Kirche mit ihrem ange-. Gemeinde befindet. streut im Umland. Nur die Kirche mit ihrem ange-
gliederten Friedhof und das kleine Schulgebăude Tatsảchlich: vor der Kirche findet
der Besucher ein Schild mit dem der Besucher ein Schild der Gemeinde: - St. James Lutheran Churche steht dort ge-
schrieben, und darunter - etwas kleiner, aber nicht minder deutlich -"Of New Wehdem $\kappa$ ! Hier ist nicht
etwa der Zufall im Spiel - $\quad$ New
(Neu)-Wehdem* in Texas erhielt (Neu)-Wehdem in Anlehnung an un
seinen Namen in
ser Dorf, das sich am Fube des ser Dorf, das sich am Fube des befindet: dis
Stemweder Berges
uber 1000 Jahre alte westfalische uber 1000 Jahre alte westfalische
Wehdem! Entdeckt wurde das USGegenstūck kürzich von einem be,
kannten odeutschen Wehdemer, kannten sdeutschen Wehdemer,
der in Houston zu Besuch weilte.
Wilhelm Niermann, Nr. 113, der





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Terminkalender Stemwede-Haldem: 15 Uhr
Sitzung des Bau-, PlanungsSitzung des Bau-, Planungs
und Wirtschaftsförderungsausschusses der Gemeinde Stem-
wede in der Gaststātte Rosengarten/Schepshake mit den
Themen =Großklăranlage* und Themen =Großklâranlage Dielingen: $16-17 \mathrm{Uhr}$ BEK-
Beratung in der Gemeindever-
waltung Dielingen.


A Woolby Cokrmn by Poui A. Proumo On Touthat Attroctions in Schuionburg
OLD ANDERSON PLACE/LOUIS SCHULENBURG HOME


The Old Anderson Place/Louis Schulenburg Home is located at 510 South Main St.

William B. Anderson built this home around 1857. Louis and Johanna Schulenburg bought the home in 1867 and resided there until the railroad come through. Schulenburg sold the home and his 450 -acre farm on March 31,1873 for $\$ 8000.00$ to T.W. Peirce, president of the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railroad (now, Southern Pacific Railroad). The depot was built on Schulenburg's land, and the town was given his name.

The first train came through Schulenburg on December 31, 1873. Among the passengers on that train were Charles H. and Adelia Bertha (Cooksey) Rose, who were married in June 1873. Rose was the first permanent railroad station master in Schulenburg. He bought the Anderson-Schulenburg home from Peirce, later making it into a boarding house, which was called "The Rose Hotel."

The home received a historical marker, dedicated December 12, 1971. It reads, "Area's oldest occupied house. Built before 1857 by William B. and Rosetta Anderson, three of whose eleven children were born here. Anderson was a carpenter, blacksmith, postmaster in the town of Lyons, justice of the peace, notary public (appointed by the governor of Texas), and sergeant of Lyons Riflemen, C.S.A. Family watched military drills from second story during Civil War. Later owners: Louis Schulenburg, for whom town was named; T.W. Peirce, a principal investor in Galveston, Houston \& San Antonio Railroad; and C.H. Rose family, who remodeled house for roomers."

The Anderson-Schulenburg home is one of the attractions featured on the Chamber of Commerce "Self-Guided Historic City Driving Tour." A sketch of this home will also be featured on the Chamber's 1990 calendar, and the current resident of the home is the artist, Kathy Durst, and her family. The Chamber of Commerce office at 1107 Hillje has a variety of information on various tourist attractions in Schulenburg. The mailing address is PO Box 65 , Schulenburg, TX 78956 and the phone number is 409-743-3023.

Schulenburg Historical Museum 37

## LEGACOES AND LEGENDS

1877 Description Of Schulenburg
The site occupied by Schulenburg cannot be surpassed for beauty of natural scenery. The prairie upon which it is located extends north and south a distance of 12 miles and averages three miles in width. The town corporation is one square mile and contains a population of one thousand souls most of whom are Germans who own most of the business houses of the place. The business transacted here is larger than any other town between Houston and San Antonio. Cotton, buffalo and catle hides and cottonseed are shipped from this place daily. There are between 40 and 50 business houses and saloons in town, three hotels, the Masons and Odd Fellows Lodge in their recently built two-story lodge hall, the First Baptist Church and St. James Missionary Baptist Church, one bakery, two meat markets, one livery stable, two blacksmith shops, three lumber yards, one cabinet shop, one grist mill, one planing mill, one cotton gin, one tobacco store, one musical instrument store, the Germania Hall, three physicians, daily train arrivals and departures and the telegraph. The population within a 20 -mile radius is 3000 and the local farm land is the richest in the state. There is no drunkenness and no disturbances to mar the good feelings which pervade the community. Schulenburg should, in the near future, become one of the most desirable and attractive places in the state. -- The Schulenburg ARGUS

A study of Augustus Koch's 1881 drawing of Schulenburg and the 1877 Schulenburg Argus helps to identify some of the buildings which were constructed between 1873 and 1877 and are still standing. The original G.H.\&S.A. Railroad Freight Office, built in 1873, is part of the Eastern Seed Co.; Wolters \& Cranz occupied the rock
building on Lyons Ave. now Kubala's, Inc.; and Charles Proetzel's first general store, a rock and brick building on Lyons, now houses a dance studio, insurance office and hair salon. Chris Baumgarten's brick cotton gin on North Main near Ruhmann's Manufacturing Co. was built in 1874. The First Baptist Church and St. James Missionary Baptist Church were in existence before 1875. The Cranz Mansion on the southwest comer of West Avenue and Anderson was constructed in 1877. Chris Baumgarten's house in the middle of the block on West Avenue and between Summit and Anderson contains a built-in log cabin which dates back to 1859. The Anderson-Schulenburg house on the southwest corner of Lyons and South Main was built between 1857 and 1859. Franz and Rosina Stanzel's farm house on Baumgarten Street between Kessler and Kellett, still standing, was constructed before Schulenburg was born. The W. F. Upton brick store, now the southwest corner of True Value, was built in 1877. The Lyons Masonic Lodge Hall on the northwest corner of Kessler and Anderson was erected in 1876.
There are several buildings suspected of being early stores in Schulenburg still standing. The small "false-front" building one-half block north of Highways 77 and 90 , on the east side of the highway, was probably an early business house. The building just west of Fort Motor Co. on North Main could have been an early store. Also the H \& R Block front office building and the rear building in the alley appear to have been in existence about the time the town was founded. There are more "board and batt" type sheds and houses around town which seem to be over a hundred years old; however, proof of their existence at that time cannot be found. Schulenburg, now 116 years old, still retains some of the flavor of its founding days.


Bun Antuntio Tiièmerkranz
P.O. Box 6738

San Antonio, Texas 78286

## 1990 Calendar of Events

April 15 Easter Sunday Mass
St. Joseph's Church
May 12 Spring Concert
Beethoven Halle
May 19-20 Staatssängerfest San Antonio

July 14 Stiftungfest
San Antonio
Aug. 19 St. Louis Day Castroville

Dec 15
Christmas Concert Beethoven Halle

## 

The 28th annual reunion of Shovel Mountair and Cypress Mill GermanAmerican Pioneers and descendents will be held on Saturday, June 23ra, at the American Legion Hall in
Fredericksburg. Contact Walter Richter, P. O. Box 9589, Austin 78766 for details.


## High Hill, St. Rose History Books For Sale At Sticker

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 was published in 1960 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of St. Mary's Parish in High Hill. The book is now in its fourth printing. The book contains information on the history of St. Mary's Parish, former pastors, St. Mary's School, vocations, societies, etc. In addition, the book contains information on the German settlement of High Hill, which was formed from the communities of Blum Hill, Wursten and Oldenburg. The original part of High Hill started about 1846 and was named Blum Hill after Robert Blum of Austria and Germany. In 1858, the United States Post Office Department instituted a post office for the immediate area, and it was given the name High Hill. The book also contains the Warren Lyons story, a history of the first oil mills in Texas and a chapter on the birth of Schulenburg. It concludes with a chapter on the leading pioneer citizens of High Hill.

The St. Rose centennial history
book will go on sale this Sunday, Aug. 20 at the St. Rose centennial celebration at Wolters Park. This book was based on the "History of St. Rose of Lima Parish," published in 1964 to mark the parish's diamond jubilee. However, the new book contains all of the information in the original book plus many updates and a great deal of additional information. The book tells of the early days of St. Rose Parish, established in 1889, and chronologically progresses to the centennial year. One chapter is devoted to former pastors, assistant pastors and vocations, while another chapter tells of religious education at St . Rose Parish. Organizations affiliated with St. Rose Parish are the topic of one chapter. The book concludes with an appendix giving acknowledgements, an index of persons named in the book, ads and patrons.

The High Hill book is available for $\$ 7.00$ while the St. Rose book is available for $\$ 10.00$. 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, 409-7433450.

Schulenburg Sticker--Thursday, Aug. 17, 1989

Stanton is located between Midland and Big Spring. It was settled in 1881 by German Catholics from Anderson County. The original name was Grelton, then Mariensfeld (Field of Mary). In 1890, it was renamed Stanton by petition of the Protestants.

0from: Handbook of Texas, Vol II Nuns bring education
to West Texas frontier

Just 12 days after the Academy of Our Lady of Mercy's 70 students recessed for the summer, a tornado struck. All but one of the four primitive structures of the frontier religious community, located in the West Texas town of Stanton, were destroyed. The convent and the eight nuns who had been huddled inside miraculously were spared from harm. That year, 1938, marked the end of a historic period in the development of the Catholic Church in West Texas.

In 1881, Rev. Anastasius Peters and his four religious associates stepped off the Texas and Pacific Railroad at Gelton, now Stanton. They arrived from Kansas to establish a German Catholic colony and to found a Carmelite monastery to train young men for the priesthood. By 1886, they had built a church and a two-story building that served as their monastery. A few years later, a group of nuns arrived from St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco to set up a school at the new colony. The first class had 16 pupils. In 1897 the Carmelite fathers sold the property, which now had several buildings, to the Sisters of Mercy, and the monastery was converted for use as a convent. Incorporated as the Sisters of Mercy Educational Society of Texas, the group of nuns was founded "for the support and protection of school, education, charity, and benevolence ..... ${ }^{n}$ There was little society in this part of the country at the time except what the sisters provided. The barren countryside was scattered with small communities beleaguered with drought, dust storms, and poverty.

The Sisters of Mercy made their school a success. Pupils were mostly boarders of both sexes from surrounding communities. As its reputa-
ton grew, the school received pupils from other states, including New Mexico, Arizona, California, Oklahome, and Ohio. By 1904, enrollment reached 110 , one of the highest in the school's history. In addition to basic academic subjects, the school offered music, art, and home economics. In 1925, it was awarded accreditation as a junior high school. The property consisted of a church, convent, boys' building, girls' building, and two windmills for pumping water.

Unaided by endowments, the school subsisted entirely on proceeds from board and tuition fees. Many pupils were charged a reduced rate during difficult economic times. Despite financial losses and increased competition from public and private

Texas Historical

Commission: The Medallion
January, 1990
schools, which drove attendance down, the school maintained high standards to the end.

Finally, after the 1938 tornado, the Sisters of Mercy closed the Academy and sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kelly, owners of the Stanton Reporter. The couple took up residence in the convent and eventually passed it to their grandchildren.

Today the convent, which is owned by the Martin County Convent Foundation, is in poor condition. It is an architecturally unusual structure that combines four-foot thick adobe walls with a clapboard outer covering and gothic arched windows and doors.
The Foundation recently raised the funds to replace the roof. In November the building was awarded a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to begin additional removations. When rehabilitated, the building will serve as a community center and as a continuing reminder of the beginnings of education on the West Texas frontier.


The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy in Stanton was for many years the only school between Dallas and Phoenix. The clapboard covered adobe convent was spared in a 1938 tornado that destroyed the church and dormitories.

## 



## Alexander von Humboldt Research Center

Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859) ranks among the greatest natural scientists in all of history, and in addition has a high rank among humanists. The Humboldt heritage has been well preserved in the US especially by the many street names, water bodies and occasional parks whose nomenclature to the general American public, however, has scarcely more meaning than Third or Maple Streets. Alexander's older brother. Wilhelm, (1767-1835) was a philosopher; linguist and statesman closely associated with the classical movement, a friend of Goethe and Schiller and the civil servant most responsible for the reorganization of the German (Prussian) education system around 1810. His publications in linguistics were the foundation for much of Chomsky's later theories about generative grammar and the like.

But it was Alexander who was the most often commemorated in the American place names. Following study often with his brother at the universities in Frankfurt-Oder and Göttingen, Alexander von Humboldt travelled from 1799 to 1804 as a botanist through much of South America collecting data about a host of natural phenomena which resulted in a 30 volume work Voynge cuse ragtoms equalnosilales dus
rowdean contincert (1805-1834). Beginning in 1827 he held his famous lectures at the university of Berlin (which since 1948 bears his name) that sought to define the physical dimensions of the world. Having gained world fame, he was invited to travel and study in imperial Russia with research emphasis on the Urals, Altai and the Caspian Sea. Back in Berlin during the 1830s he sought to render the whole of physical science into a system which was published in his Feames. Entwourf elver phystcullocluen Wettheschenelbarsg in five volumes (1845-62). Other works dealt with the magnetic fields of the universe, the languages, arts and cultures of the Indians, the interaction and interdependence of the sea, weather, and climate of the world, and much more.

Currently there is a rebirth of interest in the achievements and significance of Alexander von Humboldt by the Academy of Sciences of the German Democratic Republic. The Alexander von Humboldt Research Center has issued some 11 volumes through the Akademie Verlag under the editorship of Werner Hartke, Edgar Lehmann, Günther Rienäcker and Kurt-R. Bierman, the editor-in-chief. As part of its overall endeavor, the center has been collecting materials for two decades fnom all over the world. Its aim is to gather all

Painting of Alexander von Humboldt and Aime Bonpland in their cabin in the primeval forest by Eduard Ender (1822-1883), now owned by the Institut für Geographie und Geoökologie of the Academy of Sciences of the GDR in Leipzig.
materials that are related to Humboldt's life and work and eventually to publish all the research findings that may be newly collated or have not been previously published. The first volumes appeared already in 1968 while the latest came out in 1989. Also, some 95 articles in scholarly journals, many scholarly papers, and countless book reviews have herarlded the Center's achievements.

During his trip to the Americas, Alexander met President Jefferson in 1804. conferred with Secretary of State Madison, botanist G. H. E. Mühlenberg and many others in the US. Humboldt also corresponded throughout his life with some 60 American scientists whom he knew personally. In the years before the Civil War he strongly supported abolitionist movements.

In the US there are at least 25 towns, cities and counties and a minimum of 10 lakes and rivers, a few mountains, as well as many schools and libraries that bear his name. Institutions in the US from which the Research Center has received Humboldt autographs include the Clements Library in Ann Arbor MI, the Public Library and Harvard Library in Boston, university libraries in Charlottsville VA, Chicago, Durham NC, Minneapolis, New Haven, and Princeton. Also autographs came from the American Museum of Natural History, the Historical Society, Leo Beck Institute, and Columbia University library in New York. Likewise, from the Burndy Library in Norwalk CT, the American Philosophical Society, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and Luther Theological Seminary libraries in Philadelphia. Further more, from the Huntington in San Marino CA, and the Library of Congress and Naval Observatory libraries in Washington DC. Contact the Research Center, Leipziger Str. 3-4, Berlin DDR 1000, East Germany.

## Wendish History Book Available

George Boerger, president of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society, has announced that Dr. George R. Nielsen has completed his second book on the immigration of the Wends, "In Search Of A Home: Nineteenth Century Wendish Immigration."
Dr. Nielsen's work is recognized as the best source available for research on the immigration of the Wends. His first study of the Wendish migration was published in 1977 and has been reprinted several times. This updated and expanded edition carefully describes details of immigration to Australia, Texas and elsewhere and contains additional information on the resettlement of these unique people.

The largest number migrated to Texas, where at Serbin, under the leadership of Pastor Jan Kilian, they formed a Wendish community, retaining their own language in church, school and home. The local agricultural conditions proved too poor to sustain many people so the Wends of Texas scattered to different parts of the state. Eventually they lost most of their ethnic distinctiveness.

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society will have Dr. Nielsen's book available for sale in October. Prepublication orders are now being accepted by the Society.

Dr. Nielsen will be attending the Nov. 19 meeting of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society and will be available to personally autograph books at that time.

Dr. Nielsen is a professor of history at Concordia College in River Forest, Illinois. He spent nine months in Australia researching this volume, has examined archives in East Germany and has had access to many private family collections of letters and papers in the United States.

An international planning committee has been formed for the observance of the sesquicentennial of the founding of the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas. For information: Glen E. Lich, Regional Studies, Baylor University, Waco TX 76798-7400, (817) 755-2190.
"Charles Sealsfield in Context: International, National and Regional Perspectives" is the topic of a conference, 5-8 April 1990, at Baylor University, Waco. For information, contact Glen $E$. Lich, Regional Studies, Baylor University, Waco TX 76709-7400, (817) 755-2190.

## BOOK REVIEW

Andrea $V$. Reichstein, Rise of the Lone Star: The Making of Texas. Tr. from the German by Jeanne R. Willson. College Station, Texas: Texas A\&M University Press. 1989. \$29.95.

One might question why one should rad a history of the Texas Revolution first written by a German and then translated into English. According to the author, however, this is the first fulllength one-volume examination of this revolution. Most other historians see it as a part of the westward movement of Americans or a prelude to the annexation of Texas by the United States ten years later. Reichstein attempts to answer a number of questions about the Revolution including the role of Freemasonry, land speculation, ethnic attitudes, the relationship of the revolution (and was it really a "revolution"?) to the subsequent annexation, and what the concept of "manifest destiny" had to do with all that.

Reichstein has two more purposes in writing the present volume, which was originally his Phi. dissertation at the University of Freiburg. First, he feels that a Texan, or any Anglo-American, can never see the events in a clear light, without a bias caused by a natural nationalistic attitude. The Texas Revolution is viewed by such as a necessary event for the expansion of the United States to its present size. Secondly, studies of the history of Texas have thus been marked by a chauvinism which cause them to be prejudicial in their treatment of Indians and Mexicans. Part of this is due to the inherent Protestanism of most of the investigators.

Reichstein'strength lies in his objectivity and his novel way of looking at the traditional Texas heroes. For example, Stephen F. Austin is seen less as George Washington and more as a modern realestate entrepreneur and land speculator. The demythificaton of some icons of Texas history is refreshing and informative. This is revisionist history.

An added attraction of the book is a very thorough and comprehensive bibliography of published and unpublished materials about the history of Texas. The reader will find all the books he would need to compare to the present volume, in regard to facts and opinions. Reichstein's book is an extremely valuable addition to the canon of Texan. It presents an European point-of-view, and for the members of the GTHS, a German point of view of the early years of our state.

Hanna B. Lewis
Sam Houston State University

## Museum directory reissued

The Texas Historical Commission is pleased to announce that a reprint of the popular 1988 Texas Museum Directory has been made possible by a grant from the American Petrofina Foundation in Dallas.

When the THC first released the book last year, public demand was so great that all copies were distributed within a few months. According to Cindy Sherrell-Leo. director of the THC's County Historical Commassion and Museum Services Departtent. continuing requests for the book prompted her in seek funds in
print a second edition.
"Texans traveling within the state and visitors from across the nation are interested in our museums." she said. "It is clear that museums and historic sites are a high priority on visitors' lists of things to do, and I'm pleased we can offer this helpful! guide."
For a free copy of the 1988 Texas Museum Directory: write THC. P.O. Box 12276. Austin. TX 78711. or call $512 / 463-6100$. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis.


## BOOK REVIEW

Nathalie Ornish, Pioneer Jewish Texans. Their Impact on Texas and American History for Four Hundred Years 1590-1990. Dallas TX: Texas Heritage Press, 1989. \$45 after December 31, 1989; current price $\$ 39.95$.

When we think of pioneer German Texans, we usually think of a Protestant or Catholic farmer who came to the Hill Country or the LLano Estacado and founded small communities there. But part of the picture were also German Jewish immigrants who were in Texas from the first white settlements on. Although Nathalie Ornish's book is about all pioneer Jewish Texans (she herself is from Galveston and a graduate of Sam Houston State University), we, as members of the German Texan Heritage Society are especially interested in the German Jewish pioneers-- and there are a surprising number of these.

Ornish divides her book both chronologically and by achievements. The first group are the true pioneers-- those who came in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century and participated in the building of the Texas Republic and the Battle of San Jacinto, fought at the Alamo and were here before the Civil War. Among these were Adolphus Sterne "who helped bring Sam Houston from Tennessee to Texas and Gen. Houston lived in Sterne's home." He was the mayor of Nacogdoches and a member of both the Texas House of Representative and the Senate. He fought in many battles for Texas. Herman Ehrenburg was a memeber of the New Orleans Greys (composed largely of Texans) and fought at the first battle of the Alamo in December of 1835 and at Goliad. Although German Jews are particularly conneacted with retail merchandising in Texas (i.e., Neiman-Marcus, Sanger-Harris), they were also cattle ranchers, small town bankers and even wildcatters. Olga Kohlberg of el Paso started the first public kindergarten in Texas and other German Jews have been prominent in education and the arts before and since. It would take another book to detail all the persons Ornish portrays in her book.

An added bonus is that Pioneer Jewish Texans is just a beautiful book-- what may be called a "coffee table book." It is splendidly bound and lavishly illustrated and is printed on heavy stock. It doe not have to be read in one or two sittings, but left to lie around and be enjoyed for a long time.

Hanna B. Lewis
Sam Houston State University
Twenty-nine microfilm rolls of 50 years (1912-1962) of The Yorktown News are now at the library ready for the public to use for rescarch, thanks to the Editors, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roy Griffin, Jr: for giving the permission to use the papers, to Mrs. Patsy Hand of Victoria for coordianting the details in getting the papers microfilmed and to Mrs. Frances Hartmann and the Friends.of the Library for sponsoring the project.


## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Terry C. Jordan and Mätti Kaups, The Amertomin Enolkwools Provethen An Bethete arel Booloriond Intergpretertion (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Presa, 1989), 340 pp . 33 . A giance at the extensive btbliography indicates how intensely Jordan has contributed to an understanding of the Germanic sources of $\log$ and wood construction in North American cultural ecology. While the book incorporates a great deal about the German adaptation of Old World architecture in foik structures in America, the overall thesis here is that the origins of the frontier log structure were not Germanic, but indeed Finnish in origin, which is why Kaups was invited to collaborate with Jordan on this impressive contribution to our knowledge of folk construction styles and their diftusion in North America. Geographers by profession, the authors include the story of their field work, back tt up with many photographs, add expertly drawn sketches and comprehensive footnotes. The preface and Chapter twa, "In search of a Mainspring" lay out the terms and the hypotheses which eventually comprise the book: The Finns, through the settements of Swedes in Delaware, and the eastern woodland Indlans of cotonial America, in particular the Delaware tribe, were the most dignifcant contributors to the backwoods pioneer adaptive system of construction for the American frontier. Finno-Indic seems the beat word invention to define

The Immitrant in Americe Milcrofilin Collection Unte fs The Germinas, Reela 148-180 Woodbridge CT: Research Publications, 1984). $\$ 2.240$. The collection includes themajor works pertaining to the various immigrant works in America. Unit 5 covers the German element and contains ca. 300 works most of which date before WWI and are in German. It contains basic reference works, such as Dorateck. Ameriburalsches ConvermationtIesplisoen by Alexander Schem. as well as standard histories by Cronau. Deiler, Fritsch. Goebel. Hense-Jensen. Kapp. Koerner, Klauprecht and others. Stnce most are scarce, this offering supplies scholars the core collection and is therefore recommended to all libraries where German American research is in progress.

Frank Krampikowaki. ed. Amerileme ischee Douteoklanctbild mat deuterike Ameerlealitil. Interkulturelle Erziehung, Band 10 (Baltmannsweiler: Padagogischer Verlag Burgbücherei Schneider. 1990), 421 pp. Contributions by 17 scholars, among them several SGAS merr.bers inctuding Hermann Fink of the University of Paderborn who offers an extended essay on "Soziokulturelle Effekte von Amerikanismen der deutschen Gegenwartssprache und von Germanismen des heutigen Amerikanisch: Versuch einer qualifativen Analyse." An attempt to move beyond the graphic units and signs of borrowed words, to the social, cuftural and psychological concepts that accompany the loaned terminology. Ex. cellent graphs and tables. Another SCAS nember is Hans Galinsky who treats the "Wechselbezichungen zwischen der deutschen und der amterikonischen Literatur mit Einschlus ihrer Bilder vom anderen Volk". This is an authortative and pioneering invertigation of the expository and imaginative Cerman literary scene in North America and presented here for the first time

## From GGSA

 NewsletterPeter Freeout, Rellgion and Dialect Catholic and Letheran Dlalecte in the Ger mans of Dublote Corenty, InClaves. Ph. D. diss. Indiana University Bloomington, 1989. Freeouf maintains that the historical religious differences in the German-American community are reflected in the varying German dialects still spoken in the community. The Catholics of Jasper, Ferdinand and St. Meinrad are descendants of German set tlers from several parts of Germany, and the language equates with the German spoken in large areas of southern Ger many. The Lutherans of Haysville. however, trace their origin to a small area in northern Bavaria so that the dialect spoken there compares closely with the dialect spoken near Pegnitz in Germany. Freeouf has shown that German in Indiana is not just another foreign languagecompeting for attention but an integral part of the state's cultural traditions Coples of the dissertation are in the libraries of IU Bloomington and Indianapolis, as well as in the county library at Jasper.

Filer anmelte witmetmatech (Cole Camp MO: Sesquicentennial Committee, 1989) 358 pp . $\$ 32.50$ postpaid. A well illustrated history of the Low German heritage of Cole Camp, Missouri. The text is in both Low German and English translation. An excellent example of German-American local history. Available also are cassettes and video tapes of Low German as spoken in the region. Contact City of Cole Camp, Box 36. Cole Camp MO 65325.

Kart \& R. Arndt and Reimer C. Eck, compiled by Gerdll B8tte and Wemer Tannhof, trom a complation by Annelies Miller, The Mint Centery of Cor mas Ingrape Priating te the Urited semete of Americta, A
 semertes of onvald sothersatioter and willur Ei OAlas Wh. 1 (178:-1807) (G8ttingen: Niedersalchsische Staats- und Universitäsbib[iothek. 1989) Vol. 1 (1728-1807). Your editor has not yet seen this issue, only a xerox copy of the title page but wishes to alert the reading public to its availability.

Abraham D. Lavender, "United States Ethnic Groups in 1790: Given Names as Suggestions of Ethnic Rdentity" Searr mall of Amerion: Exitulo Eitsevery, 9 (Fill, 1989), 36-66, with quite a few references to Germans in Pennsytvania.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann, ed., Sorareebook for the GormarinAmertcan Elaritage Morth (Cincinnati: German-American Citizens League, 1989), 33 pp. Used in 100 schools (public and Catholic) during the German-American heritage month of October 1989. Plans call tor using it each year in October. Contact: Don Tolzmann, University of Cincinnati, Langsam Library ML 33, OH 45221.


The production of this Chart was sponsored by J. Richi

## American Journalists Comment About German Immigration

The bar graph presented above is the work of SGAS member Dr. Jürgen Eichhoff at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The Neuvaletter presented an earlier version of his graph in Vol. 6 No . 3 (1985) and we are pleased to present it updated here. Copies are available through the German House Research, 3950 Plymouth Circle, Madison WI 53705 (608) 238-7153.

Each of the high points on the German immigration scale elicited commentary in the English-language press, a snapshot of which follows: In 1851, S. Osgood, in the Cheriselaur Excumbiner (Nov. 1851), $350-59$ penned in part, "The Germans, indeed, are superior to the Americans in a love of the beautiful arts that give society so much of its ornament. Their musical taste is quite distinguished, and both with woice and instruments great numbers of them have a high degree of skill. ... Sometimes the most exquisite music is heard, we believe, in dance houses, where refinement is an utter stranger, and the works of Beethoven and Mozart are performed, we learn, at Sunday concerts whose auditors in their dress and demeanor are far below the level of our native laboring
class. A portion, indeed, of the apparent roughness of German Manners among us comes from the fact, that so many of the wealthy and better educated Germans abstain from ordinary assemblies of their own countrymen, and it is one of the bitter common places of their newspapers, that as soon as a man gets money, he ceases to be known as a German. ... We do not believe that there is any press in the world so utterly radical and destructive as the German newspaper press in this country."

Rather in contrast to Osgood was the commentary of J. D. Angell, in North Americare Reviewd, 82 (1856), 263-68. "The German merchants who are found in our cities accumulate fortunes with rapidity. He who is the wealthiest man in America was born on the soil of Germany. . . Among them [rewolutionaries of 1848] were the most intellectual and accomplished of our German population. But among them also too many of those turbulent and restless spirits, who are always ewoked from obscurity by civil commotions."

Ten years later Charles Dawson Shanly wrote in the Atlacstic Monthly, 19 (1867), 555-64 "More characteristic yet than the Broadway restaurants conducted on German principles are the smaller ones scat-
tered everywhere throughout the city, queer, dingy, rattle-trap dining-houses in which families of Teuton race, men, women, and children, appear to pass a great deal of their time. . . . The bar . . . looks like a breastwork thrown up by a regiment of gourmands to oppose the march of famine. It is piled with joints and manufactured meats adapted to the strong German stomach; enormous fat hams, not throughly boiled, for the German prefers his pig undone; rounds of cold corned beef, jostled by cold roast legs and loins of veal; pyramids of sausages of every known size and shape, and several cognate articles of manufactured swinemeat."
J. J. Lalor again in the Aellountic Morethly, 32 (1873), 459-70 characterized the large numbers of Germans: "To awoid their denationalization, and what they may think to be evils in the public school system, they have erected schools of their own all over the country. Their teachers are generally competent, and compare favorably with the teachers in the public schools. Their methods of teaching are the same followed in Germany, and the results the same, scholars thorough and accurate in their knowledge, who are, besides, as gentlemanly, as well-behaved, and as respectful to their teachers as the children that frequent the most orthodox schools in the land. In the matter of education, at least,

ard Strawsburg, M.D., of Dayton, Ohio, and the German Genealogical Society of America, P.O. Box 291818, Los Angeles, CA 90029.
they lost nothing from the fact that they do not frequent our public schools. . . . His language, customs, education, and traditions, his daily mode of life, even, are different; bence he does not meet his American fellow-citizen as often as he would were any of these things held by the two in common. Germans and Americans cannot meet even at the same table, which, however good it may be for one or the other, never can suit both at the same time, so different are their culinary tastes. The German tells you that he can get nothing to eat at an American boarding-house or hotel; and in a German one the American assures you there is nothing he can eat."

In a rather different vein, Eugene V. Smalley wrote in Lipplncott's Magazine, 31 (1883), 355-63 "Possibly we shall borrow also from the Germans something of their ideas of the relations of husband and wife to correct our recent tendency to place women at the head of the household and make man her servant. The American woman of the better classes has come to look upon her husband as a useful but rather inferior being, whose place in life is to work hard all day to get the money for her comfortable maintenance and devote himself to her entertainment in his leisure hours. She must have servants and nurses to relieve her from household and maternal cares, so
that she may have time for calls and shopping; if her husband does not think she has a right to enjoy herself while he is toiling for her support, she looks upon him as a brute. Not so the German woman! The husband is the bread-winner, and she gives him reverence and service as well as affection, expecting in return fidelity and devotion, but no sacrifices to her whims, her love of dress, or her fondness for society. She takes her full share of the burden of life, and in a hundred little ways shows that it is her pleasure to aid him in the struggle for existence. ... [The Germans, however,] have made us a beer-drinking nation. Within the memory of men of middle age, lager-beer was almost unknown in this country; now it is the national beverage. That the beer-drinking habit we have acquired from them is a good thing in itself, I will not contend, though something might be said of the beneficial sedative influence of this decoction of hops and malt upon our excitable, over-active American temperament:"

At the end of the century, Josiah Flynt wrote in the Atlarstic Morathly, 78 (1896) 655-64 "I venture to say that Germany is what it is today, probably the least politically corrupt country in all Europe, very. much because of this veneration for government and its representatives. This is what keeps the army together, the bureaucracy clean and pure, and the peo-
ple governable. . . . The Germans are a healthy people. The men are well built and strong and the women vigorous and energetic. Taking them as a race, I think they are better fitted for life, physically, than we are, and they seldom have to rely so much on nervous power to do their work. . . . If I have read them [German qualities] aright, the most striking are respect for law and order, intelligence, thoroughness, perseverance, industry, honesty, and general good health."

Finally in 1945 Wilbur K. Thomas commented in the German-Americas Review, il (1945), 3 "Craftsmanship was a part of their education. They were noted for their saving habits, the deanliness of their homes and for their flowers. They organized saving fund societies, building and loan associations [the forerunners of our Savings and Loans], sick benefit societies and small insurance companies:"

The reader is invited to coordinate the commentary with the graph's statistics and to understand that the numbers of German immigrants at times was so huge that their presence compelled the comments of these notable Yankee intellectuals and journalists. Society for German- The editor American Studies Newsletter, Dec., 1989

EDITOR'S NOTE: On page 76, GTHS Newsletter, Spring 1988 issue, is an article with a photo about St. Peter's United Church in Spring Branch and three descendants of the Kolbe family. Herbert L. Beinhorn points out the three "Kolbe Girls" are also descendants of Christian Beinhorn. For our next issue's Genealogy Section, Mr. Beinhorn promises a story about the Beinhorn family, but for this issue he has transcribed the Centennial History of the Church as written by then-Pastor William J. Luthe.

The Story of ST. PETER CHURCH 1848-1948
Spring Branch Community, Harris County, Texas Copyright 1948 by William J. Luthe
In 1848 five German immigrant families lived in the community lying nine miles due west of Houston, Texas. These were Karl Kolbe, Daniel Ahrenbeck, Jacob Schroeder, Louis Hillendahl and Henry Hillendahl. The oldest of these settlers, Karl Kolbe, had arrived in 1830, and lived on the banks of a creek where it emptied into Buffalo Bayou. Tradition tells us that a stranger stopped at his home one day to rest his horse, and that as he and Karl Kolbe walked along the creek the stranger asked for the name of this creek which flowed into the larger bayou. Told that it did not have a name, and seeing the many springs which fed its flowing water, the stranger said, "I'll tell you what we'll do, we'll name it "Spring Branch'," and both the creek and the community through which it flowed were known thenceforth by that name.

On October 10, 1848, a condemned ship, the NEPTUNE, set sail from Europe, landing in Galveston some nine weeks later. Aboaxd this ship were two families of German immigrants, Wilhelm Rummel, his wife Caroline and their family, and Siegismund Bauer, his wife Christiana and their family, making a total of seventeen immigrants. These two families made their way to Houston where they were met by Karl Kolbe, Daniel Ahrenbeck and Jacob Schroeder, who wanted them to settle in the Spring Branch Community. They loaded their belongings on the oxcarts these men had brought with them and made their way west from the city. As they crossed Spring Branch Creek they saw a beautiful grove of oak trees and a little to the northeast of them a grove of giant pines, and one said, "Here is where we will stay," and they unloaded their oak chests and other belongings. That evening, together with the five German families of the community, they held a service of Thanksgiving for the safe journey. This service was led by August Bauer, son of Carl Bauer, who had purchased a book of sermons before leaving Annaberg, Saxony, that they might have religious services in the new land. August Bauer was appointed religious leader of the group because he enjoyed reading to them.

This first service in the Autum of 1848 marks the founding of St. Peter Church. Cherishing their book of spiritual treasure regular services of worship were held in the log cabin homes of these people each Sunday, going from one home to the other in turn. When August Bauer was called from this life a few years later a new spiritual leader was appointed to do the reading, until the arrival of the first minister.

To them, a house of worship was their first collective need and plans for it were never far from their thoughts. In less than a year after the Rummels and the Bauers had settled in this community they began to make plans reality. Shortly after the holidays of the Christmas of 1849 the men of the seven families went out into the woods to cut logs for their first log-cabin church. When the logs were cut and prepared, they were left in the woods to become well seasoned before construction of the building was to begin. After a few months the men went out to haul logs to the site of their first service of Thanksgiving. Great was their disappointment when they discovered that the logs had been stolen probably to be sold as cross-ties for the Houston \& Texas Central, then under construction. Undaunted the men cut new logs, but this time took them to the home of Wilhelm Rummel where they could be seasoned under watchful eyes. Finally, with the help of other families that had emigrated into the community, a log cabin church was erected five years after the first service was held. This building served the people for ten years (1854-1864) as their house of worship.

These must have been happy years, for soon after the erection of the first log cabin church the first minister came to serve them.

He was Rev. John Hardtle, and it was he who began the first records of this congregation, dated August, 1856. These records show that the first Holy Communion was held then and that nineteen persons received of this Sacrement. The first Baptism recorded is that of Louis Wilhelm Schaeltroop on August 3, 1856. The first Confirmation Class recorded in the Church records, and possibly the first in the history of the congregation, was composed of seven members: Heinrich Wiglow, Theodore Hillendahl, Wilhelm Matzke, Matilda Waegner, Dorothea Koenicke, Doris Wiglow and Dorette Stahl, confirmed into the membership of St. Peter Church on April 5, 1857. The first marriage recorded is that of Jacob BEINHORN and Miss Wilhelmina Tender, dated August 22, 1856. The first death recorded is that of Gottfried Matzke, who died on December 19, 1856, and was buried in the Church cemetary two days later.

The first property given to the congregation was a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Rummer, being the quarter acre upon which the first log cabin church was erected, although the actual deed was not made out until 1864.

With the erection of the first Church and the securing of the services of the first minister, the first school was instituted in the Spring Branch Community, each minister conducting a weekday school for the children of the church and community, as well as conducting services on Sunday. Following the beginning of the weekday school August Bauer and his wife gave four acres to the church to be used as a playground for the children. August Bauer died before the deed was executed, but following the marriage of his wife Emilie to Louis Kurtz, a deed was granted by them to the church Trustees in the name of the Spring Branch School Society. The church school continued to remain the onlay school in the Spring Branch Community until the time of Rev. W. L. Bretz, when some of the members began to feel the need for a public school taught by a trained teacher. So the first public school came into the community in 1889 , described as being a one-room school house painted red, with green shutters. Parochial school continued to be taught periodically by the ministers 'til the time of Rev. Sam Gonser (1898) when it was discontinued.

It was on the northwest boundary of the property given to the Church by August Bauer and his wife, Emilie, and deeded to the Church by Louis and Emirlie Kurtz, that the Church cemetary originated. It was here that the first victims of the yellow-fever epidemic which swept Harris County, were buried, from which thirty-six persons died in one year and were buried in this plot of ground. Most of these graves were unmarked and cannot be located today. It is noted from the church records that many people died from what they called cimate fever and which was probably malaria or typhoid. These were hard times and many of them died young, having merely the word fever designating the cause of death in the church records.

The first church bell was secured during the pastorate of Rev. John Hardthe. Wilhelm Kummel of ten made a trip to Brazos Bottom to do hauling between the plantations and the city of Houston by ox team and wagon. On one such trip he was asked by John Greer, a plantation owner, how the log cabin church was progressing. Replying that the church was completed except for the fact that they did not have a church bell, John Greer presented him with a plantation bell which had been used to call the slaves in from the fields. Arriving at the church late on Saturday evening Wilhelm Kummel delivered the bell, which the young people immediately hung in the accustomed fashion in front of the Church. They wanted to ring it at once, but Rev. John Hardtle gave instruction that the bell was not to be rung until time to call the people to worship the following morning. He was however awakened before dawn the following morning by the:lwild ringing of the bell which the young people could not resist trying out. This plantation bell was later hung in the portico of the second church building, and still later in a newly built church tower, continuing to call the people to worship on Sunday mornings until 1941, when it was removed from the church and replaced by a larger bell purchased by the children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sauer Sr., from Frieden's Evangelical Church of Beasley, Texas, and presented in memory of their parents.

Five ministers served the congregation in the first log cabin church, two of them being supply ministers. Following the pastorate of Rev. John Hardtle the church was served by Rev. G. Woerner from Spring Creek in 1858. Rev. M. Hailfinger became the next resident minister in the year 1859. On September 1 of that year he called the children together for the first day of school. Nineteen days later the children stood at his grave and mourned the loss of their minister and teacher. Rev. M. Hailfinger is the only minister interred in the St. Peter Church Cemetary.

The log cabin church served the people for ten years. When McGuffey's sawmill was erected in the community the members.of the church began to think in terms of a modern church of frame construction. Wilhelm Rummel and his son, Carl, both of whom worked at the sawmill, selected the lumber to be used in the construction of the new church edifice. Twelve-inch heart of pine lumber was selected, and as each piece came from the mill the father would say to the son, "This piece goes into God's house," and it was carefully set aside. The congregation appointēd Carl Otte, Christian BEINHORN, Ernest Beutel and Henry Kruse Sr., as their carpenters, and under their direction the members worked and constructed the new frame church, dedicated in 1864. So well was it constructed that it is still in use today, and is recorded in HOUSTON, A HISTORY AND GUIDE, sponsored by the Harris County Historical Society, as the oldest such building in the Houston area.* The beams in the attic were hand-pegged together, and the pews, some of which are still in use, were hand made. The lumber used for the interior walls and ceiling were all hand-planed. Only minor changes were made during the years. In 1924 the portico was torn down and a tower was erected in its place. The high pulpit, from which the minister looked down upon his congregation, was removed and a new altar, lectern and pulpit were installed on the floor of the chancel. The wall behind the high pulpit was removed and what was originally the Pastor's room and a Sunday School class room became an added length to the auditorium. The rectangular windows were arched.

St. Peter Church remained an independent congregation until 1887, when it became a part of the present Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Random excerpts from the church records reflect the pattern of its progress and its problems. Reverend Hardtle (1856-57), the first minister to serve the congregation, organized a choir which he, and after him Reverend Hailfinger, led without an musical instrument. A small parsonage was erected for him. Rev. F. Flath (1860-61) organized a choir of twelve voices from his confirmation class. Rev. F. Grueber (1878) was the first minister to serve St. Peter Church who made the parsonage of the St. John Church of White Oak Community his residence. From this time on some of the ministers lived at the parsonage of St. John Church and the others at the parsonage of St. Peter Church of Spring Branch. Only a few times during the history of this church do we find that the Minister served only St. Peter Church. Usually the minister served a "charge" composed of three or more congregations. Rev. W. L. Bretz was very active during his pastorate at St. Peter, organizing a large choir of mixed voices, a young people's league, and a Sunday School with classes for children from four to sixteen years of age. He was also the first minister to hold a mission fesival. Rev. F. Neuhaus lived at the parsonage at White Oak, but served St. Peter Church for a period of two years. Rev. B. Heithaus taught the Spring Branch Public School for two terms. Rev S. Gonser (1898) had the first FRAUEN VEREIN (Women's Guild) with a membership of twenty-two ladies. fleven of these members were quite elderly and are spoken of as the grandmothers of the church. Rev. F. Schmidt (1904-1906) was a faithful worker, but when he left St. Peter Church only a few active members remained on its membership roll.

* (Contributor's note: Forty two years later, 1990, this old building remains as a tribute to those early German settlers of Spring Branch and is still used on very special occasions. I am proud that "Meine Urgrossvater", Christian Beinhorn, had a part in this history).

Rev. C. Stadler (1906-1910) was very successful in the early part of his pastorate. The church was beautiful with new altar and pulpit hangings, and the church was painted. The congregation was reorganized and the membership which had fallen to four families rose to thirty-five families. However, after a few years the attendance at services again decreased alarmingly and Reverend Stadler inscribed the words in the church book "There is no real unity." He continued to work faithfully but the attendance continued to decrease. He left the church with the words recorded in the church records "QUOD DEUS BENE VERIAT!" (what God does is well done).

Rev. J. Ziegler served St. Peter Church for a period of fifteen years; nine years longer than any other minister. This period was not one of great achievement either for the minister or the congregation. Gradually the membership became less until finally only a few families remained faithful to their church. Many began to attend the then young and growing Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Houston, located on the west side of the city, and easily accessible, and many later transferred their membership to that congregation. Reverend Ziegler entered a number of bitter remarks in the records of the church which are not pertinent in a short history, but they do show the spirit of the time. It was then that the German language was being replaced by English in the services, a difficult transition to make. When Reverend Ziegler resigned from his pastorate at St. Peter Church in 1937 the congregation was numerically negligible.

Fölowing his pastorate the church faced the most crucial period of its history. Rev. D. Baltzer, minister of First Evangelical Church of Houston, continued to conduct services at St. Peter church and ultimately actively interested the Board of National Missions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in its welfare.

On August 24, 1938, Rev. Roy Gieselmann became minister of St. Peter Church under the direction of the Board of National Missions. As a church under the care and direction of the Board of National Missions, a period of outstanding growith and achievement was begun in St. Peter Church. In 1939 the congregation erected its first educational building at a cost of $\$ 1200$. As no funds were available for this building a loan was made from the First Evangelical Church of Houston for this amount, and the spirit of the congregation is shown in that this debt was paid by the-end of 1941. A community Churchmen's Brotherhood was organized in this same year, and the congregation celebrated the seventyfifth year of its organization under a state charter, and the seventy-fifth year of constant use of its sanctuary. Inasmuch as all organizations of the church had ceased to exist during the pastorate of Reverend ziegler, Reverend Gieselmann organized a Women's Guild, and began a new Sunday School. Mrs. Otto Oberpriller became the first Sunday School teacher with the Church under the auspices of the Board of National Missions. Others soon offered their services, and Mrs. Ed Kolbe became teacher of the primary class, Mrs. Maynard Schulz Jr., teacher of the junior class, Mrs. Otto Oberpriller teacher of the intermediate, Henry Reichardt Jr., teacher of the young people and Mrs. Louis Beutel, teacher of the adult class. By 1940 there was an enrollment in the Sunday School of eighty pupils and teachers. Mrs. Otto Oberpriller, Mrs. Ed Kolbe and Mrs. Louis Beutel were honored by the congregation in October of 1948 for ten years of continuous service in the Sunday School.

The growth of the congregation was equally significant. By the end of 1940 there were eigthy-two members of the congregation representing twenty-five contributing families. By 1941 thirty-three new members were received and St. Peter Church had a membership of 107.

A number of outstanding memorials were made to the church during the pastorate of Rev. Roy Gieselmann. Arnold Hillendahl and Fritz Hillendahl gave chancel and aisle carpets in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hillendahl Sr. A lectern Bible was presented to the church hy Otto Konetzke and his sons in memory of Mrs. Otto Konetzke.

Also during this time altar chairs were presented by Mrs. W. A. Beinhorn and Mrs. J.C. Bauer in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. August Neuen.

Reverend Gieselmann accepted the call of the pastorate at the church of Corpus Christi and resigned from St. Peter Church at the close of 1941. Rev. 0. P. Schroerluke, minister of Christ Church, Houston, supplied the puipit at St. Peter Church for eight months. On the first Sunday of July, 1942, Rev. William Luthe began his pastorate at St. Peter Church, and was officially installed as minister by Rev. F. C. Rueggeberg, then President of the Texas Synod. The congregation desired to erect a new parsonage and began its plans so to do, but due to the declaration of World War II was unable then to obtain permission to do so, and rented a parsonage three miles north on the Katy highway.

By 1942 the membership of the congregation was recorded as being 128 members. Twenty-five members, however, were then dropped from the membership rolls, many of whom had moved from the community. Thus at the end of the year 1942 the membership was recorded as being 103, but by January of 1944 hảd increased to 130 active members.

In 1943 the St. Peter Church adopted a new constitution for its membership, and formed a cemetery commettee and adopted a Cemetery Constitution for the upkeep and care of its cemetery property. The following year work began on the new brick parsonage which was completed at a cost of $\$ 8,000$. Further gifts and memorials were made to the church by the following: Mr. and Mrs. Otto Oberpriller, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bang, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kuehn, Mrs. Charles Ojemann, Mrs. Evelyn Spriggs, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sitte, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Riedel, Mrs. Mary Sauer, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reichardt, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Butler, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Timme, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sauer and the children of M/M Fritz Hillendahl.

By Easter of 1948 the membership of St. Peter Church had increased to almost 200 members, and the Sunday School had an enrollment of 150 pupils. A new Hammond organ was installed in the church in March at a cost of \$2,200. Inasmuch as the church edifice and the educational building were too small, plans were made for the erection of a modern educational building and enlarging of the sanctuary at a cost of $\$ 50,000$. This building was begun the third week of September, 1948, and upon completion is to be named St. Peter Memorial Building, dedicated as a memorial to all those who have shared in the rich heritage of St. Peter Church in the 100 years of its history.

THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED AT THE ALTAR
The Reverends

| John Hardtle, 1856-1857 | 'G. Woerner, 18 | B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fr. Flath, 1860-1861 | G. Woerner, 1861-1863 | :ilhelm Krapf, 1864-1870 |
| Wm. Dahlke, 1871-1872 | H. Boening, 1873 | H. Schmidt, 1874 |
| G. Ermel, 1874-1878 | F. Grueber, 1878-1881 | H. Pfenninger, 1882-1884 |
| Otto Uhdau, 1884-1886 | C. H. A. Kniker, 1887 | W. I. Bretz, 1887-1890 |
| F. R. Neuhaus, 1890-1891 | F. R. Heithaus, 1891-1893 | P. Dyck, 1893-1895 |
| Franzke (sic), 1895 | J.H. Horstmann, 1896-1897 | Sam Gonser, 1898 |
| E. Graf, 1899 | Adolf Rahn, 1900-1901 | P. Dyck, 1901 (Supply) |
| H. Blasberg, 1902 (Supply) | F. Eichler, 1902-1903 (S) | Fr. Schmidt, 1903-1906 |
| C. Stadler, 1906-1910 | F. K. Neuhaus, 1911-1917 | E. Bekeschus, 1919-1921 |
| J. Ziegler, 1922-1937 | Roy Gieselmann, 1938-1941 | O.P. Schroerluke |
| William Luthe, 1942-? |  | 1941-1942 (S) |

Contributed by:
Herbert I. Beinhorn
Route 1, Box 100
Moscow, Texas 75960

Mr. Beinhorn has a copy of the record book of St. Peter's and will check for a baptism or death record. Please send him an SASE (Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope).

## A TEXAS CHILD'S'HARVEST

This book, a unique historical biography, approaches a category called book art --a type of publishing that is almost obsolete. A book set in hot type, paper and typography lovingly chosen, and handsomely bound, with 70 excellent family photographs, including local people and places; making it a pleasure to read as well as to thumb through.


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 by Frank W. Jennings :UOUUUOD

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 Frederick Law Olmsted, whose $=$

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architect named Calvert Vaux. рие риегdurems nougat e jo mo a central park for New York city of a work force that was to build


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 about his travels there C

BENEATH THE CHERRY SAPLING
Legends from Franconia
Edited and translated by Norbert Krapf
In 1973．Norbert Krapf visited the Lohr $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { And still others have a religious dimen－} \\ & \text { region of Germany，to＂make a connec－} \\ & \text { sion and describe supernatural events oc－}\end{aligned}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { region of Germany，to＂make a connec－} & \text { sion and describe supernatural events oc－} \\ \text { tion with my ancestors，stand where they } \\ \text { curring on feast days，miracles in which } \\ \text { had once lived，see what they saw，hear } & \text { the Christ child appears，and clergy in }\end{array}$ had once lived，see what they saw，hear
what they heard．＂Inspired by the experi－
ence，he returned to America determined $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { need of piousness．There are also tales of } \\ & \text { magic，tales of treasure buried on the site }\end{aligned}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { to learn more about the people he de－} & \text { of ruins，and＂etiological＂tales that ex．} \\ \text { sended from．Beneath the Cherry Sap．} \\ \text { plain the origin of something，such as a }\end{array}$ town crest offstatue． This very handsome volume includes and Professor Krapf＇s translation in nat－ ural，＂American＂English on the facing
page．Woodcuts depicting scenes from the legends appear throughout the book．
Beneath the Cherry Sapling will be of Beneath the Cherry Sapling will be of
particular interest to German scholars，
folklorists，and those of German descent folklorists，and those of German descent of their heritage．It can also be used in
introductory German courses where the instructor wishes to provide students with
readily accessible texts． readily accessible texts．

Norbert Krapf is Professor of English at
Long Island University，C．w．Post Col－ Long Island University，C．W．Post Col－
lege．He is the editor of Under Open Sky：
Poets on William Cullen Bryant（Ford－ Poets on William Cullen Bryant（Ford－
ham University Press，1986）．His schol－

 Rilke are forthcoming．



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Heer ist duratig＂（．The Wild Army is





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Mit Holzstichen wie diassum ist das Sagen－Buch von Prof．Norbort Krapl illu－
striert．Geister，Teufol und Hexen treiben ihr Unwesen．
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## from: Rosebud News

## Albert Helperts have Germany guests

Rocent visitors in the home of Mr . and Mrs. Albert Helpert in Dallas were relatives Josef and Maric Buxkamper and son Heinrich from Olfen, Germany. They also visited relatives in Westphalia, Lott, Rosebud, Cyclone and Temple.
Theyo drove to Frelsburg and Columbus where their ancestors settled in 1845-49. They visited with the Justin Wostorek family (Buxkemper relatives) and also with Rev. Mser. Werner Bockholt, pastor of St. Peter and Paul Parish in Frelsburg.
They spent the night in Collumbus and then traveled to San Antonio where they went sight seeing with Hugo and Theresa Gold. Theresa is the historian and secretary for the Hoelscher and Buxkemper families in Texas.

They were impressed with everything in Texas, including the beautifull hill country, large farms (most farms in Germany are not as big us in Texas), and the big cotton farming (Baum Wolle as they say in Germany) was a treat for them lo sec. Cotton is not raised in Germany since the climate is too cool.

It was Josef Buckamper and the (Stadt) town director of Olfen, Germany that interviewed Mrs. Helpert in German; by telephone over the West German radio in August, shortly before the Helperts made a visit to the 1100 year jubilee celebration of the town Olfen in Germany. Mrs. Helpert, a native of Westphalia, Texas, still speaks high and low German fluently.

After spending some time in Dallas, the Buxkampers left to visit their daughter, Margaret and husband, in St. Louis,

Ingrid Kokinda is chairperson of "Texas Under Six Flags" heritage tours of the San Antonio Conservation Society. Each March, SACS volunteers guide local schoolchildren on a no-charge tour of area historic sights. In 1989, some 4,550 children participated.

Missouri. They made the trip by bus so they could see more of the country.

The Buxkampers said they were interested in returning home to see the change in West and East Germany now that the "Wall" is down. They said food is no problem, but housing could be a problem.


 yo suos-surs e osfe pue suns Sem old families songs were enjoyed.
With other goodies a birthday Кq pəyeq Sem 1 I 'pənıs sem әуео her niece, Mrs. Marguerite Schmidt. Also present were Mrs. Annie Schroeder, Stephen

Doctor Hans Michael Mark was born in Mannheim, West Germany, June 17 , 1939, emigrated to U.S. 1941, naturalized 1945. He has had a highly-distinguished career in science, enginering, and management.

"Her ancestors camped on the


 he needed wagons to transport his
colonists.
"The prince talked the Mergeles


 "They all crossed the Guadalupe



 Peterson of Dallas and Elsie Specht
of Fredericksburg.

 ciating. Burial will be in St. John's
Lutheran Cemetery.

##  

 Alma Mergele Simmang was de-scended from the second shipload
of Castro Colonists, arriving in
Texas in 1843. They never settled in
Castroville, but helped Prince
Solms found New Braunfels.
She was the wife of Max Sim-
mang, who was deputy district
clerk for 30 years until his death in
1947. After his death, she went into
the catering business, making bar-
becue and sausages for local meat
markets.  Born in New Braunfels on Dies y
Seis, she always enjoyed the cele-
bration on her birthday. She at-





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 Romple's Dairy. of her own," shaidren but had none nephew, Ed Mergele of Boerne.
Doing for people was her whole
 major interest. She was involved
with St. John's Lutheran Church and had been a member since mov-
ing to San Antonio. She was a wonderful person." great-grandfather,
The Banner Press Newspaper, September 14, 1989


Asta Grona, a German-Texan who grew up in San Antonio and in
Fredericksburg and who cherished the fact that she spoke German in her parental home still as a young adult, died on February 6, 1990, after a long illness.

After graduation from the University of Texas, Asta worked for a number of years as a school teacher. Moving to Houston, she was associated with becoming an interior decorator. Asta was also an active member of the becoming an interior decorator. Asta was also an active member
Art League of Houston and the Houston Cactus and Succulent Society.

Several years ago, Asta began to rediscover her German-Texan ethnicity.
 Dr. Ted Gish at the Houston Goethe institute, Asia enriched the course, not
only by bringing many interesting historical materials to the class, but
 where she sang with her characteristic enthusiasm as an alto in the Damenchor.

Asta's family has made several generous and substantial gifts in her memory to the Institute of Texas-German Studies at the University of Houston. One of the projects supported by this financial support is a
history of the Houston Sangerbund which was published recently.

The family recently made an additional gift, to establish a permanent Asta
 association with the German-Texan Heritage Society and the University of Houston.

Annually, this endowment will .provide a scholarship or research assistantship to an outstanding student at the University of Houston with interests in German-American or Texas-German history. Scholarship as well as others, will be encouraged to contribute to this endowment.

Asta Grona has truly left her German mark on her community and the state
of Texas.

 Grange, historian and scrap book editor, served on the nom-

The 1990 convention will be centered in Brenham so the peo-


 German-Texan Heritage Society,
P.O. Box 262, Manchaca, Texas, 78652.

 the Catholics and by Dr. R. Clarence Lang for the Luther-

The Consul General of the Republic of Germany, Peter Maier-Oswald and Thomas Pawed, the honorary consul spoke on the future relations between Texas and Germany. Dr. Ted Gish, Dr. Erika
Nielsen and Niels Nielsen reported on the Diary of Herman

## Hermann Sons

 install officers Officers of the Niederwald and Uhland Hermann Sons lodges will be installed during cere8иоре นеч lodges.

Stephen R. Prewitt of San
 Order of the Sons of Hermann in Texas will install officers for the San Marcos, Lockhart, Maxwell, Niederwald and Uhland lodges. Assisting him will be Clifton
Lampman, member of the Grand 0
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Grand Lodge Laws Committee.
The 79,500-member Sons of Hermann was established in Texas in 1860 by German pioneer settlers and is known for its
 life insurance which it provides
for its members.
Heritage
SAN ANTONIO-The Ger-
 met at the Manger Hotel Sept. 8,9 and 10 for its 11 th con-
Ann Lindemann of Industry was elected president; Mary El Beheri of San Antonio, vicepresident; Dona Reeves-MarHelgard Suhr of New Braunfels, secretary.
Other members of the new twelve-persons board are: Miriam York of Hidings,
Helga vo Schweinitz of Austin, Rodney Koenig of Houston, Theresa Gold of San Antonio, Bob Robinson-Zwahr
of Washington, D.C., W.M. Yon Maszewski of Pasadena, Fredericka De Berry of Clear Lake and Francis Harrison of San Antonio.
The group enjoyed two tours: The San Antonio River The speakers, telling of the German heritage of San Antonio both past and present were Mayor E. Cockrell, Henry Patrick Mc Quire, Mary El-Be-言 Kyse, Jane Foster, Patricia Osbore and Paul Gottschalh.
 the LDS Family History Liخ등
On Saturday night the group enjoyed dinner, band concert,
folk dancers, Beethoven Mennerchor and Damenchor sing-along and dancing at the Beethoven Gartenfest.

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

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

"Family Tree Climbing Can Be Fun" has scheduled four workshops in Texas in 1990! Three of them, mentioned in the previous issue, will be past by now, but the fourth will be on Saturday, 2 June, hosted by the Texas-Oklahoma Genealogical Society at the First United Methodist Church in Perryton. The contact person is Donna Dickson, 1613 Grinnell, Perryton TX 79701, phone: (806) 435-2674. These workshops, presented by the Evertons of Genealogical Helper fame, are well worth the time. In addition to the information and personal associations gained, attendees receive generous benefits and discounts on genealogical services.

National Genealogical Society will present National Capital Area Tenth Anniversary Conference, 6-9 June 1990, in Arlington VA. In addition to nearly 200 conference sessions on genealogical research, the conference will feature special events at the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. For a brochure with topic and name of presentor of each program and a registration form, write to NGS, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington VA 22207.

National Institute on Genealogical Research is usually held in July, but this year the program will begin on June 11 and run through June 16, so that participants may combine the NGS Conference (above) and the National Institute into a single round trip. This training Institute is sponsored by the American Society of Genealogists, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Board for Certification of Genealogists, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Genealogical Society, and the National Institute's Alumni Association, with strong support from the National Archives. The Institute's program takes an in-depth look at federal records of genealogical value located primarily in the Washington DC area. Most classes are held in the National Archives Building-- with blocks of free time scheduled for research. Not an introductory course in genealogy, it is instead geared to experienced researchers, including genealogists, historians, librarians and archivists. For a brochure, write to National Institute on Genealogical Research, PO Box 14274, Washington DC 20044.

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research 26 th annual session will be June 17-22, 1990 at Sanford Univesity, Birmingham AL, with an optional research trip to the British Isles July 2-25. Each year, the sessions include courses for beginning, intermediate and advanced as well as professional researchers. This year, the Institute will present a special course on German-American Genealogy. Here, from the program brochure, are the topics scheduled in that course:

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Introduction to German Genealogical Research
Historical Background - German and American Bibliography
German Material In the Sanford University Library
Civil, Church and Personal German Records
German American Resources (U.S.)
German Archives, Libraries, etc. in Germany
German Research in Urban Areas (U.S.)
German Emigration to the Atlantic Colonies
Germans in Pennsylvania \& Virginia
German-American Migration, PA to South
Special Group Emigration to the Carolinas and Georgia (Charleston group: The Salzburghers. etc.)
19th-20th Century Emigration to Atlantic States, New Eng. \& VA
German -American Migration, PA to West
Colonial and 19th Century Emigration to the Gulf States and Texas
German Onomatology - "Was is in Name?"
The Hessians
Palatine/Other German Records in Britain and Ireland
Summation and Questions
```

For an informational brochure, write: Institute of Genealogy \& Historical Research, Samford University Library, Birmingham AL 35229 or call (205)870-2780.

Workshop and Program Your Genealogy Editor will give a workshop on researching German Ancestors for the Guadalupe County Genealogical Society on Sat., 21 April, in Seguin. See announcement in this section. Also, a program for San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society on Fri., 11 May.

Passenger Lists Help We have prepared a three-page outline of procedures and resources in seeking those elusive passenger and arrival records. to get yur copy, send a \#10 (business-size) SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) plus 25 cents in stamps to cover cost of duplication to your Genealogy Editor.

American/Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society was organized in 1988 to promote exchange and understanding between America and Germany's most northern state. The organization has a newsletter that accepts queries and sponsored a summer 1989 genealogical field trip to Germany. For information, write to Glenn Sievers, President, ASHHS, P O Box 21, LeClaire IA 52753, or call (319) 843-2531. /From German Genealogical Society of America's "Bulletin" July 1989/

Opening of 1920 Census records may be delayed due to funding problems. The release of 11,000 rolls of microfilm of the 1920 Census population Schedules, scheduled for early 1992, may be postponed due to costs of duplicating microfilm copies for the National Archives and the eleven Regional Archives, plus costs for storage cabinets for the film in addition to microfilm readers and printers. These items must be included in the budget for the next fiscal year if the 1992 opening date is to be met. It has been suggested that genealogists express their concern to the National Archives and to elected legislators.

Texas State Genealogical Society has a new president, Marynell Bryant of Sulphur Springs, elected in November 1989 to serve for 1990-91. The TSGS still offers "Gone to Texas Pioneer Certificates" and "West Texas Pioneer Certificates." See December 1989 issue of Stirpes, the TSGS quarterly. TSGS membership is on a calendar-year basis, $\$ 18.00$ per individual or $\$ 20.00$ per couple. Send dues to TSGS treasurer Raymond H. Bostick, 6914 Scotsdale Dr., San Antonio TX 78209. Mr. Bostick's wife, Betty, is a long-time GTHS member.

Polish Genealgical Organizations include the Polish Genealogical Society of Texas, with headquarters in Houston. Begun as a local group in 1982, the organization soon developed a state-wide interest. The group offers meetings held at the Polish Home, 103 Cooper in Houston, phone (713) 694-8603; a newsletter; a surname index; workshops; and translation services. Membership is on a calendar year, with dues of $\$ 10.00$ per year. Contact the president, Virginia Felchak Hill, 218 Beaver Bend Road, Houston TX 77037, phone (713) 447-2914.

The premier society for Polish genealogical research in the U.S. is still the Polish Genealogical Society, 984 N. Wilwaukee Ave., Chicago IL 60622. Dues are $\$ 12.50$ per year.

There are three (or more) additional polish genealogical societies, including the Polish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, P 0 Box 623, Hales Corners WI 53130; the Polish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles, California, c/o Jacque Penstone, 4517 W. Hollyline Ave., Santa Ana CA 92703; and the Polish Surname Network, c/o Mary S. Hartig, 158 W. Walter Ave., Newburg Park CA 91320.

Soviet-American Genealogical and Archival Service has been established by the National Archives Volunteers, under the aegis of the National Archives, as a clearinghouse for genealogical inquiries. A cooperative movement has been inaugurated by archivists and genealogists of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. to provide American researchers with a greater degree of access to the historical resources of the Soviet Union. In 1990, the U.S. and U.S.S.R. will exchange personnel and ideas to make Soviet resources more available to U.S. genealogists. Three important steps have already been taken. The first is the creation of the SAGAS (above) to serve as a clearinghouse for inquiries, to evaluate them and weed out inappropriate (overly general) requests, and to channel proper inquiries to the appropriate Soviet office. The second is an early 1990 visit by an American delegation to examine archives in Moscow plus some regional facilities. The third step is the selection of an advisory team representing the American
genealogical, archival, and historical communities, which includes a representative of the Germans from Russia. For additional information on this genealogical "Glasnost" movement, see the National Genealogical Society's Newsletter, Vol. 15, No. 6, 1989.

New LDS Library in San Angelo A new Family History Library has opened at the Church of Latter-Day Saints, 2815 Christoval Road in San Angelo. Library hours are 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Previously, San Angelo residents had to travel to Abilene, Odessa or San Antonio to access LDS microfilm records.

NEWS FROM GERMAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (GGSA)
Michael Palmer, GGSA Research Director, wrote us a nice letter, saying our Journal is one of his favorite publications, one of the few he reads as soon as it comes in. He also wants us to know that the nine volumes in Series I (1850-1855) of Glazer and Filby's Germans to America have been completed. (See GTHS Newsletter Fall/Winter, 1988, page 257, for a description of this series that extracts German immigrants from the unindexed passenger lists for the port of New York.) GGSA will soon publish an in-depth review of the series. Michael tells us, if your local library does not yet have the complete set, GGSA will check the indexes of any volume for names GTHS members may be researching.

The GGSA also has a telephone directory service covering the Federal Republic, the Democratic Republic, Alsace and Lorraine in France, and Luxembourg. Soon, they will have complete sets of telephone directories also for Switzerland, Austria, and the Italian Tyrol. Their fee is $\$ 2.00$ per locality. If no precise locality is known, but a fairly closely defined region is ("Hunstrück," lisaarland," etc.), an "area" search is $\$ 10.00$ per hour. The addresses are transcribed, rather than photocopied, and include all postal codes. The fee also includes a German or French form letter.

Recent issues of GGSA's award-winning Bulletin also have articles of value to GTHS members.

The September 1989 issue has an article by Michael Palmer on "American Sources for German Genealogical Research," which is continued in the October 1989 issue.

The September 1989 issue also also continues a running list taken from the 7 th, 8 th, and 9 th editions of the Genealogical Research Directory of German surnames being researched by genealogists on a worldwide basis.

Nearly every issue (September, November, December 1989) has an index to surnames from queries in the Familienkundliche Nachrichten, familiarly known as "FANA" (see our GTHS Newsletter issue number 1, 1990). GGSA has a complete, indexed file of all FANA, back to its inception in 1956 and publishes an index as soon as each issue is received. Look at the index in their Bulletin, and if a surname appears that is of interest to you, send $\$ 1.00$ and an SASE. Include the surname of interest, the date, volume, and issue number of FANA in which the surname appeared. This is why you should see these (and other) issues of the GGSA Bulletin for the index of published surnames!

The October 1989 issue of GGSA's Bulletin also has an article, "Family Tradition" by Michael Palmer telling how to pin down some of those stories and exploding some of the common family myths. The article is continued in the December 1989 issue

The November 1989 issue has a valuable article on research in Czechoslovakia with new procedures for requesting archival records from that country. (See our GTHS Newsletter, Summer 1985, pages 181-182, and Spring 1988, page 80.) You still request a form from the Czechoslovak Embassy in Washington, but now instead of returning it to the Embassy, you can send it directly to one of two archives. The instructions are too complex to recount here, so we recommend you get a copy of this issue of GGSA's Bulletin.

Each issue also carries queries, titles of articles published in German genealogical periodicals, and a list of new acquisitions made by GGSA's library. Back issues are $\$ 2.00$ each. Basic, regular membership is $\$ 15.00$ annually. The address is: German Genealogical Society of America, P. O. Box 291818, Los Angeles CA 90029. GGSA also sponsors seminars held at locations in their local
area and maintains an extensive library on German genealogical materials at 1420 N. Claremont Blvd, Suite 207E, Claremont CA 91711, which is open on Saturdays from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. A translation service is also available to members. See our GTHS Newsletter, Spring 1988, page 80, for additional information, and page 88, same issue, for an outline of services and membership blank.

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 $81 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ by $11^{\prime \prime}$ 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.

Floyd Pfeffer 2023 Aspen River, Houston TX 77062 has queries about three persons. He wants to correspond with anyone with information on these three persons or their parents.

He is interested in Marie Freitag who emigrated from Hanover in 1881, with her brother, Albert, and possibly other siblings. Floyd presumes they arrived at the Port of Galveston. Others in her family were Louise, Bertha, William Herman, and perhaps a younger brother named Phillip. Marie, her brothers, and sisters settled near Kenney in Austin County. In Feb. 1883, she married Gustav pfeffer. They had 12 children and adopted another child. Floyd has much information on Marie and Gustav and their children, but not much on Marie's brothers and sisters.

His second query concerns Samuel A. Neinast, born 7 Sept. 1850. He emigrated from Liebenau, Wongrowitz, Posen, in 1882 and settled near Kenney in Austin County where he farmed. In December 1884, he married Hulda Jaster (see below). They had five daughters and two sons. Samuel died in July 1906 and was buried in the Phillipsburg Cemetery of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

The third person of interest is Hulda Jaster (see above). She was born 10 Dec. 1860, and came to the US in Dec. 1882 through the Port of New York from Mirkowitz, Posen. Her father was Carl Jaster, and her mother was o'Tillie Reichle. Hulda took a job with a family in Kenney to pay for her passage to America. There, she met Samuel Neinast (above). She died 7 June 1845 and is also buried in the Phillipsburg Cemetery.

Wilson W. Crook, Jr. 3208 Caruth Blvd, Dallas TX 75225 has two sets of early Texas German ancestors from the DeWitt county area. One family, Koch/Cook maintained Bible entries that Wilson has submitted to the National Genealogical Society's Bible Records section. From the description he sent us, this bible was printed in German and published in New York City in 1853. Friedrich Koch began the family entries after his marriege in 1857 and maintained them in German script until 1889, when a transition was made to English. At this time, the name was Anglicized to Frederick Cook. Friedrich came to Texas with his parents in 1845 on the ship "Margaretha" from Hamburg. He was among the early German settlers of DeWitt County and married Henrietta Rohl, born in Texas in 1833, the daughter of Ferdinand and Wilhelmina Rohl. The name Rohl is also found as Raihl and Roehl in early records. He is also interested in a man, surnamed Goelcke, called "Uncle Will" by family members.

Elmo Schwab 306 22nd St., Galveston TX 77550 wants more information on Lorenz F. Riemenschneider, born possibly on 19 May 1833, Allmonsehen Kreis, Nehrenger,

Kurhessan. He came to the US in 1859 with his sister and her family. Since minors were not admitted without parents, he entered under the name Wendel. He married Agatha Lee Grumwald. He died on 29 Dec. 1917 and was buried in St. Andrew Lutheran Cemetery, Weesatch, in Goliad County. His son, Lorenz J. Riemenschneider, married Anna Marie Foerster. This couple is also buried in Weesatch. Elmo would appreciate any information, pedigree charts, or other data on family lineage.

Lydia Biegert 5011 Krueger Dr., Dickinson TX 77539 is researching ancestors who came to Texas in 1845-46. The Schulz and Voigt families settled in New Braunfels, and the Eisenhauer and Ackermann families settled in San Antonio (and have given names to major streets in San Antonio). She is also interested in Castro's Colony (Castroville), since she thinks the Eisenhauers were originally part of that colony but bought land in San Antonio because of problems with the Indians. Lydia has experienced the frustration of discrepencies between family legends and recorded data. For example, her family history holds that Paul Eisenhauer arrived in Texas in 1846, yet according to a US Census record, his arrival was in 1848. She has thus far been unable to find another record to corroborate either date. Also, she has found three conflicting stories concerning the eldest Eisenhauer son, Peter, during the Civil War. One branch of the family holds that he enlisted in the Union Army, another states that he was drowned while crossing the Mississippi River, while yet a third version is that he fled to Mexico to avoid conscription into the Confederate Army. All three stories agree that he was never heard of after the Civil War.

Henry James and Bettie Friedrichs Williams 507 Oakleaf, San Antonio TX 78209 have submitted information on three persons/families. Karl Frederick Wilhelm Schulze, Jr., landed at Indianola 2 Nov. 1860, with his parents. They settled first at Sublime in Lavaca County, but from 1861-1864 lived on Cummings Creek in Colorado County. In Feb. 1863, he joined the Confederate Army and was in Louisiana the next month.

Gottlieb and Antonetta (Schrade) Friedrichs came from Hanover and arrived at Indianola in 1850. They settled first in DeWitt County near the Goliad county line. At least four of their seven children accompanied them on the ocean voyage: Johanna (born in 1830), Caroline (1837), Gottlieb (1842) and Dorthea (1846). The birth date of their son George in unknown. Autust was born in Texas in 1853. An infant died in Galveston of yellow fever, date unknown. The family relocated to the Ander community in northern Goliad county, where Gottlieb was the proprietor of a thriving blacksmith business. Their children remained in DeWitt and Goliad counties. Most of them are buried in Ander, as is Antoinetta. Gottlieb died in San Antonio and is buried there, although these researchers have not discovered the exact cemetery location.

Paulina Hoff came to the US with her family in 1845. They also landed at Indianola, but settled in DeWitt County. She is buried in the Ander Cemetery in Goliad County. There is a German inscription on her tombstone.

Faye Sheppard 130 Hartford, San Antonio TX 78223 is searching for the ancestors of Edward Ruhmann. He is first mentioned in Colorado County in 1832 and then received a land grant in 1835. Faye believes he wqs born in or around Oldenburg, Germany, about 1809. She has not been able to find a record of his parents, nor has she found Edward on any passenger list. He married Elen (Helen M.) Maas in 1842 in Colorado county. She believes he was a farmer, but cannot prove it so far. Elen's family is also a mystery. She was born about 1823, but Faye does not know where. In addition to Ruhmann and Maas, she is also interested in these families: Jungbecker, Roggenkamp, Steiner, Rudisill, Costner/Kestner, Beam/Biehm and "many more."

Jo Ann Starkey Garner 2027 Edgehill Dr., San Antonio TX 78209 is attempting to find the married name of Barbara Christina Jüng who lived with her family in New Braunfels in 1870. She was probably born in Brotterode, Germany, around 1800. Jo Ann does not know when she came to America, but thinks it was in the 1850s, probably after she was married. She had two sisters who came to the US and at least one brother who remained in Brotterode. One sister was Elisabethe Margarethe Jüng Vogt, Jo Ann's great-great grandmother, who came to Texas via

Indianola in 1853. Another sister was Berta who married Charles Moeller, lived in New Braunfels for a while and them moved to San Antonio with her family. The brother was Johan Mathew Jüng. In an 1870 letter to his sister, Elisabethe Vogt, he mentioned hearing from their sister, Barbara Christina in New Braunfels. All these were the children of Anna Margarethe Malsch and Johan Caspar Jüng, who were married in Germany in 1774. Anna Margarethe's parents were Johan Valtin Malsch and Elisabethe Margarethe (maiden name unknown). The Vogt and Moeller families have remained in contact through the generations, but no one knows who Barbara Christina married or who her children were. Anyone able to fill in this missing family piece, please contact Jo Ann.

Zane H. Fehrmann P O Box 88, Patterson LA 70392 has been researching one particular person with little results thus far. In The History of the German Settlements in Texas by Rudolph L. Biesele, on documents reproduced on pages 94-95 and between pages 98-99, Wm. Fehrmann is the signer of these documents. He was Vice Consul of the Republic of Texas for the Port of Bremen. Zane has been told that this man was his great grandfather, but he has no documentation to prove it. Does any GTHS member have any information at all on this William Fehrmann?

Konrad Götting OT Wenzen Über dem Hofe 4, D-3352 Einbeck, BRD, wrote to tell the "other side" of a familiar story. One of his family members, Peter Götting/ Goetting, a blacksmith born in 1835, left his village of Betziesdorf in 1854, telling friends he was heading for Texas. Konrad found documents stating only "gone to North America." Because of the lack of passenger lists for Bremen and for Hamburg in 1854, Konrad cannot prove that Peter actually went to Texas, although he never returned to Betziesdorf. Does this name appear in your family tree? Have you ever heard of Peter Goettig? If you can supply any information at all, please write to Konrad. Also, Konrad is a geographer and has written an article on the general geography of Germany that appears elsewhere in this issue.

Jon P. Czarowitz 4102 Chestnut, Temple TX 76502 discovered, through our publication, Curtis Dunk who is his third cousin, once removed. From Curtis, he learned his third great grandfather's name and other information on the Hempel family. His great grandfather Hempel has eight children, and his parents had at least seven children, two of whom came to Texas during the 1880s. Jon's own grandparents had two children, with a total of 31 descendants thus far. He is working to find additional descendants and then to organize a reunion for the Hempel families.

Jon reports the Niebuhr family reunion will be in Industry in 1991, but he would like information on possible reunions for these families: Coffey, Klepper Fitzhugh and McKinney. He would also like to contact former GTHS member Lauren Kattner, who wrote many articles for our publication. Does anyone have her current address? Jon would like to contact her about her research on the Kattner, Dunk, and Grassyville families.

Jo Helen Mateson 307 Wood Shadow, San Antonio TX 78216 wants information on the Herder, Wolters and Klatt families. George Herder came from Germany in 1834. He lived in Austin, Colorado, and Fayette counties. Henry Herder lived a short while in Fayette County and married Josephine Russek Jo Helen needs
information on George Herder's parents in Germany and additional information on any of these Herders. Jacob Wolters went to Philadelphia in 1834 and to Texas in 1835. He lived in Austin County and then possibly in Fayette County. She needs any kind of information on him as well as on Rudolph Klatt. Rudolph lived in Posen (Prussia) and in Fayette County, Texas, but his father, Andreas Klatt, and a Johan Gottfried Klatt lived only in Posen. She is also interested in Ludwig Fahrenthold and his daughter, Minna, who lived in Fayette County.

Inez Guthrie 5813 Northgap, San Antonio TX 78239 is looking for specific information on several persons. She is looking for the names and dates of the children of John/Johann A. Huebnerand his wife, Pauline Willrich Huebner. John came to Texas in 1836 and settled in 1840 in the Bluff settlement in Fayette County. She is also looking for the name of the ship he sailed on, as well as the names of his brothers and sisters. She also needs more general information
on George R. Reinhardt and his wife, Anna Maria Rothenbach Reinhardt. Other families of interest include: Adolph Franz Huebner and wife Clara Fader Huebner: George C. (or J.) Line and wife Mary M. Ridley Rive; Johann Frederick Gembler and wife Maria Johanna Jensen Gembler; and Theodor Herber and Caspar Herder.

## GTHS 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!


| Floyd Prefer | Prefer | Austin | Lutheran |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2023 Aspen River | Freitag | Austin | Lutheran |
| Houston TX 77062 | Neinast | Austin/Washington | Lutheran |
| $713 / 486-1731$ | Taster | Austin | Lutheran |

Herbert $L$ Beinhorn
Rt 1, Box 100
Moscow TX 75960
409/398-2766

Beinhorn
Oberpriller Harris
Tender Harris
Mueller/Muller Harris

Evans. Reform Luth. Evang.Reform Luth. Evang.Reform Luth. Evang.Reiorm Luth.

Bonnie M Felder
Stack
Meier

Austin
Austin

Lutheran
Lutheran

| Mark Krause | Faust |
| :--- | :--- |
| 15319 Pebble Path | Langbein |
| San Antonio TX 78232 | Rottenstein |
|  | Seffel |
|  | Weider |

Bexar Lutheran
Comal/Bexar/Kendall Lutheran
Bexar/Harris ?
Bexar ?
Bexar/Comal Lutheran
Genealogical Exchange, continued


| Henry \& Bettie Williams Friedrich | Dewitt-Goliad Co Line Lutheran |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 507 Oakleaf Dr | Schulz | Lavaca | Protestant |
| San Antonio TX 78209 | Schrade | Goliad | Protestant |
| $512 / 829-5987$ | Hoff | Slop | DeWitt |



Genealogical Exchange, continued

| Member | Researching <br> Surnames | Tex. County <br> Settled |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Surnames

Settled

Galveston
Galveston
Galveston
Galveston
Galveston

| Hoecker | Galveston |
| :--- | :--- |
| Falkenhagen | Galveston |
| Schneider | Galveston |
| Wolbrecht | Galveston |
| Deichmann | Galveston |

Wuertele
Wurtele
Wuerteleschmidt
4010 Deer Trail Temple TX 76504

Clare L Childers 1702 Sixth St Woodland CA 95695 916/662-5102

Hoecker Falkenhagen Wolbrecht Deichmann

Travis/Potter Lutheran Harris/Galveston ? Bexar/El Peso

Kendall
Kendall
Kendall (?)
Trio
Bexar
Bexar
*Unsure of country of origin; probably not German ancestry

## BOOKS FOR SALE

The Jupe Family Heritage . $\$ 50$
891 pages, over 300 pictures
Willenborg Family Heritage. 1148 pages, over 400 pictures

Rauschhuber Family Heritage Volume I 772 pages................ $\$ 50$ Volume II 890 pages................ $\$ 50$ | GENEALOGICAL COLUMN |
| :--- |
| "Kinsearching" is a weekly |
| genealogical column now in its |
| 13th year of publication. It appears |
| in two east Texas newspapers (the |
| Jacksonville Daily Progress and the |
| Cherokee County Banner) and in |
| one west Texas newspaper (the |
| Amarillo News.Globes. The areas of |
| circulation include 27 Texas counties, |
| western Oklahoma, northeastern New |
| Mexico, and the southwestern corner of |
| Kansas. Queries are free and may per- |
| tain to ancestors from anywhere in the |
| world. Researchers may submit several |
| queries at one time if they wish to. |
| Notices concerning family reunions |
| and genealogical workshops are also |
| welcomed. All correspondence should |
| be sent to the editor, Marleta Chills, |
| Box b825, Lubbock, TX 79493-6825. |
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Write: Sr. Mary Elizabeth Jupe (GTHS member), 515 S.W. 24th St., San Antonio TX 78207


# The Gerstenberger and Beer Families 

by Lillian Schulze Schneider, 238 Sharmain PI., San Antonio, Texas 78221
The Gerstenberger and Beer Families came from LANGENBIELAU, in the Prussian province Silesia. The region became Polish after WWII, and Langenbielau is now known as Bilawa. The two families came to Texas expecting a "Promised Land."

The Beer family was first to leave, sailing from Bremen, Germany on the ship "Basserman" on August 15, 1851. They were Charles Siegmund Beer and his wife Anna Rosina. ne Kretschmar and either two or three of their five children. More than two months later the Beers arrived in Galveston. Texas on October 24, 1851. They came inland by oxcart as far as Fayette County and settled in Biegel Settlement, now known as Rudersville, near the Stephen F. Austin colony on the Brazos and Colorado Rivers. The German-speaking Boeers would of course not have been able to communicate with the English speaking settlers. All of the Boeer children eventually came to Texas; but initially the two oldest, and possibly the middle child, stayed behind.

Louise Beer born in 1827, two years after her parents marriage. married Wilhelm Heir June 30.1851-only a few weeks before her folks left for Texas. The young couple stayed in Langenbielau until 1854 when they too came to Texas with a baby gr named Auguste. They settled in La Grange, Texas. Here the Hehr family had five more childen-Anna, Amelia, Louise II and a set of twin boys, Gustav and Wilhelm, It. To the best of my findings, the Hers died after 1880 and are buried in a private cemetery somewhere in Colorado County. I have not been able to trace the children.

Erst Boeeer the second oldest child, was born in Langenbielau January 21, 1829. When he was 22 years odd he came to Texas, probably after serving in the Prussian Army. He became a naturalized citizen on May 21, 1858 in Fayette County. When the Texas joined the Confederacy February 1. 1861. Erst was a newlywed, having married Louise Gerstenberger, an old friend from Langenbielau, on March 12, 1859. Recruiters rode from house to house, rounding up every able-bodied man for service in the Confederate Army. Ernst did not want another turn at military duty. He was in the field when he saw the men coming down the road, so he ran home to tell Louise that he was going to hide. After he went into the cellar under the dining room, Louise quickly coped some dirty clothes over the trap door. When she would not tell the men where her husband was, they came in and searched the house, the bar, the well, and the smokehouse, and even poked a pole into all the hay stacks and looked in the outhouse. Finally they left. That night Ernst saddled his horse and left for Mexico. His pregnant wife Louise stayed behind with a baby girl named Louise II.

In Mexico, Erst got into a quarrel with a Mexican who pulled a knife. Luckily the knife struck Ernst's gold collar button and glanced off. barely cutting his neck. Ernst managed to get away, but stayed in Mexico until the war was over. Then he returned to Texas and to Louise, who by this time had given birth to a son Gustav. They continued to live on their farm near Weimar. Texas and had two more sons, Erst $r$. and Paul Beer.

Ernst and Louise Gerstenberger Beer descendants:
Louise Booger ll married Karl Heinrich (Henry) Schulze. Nine children were born of this union: Emit $\boldsymbol{H}^{2}$., Louise III, Otto, Edwin, Wilhelm, Henry r., Frieda, August, Emestine, and Romelda who died at two months. Gustav married his cousin Auguste Kugler and had three children. Hulda, Paul, and Frieda. Erst and Paul never married and were known as the "Beer uncles." They farmed together on the old place and are buried in the Weimar Cemetery.

Wilhelm Boer was Charles and Anna Beer's third child, born in 1833. He evidently did not serve in the Prussian army, coming to Texas at age 18. He became an American citizen May 21, 1958 along with his brother Ernst. Unlike Ernst. Wilhelm served in the Civil War, as a private in a reserve cavalry outfit called the "Colorado Grays." After the war he opened A General Merchandise Store in Weimar Texas. In 1875 he married Maria Wolf. They had five girls: Louise, Anna, Alma, Cara and Bertha. Louise later married a Karl Wolf-not related; Anna married Alfred Hazel. Clara married Thomas Hickey, and the two youngest girls remained single.

In 1694 Whelm and Maria Wolff Beer moved to to a farm at Millie in Wharton County. The girts had to do most of the work as their father Wilhelm was partially paralyzed. He died in 1906. Their Granddaughter Ming Wolf Lamb in Lubbock has his ashes in her home as well as those of Maria Wolf Boeer.who died in Rule, Haskell County in 1936.

Charles Sigmund Boer. It. was the fourth child born to Charles and Anna Boer. He was born in Langenbielau on November 5, 1834 and came to Texas with the family in 1851 . He was naturalized in Fayette

County in 1857, farmed with his father until the Civil War, and then served in the "Colorado Grays" like Wilhelm. After the war, in April 1866, he and Wilhelm bought the home place from their parents.

Charles married Auguste Lehrich in LaGrange December 20, 1865. They had nine children: Ida, Auguste II, Agnes, Charles S. III, William, Albert, Henry, Rudolph, and Emilie. Ida married her cousin Gustav Hehr; Auguste II married Charles Wendi; Agnes married Frank Engel; Charles III married Bertha Reichart and moved to Floresville, William married Sophie Brunkenhoefer; Albert remained single; Henry married Alvine Lacing and moved to San Antonia; Rudolph married Helena Brunkenhoefer; Emilie married Charles Stech.

Charles, S. Boeer J. and wife Auguster retired from the farm after his health began failing and moved to Weimar, where he was known as "Uncle Charlie." Their close friend, editor of the Weimar Mercury, said of him,"Uncle Charlie never had an enemy." He died on June 26, 1911, and his wife July 16, 1914; they are buried in the Weimar cemetery.

Auguste Boer. Charles and Anna Boeer's fifth child. was born in Langenbielau on November 17. 1838. She came to Texas with her family and married Wilhelm Gerstenberger, born in Langenbielau April 23,1836, who came to Texas in 1853. Like two of Auguste's brothers, he served in the "Oakland Guards" (also known as Prairie Point Guards) as a private during the Civil War. He was naturalized in Fayette county on June 13, 1892.

Auguste Beer Gerstenberger and Wilhelm Gerstenberger farmed in Colorado County and had seven children: Auguste II, Emilie, Luise, Ernestine, Pauline Frederick, and Wilhelm, Jr. Auguste II married Theodor Hesse; Emilie married Fred Rose; Louise married Charles Lichey; Ernestine married William Lichey; Pauline married Adolph Lichey; Frederick never married and died in Venice, California in 1956; and Wilhelm, J. married Rosie Strom; they lived in Rosenburg. Texas.

## The Gerstenbergers

Johann Gottfried Gerstenberger was born about 1796. On April 17, 1822 he married Marie Rosine Lichey, born about 1798 near Langenbielau. They had six children: August, Edward, Caroline, Louise, Christina and Wilhelm. Johann was a shoemaker who also had a large orchard.

His second son Edward Gerstenberger was first to came to Texas on the ship "Miles", sailing from Hamburg in 1854. The twenty-eight-year-old looked up his friends, the Beer family, in Fayette County and settled near them in the Biegel Community. In 1955, his father sent Edward some fruit tee seeds from Germany with instructions to ask Herr Boeer how to plant and cultivate them. Edward Gerstenberger served in the "Oakland guards" with his brother August and some of the Boers, and is listed as a private.

Edward married his sister-in-law Emma Reichart on October 13, 1867. They had five children: Herman, Gustav, Hedwig, Edward, $J_{r}$., and Emma II. Herman never married and died of malaria June 16, 1903. He is burned in the Lutheran Cemetery in New Belau. Gustav married Ida Sommers; Hedwig married Max Ulbticht: Edward, Jr. married Malinda Pfluger; Emma married Robert Dahse; Alma died as an infant.

Edward and Emma Reichert Gerstenberger stayed on the old home place in New Belau and operated the cotton gin. When Weimar became a good-sized town after the arrival of the railroad in 1873, a new gin was built there. Edward then sold the gin to a man in Shiner, Texas, who disassembled it and rebuilt it in Shiner. The couple continued farming on the old place until Edward died March 20, 1907. He was buried in the Lutheran cemetery at New Belau, where his wife followed him 21 years later.

Edward's father Johann Gerstenberger left with his family from the port of Bremen, Germany on September 19, 1855. They arrived in New Orleans November 19, 1855, and after some delay, took a schooner to Indianola. From there they travelled overland to where Edward was living in Fayette County. After five years, they followed Edward to Colorado County. When the neighbors found out that he had settled there, they came to welcome him. According to tradition, Johann was so elated that he stomped his boots until a cloud of dust arose, and threw his hat in the air as high as he could, yelling at the top of his voice, "This place will be known as New Belau." There are other tales of how New Belau got its name, but as this story has been in the family since way back, this is the one wet accept.

Johann donated three acres of land for a school which was known as the New Belau School. Later it was corrsolidated with the Content school and today is used as a community center.

August Gerstenberger Johann and Maria Gerstenberger's oldest child, was born in Langenbielau April 22, 1823. After serving in the Prussian army, he came to Texas at the age of 32 and was naturalized in Fayette County on November 23, 1857. He is listed as a private on the muster roll of the"Oakland Guards." August married Minna Reichert March 25, 1867 in Colorado County. They had five children: the twins August $\mathfrak{J r}$, and Charles, and then

Selma, Ida, and Adolph. August, yr. married Helena Hasse and moved to Bell County in 1914. Charies married Pautine Engles. Selma married Adolph Engles, evidently Pauline's brother. Ida never married. She died April 27, 1956 and is buried in the Weimar Cemetery. Adolf died unmaried at age 23 and is buried there also.

Caroline Gerstenberges, the third child of Johann and Maria G., was born in Langenbielau in 1828, and after her arival in Texas, married the two-time widower Charles Wottersdorf, whose first wife had died of yellow fever. leaving a son Wilhelm; he he had two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, by his second mariage. Caroline and Charles who were married on July 21, 1857 in La Grange and had a daughter Caroline, six months old at the 1860 census. Charles Woitersdorf came from Brandenburg, Prussia in 1850 before settling in Fayette county.

Although I have no further record of the daughters, I know that Wilhelm Woltersdorf was 9 when he came to Texas and later married a Wilhelmina Rittig. Wilhelm died at New Bielau on February 23, 1928 and is buried in the New Bielau Lutheran Cemetery. Wilhelmina died May 29, 1914 and is buried there also. They had six children: Emma, Reinhold. Clara, Martha. Otto and Withelm. Jr. The descendants of this family for the most part live in the San Antonio area.

Louise Gerstenbergec born August 10, 1830 in Langenbielau married Ernst Boeer on March 12. 1859-see Boeer family. Their oddest daughter married a Schulze. Christine, the fitth child, was born in Langenbielau in 1932. She married the widower Karl Johann Kugler in 1868, whose first wife Annie Schulz had left him a daughter Pauline who maried Carl Hense; their descendants live in the Bluff area. Christine and Kar Kugler had a daughter named Auguste who maried her cousin Gustav Boeer-refer to the Boeer family record.

Wilhelm Gerstenberger was born in Langenbielau on April 23, 1836. He married Auguste Boeer. Charles and Anna Boeer's fifth child-the Boeer ctronicle tells of their descendants.

Condensed and edited by Ingid Gimm Lansford.

## William Schwarz

As a child of divorced parents, I grew up not knowing my father. I knew my grandmother SCHWARZ slightly but didn't become interested in my Schwarz family until it was to late. When grandmother Schwarz died, all the information 1 could have learned went with her. I have since been reunited with my father but his knowledge of the family is very little. What I did learn from him is as follows:

My g.grandfather came to Galveston Texas from Germany. When or where is not known. His name was William SCHWARZ. No other name was ever mentioned. He lived for awhile in the Victoria and Goliad areas. He married Mary ROSENBERG. I don't know if she (my g.grandmother) was his first, second and/or only wife. He was a carpenter/painter. My grandfather Albert Henry SCHWARZ was born in Goliad 6 May 1879. He had several brothers and sisters but the only names I know are brothers John and Otto. One sister married a man named BECKTOL(sp) and lived in Houston. Another sister married George LUCAS and lived in Cuero. William moved his family to the Austin area at some point in time.

My grandfather Albert was married at least once before he married my grandmother, Katherine Tommie MARTIN (from MS) on 6 Nov. 1919 here in Waco Texas. He had a daughter named Lillian by this first marriage. She lived in Houston. He moved to Waco shortly before he married Katherine. He was a paint contractor and a WW1 vet. He and Katherine had (3) children: 1.William Seth (my father) 2. Mary Katherine 3. Albert Tommy. Albert died here in Waco on 4 Feb. 1959.

That is all the information $I$ have to go on. I would love to find my kin and learn about my ancestors. Do any of these names ring a bell with anyone? I would appreciate any help at all with my SCHWARZ/ROSENBERG family. Thank you. by:

## A Fortunate Stumbling Stone

There is no substitute for being "on the spot" to do your own research. My experience proves the value of first-hand knowledge.

While visiting my aunt in Galveston, the city where both my parents were born, I asked to be shown the cemetery plot where my father's emigrant grandparents were known to be buried. My aunt was reluctant to go there because the cemetery was now in a run-down area of the city where visitors were occasionally attacked by hooligans. She insisted that there was no information to be gained from the grave marker beyond the birth and death dates, which she had given me. I was determined, though, and so we went to the cemetery. And while viewing the Hoecker grave marker, I literally stumbled over an unknown ancestral line that, after years of research, is still producing ancestral records.

Until that date I had had little success in tracing my parents' grandparents, all of whom were known to have arrived in Galveston between 1845 and 1855. Passenger lists and vital statistics records were non-existent or failed to include their names. Moreover, I still did not know the maiden name of my mother's grandmother.

At the cemetery I prepared to photograph the gravestone of my paternal great-grandparents, and in stepping back for a better position, I tripped on a fallen gravestone. The stone bore the surname Falkenhagen, that of my maternal great-grandparents, with the given name of my great-grandmother. The next stone was her husband, my great-grandfather. And grouped in close proximity to the Falkenhagens were grave markers for several people of the surname Schneider. All of the Schneiders were of the same generation as my great-grandmother except for one man, whose age showed him to be one generation older than the rest. And the grave marker of the older person bore the inscription "born in Oldentrup, Minden, on ...".

One could deduce that my great-grandmother might belong to the Schneider family. With this assumption, I searched the church records of Oldentrup, Westfalen, found the birth record of the elder Schneider, then his marriage, then the births of his children, until I came to the births of my great-grandmother and the other Schneiders buried in the Galveston cemetery. By accident I had discovered the surname and origins of my maternal great-grandmother, but only after I had insisted on "seeing for myself" the gravesite of my father's grandparents.

With this success as a spur, I made one more attempt to find my ancestors in early Galveston records. I made enquiry of the Archives Department of the Rosenberg Library in Galveston, to know if they had a microfilm copy of the records of the earliest Lutheran church in Galveston. The archivist replied that they did have these church records on film, but only one copy. They would, however, make a copy to be loaned out. Within a month I received the film on interlibrary loan. The Lutheran Church records begin about 1852, and served to augment the Schneider data I was then collecting in German church records.

The Lutheran church records also gave me additional information on the Falkenhagen and Hoecker family origins. All in all, my visit to the Galveston cemetery was a most fortunate experience. And it proved a forceful lesson in keeping on open mind when told by another person that they are sure there is nothing more to learn where they have already looked!

Sent by: Clare Childers, 1702 Sixth St., Woodland CA 95695 (916) 662-5102

## NEW BOOK OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

[^5]Because 1990 is a year of celebration in Oberammergau, PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN RESEARCH invites you to join in the festivities. For the first time PGR is offering. 2 special Heritage Genealogical Tours to the homelands of your ancestors. . . both include the famous Passion Play! Whichever trip you choose, you will delight in seeing some of the most beautiful areas of Europe while digging into your family history along the way. The Heritage Tour was developed by the Pennsylvania German Research Society, in cooperation with genealogists, archivists, and historians at home and abroad, to fill a need within the ever growing community of family history researchers to close the link between the old world and new.

May 14th to 26th, 1990: Germany and Swltzerland \$1793, excl. air
A first-class, fully escorted trip to Germany and Switzerland, featuring the spectacular Passion Play of Oberammergau, performed only once every 10 years. This trip includes all breakfasts, most dinners, and all first class hotels with private bath. Ovemight stays are in Speyer, Baden Baden, Luceme, Kempten, Oberammergau and Munich. This 11 day family research tour includes a Rhine River Cruise, Rhine wine tasting party, visits to the Black Forest, Liechtenstein, the fairy tale castles of King Ludwig, and a farewell dinner at the famed Hofbranhaus of Munich. Research will take place in the Palatinate state archives of Speyer, the Institut filr Pfalzische Geschichte und Volkskunde in Kaiserslautern, and appropriate Bavarian state archives in Munich. Arrangements for research in other archives will be made as indicated by the information submitted by each participant.

September 1st to 19th, 1990: Germany, Switzerland and Austria \$2319, excl. air
This comprehensive, first class trip includes overnight stays in the Frankfurt area, Speyer, Baden Baden, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Oberammergau, Munich, Salzburg and Vienna. Rescarch will take place in the Palatinate state archives of Speyer, the Institut fur Pralzische Geschichte und Volkskunde in Kaiserslautern, the Bavarian state archives in Munich, the Lucerne state archives in Switzerland, and appropriate archives in Vienna. Research preparations include an individualized research plan for every participanth, based upon his or her family history. In addition to all features of the May Heritage Tour, this trip also features a Swiss fondue dinner party with entertainment, visits to the Goldenes Dachl in Innsbruck, Berchtesgaden, the romantic Damube Valley, and the elaborate Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna, and a farewell dinner and wine at a typicalViennese heurigen inn in Grinzing.

For further information, write:<br>Pennsylvania German Research, RR 1 Box 478, Sugarloaf, Pa 18249.<br>Telephone: (717) 788-5133



## albert j. blaha book collection in temple

There is good news for genealogists researching German ancestors in the Bell County area. Mrs. Albert J. Blaha has donated her husband's book collection to the SPJST Library in Temple. Although Czech genealogy and heritage were the main emphasis of Mr. Blaha's work, he has many books on Germans, Wends, Poles, and Danes throughout Texas. He also has a collection of census records, passenger lists, Master's theses, and much more. If you are traveling along I-35, it would be worth your time to visit the SPJST Library.

The SPJST Library, Museum, and Archives are located at 520 N . Main Street in Temple. Exit I-35 at the Adams Street Exit and go east on Central Avenue to Main Street. Turn north (left) on Main Street. The Library, Museum, and Archives are open daily from 8:00 a.m. until noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. They will open at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday by appointment only.
Sent by: Judith Reckner (see also Members' Genealogical Exchange). Inspired by Harold Mueller's article in the previous issue (No. 3 of 1989) she went to the SPJST Library in Temple to see Albert Blaha's passenger list book--and discovered the entire Blaha Collection there!

## THE HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF TEXAS

Twenty-one Presidents of the United States had French Protestant (Huguenot) ancestors. In 1685 the Revocation of The Edict of Nantes by King Louis XIV resulted in the expulsion of Huguenots from France. Niany hundreds fled to America. Fortyfive States have Chapters in this prestigious historical lineage organization. Do you have a Huguenot ancestor?

For membership qualifications write to M.S. Dickerson, lv.D., State Registrar, 1205 E. Applegate Drive, Austin, Texas 78753


## IITHUANIAN IMMIGRANTS

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 South Pulaski Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60629 is looking for the names of Lithuanians who immigrated to the United States before World War I. Information on these immigrants will be kept on permenant file in the museum's genealogy archives for use by future genealogists and historians. The museum also plans a publication of these early immigrants called Lithuanian Pioneers.

A group of Lithuanians immigrated to DeWitt County before 1860 and settled near Yorktown, Texas. So far, this settlement appears to be the earliest group to be submitted for the publication. The surnames being researched at this time are, STANCHOS, RAGOZUS, JONISCHKIES, LUNDSCHEN, KERLICK, MERTINS, PRAETZ (PRUETZ), GELSUS. There may be others that are unknown at this time.

Anyone who knows of a Lithuanian ancestor is urged to contact the museum or our Texas representative, Mrs. Patsy Hand, c/o Victoria Public Library, 302 N. Main Street, Victoria, Texas. 77904

# FAMILY <br> ReUNIONS <br> FuTURE 

## ZENNER REUNION

The 59th annual Zenner Reunion will be held on Sunday, June 10th, 1990, at the Bear Creek Shooting Range on Centerpoint Road between Comfort and Fredericksburg, Texas. Relatives will begin gathering at 10:30 AM and will continue visiting until evening. A Potluck dinner will be served at noon. A short program is planned and various games, for young and old alike, will be available.

This gathering will honor Mathias and Katherine (Huebscher) Jenner who along with their four children, Helen (Mrs. Jacob Roeder), Peter, Margaret (Mrs. Peter Schandual) and Susanna (Mrs. James Larson) endured a 13 week trip across the Atlantic leaving their home in Losheim, Province Trier, Germany, and landing in New York in 1851. After settling in Texas, three more children were born: Mary (Mrs. John Batman), Elisabeth (Mrs. John Jordan) and George (who married Florentia Jung)

Peter Jenner, the eldest son, married Clara Jordan in 1872 and to them were born ten children (one still-born). It is his descendents who make up the largest group of those who continue to celebrate the Annual Reunion.

Only one of the Peter Zenner's children is living...and he is the youngest, Harry Zenner, who will be 97 this year.

## FELIX AND ELISE REINBACH REUNION

The 12 th annual Felix and Elise (Hence) Reinbach REunion will be held on Sunday, August 12th, 1990, at Lady Bird Johnson park, Pavilion \#1, Fredericksburg, Texas. Family Members begin gathering at about 10:30 AM and share a Pot-Luck Dinner and an afternoon of "gemütlichkeit".

Felix was born in Fredericksburg, Texas, in 1877...the son of Maximilian vol Reinbach who first came to Texas from the Dusseldorf area in Germany in 1849. In 1871, "Max" married Christine Weingarz and came again to Texas to begin his family (Franciska...m. Christian Stehling), (Marie...m. Friederich Lochte), (Caroline...died in infancy) and (Felix...m. Elise Hence). "Max" was a pharmacist and he opened a Drug Store on Main St. in Fredericksburg. Felix built a twostory store in 1904 across from the Drug Store. He sold dry goods, groceries, gifts and had an Ice Cream Parlor in one corner. The upstairs he used as a Ball Room and Opera House in his endeavor to bring music and the arts to the people of this German community. His was the first building in Gillespie County to have an elevator. It was operated manually by a pulley rope.

Approximately fifty descendents continue to gather annually to reminisce and celebrate "FAMILY".
 Liz Junk 3650 Manga
San Antonio, IX 78259-1736

## HEIMER FAMILY REUNION

The 9th Heimer Family Reunion will be held on June 3, 1990 at Cypress Bend Park in New Braunfels, Texas, from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. with dinner at 1:00 P.M. Call Frances Heimer Harrison for more information at 512-494-2107 or write her at 118 William Classen Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78232

## KAPPELMANN FAMILY REUNION

The Kappelmann Family Reunion will be held on June 24, 1990 at the Barney Kappelmann residence in Floresville Texas.
For more information contact Frances Heimer Harrison, 118 William Classen Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78232, Phone 512-494-2107 or Barney Kappelmann, Rt. 3 Box 142A, Floresville, Texas 78114, Phone 512-393-3708

## MAGERS FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Heinrich and Wilhemina Magers will hold a family reunion Saturday, October 13, 1990, at the Kendall County Fairgrounds in Boerne, Texas. The descendants of their children: Christina (Mrs. Friedrich Bartels), Louisa (Mrs. Johann Haufler), Wilhelmina (Mrs. Adolph Haag), Heinrich Jr., Charlotta (Mrs. Fritz Haag), and Caroline (Mrs. Casper Hofforth) are invited to attend. The Magers came to Texas from Hanover, Germany. For more information contact: Kathryn Adam-Hurst, 6735 Spring Garden, San Antonio, Texas 78249.

## NIXON REUNION

The 90 th Annual Nixon Reunion will be held on Sunday, August 12 , 1990 at the Schoolhousc in Doss, Tixas. Doss is a small German community about 20 miles west of Fredericksburg where $N i x o n s$ have been living for 100 years. The original A. J. Nixon homestead is located on Squaw Creek and is still owned by a Nixon ancestor, and the Nixon Cemetery is about a mile from the original site of the Nixon Family Reunion on the banks of Squaw Creek.
The family meeting begins around 10:30 a.m., with a potluck lunch at noon, then one or more family members give a program relating to some aspect of the Nixon family. Lots of pictures are taken, lots of acquaintances are renewed and made, and an ail round good time is had by all.

Gaynel Conner
Secretary - Nixun Family 12616 Darryl Dr.
Buda. TX 78610
512-こ95-3592

## 

19th Biennial Reunion, the "Biggest Family Reunion in Texas" June 16-17, 1990, San Antonio, at Villita Assembly Hall. Dance, 2 meals, Mass, meeting, recognitions, entertainment, plenty of time for visiting and viewing old pictures and heirlooms. Plus--all 1,000+ attending will pose for a family picture. Contact: Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213.


Time: July 22, 1990 approximately 10:00 AM
Place: Yorktown Country Club Clubhouse, Yorktown, Texas (It's shady outside and air conditioned inside.)

Meal Plan: BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC STYLE LUNCH

* Nothing will be furnished *

For those traveling far please do not fear extra food will be brought by those who are near
*Mary Kirlicks (unmarried)
William F. Kirlicks (1848-1930)-Margaret Perkins \& Frances Class
John A. Kirlicks (1851-1923)-"Gussie" Thomas
*Michael Kirlicks, Jr. (1855-1908)-Martha Perkins Annie Kirlicks (1857-1949)-William McElroy

John Kerlick/McNally (1842?-1906?)-Librada Mason
Christopher Kerlick (1849-1925)--Meta Meyer
George E. Kerlick (1851-1933?) -Johanna Steffens \& Catherine Heppe William F. Kerlick (1855-1901)-Mary Stanchos
Michael Kerlick (1857-1896)-Mary Kroschel
William F. Lundschen (1859-1931)-Wilhelmine Voelkel
*"Mary" Lundschen (1860-1938)--Christian Neese *"Annie" Lundschen (1867-1940)-Charles Baacke
*Ewald Lundschen (unmarried)
Anna Gelssus (1854-1941)--Henry C. Meyer Maria Gelssus (1855-1888)-John L. Goehring Louise Gelssus (1857-1913)-John Stoepler

Emilie Jonischkies (1862-1923)--George Voelkel
*Friederike Jonischkies (1864-1926)-Bernhardt Post Emma Jonischkies (1865-1938)-Otto Post \& Charles Debrodt Caroline Jonischkies (1868-1941)-Traugott Jank William Jonischkies (1872-1932)-Louise Kaufman Magdalena Jonischkies (1876-1946)-John McMillan

* Names marked (*) are known to have no living descendants. Contact: Beverly Kerlick Bruns, 111 Sun Valley, Victoria TX 77904 or, call (512) 573-3668

Information submitted to GTHS by Bernice Mistrot, 12800-83 Briar Forest, Houston TX 77077. Bernice also asks for suggestions from others organizing reunions as to methods of keeping addresses current, furnishing foods, estimating attendance, and financing reunion gatherings. Any suggestions from seasoned reunion planners?

## Hop in LEISTER FAMILY REUNION

On Saturday, Oct. 14, 1989, the descendants of William Leister and Amin Leister gathered for their 15th reunion at the Park ${ }^{R}$ Lounge with 84 members are$\}$ sent.

Mildred Bohach was in charge $N$ of registration, candy guessing and prizes. A donation game was
$\$$ played during the evening followed with a supper. Vernon Bohach gave the table blessing. A short meeting was held with Ladine Vance and Demon Bohash masters of ceremonies. It was decided to have a reunion every year. Rudie Leister and Mary Pargmann families will be hosts next year.
The oldest members present were Mary Pargmann, 92, and Rude Leister, 87. The youngest members were Allison Schwaben, daughter of Darla and David Schwabe and Justin Schwaben, the youngest boy, son of Mark and Lori Schwabe. The longest married couple was Emil and Nora Leister, 57 years; and the latest married couple was Elroy and Betty Bohach. Michelle Pargmann traveled from Dallas and Vera Voelkel and grandchildren, Daniel and Abby, from Mansfield. Amy Pargmann won the candy guessing game. Tracy Pargmann won the child's door prize and Doris Reader, the adult prize. The group was happy to have four members of the Amin Leister family. The family record of the increased of one birth, Garrett Pargmann, son of Cory and Michelle Pargmann, born on Feb. 14, 1989. Two marriages and three silver weddings and one death, Annie Reader, 92, mother of Bill Reader, was recorded A silent prayer was held.

Visiting. and domino games were enjoyed. All had a great time
The Bohach family served as hosts.
Members attending were Rudie Leister, Mary Pargmann, Otto and Leona Leister, Alfred and Hilda Leister, Alvin and Elsa Leister and Alvina Pargmann, Emil and Nora Leister of the

## FAMILY REUNIONS pAST

Wm. Leister family and Bill and Doris Reader and Ernest Leister and wife, of the Armin Leister family.

Grandchildren were Evelyn and Red Walters, Erna Lee and T.C. Simon, Vera Voelkel, Aileen and Clifton Mene, Mildred Bohach, Elroy and Betty Bohach, William Bohach, Doris and Garland Buchhom, Della Evans, Vemon and Mae Bohach, Leroy and Vera Mae Pargmann, Gladys Speed and Pasty Ledwig, Frances Pargmann, Donna Len Regnolds, Dennis and Emmie Pargmann, Pat Pargmann, Margie and Clarence Smart.
Great grandchildren, Sheldon and May Kine, Steven and Janie Kerne, Chadwick Bohach, Clint and Keith Leister, Gail and Kyle Brady, Connie Hermes, Darla and David Schwaben, Lori and Mark Schwabe, Rhonda Naranjo, Deborah Pargmann, Todd Pargmann, Donna Regnolds, Michelle Pargmann, Ladine and Michael Vance, Gail Smart, Timothy and Jody Evans, Amy, Natalie and Shelley Reynolds, Tammy, Kathrine, Pamela and Tracy Pargmann.
Great, great grandchildren iresent were Clayton, Dustin and Barton Kerne, Daniel and Abby Voelkel, Benjamin Vance, Alison Schwabe, Justin Schwaben, Cole Allen Brady.

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Sent
by
Patsy
Hand
of
Victoria
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 reunion; these have been reprinted a number of times. and aro now wideriy

Salurday night climaxed with it bis





 1799, in East Prussia. His combrione
reads " Soldier of Waterloo, Pioneor
 that the von Roscubbergs came to
Toxas for frecoom, not for materinal



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Sent by Dale von Rosenberg of Dallas

## Koenig Family Reunion Held

One hundred years ago the "S.S. Trave," traveling from Bremen, Germany to Galveston, brought Dorothea Dinklage Koenig, then age 44, and her three youngest children, Frieda Koenig, John A. Koenig and Charles C. Koenig to Texas. Some of her relatives here were the Bolling family. Dorothea Koenig, being somewhat liberated, left her husband, Johann Friedrich Anton Koenig and an older son, Gerhard Koenig, in Germany. Thus started the family of John A. Koenig (1877-1957) and Mary Klaevemann Koenig (1883-1976).

The annual reunion of the descendents of John A. and Mary Koenig was hosted by Elva Koenig on Saturday, Sept. 23, 1989 at the John H. and Elva Koenig country place at Black Jack Springs, northwest of Schulenburg.
All of the living children were present, namely Charles C. Koenig of Cleveland, Helen (Koenig) Niemeyer of La Grange, Herman (Sam) Koenig of Pasadena, Hattie (Koenig) Krischke of Schulenburg, Paul Koenig of Austin, Walter W. Koenig of El Campo and Myrtle (Koenig) Wessels of La Grange. Three children, Robert G. Koenig, John-H. Koenig'and Bill-Koenig, are deceased.

Thursday, Sept.
Grandchildren present were Wilburn Koenig, Weldon Koenig, Rodncy Koenig, Douglas Koenig, Marilou Koenig Holdren, Ronnie Krischke, Karen Koenig Day and James Wessels. Great-grandchildren present, who would be second cousins to each other (unless they are closer, such as siblings or first cousins) were Derek L. Abbott, Christoper Koenig, Erik Koenig, Jon Todd Koenig, Andrew L. Koenig, Troy Powell, Jennifer Day, Marlo Holdren and Richmond Holdren. Numerous spouses and friends of descendents also attended.
A brief prayer by Charles C. Koenig (born 1903) preceded the pot luck lunch. Later in the afternoon, a family history quiz was held with Rodney Koenig presiding. An information board with copies of naturalization papers, confirmation papers, birthdates from an old Bible, an alien registration card and ship records, was displayed. During this discussion period it was leamed that Dorothea Helene Friederike Dinklage Koenig of Oldenburg, Germany, came with her three youngest children, (Frieda, John A. and Charles) on the "S.S. Trave" from Bremen, Germany to Galveston in November, 1889, exactly 100 years ago this year. The name

28, 1989--The Schulenburg Sticker of the ship was obtained from naturalization papers of Charles Christian Koenig, a brother of John A. Koenig. Additionally, a number of the names of descendents and their derivation from ancestors were discussed. Many descendents were surprised to learn of the story of a World War I German U-boat skipper named Paul Koenig whose exploits on the East Coast played a part in the naming of Paul Koenig of Austin.

A trip by many descendents to the Koenig-Romberg farm at Black Jack Springs where most of the 10 children of John A. and Mary Koenig were born, was a highlight of the afternoon. This farm was originally owned by Johannes C.N. Romberg, a prominent early Ger-man-Texan poet. The KoenigRomberg farm is listed in the Handbook \& Registry of GermanTexas Heritage, recently published by the German Texan Heritage Society. It is near the Edwin Guetermann farm.
Hclen Koenig Niemeyer agreed to host the reunion in 1990, with Weldon Koenig, Derek Abbott, Marilou Koenig Holdren and Rodney Koenig agreeing to assist in publicizing next year's reunion.

Research is presently underway on a Familienbuch of the Anton Willmann (*1809, + 1891) extended family. Included will be (1) an historical section, tracing the genealogy and experiences of the Willmann family both in its ancestral area around Glatz in Lower Silesia (Niederschlesien) and in Comal and Mason counties, Texas, as well as (2) a register of the many descendants (through December 31, 1989) of Anton Willmann and his wives Theresa Knolle (* 18.14, +1854) and Christine Niess (*1831, +1913 ). If you have questions or relevant information, letters, or photographs that we might use in the book, please notify the appropriate editor:

Terry G. Jordan
6305 Augusta National Drive Austin, Texas 78746 (editor, history section)

Lois L. Koock
Box 1084
Mason, Texas 76856
(editor, family register section)

A Willmann reunion is held each June in Mason, Texas, and the book is scheduled to be published in time for the 1992 reunion, in the Columbian quincentennial year. The new hardback book will build upon The Willmanns in America (1953) by Dan Fischer, bringing the register up to date and adding the results of research in Silesia and Texas. Inquiries about advance purchases of the book should be addressed to Danny Willmann in Mason, Texas 76856, who is in charge of finances.

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| Miriam York to speak to Heritage Society | Genealogical group |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

The
Texas Baptist Historical Collection

## Using the <br> Texas Baptist Historical Collection:

Any person is welcome to utilize the resources of the Collection.
These resources are available for seminary students, Baptist historians, church history committees, and others for writing dissertations and seminar papers, for preparing church and association histories, for researching genealogies and for finding materials for articles, books, talks and other purposes.
The staff is pleased to assist anyone desiring to use these materials. The Collection is open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and other times through special arrangements.
Photocopying is available at ten cents per copy.
Study space, microfilm readers, and other needed equipment will be provided for visitors using these resources.
Mail inquiries may be sent to:
Texas Baptist Historical Collection
A. Webb Roberts Library

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Box 22000-2E
Fort Worth, TX 76122 Phone:817-923-1921
Extension 333

The Texas Baptist Historical Society
P.O. Box 22000-2E

Fort Worth, TX 76122
Types of membership and annual dues
(includes subscription to Texas Baptist
History, TBHS journal)

| Individual | $\$ 7.00$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Family | $\$ 9.50$ |
| Student | $\$ 5.00$ |
| Sustaining | $\$ 50.00$ |
| Life | $\$ 100.00$ |
| Institutional | $\$ 7.00$ |



Church Minutes and Histories
Churches may deposit their old minutes for safekeeping subject to recall at any time, or they may be deposited permanently.

Oral History
As a participant in the Texas Baptist Oral History Consortium, the Collection receives copies of all volumes produced by the consortium through Baylor University.

## Baptist Newspapers

This includes the Baptist Standard since 1892 plus Texas Baptist, 1855-1861; Texas Baptist, 1876-1886; Texas Baptist Herald, 1866-1886; and Texas Baptist and Herald, 1886-1906.

## Photographs

Over 10,000 photographs are available including many of early Texas Baptist ministers.
Tape Recordings
These include Southwestern Seminary chapel messages, Baptist Radio Hour series, and sermons of George Truett, J. Frank Norris and many others.
History Books
Texas Baptist general, association and church histories as well as Texas state, county and city histories are available for use with the Collection.

## Museum

There is a Texas Baptist Historical Museum on the first floor of the A. Webb Roberts Library, Southwestern Seminary.

Additional Texas Baptist history resources may be found at these locations or at other Texas Baptist schools:

Texas Collection, Baylor University
P.O. Box 6369

Waco, TX 76706
Texas Baptist Historical Center
Route 5, Box 222
Brenham, TX 77833


Independence Baptist Church, Washington County,
Organized, 1839.

FROM M. C. FORISTER, 6701 BOLEYNWOOD DRIVE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78745-4833:
I read about Herbert Siemers who is a researcher in Germany. He will do research in the general area of Oldenburg i. Old.-Bremen only. He.will also travel to those places with visitors. He is still employed, therefore visits and trips would have to be arranged. He charges so much an hour plus postage, phone, mileage, etc. He speaks and writes good English and will accept inquires in English. Include 3 International Coupons. His address is: HERBERT SIEMERS, HEINRICH-SCHULZ STR. 15, D-2800 BREMEN 41. WEST GERMANY.

So, I wrote to him for help, and he has been helping me since then. I too highly recommend him as he has been a great help to me. After finding out that my ancestors came from East Germany, I was able to order the right films at the LDS Library ( 1000 East Rutherford Lane, in north Austin and their phone number is (512) 837-3626). The librarians there have been a great help to me too.

I am pleased to add more information that I have now. My Great-Grandfather, Friedrich Christian Franz GRAF, born 24 May 1853 in Hannover, Prussia, died 16 May 1922 in San Antonio, Texas, son of Ignaz GRAF and Anna Maria BAYSS. Franz married 21 May 1876 in Sulldorf, Kreis Wanzleben, East Germany, to Agnes Adelheid Louise Ida Wilhelmine (Minna) REINHARDT.

Minna, born 10 Oct. 1853 in C8nnern, East Germany, died 6 July 1932 in San Antonio. Daughter of Andreas Martin Wilhelm REINHARDT, a shoemaker in Cסnnern (son of Andreas REINHARDT, master shoemaker, and Charlotte HIRSCHFELD) and Sophie Wilhelmine Emilie FLEMMING (daughter of Friedericke (unknown maiden name) FLEMMING and her first husband (first name unknown) KREMPLING).

Franz and Minna, with their five small children, arrived in Baltimore, Mary-. land, from Bremen by S. S. OHIO Steamship, on July 21, 1883. From there, they went by train to Bexar County, Texas, near Cibolo and Kirby, where they had six more children, (one of them was my grandfather, Frido GRAF, who was living in Karnes City, Karnes County, Texas for years).

There may be some relatives still living in East Germany, but others came before and after Franz and his family came to USA. We still do not know when and where they arrived and died,..here in.USA. They are: Franz GRAF's brothers and sisters (Jakob, born Dec. 1847-49 in Magdeburg (?), was living in Coleman County, Texas in 1900 with his family; Theresia (GRAF) RUDLOFF, born 5 March 1855 in Kreuzeber, East Germany, died 2 Feb. 1939 in Cross Plains, Callahan County, Texas; Johanna, born 8 June 1859 in Kreuzeber, was living in Los Angeles, California in 1922; and Martha (GRAF) SCHNEIDER (Franz's sister?), was living in Schertz, Bexar County, Texas in 1906.

Also, Minna's parents, Wilhelm (or William) and Wilhelmine REINHARDT (a widow, residence was 509 Dallas Street in San Antonio in 1889-90), with Minna's three sisters, Clara Doris Elise, Ann and Augusta Natalie Charlotte (need their husbands' names), one of them moved to California, (three others, a brother and two sisters, Hermine Pauline Friedericke, Wilhelm Heinrich Christoph and Lina Caroline Friedericke, all born in Connern (K४nnern) and died young in Germany), all went to Bexar County, Texas from Germany.


Topic Index 1989

Issue Number 1, 2 and 3

American/Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society, 2:122
Amerika sucht deutsche Lehrer, 1:51
Awty International School, 2:98
Berlin Wall Falls, 3:171, 172, 180, 187
Bickler Paper, 1:5
Boeme's Rare Saxon Bible, 2:108
Boerne: Attractions, 2:109, 110
Books Corner, 1:31
Books:
Briefe aus Amerika, 1:24
Central Europe from the Congress of Vienna.w, 2:90
Der Tumer Soldat, 1:45
Friedrich Emst of Industry, 2:117; 3:183
Fruchtbar und Anmutsvoll, 1:53
German Church Books: Beyond The Basics, 2:140
It Came As A Vision (Elusche Brothers), 2:90, 113
Jacob Brodbeck REached For The Sky, 3:231
Letters to Oma, 3:183
Records of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Wiedeville, Washington County. Texas, 3:197
Schievelbein Genealogy, 1:30
The Banats Germans, 2:105
The Westfalians From Germany to Missouri, 2:83
Washington Cemetery (Houston. Texas), 1:20
Witness To History, 1:57
Witter's Deutsch-Englische Schreib-und Lese-Fibel, (reprint) 1:43
Brenham, Texas: Attractions, 3:178
Brodbeck, Jacob, 2:95; 3:231
Carmack, George and Bonnie, of San Antonio, 2:86
Chappell Hill, Texas: Attractions, 3:178
Computer reconstructed, 3:196
D'Hanis Brick \& Tile Co., 2:95
Estate Planning for Germans, 1:22; 2:96; $3: 185$
Family Reunions, 1:3, 18, 19; 2:111, 112, 115, 119, 120,
124; 3:180, 204, 205, 228
Fashing, Texas, by Robert H. Thonhoff, 3:194
Fredericksburg:
A Block of Heritage, 1:19
Historic Church Reopened, 2:91
Make Yourself at Home, 1:54
GTHS:
Annual Meeting, 2:7, 75
Genealogy: Bits and Pieces and News, 2:125; 3:207
Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage, 1:6
Lindemann Elected President of GTHS, 3:201
Miriam K. York Gives Talk, 2:87
Members' Genealogical Exchange, 2:134
President's Message, 3:173
Restated Bylaws of the GTHS, 1:57
The Editor Writes, 1:2; 2:165; 3:170

Galveston Passenger Lists (1846-1871, Some Comments, 3:214
Genealogy Timely Topics, 1:47
German Expressionism, 1915-1925, 2:84
German Gulf Coast Association, 2:118; 3:182
German Influence on Olympics: Friedrich L. Jahn, 3:181
German Merchants, German Artisians, and Texas, 1:35
German Methodists of eastern Bastrop County, 2:102
German Pioneers in Washington County, Texas, 3:176
German Postal Codes, 3:222
German Recipes, 2:93
German Research, 2:144
German Seed of Early Texas, 2:123
German Teans keep ties with homeland, 2:123
German at Texas Tech, by Dr. Meredith McClain, 3:188
German native regrets family's life of misery, 3:204
German-American Conference, 1:44; 2:107
Germans offer pragmatism with flair, 3:203
Glimpse of life 500 years ago is found, 3:204
Good news for (book) collectors, 2:141
Grassyville, eastern Bastrop County, 2:102
Grothenrath, Ruth, memorial exhibition, 2:92
Guerra, Henry, in Alamo series, 2:81
Habenicht (Family) Roots, Continued Scarch off The, 2:106
Halletsville: St. Peter Lutheran Church, 1:55
Heimer hammers out living in San Antonio, 1:17
Hermann, Missouri: A town with German roots, 3:232
Historischer Umzug bildet Hochepunkt, 2:152
House, Frederick Wilhelm, and House, Sarah Elizabeth Powell, 3:224
Kartoffeleis ist heisser Hit in USA, 1:55
Kaulfus, Fredrick Julius, 2:143
Kaulfus, Paul Julius, 2:144
Kobs, Fredericke Beckendorff, 3:225
Kocrth, Herman Louis, 3:217
Koerth, Ludwig, Jr., 3:219
Koerth, William Fredrick, 3:218
Krause, Nelda, senior bowler, 2:122
Kreis, Jacob M., Childress County, Texas, 3:229
Kunz Family of Austin, Texas, 1:50
LaGrange: Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery, 3:179
Lorenz, Konrad, Nobel Prize-winner, 1:31
Meyer, Christian \& Dorothea, 2:146
Moulton, Lavaca County: Zion Lutheran Church, 2:123
Mueller brought wartime skills to space program, 3:197
Muenster, Texas, 3:193
National Register adds new districts, 2:110
New Braunfels Schuetzen Vercin, 2:94
New Braunfels:
Attractions, 2:124; 3:198
German-American contributions, 1:55

New Braunfels, continued:
Sophienburg Museum and Archives, 2:119
Ney, Elizabeth, sculptress, 1:3
Oberammergau, Germany: Passion Play 1990, 2:88
Olfen, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 3:223
Painted Churches of Texas, 3:195, 196
Pawel, Tom, honorary consul, 2:81
Pommern in Wisconsin, 2:122
Priddy church, Mills County, to mark centennial, 3:196
Professorinnen bleiben in der Minderheit, 3:233
Recent Publications: 1:34; 2:91, 92, 109, 110, 111, 112, 139, 145; 3:206, 221
Recommendations for Foreign Genealogical Research, 2:140
Reiner, Fritz, Society, 1:20
Rosenberg Family in Austin, 1:27
Round Top, Texas: Oktoberfest activities planned, 3:203
San Antonio Liederkranz, 1:15; 2:85; 3:184
San Antonio Students to tour E. Germany, 2:87
San Antonio:
Attractions, 1:12; 2:77, 79
Beethoven Maennerchor, 2:119
Menger Hotel, 1:10
Steves Homestead, 2:84, 91
Schulenburg:
Attractions, 2:114, 120, 121; 3:199, 200, 202
Gus Cranz Mansion, 1:53

Search For Ancestors in Germany, 1:17
Seguin:
Landmark Restored, 3:201
Texas Lutheran College, 1:21
Seidel, Edmund O., engineer, 1:18
Sind Sie stolz, Deutscher zu sein? 3:200
Sitz, Michael, 2:143
Smith and Stein Families, 2:138
Society for German-American Studies, 1:20, 32, 39; 2:92
St. James of New Wehdem to Observe Anniversary, 3:196
Surname Index, 2:153
Texas Adelsvercin Archive, 2:113
Topic Index 1988, 1:67
Travel questions, 2:89
Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, 2:111
W. Germans debating never on Sunday rule, 1:51

Was Your Ancestor Really From "Hannover"? 3:220
Weber, Rev. R. J., 1:21
Weidner Family, A history of the, 2:100
Western-Indianer-Freunde: Western Clubs in Germany, 3:231
What ship was Grandpa on? 3:202
Wieser, Ludwig Fredrick, 2:142
Winedale Historical Center, 2:118
Zernial Family, by Shirley White, 2:137
Topic Index Prepared by: W. M. Von-Maszewski


NAME INDEX, 1989

Issues Number 1, 2, 3
Altibe, villie 2-120
Iltschaffl, Albert 2-130
Leelabg, Iarl Ieary 1-022
Lelag, larl 1-012
Lelagg, Olga 1-032
Loderegg, J-209
Laderegg, Johaa Dlrich 3-209
Laderegg, largaret Pritze J-209
Iadersoa, Coloael Cbarles
1-010
Ledergon, B. J-199
Ladriessea, fraas 3-23]
Laad, Ibonpsoa 1-002
laschatz, Cody 2-111
Ippelt, Villiar 1-055
drabrister,Sen. Iea 2-12]
Lradt, Iarl J. R. 1-034
Irain, llbert 1-055
Ariold, Bberhard 1-034
Lruold, George 1-021
Ariold, Iarea 3-205
Arsold, larea 3-205
Arsold, ile 3-305
Ascibacher, Paal 2-085
Assaza, dgestos 2-102
1stor, Joba Jucob J-182

sucoia, Cpathia lingbory
1-004
angerama, 3-212
angerama, Leelia J-209
Lostis, Stephes f. 2-139
Bach, beo 3-209
Bacon,Dr. Thones 3-190
Bade, Ilass 1-038
Brevierth, Iarl 3-205
Babre, Aoad allargaretha J-210
Bain, C. Dale 1-004
Baia,lits. C. Dale 1-004
Baring, Josephine J-202
Barieg, otto 1. 3-202
Burklej, Mury starr 2-105
Baraborg, fiad 3-201
Baraes, harj faje 1-006
Barth, Leonard 3-205
Buth, Vilu 3-205
Bassett, Razel h. J-180
Bassler, Gerhard P. 3-206
Bassler, Gertard 2-092
Baser, Betty 1-054
Baser, Doanld 1-054
Baeer, Dorothy 1. 1-004
Baagart, 2-130
dabgarten, lodrey 2-115
Bangarten, Christian J-199
Bamgarten, Christias 2-115
Bangarten, Eroestige 2-132

Dusgartea, Gos 2-115
Busgartei, Gus 2-121
Bargarten, J. Curistida 2-121
Bangartea, Iadeliae 2-115
Bangarten, Iorine 2-115
Bangarten, Moria 2-115
Bangarten, Otis 2-115
Baugartea, los 2-115
Bangaten, Vallace 2-115
Bajer, George 3-232
Bean, C. lichard 1-033
Bean, C. sichard 1-012
Bean, C. lichard 2-092
Bear, Bessie Fietsan 2-120
Beab,Jadge Roj 1-010
Beachap, State lep. Jerry
2-082
Beect, C. 1. 1-025
Bectendorf, Selat tobs 2-149
Bechendorf, Seln robs 2-149
Beckeadort, Selad Iobs 2-151
Becterdorff, degbst, Sr.
3-255
Beckendorff, Carl, St. j-225
Becteaforff, j-281
Becker, J-197
Becker, 2-1JI
Becker, Idan 2-102
Becker, Charles D. 3-180
Becher, Mrs. Chatles D. J-180
Becker, Braest D. 1-004
Becher, Mrs. Srast D. 1-004
Becker, lerbert 日. 3-180
Bechnan, 3-228
Bechasa, J-212
Beckana, Beary 3-228
Bedara, 2-114
Beeblke, Leloj 2-132
Beethores, Daneachor 3-180
Bebreads, Dord 3-180
Behrens, 2-104
Bebreas, 1. 2-103
Bebrens, Bea 2-103
Behreas, Berabard 2-103
Bebreas, Jobanad 2-103
Bebreas, Jobsuad 2-105
Bebreas, Jobe 2-103
Bearess, Peiabardt 2-105
Behreas, Viltehiad froehser 2-103
Bebriag, Deiarich 2-106
Bebriag, Ilsa Babenicht 2-106
Beissaer, ${ }^{2-134}$
Benjani, Gilbert 6 . J-171
Denjain, learte L. 1-03s
Beajaris, Steplea X. 1-03J
Bensenas, Jochen 3-200

Beatz, Joha 2-144
Berger, Autosiz "foni" 3-200
Berger, Deata shler J-200
Berger, Josef J-200
Berger, latsy 3-205
Bergnaa, 2-13s
Bergana, Caroliae 2-13z
Berlia, Irving 1-021
Beradt, \&. 2-1]J
Beraer, Lotonia 3-200
Berser, Clara Belle 3-200
Berser, Blla 3-200
Derner, Bail 3-900
Berner, Felix J-200
Betaer, Fritz J-200
Berser, fritz, Jt. 3-200
Berner, Lottie $3-200$
Beraer, larguerite 3-900
Berner, lichard 3-200
Berner, Robert 3-200
Berabard, fhomes 1-031
Berobardt, sarah 1-010
Bertran, 2-136
Besetsaj, 2-114
Besserer, Prof. 1-029
Betharas, 2-136
Bererly, Ladrey 3-199
Bias, Jir 3-238
Bias, Jorna 3-232
Bickler, Jacob 1-028
Bickler, Martha Laugkritz
1-028
Bickler, xax 1-005
Bickler, hazie 1-005
Bickler, talph 1-005
Biels, Lanie Bejer 2-14
Biels, Canl Gas 2-144
Biels, Raben theodore 2-144
Biels, Stirley becilla 2-144
Bieseld, Rodolpa leopold j-171
Biesele, Joha J. 1-003
Biesele, hargoertie X. 1-003
Bigger, Jit J-201
Bilhartz, Billie R. 1-004
Bilhartz, Herbert J. 1-004
Billinek, 2-114
Biader, David J-172
Birnelia, 1-014
Bitterlf, Jease 3-209
Bitterly, Jease j-2ll
Bitterly, Jeane 1-004
sitterly, Locis 3-205
Bitterly, Locisl 3-205
Bittiager, lacy Forsej 2-145
Bittaer, Lotonia Rassel 2-114
Black, Fon 3-200
Blab, 3-214

84
Blaha, albert J., St. J-8l6 Blachard, Patricia 2-1J! Blaton, Laalee 3-217 Blantos, George lan arochan 3-219
Blanton, Larreace Card J-217
Blasig, lape 2-105
Blesi, 2-134
Blejl, Doasie 2-112
Blejl,Irs. Donie 2-112
Block, Join 1. 2-146
Block, Joha 1. 2-149
Blohe, 3-204
Boeer/Boer, $\quad$ J-210
Boedl, Bererly 2-090
Boellke, belog 2-109
Boeh, hrs. Leary J., Jr.
1-004
Boehre, 2-136
Boehae, otto 2-132
Boenig/Bonig, 2-136
boeniag, J-194
Boerger, George I. 1-004
Boese, carl 2-103
Boese, Charles 2-103
Boese, Iatherine Ieapel 2-103
Bohleasa, Frank 2-114
Bobliana, Ieary 2-114
Boblemas, Heary 2-120
Bobafall, Jobiata S. 1-004
Rohafalk, Jobaita 1-003
Bohifalk, Dr. Stalef I. 1-003
Bobse, 3-197
Bobse, Villian 3-179
Bolling, 3-213
Bosdi,Dr. Editd 1-003
Boanet, 2-134
Borchers, Jojee Pord 2-123
Borden, John 2-143
Boroff, like 1-003:
Bosse, 3-191
Bosraak, lana 2-105
Bosvas, Joha 2-105
bothe, J-197
Boocher, Barbara Yeakel 1-004
Bor, Clare 2-114
Boyd, Donaz 2-180
Bopdson, Leslie 2-112
Bopdson, Ponay 2-112
lopdston, fref 2-112
Bozena, Its. D. 2-135
Dracher, Iargaret 1-00s
Braden, 2-131
Brided, 2-135
Brdet, ladreds J-211
Breetigan, laba stoffers
3-180
Breatigan, Latonie J-180

Breatigan, Cristiaa J-180
Braetiga, David Villian 3-180
Braentigat, Darid P. 2-j30
Braentigan, Blfrieda Clara
3-180
Braentiga, stil 3-180
Draetigan, Enil Alfred J-180
Braestigan, Eeary J-180
Braeotigan, Johs 3-180
Braentiga, Jola Polifang
2-130
Breatigat, hax j-180
Breatigan, Max Villian 3-180
Braetigan, Sophie j-180
Braetiga, 0do J-180
Braeotiga, Vilter J-180
Bradt, Silert Gerhardt 2-112
Braadt, Bail 2-112
Bradt, George f. 2-112
Brand, George III 2-112
Bradt, Zernas J-196
Brasdt, Ilalda lobs 3-225
Brasdt, Bolda lobs j-221
Bradt, Tori J-205
Brandt, lyadall 3-205
Brasat, liame 2-112
Bradt, Roger 2-112
Bradt, ifteodore I. 2-112
Bradt, Villian \&. 2-112
Brashear, Isace Y. 3-221
Bravaer, Frank 2-087
Brabaock, Sophie 2-130
Breiteakanp,Dr. B. C. 1-004
Breiteakap, Dr. Bdrard C.
3-197
Breiteakap, Dr. Edyard C.
2-137
Brestears, Geraldiae 1-004
Brettiag, lgaes 1-038
Brettiag, Agaes 1-038
Bretzke, 2-134
Bright, David J-193
Briakejer, J-197
Brister, Louis 1-028
Broch, Jojce 3-228
brockstruch, Llopd D. 3-207
Brodbect, 2-104
Brodbeck, Jacob 3-2J!
Brodbeck, Jacob 2-095
Brodbeck, Shernaa 3-231
Brone, Itragott 3-206
Brosee, iragott 1-038
Broocks, late 1-048
Drcoks, Perry bjea 3-179
Brons, I. P. 3-199
Brova, Aydeas 2-127
Braderbof, thou 1-034

Dreening, Instia Junes 2-124
Brueniag, lit 2-14
Brteaisg, 10a 2-124
Bruser, 2-136
Brate, 3-212
Brase, George Caristoph 3-209
Braake, 2-136
Braneers, 1-034
Brias, Briad 3-205
Bras, fred J. J-205
Breas, freida Bell 3-205
Braas, Belea Doekuna 3-205
Brans, Sonay 3-205
Brans, Soptie 3-205
Bryant, he Barl 2-128
Buctol2, Burbara 2-098
Buck, J-191
Bect, Peter 3-925
Buech, Gerard 3-184
Becch, Gerhard 2-085
Brech, IEgeborg J-184
Buecker, Bernard 3-184
brecker, Bernard 2-085
Buedrer, fi. 2-105
Brearing, 3-213
Belgerin, Pastor David L.
3-196
Buate, 2-135
burgdorf, 2-104
Burgdorf, beopold 2-103
Burgdorf, Xias 2-103
Burger, J-197
Borges, tichard J. 1-003
Burges, Its. Richard J. 1-00J
Borkbardt, 2-130
Borneister, 3-197
Buraeister, 3-197
Buras, Arthar 1-056
Buras, Dogglas 2-112
Buras, 8diond 2-112
Baras, Mrs. Gos 2-112
Bers, Gos 2-112
Butschell, Itherine J-211
Basch, Peter 3-200
Besh, Presideat 3-182
Best, Dell J-180
Bosh, Yoodror J-180
Buxtenper, j-29]
Doxteaper, 2-152
Byal, Jasc 2-093
Cabill, Patricia 3-211
Cain, G. O. 1-228
Calfa, Priae kia. Kariad
3-233
Canpbell, 3-224
Carlson, Jobasje J-201
Carnack, Boanie $2-086$
Carack, George 2-086

Carpeater, 1-038
Carpenter, P. I. 1-038
Carroll, D. Bailey 1-048
Carter, Blizabeth Danier
3-218
Carter, Rosily 1-010
Carter, Sassel fraaces J-218
Casod, Latat 2-111
Cason, Ialdiae 2-111
Castro, Heari 2-095
Cazden, Robert e. 1-034
Chadler, Darid 3-205
-Chapana, Ieith 2-098
Charlton, for 1-048
Charlton, Pon 2-128
Childs, Bonaie j-305
Chilstron, let. Berbert 1-05s
Chisan, Jolie Orbad J-305
Chrisma, Richard d. 1-034
Clart, Allea B. 1-034
Clarl, Gladgs E. 2-131
Clark, I. B. 2-115
Clereats,Goreraor Bill 3-193
Cobb, Sisford I. 2-145
Cocke, lep. 1. T. 3-224
Cockress, lajor 8. 3-201
Codert, Kaxine Irveger 3-209
Coffee, Phonas 3-300
Coggesball, Joha $4.1-034$
Coba, Marjorie 3-204
Coldbat, Peter Filsoa 2-110
Coldreves, 3-194
Collias, lanetta 2-131
Coltris, Brian 2-087
Conbs, Jaoe Schuarz j-210
Conaer, Gajpel 1-048
Conaer, Gajael 2-134
Conaer, Pabl 2-091
Conrad, Vilbelaias 1-051
Conray, Y. G. J-180
Coavay,Mrs. I. G. 3-180
Conzea, Iathleen Yeils 1-038
Cook, Richard J-231
Cooper, 2-135
Cope, Gail 1-002
Copes, 3-226
Coraforth, Srelya G. 1-004
Cosper, \&daz Lnderegg J-209
Covert, Maxine Irueger J-180
Craaz, lgaes Iessler 1-053
Craaz,hrs. Gas J-199
Cranz, Gestar 1-053
Creavelge, Mrs. Yilber B.
1-004
Creavelge, Dr. Vilbar e. 1-004
Cristofich, Catherige 1-004
Cristofich, Cathy 8. 2-134
Crose, lathy 2-084

5

Collen, Rogl 1oy 1-053
Calaore, charles 1-030
Conaibgha, Prad P. 1-004
Cuniaghan, Felea S. 1-004
Copples, Capt. 3-224
Carty, Carl P. 1-004
Corry, buke 3-205
catrer, Bily fouray 1-003
Dabbs, Dr. Jack litre] 3-197
Dabbs,Dr. Jack latrey 2-137
Dailey, vichael l. 1-009
Dalchan, 2-104
Dacedag, lana 2-103
Dalchas, Charlotte 2-103
Dolchan, Edrard 2-103
Dalchan, Saneel 2-103 Dilchao, Lt. Sandel 2-104
Dalchar, I. f. 2-104 Dilleger, fibecla 4. 1-003
Baneran, yoraay G. 1-004 Dasgers, Rer. Gottleib 1-054
Dubbech, fias E. J-230 De Sica, Pittorio 3-204 De Pos, Jalise E. 1-004 De Yos, Robp E. 1-004
DeBerry, Fredericha 3-174
DeBerry, Frederick 3-201
DeBerry, Frederich 1-003
DeBerry, Irederickz 2-165
DeBerry, Janes 1-003
DeFos, Jalins 8. 3-208
Defitt, Catherine J-202
Deathrage, David 1-017
Dedeke, Bdrard 1. 1-003
Dehli, Joyce 2-11!
Deiler, J. hasao 2-181
Denel, Brald 3-205
Depve, Jesse Jickolas 2-133
Dert, 4. Abo 1-004
Dettra, B. R. 1-00it
Dettaab, Mrs. B. R. 1-004
Difallo, yict 2-087
Dieboid, 2-136
Diebold, Sum 2-132
Dielnana, Barbara 1-002 Dielrana, Batbara lan 2-087
Dieleana, Barbara las 2-165
Dielama, leo II. J. 2-114
Dierts, 2-134
Dierks, Dlice 2-108
Dierks, Mrg. Yillard 1-001
Dietert, like 2-093
Dietz, Suzeme 2-019

Dippel, Pelorie 2-111
Birks, Bddie 1. 2-126
Bix, Otto 2-084

Doecke, Ieran 2-132
Doecke, Joha 2-132
Doebse, Fred 1-003
Doebse, Mrs. Fred 1-003
Dolgener, 2-104
Dolgeaer, Legost 2-103
Dolgener, Kiaa 2-103
Dolma, Chatlie 3-200
Donohoe, Joha 2-096
Doss, 2-131
Dor, Jates R. 1-034
Dor, Janes R. 1-034
Douler, Lurrence $3-204$
Dovas, Kertie 2-142
Drejer, 3-197
Drejer, Bal Prabllia Perreaot 3-212
Driver, Dos 2-087
Droste, Albert C. 2-130
Drought, Frank \%. 1-016
Druck, Deiniger 1-034
Dukes, boraette 1-005
Duabar, Irabel 2-093
Dobbra, 1. I. 2-093
Dong, 2-104
Deag, banz 2-102
Dueg, Johana 2-102
Doage, 2-104
Doak, 2-104
Dask, laad Elisabeth Ienpel
2-103
Dat, Prederika 2-103
Duak, John 2-103
Duak, Marylea Iroesctike 1-004
Darnbagh, Dr. Dosald E. 2-092
Durst, Christive 2-145
Darst, Joha Christian 1-054
Durst, Joan 2-145
Durst, Melsoo D. 1-003
Raget, Jases Gregory 3-218
Sbeling, Krs. Fred 3-199
Bbers, 2-104
Sbers, Berthz 2-105
Sbers, Reary 2-105
Ebers, Hernan 2-103
Ebers, laria Pelz 2-103
Sbers, Villias I. 2-102
Ebers, Villian I. 2-103
Bbiager, Rev. Johan 2-137
Echerarria, Darid 2-120
Beherarria, David 2-120
Echerarria, Stephasie 2-120
Eckernam, 2-131.
Eckerana,col. C. \&. 1-003
Eckerman, Irs. C. B. 1-003
Eckernabs, Chester 2-131
Edards, Charles 2-102
Sdvards, Margaret 3-214

Bggelisg, 2-147
Ehler, ler. Chareace C. 2-123
Sicheaborst, J-197
Eichoft, Jerges 2-124
Sicholt, Friederick J-171
sicholt, Deary J-179
Eiadas, Carolige schaidt
2-133
Eiahaf, Mrs. Llvia P. 2-132
Eiahal, Yeldbela 2-13J
Siastein, llbert j-182
Eiselbach, 2-104
Eisebbach, laton 2-102
Eiseabach, latoo 2-103
Eiseabach, Christias 2-102
Eiseabach, Bres Ebers 2-103
siseabach, Villiaz 2-102
Biseabart, Dr. 1-017
E1-Beheri, Mary 3-201
E1-Beberi, Mary h. 1-003
Bl -Beheri, Mary 1-008
El-Beheri, Mary 8. 1-068
E1-Beheri, Xary 2-075
El-Beberi, Mary 2-087
Bl-Beheri, Mary 2-165
B1-Behri, lary 3-173
E1-Bebri, Lary 3-174
Bl-Behri, Mary 1-006
Eliot, f.S. 3-204
Blleaberger, 2-130
Suerson, Ralph Yajdo 1-034
Bestoff, 3-197
Bagbrock, 2-131
Bogbrock, 2-135
Engeltardt,Dr. 日. I. 1-003
Engelaardt, Irs. B. i. 1-003
Engelhardt, Dr. Joba E. 1-003
Bagelbardt, Mrs. Joba E. 1-003
Sagelking, Villiat 1-055
Eaglaban, Vikolas 2-105
Srhardt, Dr. Yillias 2-123
Brichsot, Charlotte 1-038
Brast, Caroline J-183
Brast, Eggen 3-206
Erast, frederick 2-087
Srast, Friedrich j-183
Erast, friedrich 3-183
Srast, Friedrich 2-117
Brast, Berina J-183
Rrost, Robert 1-038
Bscada, 3-202
Ssse, J-194
Essliager, Deat 8. 1-038

Etzel, Selad $i-142$
Brerton, George 3-207
Svias, Hell 3-201
Briag, flooids E. 1-004

Pabiaste, J-197
Fabreakap, 3-197
Fijkes, Jarrett 2-112
fajkes, Jasor 2-112
Fallier, 3-21]
forentold, Pal 1-05s
Farner, Durid 1-047
Parier, Jases 2-082
Fisel, 2-135
Faxel, Joba 2-102
Febliaber, 2-13]
Felixauller, Coarad 2-084
Feaske, lias 1-038
Fetteran, Villias 1-034
Fickel, Jobzas 2-105
fichel, villian 2-105
Fiebig, Alice 2-112
Fiebig, Brshiae 2-112
Fiege, lugusta 1-05!
Piege, Carl 1-051
Fiege, Elizabeth Yecker 1-051
Fiege, leor 1-051
Siege, Lorise 1-051
Fiege, Lodrig 1-051
Fiege, Kiana 1-051
Fiege, Rosalie 1-051
fields, loss C. 2-150
fields, loss C. 2-151
filbs, P. Villias 3-216
fischer, J-199
Fischer, 1-034
Flasche, 2-129
Flosche, Eail 2-090
Flusche, Joseph 2-090
Flasche, Sister Kary Lanbertine 2-090
flasche, Olpe 2-090
Poerster, Jicob 3-211
Pontenet, Lerri 2-120
fordtran, Charles 3-183
Fordtras, Charles 2-117
Fordtraa, Charles 2-117
Forest, lost ler. Joha d.
2-114
Forester, sood harie J-210
Poster, Jane 3-201
Foster, Jane 2-074
Foster, Jase 2-075
Foster, dape 2-081
Foster, Jit 2-081
Fox, lade 3-301
Fox, lane 1-008
Fox, lone 2-074
Prask, Elizabeth 2-111
Proake, 3-197
Prabke, 3-204
Pranke, Crgstal 3-205
Prake, Ieria 3-205

## 86

Prabs, Ges lagost 2-143
Prats, Johs IAdrer 2-143
Frakts, latha Bthel 2-143
Frasts, Dease Elizabeti 2-14]
fraats, licholas llish 2-14]
Praz, 2-104
fran, Catheriae 2-103
fras, Peter 2-103
fraz, Peter 2-104
Prase, Radoll b. 2-130
Frederich, carl sition 2-130
freena, B. I. 1-016
Fitenas, Marion \&. 1-003
Freenin, larthe Dots 2-150
Freenas, llarthe Doty 2-150
freema, Karth Doty $2-151$
Freena, Martha Doty 2-151
Frendeaberg, bydia 2-112
frendeabarg, daes 2-112
Freadeaborg, doha 2-112
Preodeaborg, yettie \%ae 2-112
Prendeabarg, Salar 2-118
friedocborsh], father 2-114
friesenbaha, Beraice 1-004
friesenaba, lilbur 1-004
fritz, 3-191
fritz, franz J-255
Pritze, Pictor 0. 1-003
fritze, Mrs. Pictor 0. 1-003
Prizzell, 8obert I. 1-034
Froebser, Estelle 1-004
Frf, Moni Vitt j-180
[ry, Imoni Pitt 2-138
Fry, Peread 2-132
Sachs, Otto b., Jr. 1-004
Pocts, hrs. Otto b., Jr. 1-004
Pochs, Pirgiaia 2-111
Pueblberg, J-197
Polterian, 1-017:
Fondenberg, 2-135
fuadeabarg, 2-135
Pook, 1-034
Potterer, Brhard 1-045
Potterer, Erbard 2-091
Gabrial, Clyde 3-205
Gabrial, Georgie 3-205
Gabriel, Ieraer 3-230
Gage, Calria 2-102
Galioskj,Dr. Rans 2-129
Garlipp, 2-135
Gart, Robin 3-232
Garrett, Dapboe Daltos 1-006
Gary, Bill Gast $\left._{13}\right\}^{2-126}$
Gastama, Beiarich 2-146
Gastana, Eeiarich 2-147
Gastada, Beiarich 2-150

Gatlin, Dan 2-112
Gat, lart 2-087
Cebert, Gleadz larie 2-141
Gelartes, J-197
Geiber, Pastor Christian
1-055
Geick, J-197
Geisecke, George Caristian
Sriedrick 2-130
Geisecke, Jobs Villian 2-130
Geissler, J-197
Gelste, Reverad Pbilip J.
J-196
Geascher, Bass-Dietrich
3-233
Gerety, irods s. 2-138
Cerfers, Dlice I. 1-004
Gerfers, Llice 1-006
Gerlach, lisgr. 2-114
Gerlach, Rev. Ieory 2-114
Gerstada, 3-212
Geve, J-214
Cexe, Clester J-211
Geoe, Chester Villian 1-038
Geve, Sthel Bader 3-219
Gere, Bthel Rader 3-227
Ceace, Ethel Raser 2-149
Choraley, Jay 2-087
Gibbs, Cbristopber C. 1-034
Giesberg,Dr. Robert I. 1-004
Giese, J-194
Giesecke, 1-035
Giesecke, Charles 1-037
Giesecke, Charles 1-037
Ciesecke, Charles 2-130
Giesecke, Bdyard 1-036
Giesecke, Frederict 4. 2-130
Giesecte, fritz 1-036
Ciesecke, Jeary (Iearick)
2-130
Giesecke, lead Bolstora 2-130
Giesecke, hary I. 2-130
Giesecke, Pillias 2-130
Giessen, lagast 1-029
Giessea, Bur poa Roseaberg
1-029
Gilbert, 1-034
Giles, Sharom 1-015
Gillespie, Bank 2-120
Girad, Mary offer 1-004
Girad, hary ofter 2-129
Gish,Di. fed 3-201
Gish, fed 1-022
Gisk, fed 2-074
Gish, fed 2-129
Gish, Ibeodore 1-008
Gish, Dr. Theodore 6. 1-020
Gittiager, Gens J-180

Gittinger, lirs. Gere J-180
Gitrama, Braso 2-111
Claeser, Christiaaz Iearietta
leiaz 2-132
Claeser, Johana Ebrealried
2-112
Clazier, In 1. J-216
Gleab, Jerry 1-03s
Glober, Barbara 3-211
Cloft, 3-212
Cloff, Bnilie J-309
Glueck, Hlioz J-2ll
Clveck, frabes 3-211
Glveck, Prank, Jr. J-211
Glyeck, Iernad 3-211
Gloeck, Mary 3-211
Gloect, Xatilds J-211
Glreech, paliaa j-211
Glieech, Theodore 3-211
Glueck/Glinct/Glick, fraaz
3-211
Goebel, Patsy 2-126
Goebel, Dr. Dlrich 3-188
Goebel,Dr. Olrich J-190
Goeth, Karie ron loseaberg
1-029
Goeth, hax 1-029
Goettges, olf 2-Ill
Gogolin, Beiter 2-098
Goblle, Dr. Karvia B. J-180
Gollte, Mrs. Marrio . J. J-180
Gohlke, Reiser 3-202
Gold, itheresa J-174
Gold, fberesa 3-174
Gold, fheress 3-193
6old, itheress J-195
Gold, Pberesa 3-201
6old, Pheresa J-207
Gold, Pberesa 3-223
Cold, itheresa 1-047
Gold, Pheress 2-125
Gold, fleresi 1-128
Gold, fleresa 2-129
Gold, fheresz 2-145
Gold, theress 2-152
Gold, Ftheress 2-165
Goldede, Andia a. 2-142
Goldra, fritz Eerus 2-142
Coldada, Pabl Beriab 2-142
Genpers, Saneel J-306
Goodsos, B. Y. 3-178
Goodson, lelinda 3-178
Corbactor, nikbail J-172
Gordon, Marleae 2-086
Goree, Barid 3-200
Goreschel, Bdaz 1-004
Gossett, Elaine lis 2-144
Gott, Dr. Clpde I. 1-003

Gottfried, Marie Ienas 3-228
Cottified, Xarie lemas 2-151
Cottschalk, fal 3-201
Cottschalk, Pall 2-074
G031, 2-084
Grabs, Charles P., Jt. 1-004
Crucy, David B. II 2-139
Greber, J-191
Graeter, Bererly 2-12
Greter, Bilda 3-204
Greter, Bilde 3-182
Graeter, Joel 2-124
Gral, Oscar Maria 1-020
Graberry, leo 3-205
Grabberry, Peaette Orba 3-205
Crast, Geacral D. 8. 2-080
Grat,General Dljsses 5 .
1-010
Grazor, Dlrike 2-10s
Greebon, Cladys 2-049
Greeboa, Irs. Iernit 2-049
Greeaburg, Cleneatiba 3-209
Gregs, D. 2-151
Griffia, Mrs. P. f. 1-003
Griggs, Joan 1-001
Grimes, 8. B. 2-103
Griadrod, Barry C. 1-604
Gribdrod, sylvia 1-004
Gripsby, Iilliae 2-147
Grispe, Frederick 2-146
Grispe, Priedericke 2-146
Groeber, fraaz 1-055
Groeschel, Sdar Iraner 2-141
Groeschel, Lodrig 1-004
Grona, dsta 1-022
Groschte, Lovis 2-147
Gross, leonard 1-034
Grosseado, Dr. Valter 2-092
Grost, George 2-084
Grotearath, Roth 2-092
Groves, Alvial. 2-10s
Grae, Ethel Rader 1-038
Gruelich, 3-213
Groelich, 3-213
Grabines, 1-034
Groovald, Igathe lee 3-210
Graviald, Georg 3-206
Groseadorf, Christiae lartong
2-104
Grosendori, friedrich 2-10!
Grosendorf, friedrich 2-105
Groseadorf, Beiarich 2-102
Grasendorf, Heiarich 2-104
Grasendorf, Reiarich 2-105
Gruseadorf, Beary 2-104
Gaeather, Carl Bilatr 1-013
Goeather, Broest 4. 1-003

Greather，Ars．Eriest 1．1－003
Genther，Sudy 1－018
Gremt，Ieary 3－201
Guerra，leary 1．1－008
Guerra，Heary 2－074
Germ，Ienty 2－081
Goerra，Eeory 2－081
Guerra，lary han loona ford
2－082
Goetteran，Bdis 2－115
Goetternas，Berada 2－115
Goraserich，Marj 3－183
Gory，fother 2－114
Gothrie，Bob 2－082
Gothrie，Inez A．1－003
Gpsi，Gregor 3－172
las，Earl C．1－034
llase，2－136
alabel，Charles 3－218
Babel，Charlie fred，Jr．
J－218
Babel，Charlie Fred J－218
Sabel，Eun lothe 3－218
Rabel，billie Enilie Ioerta
3－218
Fabel，Rotert J－218
Eabenicht，Beiarich Rudolph
2－106
Eabenicat，Beoas 2－106
Habenicht，leary 1．1－004
Eabeaicht，Jobaba Eeanisg 2－105
Babenicht，Olrike 2－105
Badt，2－142
Baba，Joseph 1－031
Haten，Jephi 3－181．
Eale，Zorgas 3－205
Hale，Morga J－205
Ballet，Jacob 3－178
Haller，lary 3－178
Batif，2－104
Banff，hana Blisabeth Doat 2－103
Harff，Lasd Ludrig 2－103
Harff，logast 2－103
Baeff，Lugeste 2－104
Baff，Caroline 2－013
Banff，Christian 2－103
Hanter，Dr．Tarl，Jr．J－190
Eaed，Patsy 3－170
land，Patsy Dearnal 1－004
Band，Rats］1－004
Baney，Juck 3－232

Hasen，I．L．1－038
Banos，George 3－205
Baass，Jerty J－205

Bans，Paige 3－205
Haus，Piola 3－205
Dans，Viola 3－205
lurbaggh，1－034
Bards，J－224
Harrison，Prazces 3－174
Marrisoa，Praces 3－174
Barrison，fraces lieiaer 1－003
Barrisoa，Prazces 1－004
Barrisoa，Fraces 1－007
Iartisoa，Fraces 2－165
Barrison，fracis J－201
Barrisob，Fracis Deiket
1－017
firrorigg，Prat 2－13S
Ilarroring，Lary 2－135
Harter，1－034
Bartuan，Jeas 2－090
Sartuas，Joba 2－079
Hartua，Johs 2－090
lartuas，Joba 2－129
Bartama，Aggust Friedirich
Carl 1－210
Hattuan，C．6．3－224
Jartaan，Charlotte 2－133
Fartana，Cleaeas George Leris
Gottlieb 3－210
Gartama，Eerazam 3－210
Eartaza，Ilass 3－184
Bartazas，Karie j－210
Hartann，Xichael J－211
Bartema，Kichael 2－133
Hartasa，Redolf 3－211
Hartugg，Lodrig 2－104
Hasse，Fredericha 2－091
Hasse，Eeiarich 2－091
Iasskarl，Captaia beif 1.
3－171
Hasskrerl，Rotert 1．3－111
Bastaj，Jackie 1－002
Batch，Jeberiete 3－180
Eadet，Probad Diasa 2－144
Hasborst，Banswolf J．J－I84
Baschild，larl J－230
Haose，Caris 3－241
Sareaacht，Maria Deithers
2－016
Eavenicht，Has 2－106
Bavenicht，Hars 2－106
Bavian，Rosina 3－199
Rajes，Jilliaa 2－124
Death，hapor Patrick 2－109
Beberle，Barry 3－232
Becker，Friedrich 1－015
Beckean，J－197
Hedrich，Vilhelnis 3－211
Bedt，ottiege 2－142

Iehrosth，Felea L．1－003
leibalt，Jeal C．2－126
leidrict，Bdrie C．2－049
Peidrich，Edrio C．2－019
Beil，Juj J－205
Deil，Jerry 3－205
Feiner，Ervia 1－017
deisen，Rubert 1－003
leiaold，Meghaa 3－205
Beiarich，2－114
Ieiarich，Jobaan 2－103
Reiaz，Johaaaz 2－132
Eelbich，1．1－026
Selbich，Volfgagg J．J－206
Ielbich，Ioligaog 1－024
felbich，Volfgasg 1－025
lelbich，Yoligaag 1－034
Held，Betty J－332
Reld，Jin 3－238
Heller，laod roake 2－120
Ielpert，ulbert 3－223
lelpert，Banz j－223
Belsel，Brpae 2－087
Relrig，j－213
Beapel，2－102
Heapel，2－104
Beapel，Christias 2－103
Beapel，C．1．2－103
Beapel，George L．2－103
Beapel，Johana Reriana 2－103
Ierpel，Sophie Iranter 2－103
leaderson，ultred 3－199
Beaderson，Mrs．Lloid 2－114
Beaderson，sally 3－199
Benerson，Hoid 2－114
Heake，3－191
Beake，Marrea a．3－206
Seakel，Conrid，Jr．1－004
Seaneburg，Piz E．3－180
Heasech，Iike 1－004
Beabecke，j－209
Heasecke／Benseke，Joseph
3－211
Feaseke，Lasa Karie 3－211
Heaseke，Conrad J－21！
Reasete，Blizabeth Sophia
3－211
Eemote，Eraol 3－211
Headek，Beary 3－211
Hesseke，Joseph，Jr．3－211
Beabeke，Kary Theresa 3－211
Heanersdort，Carl D．2－133
Heaniog，leakea 2－106
Heasiag，Dorothea Ilare 2－10s
Beacibg，Raas Erast 2－106
Beaniag，Joham feiarich
2－106
Beasiog，Sophie Ritter 2－106

Heascheid，Mayor fed 3－193
Jeare，Calian 1．1－003
Beare，lirs．Calpio 8．1－003
Berberig，olto 3－196
Berbort，2－130
Berbrig，Cyotbia vilford 1－003
Eerdler，Delores 2－180
Herrana，Gotllied 3－178
Bernam／Berrazan，Bnilie
2－131
Herciad／Eerraana，Pilbela
2－131
Derns，lillian 2－105
Herold，2－136
Rerriana，2－135
Berrmana，Eberbard 1－004
Herreang，Enil 2－1］！
Herstberg，Theodore 1－038
Eertzberg，B．f．B．－ 1 －004
Sesselnejer，BEn 3－196
Bester，Hellese 1－00s
Benss，Pheodor 1－034
Heje，E．1．1－055
leje，Gertardt 1－004
Beje，Mrs．Gerbardt．1－004
Eeye，日．J．1－055
Rejae，Elise 2－128
日icks，Blizateth Hitschke
3－180
■ierbolzer，j－194
Bilbig，$\quad 2-134$
日ilbrich，Bill 3－205
Bilbrich，Billj Raj 3－205
Bilbrich，billy J－205
Bilbrich，Soe J－205
Eill，Rep．Vilsod Y．1－004
Bille，Curistive 2－103
gillegeist，Dord Lobs 3－226
Eillegeist，Dord Sobs 3－221
Eillegeist，Dord Iobs 3－228
Eilligeist，djolph 2－150
Billje，f．2－121
Eillua，Carl 3－199．
Billade－kisegas，3－199
lines，2－104
Bioes，Bicbard 2－087
Biaze，llbert 2－Ill
Biaze，Alad 2－111
linze，Delphise 2－111
Binze，Elno 2－111
Biaze，Enad 2－111
Einze，Gostar 2－111
Biare，Seariette Teadland
2－111
Hiaze，Berma 2－111
Biaze，Beraad 2－111
Biaze，Ierait 2－111

88
linee，Lant 2－111
linze，bosise 2－111
Siaze，Pal 2－111
liaze，losa bee $2-111$
girschfield，$\quad 2-104$
Dirtz，fed 1－022
lockrild，X．J－199
lodde，J－191
Roelscher，j－193
loelscher，j－223
Hoelscher，2－152
Boelscher，Jolis 2－142
Roerder，Dirk 1－038
Bolelseier，J－191
Hoffan，2－104
Botfana，Bdoard 2－103
Holfan，Paline 2－103
Dolinan，Sara larie 2－120
Boffad，Paleatia 3－171
Hoffana，Chris 2－180
Roffana，$\quad 2-134$
Boiscbaieder，3－197
logg，In 2－116
Boldboses，Heary 3－210
Hollas，2－114 Bollas，Adolpt 2－120 Bollas，Edan 2－120 Holle，3－197
Solloraj，Jesse E．1－004
Bollory，ilts．Jesse E．1－004
801ab，Jerry 3－205
Hol2，litolass 2－101
Hoaborg，3－194
donitzsch，2－134
Donecker，Brich 3－172
Bonecker，Brich 3－i72
：looper，Herbert 2－115
loppes，3－224
Iora，Iilbelsine 2－130
Boraberger，lase roa
Poseaberg 1－029
Dorrath，frasde 2－112
Dosteler，Joha 1．1－034
Boster，Col．Charles S．2－125
loster，Charles F．2－140
Boting，2－104
lonse，ada falley colena J－224
Loose，Aanie 3－224
loose，Christopleer 3－24
Boase，Christopher 3－224
Eoase，Elizabeth 3－224
Bonse，Frederiche lillbela
l－234 locse，Iarriet dane Lgoes
3－224
Honse，Ieary J－224
lonse，Laora J－224

Hoose，Murthe 3－224
Ronse，lary 3－224
Honse，01a lias 3－224
losse，lobert J－224
lonse，Sarab Elizatetd Porell
3－284
Ionse，Yillian Frederick
3－224
Hoostor，Sas 2－095
Lovard，Dale 3－205
Bovard，Margaret das Bovard 2－150
Rovared，Kargaret aad 2－151
Bojt，Professor Giles 1－032
Buber，Ilbert 3－219
Bober，Bertha Bailie Poerth
3－219
Bober，Caristiaa 1．3－219
Buber，Elsie 3－219
Raber，Eraest J－219
Bober，Joho 3－219
Buber，Olto 3－219
Bubet，panl 3－219
Bober，Iillie 3－219
Bodgias，Jeff 2－087
Bedler，Rerbert，Jr．1－003
Avebiager，Albert 1－018
Hrebiager，Lanz Behriag 1－018
Iuebinger，Aatos 1－018
Brebiager，Christiaa 1－018
Beebinger，Bailie Orth 1－018
Beebinger，Srao 2－136
Haebiager，Srast 1－018
Huebiager，fraak 1－018
Auebigger，Jobn 1－018
Buebiager，Joba 1－018
Ioebinger，【atharina 【axepper
1－018
Enebiager，Mgrtle 1－018
Rivebiager，Ifrtle 2－136
Heebiager，laproad 1－018
Hoebinger，Rodolph 1－018
Buebiager，Mujae 1－018
Evebiager，Villie 1－018
Hoeske，Borst J－180
lieste，Pirgiaia 3－180
Bulser，Cbristian 3－230
Bolser，Iarl－Ieiaz 3－230
Good，J－212
Fund，8．3－224
Bosdanasea，Cbristiza 3－210
Buadhasea，Caristiaa 3－224
Boadhaosen，Frederich Villian
3－210
Eqodbassea，Jobana Peter 3－210
Hondt，Mrs．Vichael 2－098
Boat，billiza J－219

Seat，lichael 2－098
Int，Vilej Beajuia j－2is
Inat，Vilbelnise Barnestine
Soerth 3－219
Boat，Villie 3－219
Burtz，fieo J－230
Botchiason，8．P．1－038
Isiog，Charles 2－1］J
Jactsoa，Dr．J．8．2－087
Jucobs，Janes I．1－046
Jieg！，2－135
Jigge，2－134
Jabl，Friedrich Ladvig 3－181
Jabn，friedrich Ladrig 1－015
Jabate，J－197
Jdhas，2－138
Jates，Dr．Borothy 3－188
Jarrell，Iatheriae Orbas
3－205
Jeliaek，Elfriede 1－03！
Jeatz，Joba B．1－038
Jeschite，Jorg 1－039
Jeste，J－191
Jesperson，Beth 2－087
Jockosch，Joliss Y．1－003
Joble，2－104
Jobason，Rildegard Biader
2－109
Jobason，byadon 2－082
Jobasoa，Dr．Shelia 3－170
Jones，3－178
Jones，Jazaita I．2－13！
Joost，3－213
Jordan，Dr．Gilbert J．1－004
Jordan，ferry G．3－176
Jordan，ferry G．1－037
Joseph，Idan Eeriana 2－129
Jogg，2－134
Jorgens，3－199
Jorgens，Courad 3－211
Just，Kicheel 1－034
Jostran，Dorothy B．1－030
Joork，lary 3－2ll
【adord，2－134
reechele，lovise J－196
Iablden，Cbarles 2－112
Ialdea，Mrs．Ierves 2－112
Tala，lond J－180
laba，lisa 1－004
Taba，lisa 1－053
daiser，Betty 1－004
【diser，Billj J．1－004
lalbor，3－197
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { talich，} \\ \text { ralich，} \\ \text { Clara } & 2-115 \\ 2-115\end{array}$
talich，Clara $2-115$
ralig，Ben I． $1-003$
Ianeier，Dr．Beiaz－Olrich
2－099

【anlah，Ieary 1－019
Laupf leil，Latheriae j－205
【anpt deil，Paleatine 3－205
【anpfoefret，Vilter 1－024
Saphoefaer，I．1－026
Iaphoefier，bilter 1－004
Tapploefnet，Valter D．1－025
【aphoefner，Valter D．1－039
［apboefinet，Vilter D．2－08］
laphoelner，Illter D．1－034
【анрад，J．日．1－010
【anpazas，2－080
Latpaba， $2-134$
Tapizana，Joba 2－079
laper，2－13S
largl，Roll 3－180
larnei，3－205
【arsch，Charles J－199
Tasaer，Eruestive 2－143
lissler，J－209
bessler，2－134
Rottaer，2－104
Iattoer，Adelbeidt 2－105
Sattoer，Angost 2－103
lattoer，logost 2－105
Intteer，Jobzana 2－105
Tatteer，Joseph 2－105
【attaer，Josephine 2－103
【attoer，Labrea 1－006
Iattoer，Labrea $4.1-038$
rattaer，hatilda 2－105
Iattier，Pobert 2－105
Tavifada，Jolius 1－038
Tavfam，Peter 1－034
laulfubs，2－143
taolfos， $3-212$
raulfos，looz 2－143
【aglfos，Bertha lonise $3-143$
fanlfos，Elsie Ireas 2－144
【ablfos，Fred Augost 2－144
【alles，fredrict Julius
2－142
Salfos，fredrick Jolios
2－143
laolfas，Fredrick Jolias 2－143
Iablfos，fresrick Jolios 2－144
Idolfos，fried 2－143
【anlfos，Gustar 2－143
［dolfos，Rertas 2－14］
【ablios，Jerada 2－143
faolfos，fertha Caroliod
Teiser 3－217
taolfos，Bertha Carolise
Peiser 3－218
tanlfos，dinaje 3－217
daulfos，Joilaud 2－142
tadfas，Joilatas sitz 2－144
tatifos，larie 2－144 laulfus，Murie Ean 2－144 Lablits，lary lat 3－817
Tablfas，lury 2－113
【ables，lury 2－14\}
Latins，o＇fillie Juilaba 3－217
lablus，O＇fillie Jailana
2－144
Taulfes，Oshar Jalias 2－144
laulfos，otto 2－143
Laulfus，otto leary 2－141
talfus，fael Julios 3－211
tanlfus，pall Julius 3－218
talfas，thal Jolios 2－142
tanlias，pan Jolias 2－14\}
tallins，Pal Jalias 2－141
Sablens，Losald Joe 2－144
luass，2－135
Seil，Barthat 1－038
Teilberg，2－104
Seilers，1．8．2－081
Seller，1－034
Telley，leo J－229
felliser，J－194
Tenplia，Carolja 1－002
leaneds，Jobs P．1－058
［earedj，Joha P．2－124
［eaned］，ioby 3－205
Ieasing，2－130
Iesiorthey，Charles 2－002
Iera，Berana 2－114
［ert，Sanall 3－224
Ierstger，E．2－118
tertzschrar，Gas 3－209
lessler，Bdanad 1－053
Iettler，J－197
liecke，3－197
Siefer，fruat J－171
（iefer，lichael 2－124
tieke，lla 2－111
tieke，Ieary 2－111
tieke，Ida laj 2－111
【ieke，Larej 2－111
tielam，2－104
［ielada，Dr．Chester P．3－214
rielaa，sal 2－105
ties，Bistop J．C．2－103
Iilbora，Helea Ione 2－127
【ilian，pastor Joha 2－105
Iillea，daita Schaedes 1－004
filpatrick，Beperly 2－120
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 〔igg，Beth } & 2-1] 1 \\ \text { 〔ibg，Joka } & 3-224\end{array}$
tiag，Ierry 2－089
Tieg，Captaia Rjchard 1－010
【issiager，Beary 3－182

【issmas，Ella 2－14
Ildeveain，3－213
Ilappeobach，1－005
Ilarser，J－181
tlans，Rollie tantion 2－141
Ilass，otto 2－144
Clans，lajroid 2．2－141
［larenas，3－205
Xleiber，bes 2－120
Ileia，Jacob J－206
Lleia，Dr．Lodoll a．1－009
Cliatsiek，Debbie 1－004
Eloberdanz，fitothy d．j－a05
Taabe，Dr．Voligang 2－128
toupke，wake I．1－03！
Iseschk，lorias K．1－004
【aeschk，Mornan K．2－135
Laetschle，2－135
Taeaper，Berard J－216
Laenper，Berard f．J－217
【aeapper，Sogene 2－049
Saeapper，Spelyı Soltoa J－204
Soeupper，Brelpa 1－019
Taerpper，Srelja boltoa 2 －049
Inispel，0laf 3－172
Suittle，Illter Illea 3－221
Ibortz，1－034
Saosel，I．1－038
Tanama，Altert 3－223
Iobs，Adolpd Filhelı 2－147
［abs，ldolph 2－147
Sobs，Dorother Iejer J－227
Sobs，Dorothed Reper 2－146
Cobs，Dorother 2－147
robs，Dorother nejer 2－148
Sobs，Dorotber lejer 2－149
Tobs，Borother 2－151
Lobs，Dorothea Nejer 2－151
Tobs，Frederic 2－150
Iobs，Frederick J－225
Bobs，Erederick 3－229
Lobs，Erederick 3－228
Lobs，Frederick 2－151
Tobs，Fiederick，Jr．J－225
Cobs，Frederick，Jr．2－146
Iobs，Frederick，Sr．2－146
Iobs，Frederick 3－229
Tobs，Fredrick，Jr．J－221
Iobs，Iriedericke Beckendorft
3－325
Tobs，Friedericke Marie 3－225
Iobs，Friedericte Bechendortf
3－226
Cobs，iriedericke Beckendorff 3－228
Tobs，fritz 3－231
tobs，Fritz 2－148
Tobs，Fritz 2－149

Lobs，Fritz 2－151
Cobs，Pritz，Jr．3－281
Cobs，frit2，Jt．2－147
Tobs，Prit2，St．J－226
Lobs，Lorini Sranies 3－281
Sobs，Loria Branies 2－149
Lobs，louise braotiga 3－228
Sobs，Spobic 2－146
Sobs，Iillela 3－225
Tobs，tiltela 3－226
Sobs，Iilbela J－227
Tobs，Tillela j－228
［och，3－213
loch，2－13s
Soch，Idelia Paebiager 1－018
Soch，\＆．1－055
Soch，Edria 1－018
Soch，Joba 2－147
Soch，Ludrig 2－148
Loci，Ieltos 1－004
Soch，Xrs．Reltor 1－004
loch，Villian 1－05s
Toct，albert 1－030
Ioegler，dlois 3－211
Toebl，David 2－119
Coebl，Doanie 2－119
Ioedl，Blaine 2－119
Soell，Blaise 2－119
Loebl，hurt 2－118
Soehl，Dr．Nichrel F．1－004
Soedl，Robert C．1－004
loedl，Mrs．Robert C．1－004
toebler，Bill 1－004
Toebler，Both 1－004
Soebs，Fritz 3－196
Soeaig，Doris 3－205
Soenig，Eail 3－205
Ioenig，8．2－118
Sozaig，Rebecd 3－213
Loeaig，Bebecta 2－096
loenig，Rod 1－002
loeaig，led 1－004
Soenig，8od 2－165
Icenig，Podoe！3－174
sceaig，Rodees C．3－182
Soenig，Bodoej C．J－185
Roeaig，loduep 3－201
Roenig，Rodeej C．3－2l3
Toesig，Rodaey C．1－022
Coeaig，Lodaej C．2－098
Ioenig，Rodees 2－120
［oessing，ollie lde J－205
Soemaing，Olto Lee 3－205
Soenabag，ida 3－205
coesmang，otto 3－305
Soepil，Ialter J．1－004
Soerth，Adolpd degast 3－219
Toerth，Albert J－218

Soerth，Altert 3－219
loerth，lltred 3－218
Toerth，alired 3－219
Soerth，Lonie J－219
Soerth，Beajania 3－219
loerth，Berthe lurstaller 3－219
Loerth，Betty Jene Griflie
3－218
Soerth，Elsie J－218
Soerth，stia 3－219
Soerth，Eail Berata 3－219
Soerth，Enilie Sopbia Store

## 3－218

Soerth，Beilie Sopbia Stara 3－219
Coerth，Esther 3－219
Soerth，Helea 3－219
Coerth，Ierbert 3－219
Toerth，Eerna Loris 3－211
Soerth，Herian 3－218
Soerth，Bernas bonis 2－144
Coerth，Bildigad 3－219
loerth，Delda Clana Iortz 3－219
Loerth，Jinie Berna j－811
loerth，Jinie 3－218
Ioerth，Jimie lermb 2－144
Ioerth，Joha 3－219
Toerth，Jobanie 3－218
Coerth，Leood Paline Marie
2ettler 3－218
soerth，boois 3－219
Soerth，bodrig，Jr．3－218
roerth，Lodrig，Jr．3－219
Toesth，Lodrig，sr．J－819
Soerth，Xartha Marie Rend 3－217
Coerth，Kartha Karie lean
3－218
Eoerth，Marthe 3－218
Soerth，kartha karie lean

## 2－141

Loerth，Iory lan 3－217
Loerth，Meta ieetz 3－219
Soerth，o＇fillie Jaildasa
Palfos 3－218
Toerth，Otto Reinbold 3－219
Coerth，Rosa 3－219
Soerth，Starrlyod carter 3－217
Soerth，Yilbelaive 3－219
Ioerth，Villian Fredrick 3－211
Soerth，Yillian Eredrict 3－218
loerth，yillize Fredrick 3－219

Soerth，Villia 3－219
soetth，lillia fredrict
2－144
Soerth／Iorth，3－212
Pollboff，3－212
lokinda，Ingrid 1－006
Sokiada，Iagrid 1－008
Iotiada，Iagrid 2－075
tollear，peter 1－051
［oni，2－13］
Iont，Charlotte J－211
Ionororstli，Belen Bibel
3－218
［001， $2-13]$
Iopplia，2－134
Lorth，Joachir 3－193
Iorthag，Vilhelnina 2－103
lothan，Joba 3－170
Pothaza，Johe B．1－004
Lotter，Steren 8．2－150
sotter，Sterea y．2－150
Sotter，Sterea I．2－151
Top，Dorglas J．3－180
Toy，Braie J－181
Loj，Ladriad J－211
Iphl，Chascellor delat J－171
Itaft，2－134
Iraeer，J－199
Irake，Reary 2－101
Iratz，Captaia Lonis／heris 3－171
Iracs，Xatherine 2－131
Irase，Don，Jr．2－122
trase，Edrard 2－122
Irrose，Glades J．J－180
Irase，Jopee 2－122
［raose，bee A．，Jr．3－180
trase，lart 2－100
Iraose，Kark 2－101．
Itause，Ielda 2－122
traoter，2－10\}
Irater，Christive 2－103
Iraoter，J．C．2－103
Irater，Joba 2－103
Uragbill，David 2－112．
［rajbill，Doasi］B．J－205
Urebs，Dorothea 3－210
Irebs，Ieiarich 3－210
Trebs，nilros 3－210
［rebs，Pats］3－210
Irebs，Sadra 3－210
【rebs，terrell 3－210
［reis，Belle J－229
［reis，耳eruna 3－229
treis，jacob a．j－2 29
Irenet，Lagela 2－119
Ireaz，Sgos 3－172
tresse，ulbert 1－034

Sretz，Mrs．1－050
Tret2，Merthe 1－050
Iretz－Eisenfeld，Beleaz
1－050
Iretz－Eiseafeld，Mrs．Jucob
1－050
Iretaneier，Christine Jolizana
lose 2－131
Iretzschar，J－212
Iriedte，Peter 1－038
Irievald，Bua loebiager
1－018
Iriepald，Lovis 1－018
Irisclke，Josef 3－200
Ironlosiky，Ar．Prestoo C．
1－003
Iroaiosky，Mrs．Preston C．
1－003
Irsise，Joha Nichael 2－122
Irueger，3－194
Irseger，Maxailliaa 1．P．
3－209
Trug，Jacob 3－226
【ruppa，Mrs．Sail 2－115
Srappa，snil 2－115
lryder，1－017
Suechler，1－005
Inebler，Beary 1－018
raebler，foni Buebiager 1－018
Iuba，Gladys Proboese 1－004
Inlor，J－212
Iulor，3－288
Iolor，Dorthed Frehse 3－228
Inadiager，Mathias 1－03！
Soakel，：3－191
rantel，2－104
soakel，lana 2－103
Zuakel，Logusta lroeger 2－103
【uakel，Bertha 2－104
Soakel，Band 2－105
Soakel，cottlieb 2－102
soakel，cottlieb 2－103
【nakel，Jobn 2－103
Iuakel，Josephise 2－105
Ioukel，Jolia fenpel 2－103
Trakel，otto 2－105
laakel，Robert 2－105
San2，lagest 1－050
［002，Carl 1－050
Lonz，Srilie Fiege 1－050
［002，8silie Fiege 1－051
Inaz，Heleaa 1－050
【anz，leary 1－050
Soaz，leary 1－050
Youz，leta 1－050
Sonz，Oscar 1－050
Tobz，Rosa 1－050
Toaz，Pally 1－050

Iunz，Filhela 1－050
Sboze，charles，Jr．2－146
Tuaze，Charles，Jr．2－149
8ouze，fraces largorite
2－147
Part2，J－212
lortz，logast 3－218
lyse，lissell j－201
Lpse，Ressell C．2－074
lyse，lassell C．2－075
Laske，Doris Goerner 2－105
Wala，Barbara xitsovaly 3－205
Lala，Joto 3－005
bala，Josepb J－205
Wala，Marie tabela j－205
Lala，hattos 3－205
Lala，Yeronica Drab 3－205
Lamb，kiaa I．J－210
bansert，J－197
Lenes，2－13s
basp，Dr．Jates 3－181
Labid，1－051
Gandgrebe，Ieiarich J－205
Lasdgrete，geary 3－205
Lasdgrebe，Mrs．Deary J－205
Landgrebe，䀦过 3－205
babdgrebe，Iathariar Borth 3－205
Ladgrebe，Villie 3－205
Laeg，Dr．B．Clareace 3－201
labge，3－197
Labge，Praz 2－102
lagge，Xaria 2－102
lasghart，J．S．3－180
bagglep，Saneel P．2－095
bagtree，Lillie 1－010
banier，Sidaep 1－010
banier，Sidees 2－080
Lansford，Ingrid Gint J－180
Larrie，Broce 1－038
Lava，3－213
Luax，Peter 2－120
Ladx，Rosind Pooley 2－120
Lefette，Catheriae Poang
J－201
Ledbe，Fillian J－171
Lee，Geperal Robert E．1－010
Lee，Geseral Bobert E．2－080
behde，3－197
Lehnand，3－197
Lehiana，bghes 1－006
bebraso，Elizabeth J－177
Lebeang，Elizabeth 1－004
Lehragn，Slizabeth
Lehana，Elizbeth
$\frac{1}{1-005}$
$1-024$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Lehana，Elizabeth } & \text { 1－024 } \\ \text { Lehasa，Elizabeth } \\ \text { 2－131 }\end{array}$
Lebisea，Burnat 1－034
Lehnana，Heiaz 3－206

Lebrer，fon 3－184
Leiser，Ars．2－101
Leiser，pastor 2－103
beiser，Rereread Villia
2－103
Leiser，Rer．Villian 2－103
Lejease，Geberal Jobe 1．1－056
leabcte，Ena 3－216
Leter，Casdie J－201
Leaer，Casdie 1－207
beber，Casdie 2－075
beochardt，boretta 3－210
Lesikar，Denise J－205
Lesikar，I．G．J－205
Lesitar，Pracis 3－205
Lesitar，fraal 3－205
Leverkobse，Beary 2－148
Leverkobse，Heary 2－151
Levise，Brace C．1－038
Letis，Hzaad B．3－183
Levis，Badad 8．2－090
bevis，Irs．Oliver，Jt，1－004
Levis，Satael 2－116
Levis，Sheri 3－196
Ley，Rargaretha j－202
Lej，Yolfgang 3－202
Lich，Susia 1－00！
Lichtaer，Schoner 2－092
Liefeld，llbert 2－130
Liefeld，Gottlieb 2－130
Lieke，3－194
Lieram，Battie Sophie 2－144
Lietada，Carolide 3－176
Lietuan，Cholios（Jolins）
3－176
Lietran，loois 3－176
lietada，lodrig 3－176
bightsey，Arleae 2－093
Liacke－Fisseler，Breada
1－004
biade，Rans 1－038
Lidedenam，lom 3－170
Liadenana，las j－173
Lindenana，lan 3－201
Lidenama，las 1－002
Lidenaan，lan 1－003
Linderaba，lao 1－00s
lidedenana，las 1－066
Liqdeaada，Jares 1－003
Lidenama，Jir 3－174
Lioder，Bill 8．1－048
Linderaana，Janes 3－181
Lippke，Asita 3－204
Lippke，Anita J－205
biptak，Dolores 1－034
List，Fredrich 3－206
bittle，Lillie 2－112
little，Mariane E．B．3－210

Little，Mariane slizabeth
1all 3－24
Littlefield，George I．1－02t
Lockan，Ireae Orban 3－205
loesci，J－191
Loitz，Ethel I．1－003
leag，Jues I．1－034
bopez－Cobos，Jesus J－184
Loreaz，Loarad 1－031
Lotto，8．3－202
Lorett，byle 2－184
Loroll，08d S．2－091
Lserig，2－104
Lsecke，ulfred 2－119
loeders，Charles 2－120
bueders，Charlie 2－120
haeders，Geas 2－120
Loagkvitz，Ieraza 1－028
Luaguitz，1－005
Wother，Duid 2－180
Lather，fuand 2－180
Lax，Selaz 3－211
Ljons，Clarissa C．J－199
bjous，Jues J－199
boos，lirs．Jates C．1－004
boas，Jutes 2－114
bjods，Jates 2－114
Ljoas，Joha b．J－199
boas，larthe 3－199
bjoos，larthe 2－114
boon，Seproar C．J－199
has，Sesama 3－211．
luceiras，doe 2－109
lach，Charles J．2－092
lackeazie，General 3－189
Maier－Osrald，Peter 3－201
hier－Osyald，Coasul Gea Peter 2－074
Iatorsti，Edrin 1－004
Ihtorski，Edria 2－102
hatorski，Edris 2－132
Melak，Bill 2－119
Malak，xichelle 2－119
Lolek，Marceil 2－119
haler－Osrald，Cossal Gea Peter j－182
lasers，Jonell Pietsch 2－112
luagiacopra，Girg S．2－095
Land，itbones $1-030$
hasoel，haverae schaltz 3－228
Marborger，Bleo 3－202 larbarger，Blio S．1－004 Marbarger，Mrs．Eleo G．1－004 larks，llbert botis，Jr．
lerpgardt，het 1－002
lurgordt，levis t．1－003
lurgordt，heris 3－174

Warrell，1．2－146
Murros，fr．Patrich 2－091
Marschalch，Peter 1－038
Marstaller，Charlie Reary，Sr． 3－219
Marstallet，Charlie，Jr．
3－219
Marstaller，floriaa 3－219
Marstaller，Molda karie Ioerth
3－219
Aarstaller，Lillie 3－219
Uarstaller，bydia j－2l9
\｜urstaller，Viola J－219
Lartid，Cliatod 1－006
Rertis，Mrs．Cliatos 1－00s
Lartia，Geaera 3－196
Martia，Geaie 1－003
Martia，Ielga 1－004
Martia，Belga 1－004
hurtia，Ielga 2－082
Martinez，Gay las Bappe 3－210
Martinet，Gaj 3－207
Martiver，Gas las lappe 1－008
Martinez，Gaj las Bappe 2－074
Murtiser，Gay las lappe 2－125
Lurtins，3－197
larxball，fara 3－205
Mast，C．2．1－034
Mest，bois lad 1－034
latthers，Erank 2－082
Kitala，Joha 3－199
Maxson，Peter 2－110
Kay，Reverend 11 bert C．2－102
Lay，Charles 3－228
Kaj，Olivia L．1－003
alajer，carl 1－050
Laper，lose j－087
Iclshen，J．P．P．Y．3－300
IcClaia，Dr．Ieredits J－188
InClain，Ieredith 1－006
neCoppin，Euett 4．2－133
IcCof，Dr．Ingeborg I．Raberg
1－049
LeCallosed，Cbuck 3－198
accorlej，Sarel 2－146
IICDanials，2－135
necintg，Pichard 2－096
IcGrory，harie Rippriaa 1－004
HeGrire，Jates Patrick J－201
Iecrire，Janes Patrick 2－075
relanish，3－212
Icrialey，Presideat 1－010
ICleas，kilda 1－019
releaa，lilda 1－017
Meliatock，Dapid 1－031
Incieil，Villiar 8．1－034
Icleyaolds，Bill 2－082
IcFeigh，Joseph 1－038

Leadors，larea Soe 2－141
ledich，lams 1－038
Meiners，late 2－119
leiners，Cartis 2－119
Meisers，flarvep 1－019
Ieiners，liss．liarrej 1－017
Meiners，Iurrey 1－017
Mejaers，Irs，Barve］2－112
Heibers，farrey 2－112
leiners，Iarrey 2－119
Heiners，leata 1－006
Ieiaers，lickelef 2－119
Meissaer，2－135
Ienckes，I．L．J－206
leag，2－136
Ienger，liry 2－080
Heager，1．4．1－010
Ienger，Gillian 2－080
Meas，Sraest Pabl 2－111
Iena，Brelji 2－111
Mean，Prabes $2-111$
Aena，Frablia 2－111
Neas，Bita yoak 2－111
Ieazel，let．Cottfried 2－145
lerrell，Cres 1－004
Ierrell，Cjathia 1－004
Herrea，sdgat J－199
Nerren，Bdgar J－202
Werren，Robie 3－199
letz，Peter J－224
Netzger，Reary C．3－199
Keviag，otto 3－205
Bearer，logo 1－004
Iearer，Irs．⿴囗⿱一一口ogo 1－004
Rensebach，3－209
Measebich，Joba 0．1－019
Mensebach，Joba 0．2－123
neasebach，Joha $0.2-145$
aenth，ladreas 2－102
Meath，Prabz 2－102
Hejer，3－197
lejer，2－131
Mejer，baaie Sophie 2－147
lejer，Lator 2－102
Rejer，logost 2－149
Rejer，Carol 2－145
Kejer，Christia 3－228
Lejer，Cbristian 2－146
Mejer，Cbristian 2－147
Mejer，Cbristian 2－148
Mejer，Cbristian 2－149
Mejer，Ceristian 2－150
Mejer，Christian 2－151
Lejer，Dors 2－146
liejer，Dorothea Grobe 2－146
Mejer，Dorotber 2－146
Mejer，Dorother 2－147
Iejer，Dorother 2－147

Rejer，Borothed 2－148
Iejer，Doroties 2－149
Rejer，Dorotber 2－150
ILejer，Borother 2－151
Mejer，Jok．Georg 2－146
Bejer，Lozise $2-146$
Kejer，lilbela 2－146
Nejers，Caristia 2－151
Nejers，Beary 3－202
licet，Lita 3－205
nichels，Jobe 2－105
liddeke，lasa haria 3－211
nild，Bererad Lodrer J－196
niller，2－1］l
viller，2－135
Iiller，Heert 2－141
niller，Berard Joseph 3－211
niller，Beverly 3－197
nillet，C．Eugene 1－045
Niller，C．Engese 2－092
diller，Dorothy l．1－004
niller，lajor Dorg 1－05s
niller，Esther b．1－004
diller，Engese 2－091
Niller，Eogeaia 1．1－003
diller，Bedrig $3-211$
nisegas，Jobabad J－199
Xitchell，Mared 2－087
nitchell，Iichael 3－205
vittug，Goather 3－172
Vitterer，Srik 1－031
noberg，Vilbela 2－113
Kodror，Prize Kis．Eaas 3－171
Loeller，Grstare 2－092
lloench，J－197
loeraer，8．2－103
Nobr，3－197
nobr，3－197
Moltuma，Greater $1-038$
Koodas，Susaa reatee 2－085
Roodi，3－202
Rootgonery，Edraod 1－003
hoody，2－080
loor／Loore，Frederick 2－131
loore，Bill 2－105
lioore，Gostave 2－132
Noore，Ierad Joba 2－132
Roore，lathlees 2－084
Roraia，floase J．3－206
Noritz，Jo da 3－205
Rorosko，$\quad 2-135$
Norris，2－138
Norror，Mrs．1．\＆．1－003
Morse，bia 2－087
Nosebach，2－104
Nosebich，Joseph 2－103
Nosebach，Jolianaz Peterson
2－103

## 92

Rosebach, Leptoold 2-103
losel, Ern 1-01s
Mosier, Mancy Guader 2-125
lottel, lans 1-038
looclier, Jacques 3-302
Nojers, Bill 1-048
Luctor, 3-197
Ioehlberger, George 2-141
Lreeblaer, Or. Joachit 3-191
heebr, carl 2-114
Reeller, j-213
Hueller, doolph 2-141
Reeller, Dorothy 2-112
Beeller, Bldie 1-011
Rneller, lirs. Bldie 1-017
Noeller, burold 3-214
Maeller, burold 3-219
deeller, Barold 1-050
Noeller, Burold 1-051
nveller, Johan 2-141
Roeller, La Peroe 1-017
Maeller, Marj Buebiaget 1-018
loeller, licbsel J-171
Ineller, ottilie tela 2-141
aveller, tilpt 2-112
Xoeller, Iillie 1-018
beeller, Jr., Robert 1-050
lagge, J-197
Woller, 3-191
Muake, J-213
Muake, Charles 2-120
Ieate, Cbristian 2-120
Naste, Fritz 2-120
Moske, Berua 2-120
Goake, Josa 1-120
rooke, Jobs 2-120
luake, Josepl 2-120
Moake, Margireta bax 2-120
Maske, Marglerita lạoz 2-180
Ienz, luaier 2-112
Murchison, Vianie Mre 1-00s
Sormana, llans 1-051
Rotter, Laat-Sopbie 2-1ll
ligel, Irthar I. 1-003
lagel, Irs. Irthor I. 1-003
Ihlle, Joe 1-028
lish, Charlear 1-00s
lash, Charlene 2-119
Janzas, 3-197
Ianasa, I. Latrence 3-212
leese, Iraris 3-205
leffeadorf, Gary 2-109
leitzke, Grace 2-134
Ielson, lariza I. 2-134
Ielsoa, Dean leal 3-202
Iengroschel, Jorchir 1-031
Iealass, Lodvig sdoard 3-199
Ieniaa, J-197

Renasa, 3-213
Henian, 2-135
Ieama, father Charles J-201
Ierian, Let. Charles 2-075
Ievell, Jeas 1-070
Ierma, doolpla Reiabold j-218
Mevala, Ladia lizaie Ioertl
3-218
Ierias, Melria 3-218
Ierna, Olga Anilie daba j-218
Mevia, olto Gestar Pall j-218
Ief, Elisabet 1-003
Ief, Blisabeth 1-005
lej, Blizabet 1-038
lietoar, 2-1]s
Jiederbofer, $\quad 2-135$
Vielson,Dr. Brika J-201
Yielson, liels 3-201
Vienejer, Beary 3-171
liers, Dr. Gert 1-020
Vieslea, Eriki 2-074
lieslen, liels 2-074
liak, lathias 2-102
liakorich, fraat 1-034
Iisraager, Charles Bdvard
3-219
Viswager, Lee fraaklia 3-219
lispager, Lary las 3-212
Visuager, Mary lan Ioerth
3-218
Miswager, Mary das Toerth
3-218
Viswager, Mary Lan Ioerth
2-1 12
Misuager, Mary Abo Ioerth
2-113
Visvager, Mry Lad Ioerth
2-144
lisranger, Mattie luada
Sheltod 3-217
Viswager, Sherry J-219
lisrager, Sherry Joilzaad
3-211
lisragger, Villian J-211
lisranger, Yillian loois
3-217
Jixon, 2-134
Yosck, 2-104
loak, Erra 2-111
loat, 时da $2-111$
Yosk, Bolda giaze 2-111
Yosk, Paol 2-111
Yock, Paul 2-111
Moak, Pony Burtels 2-111
Poblett, Beddj 2-124
Yoblett, Japet 2-124
Molleadorfs, cora hee 2-10s
Holte, Edgar L. 1-004

Mordsiech, Ielene 2-108
Hordsiect, Mrie 2-108
Moska, Curoly 2-120
losh, Villie 2-130
Norosid, Beled 3-211
Morosid, lelea 2-13J
lovotay, Jerone 2-011
Iaha, Clan Baebiager 1-018
laba, lichard 1-018
Messizas, 3-197
O'Feary, 1-010
O'leary, 1-028
0. Ieary, 2-080

Obrecht, Jobs 2-080
Ocker, Beary 2-142
Octer, Ida Elizateth 2-142
Ocker, Johasa loase 2-142
Ocker, Johasa 2-142
Oeding, J-213
Deblke, Berthold 3-205
Dealke, lerma J-205
Dedlke, Lillias J-205
Oehlke, Vilbora 3-205
Delfte, Doadd 2-132
Offer, Jobras Lugost 2-129
Ofsdal, Pastor Dos 2-075
Oltjen, Helen 2-103
Oltjen, Reiabold 2-103
Oadrej, Pattie Ioerth J-218
Orsit, Jelly 2-119
Orth, 2-136
Orts, 2-104
Orts, Ilbert b. 2-103
Orts, Albert 2-104
Orts, Dorothea Doak 2-103
ostorne, 3-225
Osborae, pat 2-074
Osborde, Patricia 3-201
Ostergres, Robert C. 2-113
ottilie, Alıd $3-219$
Ottilie, Cbarlie 3-219
ottilie, Bdurd J-219
ottilie, Enid Soerth 3-219
Ottilie, 睢ry 3-219
Ottilie, Herma $3-219$
ottilie, Matha 3-219
ottilie, Paol 3-219
ottilie, Selar 3-219
otto, Brgad 2-119
Orerstreet, Carolpa 1-004
Overstreet, Dasa 1-070
Pabisch, Professor Peter 1-049
Pagel, 1. 1-055
Palen, Kargaret Ireg 2-145
Paluer, richael 1-047
Paohratz, George 1-003
Pastratz, Iort 2-085

Pablratz, Hern 1-003
Rape, Ieiarich Prederick
2-132
Pape, latherise 1-054
Pappe, 3-191
Parker, George 2-122
Parter, Jeoise 3-184
Pasler, Labrose 2-132
Rasler, frasish
Frabces/fanaj 2-132
Pasler, latherive Reinan
2-132
Pasler/Passler, 2-136
Pastorios, Pracis Daniel
2-121
Pattos, fance 2-084
Pattod, fance 2-091
Paol, Broest 2-111
Paole, Elder J. 1. 2-103
Paeli, 3-213
Paolke, Rabs 3-172
Palos, 1. D. 3-202
Paplicek, baora 2-112
Pavel, floozes 3-201
Pavel, Phons E. 2-081
Pavel, for 2-014
Pearce, baperae S. 1-004
Pedeliski, itheodore B. 3-206
Peickert, beosa 2-119
Pelzer, J-212
Penderecti, Irzjstof 2-11!
Peas, Villian 3-171
Peaciagtor, Mrs. 8. E. 3-111
Peashora, Harvey 3-180
Peastora, Mrs. Barvej 3-180
Pershing, Generd doba 2-080
Peschke, 2-104
Peschte, Pilbelnids litte
2-103
Peters, J-197
Peters, Professor Ceorge
1-049
Peterson, Breat 0. J-206
Peterson, lydia Sobs 3-229
Peterson, Lydia Cobs 2-149
Peterson, lydia Sobs 2-150
Petri, 1-005
Petrich, 2-13s
Pettit, Betty 2-114
Pettit, Bill 2-114
Pfeil, J-194
Pfiagsten, Greta A. 1-003
Pfloger, George 1-050
Pickeas, lacille 2-119
pickeas, lacille 2-119
Pierson, Heariette Bordsieck 2-108
Pietsch, Johanad 2-112
Risch, Warr) 2-112
pillot, Clande I 2-123
pillot, Sugene 2-123
Piakert, Dora 1-004
Piore, Xichael 1-035
piore, kichsel 1-037
Pipkin, Elsie E. 2-132
Piptin, Elsie I. 2-136
pitsch, fraaz Josef 1-038
Plath, Jorgen 3-172
Pluare, Bob 3-232
Pluner, Judi 3-232
Pocock, lick 2-095
Poerver, Irleate Sterbing 2-132
Poerner, Lrlene 2-134
Polasek, Patty J-210
Polasek, Stephen 3-210
Pollack, Anse Buttreill 2-131
Pomerin, leiner 1-034
Poocit, Bryce 3-180
Popp, Bishop Berurd f. 3-180
Popp, Ret. Bernard f. 3-211
Porter, vill 1-028
povell, Brian 2-119
Porell, 【atherise G. 1-004
Povell, LittleBerry 3-224
Porell, Sarah sally Iert 3-234
Povell, villiat, Sr. 3-224
Prase, Paol L. 2-121
Preoss, John 2-102
Priesiejer, 3-187
Prigge, $\quad 3-197$
Pogh, Jeanse 2-10s
Pabluan, lilda 1-030
Pols, George, Jr. 1-003
Pols, Krs. George, Jr. 1-003
labe, Stere J. 1-003
Pabe, Johana Christiạ
Gottfried 2-102
tabe, John L. G. 2-103
Rabe, Jolia sophie 2-102
hesener, John ldat 2-103
lagsdale, Irlon Ingh, Jr.
3-217
Pagsdale, Arlon Bugh 3-217
lagsdale, Jone Harrison 3-211
lhe, Don 2-049
labe, Eildd 2-049
lan, Johana 3-211
landle, J. ह. 3-176
liaft, $3-212$
taoft, Berta 3-212
lanft, Berthe 3-209
lantt, Panl Gustar 3-209
lipp, George 1-034
tapp, George 2-107
Lappe, Beriaan 1-051

Raschke, Carl Y. 2-103
Pasche, Bileen Brandt 3-225
Paschke, Bileet Bradt 3-227
Reth, Iathrin 1-006
Ban, J-197
Rach, 2-135
Rauch, Clara leriana 2-131
Rach, Nathias 2-131
Ras, 2-13s
Baj, Elijah J-224
lay, Yorth S. J-171
leagan, Presideat 3-182
Real, 3-212
Redgate, Sanvel J-211
Reed, 1lan 1-055
leed, Leroy 1 -05s
Reefte, leinrich 3-172
Reese, J-220
Reeves-Karquardt, Doda 3-173
Reeves-Kargoadt, Dosa 3-174
Reeres-Kargardt, Dona 3-201
Reeres-Karguardt, Dona 1-003
Reeres-Karquardt, Dona 1-006
Reeres-Kargordt, Dond 1-066
Reeves-Karguadt, Dona 2-165
Regas, Jennifer 1-054
Rehn, Fili 2-109
Reibel, 2-136
Reich/Reach, Alexader 2-130
Peich/Reach, Dora Giesecke
2-130
Reichert, Ianette 2-138
leichert, Villiat E., Jt.
1-003
Reichann, Sberbard 1-043
Reichanan, Eberhard 2-092
Beichrann, Eberbard 2-109
Reichama, puth 4. 1-044
Reichnan, Puth 2-092
Reichama, Roth X. 2-107
Reichum, Roth 2-109
Reiffert, Jin 1-004
Reinana, arnold E. 2-130
Reisam, Johana Dorothea
Ciesecke 2-130
Reinama, I. 4. 1-004
Rein, 2-134
Bein, lt. Franz 2-101
Reiver, Fritz 1-020
Reinhart, 2-131
Reinama, Krs. Y. L. 1-004
Reissig, Mrs. G. 1-050
Reiter, llerbert 1-034
leitzer, Panl Gerbard 2-092
leack, bedel 2-111
Renck, Velda livze 2-111
Reaker, Jodith Clark 1-004
Rena, 3-212

Renn, Ladie Christoph J-218
leaner, Johan Georg Friedrich
1-038
Lenz, itheres 3-211
lepsdorph, 3-202
Retzlaff, Kars 2-105
letzlaff, otto 2-105
Reve, 3-197
Reutter, Rolf 3-206
Rejoolds, Patrick K . 2-145
Pbeiner, Yalter 2-084
lichardson, Dr. 1-050
lichardsoa, Jody Toerth 3-218
kichling, Martin 3-172
Richter, 3-194
lichter, Lillie Blach 3-199
Richter, Valter 3-180
licke, lucille 3-212
licke, Lucille sigert 3-228
licke, bocille 3-228
Richan, Bradie 3-205
Richan, Chaning 3-205
Riedel, 3-194
Riedel, J-212
Riehn, l . 2-118
Rienenschneider, borenz f.
3-210
Rienenschneider, borenz J.
3-210
Riggs, Eva Claire 1-004
Riley, Doris K. 1-004
Rilke, lainer karia 1-031
tipper, Joseph 2-114
Rippley, La Vern J. 3-206
Rippley, La Yern J. 2-092
Rippley, Lavera J. 1-034
Ritzloff, 3-194
Roberts, Jill 2-091
Robinson, Elsie 2rahr 3-180
Robinson, Rep. Pbyllis 2-123
Robiasoa-2yahr, Bob J-170
Robinson-2vahr, Bob 3-201
Robiason-2yabr, Bob 2-087
Robiason-2vabr, Robert l .
3-180
Robinson-2rahr, Robert 1-002
Rode, Lrthur \&. 1-055
Bodeabeck, 3-197
Roeder, Otto 2-143
Roerig, Sand 2-133
loerig, Frederick 2-133
loessler, 3-197
logers, Dale 1-010
Rogers, Gerhild B. 1-001
Rogers, Roy 1-010
Rogge, 3-197
Roblfs, Dr. Claus 3-180
Rohlfs, Doris 3-180

Rohr, Robert 2-092
houpel, Bdrard 2-101
lons, Lena 2-132
Pooserelt, feddy 1-010
Roosevelt, fheodore 2-080
lose, Bob 3-184
Lose, Doroth 3-184
Rose, Johan Jacob Fredrich 2-131
Lose, Johane Dortbea
【atherine 2-131
Roseaberg, Marj 3-210
Rosenberg, Xinite 2-101
Rosenbosch, 3-212
Rossing, Reverand John 3-196
Rossner, Yillordeea 2-132
Postroporich, Kstislar 2-111
Rotherael, Doroths 2-111
Sothernel, fon 2-111
Roondtree, Josept G. 1-004
Roder, Panline 2-112
Sudolph, 3-194
Quhate, Dr. Sd, Sr. 1-004
Ross, 2-130
Russek, Brost 2-114
Russeh, Erust 2-114
Russeh, Franz 3-199
possek, franz 3-199
losseh, franz 2-114
Rossek, Senator Gos 2-114
Rossek, Heary 2-114
Rissek, Henry 2-114
Rossek, Igacic 2-114
Rassek, Igatz 3-200
Rossek, Rosina 3-199
Bussek, Rosind 2-114
Ryan, Dick 2-109
Ryder, 3-226
Sadfeld, Diedrich 1-038
Saenger, \&. Bennette 1-004
Sansel, 3-194
Sader, Jil 3-202
Sasse, End 3-204
Sasse, bin 3-205
Sattler, Yalter E. 3-209
Saoer, 2-134
Saur, Carl f. 1-004
Saor, Bthel B. 1-004
Schach, Professor Paol 2-092
Schaefer, 3-212
Schaefer, Godrua 3-180
Schaefer, Kary Jase 3-212
schaffaer, Xis. L. Y. 1-006
schaller, Breada 3-205
Schare, 3-197
Schellberg, robias 1-017
Schendel, J-197
Schiect, Ldar 2-132

Schierelbein, Gotthilf carl
1-030
Schierelbein, Johan Freidrich 1-030 Schierelbein, Siegfried
$1-030$
Schierelbein, Yilheli Carl 1-030
Schilhab, 2-114
Sctiller, Hbina $2-143$
schiodler, babe 2-114
schlinguan, $\quad$-141
scblottuan, 3-199
Schlottam, Villia 3-171
Schaeissaer, lanier 3-206
Scheller, Belnot J. 2-092
Schenan, Serge 3-171
Schretz, Heary 3-171
schuid, 3-178
Schridt, 2-133
schridt, 2-135
schridt, 2-136
schaidt, Boris 3-171
Schridt, Brono Carl 2-105
Schiidt, D. I. 2-133
Schridt, Blise Giesecke 2-130
Schridt, Pranz L. 2-114
Schridt, fred 2-095
Schridt, Jobnay 3-204
schidid, Jogce lerrian 2-131
Schridt, Jojec 2-135
Schidt, loretta 1-054
Schridt, Kargoerite 3-204
Schnidt, Mariame 2-119
schried, 2-135
Schiedlin, Jerry j-205
schriedlio, fany 3-205
Schaeider, 3-211
Schneider, Reperend : 2-104
Schneider, ddan 2-132.
Schneider, Edoard 2-102
Schneider, Bduard 2-105
Schacider, Elsa 2-132
Schacider, Prof Ians 2-092
Schaeider, Johan 2-132
Schneider, Lillian 3-210
schacider, Lillian 1-019
Schaider, Maria Doecke 2-132
schoode, 2-136
Schorberg, Roland 2-109
Schrader, Jeanette reyna 3-218
Schrader, Johanoe Bearietta
lalie borise J-210
Schroeder, 3-194
Schroeder, 3-197
Schroeder, ddolph 3-205
schroeder, Ldolph, Jr. 3-205

Schroeder, Ilbert J-194
Sclroeder, lanie 3-204
Schroeder, Lanie 3-205
Schroeder, Predlein J., Sr.
1-003
Schroeder, Mrs. Predlein J.,
Sr. 1-003
Schroeder, kary 2-132
schroeder, Steren 3-204
Scheessler, Bra 1-003
Scheessler, Joho lda 1-003
schaldt, Erben 1-004
Schuldt, Mrs. Srben 1-004
Schuler, Babette 2-115
Scholte, Vally 2-080
schalter, Ierama 1-038
scholtz, 3-212
Schultz, 3-288
Schultz, Lgusta Xolor 3-228
Schultz, Lugust, Sr. 3-228
Schaltz, Barbara \&uebiager
1-018
Schultz, Bugo 1-018
Schultz, Leroy 3-228
Schultz, Maria 【oblhoff 3-288
Schalt2, Pernon C. 3-180
Schultz, Mrs. Pernon C. 3-180
Schaltz, Villian, Sr. 3-228
schultze, 3-197
Schaltze, Ruth In 1-004
Schul2, Eail, Sr. 3-199
Schul2,Dr. Reate 3-188
Schole, arthar E. 1-004
Schulze, beona 2-112
Schund, Ierbert 2-103
schnam, b. 2-103
scbuazan, 3-194
Schuaan, 1lbert 1-018
Schunan, anton 1-018
Schuam, Bdvard 1-018
Schuana, Pritz 1-018
Schuran, Hogo 1-018
Schonam, Locis 1-018
Schunana, Iaria Moebinger
1-018
Schoizna, Paol 1-018
Schouan, Richard 1-018
Schaiana, Rudolph 1-018
Schouma, felkz 1-018
Schuabn, Paleatine 1-018
Schureaberg, f. I., Jr.
3-178
Schorenberg, Captain Fredrick
Yillbeli 3-178
Schurenberg, Robert llexander
3-178
Schort, Carl 3-182
Schorz, Carl 1-034

Schatz, iheodore J. 1-004
scirab, 1-019
Schrab, Bluo 3-210
Schurtz, Enie Rossel 2-114
Schrar, Llbert Beary 3-210
Schrar2, Villian 3-210
schveidnitz, 2-133
Schreiz, Pon Ingonar J-180
Schrirting, Johan 2-108
Schvoerer, Katthias 3-199
scott, Iertha l. 2-136
Scott, Mrs. Robert L. 1-004
scott, telaa 2-105
Sealsfield, Charles 1-034
Sebastian, Saiat 2-084
Seel, Ielga 1-034
Seele, Beriad 3-201
Seele, Merad 1-008
Seele, Ierama $1-038$
Seelye, Buad 1-020
Segrares, Antoinette 1-018
Seibert, 2-136
Seidel, Dollie $1-016$
Seidel, Edroad $1-016$
Seidel, Bdaud O. 1-016
Seidel, George 1-016
Seidel, Rodj 1-016
Seiler, 3-194
Seils, Reverad R. 3-196
Seaper, Raj 3-205
Sengelian, Lugust 3-199
Seagelnana, Lugust 3-202
Sengelama, C. 3-202
Sengeliana, Charles 3-202
Seagelema, G. 3-202
Sengelinan, Gustar 3-202
Sevard, John I. 3-171
Sepder, 3-300
Shaper, Bill 3-181
Shefelram, Janice Jordan
3-183
Shellberg, Bua 1-017
Sheram, Villian C. 3-206
Sherrell-Leo, Cindy 1-048
Sherrill, hla L . 2-135
Stroeder, Bura Yonderlich
3-205
Storley, Kark 2-117
siegert, 3-212
Siegert, 3-228
Siegert, Bertbold 3-228
Siegert, Barl 3-228
Siegert, Kary Beckuado 3-228
Siegert, Xindie Scholtz 3-228
Siegert, fheodore 3-228
Sierling, George 2-104
Sievers, Pete 3-205
sills, Beverly $1-010$

Sina, L. 2-103
Sit2, 3-212
Sitz, Idolpd 2-143
Sitz, Ernestine 【asier 2-143
sitz, Juliana 2-143
sit2, Jolius 2-143
sitr, Julios 2-143
Sitr, kicbeel 2-143
Sitz, Sosane 2-143
Sitz, Valter 2-143
Sholaut, Ashley 2-112
Stolaut, Mrs. Gary 2-112
Skolaut, Gary 2-112
Slator, Kigoon \&. 1-00
Sallej, David 3-211
Stith, 3-178
Saith, Albert Gled 2-138
Stith, llbert 2-138
Snith, Bertha Lueders 2-120
Snith, Berthe 2-120
Stith, Jobn Sterling, Jr.
3-178
Suith, Ienaeth L. 2-140
Snith, Marie 3-178
Sayder, Sue Duabar 2-093
Sokolyk, Ferta 1-003
Solanin, 8udolf 1-031
Soles, Priace 3-182
Soles, Prince Carl 2-119
Somer, 0. 1-026
Soner, Olrike 1-024
Sonmer, Olrike $1-025$
Soner, Olrike 1-034
Soners, Charles 2-121
Sodgeroth, Janes 1-004
Sonsa, Jobi Philip 1-021
spaeds, 2-135
Spangenberg, Fredericke locie
2-130
Speckels, $\quad 2-119$
Speckels, Irvin 2-114
spectels, beodida 2-114
Spieler, lugust 2-103
Spies, Lester 1-055
Spill, Buld 3-205
Sporei, J. 1-055
Spreenan, Alfred 2-130
Spreenam, Albertine caroline
2-130
Spreen, 3-197
Staher, Cathleen 3-174
Stabrer, Cathleen Yitt 2-153
Staber, Cathlees 2-165
Stabreaberg, Ernestive
Friedericke 2-130
Stazzel, Prabz 2-114
Stark, George 3-232
Stasay, Phonds 3-211

Stantzenberger，2－13s
Sterra，Carl gustai 3－198
steblis，stemit 1．1－034
Steilana，Ilass 3－202
Stein，Bill 2－126
Stein，Dora j－209
Stein，Soptid 2－138
Steiner，frasz 1－034
Steiblage，Forrest I．1－0 0
Steialage，Forrest 「．2－091
Steiman，lua Christine
2－141
Steinnam，Jacob 2－141
Stelzig，Vilter 2－112
Stepbasor，Canl 1－001
Stera，laas 2－108
Steradel，liegai 2－115
Steradel，Regiar 2－115
steabing，2－134
steres，albert 2－079
Steres，Bdrard 2－079
Steres，lirs．Bdurd 2－084
Steres，Bdrutd，Jr．2－019
Steres，8rast 2－079
Steres，Johabaa 2－079
Steres，Johana 2－091
stiles，Jolen 3－181
Stockert，Ferdinas 2－114
stoepler，George 1－004
stolting，2－136
Storeaski，Dorothy Siegert
3－228
Stork，Ros 2－119
strack，3－226
Strackein，2－13t．
Streber，3－214
Streiber，Mrs．Sdrard 1－003
Strieber，Bdrard 1－003
Striepe，Cbristiua ：2－146
Striepe，Clristian 2－146．
Striepe，Cbristian 1－147
Striepe，Sophia Marts 2－146
Striepe，Soptiz larts 2－147
Straber／Streiber，Jobans．
dedreas Joseph 3－210
Straber／Streiber，Sophia
Pleresa $3-210$
strare，Ada 1－038
strore，I．1－038
Strore，1．1－038
Strare，I．1－038
stroie，Vilter 1－035
Strure，Falter 1－037
Strope，Illter 2－130
Strave，3－179
Stabbs，Its．Joe 2－115
Stabbs，Joe 2－115
Steder，G．E．1－003

Studer，Mrs．G．B．1－003
Stressj，2－104
Stonpl，Mrs．Fraiz 1－010
Stori，j－212
Sabr，Eelgard 3－174
Sobr，Ielgard 3－201
Salr，ielgard 1－004
Sabr，Ielgard 1－066
sabrea，J－213
Sundstroi，lirs．1．I．1－004
satterlia，bedvig 1－013
inft，Presideat 1－010
iatsch，daita J－2］1
fatsch，Johas Peter 3－215
iajlor，2－13s
fiplor，largaret 1－004
iaplor，Pivias 1－003
iaplor，Vivia 2－112
Tedesco，lichard 2－081
feisert，hee 2－112
feisert，beor 2－112
feiaert，like 2－112
fenpleton，faye J－202
feste，B．2－118
Pbanes，Delia Cothra 1－052
Fheilen，latherize Veber 1－003
Ftiel，Idolph 2－141
Phiel，Alviad 2－141
Paiel，Laelia 2－141
Thiel，lugesta 2－141
Fthiel，Charles 2－14］
Phiel，Christine Jester 2－141
Phiel，Daniel 2－141
Tbiel，Daniel 2－141
Thiel，Bna 2－141
Pbiel，貼elda 2－141
Phiel，Jolios 2－141
Pbiel，Villia 2－141
Pbode，Eraest 3－220
Pboras，Barry G．2－092
Proapson，lod 3－173
Phonpson，lan 3－174
flozpson，Lata 3－170
Fhorpson，lana 3－201
Pboapson，laba 1－005
ftoapson，lana 1－065
Thoaboff，Rotert E．3－194
Thobhoff，Bobert 日．1－004
Thoaboff，Mrs．Robert 1．1－004
Pbodhoff，Robert g．1－008
Thartalles，2－136
Fboraboif，Bob 3－170
Ploraboff，picie 3－194
Thorson，Plajford P．3－206
fiedt，lonie Kargaret 2－112
Fiedt，Charlotte 2－112
fiedt，Charlotte 2－118

Fiedt，Fritz 2－112
fiedt，barry 2－118
fiedt，beola 3－144
fiedt，beola I．J－201
fiedt，beola I．1－003
fiedt，heola I．2－087
fiedt，logdie 2－112
fieft，leil 3－205
fiedt，Yeldod 2－112
Pienert，Paol 1－003
tiabergen，likolaas 1－031
fipp，Joseph frast 3－211
fistler，Villian ：．2－109
Pobala，Carolya Graeter 2－124
foll，Gleada 2－087
Folten，Christise 1－034
Polzama，Dos Eeiarici 1－020
Tolenas，Doa Beiarich 1－034
Toluzan，Doe 日．1－042
Folerama，Don Eeiarich 2－092
Folzman，Dos Reiarich 2－109
For，Charles 2－138
Soa，Ellea Canpbell 2－138
fortilson，2－135
Toth，Carolya 1．1－046
forasead，Villiar S．2－116
Pravis，2－081
frebes，2－136
Preibs，Glea 1－006
freachana，Eelea 1－003
ireptor，Charles 1－055
freptor，leary firtz 1－055
fregbig，Arliss 3－209
frejbig，Arliss J－211
Trejbig，arliss 1－005
Prejbig，Arliss 2－128
Trepbig，arliss 2－129
fregbig，Bernlardt 2－128
Prepbig，yicolaos 2－128
Froja，Vill 2－143
fromler，fraok $1-038$
Ischoerser，lodolf 2－134
ischoerser，Rodj 3－209
tolles，1．J．3－244
follias，Rainoad J－210
Forres，Daboy 2－112
forres，like 2－112
fottle，Coastable 3－200
T022i，3－202
freaborea，Dr．Jorg 3－193
Decker，Jerald 1－004
Oblig，barry 日．1－004
Olbricht，Elsa 2－092
Olrich，3－218
Olrich，Blaz 2－120
Opeburch，Lessie 3－227
Opehorch，Lessie 3－227
Opton，Bea 3－199

Orbas，2－134
Orban，Caled 3－205
Orbas，fred 3－205
Orban，derbere 3－205
Orban，l．\＆．3－205
Orba，losise Scbatz j－205
Orban，Molly 3－205
Orbat，lioada 3－205
Orbas，lapae 3－205
Orbathe，Leveread Carl 2－103
Urbatke，Eiil 2－105
Orbasthe，Xianje 2－105
Ostidor，Peter 3－204
Pacet，Mary 2－121
Fader，laron 2－120
Pao Iten，Relga P．1－034
Pa Liderrood，Villian 3－206
Fa Pelt，Marleae gaile d－144
Pa der Dossea，leaste 3－180
Fan，Doaald 2－120
Pase，liary 2－120
Paraey，Bill 1－054
Parnes，Splvia 1－054
Vegoer，Eddie 2－111
Yeidt，f．1－046
Veaste，Beanisg J－204
Yerbeck，Catol 2－138
Yetter，2－104
Petter，Alvis 8．2－103
Yetter，Pbeofeld 2－103
Plasek，leverand Dooald 3－196
Pogel，2－104
Pogelsagg，Burry 2－121
Poigt，2－136
Poigt，Yeadel C．1－004
Pos Masgerski，I．I．3－201
Poo Xaszersti，I．K．1－003
Poa Riaden，Gerbardt 2－114
Yoo Roeder，flord 1－003
Yoa Rosenberg，Charles I．
1－003
Pob－Xaszerski，Y．K．1－067
Yoo－Keszeyski，I．I．J－181
Poo－Lastevsti，1．L．J－174
Porkotter，ove 3－172
Paalkes，otto J－204
Pacter，freat 3－205
Pageber，Bertama 2－129
Iagemer，Johabses Jost 2－129
Iagener，Johanaes Reiarich
2－129
Mageaer，Paol－J．2－129
Yagaer，Irene 2－119
iagaer，Joseph George 2－116
Valbrock，Barry 1－034
Valker，fon 1－016
Valter，Di，Y．V．，Jr．3－199
Hall，2－13s

Hallace, Ida 2-114
Mallath, Charles 2-095
Ialst, daes 3-204
lialters, 2-147
Fahn, villi j-906
larates, Deloral Gail 2-115
Varakea, Martha 2-115
luraken, lajurd 2-115
Varakea, Sadra 2-115
Vitts, Hlan 2-092
Ietrer, Ierilee 1-002
Peber, Loose 3-281
Yeber, frances 2-131
leber, Pustor 1. J. 1-003
Veber, iter. 1. ₹. 1-021
legaer, binda 2-111
legber, Robert 2-111
Tegaer, Perlie J-180
Tegaer, Yerlie 1-006
Pegoer, Verlie 2-111
leidaer, 3-191
Ieideer, Alrit 1-003
leidaer, laa Grafe 2-100
Ieidaer, Charles 2-101
Veidner, Cord teader 2-101
Teidaer, Brilie Panline 2-100
Ieidaer, friedrich leberecht
2-100
Meidaer, friedrich Vilbele
2-100
Peidaer, friedricl leberecht, Jr. 2-100
Peidaer, Banad Fraake 2-100
Ieidzer, lana Christiza
2-100
Yeidaer, lanae Claristizae
2-100
Ieidser, Beiarich doolph
2-100
Yeidaer, Johaa Gottlieb
2-100
Veidner, Jobran Christoph
2-100
Peidaer, Johan Gottlob 2-100
Teidaer, Johzad Christiasa
Vehaer 2-100
Veidoer, Jobase Friederike
Lonist2sch 2-100
Teiduer, Joseph 2-101
leidser, lovise foerster 2-101
Ieidser, Looise Bartels 2-101
Teidoer, Mareas 2-100
Reidaer, Mirie lagoste 2-100 leidner, IIrie Largbein Irait 2-101
Ieidaer, Marie Birle 2-101
Ieidaer, larz 2-100

Veidaer, Paol 2-100
Veidser, Soptie Seetatz 2-101
Teigas, J-194
Teise, 2-101
Veise, frazz 2-103
leise, I. I. 2-103
leise, Ieiarich 2-103
Teise, Satharina Dank 2-103
Teise, Paol 3-205
Teiser/lieser, 3-212
Neiss, 2-134
Teiss, Palise 2-137
Yellader, haralga 1-019
Vellaver, Maralya L. 2-1z1
Teller, j-218
Ieller, aan Beebinger 1-018
Veller, Carlie 1-018
Telles, Orsos 3-204
Tellama, 3-197
Tells, 2-104
Yeadel, J-210
Yeadt, Berma Bdrard 3-180
Teael, Ros. Cobsal Erich 1-003
leazel, 1-051
Teazel, Loas Schaman 1-018
Yeazel, gilda Schanam 1-018
Tearel, Joe 1-018
Ieazel, Pheodore 1-018
Verver, 3-212
leraer, 2-136
Verser, Erast 1. 1-003
Perner, Jeanaette 1-003
lessels, Bin 3-205
Yest, J. B. 2-13]
lest, Jeabae C. 2-131
Pestphal, Frederick 2-105
restphal, Ieariette 2-105
Tejel, 2-134
Peplad, 3-213
Yheeler, lat 2-085
Theeler, Villiat 8. 2-085
Yhite, Gifford 2-139
Wite, stirley 2-134
Thite, Shirlej 2-137
Pbite, Strilej 2-13!
Vhited, Don 3-201
Ibitnire, Major lathy
Hiederbofer 3-182
Pborton, Evageline Lossein
3-180
Vick, 2-114
Vick, Bent 2-120
lick, deasell 2-120
Yick, Jobn 2-114
rick, beo Johs 2-130
Vieclariog, 2-136
liede, J-197
Yiedenfeld, Estber Boerver 2-131

Viedenfeld, Ieariette
Geisecte 2-130
Tiedeafeld, Vilbela f. 2-1]o
Hiederzesders,lu. Canl 2-104
Viedret,lirs. M1rin 1-003
Vielad, friedrich 3-205
riese, 3-197
Viesepape, J-197
Vieser, Alfred fredrict 2-142
lieser, Aln hate 2-142
Tieser, Angust lonsa 2-148
lieser, flort 2-142
Vieser, 䀲tha Carolise 2-112
Vieser, Berthe 2-144
lieset, Lodrig Predrict 2-148
Yieser, budvig Fredrick 2-143
Yieser, Wodvig fredrick 2-144
Vieser, ottiege 2-143
Vieser, ottiege ledt 2-141
Yieser, otto Lovis 2-142
lieser, paol 2-142
Vieser, Pobert 2-142
Vieser, Vilhenine Pablide
2-142
liesers, Bertha Carolide
2-14]
Viesnea, J-193
Yiesian,Sr. la fbeodore
3-193
Viesua, 8. I. Jack 2-129
Tilde, Oscar 1-010
lilde, Serall B. 1-212
Vilhela, 2-134
Viltias, 8obert P. 3-206
Pillcox, Jojce J-213
Villians, lagene Fietsan
2-120
Villians, Ros 2-130
Villians, Villanae 2-139
Villisan, laton 1-003
Pilleana, Christind 1-003
Vilsoa, Josepb 2-105
lilson, lon J-213
Fiadserg, j-205
Piadbichler, Elizabeth 1-017
Viadeler, Diane 3-184
Piadle, loreae froebser 1-004
Videy, Xichael J. 2-126
Viafield, Jody 3-176
Viafield, Math, Jr. 3-176
Viasel, Peter 1. 2-093
Yiakelanaa, J-191
Viokelnama, Reveraad richard 3-196
Viakler, Mrs. Alvia 3-205
Viaaiagbas, falpb 2-109
litt, lachel feinert 2-112
Vittbecker, Joha I. 3-199

Vittbecter, Sopbia D. J-199
Vitte, 2-13s
litte, Viltor/Fictor 3-171
Vitteaburg, bugesta Joliaar
sjdor 2-131
Vitteabarg, R. L. Iorlia 2-131
Vitteabarg, Villian kark
2-131
Vitter, 1-013
Vittke, canl 1-038
Volf, lilbela 3-211
Tolle, 2-104
Volif, laita lana 2-144
Yolfi, Bea Rerua 2-144
Yollf, billie fiel 2-141
Tolsb/Valschk, 2-135
Volters, ulfred 2-191
Volters, Mrs. 8. \&. J-199
Vonach, f. Xichael 2-11]
Yoods, Peary Gonzalivo 3-224
lottrich, fat 3-180
Vright, Dobie 2-086
Iright, Gradj 2-142
Iobbeaborsts, 1-017
Iuebler, Anaie lognsta foerth
3-219
Puebler, Heary lerna 3-219
Iraderlich, Detlef 2-11!
Posaeberger, 2-104
Yesterbausen, 2-104
Pyaza, Mark 2-109
Poder, Doa 2-091
Pork, Iaria 2-087
Pork, Nirian 3-174
Pork, Kiriat 3-181
Pork, Ririan Sorfi j-183
Pork, Liriat 3-301
Pork, Xiria 1-003
Pork, Xirian 1-005
Pork, Bitiat 1-066
Pork, Xirian Sorlf 2-117
Poobg, Clara Seas 1-003
Poosg, Irs. Barle B. 1-004
Poogg, Barle B. 1-004
Poong, Col. Josbad I. 3-201
Poosg, pat 3-207
Labieasty, 3-812
2aboroski, heoad 1-020
Zabn, lervig 3-302
Lander, 3-213
Leiss,Dr. George D. 1-003
Zeiss, Mrs. George A. 1-003
Leiss, George 2-131
Zeraial, 2-134
Zernial, Celia 2-137
Leroial, Clard stilie Padive 2-137
2eroial, Clara 2-137
vol Loseaberg, larjorie
1-004
poa Poseaberg, Pasl 1-028
von losenterg, Yillian 1-021 ron Roseaberg, lilliat 1-030
ron loseaberg, Iillian, dr.
1-029
poi loseaborg, $3-213$
roa Sach, J-213
roo Scholl, Christial Bodora 3-18]
rou Schveinitz, Ielga 3-174
ron Schveiaitz, Ielga J-201
ron Schveisitz, Belga 1-005
roa Schreiaitz, Selga 1-06s
roa Sciveiatz, Belga 1-002
roi Steabea, Buroa J-182
vos Strave, 3-213
ros leizzecker, Presideat
tichard j-184
roa Ieizsacher, Presideat 2-085
rol Ieizsacher, Presideat
lichard 1-085
ros lieriag, flones J-206
vor labieask, Rearietta 3-209
pon Zabn, Peter 3-204
pos der Perth, John 3-2ll
roa-Hazersti, 2-165

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- Showing visitors historical sites in my town/city/area.
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_- Photographing historical sites; Annual Meeting.
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EZ Other. Please list.
Send your check and this page to:
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
Anna Thompson, Executive Director
1011 Meredith Drive
P. O. Box 262

Manchaca, Texas 78652

## GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PUBLICATION SCHBDULE

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Subscriptions should be sent to the Menbership Bditor. Announcenents, articles, genealogical inquiries, conference, reeting and reunion dates, nevs of other Gernan heritage events, etc., are alvays velcone fron menbers. Correspondence, contributions and manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Bditor-in-Chief or to the appropriate nenber of the Editorial Board. Deadlines are posted on this page.

All articles nust be typed, SINGLE SPACBD, on 8 $1 / 2$-inch by 11 -inch white paper, with a $1 / 4$-inch nargin on all edges. The Bditor-in-Chief has the right to refuse any naterials that nay not be in accordance vith the by-lavs of the German-Texan Heritage Society.


ANYUAL MEEPINGS

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1990---Sept. 7-9
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    Elizabeth Lehrann
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    Brenhan TX 77833
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199 ---Sept 6-8
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Ingrid Brock
4317 Patrick
Corpus Christi TX 78413
(512) 852-8751
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1993---SAN ANGELO
Otto Tetzlaff
Angelo State Univ.
San Angelo TX 76901
(915) 944-1927
1994---PREDERICKSBURG
1995---VICTORIA
1996---INDUSTRY
Celebration, 150 Years
of Texas Statehood
1997---KRRRVILLE/BOERNE/COMPORT

Addresses of Interest to GTHS Members

Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublic Deutschland
(Consulate General of the
Federal Republic of Germany)
1330 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1850
Houston TX 77056
German Genealogical Society of America P. O. Box 291818

Los Angeles CA 90029
German Information Center
950 Third Ave.
New York NY 10022

German National Tourist Office 747 Third Ave.
New York NY 10017
Goethe Institut Houston
German Cultural Center 3120 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100 Houston TX 77098

Society for German American Studies Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati OH 45221

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| :---: |
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[^0]:    Austin American-Statesman/
    Neighbors, Jan. 25, 1990

[^1]:    Laot us nicht ümkuemen
    in Versökungen in Versökungen

[^2]:    

    ## ETHNIC FEST \& JAM SESSION - JUL. 21 8:00PM

    AUG. 04 7:30PM SEP. 08 9:00PM NOV. 17 8:11 PM BBC DINNER \& DANCE -KV 81 CROWNING -

    ## WINEFEST DANCE -

[^3]:    "Ney believed in the arts as instruments of human enlightenment," Blackmon said. "She gathered like-minded friends and artists - influential men and women who went on to create institutions for the arts that exist now."
    The museum, which houses the

[^4]:    San Antonio Conservation Society Newsletter, Jan-Feb, 1990

[^5]:    Library of Congress: A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research, by James C. Neagles, published 1990, illustrated, 381 pages, hardbound, ISBN 0-916489-48-5, available for $\$ 35.95$, plus $\$ 4.50$ shipping and handling, from Ancestry, Inc., PO Box 538. Department RV. Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0538; orders toll-free 800-531-1790 U.S. and Canada.

