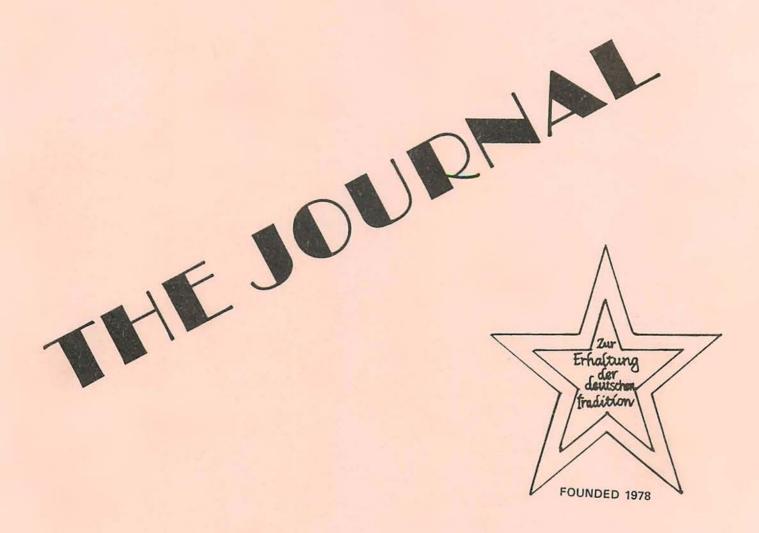
#### GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY



Volume XII Number 1 Spring, 1990

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#### German-Texan Heritage Society

Anna Thompson Executive Director 1011 Meredith Dr. (P.O. Box 262) Manchaca, TX 78652 512-280-3351

#### Officers/Directors

PRESIDENT Ann Becker Lindernann P. O. Box 218 Industry, TX 78944

VICE-PRESIDENT Mary M. El-Beheri 507 Parland Place San Antonio, TX 78209

SECRETARY Helgard Suhr 8 Mission Drive New Braunfels, TX 78130

TREASURER Dona Reeves-Marquardt Rt. 2, Box 239A Buda, TX 78610

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Fredericks Richter DeBerry 1023 Kemberton Drive Houston, TX 77062

Theresa Gold 106 Ranchland San Antonio, TX 78213

Frances Heimer Harrison 118 William Classen Drive San Antonio, TX 78232

Rodney C. Koenig 6 Valley Forge Houston, TX 77024

Robert Robinson-Zwahr 1524 12th Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

W. M. Von-Maszewski 2222 Cherry Lane Pasadena, TX 77502

Helga von Schweinitz 2319 Village Circle Austin, TX 78745

Miriam York 1409 East Austin Giddings, TX 78942

STATE HEADQUARTERS

Anna Thompson Executive Director 1011 Meredith, P. O. Box 262 Manchaca, TX 78652 (512) 280-3351

#### Standing Committees

MEMBERSHIP Dona Reeves-Marguardt

GIFTS & MEMORIALS Rodney Koenig

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NOMINATIONS Lewis Marquardt

PUBLICITY
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PUBLICATIONS
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HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK Leola Tiedt

PUBLIC RELATIONS/SPEAKERS BUREAU/RESOURCE DATA Ann Lindemann

#### Editorial Board

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (Temporary)
Theresa Gold
106 Ranchland
San Antonio TX 78213
(512) 344-7229

MANAGING EDITOR
Anna Thompson
2116 Lynbrook
Austin TX 78748
(512) 282-1933

MEMBERSHIP EDITOR
Dona Reeves-Marquardt
Rt. 2, Box 239-A
Buda TX 78610
(512) 295-5901

GENEALOGY and RELATED SUBJECTS
Theresa Gold
106 Ranchland
San Antonio TX 78213
(512) 344-7229

#### FOLKLORE

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

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

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

#### Editorial Board, continued

JOURNAL TOPIC INDEX and GERMAN-TEXAN REGISTRY W. M. Von-Maszewski 2222 Cherry Lane Pasadena TX 77502 (713) 477-2318

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

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

SPECIAL CONSULTANTS and CONTRIBUTORS Lisa Kahn 4106 Merrick Houston TX 77025 (713) 665-4325

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

John Kothman 2625 Hudnall #225 Dallas TX 75235 (214) 528-5646

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

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#### 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:
Registration Fee:  (Before August 7)x \$27.00  (After August 7)x \$32.00
Total  List the name of each person attending as you want it to appear on the name tag:
Street:
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 deadline at PREFERENCE INN is Aug 7, 1990. Please reserve early to insure the special GTHS room rate.
Name
Address:  Street: City State & zip Phone number and area code:
PREFERÊNCE INN 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 (elsewhere in Journal)

GTHS "The Journal" Year 1990 Vol. 12 (XII) No. 1 (Spring)

#### THEJOURNAL

#### **GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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## about the gths

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 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 YOU!

#### COME TO THE GTHS ANNUAL MEETING

BRENHAM, TEXAS

**SEPTEMBER** 7,8,9, 1990

#### Want to Help?

President Ann Lindemann in the January 20, 1990 Board of Director's of GTHS meeting 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)

Color monitor

3. 40 Megabyte Hard Drive

4. Printer (L'aser 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.

#### GTHS 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—1994. 1990 German-Texan Heritage Society

# LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK Estate Planning for Germans By Rodney C. Koenig

With the momentous activities occurring in Eastern Europe this point and with the likely reunification of East Germany and it Germany, the issue of leaving one's German Mark on our Texas Americans and Germans when the Berlin wall came down recently. Accordingly, this is a very opportune time to encourage all who are proud of our German heritage to take action to leave our German society may be becoming even more important. Many good feelings were engendered in the press and in the hearts and minds of West Germany,

Transference and the course of thousand several years ago. Texas-German course at the University of Housand several years do ago. Dr. Ted Gish taught the course at the Goethe Institute and Asta Grona, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Grona, was very member of the Damenchor of the Houston Saengerbund. Asta enjoyed many Tuesday evenings at the Saengerbund reliving her German 6 heritage. Unfortunately, Asta died on February 6, 1990 after an extended illness. However, Asta has left her German mark in that 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 available through the Houston Saengerbund at P.O. Box 70556, whoston, Texas 77270 for \$7.00 per copy, which includes postage and Recently, at the University of Houston a new scholarship fund was endowed which is known as the "ASTA GRONA GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP". Asta Grona and I attended a

Scholarship, a permanently endowed scholarship created recently, will have its income used for research assistantships in the German-Texan area or for scholarships for students interested in Texas-German pursuits at the University of Houston. We can all arruly say that Asta Grona has left her German mark. Asta will be missed by her many friends at the Houston Saengerbund, in the German-Texan Heritage Society and other organizations, as well as by her family. However, Asta's memory will continue to live on in the scholarship fund that she has created and will continue to live on in the history of the Houston Saengerbund which she so graciously funded. For individuals who wish to add to the Additionally, the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society scholarship fund known as the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship, donations should be sent to the University of added to the Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship. Houston, Institute of Texas-German Studies, 4800 Calhoun Street, Houston, Texas 77004 with a notation that such monies are to be

We should all attempt to leave our German mark as Asta has German mark. For those of us who wish to make charitable contributions currently, an income tax deduction will be available

The German-Texan Heritage Society now has a very good example to 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 to you and your family as well as the gratification of knowing that you have made a worthy gift to a good cause. Heritage Society. For large gifts, you might wish to consider using a charitable remainder unitrust or a charitable foundation. By 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 qifts made to a qualified charity such as the German-Texan

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.

## MEMORIAL GIFT

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PLEASE PRINT

Zip (Tel. No.) State Send notification of my gift to: Amount enclosed \$ Name of Donor In Memory of In Honor of Address city

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

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

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

#### Tentative Program

#### Friday, September 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 IMMIGRANT 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 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:
Registration Fee: (Before August 7)x \$27.00
(Before August 7)x \$27.00 (After August 7)x \$32.00
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Total
List the name of each person attending as you want it to appear on t
Street:
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Make check payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  Mail REGISTRATION and CHECK to:
Anna Thompson Ex. Dir.
P.O. Box 262
Manchaca, Tex. 78652
**************************************
HATEL DECEDIATION
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 deadline at PREFERENCE INN is Aug 7, 1990. Please reserve early to insure the special GTHS room rate.
Name
Address:
Street: City State & zip
Phone number and area code:
PREFERENCE INN 201 Highway 290 Loop East Brenham, Texas 77833
For additional hotal datails or phone reservations call: 409-830-1110.

Copyright © 1990 German-Texan Heritage Society

See Hotel location on Brenham map (elsewhere in Journal)



#### **Austin County**

### HISTORIC SAN FELIPE de AUSTIN

including

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK

(at San Felipe)



#### BELLVILLE O

Bellville, the "Belle of Bluebonnet Country," is the county seat of historic Austin County - "Birthplace of Texas' Anglo-American Colonization." The restored 1896 County Jail with original gallows has been converted to a County Historical Museum and houses offices of Austin County Historical Commission, Bellville's Historical Society and Chamber of Commerce.



SEALY O

Sealy, founded in 1879 by George Sealy of Galveston, was originally part of San Felipe, the "First Capital of the Texas Colonies" and "Cradle of Texas Liberty" because if its importance in Texas' fight for independence. It soon

became the area's railroad center. A Sealy pioneer patented one of the first mattresses. A blend of Anglo-Saxon, German and Czech cultures is seen in our architecture, food and customs.

#### **Washington County**

## STAR of the REPUBLIC MUSEUM

The Historical Museum of the Texas Republic Washington-on-the Brazos, Texas

#### The 100° Mailesi

The Brenham Maifest, celebrated annually, has become one of the most colorful, 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 Maifestival, an old fashioned German folk festival. During 1990 we will be celebrating our 100th Maifest. Be prepared to have a fun filled weekend.

#### Malfest

May10-12,1990 (409) 836-3695 P.O. Box 1588 Brenham, TX 77833



#### Monastery Miniature Horse Ranch

The Antique Rose Emporium



#### **Fayette County**

## KREISCHE BREWERY



state historic site

La Grange

#### 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, Hollas, 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.

#### SWISS ALP

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.

#### WINEDALE HISTORICAL ENTER

Round Top, Texas

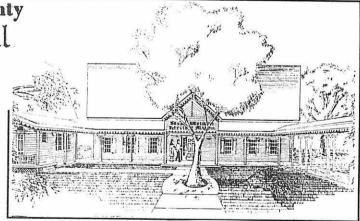
#### FREYBURG

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 Lillie Moerbe Caldwell

Memorial Library

Serbin, Texas



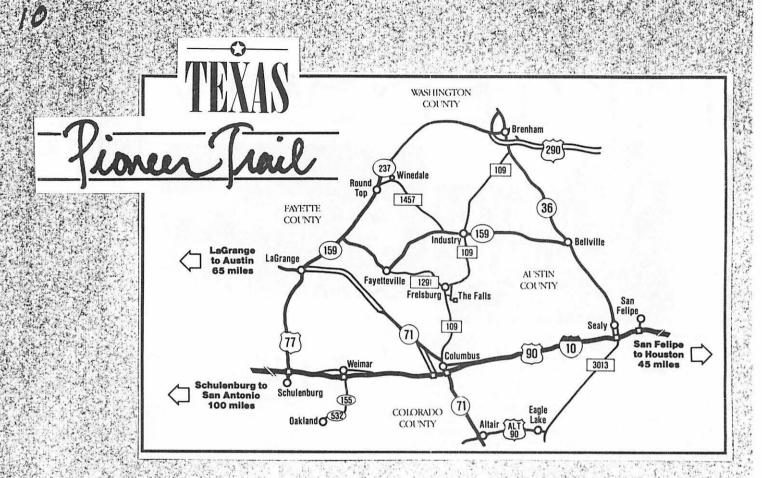
The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum

**Colorado County** 

COLUMBUS

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL MUSEUM,





#### Industry



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.





#### LA GRANGE O

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-the-Brazos 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. Washington County . . . you'll love our "Good Nature."

#### SCHULENBURG G

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

## TRIAS:

#### COLUMBUS O

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 Anglo-American 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 O

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 Southern 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 location of the restored Southern 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.

#### **Austin County**



---Compiled by the Industry-West End Historical Society

#### NEW ULM

**WEST END** 

In 1841 a community known as Duff's Settlement evolved on land owned by James Duff. By 1850 immigrants from Ulm, Germany comprised the majority of the citizens, so the community changed its name to New Ulm 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 Bleiblerville.



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

#### 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 community 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 Latium in the 1840's

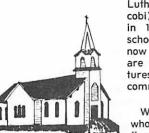


Shelby's Harmonie Hall

#### **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. Jacobi) Church, established in 1869, and the public school building (1870-1952), now owned by the church, are two remaining structures that signal how the community once thrived.



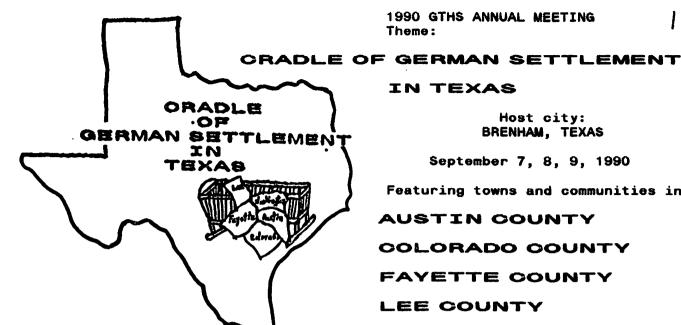
#### WELCOME

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 two-

story "barn-shaped" building. Today's look occurred during a turn-of-the-century remodeling.



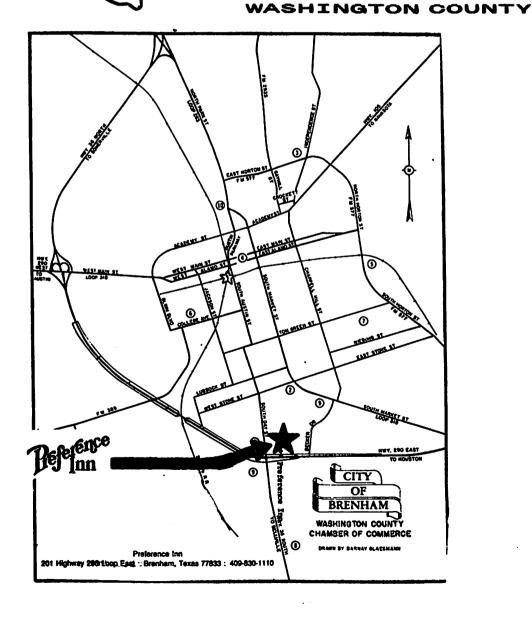
IN TEXAS

Host city: Brenham, Texas

September 7, 8, 9, 1990

Featuring towns and communities in:

AUSTIN COUNTY **COLORADO COUNTY FAYETTE COUNTY** LEE COUNTY



14

GTHS Annual Convetion September 7-9
Brenham



The Cradle of German Settlement in Texas \*

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 WASHINGTON 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, furniture 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.

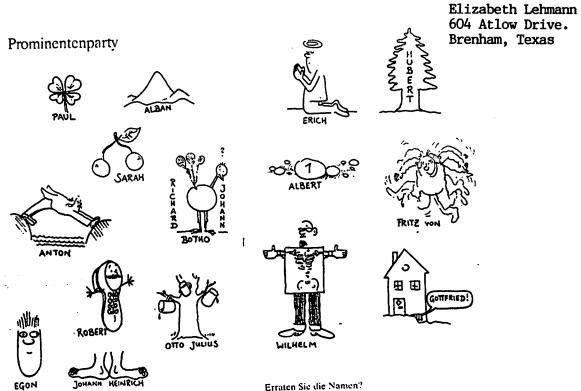
A small town known as Union Hill in early Texas history, situated in northwestern Washington County became a German settlement of immigrants from the large area of Rehburg, then known as The Princely Kingdom of Hannover in the 1840's. Some of the families who moved here from Austin County joined their 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 Penn, and continues 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.)



From "The Medallion" Texas Historical Commission, Feb. 1990, pages 1 & 7

Carnegie, were enough to hire architect Charles H. Page of Austin to design the current structure. It was completed at a cost of \$28,750.

two-year colleges in the state. Texas. Today, it is one of the leading first county-owned junior college in College a public institution and the college district, thus making Blinn ington County that created a junior 1937, an election was held in Washprivate, non-sectarian institution. In rescue by chartering the school as a again, Brenham citizens came to the was decided to close the school. Once town. When that didn't work out, it Southwestern University in Georgedecided to merge the college with problems, the Conference in the 1930s enough. Still plagued by financial the college, however, were not Local support and enthusiasm for

The Main Building, an amalgamation of Spanish Revival and turn-of-the-century Texas Commercial architecture, remained structurally intact until the 1960s, when major modifications were made to accommodate the school's growing student population. Normal wear and tear, as well as continuing problems with the roof, also took their toll on the landmark, and in 1988 school officials decided it was time to restore the grand structure.

At a cost of approximately \$3 million, the building's exterior and interior hallways were restored to their original appearance, and the mechanical and electrical systems were replaced and modernized. Of Wext

York, the Rev. Christian Blinn, was persuaded to donate funds on a matching basis to build the first Main Building, a large two-story wooden structure. Two years later, the school was renamed Blinn College in his honor. Despite this financial boost, the

School continually was beset with low school continually was beset with low enrollment and financial difficulties. Monetary support from the Conference was minimal, and facilities had proven to be quite inadequate by the early 1900s. In 1905, the Conference debated moving the school to a city that could provide a broader financial base as well as more students. Although proposals were received from both Seguin and Waco, the citizens of both Seguin and Waco, the citizens of Sacres of land, a house, and \$2,000 tim cash. The Conference with a house, and \$2,000 in cash. The Conference agreed to

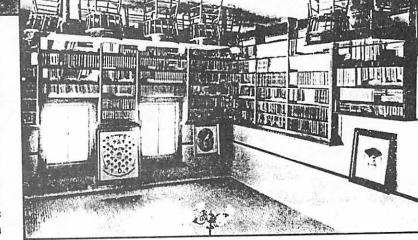
With the question of location settled, administrators agreed that a new main building was needed for classroom and office space. Donations were solicited from former students, local citizens, and the Blinn family. These funds, aided by a matching grant from philanthropist Andrew grant from philanthropist Andrew

keep the college in Brenham.

"Old Main" keeps rightful place on campus

In 1906, the Main Building on the campus of Blinn College in Brenham was built to serve a struggling young institution grappling with enrollment and financial problems. In 1989, more than 80 years later, college officials recognized the importance of the building by approving extensive rehabilitation work for the campus land-

Blinn College was founded in 1883 as Mission Institute by the Southern German Methodist Conference. It began classes at a local church with just three students before moving to a small frame building with both classroom and dormitory space. In 1887, a wealthy retired minister from New wealthy retired minister from New



The Blinn College Library, located in the Main Building, had acquired numerous volumes for student use by 1906. Right, students prepared for a business career in the Commercial Department Classroom.

#### Blinn's "Old Main" ---continued

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 Equipment for Manchaca Office

#### Nase

Biesele, John J. & Marguerite M. Breshears, Geraldine Weige Cristofich, Mrs. Catherine De Vos, Julius E. & Ruby E. Edgar, Betty K. Ehler, Rev. & Mrs. Clarence C. Engelhardt, Dr. & Mrs. H. T. Engelking, Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph A. Fritz, Sr. Marlene K. Fuchs, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Otto L. Serfers, Alice K. Groeschel, Ludwig & Edna Guthrie, Inez M. Habenicht, Henry R. Harrowing, Mr. & Mrs. Frank T. Hennech, Mike Joyner, Florence L. Kloppe, Ed Koehl, Michael F. MD Krause, Jr., Lee A. & Gladys J. Lehnhoff, Kurt F. Lyons, Mayda L. Marburger, Mr. & Mrs. Elmo 6. McGrory, Marie Zipprian Mellor, Doris R. Moses, Nellie Kinkler Novosad, Mrs. Helen Rossner, Louis M. & Willowdeen Schuldt. Mr. & Mrs. Erben Taylor, Vivian Froehlich Trenckmann, Mrs. Helen Uecker, Jeraid Walker, Bobby Jean Weidner, Mr. & Mrs. Alvic

#### NOTES FROM EDITOR (Temporary)

As we sign "30" to another JOURNAL issue, this Editor Pro Ten sends thanks to all who sent materials for this issue, especially to Conrad Goetting of Binbeck for his article on the geography of Germany, 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 W. M. Von-Maszewski and Cathleen Witt Stahmer for the annual indices. Thanks also to Patsy Hand of Victoria who clips the Victoria and Yorktown newspapers, to Rodney Koenig 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 know that you, the members and readers, want a publication delivered timely, we ask that you, the contributors, send us materials on a timely basis. Then, we, the editors, will do whatever is necessary to hassle with the technical details to produce the publication. You will note the JOURNAL deadlines are on the 20th of February, May, and October. But, don't wait 'til the 19th to write up and mail in your item. Give us time 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 may send it to Theresa Gold, Ann Lindemann, or Anna Thompson (at our office), and we will distribute it to the proper person. We do ask that you send all family reunion information directly to the genealogy editor, Theresa Gold. This is especially critical with the popular reunion season coming up soon.

In between issues of the JOURNAL is a leaflet "Newsletter" with brief items of a timely nature. Deadline for next "Newsletter" items is May 20. Send items to GTHS office in Manchaca.

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

#### East, West, Honesty's Best

A citizen of the German Democratic Republic gave new meaning to 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.

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## CULTURE AND TRAVEL

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). 

▼ 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?

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.

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

## E. Germans add concrete to wall

Associated Press

BERLIN — East German soldiers are placing fireproof concrete panels along part of the Berlin Wall to thwart 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. Cabinet Forms Committee on EC, GDR to Negotiate on Economic Agreement Over 4 Million East Germans Foreign Banks To Locate in Buy DM 570 Million in 1990 German Unity 700,000 New West Germans Kohl Spells Out Conditions for Berlin (West) Kohl to U.S. Senators: Bonn's Roots Are in the West German Unity Berliners Demonstrate Against "Salling Out" the GDR GDR Announces Radical West German Banks Open Offices in GDR Economic Policy Change Lufthansa, Interflug Expand

NATO Ministers Welcome Chance for German Unity Von Weizsäcker Praises GDR "Peaceful Revolution"

Schäuble: Gate Will Remain **Open for Resettlers** 

Council: Joint Efforts Toward GDR Reforms Needed

Gerecher, Bush Agree on Reforms in East **Bundesbank to Return** GDR-Marks Topier Sees More Ecological Cooperation with GDR Relations

A New Year In Intra-German

West Germans Doctors to Help Ease GDR Shortage **NATO in a United Germany** 

Ecologists Call for Upgrading of GDR Autos

GDR Returns Old Manuscripts to Hamburg Library

1990 Berlin Film Festival to Show in East and West

Bonn Offers GDR Talks on Currency

VW to Establish Joint Venture with GDR Firm

Union East and West Berlin Harmonize Smog Ordinances

**Bundestag Debates Economy,** Aid to GDR

**Ministers Report Progress in** Intra-German Cooperation

Berlin (East) to Train Berlin (West) Physicians Berlin Operas to Cooperate

East German Border Dogs Up

Bonn, GDR Agree on Economic Accords

Bonn Welcomes Opening of GDR Border Rent a Room in Dresden

**Discussion Continues on the** Oder-Neiße Line

Intra-German Round Table

Politicians Call for Calm as Iron Curtain Rises German Unity Debate

Genscher: Germans Will Not Go It Alone

Intra-German Talks Bear Fruit Western Firms Place Ads in East German Media

Lufthansa for Upgrading Intra-German Air Traffic

Kohi: No Aid to GDR without "Irreversible" Reforms

Kohl Outlines Proposal for German Confederation Weigel: Bonn Wants to Aid, Not Patronize GDR

West German States Help GDR Financially

Kohl Sees "New Togetherness" in Relations to GDR

EC Recognizes Germans' Right to Unity

20

#### 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.

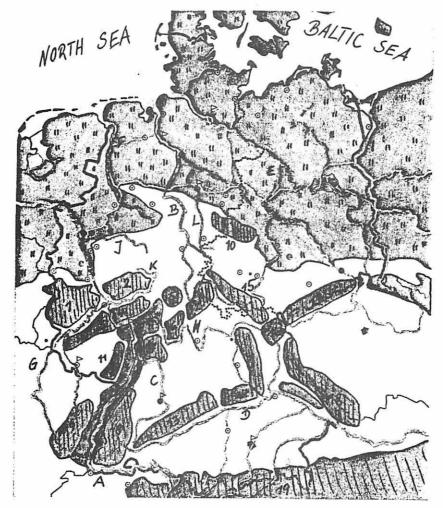
A great difference can be seen between the coast of the North Sea and that of the Baltic. On the former, where the sea has broken up the ranges of dunes formed by bygone times and divided them into separate islands, the mainland has to be protected by massive dykes, while the Frisian Islands are being 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 and helps



1 cm = 85 km

1	Eifel / Hunsrueck	17	Erzgebirge
2	Rothaar gebirge / Westerwald	18	Oberpfaelzer Wald /
3	Hunsrueck		Boehmer-wald /
4	Taunus		Bayrischer Wald
5	Voge Is bery	19	Alpen
6	Spessart	1.50. J	. 7
7	Ödenwald	$\mathcal{A}$	Rhein
8	Schwarzwald	$\mathcal{B}$	Weser
9	Vogesen	C	Neckar
	,. V	$\mathcal{D}$	Donau
10	Harz	E	ELBE
11	Pfaelzer Wald	F	Ems
12	Rhoen	G	MoseL
13	Schwaebische Alb	H	Main
14.	Fraenkische Alb	ï	Oder
15	Thueringer Wald	J	Ruhr
16	Fichtelgebirge	K	Lahn
	V V	1	/ Pin a

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.

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, 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 Würmer 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.

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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.

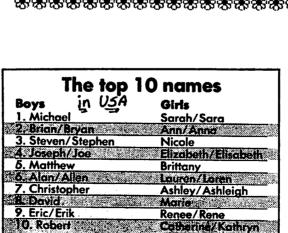
Pleistocine: referring to a geologic period of prehistory.

#### **Choice of Newborn's Names Changed Since 1889**

aniel, Patrick, Alexander, Chris-Daniel, I attice, I attice, I tian, 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 city'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.



SOURCE: SINEOD MARKETING GROU

Westberliner Studenten an der Ostberliner Universität

Studenten aus Berlin (West) können jetzt gegen eine monatliche Gebühr zwischen 10,- und 40,-DM als Gasthörer an der Ostberliner Humboldt-Universität studieren. In einem an der Westberliner Technischen Universität verbreiteten Merkblatt teilt der Rektor der Humboldt-Universität weiter mit, Bewerbungen für ein Vollstudium "auf kommerzieller Basis" nehme das "Exportbüro" seiner Hochschule entgegen.

German Radio Program

KVLG-AM, dial 1570, La Grange, Texas
Sundays, 12:30-1:00
and
During the week at 12:00 noon
"Thought for Today"

A.W. Wied, 2nd & 4th Sundays
Subject matter varies-Cultural, Ethnic, Religious, Historical

Harvey Meiners, 1st & 3rd Sundays
German music, songs, poetry

This program has been on the air
for seven years
And, with good response!

## Beautiful PASSAU

By NINO LO BELLO 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.

 Napoleon Bonaparte, who had besieged the town in 1807, confided to his biographer that he had not seen a more beauti-

ful town in Germany;

(2) Renowned world traveler, Alexander von 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.

'Floating 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 southeast-most corner of Germany just over the Austrian border, Passau embraces three rivers — yes, three rivers meet in one of the most unique, 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

of Passau's stellar magnetism.
Even if it weren't for Passau's remarkable location, the town would draw its lion's share of curiosity-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-to-shoulder 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

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



MAP BY FELIPE SOTO

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 embankments 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.



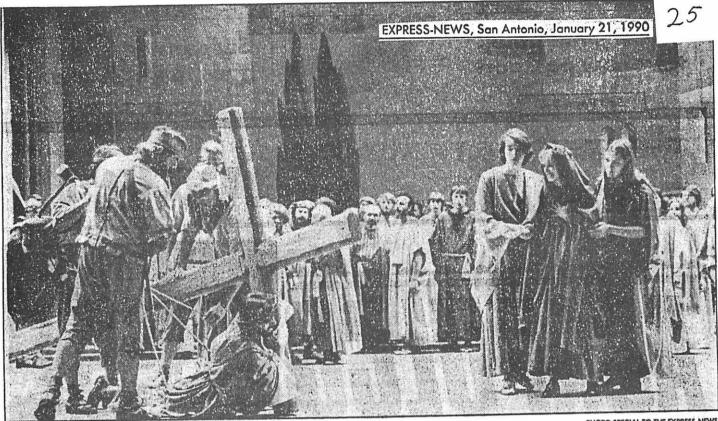


PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS

#### Passion play performance

One of the travel highlights of 1990 will be the world famous Oberammergau Passion Play, which is performed every 10 years and attracts thousands from around the world to this town in West Germany. The play is performed only once a decade as fulfillment of a

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

Angefangen hatte alles damit, daß im Jahre 1633, als die Pest wieder einmal 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. Dic 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 Oberammergauer Passionsspiele 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 älter als 35 Jahre sind. Es begab sich aber, daß einige Oberammergauer Frauen dies als Benachteiligung empfanden, denn ähnliche Beschränkungen für Männer enthalten die Oberammergauer Spielregeln nicht. Die Frauen zogen vor Gericht, und der Bayerische Verwaltungsgerichtshof sprach am 22. Februar sein Urteil in letzter weltlicher Instanz.

Voraufgegangen war eine mündliche Verhandlung, in der der Vertreter der Gemeinde Oberammergau die Gründe für die ungleichen Spielregeln dargelegt hatte: wenn für Frauen gewisse Restriktionen gelten, so hätte 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 muß 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, verstoßen gegen drei Verfassungsgrundsätze: den Gleichheitsgrundsatz, den Grundsatz der Gleichberechtigung von Frau und Mann sowie den Grundsatz vom Schutz von Ehe und Familie. Da die Richter eine Revision nicht zuließen, ist nunmehr Eile geboten, denn am 21. Mai findet die erste Aufführung der Spielsaison 1990 in Oberammergau statt.

pate, 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.

Women Win Equality in

Oberammergau Passion Play

vow made in the 17th century. Only village residents can partici-

The Bavarian Administrative Court in Munich ruled last week 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 play this 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.

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.

Sent by Geneva Tetley

SAN ANGELO STANDARD-TIMES-Wednesday, February 21, 1990-

## 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 Thursday 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.

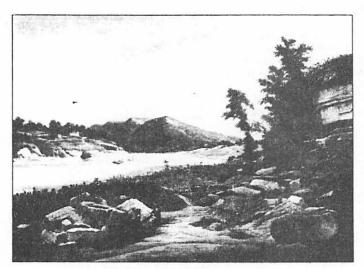
Selected from the Texas Collection at the San Antonio Museum Association, the group of works has not been exhibited as a whole beyond the San Antonio area. Texas Collection curator Cecilia Steinfeldt is preparing a book, "The Texas Collection 1845-1950: Regional Art in the San Antonio Museum Association," 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



'A White Road at Late Afternoon,' an oil painting by Julian Onderdonk.



A river scene near Fredericksburg by Herman Lungkwitz.

classically trained landscapists in the state for almost a generation after his arrival in the Texas Hill Country in 1851. Lungkwitz regarded nature as preeminent and conveyed a traditional Old World style to his landscape paintings.

Originally an immigrant to Castroville, Theodore Gentilz left a rich pictorial account of the San Antonio area including scenes of Texas Indians tribes, Hispanic and Anglo pioneer life, and local architecture such as the painting, Mission San Juan Capistrano. Though sometimes naive in execution, Gentilz' scenes from surveying expeditions to West Texas offer interesting nineteenth-century views of the region.

Paintings such as L. Schloss' Quien Sabe Ranch, 1899, honor Texas' ranching heritage and the heat and expanse of the nineteenthcentury cattle kingdom.

The exhibition also includes the

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

#### 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., No.5.

## ED KADLECEK and the BAVARIAN VILLAGE BAND AUGUST 18-25

## ALASKA C R U I S E

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New Braunfels TX 78130
(512) 625-9441
or:
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Anchors Aweigh/Eagle Travel
4043 Trinity Mills #112
Dallas TX 75287
(214) 307-8640 or (800) 326-7172

Hurry! 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?

Möglicherweise für immer ungelöst bleibt die Frage, welche Körpergröße Kaiser Karl der Große (747-814; Köchg der Franken seit 768; Römischer Kaiser seit 800) hatte. Sein Biograph Einhard setzte vor mehr als 1 000 Jahren als allgemein bekannt voräus, daß Kärl der Große steben Puß groß gewesen sel. Damit begannen die Unklarheiten, weil im frühen Mittelalter nicht so genau definiert war, wie lang ein Puß sei; die Angaben schwanken zwischen (nach beutigen Maßen) 25 und 34 Zentimetern je Fuß.

Seit dem 19. Jahrhundert sind die Gebeilie des im Aachener Dom bestatteten Frankenkaisers mehrmals vermessen worden. Auch damit war die Frage jedoch nicht zu lösen, denn die Forscher kamen zu ganz unterschiedlichen Ergebnissen: zwischen 1,79 und 1,92 Metern.

1983 beschloß das Aachener Domkapitel, den vom Verfall bedrohten Karlsschrein konservieren zu lassen. Vorher jedoch sollte endgültig geklärt werden, wie groß der Kaiser gewesen sei. Man beauftragte den Diplom-Biologen Joachim Schleifring und seinen Assistenten Wilfried Maria Koch mit der Vermessung der Knochen Karls des Großen. Schleifring veröffentlichte jetzt seinen Bericht, in dem er zu dem Ergebnis kommt, der Kniser sei 1,82 Meter groß gewesen. Außerdem, so Schleifring, gebe es keinen Hinweis auf die Vermutung, es handele sich bei den Gebeinen nicht um die sterblichen Überreste Karls des Großen.

In einem Punkt scheint allerdings Einigkeit unter den Wissenschaftlern zu bestehen: Kaiser Karl erhielt seinen Beinamen "der Große" nicht wegen seiner Körpergröße;

#### Charlemagne's Height Still a Mystery

How 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 20th centuries have ranged between a more modest 1.79 meters (5 ft. 10 1/2 inches) and 1.92 meters (6 ft. 3 1/2 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 ft. 11 1/2 inches).

#### Frankreich will Brandenburger Tor restaurieren

In einem Gespräch mit DDR-Kulturminister Dietmar Keller in Paris kündigte der französische Kulturminister Jack Lang am 27. Januaren, Frankreich werde international renommierte Restaurateure nach Berlin entsenden, die bei der Wiederherstellung des Brandenburger Tores und vor allem der bei den Silwester-Feierlichkeiten stark beschädigten Quadriga helfen sollen. - Außerdem will Frankreich im Rahmen der "komplexen Stadterneuerung" Weimars die Restaurierung des Franz Liszt-Hauses übernehmen.



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#### German-American Youth Exchanges

In 1989, some 6000 young Americans traveled to the Federal Republic to take part in German-American 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 4½ 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 Average length of university studies in years 7.5 years Italy 7.3 Austria Germany 7 **France** 5.9 Holland 5.5 Sweden over 5 USA 4.3 Japan less than Britain

#### 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.

#### 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 years 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 Stuttgart-Munich 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.

Austin American-Statesman/ Neighbors, Jan. 25, 1990

call or write James Hardin 202/707-1741.

In Standard German

Vater unser

Vater unser im Himmel, geheiligt werde Dein Name. Dein Reich komme. Dein Wille geschehe, wie im Himmel so auf Erden.

Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute. Und vergib uns unsere Schuld, wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern.

Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung, sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen. Denn dein ist das Reich und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit.

Amen

In Plattdeutsch

Dat Vater unser

Guod, usse Vader in'n Hiemel, 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; Laot us nicht ümkuemen in Versökungen un mak us fri von all dat, wat von Üewel is.

Amen

(ins Plattdeutsche übersetzt von: Theodor Breider)

\*

Charles Sealsfield, THE CABIN BOOK. 283 pp.

\*\*\* A BOOK FOR YOUR RESOURCE LIBRARY \*\*\*

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.

And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us.

Give us this day our daily bread

And, lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power And the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

The American Folklife Center seeks articles for "Folklife Annual", a yearly publication on the traditional expressive 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 lcngterm projects and study.

For more information write The Editors, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540, or

"Sealsfield's hopes for America focused on Texas when he wrote Das Kajütenbuch in 1841. This novel, in part about Texas life in the 1830s, became a best-seller."

For the first time, this book has become available through GTHS. Send orders to P. O. Box 262, Manchaca, TX 78652. Price: \$8.00 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling.

See page 40, "Charles Sealsfield in Context".

There is no tax on books reprinted by GTHS

劵襐渉섌썛섏섏섏섏褰섏섏쌿쌿绻绻狻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻绻

## EVENTS AND PLACES



Marion Perry and Dr. Doug Hall, dressed as Texas settlers from Germany, circa 1860-1870, enjoy the 'Toast to Texas' festivities 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. 30 1877 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



San Antonio Express-News March 3, 1990



May 5 & 6 and 12 & 13

Galveston Historical Foundation 2016 Strand, Galveston, TX 77550 409 765- 7834 or 713 280-3907

1890 John C. Trube Home 1627 Sealy

1888 Frederick K. Fisher Home 3503 Avenue P

1916 Louis H. Runge Home 1301 Market

03 Charles Drouet Home 1003 Sealy

1895 Henry Stringfellow Home 1407 Ball

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

#### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

```
APRIL
20-22
         SAN ANGELO: West Texas Polka Festival. 915/655-3325 or 653-9491
20-29
         SAN ANTONIO: 99th 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
25-29
         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
         AUSTIN COUNTY: Back Roads Wild Flower Tours. Trail maps available
1-31
             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 O Meusebach. 512/997-2835
5
         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 entertain-
             ment 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
         NEW BRAUNFELS: Old Gruene Market Days. 512/629-2351
19
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
         COLUMBUS: 29th Magnolia Homes Tour & 36th Live Oak Arts & Crafts Show.
19-20
             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 1990 Events of the Houston Liederkranz, see page 32.
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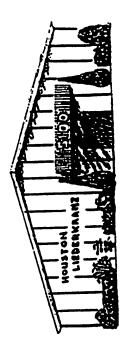
For 1990 Events of the San Antonio Liederkranz, see page 38.



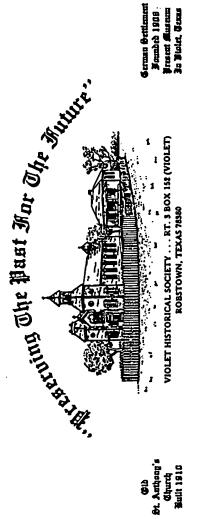
# Mouston Wiederkranz

## 1990 EVENTS:

APR. 28 9:00PM	MAY 19-20	JUN. 10	- JUL. 21 8:00PM	AUG. 04 7:30PM	SEP. 08 9:00PM
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	1		95	≪5	¥
SPRING FEST DANCE -	SANGERFEST	PICNIC -	ETHNIC FEST & JAM SESSION	BBQ DINNER & DANCE	WINEFEST DANCE -



For info contact H O U S T O N L I E D E R K R A N Z 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, Texas 77018, (713) 957–9004.



## June 9 & 10, 1990 80th Anniversary of St. Anthony's Church, Violet, Texas (Nueces Co.)

St. Anthony's at Violet, Texas was founded in 1910 by German Catholic pioneer settlers in Nueces County.

The 80th Anniversary festivities include:

Sat. June 9: Public dance, 8:30-12:00 at Robstown
Community Hall.

NOV. 17 8:11PM

HKV 81 CROWNING -

Sun. June 10: Mass, catered noon meal (\$4.50),
visiting, polka music. Also, the
Violet Museum will be open. This is
in the first church, built in 1910,
now on the National Register of
Historic Places and operated as a
museum by the Violet Historical
Society.

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

See article elsewhere in this issue on "Germanfest at Violet" the Violet Historical Society's annual benefit festival. Each year, they serve over 1,250 persons!

## 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

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

"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.'

"Ney believed in the arms struments of human enlightengathered like-minded friends and artists - influential men and women who went on to create institutions for the arts that exist

The museum, which houses the

world's largest collection of Ney sculptures, owns several unusual gowns worn by Ney dating from the 1860s, 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 Europe-an 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

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

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 ti-tled "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

San Antonio's historic Menger 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 National 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.

"Our interest is not only in encouraging 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

Trust as a donation.

The Menger Hotel was built by restorations. William Menger in 1859 and grew Copies of "Historic Hoters 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

portion of the cost is returned to the Jenny Lind. The original hotel has undergone several additions and

San Antonio Conservation Society Newsletter, Jan-Feb, 1990

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JAMES STRYK & MOONRIDERS! (HOUSTON, TEXAS)

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THE ADAM BARTHALT BAND! (LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK)

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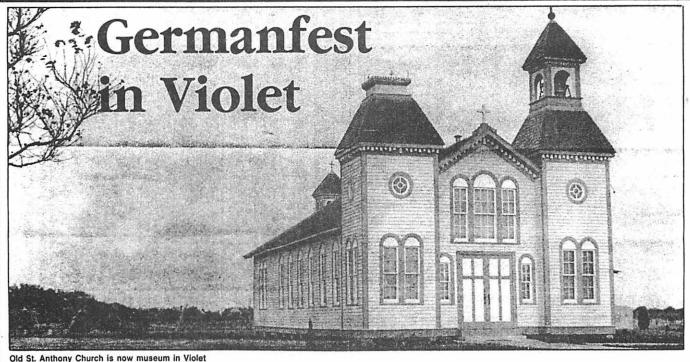
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE P.O. BOX 1588 BREWHAM, TX 77833

STAY LATE

COME EARLY

FREE PARKING

Sent by: Evelyn M. Kalinec ......



## Sausage dinner, entertainment and demonstrations slated

ermanfest means food. Lots and lots of food. And fun. And a trip back in 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 bill-board of "Matilda and Heinrich" who greet all visitors and passers-

A sausage dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for \$4.50 a plate. The menu includes mild sausage with barbecue sauce, sau-erkraut, hot buttered potatoes,

green and pinto beans, pickles, onions, bread, dessert and tea or coffee. There is also a drive-up

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, Today, there is one store--and an empty filling station. Germany.

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 Leola Tiedt, La Grange, TX

## Wilhelm Niermann »entdeckte« Neu-Wehdem im US-Staat Texas 20-Jahr-Feier der Kirchengemeinde mit Gästen aus der alten Heimat?

Auf dem Friedhof viele Grabsteine mit bekannten Wehdemer Namen

Wehdem/New Wehdem/USA (weh). Schwarzbraue Bloom mitgen Kopf grasen auf den riesigen Welden, tropische Pflanzen wachsen im milden Klima, vereinzelle Farmen liegen weit verstreut in Umland. Nur die Kirche mit ihrem angestieren Friechof und das ikelne Schulgebande

künden davon, daß sich auf diesem texanischen Fleckehen unweit der 10 000-Einwohner-Stadt Brenham, etwa 35 Meilen westlich des NASA-Domizils Houston gelegen, so etwas wie ein Ort oder eine Gemeinde befindet.

Namen der Gemeinde: \*St. James Lutheran Church\* steht dort geschrieben, und darunter – etwas Kleiner, aber nicht minder deutlich - «Of New Wehdem«! Hier ist nicht etwa der Zufall im Spiel – «New (Neu)-Wehdem« in Texas erhielt seinen Namen in Anlehnung an un ser Dorf, das sich am Fuße des Stemweder Berges befindet: des über 1000 Jahre alte westfälische Wehdem! Entdeckt wurde das US. Gegenstück kürzlich von einem be-kannten »deutschen« Wehdemer, Tatsächlich: vor der Kirche findet Besucher ein Schild mit dem der in Houston zu Besuch weilte. Wilhelm Niermann, Nr. 113, der

Neffe des verstorbenen Ministers Gustav Niermann und zudem Vor-sitzender des Wehdemer Reichs-bundes, besuchte diesen Ort jetzt während seiner vierten Amerika-Reise!

namens Carl Pieper. Zufällig stellte sich hersus, daß dessen Vater im Jahre 1904 von der Stätte Wehdem Nr. 25 nach dem schon vorhande-nen New Wehdern/USA aussiedelte und dort nach seinem Tode begra-ben wurde. Wilhelm Niermann überreddes seinen Freund, mit him zu diesem denkwurdigen Ort zu fahren. Als beide dort angekommen Umstånde verhalfen ihm zur Entdeckung dieser kleinen Gemeinde. Wilhelm Niermann be-suchte in Houston einen Bekannten Glückliche

waren und den Friedhof von New Wehdem besichtigten, dessen Grabmale ausschließlich deutsche Namen aufwiesen, fühlte sich Wil-helm Niermann doch stark berührt!

deren Nachhaman in Wehdem auch heute noch bekannt sind. Wilhelm Miermann hat einige Gedenksteine – fotografiert, deren Namen ihm besonders aufgefallen sind. So liegt dort auch ein Wehdemer mit dem Namen Richter. Er stammt, so der Namen Richter. Amerika Besucher, nachweislich von der heutigen Stätte Stein, Wehdem Nr. 179. Aus der Grabinschrift geht hervor, daß dieser Richter im texanischen Krieg gefallen ist.
Auch Christoph-Ludwig Ernshoff sliegt dort begraben. Er lebte von begraben Dort lagen Menschen

1811 bis 1878 und könnte eventuell Losch weitergeführt wurde.

## 00.01 SUNDAY SCHOOL, 900 DAVID BULGERIN JAMES An Church OF NEW WEHDEN WELCOME SINCE 1889 PASTOR LUTHERAN WORSHIP

Vehdem\* in der Nähe der texanischen Stadt Brenham. Hier fanden die Wehde mer eine neue Heimat. Das Schild der Kirchengemeinde »Nev

in der Nähe des heutigen Wehde-mer Plarthaues gewohnt haben. Der Grabstein eines anderen Chri-stoph Emshoff kündete davon, daß dieser von 1846 bis 1894 gelebt hat. Wilhelm Niermann fand auch die in Lösche mit seinem »e« in der englischen Sprache schwierig auszusprechen war und somit einfach als Wehdem vorkommenden Namen Rosenbaum uhd Lösch, letzteren allerdings ohne »e« hinter dem »sch«. Er vermutet, daß der Name

## Gibt die 100-Jahr-Chronik Geheimnisse preis?

kannte in den USA etwas von der Geschichte der Kirchengemeinde zu erfahren. Er hofft, daß dort eine Chronik existiert. Diese, so Wilhelm Niermann, könnte anläßlich der 100-Jahr-Fleir erstellt worden sein. Die RAHDENER ZEITUNG wird, falls diese Chronik auffaucht, Bereits 1869 wurde die Kirchen-gemeinde New Wehdem gegründet; in diesen Jah wird sie ihr 120jähri-ges Bestehen feiern, Wilhelm Nier-mann versucht nun, über eine Be-

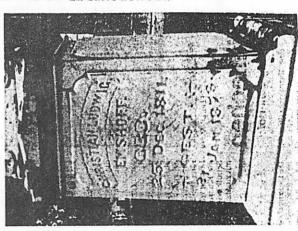
ausführlich über die Entstehungsgeschichte der Kirchengemeinde New Weńdem berichten.

Stemweder Dörfern im 19. Jahr-hundert viele Menschen nach Ame-rika aus. Mit dem Zusammenbruch der Leinenproduktion im Altkreis Lübbecke (preisgünstigere, industrielle Ferdigung kam auf) sowie der zunehmenden Anzahl von Kindern in den Familien, die in jenen Bekanntlich wanderten aus den

schlechten Zeiten kaum ernährt werden konnten, suchten sich viele Stemweder in den Staaten eine

dort nur 15 Millionen Einwohner auf einer Fläche, die dreimal so groß ist wie die Bundesrepublik... Gegend um New Wehdem vor-nehmlich Baumwolle angebaut ha-ben. Der US-Staat Texas ist noch immer ein sprichwörtlich "unberenztes Land\* - auch heute leben neue Existenz. Die Übersiedler müssen in der

This article submitted by Fredericka Richter DeBerry



dem dortigen Friedhof. Er fand einige Nachnavor, die es heute noch Stein, Richter und Pieper. Auf dem in Wehdem gibt; so auch die Na-1878finden then, die Chronik der Kirchenge-neinde zu be-Diesen Grabstein deutscher Inthaltes in New che Namen, Wil-Niermann nun versu-Rosenbaum Veu)-Wehdem, exas/USA, and seines fast and Stemwede GE.

Bereits seit 1869 gibt es die Kirchengemeinde New Wehdem. Die Kirche dürfte sicherlich aus neuerer Zeit stammen, Hinter der Kirche befindet sich der Friedhof

sicherlich aus neuerer Zeit stam: mit den deutschen Übersiedlern.

vig Emshoff, ge-loren 25. Dec. -Christian-Lud-Rahden 88 88 88 88

## Terminkalender

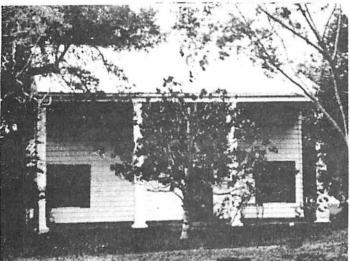
Stemwede-Haldem: 15 Uhr Sitzung des Bau, Planungs-und Wirtschaftsförderungsaus-schusses der Gemeinde Stem-wede in der Gastsfätte Rosen. garten/Schepshake mit den Themen vGroßMaranlage und Klärschlammbeseitigung. Dielingen: 16-17 Uhr BEK. Beratung in der Gemeindever-waltung Dielingen.

## Schulenburg Historical Museum

The Chamber Of Commerce Presents ...

## SCHULENBURG SIGHTS

A Weekly Column By Paul A. Prause On Tourist Attractions in Schulenburg
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.

## LEGACIES 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 cattle 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 corner 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.





## San Antonio Liederkranz

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 Mountain and Cypress Mill German-American Pioneers and descendents will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 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.

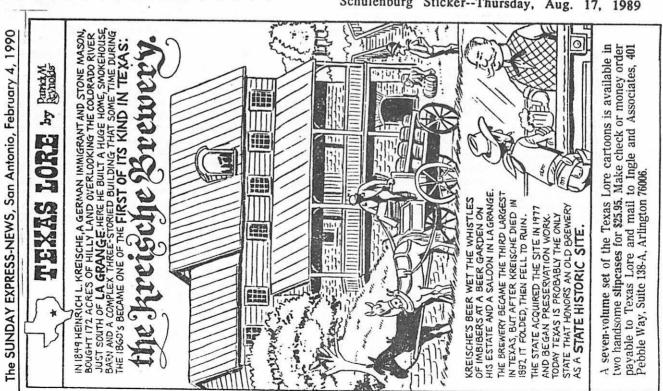
The High Hill centennial history was published in 1960 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of St. Mary's Parish in High Hill. The book is now in its fourth printing. The book contains information on the history of St. Mary's Parish, former pastors, St. Mary's School, vocations, societies, etc. In addition, 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, 409-743-3450.

Schulenburg Sticker--Thursday, Aug. 17, 1989



Stanton is located between Midland and Big Spring. It was settled in 1881 by German Catholics from The original name was Grelton, Anderson County. then Mariemsfeld (Field of Mary). In 1890, it was renamed Stanton by petition of the Protestants. from: 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 ...." 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 reputation grew, the school received pupils from other states, including New Mexico, Arizona, California, Oklahoma, 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

Commission: The Medallion

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

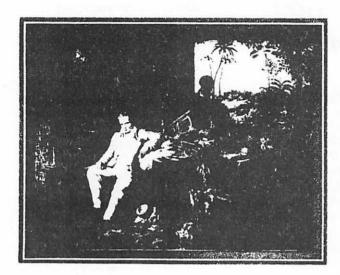
Finally, after the 1938 tornado, the Sisters of Mercy closed the Academy and sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kelly, owners of the Stanton Reporter. The couple took up residence in the convent and eventually passed it to their grandchildren.

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 renovations. 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.

## history e research



## 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 Voyange auxx regions equinoxiales dis

nouveau continent (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 Koomos. Entworf einer physicalischen Weltbeschreiburng 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

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 from all over the world. Its aim is to ga her 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, Furthermore, 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 reset-

tlement 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

Andreas V. Reichstein, <u>Rise of the Lone Star</u>: 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 raed 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 full-length 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 Ph.D. 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 demythification 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 Texana. 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 Commission and Museum Services Department, continuing requests for the book prompted her to seek funds to

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, <u>Pioneer Jewish Texans</u>. 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 The first group are the true pioneers-- those who achievements. 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

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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 research, 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.

HENRY J. HAUSCHILD sells rare books, historical documents, photographs, sheet music, etc., and has many OLD books in German for sale. Contact him at P. O. Box 1129, Victoria TX 77901 or call (512) 575-5210.

"Yorktown News"
Jan. 24, 1990
sent by Patsy Hand

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JOURNAL,

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1989,

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## **RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

American Backwoods Frontien. An Ethnic and Ecological **Interpretation** (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989). 340 pp. \$36. A glance at the extensive bibliography 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 folk 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 Kauns was invited to collaborate with Jordan on this impressive contribution to our knowledge of folk construction styles and their diffusion in North America. Geographers by profession, the authors include the story of their field work, back it up with many photographs, add expertly drawn sketches and comprehensive footnotes. The preface and Chapter two, "In search of a Mainspring" lay out the terms and the hypotheses which eventually comprise the book: The Finns, through the settlements of Swedes in Delaware, and the eastern woodland indians of colonial America, in particular the Delaware tribe, were the most significant contributors to the backwoods pioneer adaptive system of construction

The Immigrant in America Microfilm Collections Unit St The Germans, Reels 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 Doutsch-Amerikanisches Conversations-Lexileon by Alexander Schem, as well as standard histories by Cronau, Deiler, Fritsch, Goebel, Hense-Jensen, Kapp, Koerner, Klauprecht and others. Since 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 Krampikowski, ed. Amerikan isches Deutschlandbild und deutsches Amerikabild. Interkulturelle Erziehung, Band 10 (Baltmanns-weiler: Pådagogischer Verlag Burgbücherei Schneider, 1990), 421 pp. Conseveral SGAS members including 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 qualitativen Analyse." An attempt to move beyond the graphic units and signs of borrowed words, to the social, cultural and psychological concepts that accompany the loaned terminology. Excellent graphs and tables. Another SGAS member is Hans Galinsky who treats the "Wechselbeziehungen zwischen der deutschen und der amerikanischen Lit-eratur mit Einschluß ihrer Bilder vom anderen Volk". This is an authoritative and pioneering investigation of the expository and imaginative German literary scene in North America and presented here for the

Peter Freeoui, Religion and Dialect: Catholic Latheran Dialects in the German of DuBois County, Indiana. 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 settiers from several parts of Germany, and the language equates with the German spoken in large areas of southern Germany. 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 language competing for attention but an integral part of the state's cultural traditions. Copies of the dissertation are in the libraries of IU Bloomington and Indianapolis, as well as in the county library at Jasper.

From GGSA

Newsletter

Hier snackt wi Plattdustock (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.

Karl J. R. Arndt and Reimer C. Eck, compiled by Gerd-J. Bötte and Werner Tannhof, from a compilation by Annelies Müller, The First Century of German Language Printing in the United States of America, A Bibliography Based on the Studies of Oswald Scidensticker and Wilbur H. Oda, Vol.1 (1728-1807) (Göttingen: Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitäsbibliothek, 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 Identity," Journal of American Ethnic Histery, 9 (Fall, 1989), 36-66, with quite a few references to Germans in Penn-

Don Heinrich Tolzmann, ed., Sourcebook for the German-American Heritage Month (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 for using it each year in October. Contact: Don Tolzmann, University of Cincinnati, Langsam Library ML 33, OH 45221.

## Terry G. Jordan and Matti Kaups. The 891 pamphlet beckoned German settlers to Pilot Poin The Ballas Morning Monday, January 8, 1990 T Sent by: for the American frontier. Finno-Indic Dale seems the best word invention to define

Don

## THURMAN THURMAN Ing a piece on early German was researching a piece on early German settlements in Denton County, he visited with farm families north of Denton who still speak German as their first lan-

1891 pamphlet, published by two entrepreneurs, the Flusche brothers. The brothers had established earlier colonies in lowa, Kansas and Texas.

Marvin Sarvis, the librarian in UNT's rare book room, first discovered the document on the back of an old railroad map. The back of the map had been covered with sticky-backed paper, probably for rainforcoment, Mr. Cochren said.

Mr. Sarvis saw a loose corner on the railroad map, pulled back the paper, and saw printed words in old German Gothic type.

Kjell Johansen of UNT's foreign languages department translated the Gothic script. The cover read: "Pilot Point, the center of the great German Catholie settlement in northern Texas. Description of Pilot Point, Denton County, Texas. Report by the Point, Denton County, Texas.

Brothers Flusche."

In their advertisement

guage.

But the most revealing account of the early settlements came from an old pamphlet discovered in the rare book room at the University of North Texas library.

Mr. Cochran published the text of the 1891 pamphlet and accounts of the three German colonies in Denton County in the fell issue of the Denton Review. The new magazine is published quarterly by the Historical Society of Denton County.

German Catholics settled in Pilot Point, Mr. Cochran wrote, and German Protestants—mostly Methodists—settled in the Blue Mound and Round Grove communities.

The Germans who settled in Pilot Point were attracted to the area after reading the

and the eir advertisement touting Pilot e Flusche brothers promised a nd parochial school within a year. their promise. St. Thomas Catholic

brothers wrote,

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SIMMERIE

Church was consecrated in 1892 They also promised rich farmland, ample water, low prices and a healthful climate.

Denton County, they wrote, was formed of beautiful undulating prairie bisected by a band of woodland, with many streams and a "pleasing aggregation of the most beautiful nourishing grasses."

Pilot Point had a population of "1,500 souls" and was on a "gradually rising hill" that was formerly a landmark for hunters and drovers, according to the pamphlet.

The area had the "best farm and fruit land in the state" and was connected by rallined to higher trade centers.

A grinding mill, cotton press, canning factory, brickyard, bank and other bustnesses already were in town.

And the Plusche brothers were selling their 45,000 acres cheap, they said, it went for \$6 to \$12 an acre, helf the going price for the north protected the area from storms, they said. In addition to a long list of grains and vegetables that could be grown, the brothers emphasized that the area was well-suited to betkeeping and winemaking.

There were a few false notes in the Flusche brothers' enthusiasm. Descendants of those immigrants might dispute the claim that "it is a recognized fact that the heat here in the summer is not as great as, for example, the heat in Minnesota, lowa, Illinois or any one of the northern or central

Best of all, state of Texas it "Texas is a democratic, free state, and there is no danger at all that fanatic, slippery hypocrities can take power and throw the state into servitude as has unfortunately happened in many a state of the i the

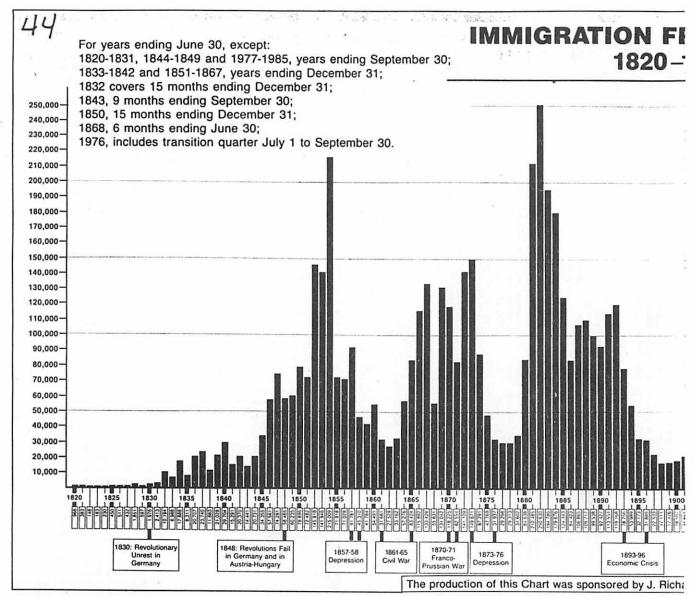
"A German can, without exception, d openly drink his glass of beer."

The Protestant Germans wh Blue Mound built a church in 19 were conducted in German ther Mr. Cochran said. ns who colonized h in 1901 Services in there until 1938,

War I, when the German communities Denton County felt ostracized and the G man language became less popular. Assimilation got a strong push by World he German communities in

Church services turned to English. By 1922, the German Methodist Church in Denton had disbanded and the city of Denton had claimed the property because of an unpaid \$800 bill. Six years later, the German Beptist Church at 514 Bollvar St. had disbanded.

The language and other traditions s vived in private homes, however, and Thomas Catholic Church is thriving, Mr. o chran said. Many of its members are desco dants of the Flusche brothers' colonists. Staff writer I ounty for The I r Nita Thurman c e Dallas Morning owever, and thriving Mr. Denton 824



## 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 **Neuveletter** 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 Couristian Examples (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 voice 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 American Review, 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 [revolutionaries 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 evoked from obscurity by civil commotions."

Ten years later Charles Dawson Shanly wrote in the **Atlantic 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 swine-meat."

J. J. Lalor again in the Atlantic Monthly, 32 (1873), 459-70 characterized the large numbers of Germans: "To avoid 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,

## ROM GERMANY

INCLUDES AUSTRIA. 1938-1945

Sources:

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1820 to 1970: United States Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970.* Bicentennial Ed. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1976, pp. 105-106.

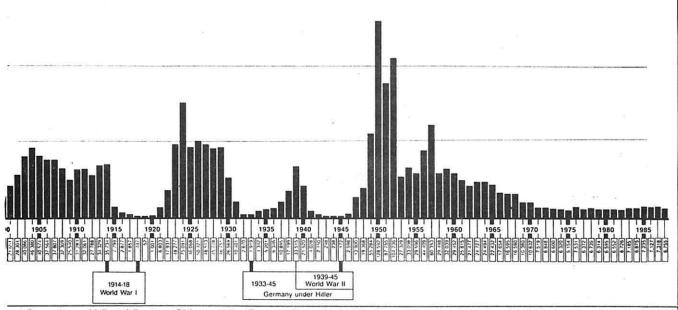
1971 to 1975: Annual Report: Immigration and Naturalization Service. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1977, p. 54.

1976 to 1981: 1986 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1987, p. 6.

1982 to 1988: Numbers supplied by the Statistical Office of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

As of 1982, separate statistics are being kept for the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic. This chart represents the combined total.

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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; hence 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 **Lippincott'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 **Atlantic Monthly**, 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-American Review**, 11 (1945), 3 "Craftsmanship was a part of their education. They were noted for their saving habits, the cleaniness 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 <u>News-</u> <u>letter</u>, Dec., 1989

EDITOR'S NOTE: On page 76, GTHS <u>Newsletter</u>, 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. Aboard 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 Autumn 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 Wilhelmine Tendler, 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 Rummel, 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 only 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 Emilie 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 climate 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 Hardtle. Wilhelm Rummel often 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 Rummel 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 wild 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 appointed 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 VER-EIN (Women's Guild) with a membership of twenty-two ladies. Eleven 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 VER-IAT!" (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.

Following 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 growth 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 eighty-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 by 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. O. P. Schroerluke, minister of Christ Church, Houston, supplied the pulpit 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 had 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 Fr. Flath, 1860-1861 Wm. Dahlke, 1871-1872 G. Ermel, 1874-1878 Otto Uhdau, 1884-1886 F. R. Neuhaus, 1890-1891 Franzke (sic), 1895 William Luthe, 1942-?

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

G. Woerner, 1858 G. Woerner, 1861-1863 H. Boening, 1873 F. Grueber, 1878-1881 B. M. Hailfinger, 1859 Wilhelm Krapf, 1864-1870 H. Schmidt, 1874 H. Pfenninger, 1882-1884 W. L. Bretz, 1887-1890 C. H. A. Kniker, 1887 W. L. Bretz, 1887-F. R. Heithaus, 1891-1893 P. Dyck, 1893-1895 J.H. Horstmann, 1896-1897 Sam Gonser, 1898 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 1911 192
J. Ziegler, 1922-1937 Roy Gieselmann 1930-193 F. K. Neuhaus, 1911-1917 E. Bekeschus, 1919-1921 1941-1942 (S)

> 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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observations about San Antonio in man who wrote the following tral Park, were designed by the parks, but also New York's Cen-

quity, for us, indistinct enough to religious ruins, holding to an antiinfused, combine with the heroic ing streets our rattling life is to be conquered cities into whose decaythat it is the first of a new class of situation, and the vague conviction its remote, isolated, out-posted breed an unaccustomed solemnity; languages and buildings; its terest that attaches to odd and anbuches in its history to enliven and nquated "Its jumble of races, costumes, foreignness, with

perhaps, New Orleans, that can vie, in point of the picturesque inno city, except,

Park. The green belt includes from Back Bay Fens to Franklin trees, shrubs and grass that runs well as to the five-mile corridor of to the 45-acre Boston Common, as Olmstead's name is attached also

see that city boosters proudly credit Park) and Arnold Arboretum. In tourist guides of Boston you'll

tions."

garden beyond its natural attrac-

and boasts a restaurant and been

Olmsted Park (formerly Jamaica

satisfy your traveler's curiosity."

connected, in a way, with one man: oldest public parks in the United designed one as beautifully as Frederick Law Olmsted. He States — Boston Common and San Pedro Park in San Antonio — are Both the oldest and the second many and writing a book in 1852 tour of England, France and Ger was published in 1857, had been a book A Journey Through Texas, about his travels there. York, before making a walking farmer on Staten Island, New Frederick Law Olmsted, whose

by Frank W. Jennings

San Pedro Park and Boston

Common: The Olmstead Connection

dump. He worked with an English out of a remote swampland and a central park for New York city of a work force that was to build became a landscape architect, and surveying and scientific farming architect named Calvert Vaux. in 1857 was hired as superintendent Olmstead, who had studied

fragile and ever-changing beauties any American how to make the wooded spot of great beauty. possible and he called the other "a

Olmsted demonstrated more than

city parks of the world — spreading over 843 acres and stretching 51 to Harlem on the north and three wide blocks from the east side to blocks from midtown on the south The result was one of the great

Park's surface, every tree it is with a purpose." way and walk has been fixed where bush, as well as every arch, road-Olmsted said: "Every foot of the and

mon, is San Pedro Park in San Anis a wooded spot of great beauty, and San Pedro Springs. The latter sions in the neighborhood, parseveral pleasant points for excurof six leagues (26,568 acres). The King Philip V through his viceroy tonio. It was established in 1729 by but a mile or two from the town ticularly those to the San Antonio "There are, besides the missions, San Pedro Park in 1854. He wrote declared an ejido or public area near San Pedro Springs was grant of land to San Antonio de Los in Mexico, when he made a royal *Llanos* (San Antonio of the Plains) Frederick Law Olmsted admired

mon between 1910 and 1913. The numerous superannuated 15-ton under the direction of F. Frederick Olmsted with influencgigantic task included removing Olmsted Jr., rehabilitated the Coming their park system. His firm, Boston Common had been pur-

executions. companies and as a stage for public as a training ground for military ed as a pasture for cattle and sheep Blaxton. For many years, it serv-Boston from the Reverend William chased in 1634 by the Town of

United States, next to Boston Com-The oldest public park in

San Antonio Conservation Society Newsletter, Jan-Feb, 1990

New

## ...... vv urzuurger Legenden

52

Nächtliche Spukgestalten machen sich über volle Weinfässer her

"Once upon a time a Würzburg innkeeper went to Randeraacker to re-pleetids his wine aupply." So beginnt, in englischer Uberastrung, die La-goder vom Würzburger Gastwirt, der mainaufwärts fuhr, um seine Weini-vorräle zu ergänzen. Auf der Rückfahrt, nachdem er selbst kräftig gekoster hatte, fielden heulend und jauchzend nächtliche Spukgestalten Lapirite of the night") über die Räses her.

## BENEATH THE CHERRY SAPLING

Legends from Franconia

Edited and translated by Norbert Krapf

In 1973, Norbert Krapf visited the Lohr region of Germany, 10 "make a councetion with my ancestors, stand where they had once lived, see what they saw, hear what they heard." Inspired by the experience, the returned to America determined to learn more about the people the descended from. Beneath the Cherry Sapfire, which brings together a rich selection of German legends in English, is the result of this search for identity.

Franconia, the region where Professor Repet fraced his ancessors on both his parents' sides, Beneath the Cherry Supplies has ancessors on both his parents' sides, Beneath the Cherry Supplies has much to offer the general reader and scholar alike. The legends, deeply rooted to the region whence they have sprung, are a vivid evocation of the people who for generations inhabited that region. They provide a glimpse of a way of life that, although long faded into history, is the necessary starting point for thousands of people who wish fully to understand their own lives today.

ishment," with human or divine retribu-tion for some kind of wrongdoing. Oth-er depict how excessive drinking pro-vokes sudden illness or death of the reveler or his next of kin, or can turn a often warn against some kind of excess or violation of secular or sacred law. Over a Brothers Grimm, the ones included here-in feature a strong moralistic sense and Like the legends collected by the dozen deal directly with "crime and punperson into a murderer or murder victim

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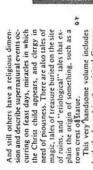
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In west parabone would menders both the legend in the original German and Professor Krapf's translation in natural, "American" English on the facing page. Woodcuts depicing scenes from the legends appear throughout the book. Beneath the Cherry Saping will be of particular interest to German scholars, folklorists, and those of German descent

who wish to deepen their understanding of their heritage. It can also be used in introductory German courses where the instructor wishes to provide students with readily accessible texts.

Beneath Legends from Fra

> ham University Press, 1986). His schol-arly articles, poetry, and translations have appeared widely in journals, little magazines, and anthologies. His transla-tions of early poems by Rainer Maria Norbert Krapf is Professor of English at Long Island University, C. W. Post College. He is the editor of Under Open Sky: Poets on William Cullen Bryant (Ford-

Norbert Krapt THE THE PARTY OF T

Edited & Translated by Sapling Cherry the

Foto Flade 1 Prof. Dr. Norbert Kropf.

wurde er 1943 im vomehmlich von deutschen Einwanderern besiedelten Süden des US-Bundesstast in diens. Deutsch jedoch wurde (seit 1977) an der High School nicht unterrichtet, vo deß Krepf schlecht aus Sparstett war, als er beschloß, den Spuren seiner Ahnen zu folgen, die um die Mitte der 19. Enhrunderts von Lohr und von Tugendert an Puß des Steigerwalds aus in die USA emigried waren. Die kurre Legende "Das Wilde ver Heer ist durstig" "The Wild Army is Thirsty" ist lingst auf deutsch und vergisch in einem liebevoll augesattlichen Band, zusammen mit 31 an erschienen. Verantwortlich defür Ein merikanischer Literaurprofessor aus Unferfanken stammen. Bei einem Bauch in Würzburg ber aus Unserfanken stammen. Bei einem Bauch in Würzburg beitrichtete Prof. Dr. Norbert Krapf jetzt, wie es zu seiner Beschiffigung mit deutschem Stgengel kam. Geboren

schen in zultreichen Banden er-schienen sind - Gedichte, die sich haufg mit der deutschen Vergangen-heit seiner Familie und der europai-schen Kultur und Grachteine seit dem Mittelatter haschäftigten Der Als Krapf 1970 seine erste Professur an der Universität von Long Island vor den Toren New Yorks übernahm (wor er heute noch unterricht). Bedeutte dies Einst hin einen itefen Einschmitt. Damals begann er. Gedichte zu schreiben, die nazwi-Professor . It is knot tomospiech rich-tig in der Gegenwart leben ohne zu verstehen, wo ich in der Vergengen-heit gelebt habe."

Krapf ging nech Deutschland um die Sprache seiner Vorfahren zu ner nen: 1973 besuchte er Lohr und stellte se eine Vorshindern zur "verformen Landschalf" seiner Ahnen her Vorgangenheit legte der Literatur-Vorgangenheit legte der Literatur-das Austrüge aus Tagebüchen der

Um mehr übor seine Familie in Unterfarken zu erfalten, arbeitete sich der Professor im Würzburger Statssencht und im Archiv des Juliuspitals durch Aktenberge. Er fand mensu, ablid nch hen asiler Mutter, in Lohr Schilfer gewesen waren und die Vorfahren seinest Veters sich als Tagelöhner in Hesster. Kreuthiel und Tagendorf durchgebrachte haten. bis sie den Schrill in die "neue Welt steen. Auswanderer, fränkische Logenden und figene Gedichte uber seine bei geud in der von Einwenderern gerprägen Umgebung zusammenfaller Wohlgemerkt, Kengl ubt dies lange bevor durch Alex Haleys Buch. Roois "die Stehe nach den persönlichen, Wurzeln" eine Modeerscheinung wurde.

In seinem 1986 erschienenen Buch
-Bereath Hre Cherry Sepling, L.Unter dem jungen Kirschbuum" has
-Krapf nun Legenden aus der "alten
-Weilt gesammelt uut ne mallingliches "Amerikanisch" übertragen, dadie Lakture bispinkvanse jenen US
-Brugern erleichtern sult, die wer emehr uber Clindhen und Aberglan
hen im Deutschland Trätierer Jahr
hunderne erfahren wollen

Elbright, Cataprolissor für amenta-nusche Literatur an der Universität Erlangen-Nümberg verbracht. Seine Frau Katherme und dier Kinder Flux-herh und Diniel begeheiten im, und so hand der Perfessor entlich die Gr-legoniteit, soner eingenen Familie in-no One zu zeigen, die vor vont über einem Jahrhunderr, seine eigenen Krapf selbst hat gerade ein Johr als abrioht-Gastorofessor für amerikaeinem Jahrhunden seir Vorfahren geprägt haben

Roland Flade



Mit Hoizstichen wie diesem Ist das Sayen-Buch von Prof. Norbert Krapf illu-striert. Geister, Teufel und Hexen treiben ihr Unwesen.

## WAIN SEPOSI

Redaktion Witzshurg-Staat Vermitworthets Aidd Kasser Stallwerrouge Heleng Kasser Schöntlankernfer a Rezie Wurzhusg Tolofon neun stat

WÜRZBURG

Samstag/Sonntag, 12./13. August 1989

from: Rosebud News

## Albert Helperts have Germany guests

Recent visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Helpert in Dallas were relatives Josef and Marie Buxkamper and son Heinrich from Olfen, Germany. They also visited relatives in Westphalia, Lott, Rosebud, Cyclone and Temple.

They 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. Msgr. Werner Bockholt, pastor of St. Peter and Paul Parish in Frelsburg.

They spent the night in Columbus and then traveled to San Antonio where they went sight secing 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 beautiful hill country, large farms (most farms in Germany are not as big as in Texas), and the big cotton farming (Baum Wolle as they say in Germany) was a treat for them to see. 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. March, SACS volunteers guide local schoolchildren on a no-charge tour of area historic sights. 1989, some 4,550 children participated.

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

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.

elected president of ence on Community Ethnic Affairs

Theresa Gold has been elected Texas Catholic Conference on

MRS. ERNA SASSE CELEBRATES 94th

94th birthday Thursday, June 15 Mrs. Ema Sasse celebrated her

was sung and also a sing-song of old families songs were enjoyed.
With other goodies a birthday cake was served. It was baked by her niece, Mrs. Marguerite Schmidt. Also present were Mrs. Annie Schroeder, Stephen Schroeder, Mrs. Anita Lippke and Johnny Schmidt. 1989, at her home Vorkstown. The "Happy Birthday" song

Buch über die deutsche Kolonisation von Texas verfaßt

## Ruhr-Nachrichten Kurt Klotzbach ist den v. 3.8.189 Auswanderern auf der Spur

Lütgendortmund. Erstmals erscheint im kommenden Frühjahr eine umfassende Dokumentation über die deutsche Einwanderung nach Texas in der Zeit von 1844 bis 1860. Autor ist der frühere RN-Redakteur Kurt Klotzbach, der schon eine Reihe von Sachbüchern und Fachartikeln über die Geschichte des amerikanischen Westens herausgebracht hat.

Klotzbachs neuestes Werk erhält den Titel "Die Solms-Papiere - Dokumente zur deutschen Kolonisation von Texas und erscheint im Verlag für Amerikanistik, Wyk auf Föhr, als Kunstdruckausgabe. Es ist vorwiegend für Forscher, Studenten und Universitäten in Deutschland und den USA, darüber hinaus aber auch für jeden Interessenten der amerikanischen Geschichte be-

## Siedlungsprogramm

Im Jahr 1844 wurde in Mainz der "Verein zum Schutz deutscher Einwanderer in Texas" gegründet. Er war auch unter dem Namen "Adelsverein" bekannt, wurde er doch von deutschen Fürsten und Grafen unter dem Protektorat des Herzogs von Nassau auf Schloß Biebrich gegründet. Der "Verein" wollte der miserablen Situation der deutschen Bevölkerung mit einem großen Sied-



Sein Herz schlägt für die Geschichte des amerikanischen Westens: Kurt Klotzbach

lungsprogramm begegnen. Er kaufte in der damaligen Repu-blik Texas Land und brachte schon in den ersten Jahren 7000 Deutsche nach Texas

Doch mangelnde kaufmännische Kenntnisse und die Unfähigkeit der Vereinsdirektoren, zu organisieren, brachte das Unternehmen bald in Schwierigkeiten, als die Vereinsleitung betrügerischen Landagenten in die Hände fiel. 1848 mußte der "Verein" Bankrott anmelden. seinen

Erster Generalbevollmächtigter des "Vereins" war Prinz Carl zu Solms-Braunfels, Braunfels an der Lahn. Er bereiste Texas und sandte elf Berichte nach Mainz, in denen er ausführlich die Schwierigkeiten bei der Besiedlung schilderte. Prinz Solms gründete die erste deutsche Stadt in Texas. New Braunfels, heutige Partnerstadt von Braunfels an der

In den deutschen Archiven ist kaum noch etwas über die Auswanderung vorhanden.

Auf mehreren Reisen und bei längerem Aufenthalt in Texas hat Klotzbach die elf Berichte Solms aufgetrieben - allerdings in Englisch, so daß er sie in die deutsche Sprache rückübersetzen mußte. Weiteres Material zum Beispiel alte Gerichtsprotokolle - fand er in Texas und Mexiko in spanischer Sprache. Auch diese Dokumente mußte er zunächst ins Deutsche übersetzen, ehe er an die Abfassung seines Buches ging.

Kurt Klotzbach: "Zum Glück spreche ich beide Sprachen, so daß bei meinen Recherchen kein größerer Zeitverlust entstand."

## 200 Manuskriptseiten

Immerhin benötigte der Autor für seine Nachforschungen mehrere Jahre. Großzügige Unterstützung erfuhr er dabei von der Baylor-Universität in Texas, der er sein Buch auch gewidmet hat.

Und der Umfang seines Manuskriptes? Es umfaßt rund 200 Schreibmaschinen-Seiten und mehr als 40 historische Fotos.

Zur Zeit arbeitet der Autor an einem neuen Buch über deutsche Auswanderer, die in Texas Kolonien und Städte gegründet haben. In einem Anhang werden erstmals die Namen von tausend Auswanderern und die Namen der Schiffe veröffentlicht.

## January 6, 1990

# ding the chancel

# Class taught by UT System head gets students' top Mark

American-Statesman Staff

You didn't have to be a rocket scientist to take the class; only

to teach it.
Enter ASE 363-L — or the "History of Space Flight" — a in the Department of Aerospace class taught last semester by Hans Mark, the chancellor of Engineering and Engineering the University of Texas System,

trators need to spend time in While few chancellors actualy teach, Mark thinks adminis-

the university," he said. "Those of us who are responsible for is going on in the primary busition is the central function of "First, undergraduate educamanaging it ought to know what ness of the university. Secondly,

and-out gushing over the space "I strongly recommend this course and this teacher," wrote one student. "He is highly overqualified and one of the genuine geniuses in this country." Mark ng either over-qualified or a

flight class:

evaluated Mark did some out-

culty members do not get to see whether his students liked it. Until final grades are issued, fa-This week Mark found the student evaluations,

refrained from comment on be-

"This course was truly awe-

genuine genius.

Hans Mark. Taking this class ences I have had through college." has been one of the best experistudents who are not majoring

in science or engineering, Mark

book. Mark's experience with the U.S. space program spans 26 years. He participated in the de-

developed a 500-page course-

to Mark: "If you would write an other student, adding this note weapons research, etc. I would ent course, but I have never met autobiography or a book on your "Hard to improve an excel-Chuck Yeager," commented anexperiences in space research/ read it!"

of

sign of Explorer IV in 1958 and,

deputy administrator

NASA in 1984, presided over the launch of the 13th space

of

evaluations

shuttle flight.

Student

professor's teaching style

ist for the course. Hans Mark The student probably hadn't had time to review the reading has already written those books, and both were on a suggested reading list. course material are not manda-tory. They are also anonymous, which takes some of the sting the 15 out of 26 students who out of grading the chancellor of the UT System. Just the same,

two exams and a term paper. To be a worthwhile experience, said bly demanding assignments. I think out of the 26 students, only two didn't turn in term pa-pers and I gave them 'Fs.'" Course grades were based on Mark, a course "needs reasona

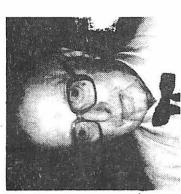
the course pass/fail. And two students told Mark he should About half the students took

some with the instruction of Dr. For the course, intended for



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Hans Mark, a former NASA official, taught 26 undergraduates in a course on the history of space flight.



second son of Albert and Manon Lass-Manfred Holck, age 87, of Austin, berg Holck, died February 11, 1990. was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother, Axel.

Bremen, Germany and in 1923, be-came associated with the A. Lassberg Berlin, Germany. He attended public schools and the university in Berlin. In 1920, he was in the cotton business in He was born June 28, 1902, cotton firm in Austin, Texas.

Bohn of Austin. His death was only a first persons in Austin to pass the Certified Public Accountant exam. He received certificate number 479 from In 1930, he was married to Bertha few weeks after their 60th wedding anniversary. In 1932, he graduated from the LaSalle University, Chicago, with a degree in accounting. Subsequently, in 1934, he was one of the ings and Loan. He helped to organize the Austin Chapter of Certified Public Accountants and was its president in 1945-1946 and again in 1960-1961. In the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. For more than 30 years he maintained his own practice in Austin until his retirement for the former First Federal Savings and Loan Assoand was the first auditor in 1934, and ciation, now Guarantee Federal Sav-Firm of Barr, Howard, Boswell and Holck, which in a few years was absorbed by Touche Ross and Com-1963, he became a partner in the CPA pany. He retired in 1965

Since 1923, he had been an active member of the Austin Saengerrunde

He was a member of Toastmasters International and was a past president of the CPA Toastmasters Club. He had and was president from 1937 to 1940 also been a longtime member of Order of the Sons of Herman.

From 1938 to 1960, he and his wife ing groups, both in Austin and nationally. He was a well-known loos were active in square and round dancteacher, caller and leader.

He was baptized and confirmed in many, and since 1923, had been an active member of St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Austin. He served on the church council in 1959-1960, and the Gedaechniss Kirche in Berlin, Gerwas a longtime member of the Endowment Committee.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Bertha Bohn Holck; as well as, two sons, Manfred, Jr., and Albert; and a daughter, Bertha (Beatsy) Manon, and their respective spouses, Lois, Velma and John Chumney; and by 12 grandchildren: Susan Holck of Switzerland (husband Manuel Lopez), Carol Holck Donnan of Ohio (husband, Dean), Timothy Holck of Austin, Peter Holck of San Diego, Andrew Holck of Dallas, Philip Holck of Austin, Mar-garet Ann Holck of Dallas, John Chumney, Jr. and Nic Chumney of Austin, Beatsy Lenell Chumney of Austin, Sandra Chumney Forsten of Austin (husband, Mark), Joel Chumney of Mrs. H.M. Bohn and Mrs. Robert Robi-Austin; by two great-grandchildren Sarah Lopez of Switzerland and Scott Donnan of Ohio; by two sisters-in law, son; and one brother-in-law, Rober Robison

Funeral services will be held on February 14, 1990 at St. Martin's Ev. with the Reverend Carl Schoss and Reverend James E. Bennett officiating. Interment will follow in Austin Church, 15th and Nueces Memorial Park. Lutheran

pe The pallbearers grandsons.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the En-Ev. St. Martin's dowment Fund at Lutheran Church.

GTHS mourns the loss of Manfred Holck, an active and loyal Charter and Patron Member. From Anna Thompson

## of early Texas settlers immang a descendani

Alma Mergele Simmang was descended from the second shipload of Castro Colonists, arriving 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 the catering business, making bar-becue and sausages for local meat 1947. After his death, she went into

Simmang died Wednesday, aged

Seis, she always enjoyed the celebration on her birthday. She attended elementary school there until going to work for her father, Harry G. Mergele. He was a butcher and caterer in New Braun-Born in New Braunfels on Dies y 32

She moved to San Antonio in 1920. For a few years before her marriage in the 1920s, she was a secretary. The couple first lived in a boarding hotel downtown, but soon moved to a farmhouse on Nacogdoches Road next to

Romple's Dairy.
"She loved children but had none of her own," said her nephew, Ed

Mergele of Boerne.
"Doing for people was her whole life, and visiting with them was a major interest. She was involved with St. John's Lutheran Church ing to San Antonio. She was a won-derful person." Simmang's great-grandfather, and had been a member since mov-

Peter Mergele, arrived with her grandfather and her great-great-grandfather from Mullhouse, France. They were Germans and landed at Galveston with the Schertzes, who later founded their own town.

The immigrants took a boat loaded with their wagons and farm implements up Buffalo Bayou to Houston. There, they bought oxen and traveled overland to San Anto-

"Her ancestors camped on the grounds of the Alamo for 18 months in their wagons and tents and had decided to return to Europe," said her nephew. "Prince Solms arrived from Germany later and realized he needed wagons to transport his colonists.

"The prince talked the Mergeles and the Schertzes into going to Indianola with their wagons to pick up his colonists arriving there in May of 1845 and take them to his place on Comal Springs in New Braun-

fels.
"They all crossed the Guadalupe River and settled New Braunfels. The Mergeles lived in the same house for 100 years. My aunt was the first one to leave when she

came to San Antonio.

Survivors are two sisters, Ella Peterson of Dallas and Elsie Specht of Fredericksburg. Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday in Porter Loring Funeral Chapel with the Rev. John Moe officiating Burial will be in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery.

11 Nov. 1989 Texas, San Antonio,

## Heritage names officers

SAN ANTONIO—The German-Texan Heritage Society met at the Menger Hotel Sept. 8, 9, and 10 for its 11th convention

Man Lindemann of Industry was elected president; Mary El-Beheri of San Antonio, vice-president; Dona Reeves-Marquardt of Buda, treasurer and Helgard Suhr of New Braunfels, secretary.

Other members of the new twelve-persons board are: Miriam York of Giddings, Helga von Schweinitz of Austin, Rodney Koenig of Houston, Theresa Gold of San Antonio, Bob Robinson-Zwahr of Washington, D.C., W.M. Von Maszewski of Pasadena, Fredericka De Berry of Clear Lake and Francis Harrison of San Antonio.

Sall Alloulo.

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

Barge and the King William.

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

Cone and radii Conscilations

Gay Ann Happe Martinez
reported on "German Records in the LDS Family History Library.

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

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

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

Dr. Ted Gish. Dr. Erika

Der Weell Lexas and Containly.

Dr. Ted Gish, Dr. Erika
Nielsen and Niels Nielsen reported on the Diary of Herman
Scala.

Mrs. Leola K. Tiedt, of La Grange, historian and scrap book editor, served on the nominating committee.

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

## Hermann Sons install officers

Officers of the Niederwald and Uhland Hermann Sons lodges will be installed during ceremonies Sunday in Lockhart along with officers of three other area lodges.

Press

Stephen R. Prewitt of San Antonio, a grand trustee of the 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 Lodge Home for the Aged Committee, Russell Hawkes and Robert Ritter, members of the Grand Lodge Laws Committee.

Onion Creek Free January 11, 1990 The 79,500-member Sons of Hermann was established in Texas in 1860 by German pioneer settlers and is known for its fraternal benefits as well as for life insurance which it provides for its members.

## ASTA GRONA GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

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 the Hogg family interests and with the Houston Port Authority, before becoming an interior decorator. Asta was also an active member of the Art League of Houston and the Houston Cactus and Succulent Society.

Several years ago, Asta began to rediscover her German-Texan ethnicity. A devoted and lively participant in the UH "Texas German" class taught by Dr. Ted Gish at the Houston Goethe Institute, Asta enriched the course, not only by bringing many interesting historical materials to the class, but also by providing snacks for the weekly meetings! During this time, Asta joined the German-Texan Heritage Society and the Houston <u>Sangerbund</u> 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 <u>Sangerbund</u> which was published recently.

The family recently made an additional gift, to establish a permanent <u>Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship</u> at the University of Houston. Such a scholarship would honor Asta's memory and her 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 recipients of the <u>Asta Grona German-Texan Heritage Society Scholarship</u> 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.



## Genealogy

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, P O Box 14274, Washington DC 20044.

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research 26th annual session will be June 17-22, 1990 at Samford University, Birmingham AL, with an optional research trip to the Btitish 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:

Introduction to German Genealogical Research Historical Background - German and American Bibliography German Material In the Samford 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 ist ein 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.

<u>Passenger Lists Help</u> 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.

are \$12.50 per year.

There are three (or more) additional Polish genealogical societies, including the Polish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, P O 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 <u>Germans to America</u> have been completed. 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," "Saarland," 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 7th, 8th, and 9th 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 <u>Familienkundliche Nachrichten</u>, 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 (See our GTHS <u>Newsletter</u>, Summer 1985, pages 181-182, and Spring 1988, 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 The instructions are too complex to recount here, so we of two archives. recommend you get a copy of this issue of GGSA's <u>Bulletin</u>.

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 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4 inch margin on all sides. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Your Genealogy Editor and the Editor-in-Chief evaluate all materials for readership value of both the content and the typed format.

<u>Floyd Pfeffer</u> 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 <u>Jaster</u> (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.

 $\underline{\text{Elmo Schwab}}$  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 <u>Wendel</u>. He married Agatha Lee <u>Grumwald</u>. 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 <u>Foerster</u>. This couple is also buried in Weesatch. Elmo would appreciate any <u>information</u>, 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 (<u>Schrade</u>) <u>Friedrichs</u> came from Hanover and arrived at Indianola in 1850. They settled first in <u>DeWitt</u> 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 <u>Hoff</u> 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 <u>Niebuhr</u> family reunion will be in Industry in 1991, but he would like information on possible reunions for these families: <u>Coffey</u>, <u>Klepper Fitzhugh</u> and <u>McKinney</u>. He would also like to contact former GTHS member <u>Lauren Kattner</u>, who wrote many articles for our publication. Does anyone have her current address? Jon would like to contact her about her research on the <u>Kattner</u>, Dunk, and <u>Grassyville</u> 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. <u>Huebner</u> and his wife, Pauline <u>Willrich</u> 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.) Rine and wife Mary M. Ridley Rine; Johann Frederick Gembler and wife Maria Johanna Janssen Gembler; and Theodor Herber and Caspar Herber.

## GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the <u>Journal</u>. 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!

compile: Let's have more for this section:			
Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Wilson W Crook Jr 3208 Caruth Blvd Dallas TX 75225 214/318-7349	Koch/Cook Rohl/Roehl/Raihl Goelcke	Gonzales, DeWitt Gonzales, DeWitt Gonzales, DeWitt	Lutheran/Presbyt. Lutheran/Presbyt. Lutheran/Presbyt.
William B Hilgers 8027 Elroy Rd Del Valle TX 78617 512/247-2351	Hilgers Layer	Bexar Bexar	Catholic Catholic
Floyd Pfeffer 2023 Aspen River Houston TX 77062 713/486-1731	Pfeffer Freitag Neinast Jaster	Austin Austin Austin/Washington Austin	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Herbert L Beinhorn Rt 1, Box 100 Moscow TX 75960 409/398-2766	Beinhorn Oberpriller Tendler Mueller/Muller	Harris Harris Harris Harris	Evang.Reform Luth. Evang.Reform Luth. Evang.Reform Luth. Evang.Reform Luth.
Bonnie M Felder 6537 F M 1299 Wharton TX 77488 409/532-8054	Steck Meier	Austin Austin	Lutheran Lutheran
Mark Krause 15319 Pebble Path San Antonio TX 78232	Faust Langbein Rottenstein Seffel Weider	Bexar Comal/Bexar/Kendal Bexar/Harris Bexar Bexar/Comal	Lutheran 1 Lutheran ? ? Lutheran

Genealogical Exchange, continued			
Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
C H Seideman 11109 Spicewood Club Austin TX 78750		Comal	Catholic
Jack & Rose Schulz HC 54, Box 2047 Bulverde TX 78163	Schulz Geise		Lutheran Lutheran
512/438-7192 	Ammacner	Bexar/Guadalupe	Lutneran
Henry & Bettie Willia 507 Oakleaf Dr San Antonio TX 78209 512/829-5987	Schulz Schrade	Dewitt-Goliad Co : Lavaca Goliad DeWitt ?	
Zane H Fehrmann P 0 Box 88 Patterson LA 70392 504/395-2120	Fehrmann Cloud Mattke Benfer Brieten Howard	Bexar Bexar/Comal	Protestant Protestant Protestant Protestant Protestant Protestant Baptist
Lydia E Biegert 5011 Krueger Dickinson TX 77539 713/534-2648	Schulz Voigt Eisenhauer Ackermann	Comal Comal Bexar Bexar	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
Brenda K Gravitt 1285 W Cook Rd Mansfield OH 44906 419/756-4033	Seitz/Sights/Sitz Winniger Finney Greene/Green	Guadalupe LaSalle Comal Williamson Williamson Williamson	Baptist/Protestant? ? Church of Christ?
Jane Schwarz Combs P O Box 833 Waco TX 76714 817/754-8682	Schwarz Rosenberg Martin Faris Rhoten	Victoria/Goliad/T ? McLennan McLennan Parker	ravis ? ? Baptist Baptist ?

## Genealogical Exchange, continued

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Clare L Childers 1702 Sixth St Woodland CA 95695 916/662-5102	Hoecker Falkenhagen Schneider Wolbrecht Deichmann	Galveston Galveston Galveston Galveston Galveston	Lutheran (in Am.)
Judith Renker 4010 Deer Trail Temple TX 76504	Wuertele Wurtele Wuerteleschmidt	Travis/Potter Harris/Galveston Bexar/El Paso	Lutheran ?
Jodie A Zoeller 816 Shenandoah Plano TX 75023 214/424-9574	Zoeller Schneider Wessely *Boyd *Tinsley *Minson	Kendall Kendall Kendall (?) Frio Bexar Bexar	? ? ?
*Unsure of country	of origin; probably	not German ancestry	

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23	Volume II 890 pages\$50	X
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## GENEALOGICAL COLUMN

Have You Located Your Ancestor's

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-Globe). The areas of circulation include 27 Texas counties, western Oklahoma, northeastern New Mexico, and the southwestern corner of Kansas. Queries are free and may pertain 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 Childs,

GERMAN VILLAGE?

Trained volunteers from our Society will
search for the name of your family's
village of origin in these three major
indexes to West German maps

Mueller's Grosses Deutches Ortsbuch
105,000 places

Der Neue Grosse Shell Atlas

Ca 37,000 places.

Official Placenames Gazetteer 129,000 placenames
We will locate the village on the maps, translate if necessary, and send you copies for a fee of \$7.50.

## The Gerstenberger and Boeer Families

by Lillian Schulze Schneider, 238 Sharmain Pl., San Antonio, Texas 78221

The Gerstenberger and Boeer 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 Boeer family was first to leave, sailing from Bremen, Germany on the ship "Basserman" on August 15, 1851. They were <u>Charles Siegmund Boeer</u> and his <u>wife Anna Rosina</u>, née <u>Kretschmar</u>, and either two or three of their five children. More than two months later the Boeers 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 Boeer, born in 1827, two years after her parents marriage, married Wilhelm Hehr 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 girl named Auguste. They settled in La Grange, Texas. Here the Hehr family had five more children—Anna, Amelia, Louise II and a set of twin boys, Gustav and Wilhelm, Jr. To the best of my findings, the Hehrs died after 1880 and are buried in a private cemetery somewhere in Colorado County. I have not been able to trace the children.

Ernst Boeer, the second oldest child, was born in Langenbielau January 21, 1829. When he was 22 years old 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, Ernst was a newly-wed, 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 dinng room, Louise quickly dropped 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 barn, 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, Ernst 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, Ernst Jr. and Paul Boeer.

Ernst and Louise Gerstenberger Boeer descendants:

Louise Boeer II married Karl Heinrich (Henry) Schulze. Nine children were born of this union: Ernst Jr., Louise III, Otto, Edwin, Wilhelm, Henry Jr., Frieda, August, Ernestine, and Romelda who died at two months. Gustav married his cousin Auguste Kugler and had three children, Hulda, Paul, and Frieda. Ernst and Paul never married and were known as the "Boeer uncles." They farmed together on the old place and are buried in the Weimar Cemetery.

Wilhelm Boeer was Charles and Anna Boeer'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 Hamel, Clara married Thomas Hickey, and the two youngest girls remained single.

In 1894 Wihelm and Maria Wolf Boeer moved to to a farm at Hillje in Wharton County. The girls had to do most of the work as their father Wilhelm was partially paralyzed. He died in 1906. Their Granddaughter Mina 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.

<u>Charles Sigmund Boeer. Jr.</u> was the fourth child born to Charles and Anna Boeer. 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 Wendt; Agnes married Frank Engel; Charles III married Bertha Reichart and moved to Floresville, William married Sophie Brunkenhoefer; Albert remained single; Henry married Alwine Laging and moved to San Antonia; Rudolph married Helena Brunkenhoefer; Emilie married Charles Stech.

Charles, S. Boeer Jr. and wife Auguste 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.

<u>Auguste Boeer</u>, Charles and Anna Boeer's fifth child, was born in Langenbielau on November 17, 1838. She came to Texas with her family and married <u>Wilhelm Gerstenberger</u>, born in Langenbielau April 23,1836, who came to Texas in1853. 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 Boeer 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 Hasse; 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, Jr. 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 <u>Edward Gerstenberger</u> 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 Boeer family, in Fayette County and settled near them in the Biegel Community. In 1955, his father sent Edward some fruit tree 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 Boeers, 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, Jr., and Emma II. Herman never married and died of malaria June 16, 1903. He is buried in the Lutheran Cemetery in New Bielau. 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 Bielau 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 Bielau, where his wife followed him 21 years later.

Edward's father <u>Johann Gerstenberger</u> 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 Bielau." There are other tales of how New Bielau got its name, but as this story has been in the family since way back, this is the one we'll accept.

Johann donated three acres of land for a school which was known as the New Bielau School. Later it was consolidated 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 Jr. and Charles, and then

Selma, Ida, and Adolph. August, Jr. married Helena Hasse and moved to Bell County in 1914. Charles married Pauline 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 unmarried at age 23 and is buried there also.

Caroline Gerstenberger, the third child of Johann and Maria G., was born in Langenbielau in 1828, and after her arrival in Texas, married the two-time widower Charles Woltersdorf, whose first wife had died of yellow fever. leaving a son Wilhelm; he he had two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, by his second marriage. 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 Woltersdorf 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 Wilhelm, Jr. The descendants of this family for the most part live in the San

Antonio area.

Louise Gerstenberger, born August 10, 1830 in Langenbielau married Ernst Boeer on March 12, 1859-see Boeer family. Their oldest daughter married a Schulze. Christine, the fifth 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 married Carl Hense; their descendants live in the Bluff area. Christine and Karl Kugler had a daughter named Auguste who married 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 chronicle tells of their descendants.

Condensed and edited by Ingrid 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 I 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.

bv:

Jane A. SCHWARZ COMBS P.O. Box 8331 Waco, Tx. 76714-8331 817-754-8682

### 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.....

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.

### HERITAGE GENEALOGICAL TOURS

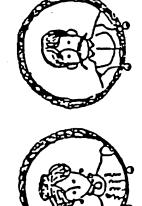
Because 1990 is a year of celebration in Oberammergau, PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN RESEARCH invites you to join in the festivities. For the first time PGR is offering 2 special Heritage Genealogical Tours to the homelands of your ancestors. . . both include the famous Passion Play! Whichever trip you choose, 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 Switzerland \$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. Overnight stays are in Speyer, Baden Baden, Lucerne, 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 Hofbrauhaus of Munich. Research will take place in the Palatinate state archives of Speyer, the Institut für Pfälzische 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, Obcrammergau, Munich, Salzburg and Vienna. Research will take place in the Palatinate state archives of Speyer, the Institut für Pfälzische 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 participant, 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 Danube Valley, and the elaborate Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna, and a farewell dinner and wine at a typical Viennese heurigen inn in Grinzing.

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





COMAL COUNTY GENEALOCY SOCIETY New Braunfels, 'IX 78131-0583 P.O. BOX 310583

Each Book \$8.00 plus \$1.00 Ptg. County Marriage Records 864-1877 877-1888 888-1897 1846-1864 Coma1

plus \$1.00 New Braunfels Cemeteries in Comal Comal Cemetery Sexton's Records \$18.00 plus \$2.00 Ptg New Braunfels

01q

Comal County Courthouse 1847-1927 Texas Residents add 7.5% Tax \$10.00 Plus \$1.00 Ptg

Index to Naturalization Records at

Comal County Cemetery Records outside New Braunfels Pre-publication price will be \$18.00 plus

### 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. Many hundreds fled to America. Forty-five States have Chapters in this prestigious historical lineage organization. Do you have a Huguenot ancestor?

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



### LITHUANIAN 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  $\underline{\text{Lithuanian}}$   $\underline{\text{Pioneers}}$ .

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 REUNIONS 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 Pot-luck 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) Zenner who along with their four children, Helen (Mrs. Jacob Roeder), Peter, Margaret (Mrs. Peter Schandua) 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 Baumann), Elisabeth (Mrs. John Jordan) and George (who married Florentina Jung)

Peter Zenner, 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 12th annual Felix and Elise (Henke) Reinbach REunion will be held on Sunday, August 12th, 1990, at Lady Bird Johnson park, Pavillion #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 Maximillian von 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 infanc7) and (Felix...m. Elise Henke). "Max" was a pharmacist and he opened a Drug Store on Main St. in Fredericksburg. Felix built a two-story 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".

GERSTENBERGER reunion July 29, Weimar SCHULZE reunion, September, 1990, Poth For Information: LILLIAN SCHNEIDER 238 Sharmain Pl., San Antonio TX 78221 (512) 922-9190

contributed by: Liz Jank 3650 Menger San Antonio, TX 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 90th Annual Nixon Reunion will be held on Sunday, August 12, 1990 at the Schoolhouse in Doss, Texas. Doss is a small German community about 20 miles west of Fredericksburg where Nixons 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 all round good time is had by all.

Gayne! Conner

### Noelscher-Buxkemper Mamily

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.

Secretary - Nixon Family 12616 Darryl Dr. Buda, TX 78610 512-295-3592





### Knalgers/ Kerlick

FAMILY RLUNIONS FUTURL

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

PLEASE TELL YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS SINCE OUR MAILING LIST IS NOT AS CURRENT AS IT OUGHT TO BE

\* 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?

### LEISTER FAMILY REUNION

On Saturday, Oct. 14, 1989, the descendants of William Leister and Armin Leister gathered for their 15th reunion at the Park Lounge with 84 members present.

Mildred Bohach was in charge 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 Vernon Bohach 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 Rudie Leister, 87. The youngest members were Allison Schwabe, daughter of Darla and David Schwabe and Justin Schwabe, 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 Vera Voelkel and' grandchildren, Daniel and Abby, and Mark Schwabe, Rhonda 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 Armin 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 Barton Kenne, Daniel and Abby weddings and one death, Annie Voelkel, Benjamin Vance, Alli-Reader, 92, mother of Bill son Schwabe, Justin Schwabe, Reader, was recorded A silent Cole Allen Brady. 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

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

Grandchildren were Evelvn and Red Walters, Erna Lee and T.C. Simon, Vera Voelkel. Aileen and Clifton Kenne, Mildred Bohach, Elroy and Betty Bohach, William Bohach, Doris and Garland Buchhorn, Della Evans, Vernon and Mae Bohach. Leroy and Verna Mae Pargmann, Gladys Speed and Pasty Ledwig. Frances Pargmann, Donna Lyn Regnolds, Dennis and Emmie Pargmann, Pat Pargmann, Margie and Clarence Smart.

Great grandchildren, Sheldon and May Kenne, Steven and Janie Kenne, Chadwick Bohach, Clint and Keith Leister, Gail and Kyle Brady, Connie Hermes, Darla and David Schwabe, Lori Naranjo, Deborah Pargmann, Todd Pargmann, Donna Regnolds, Michelle Pargmann, Ladine and Michael Vance, Gail Smart, Timothy and Jody Evans, Amy, Natalie and Shellev Regnolds, Tammy, Kathrine, Pamela and Tracy Pargmann.

Great, great grandchildren present were Clayton, Dustin and

Family members traveled

Antonio, Victoria,

Shiner, Moulton, Hoche

Sent Ъy Patsy Hand of Victoria

### Hornsteins " Hold Annuá Gathering

The descendants of Jacob and Marie Hornstein recently held their annual family reunion at Luther Hall.

The nine children of the couple were Elizabeth, Valentine, Martha, Katherine, Marie, Charlie, Daniel, Rosie and Walter Hornstein. The only surviving child, Mrs. Rosie Willimen, was unable to attend the reunion.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Van Sickle hosted the recent event which included a covered dish lunch. A history of the Hornstein family was read, and a family tree, started and brought from Illinois by family members, was added to and brought up to date.

Mrs. Matilda Hornstein, widow of Charlie Hornstein, was honored as oldest member at 87 years. Longest distance traveled was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Elliott of El Toro. Calif. Shortest time wed were Mr. and Mrs. Ted Garrett, and longest married were Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Zabel. The youngest descendant present was Jonathan Gordon.

Forty-five family members and two guests attended from Illinois, California, Florida, Houston, Corpus Christi and Bryan.

The next reunion will be held the third weekend in October next year.

Scheffer farm near Appelts Hill with 85 members present.

A noon meal of chicken, barbecue and sausage was prepared with members bringing side dishes.

Glayds Stratmann, president, presided at the afternoon meeting where Doris Weltzbarker was elected as lew president. Viola lected as secretary Scheffer

The 37th annual Stratmann union was held recently at the V W.E.

Stratmann family, most members present. The one death was reported was of Mrs. Maurine Spies.

The meal at the next reunion will be prepared, and members are asked to bring desserts. Acknowledged were Mrs. Lenora Langhoff, oldest lady present; Victor pies, oldest gentleman; Kylee s, oldest gentleman; Kyle el, youngest child; Mr. and Mrs e Stratmann of Garland, far traveled; and the George B traveled;

also was union at the same location Oct. same location Oct.

# DeReese Family Holds Reunion Round Apple

Advocate News Service

MARKHAM - The descendants of Frederich Christian DeReese held heir annual family reunion at the Community Center in Markham. In 1891, two brothers, George and John DeReese left Oldenburg, Germany and docked in New York, and later settled in the Lindenau-Westhoff area.

oldest female member present; Leanne Wiley, youngest member; Mr. and Mrs. Otto DeReese, longest This year's reunion was hosted by presented to Otto DeReese, oldest married couple; Mr. and Mrs. Sonny couple; and Shirley DeReese Mitchell, member who traveled the fardish lunch was served and gifts were male member present; Elsie Hahn, Feldhousen, most recently married dren and their spouses. A covered Elsie DeReese Hahn, her four chil

A business meeting, table games and live country music performed by

on the genealogy of the family, pre-sented a summary of her efforts and offered copies for distribution.
Recognized at the reunion were Christel and Hanni DeReese, who Teddy Manthei and Sons were events during the day. Barbara DeReese Neumann, who has compiled a book

only four years ago left Germany to settle in Bonifay, Fla. Through the of cemetery associations ponnda

communities to re-establish connections. They shared stories, books and albums which traced the family tree county rolls and media services, the couple visited Cuero and neighboring back to 1296 The 1990 reunion will be held in Westhoff and will be hosted by Office and Norman DeReese and Hilda DeReese Bartos.

### Reunion Held Morgenroth

nual family reunion at the Union Morgenroth recently held their an-The descendants of Heinrich G. nd Friderecke F. Zetzman Carbide Club House. and

mennicu and ringerecke. Morgenroth were originally from Saxony, Germany. At the time of immigration, Saxony was an indepen-Friderecke dent republic of Germany. and Heinrich

Charlenttenburg, where they reared Morgenroth was of a noble family. They settled in Lavaca county near heir family.

and hostess of the occasion, are the Eddie and Frankie Garrett, host ifth generation.

larie Smith was the youngest memar present. dest

Next year, the reunion will be held Dripping springs, Texas. Sue erefard and family, daughter of

Sixty-five members attended. g;

Freunion on November 25th at the

toria, Peggy Bainbridge and daughter, Kathleen of Castle Palestine, Bill Caruthers, Ken Coleman and family, Mr. and Leesville, Dub and Jane Jenkins of Ingleside, Lorene Oliver, and J. C. Click, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mrs. Ted Harlan, Leann Cater and children, all of San Antonio, Cleveland, Luther Caruthers of Caruthers of Vacaville, Calif., Bobby and Georgie Jaeger of Colleyville, Mr. and Mrs. Danny Smith and family of Canyon Lake, Barbara Baumann and daughter, Amanda Rose, of Vic-Rock, Colorado, and Michael Arvon and Wanda Caruthers of daughter, Misty, of Deer Park James Jaeger and little grand Caruthers of Alabama.

Allie (Adolph) Morgenroth was the David and Elma DuBose, Gladys member present; and Kate Shows, Emmitt and Loma Jerry Jaeger.

A covered dish noon meal was was much visiting, picture taking greatly enjoyed. In the afternoon, guitars and fiddle music. There Luther Caruthers, and Dub Jenkins entertained with their rthur and Inez Morgenroth, will Dorothy and Glenn Salmon. and games of dominoes.

all of San Antonio, Eddie and Carilyn Kosub, Geany and Trisha of St. Hedwig; Peggy Baker

Tina Baker and Doug Steubing

and Frankie Luddeke, Ted and

Dorothy Bowles and Ronald,

lik and Vance, Virgil and Paul Kowalik and Miranda, Melvin

Amber all of LaVernia; Anita and

Connie Luddeke, Becky and

fen, Chesney and Amy, Carl and

Kenneth and Susan Knippa and

Paul Wilson, Mary Knippa,

Trey, Roland and Elnora Luddeke, Virgil and Marilyn Kowa-

FAMILY REUNION OCT 11 1984 TEAMILY FAMILY REUNION OCT 11 1984 FAMILY

Yorktown Firestation auditorium.

Fifty-four descendants of Jo-

**HOLDS REUNION** 

dance represent the families of man and Albert Luddeke, all late They included: Myron and Elaine hann and Anna Nofe Schulze Luddeke gathered at McArthur Park in San Antonio, Texas, on Sunday, September 17, 1989, Anna Schulze Krieger and Herthe most persons in attendance. for a reunion. Those in attenresidents of DeWitt Courty. Glenn and Dorothy Salmon of Out of towners attending were

Herman Luddeke's family had

uddeke of Cuero; Joan and lesse Pendelton, Sharon Gilbert, Fammy, Jamie and Jacob of Victoria; Herman Luddeke, Richard and Lori Luddeke and canne, Elaine and Aubry Stef-

> Local folks attending were Woods, David Hoefling, and

and James of Kirby. Ft. Worth.

Luddeke, Danny and Jacqeline of Luddeke and Jeff of San Springs, OK; Dan and Denise Representing Albert Luddeke's family were: David and Evelyn

Sent by Patsy Hand of Victoria

# Treybigs Hold 55th Reunion

REFUGIO - The descendants of Advocate News Service

area approximately two years, and then moved to Shelby in Austin counof four with his parents and three siblings. The family landed in Galveston in 1846, stayed in the Houston

family members were recognized for being married the longest, being Seventy-seven family members married the shortest, and traveling and guests ate barbecue, followed by quintero, three years old, was the craft auction. A business meeting, youngest member present. Other a traditional baked goods and handiceived a gift as the oldest person present, at 89 years. Bethany the furthest distance to attend. present,

the October 1990 reunion. Date, time and location will be decided by the designated family, and announced at a later date

V.F.W. Hall in Refugio. Bernhardt Treybig, father of Gus Treybig, was born in Veilsdorf, Ger-Woods Treybig recently held their 55th annual family reunion at the and immigrated to Texas at the age many, now part of East Germany, Gustov William Treybig and Katie E.

the Ella Treybig Brooks family. Ella Treybig is the oldest surviving child The reunion was hosted this year by of Gus and Katie Treybig. She re-

events of the day.

The Jesse Treybig family will host table games and a pinata were other

advocate repo 68 bl

age 6 Friday, August 4, 1989 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD Selebrates 50th An on Kosenberg Fa

The Von Rosenberg Family held n Round Top in May of 1939. The amily came to Texas from Prussia in 1849 and settled at the Nassau planits 1989 reunion at Camp Lone Star ear the reunion has been at Camp Lone Star, but more importantly, this n La Grange, with more than 160 amily members attending July 14-6. This was the seventh conservitive is the 50th anniversary of the Von Rosenberg family reunion tation in Round Top.

A number of those attending the 989 reunion were also present at the first reunion fifty years ago. These included Milton and Lucille von Resemberg of La Grange who amnounced that their son, Harold, at two serson to attend the 1939 reunion. and a half months, was the youngest Harold still has the citation

reads "Soldier of Waterloo, Pioneer

Dale von Rosenberg, family his torian, reminded the family membern lexas for freedom, not for material possessions and that we must conhreats both outside our country and

> was mother of the family which came prepared for the new edition of berg by Becky Koenig was read. This At the Saturday afternoon meeting a biography of Amanda von Rosen

Ryan von Rosenberg, great-great grandson of

inually

dance at the VFW Hall at the Fayette ation of these letters was published number of times and are now widely Saturday night climaxed with a bis ended, from babes in arms to great periences in Texas. An English trans On the way to the fairgrounds, grandparents. distributed.

amily stopped at the cemetary in La

Grange to place a wreath at the grave of P. Carl J. von Rosenberg, father of

was born Octob

he family. Carl

1794, in J

received at that reunion.

the von Rosenbergs came to

### **Koenig Family Reunion Held**

Thursday, Sept. 28, 1989--The Schulenburg Sticker

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.

Grandchildren present were Wilburn Koenig, Weldon Koenig, Rodney 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 learned 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 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 German-Texan poet. The Koenig-Romberg farm is listed in the Handbook & Registry of German-Texas Heritage, recently published by the German Texan Heritage Society. It is near the Edwin Guetermann farm.

Helen 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.

### 78 Anton Willmann Family History and Register Being Compiled

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 (\* 1814, +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.



## **Genealogical group**

Confederacy; Dr. Richard Fox Brenham Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas; and Captain Jabez Deming Chapter, Daughters Chapter, United Daughters Brenham, at the home

efurbished Eleanor's Cottage

Sent by Miriam

have an opportunity to

Members are encouraged to bring Miriam

Page 12-Giddings, Texas, Times & News-Thursday, Janaury 25, 1990

research she did on the Ernst family

Miriam York to speak

in Texas at Industry in 1831

by Mrs. Miriam York. She A very interesting and educational Eleanor's Cottage ment in back of Fletcher house)

### The Texas Baptist Historical Collection

### Using the 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**

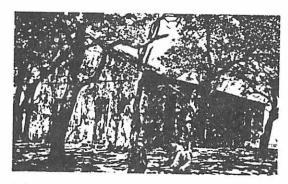
Texas Baptist general, association and church histories as well as Texas state, county and city histories are available for use with the Collection.

### 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.

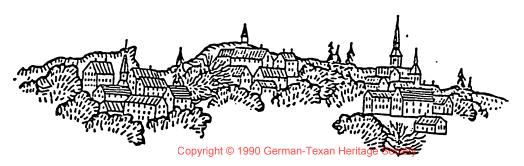
I am pleased to add more information that I have now. My Great-Grandfather, Friedrich Christian Franz GRAF, born 24 May 1853 in Hannover, Prussia, died 16 May 1922 in San Antonio, Texas, son of Ignaz GRAF and Anna Maria BAYSS. Franz married 21 May 1876 in Sülldorf, Kreis Wanzleben, East Germany, to Agnes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

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

Franz and Minna, with their five small children, arrived in Baltimore, Maryland, 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 (<u>Jakob</u>, born Dec. 1847-49 in Magdeburg (?), was living in Coleman County, Texas in 1900 with his family; <u>Theresia</u> (GRAF) RUDLOFF, born 5 March 1855 in Kreuzeber, East Germany, died 2 Feb. 1939 in Cross Plains, Callahan County, Texas; <u>Johanna</u>, born 8 June 1859 in Kreuzeber, was living in Los Angeles, California in 1922; and <u>Martha</u> (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 (Könnern) and died young in Germany), all went to Bexar County, Texas from Germany.



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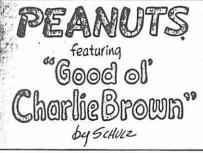
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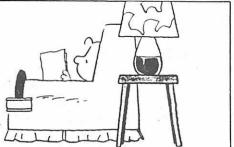
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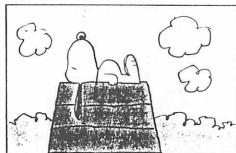
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