GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

THE JOURNAL

Volume XII Number 3 1990

Affiliated With: The Society For German-American Studies

ISSN 0730-3106
Price Per Issue
$3.00 (Members) $3.50 (Non-members)

German-Texan Heritage Society

The JOURNAL is published three times a year by volunteers of the German-Texan Heritage Society. Subscription and membership information is found on the last page of each issue of the JOURNAL. Back issues are available for $3.00 each for members and $3.50 each for non-members.

Annual Meeting Survey

The GTHS Board would like input from the membership on the annual meeting. It has been suggested that a different time of the year might be better. Since a lot of our attendants are empty nesters (the kids have left home) and retirees, they like to go on vacation when school starts. Therefore they are gone during our annual meeting. January and February have been brought up because sometimes hotel rates are cheaper during off season. We are also soliciting your input on some ideas to reduce the cost of the annual meeting. Please fill out this questionaire and return it to

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

YES/NO

1. Would you prefer the annual meeting in different month?.....
   If yes:
   January or February?.....

   Specify if you have a preference..( )

   Another month: Please state.....( )

2. Do you feel the cost of the Annual Meeting is too high?.....

3. Would you prefer a one day meeting only on Saturday?.....

If no:

4. Should the Friday evening reception be eliminated?.....

5. Should the Friday reception be priced separately.....

6. Should the Saturday evening activity be eliminated?.....

7. Should the Saturday evening activity be priced separately?....

8. Should the Sunday morning activitie be eliminated?.....

9. Would you prefer the annual meeting be held at a public facility such as a civic center, school auditorium or church building:.....

10. Do you prefer a coffee breaks on a cash basis?.....

11. Do you prefer lunch on your own?.....

12. In the large cities, do you prefer the downtown hotels close to the activities.....

13. In the large cities, do you prefer the outlying area hotels where transportation to activities may be on your own?.....

Thanks for filling out this survey and providing the Board with your input.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Volume XII Number 3 Winter 1990

ABOUT GTHS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ann Lindemann

The culmination of one year as your elected president has made me appreciate many more of the facets of GTHS. Thank you for the supportive notes and gestures of encouragement-- advancement and accomplishments are not possible without the caring concerned members of this organization. I am very honored to be associated with loyal GTHS friends! I thank all who offered ideas and suggestions, it is our group's collective ideas that help establish the long range goals and objectives for the Society. Please continue to send your thoughts for advancing German-Texan Heritage, we need suggestions from every member.

I have agreed to serve as GTHS president for one more year. I thank the Board for their support and will finish my self-imposed two year presidential term at the end of 1991. New ideas, new energy, and new horizons are a must for individuals and organizations and new people need to have the opportunity to carry GTHS to new heights. I look forward to a productive year and am eager to share the opportunity of GTHS leadership with forward moving, progressive people.

1991 will be an important GTHS year in that it serve as a time of preparation for the 1992 celebration of the 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADELSVEREIN.

Research and studies are discovering what a really important influential bearing the Adelsverein made on the peopling of early Texas. Adelsverein contract holders were as plentiful in the Gulf ports and coastal plains as they were in the resulting towns of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg. The "League of Nobles" though a failure in its aspirations of forming a German colony in Texas none-the-less deserves a great deal of credit for the population of present day Texas being so strongly influenced by German heritage. It is to this cause that I will dedicate much of my energies in 1991. I hope all our Society members will become involved in Adelsverein activities as more ideas, research, discovery and planning take place.

The 1990 ANNUAL MEETING was one of the record makers in our Society's history, both in size and enjoyment. Elizabeth Lehmann, as the Chairperson, did an outstanding job and her committee of assistants did equally remarkable work. The inspiring and educational programs, activities and subject matter as well as the congenial comradeship made this a truly special Annual GTHS Meeting. The good memories and special times make GTHS Annual Meetings events to look forward to all year long! THANK YOU for a Great 1990 Annual Meeting in Brenham!

In 1991 the GTHS ANNUAL MEETING will be held in Corpus Christi. A very active committee of convention planners is headed by Ingrid Brock. A not to be missed meeting is taking shape. The setting for the meeting is at the Emerald Beach Hotel--on the Gulf. Lets make September 13-15, 1991 another record breaking GTHS Annual Meeting.

Found elsewhere in this Journal is a 1991 list of German-Texan Public or special events throughout the state. A request in the last Journal resulted in this calendar. Attractions and activities are limited to those sponsored by towns, communities, cities and organizations that hold German heritage related events. (Note: of necessity we could not list all church activities and family reunions due to limited space--exceptions for special 75, 100 or older anniversary events will be made.)

A SCHEDULE OF IMPORTANT GTHS DATES

Jan. 20-Newsletter info. deadline	June 10-JOURNAL deadline
Feb. 1-Newsletter delivery date	August 1-JOURNAL delivered
Feb. 10-JOURNAL deadline	Sept. (2nd weekend) ANNUAL MEETING
April 1-JOURNAL delivery date	Sept. 20-Newsletter info. deadline
May 20-Newsletter info. deadline	Oct. 1-Newsletter delivered
June 1-Newsletter delivery date	Oct. 10-JOURNAL deadline
	Dec. 1-JOURNAL delivered

EDITOR'S NOTES

Thank you for remembering the JOURNAL and sending in all the German Heritage news and information. The following people deserve credit for information compiled in this issue. The symbols (ISB #00)= Information Supplied By and refers to the following list:

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY :

1. Jean Alexander, Tomball
2. The Don Beckers, Seguin
3. Juanita Bright, Muenster
4. Ingrid Brock, Corpus Christi
5. Ruby DeVos, Mason
6. Margaret Edwards, League City
7. S. Marlene Fritz, Plainfield, NJ.
8. Theresa Gold, San Antonio
9. Marie Gottfried, Brookshire
10. Barbara Haas, Seguin
11. Patsy Hand, Victoria
12. Frances Harrison, San Antonio
13. Vernelle Hengst, Thorndale
14. Gloria Jaster, Round Top
15. Rodney Koenig, Houston
16. John Kothmann, Dallas
17. Tommie Langly, Kerrville
18. Ingrid Lansford, Georgetown
19. James Lindemann, Industry
20. Sue Muzzy, Brenham
21. Dona R-Marquardt
22. Lillian Schneider, San Antonio
23. Helgard Suhr, New Braunfels
24. Leola Tiedt, La Grange
25. Anna Thompson, Austin
26. M.W. Von-Maszewski, Pasadena
27. Lorene Windle, Houston
28. Garnett Noser, Houston
29. GTHS Office &/or Editors

ANNUAL BOARD REPORT OF THE GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
September 1989 to September 1990
(Presented at Sept. 8 Board Meeting, 1990)

This, the twelfth year of GTHS existence, marks the organization's first year to operate under the new Board of Directors consisting of twelve elected GTHS members. The Society worked toward the following goals presented in the "FIVE-YEAR PLAN" at the 1989 September Board Meeting:

1. ANNUAL MEETING COST CUTTING FEASIBILITY STUDY

The 1990 Annual Meeting Committee cut cost of the 1990 meeting to bare minimum (Registration fee is the smallest in recollected history) The result in registration has been equal or slightly above past records. This seems to indicate cost may not be a dominating attendance factor.

Chairperson Frances Harrison has prepared an opinion survey to poll membership wishes for the Annual Meeting. This will be published in the next JOURNAL.

2. GRANTS & ENDOWMENTS

Formal written proposals have not yet been attempted. All required documents have not been available. A financial audit is underway to meet this need.

General requests for financial assistance netted $690. An inventory of office donations has been established.

3. COMPUTER

A committee headed by Wendel Voigt analyzed the Society's needs, did a funding request and is preparing to select a computer to meet the Society's needs as directed by Board vote (7-20-90)*. *(purchase was made 10-90)

4. PUBLICITY

The Publicity Committee headed by Fredericka DeBerry accomplished the following results: creation of a new GTHS brochure; acquisition and distribution of brochure display holders; distribution of (3) statewide press releases; expansion of a publicity agent network of GTHS volunteers. ("Agents" personally deliver GTHS releases and collect related German-Texan information from area papers for GTHS).

This Committee also manned GTHS information booths at Houston International Fest and Gulf Coast German Day Celebration. (Office Report has additional publicity notes)

5. MEMBERSHIP

GTHS had 949 members in Sept. 1989, on 9-7-90 membership is 1010. The 1989 proposed 500 member yearly increase has been revised to a 5% yearly increase.

Patron Members, 1990
From Feb. 20 through Oct. 1 (ISB: #21)

Adkins, Dr. Charles F. & Billy Beaumont TX
Adkins, Mrs. Ward N. (Ann) Houston TX
Alsguth, Ulf K. 2105 Seevetal 2
Anderson, Renata Austin TX
Becker, Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Helotes TX
Becker, Mr. Herbert H. Austin TX
Bond, Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Wimberley TX
Borchardt, Rev. Craig College Station TX
Burges, III, Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Round Rock
Conway, Mr. & Mrs. W. G. San Antonio TX
Dragoo, Mike & Correne Riesel TX
Fry, Naomi W. College Station TX
Gohlke, Dr. & Mrs. Marvin H. Kerrville TX
Hatch, Mrs. Jenevieve San Antonio TX
Heron, Cynthia Milford MA
Holland, Mrs. Elizabeth Schaller Waco TX
Hudler, Jr., Herbert LaMarque TX
Kahlig, Ben W. Temple TX
Langhart, J. S. Universal City TX
Makowski, Edwin Waco TX
Meador, Joel R. Luling TX
Miller, Eugenia R. Houston TX
Morrow, Mrs. W. H. Austin TX
Mueller, Dr. Harold Marietta OH
Neely, Dr. Robert A. Bellville TX
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald E. Houston TX
Parker, Sr., Mrs. Briscoe K. Houston TX
Puls, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. George Corpus Christi
Reichert, Mr. & Mrs. William San Antonio TX
Rohlfs, Dr. Claus & Doris Medina TX
Schroeder, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Fredlein J. Seguin
Schultz, Mr. & Mrs. Harold H. Houston TX
Schultz, Mr. & Mrs. Vernon C. San Antonio TX
Sons of Hermann, Grand Lodge San Antonio TX
Studer, Mr. & Mrs. G. E. Richmond TX
Sundstrom, Mrs. R. W. Sioux Falls SD
Theilen, Katherine Weber Houston TX
Thomas, Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Sellers J. Houston TX
Tiedt, Mrs. Leola K. LaGrange TX
Wendt, Herman Edward Houston TX
Wottrich, Mrs. Pat Houston TX
Young, Clara Sens Sealy TX

MEMBERSHIP NOTE:

Our Membership is increasing steadily. We passed 1,100 and are hoping for 1,500 members in 1991. Please keep telling others about GTHS--you are our best source for new members--THANK YOU! Also please note: The GTHS calendar year runs from January 1 to December 31, and all renewals are due in January. A membership form is located in the back of this JOURNAL--renew today and give a GTHS membership to a friend for Christmas!

Contributing Members, 1990
From Feb. 20 through Oct. 1

Aucoin, Cynthia Kingsbury Virginia Beach VA
Bain, Mr. & Mrs. C. Dale Marion TX
Bauer, Miss Dorothy A. Austin TX
Baumbach, Dennis & Marjorie Crosby TX
Baylor University Libraries Waco TX
Becker, Mr. & Mrs. Ernst D. Austin TX
Beethoven Damenchor San Antonio TX
Boehl, Beverly Garland TX
Braeutigam, David William Arlington TX
Dennis, Ray & Amelia Austin TX
Dube, Dr. Clarence O. Houston TX
Duwe, F. David Eden TX
Eckert, H. Charles Brenham TX
Elmendorf, Laura Portola Valley CA
Ender, Dieter H. Houston TX
Family History Lib/Serials Salt Lake City UT
Fricke, Judge Mike Port Lavaca TX
Gersbach, Leland Holland TX
Goebel, Patsy Cuero TX
Green, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Houston TX
Hanath, Louis & Joycine Chappell Hill TX
Hegar, Mrs. Lucille B. San Antonio TX
Herrmann, Eberhard Dallas TX
Hierholzer, E. J. Floresville TX
Hill, Rev. Wilson V. Austin TX
Hirsch, Del Houston TX
Hoerwartner, Carla & Russell Cox Austin TX
Holloway, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse E. Rockdale TX
Institute of Texan Cultures Library San Antonio
Jockusch, Carl G. & Mary E. San Antonio TX
Johnson, Mrs. W. S. Taylor TX
Kaiser, Billy J. & Betty Austin TX
Kargl, Rolf San Antonio TX
Kiel, Frank W. Comfort TX
Kirst, Dr. Harald D3006 Burgwedel 1
Knape, Frances A. Galveston TX
Knezek, Mrs. La Verne D. Arlington TX
Krause, Dr. & Mrs. Robert B. San Antonio TX
Lamb, Mina Wolf Lubbock TX
Lewis, Jr., Mrs. Oliver San Antonio TX
Logan Library Kerrville TX
Martin, Helga San Antonio TX
McClain, Prof. Meredith Lubbock TX
Mercado, Carla R. Trum New York NY
Merrell, Cres & Cynthia Lubbock TX
Miller, Esther L. Dallas TX
Miller, Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Austin TX
Nagel, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Boerne TX
Paschall, Gwen Behne Eagle Lake TX
Pearce, Mrs. LaVerne S. New Braunfels TX
Quiring, Stanley & Darlene Sugar Land TX
Rothlisberger, Sophie N. San Antonio TX
Rudolf Bremer/Elizabeth Thornton APO New York NY
Schaefer, Gudrun D-6741 Weyher
Schmidt, Roland A. Houston TX
Schutz, Theodore J. LaGrange TX
Seideman, Charles H. Austin TX
Shriner, David R. Moody TX
Slaton, Mignon R. Anderson TX
Solganick, Dr. Harvey, Eastfield College Mesquite
Taylor, Margaret Houston TX
UTSA Library, Serials Dept. San Antonio TX
Wachholz, Edward R. Brenham TX
Weber, Pastor R. J. Brenham TX
Weedin, Mrs. Eleanor F. San Antonio TX
Whorton, Evangeline Loessin Galveston Island TX

GERMAN HERITAGE GROUPS AT WORK

LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK

Estate Planning for Germans
By Rodney C. Koenig

In May, the 44th Staats Saengertag was hosted by the Beethoven Damenchor at the Villita Assembly Hall in historic downtown San Antonio, where German song is alive and well. Seeing the HemisFair Park, the River Walk and other elements of exciting San Antonio is always a pleasure. One item which made it more of a pleasure this year was the concept of creating within HemisFair Park a *GERMAN CULTURE CENTER*. Many of us are familiar with the Beethoven Theater and Concert Hall where previous Saengertag activities have been held. Part of the current concept being spearheaded by the San Antonio Liederkranz involves the creation of a non-profit foundation which will raise funds, promote, develope, restore, enlarge, manage and support the creation of a German-American culture and business center as part of the remaining development of the HemisFair area of San Antonio. This center could serve as a showcase for today's German life, industry, commerce and culture, including many faceted activities such as German language and dance classes, film festivals, theater and concert performances, hopefully with the active and enthusiastic participation of cultural and heritage group's having German descendants. The commercial portion of this endeavor would likely boast an authetic German restaurant and beer garden, hopefully a traditional "Kaffeehaus", bakery, delicatessen, German book and music store, German imports and souvenirs. It could also serve as headquarters for various German-Texan organizations, including singing groups, heritage society groups and others. This would allow us to educate millions of tourists to the rich German heritage in San Antonio and throughout the state of Texas.

THE SOPHIENBURG WANTS TO GO HOME AGAIN

Thomas Wolfe, in his book, *Look Homeward Angel*, said that you can't go home again, but the Sophienburg wants to try. The Memorial Association opened the Museum in the basement of the 1929 City Hall when it was new, and operated there until 1933, when the Sophienburg Museum and Library were opened on the historic site of the Sophienburg, 401 West Coll. In 1938, the Emmie Seele Faust Memorial Library was built on the Historic Sophienburg site and in 1969, when the new Dittlinger Memorial Library was built on adjacent property, the Faust Library became the Sophienburg Archives.

The Sophienburg Museum and Archives is in its fifty-seventh year of operation on the historic site chosen by Prince Carl in 1845. This effort has been made and financed by family and friends of the early settlers of New Braunfels and Comal County. The efforts of these devoted members have made the Sophienburg Museum one of the best historic museums honoring an ethnic group in Texas, the Southwest, and possibly in the United States. In 1980, the Sophienburg Archives became a valuable ally in fulfilling the stated purpose of the organization's State Charter:

> This association is formed for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the early pioneers of New Braunfels, and to encourage historic research into the history of New Braunfels, and to erect suitable structures on and to preserve places made historic by the founding and development of said city.

The Sophienburg Archives' Collection now contained in less than 1000 square feet, has long ago outgrown its space. Limitation of space is now restricting the function of the Sophienburg Archives.

Currently the community has provided the Sophienburg Archives with such an out-pouring of historic documents, photographs and oral history that additional space is absolutely necessary. The purchase of the 1929 New Braunfels City Hall is being considered to fulfill that need.

An Expansion Growth Trust Fund has been designed to provide a solution to three financial problems of the Sophienburg Museum and Archives: (1) current space needs, (2) future development, (3) current operation costs. The immediate goal is to raise $135,000 to purchase the City Hall. The asking price for City Hall is $270,000. The Sophienburg Museum and Archives is asking for a two-year time period (dated upon the Archives move date) to receive a matching purchase grant from some foundation or foundations. Upon reaching funds in the amount of $80,000 the Archives will move into the City Hall. Funds not needed to solve this current space need will be invested in a trust fund where interest only can be used to solve the Sophienburg financial challenges. Interest earnings of the Expansion Growth Trust Funds will annually be divided equally among the three currently perceived financial needs. If funds are not needed when issued from the trust they will be reinvested for future needs.

(ISB: #23)

EVENTS

CALENDAR OF GERMAN-TEXAN EVENTS
1991

(Editor's Note: due to the early publishing of event dates, confirmation by phone or letter is advised.)

JANUARY

13 Seguin-
MID-TEXAS SYMPHONY (featuring an array of German composers with emphasis on the Mozart Bicentennial Celebration)
4 P.M.=Texas Lutheran College Jackson Auditorium
512-372-8000 1000 W. Court, Seguin, TX 78155

19 Houston-
"GROSSE PRUNKSITZUNG" ("Gala Session" sponsored by the "Houstoner Karneval Verein" a sub-branch of the Houston Liederkranz-featuring entertainment, skits, and dancing with audience participation)
8:11 P.M.=Houston Liederkranz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
713-721-8177/713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

FEBRUARY

2 New Braunfels-
MASKENBALL (Dance with prizes for costumes, sponsored by New Braunfels German American Society)
8 P.M.=Elk's Lodge, 353 S Seguin Ave.
512-625-6330 * P.O. Box 1194, New Braunfels, TX 78131-1194

2 Violet-
GERMAN FEST (sponsored by Violet Historical Society of Old St. Anthony Catholic Church)
512-384-2231 * Rt. 1, Box 145, Orange Grove, TX 78372

2 Houston-
"MASKEN BALL" (sponsored by "Houstoner Karneval Verein"-part of the Houston Liederkranz-live music, prizes for best costume)
8 P.M.=Houston Liederkranz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
713-721-8177 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

17 New Braunfels-
MID-TEXAS SYMPHONY (emphasis on Mozart Bicentennial)
4 P.M.=New Braunfels Civic Center
512-625-6330 * P.O. Box 1194 New Braunfels, TX 78131-1194

MARCH

23 Fredericksburg-
VAN DER STUCKEN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL (honors Fredericksburg native son-famed international composer-conductor; German Rhineland Westphalen Regional Choir to perform)
512-997-6523 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

24 New Braunfels-
CHOIR CONCERT (sponsored by New Braunfels German American Society, three choirs from Germany [65 voices] directed by Horst Schonbeck)
4 P.M.=New Braunfels Civic Center
512-625-6330 * P.O. Box 1194 New Braunfels, TX 78131-1194

30 Fredericksburg-
EASTER FIRES PAGEANT (cast of over 600, reenact legend of Indian fires of early pioneer days)
8:15 P.M.=Gillespie County Fair Grounds (3 mi. south on Highway 16)
512-997-6523 * P.O. 506, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

APRIL

5 Round Top-
WINEDALE HISTORICAL CENTER GERMAN PLAY (University of Texas German Dept.)
409-278-3530 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top, TX 78954

6-7 Round Top
WINEDALE HISTORICAL CENTER 24th SPRING FESTIVAL (antiques, 16th annual Texas Crafts Exhibition, ethnic music, home cooked German food)
409-278-3530 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top, TX 78954

13 Bastrop-
YESTERFEST (pioneer heritage celebration arts, entertainers, displays)
10 A.M.-6 P.M.=Bastrop City Park
512-321-6283 * P.O. Box 681, Bastrop, TX78602

20 Industry-
"HERITAGE FESTIVAL" (160th Anniversary celebration of founding of Industry-"the first permanent German settlement in Texas")
10 A.M.=Industry's Historical Scoiety's Heritage Center
409-357-2772 * P.O. Box 218, Industry, TX 78944

26-28 Muenster-
GERMANFEST (annual German celebration with ethnic food, dancing, music, entertainment, arts & crafts, Fraulein & Herr contest, volksmarch, bike rally etc.)
817-759-2227 * P.O. Box 479, Muenster, TX 76252

MAY

4-5 New Braunfels-
FOLKSFEST (sponsored by Sophienburg Museum, Conservation Society & Heritage Society)
Conservation Plaza
512-629-6504 * 1370 Church Hill Dr., New Braunfels, TX 78130 and
512-629 1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78130

9-10 Brenham-
MAIFEST (101st celebration of old fashioned German folkfest-food, music, parades & entertainment)
409-836-3695 * 314 S. Austin, Brenham, TX 77833

19 Anhalt-
MAIFEST (sponsored by Germania Farmer Verein- old traditional food feast to celebrate completion of planting season)
512-438-2339 * H C 52 Box 2264, Bulverde, TX 78163

19 Houston-
"SAENGERTAG OF THE DEUTSCHE-TEXANISCH SAENGERBUNDES" (hosted by Houston Saengerbund-45th annual gathering of this group)
=Houston Black Forest Tavern & Garden, 3926 Feagan
713-465-7792 * 13167 Barryknoll, Houston, TX 77079

JUNE

8 New Braunfels-
"WASSERFEST" (community summer celebration, with related water & sporting activities, floating parade, entertainment, dance, food and special water events)
Wurstfest Grounds
1-800-2323 or 512-625-9167 * P.O. Box 180, New Braunfels, TX 78130

15-16 Boerne-
BERGESFEST (carnival, food, live entertainment, horse races)
512-249-8000 * One Main Plaza, Boerne, Tx 780006

JULY

4 New Braunfels-
4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION (sponsored by Sophienburg Museum & Archives, parade and music)
Main Plaza
512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78131

7 Houston-
WINEFEST DANCE (sponsored by the Houston Liederkranz)
9:00 P.M.=Houston Liederkranz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

AUGUST

1-4 San Antonio-
FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL (sponsored by Institute of Texan Cultures)
512-226-7651 * P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio, TX 78294

4 San Antonio-
MULTI ETHNIC FOLKLIFE MASS (sponsored by Texas Catholic Conference on Community Ethnic Affairs-27 ethnic + Germans represented)
512-344-7229 * 106 Ranchland, San Antonio, TX 78213

SEPTEMBER

2 Seguin-
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF TEXAS LUTHERAN COLLEGE ("Satellite" parties planned in state and nation to mark the 100th Anniversary)
512-372-8020 * 1000 West Court St., Seguin, TX 78155

13-15 Corpus Christi-
GTHS ANNUAL MEETING (reception, music, program with lectures & seminars, banquet, awards & business meeting)
512-280-3351 * P.O. 262, Manchaca, TX 78652
* 4317 Patrick, Corpus Christi, TX 78413

22 Art (Mason County)-
LLANO RIVER VALLEY GERMAN HYMN FEST (41st annual festival sponsored by Art United Methodist Church, German hymns, visiting & refreshments)
3 P.M.= Art United Methodist Church (Mason County)
915-347-5605 * H C 10-box 55, Mason TX 76856

OCTOBER

5 Houston-
GERMANFEST (5th annual event sponsored by German Gulf Coast Association entertainment, exhibits, German dancers, singing and gala dinner-dance)
713-651-5333/713-358-3371 * 1301 Mckinney, Suite 5100, Houston, TX 77010

5-6 Brenham-
OCTOBERFEST (celebration with singing, dancing, special events, games contests, antiques, traditional German food & music)
409-836-3695 * 314 S. Austin, Brenham, TX 77833

5-6 Round Top-
OCTOBERFEST AT WINEDALE HISTORICAL CENTER
409-278-3530 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top, TX 78954

6 Boerne-
HISTORICAL TOUR (9th annual tour sponsored by Boerne Area Historical Preservation Society)
512-249-2030 * P.O. Box 178, Boerne, TX 78006

12 Boerne-
OCTOBERFEST (annual German dance, concert band, food)
Boerne Area Community Center
512-249-9373 * 1209 South Main, Boerne, TX 78006

20 Anhalt-
OCTOBERFEST (sponsored by Germania Farmer Verein-food, dance, old traditional celebration of finish of harvest)
512-438-2339 * Lawrence Forster, HC 52 Box 2264, Bulverde, TX 78163

20 Boerne-
"HARVEST HOME" (sponsored by Boerne Area Historical Preservation Society)
Agricultural Heritage Center in Boerne City Park=1.1 mi. east of Main St. on Highway 46
512-249-9373 * P.O. Box 178, Boerne, TX 78006

NOVEMBER

1-11 New Braunfels-
WUESTFEST (unique celebration attracting national tourists, featuring German sausage making, music, famous entertainment performers, singing, dancing, German food & drink)
1-800-221-4369 or 512-625-9167 * P.O. Box 1194, New Braunfels, TX 78131-1194

1-11 New Braunfels-
HERITAGE EXHIBIT (sponsored by New Braunfels Heritage Society)
10 A.M.-6 P.M.=New Braunfels Civic Center
512-629-6504 * 1370 Church Hill Dr.. New Braunfels, TX 78130

3 Cost-
GERMAN HYMN FEST (sponsored by Monthalia United Methodist Church-25th annual religious German music concert by church choir)
2:30 P.M.=Monthalia Methodist Church (4.5 miles west of Cost)
512-437-2650 * Rt. 1, Box 84, Cost, TX 78614
713-456-7792 * 13167 Barryknoll, Houston, TX 77079

9 Houston-
MARDI GRAS (sponsored by "HKV" of the Houston Liederkranz-formal coronation with crowning of prince & princess)
8 P.M.=Houston Liederkranz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
713-721-8177 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

22-24 New Braunfels-
"WEIHNACHTSMARKT" (Christmas Market sponsored by Sophienburg Museum and Archives)
512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78131

29 Boerne-
WEINACHT'S FEST (Christmas fair & retail merchants event with night parade)
512-249-9373 * 1209 S. Main, Boerne, TX 78006

DECEMBER

5 New Braunfels-
ST. NIKOLAUS CELEBRATION (sponsored by Sophienburg Museum and Archives)
1 P.M. and 6 P.M.=Sophienburg Museum
512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St. , New Braunfels, TX 78130

6-8 Seguin-
CHRISTMAS VESPERS (56th annual musical advent celebration sponsored by Texas Lutheran College music department)
Jackson Auditorium on TLC campus
512-372-8080 * 1000 West Court St., Seguin, TX 78155

7 Castroville-
OLD FASHION CHRISTMAS (sponsored by Castroville Chamber of Commerce)
512-538-3142 * P.O. Box 572, Castroville, TX 78009

7 Muenster-
MUENSTER CHRISTMASFEST & PARADE (Santa's visit & parade, goodies & entertainment)
1:00 P.M.
817-759-2227 * P.O. Box 479, Muenster, TX 76252

...DECEMBER...continued..

2,00 New Braunfels-
CANDLELIGHT TOUR (sponsored by Sophienburg Museum, Conservation Society and Heritage Society,-all three sites are decorated for Christmas and open for tours)
512-629-6504 * 1370 Church Hill Dr. New Braunfels, TX 78130
and 512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78130

7-8 Boerne-
OMA'S CHRISTMAS FAIR (Arts, crafts, homemade items & refreshments)
Kendall County Fairgrounds
512-249-9373 * 1209 S. Main, Boerne, TX 78006

13-15 Tomball-
CANDELIGHT TOUR (sponsored by Spring Creek County Historical Association, decorated German-Texan home & church, refreshments)
6 P.M.-9 P.M.=Tomball Museum Center
P.O. Box 457, Tomball, TX 77377

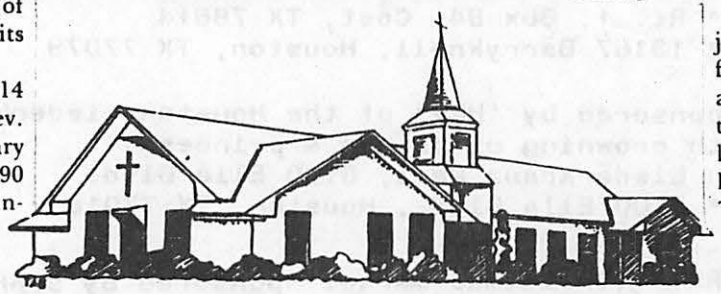
15 Round Top-
WINEDALE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE (18th annual tour of decorated homes with German singing by "Froliche Gesang Verein")
2:00-5:00 P.M.=Winedale Historical Center
409-278-3520 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top, TX 78954

(ISB: #1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23, 27, 29)

St. Paul Lutheran Of Phillipsburg Observe 100th Anniversary Oct. 14

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Phillipsburg will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Oct. 14.

St. Paul was organized with 14 families in March 1890 by Rev. W. Pfennig. The first sanctuary was dedicated on Oct. 12, 1890 and Rev. Renatus Fiedler was installed as the pastor.



Texas Lutheran College will join St. Paul in this celebration, for it was on Oct. 12-13, 1890 that a meeting was held at St. Paul for the purpose of organizing a college in Brenham. This college later moved to Seguin and became Texas Lutheran College.

BELLVILLE, TEXAS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1990

The dedication of a Texas State Historical Marker was part of this Centennial celebration. (ISB: #29)

GOETHE-INSTITUT HOUSTON

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

3120 Southwest Fwy., Suite 100
Houston, TX 77098
Tel. 713/528-2787 (Offices)
523-0966 (Library)

Sunday, December 2
Brown Auditorium
Museum of Fine Arts

George T.M. Shackelford, curator of European paintings at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, surveys the life and works of German artist Adolph Menzel (1815-1905) in a lecture co-sponsored by the Goethe-Institut. Menzel, an exceptionally talented draftsman and painter, is considered 19th-century Germany's rival to the Romantic and Realist tradition represented in France by Delacroix, Daumier, and Degas. Menzel portrayed German life over the course of 60 years, a period of transition from the Industrial Revolution to the modern era.

Admission to the lecture is free and seating is on a first come, first served basis. The lecture is presented in conjunction with the exhibition "Adolph Menzel, 1815-1905: Master Drawings from Berlin," on view at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, from December 1, 1990 to January 27, 1991.

October 9-December 20

The next in our series of "Introducing German Cities" — a program of inter-active exhibitions, films, videos, lectures, books, educational programs, and related events — will feature the city of NÜRNBERG.

December 6

A holiday celebration at the Goethe-Institut, for children — of all ages! From 6:00-8:00 p.m. (ISB: #29)

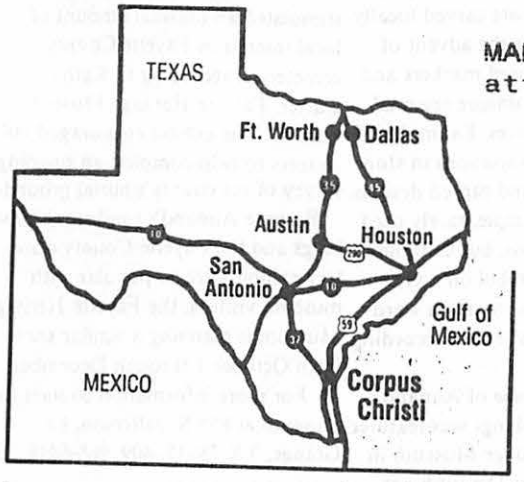
Corpus Christi

IS THE SITE OF THE 1991

ANNUAL GTHS MEETING

****-SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15-***

MAKE PLANS TO COME SEE THE GERMAN HERITAGE (and other attractions) OF THIS SPARKLING COASTAL CITY



Located near the southernmost tip of Texas, Corpus Christi is an easy drive from San Antonio or Houston, and is just a 30-minute trip to Padre Island National Seashore, one of the longest stretches of beach in the continental United States.

Located on a beautiful bay in south Texas, Corpus Christi is a vacationer's dream come true. With sunny skies, perpetual breezes, and a mild climate, it's guaranteed to put the wind back in your sails!

The family will love it — and be sure to try a walking tour, too. Visit Heritage Park with its lovely restored Victorians. While you're there, take a peek at the nearby art and history musuems. (We even have one for kites!)

Take a short trip to the world-famous King Ranch.

Early morning risers can watch the sunrise over the bay or wait for sunset to take a night-time drive and look back at Corpus Christi's glittering lights. You'll see why people come back again and again.

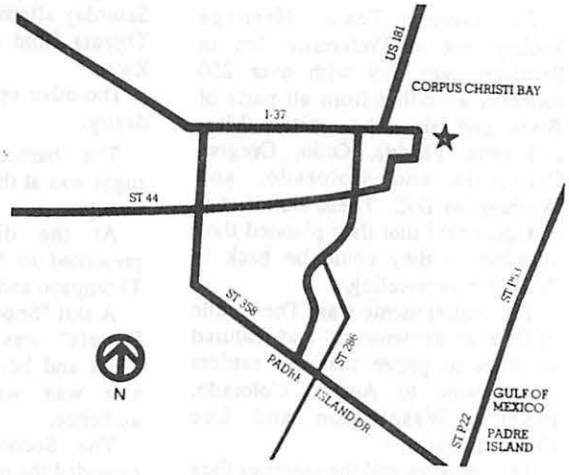
Corpus Christi

Be an adventurer or just relax and bask in the warm Texas sun. Put together an itinerary or just do it all on impulse — you won't run out of things to do.

CORPUS CHRISTI EMERALD BEACH

Holiday Inn®

After a visit to Corpus Christi you won't go away empty-handed! Whether your "catch" is a live one from the sea, or just a special souvenir from one of our specialty shops, you'll find plenty of material for making happy memories.



At the HOLIDAY INN® - EMERALD BEACH we accommodate you in comfort and style in a resort setting overlooking beautiful Corpus Christi Bay. For business or vacation, it's the ideal place to stay.

Hotel Features

- Located on 600 feet of white sandy beachfront.
- 368 plush guest rooms, many offering a spectacular view of the Bay.
- Complimentary Showtime, CNN, and ESPN.
- Holidome indoor recreation center with indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool, pingpong, and children's playport.
- Fitness center.
- Over 10,000 square feet of meeting space.
- Fine dining in the Sandpiper, our full service restaurant, or seasonally in Zak's Deli and Oyster Bar.

Holiday Inn® Emerald Beach
1102 South Shoreline Boulevard
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
512/883-5731

One-half mile from the Marina: minutes from downtown and the Convention Center: International Airport 12 miles: Port Aransas Wildlife Refuge 30 miles.

Directions

From Dallas/Austin and points north: I-35 South to San Antonio. Then I-37 South to Corpus Christi, exit Shoreline Drive. Turn right on Shoreline, hotel 3 miles on left.

From Houston: Highway 59 to Highway 77. Follow Highway 77 to I-37 South to Corpus Christi and exit Shoreline Drive. Turn right on Shoreline, hotel 3 miles on left.

From the Valley: Highway 77 to Highway 44. Follow Highway 44 to Highway 358. Exit North on I-37 to Shoreline Drive. Turn right on Shoreline, hotel 3 miles on left.

Reservations

For reservations, call 1-800-HOLIDAY or your travel agent. We accept all major credit cards.

A gathering of Texas saints—

tombstone rubbings of Robert Almand

Robert Almand's tombstone rubbings of famous Texas figures are like the pages of a history book. They remind us of the lives of such persons as Stephen F. Austin and Texas Ranger "Big Foot" Wallace, and they offer a condensed history lesson that may inspire us to learn more.

In addition to supplying information useful to genealogists, historians, and other researchers interested in Texas' varied populations, Almand's rubbings highlight the beauty of the stones.

Almand's collection includes stone rubbings of John O. Meusebach, who founded the German colonies of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg, and Anson Jones, last president of the Republic of Texas. A rubbing of the tombstone of Abner Cook, the famous Texas architect who designed the Governor's Mansion, also was, until recently, in Almand's collection. He gave this one away to a friend, which he will occasionally do. But he will never sell his rubbings because he considers them sacred.

Almand has been collecting rubbings of pioneer and famous Texans on and off for about 20 years, since his first year as a student at Texas Lutheran College in Seguin. Almand's collection reflects the settlement patterns of diverse ethnic cultures in Texas. Many of the stones are from pioneer immigrants' graves and are inscribed in native languages, including Spanish, Czech, French, and Norwegian.

"Whenever I take a four-hour trip," he said, "it usually takes me six hours." The reason, of course, is that he stops at cemeteries along the way. The San Antonio native, who has forsaken big city life for rural living in the small town of Hochheim (a few miles west of Yoakum), is most interested in stones of the Texas founders. He's also interested in those that employ native material and are carved locally because they predate the advent of commercially produced markers and their designs reflect unique regional and cultural differences. Examples of differences include variations in stone textures, lettering, and carved designs. Protestants, for example, rarely used the shape of the cross, but Catholics often did. A star symbol on a German tombstone was meant to ward off the devil in the afterlife, according to Almand.

A selection of some of Almand's 100 tombstone rubbings was featured at the Fayette Heritage Museum in LaGrange last year. The rubbings were selected from various Texas cemeteries, including several of markers found in Fayette County. His show and an accompanying exhibit, which included a display of stone mason's tools, stone work samples, and photographs of various tombstone types and decorations, stimulated an unusual amount of local interest in Fayette County cemeteries, according to Kathy Carter, Fayette Heritage Museum curator. The exhibit encouraged volunteers to help complete an ongoing survey of the county's burial grounds.

Because Almand's tombstone rubbings and the Fayette County cemetery exhibit were so popular with museum visitors, the Fayette Heritage Museum is planning a similar show from October 1 through December 31. For more information contact the museum at 855 S. Jefferson, La Grange, TX 78945, 409/968-6418. ❑

Fall 1990

The Medallion

Texas Historical Commission

German-Texan HS Meet Has Record Attendance

The German-Texan Heritage Society met at Preference Inn in Brenham Sept. 7-9 with over 250 members attending from all parts of Texas and six other states, Massachusetts, Florida, Ohio, Oregon, California and Colorado, and Washington D.C. These out-of-state members said that they planned their vacation so they could be back in Texas for the meeting.

The central theme was "The Cradle of German Settlements" and featured speakers to prove that the settlers really came to Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Washington and Lee Counties first.

The speakers and the counties they spoke about were: James Lindemann, (Austin); Daphne Garrett, (Fayette); Jack Wiederhold, (Lee); Dr. W.O. Dietrick, (Washington); and Arliss Treybig, (Colorado).

Additional speakers on related subjects were Dr. Walter Kamphoefner, Jeff Lindemann, Marjorie von Rosenberg, Lisa Kahn and W.M. Maszewski.

Blue Bell Ice Cream was open for tours Friday afternoon and provided ice cream for the afternoon break on Saturday.

A genealogy section was an option Saturday afternoon. It was chaired by Theresa Gold and Robert Robinson-Zwar.

The other option was a tour of Industry.

The barbecue dinner, Saturday night was at the Welcome Hall in Industry.

At the dinner, awards were presented to Mary El-Behers, Anna Thompson and Elizabeth Lehmann.

A skit "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" was presented by Leola Tiedt and her mystery players. The skit was well received by the audience.

The Second-Time-Around Band provided the music for the evening.

Sunday morning a German church service was held with the Rev. Robert J. Koenig of Giddings bringing the devotion. Music was provided by David Christianson and Dwight Nittsche.

A business meeting was the last on the agenda.

Next year the meeting will be the weekend *after* Labor Day at Holiday Inn in Corpus Christi.

Ann Lindemann is the president of the G.T.H.S., Elizabeth Lehmann was general chairperson and Miriam York was program chairperson. Others were Leola Tiedt, registration; Joycine Hanah, food and decoration; Ann Derr, coffee breaks; Verlie Wegner, exhibits; and Leola Tiedt had designed the logo.

The program was dedicated to the memory of Thecla Mueller Dallmeyer who died Aug. 22, 1990. She had been on the planning committee.

THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

September 18, 1990

(ISB: #24)

Dedicated
to the memory of
Thecla Mueller Dallmeyer
(25 September 1908 — 22 August 1990)
by
The Twelfth Annual Meeting
Planning Committee
of the
German-Texan Historical Society

100th Anniversary

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thorndale, Texas

1890 — 1990

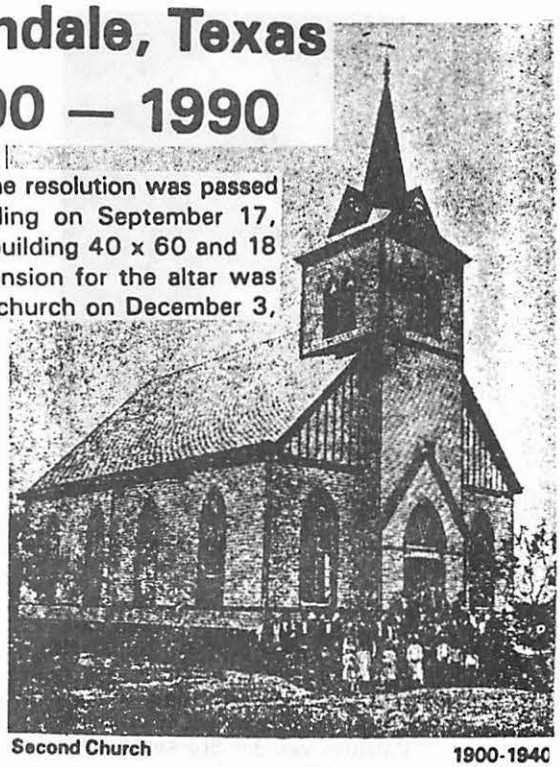
in 1881 August Polnick moved his family to Thorndale from the Lee County area. The family became the first German and also the first Lutheran family to settle here.

Pastor G. Birkmann, his former Lutheran pastor of Fedor paid the family a visit in 1883. Other families of the Lee County area followed and settled here. By 1885, Pastor Birkmann made pastoral calls in his buggy drawn by two grey horses, four or more times per year. He served in this manner faithfully for five years, during which time several families from (Hochkirch) Noack community joined to form a single parish. Services were held, alternating between Thorndale and Hochkirch in private homes and public school houses. Growth was at a slow but positive pace until 1890.

First Church & School 1891-1901

Near the end of 1890, a number of changes took place. Mr. Karl Michalk donated 10 acres of land for church and school construction. On December 21, 1890, the decision was made to build a 24 x 36 and 12 feet high church and school building.

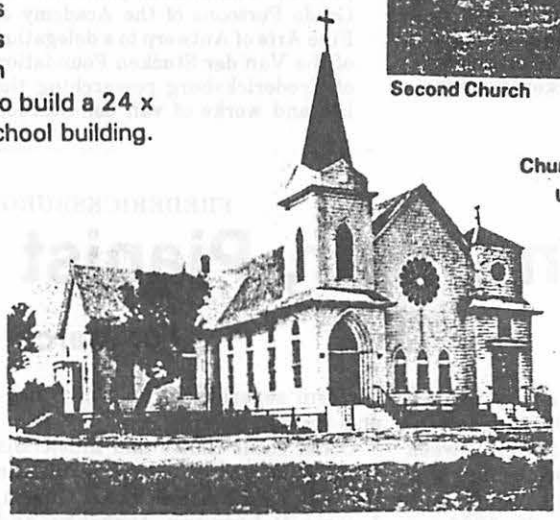
The resolution was passed to build a larger building on September 17, 1899. The plan for a building 40 x 60 and 18 feet high with an extension for the altar was accepted for the new church on December 3, 1899.



Second Church 1900-1940

Church damaged by tornado. July 2, 1940

using all useable lumber building process began on September 17, 1940.



Church Dedication Dec. 22, 1940

Sunday, April 4, 1919

a rhyming prayer, "In Namen Gottes fang ich an. Mir helfe Gott, der helfen kann. So Gott mir hilft wird alles leicht; Wo Gott nicht hilft, wird nichts erreicht. Drum ist das beste, was ich kann: in namen Gottes fang ich an."

1990 CHURCH

(ISB: #13)

Fredericksburg

Festival Honoring Famed Composer, City Native

(ISB: #29)

FREDERICKSBURG

STANDARD-RADIO POST

AUGUST 15, 1990

Frank van der Stucken

Plans have been completed for the first annual "Van der Stucken International Music Festival" to be held Saturday, March 23, 1991, in Fredericksburg, according to Mark Wieser, new president of the Frank Valentin van der Stucken Foundation and Festival, Inc.

Van der Stucken was born in Fredericksburg in 1858. The family returned to Europe when the young van der Stucken became set on a career in music. By age 16 the young Frank completed two original works, formally presenting them in Antwerp, Belgium.

According to Wieser, the 60-member Rheinland Westphalen Regional Choir of Germany will perform van der Stucken's works at the premier festival in Fredericksburg. Also to perform is German concert pianist Horst Schoenbeck of Essen, Germany. Other performers will also be announced as their appearances are confirmed.

"Frank van der Stucken was not only a great composer, but a great person," commented professor Dr. Guido Persoons of the Academy of Fine Arts of Antwerp to a delegation of the Van der Stucken Foundation of Fredericksburg researching the life and works of van der Stucken this May in Europe. "His works reflect his love of life, people, and God," Dr. Persoons added.

Van der Stucken studied with Edvard Grieg, Carl Reinecke, Verdi, Chambrier, and Massenet all over the European Continent. By age 30 he conducted his "Symphonic Prologue" to Heinrich Heine's "William Ratcliffe" with the Boston and Chicago Symphony Orchestras and the New York Philharmonic.

He was named musical director of the prestigious Arion Music Society of New York in 1884 and took them on concert tour across Europe in 1892. He was the first director of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Again going on European tour he was the first to introduce American compositions at the World Exposition in Paris in 1889. He died in 1929 and is buried in Hamburg, Germany.

FREDERICKSBURG STANDARD-RADIO POST JUNE 20, 1990

German Choir, Pianist Coming

For March 1991 Music Festival Here

Organizers of the newly formed Frank Valentin Van Der Stucken International Music Festival this week announced that Fredericksburg will be the site of their first annual festival on Saturday, March 23, 1991.

Van Der Stucken, who gained international fame as a composer-conductor in America and Europe, was born in Fredericksburg in 1858.

Announcement of the festival's scheduling came Monday from Mark Wieser, president of the Van Der Stucken Foundation.

"We are pleased to announce that the 60-person Rheinland Westphalen Regional Choir of Germany has confirmed their appearance on the historic premier program of the festival," Wieser said.

Also, German concert pianist Horst Schoenbeck of Essen will also perform several of Van Der Stucken's works.

Other local choirs and musicians will also be invited to take part in the festival, said Frances Ernst Gipson, Laurie Petermann Jenschke and Mark Hierholzer, foundation directors of musicology.

Dr. Charles C. Schmidt of Fredericksburg has been elected general director of the 1991 International Music Festival.

Further details about the festival's location and other information will be announced at a later date.

Other leaders of the newly organized foundation and festival include Ronald L. Woellhof, vice president; Kenn Knopp, secretary; Jane Woellhof, librarian; Patrick H. Klein, treasurer, and Meridel S. Solbrig, legal director.

Additional posts will be solicited from those who are interested at the next general meeting to be held on Monday, July 16 at noon in the Alpine Lodge Restaurant. The public is welcomed to attend.

(ISB: #16)

Willkommen!

Enjoy German Heritage at Texas Lutheran College

TLC to celebrate Centennial in 1991

In September 1891 The Evangelical Lutheran College of Brenham, Texas opened its doors for the first time. Seventy-seven students enrolled that first year in what was then an academy, and the faculty consisted of all of one part-time and two full-time professors.

It is to this modest beginning that Texas Lutheran College in Seguin traces its origin (the college moved from Brenham to Seguin in 1912). Consequently, 1991 marks TLC's Centennial year, and the college plans to celebrate that special anniversary in grand style.

The festivities actually kick-off this fall at Homecoming, October 26-28. At the Saturday night banquet in Riebe Dining Hall exciting announcements about the 1991 celebration and about the future advancement of Texas Lutheran College will be made. Parents of current students are cordially invited to the banquet and to all Homecoming 1990 activities. A complete schedule of events and registration information can be obtained from the TLC Office of Alumni and Parent Relations (512/372-8025).

Highlights of the 1991 Centennial Celebration include:

- February 21-22—The 11th Annual Krost Symposium. Under the theme "Toward 2000: Issues in Our Global Future," the 1991 symposium will bring together renowned speakers to address issues of importance to the world in the coming century and the implications of those issues for American higher education.
- April 19-21—A Celebration of TLC Athletics. The college's long and distinguished tradition in intercollegiate athletics will be celebrated. All former and present athletes are invited back for the weekend-long festivities.
- May 12—100th Commencement Exercise.
- September 2—100th Birthday Party. All of the stops will be pulled out as the college and Seguin communities celebrate the actual 100th anniversary of the school's founding in Brenham. "Satellite" parties for alumni, parents, and friends around the state and nation are also planned for that day.
- October 25-27—Homecoming. Reunions for *all* classes and other extra-special features should make this centennial year homecoming the best one ever!

1891 1991 centennial celebration TEXAS LUTHERAN COLLEGE

The TLC Centennial Celebration will officially conclude in December 1991 with the annual Christmas Vespers program (December 6-8) and with mid-year commencement (December 14).

In addtion to these annual and special events, several other Centennial-related projects have been undertaken by TLC faculty and staff members.

- Dr. A.G Wiederaenders, professor emeritus of history, has written his second major history of Texas Lutheran College. The book, entitled *TLC's First Century: An Age of Growing Excellence, 1891-1991*, focuses on the past two decades in the college's history. The work complements Wiederaenders' comprehensive *Coming of Age: A History of Texas Lutheran College*, published in 1978. *TLC's First Century* is scheduled to go on sale October 26 during Homecoming 1990. Contact the TLC Bookstore after that date to order copies by mail or phone.
- TLC professor of psychology Dr. Robert Hiner has spent the past several months videotaping interviews with the college's professors emeriti. Several hours of tape have been compiled and will be placed in the college archives. An edited version of these interviews, which would be made available for public showing at college events and alumni gatherings, and possibly for purchase, is under consideration. These recollections about the college's early days will be an invaluable addition to the college's archives.
- A traveling exhibit of art by faculty and students from colleges around the country that are celebrating their centennials in 1991 is scheduled to be shown at TLC next year (date to be announced). TLC's John Nellermoe, associate professor of art, has contributed to the exhibit which is being organized by Buena Vista College of Iowa.

Additonal information about TLC's Centennial will be available in the November issue of the college magazine, the *Torch*, and in special mailings beginning in January 1991. Can't wait that long? Feel free to call 512/372-8020 and speak with Stephen Anderson, director of centennial planning. In the meantime, be sure and mark these dates and plan now to be present for the biggest celebration in TLC's history! □ (ISB: #29)

CELEBRATING OUR FIRST CENTURY 1891–1991

Charles Pressler: German Youth's Letters Tell His Frontier Texas Adventure

Part II

(ISB: #26)

(Editor's note: This article first appeared in twenty weekly installments in the New Braunfels Herald, *August 12, 1965, through January 6, 1966. Permission to reprint has been granted.)*

Meanwhile, back at Sörgel's farm, Charles was delayed by the effects of his illness which had begun several weeks before when he almost drowned in the Guadalupe at New Braunfels. He sent Julius on to Cordova in Houston with his horse and papers.

Charles and Fritz spent hours reminiscing about friends and relatives in Germany. They had been gone from home a year.

"We talked everything over cornbread and coffee to go with it. These have been the most beautiful 14 days I ever have seen in Texas," Charles wrote to his relatives in Germany.

"I tried to cure the fever with water but without success. Finally, I sent Fritz to the German settlement, Industry. A German physician gave me some quinine."

Charles was to take the medicine in six doses, each two hours apart.

"After four parts, the pain and fever went, and I became so hungry that I ate for five.

"Talking about health here, many settlers suffer under fever, even the old ones. Some have it two to three times every year. Some get over it while others, even newcomers, don't get it at all. There are two different types of fever. People who eat plenty of meat and sit around much mostly get a kind of gall fever. Yellow fever, although not so common, is said to be due to the climate here.

"It is estimated that one-third of all immigrants, more or less, get sick and die. This is true, at least in respect to all of our tripmates from the ship on which we crossed.

"Many Germans have quite some trouble with their feet here, a kind of blister. The Americans say our blood is too thick and has to become thinner.

"Well, I am quite all right now."

Julius' lack of direction and responsibility exasperated Charles who tried to help him. His footloose friend was also a brother-in-law of Charles' brother Hermann.

During his summer's work in La Grange, Julius had saved $50. He returned to Fritz and the farm for a while, then left for Galveston with $20 in his pocket, saying he was going to look after his things.

"But I think he thought of the tasteful beer there," Charles wrote Hermann. "He spent his $20 in a hotel and came back to Fritz, homesick. There is no place in Germany where he could save $50 within four months. Then he left for New Orleans, hunting a job as a lithographer while he could make more money here as a brick layer. I do not understand him." Apparently he met with no success in New Orleans and returned to the farm.

Sending Julius to Houston to deliver his horse was a device Charles employed to keep him from roaming again.

"I also gave him a letter of recommendation knowing Cordova could use a horseman."

Julius was hired, and joined the surveying party on a trip into the hills around the Blanco River in mid-November 1846. He was enthusiastic about the backwoods life; then he became lax in his responsibilities.

"Julius did not pay much attention to the horses as he used to do at first, and when we came to Austin after one four weeks of surveying, Cordova fired him.

"He borrowed a horse from Cordova, announcing he would like to go to Houston. Cordova told him not to ruin the horse and that he should take it easy."

Weeks passed without news from Julius. Charles and Cordova rode to Houston and went their separate ways. When Charles rejoined Cordova early in January 1847, the latter had a letter from Julius. En route to Houston, he had stopped to visit Fritz at the farm, and there he lost Cordova's horse, presumably to thieves.

"In the middle of November 1846, we (de Cordova and the surveying crew) went together surveying in the hills around the Rio Blanco, a side arm of the San Marcos River between (the) Guadalupe and Colorado. We led our usual life in the backwoods," Charles wrote in a letter to the family in Germany.

"Two Indians from the Delaware tribe were scouts and hunters. Their names were Black Bear and Black Beaver. We had plenty of bear meat; rice steamed in honey, turkey, and deer, etc. I was, as usual sick. Had fever again. Often it became cold below the freezing points. Cold showers with northers gave me rheumatism."

Back in Austin, Charles and de Cordova gave up surveying for a while and rode together to Houston, "195 English miles in three and one-half days. I travelled around, went to Galveston where I took care of our boxes and sent them to Houston. From Galveston, I went via Harrisburg, Lynchburg, both on Buffalo Bayou, to San Jacinto.

"Then I passed Liberty, went down the Trinity River to the coast and back to Houston. Left Houston again for Oyster Creek, close to the mouth of the Brazos River and spent Christmas Eve in an alligator swamp.

"The first holiday saw me on the road again. I left Houston on New Year's Day (1847) and met Cordova in Austin.

"Around the 10th of February, we left for Rio Blanco, without Cordova this time.

We were only six men. I refused to go first with only five, but Cordova could not get any while almost every young man had joined the army. (The Mexican War.) So we six went alone.

"Quite often we run into buffaloes. Fifteen to 50 head we met quite frequently. It surely is a sight to see them running head down and tail straight in the air. We killed three.

"On our trip, I killed a mountain lion. We ran into four, and one climbed a tree, giving me a chance to kill him. The others got away. He was the size of a German butcherdog. His color was gray-brown. They do not attack anyone.

"This time, while taking down a bee tree, we caught a raccoon. He jumped out of the tree when it fell. An American caught his tail, and another one killed him with a handaxe. He gave us a good meal.

"In the evening, around eight o'clock, on February 13, we noticed a trembling of the ground of several minutes' duration. The Austin paper reported that Seguin, 15 miles below Braunfels, felt it quite a bit. It is said that a volcanic stripe reaching from Lake Ontario down to Central America goes through this part of Texas. A little later, a paper recorded that on February 14, the ice of Lake Ontario suddenly split and water showed a tendency to move.

"We have been surveying now for three weeks and had to combine our work with some on the Guadalupe. We worked towards the Guadalupe through hilly country to a well-known point and went back to the Blanco River. Here we had a nice but poor camp. Camping in a canyon on the highest point where both rivers meet, we could see far into the country. But no water and grass. Besides that, it was really cold.

"The next day we expected to be through with our work and wanted to be back in a settlement. We went down the valley through brushy country. Everyone killed a deer. Two stayed to skin them, and we four went farther down to the selected campsite. Thinking that all the shooting was done, nobody reloaded his rifle, dropping it off at the camp.

"All of a sudden, we were attacked by 30 to 40 Wichita Indians, naked with bow and arrows and tomahawks; war paint on face and body. The closest one among us four was caught with a lasso and killed instantly with a tomahawk. One turned around, the only one whose gun was still loaded, and was hit by three arrows in the back, fell over and was killed with his own gun. The third of us got two arrow heads in his chest, turned around, and six Indians killed him right away.

"I was all by myself. The two left behind ran off. I was encircled by the Indians, but I had a good horse, took a sharp turn, and came through the circle without a scratch, followed now by the Indians who were trying to cut me off from the settlement.

"They knew the hills very well. After a ride of five miles, I reached the Blanco River again. But the other side was very steep, and I could not cross with my horse. I jumped off the horse, loaded my rifle and pistol, and crossed the river. My shoes started hurting me, so I took them off. Soon my feet were torn to pieces and bleeding. I crossed the Blanco a second time, ran into cedar brush and hid there till the next day, asleep from exhaustion and hunger.

"After three miles, I made the San Marcos settlement close to the spring. It was noon, and after a quick bite, I started with 20 young men back to find the dead ones. We buried them together under a pile of rocks. On top we cut their names with a knife in a big flat stone. We caught my horse again and went back.

"I rode to Austin and had to stay in bed there for 14 days on account of my feet. A fine opportunity to finish my letter.

"I wanted to quit Cordova first, but thought it over. Thinking of you, made me change my mind again," he wrote in a letter to Germany. "I will wait till fall. I will have saved some more money by then.

"Don't think I am everytime in trouble. I told Cordova, of course, never to survey with only five men, but a month later, we started again with five. We went to the Blanco once more, but no buffaloes this time. However, wild cows and mustangs crossed our ways.

"I celebrated my birthday with a good piece of turkey spiced with wild onions. I thought of it quite often.

"My savings run up to $150 already, and I think I will be able to get $200 or even $250 in the fall. I think to follow my old plan then of going into the rope business in Galveston together with Fritz. We will try it anyway.

"If it turns out all right, then the brother-in-law and Rie can come abroad without a risk. I would like to farm, but if you don't have money and Negroes it surely is a hard life. However, in case you two come abroad, I am going to farm, too.

"I think Cordova is going to help me. He is leaving for New York this summer to sell Texas land, and in case he does a good business, he wants to buy cattle, make me his foreman, and promises to let me have every third and fourth calf out of a herd of 100 cows and the same amount of sheep. I think it is worth it.

"You see how uncertain I am of what to do. I cannot give you any advice at all; thinking you might not like it here. Therefore, I am a little afraid to tell you all the nice or bad things so you might think I encourage or discourage you," Charles wrote his relatives in Germany.

"In everything they (the Americans) use the superlative. For instance, a farmer tries to sell a horse. You should listen to his approach:

'The best I ever have seen,' even if the horse is stiff and crippled. 'The tamest horse of the Union, the best horse ever raised in Texas.'

"Only a few government jobs are open to Germans, like draftsmen ... They always prefer Americans even if they are not qualified. All this will show you we do not have an easy life here under the Americans. The Germans are mistreated here. 'Gott verdammter Deutscher,' that's what you hear every day.

"Lately, we had an unusual, however, remarkable event in the Senate (State Legislature). A Senate member, the editor of the newspaper THE UNION, was thrown out of the Senate after publishing some articles against other members of the Senate.

"In an election, they voted 27 to 21 against him, and he had to go. Does that ... show American freedom?

"They say we have freedom of religion, and nobody will ask you, of course, what you do believe. But you let them know you are an atheist or of a different religious group and your property and life are in danger."

Charles told of meeting an American from the Trinity River who was forced to flee westward because of abuses in the name of religion. The man lived among members of a Protestant denomination who threatened to lynch him and set his house afire if he did not join their church, Charles wrote.

"I was witness in a Methodist church in Houston one time where the preacher told them to join the Methodist Church, otherwise they never will go to heaven. Three ladies finally came out of the crowd and trumpets announced their new membership. Astonished that no men started to join, he told the crowd to think what a menace it would be for the men to go to hell instead of going hand-in-hand to heaven with the ladies. An old man finally went up to the altar. Another trumpet announcement. I left scared!

"The National pride of the Americans is really hard to understand. They never pronounce a Latin word like the Romans, everything in their American way. Even English is an insult.

"Remarkable are the efforts of the Americans to show the world what great men they have produced. Recently, I read in the paper that even the Pope has been in America, as a missionary on account of his liberal ideas. A famous English general, I forget the name, was claimed to be of American origin, and even the Spanish dancer, La Mola, is asserted of American stock.

"To answer all your questions," Charles wrote his relatives, "I have to look over your letters again. Don't become angry in the event I mix them up a little.

"In case you are going to leave Germany, sell everything you can without too big a loss. Only money counts here. An American likes to speculate, and if he has a new idea, he sells his property for half the price against cash. You see, it always helps to have cash on hand.

"If you have to buy on credit or terms or want to trade, you usually have to pay twice the price. I saw an American selling his 1/3 of a league (1,476 acres) for half a dollar an acre, excellent soil, three miles out of (New) Braunfels. Usually they get $2 to $3 per acre there. He sold to a German who paid cash.

"Speaking of tools like axes, handaxes, saws, drills, etc., don't bother with them. They are just as cheap here and even better in material and more practical. It certainly is a pleasure to pick up an American ax. Sharp as a razor and made perfectly. You can put them in a show case, they are so nice. A German ax looks awful, like an ax made by villains. The price of a good ax is $1.50.

"However, don't sell your porcelain, gold, and sterling silver. Here even Americans are proud to have it and show it. Be careful in packing it right so it will not be damaged. They handle those boxes rather roughly.

"The German plow is considered better by German farmers here. It turns the heavy soil over while the American plow only loosens up the soil. You get a plow here for 4 dollars.

"Wagons built sturdy but not too heavy, iron axles and high wheels, will cost you up to $150. You might bring some axles and wheels along from Germany.

"I don't know much about the style here. Men usually wear a long coat, and the women's skirts show almost the knee." Charles must have been stretching a point here.

"The American women act as funny as the Germans in this. If the skirt is a little bit too short, they gossip about it. I heard a good joke about it not long ago at a little party. Someone's skirt was a little short, and the others said she cut it twice, and still it is too short.

"They don't mind the material and color so much. That does not count too much.

"In wintertime, the farmers wear mostly a coat made out of a blanket. All colors, red, blue, green, it does not matter.

"The wintercloth has to be just as warm as the one in Germany. You might laugh at thinking about the temperature extremes of the Sahara. One norther here will teach you a lesson.

"Summerwear could be lighter than the ones in Germany. Tablecloths, bedsheets, napkins (I have not seen any so far) you might as well bring along. They do not have any featherbeds around here. The covers are stuffed with cotton..

"Two kinds of shirts we have here. Wool one for wintertime and cotton shirts for summertime. The latter are styled the English way, inlaid "Vorheust" and French cuffs. Better ones are made of pure linen. I bought some in Houston, $1.50 each.

"It is said linen shirts are not too good for your health here. When soaked by prespiration, they cool too much. Workshirts are made of heavy material, mostly striped in blue or red.

"I had to buy some clothes here, too, to be in style; a pair of pants, a long coat, and a black felt hat. I paid $4 for the trousers, $6.50 for the long coat, and $3 for the hat.

"They don't wear any caps around here. Shoes and boots are high in price. I advice you to provide yourself with those. I paid $4 for a pair of working shoes.

"Don't forget to bring along all the blankets. Get the big one so you can wrap yourself in it. The blankets here are of lighter material and higher in price. Have at least two for each person.

"Talking about rifles, take only the good ones but watch out they don't need too heavy a load. Turkeys, geese, and ducks are shot to pieces otherwise. You pay 10 cents a pound for lead here. The American shotgun is longer, lighter in weight, and of smaller caliber. The price is between $15 and $20. Leave at home your knife and dagger. The Bowie knife is better and more practical.

"The Prussian thaler which has been in exchange for 75 cents at the time of our arrival dropped down to 69 cents, and it is said it will be 65 cents very soon. So the best thing to do is change your money into French five-franc pieces. You get 95 cents for it over here.

"The best time to sail is the summer, in August. You do not have to fear the equinoctial storms in the German sea and the English channel, and you will be here at a time when the Gulf of Mexico is not rough at all.

"It is also the best time to start grain here, and corn is cheap then, and you can stock it for the winter.

"The time of the year is also most suitable. Roads are in fair condition while in the raining season and afterward up to fall, the roads are hardly passable. The main roads are worse than our little farm roads abroad. You do not find any bridges here. Big rivers have a ferry. The small ones are mostly dried up in summer. However, after a heavy rain, they often carry so much water that you hardly can cross them. Some less important roads, like Houston-Liberty, are not roads at all. It is just the saying, 'Take the road to Liberty.' You travel through brush and prairie by some directions until you hit the place. That's all. Last summer I went to a farm six miles from Houston. I arrived there the next morning eaten up by mosquitoes.

"Coming back to your sailing. I advise you to take cabin class for the ladies. The men can sail underdeck. Small rooms with a bed six feet wide occupied by four men -- and women among them -- two feet away from the ceiling gives you an idea of the trip. Insects of all kinds you will find, too, especially in the last weeks of your crossing.

"However, before you take an immigrant boat, look into others. They are just as cheap and often even less expensive and have better quarters. Do not take a "Verein ship" and do not join them. You will get land without their aid."

Charles had come to Texas on a ship sponsored by the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas (Verein zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer in Texas). He arrived during the 1845-46 winter of terrible suffering and deprivation in the Verein camp at Indianola and in its first settlement, New Braunfels. Although Charles did not stay in either place, he was well acquainted with the settlers' tragic plight much of which resulted from the Verein sending far more people than could be accommodated that winter.

"Take a good captain. If you can, get an American or one of any other nation. He will treat you as an American right away. The passage will cost around 35 thaler in gold underdeck, 40 to 45 thaler in gold second class, and between 60 and 80 thaler in gold for cabin class.

"Take plenty of bottles of soda water along," Charles wrote his relatives back in Germany who planned emigration to Texas. "The drinking water on the ship is terrible. In the last three weeks, you can smell it 15 feet away from you." Charles' voyage lasted four months. Bad weather caused several weeks' delay.

"Don't forget apples, lemons, vinegar, ham and smoked sausage, Madeira and Malaga wine, sugar, tea, as well as tin plates and mattresses. You can buy everything cheaply in Bremen.

"In Galveston, rent a room like we did. We paid $7 a month to the rental people for one unfurnished. Our own mattresses were spread out on the floor. We did our own cooking outside. You can buy everything on the market, meat, greens, butter, eggs, etc. Beisner in "Hotel Washington" might know where I am, otherwise write Cordova in Houston. The trip from Galveston to Houston will cost you $3, but you can ride the credit car, too, if you want to.

"Speaking of Texas, you will be disappointed in many things. You expect a nice climate and tropical vegetation. Nothing of the sort.

"The summer is hot. I remember one day sitting in the breeze on a porch where we still had 85 degrees at 6 p.m.

"From March 'till May, thunder showers were quite frequent. Fritz was frightened one time when we had one thunder shower after the other for 14 long days; one-half of sunshine between them.

"We had to move out of our log cabin. The water was running in through every hole.

(Charles referred to the cabin he and Fritz Kennengiasser, a shipboard companion, shared when the former tried farming briefly on Alvin Sörgel's land in Fayette County in Spring 1846.)

"After this period, rain was becoming rare, and the dry season started. Always sunshine, but the temperature change is quite a difference.

"You could not wear a coat in daytime on Christmas Day, while that night the temperature fell below freezing. The ground was frozen one finger deep.

"The terrible northers show up already in October and usually last three days in a week. This continues up to March. It is hard to believe how cold it gets here.

"The sudden temperature drops are not healthy at all, not to speak of corn and greens which are often killed by the frost.

"Tomorrow we write the first of April, and the woods are hardly green. Vegetation here is not better than abroad.

"I know about 10 different kinds of oaks here," Charles wrote his relatives in describing the Texas scene, "but seldom have I seen a really big one like we have in Germany.

"Most shrubs and trees are similar to those we have abroad. The cotton tree is nothing. And then a poplar, ash, plane tree like maple. I found pfaffenludchen Hollander, evergreen honeysuckle, walnuts, three kinds of hickories, beach walnut, and pecans. The first make good timber, the latter excellent nuts.

"Mulberry tree and Mina baum; along the coast, magnolia trees and palms. Wild plums and peaches like our Schleihe. Of berries, only brambleberries. The only good fruit are the Spanish and American persimmons.

"Two kinds of wild growing vines; grape, a big one, black-blue in color, high up to the top of a tree. I saw trunks 28 inches in diameter but of such a sour taste it hurts your mouth after tasting only a few. Then a little blue one, sweet, like a German vine in growth; however, the seeds are too big. They surely would make a good grape after some improvements have been made. They have not tried out vineyards here, but I think it could be done with quite a success.

"Peaches are a sight here. I saw some in Houston 10 inches in diameter. Also figs and pommegranates are found in the coastal region. Up here, it is too cold.

"In an old Spanish settlement close to the Trinity River bay, I saw for the first time orange trees packed with oranges.

"Apples, pears, and other German fruits are not found, and they doubt whether they will grow here. However, a German farmer told me his neighbor had 10 bearing trees full of fruit.

"Speaking of vegetables like beans, peas, beets, cabbage, greens, etc., it looks like the German specimens do not do so well here. They have some kinds here which stand the climate better.

"However, most German farmers do, or have to do, the planting in freshly broken soil. That makes a difference. It pays always to take some seeds along. Bring some black Roman waxbeans. You will find them at August.

"Then aspen and luferus, wild ahafie as well as rasberry and vine trunks. But be sure to seal those in bottles. The salty air on the sea will greatly influence their germ bud.

"Many vegetables, like cucumbers, you can harvest twice a year. Cucumbers and melons are at home here.

"The watermelon especially is a delicious fruit. The flesh is red and foamy, dissolving into juice in your mouth. Tell Hermine, the melon is so sweet you do not have to use any sugar and surely can make a good syrup out of it.

"The pumkin makes a good meal and of much more taste than the German ones. But, as at home, the change in climate often destroys the whole crop.

"Frost kills the corn, heavy rain the peaches, cottonworm the cotton, rabbits and all kinds of insects destroy the young plants.

"Gourds are usefull fruits here. They give you all kinds of containers in the household or serve as drinking flasks on your trip.

"Corn is harvested only once a year here, not twice as they said. But there is no comparison between German and American corn. Corn is planted in March and harvested in September. Often I counted corn crops from 12 to 20 rows, each row between 40 to 50 stalks, so tight they looked pressed together. After peeling the corncob, the trunk is often hollowed out and used as a pipe. Please do not forget to bring three pipes like the one Julius took along. If you have not enough room in your baggage anymore, bring them without the mouth-pieces."

Texas-grown potatoes had a soapy taste, Charles Pressler wrote his relatives in describing 1847 agriculture. Wheat and oats did well, and sugarcane and cotton were the privilege of the plantation only for both crops needed many hands.

"However, cotton, is more and more given up on account of the cottonbug. A Red River plantation supplying the market annually with 600 bales of cotton could deliver only 8 bales," reported Charles.

Sweet potatoes were a good crop, selling at 25 cents per bushel and yielding from 50 to 300 bushels per acre. The price for cotton was 10 cents a pound, $50 a bale.

Sugar was more profitable than cotton, but it was an expensive operation what with a sugar mill, boiler house, and many workers.

"Texas sugar is of the finest grade," wrote Charles.

Tobacco was something else.

"Texas tobacco is not first quality although the bad taste is due more to the inexperienced refiner who does not know too much about the fermentation process.

"Just above San Felipe (around the Cat Spring area) several cigarmakers from Bremen have established a little business. They make a good cigar, 1,000 cigars for $8, but they have hardly any customers. Americans hardly smoke."

Favored beasts of burden among Texas farmers were horses, oxen, and mules. Three kinds of horse were available.

The American horse, big and strong, was best suited as a team but most expensive, $40 to $100. Next in desirability was the Mexican horse, small and fast, $25 to $50, "like the Cossack horse, used mostly as a saddle horse." Third was the mustang of a variations. It was used as a saddle horse and cost from $20 to $100.

As many as 10 oxen were used in one team, "but they are slow workers and do much less than a horse," said Charles.

"Mules are very good for plowing and easy to satisfy in feeding. Twenty to 30 dollars is the price for a good one. Plowing is not a hard task here in comparison to our German meadows. Grass is not too thick and is kept down by burning.

"A cow with a calf will cost you between $8 and $15. Nobody looks after them in wintertime, therefore, the farmers have hardly any milk and butter. In spring is the roundup. They are driven together and the calves are fenced in. The cows now mostly stay within reach. Twice a day we let the calves out and afterward we milk the cow clean.

"Hogs are easy to keep. They find their food outside; nuts and grass are all they consume. Shortly before butchering, they are fed mostly with corn.

"Poultry of all kinds, chickens, turkeys, guineas, ducks, geese, etc., are easy to keep. However, you have to build a chicken house on account of snakes, foxes, wolves, cats, raccoons which do quite some damage. You even have to watch for owls.

"Wild animals like panther, bear, alligator, snakes, tarantels, and scorpions are not so dangerous as you find them in a book. We feel quite safe here.

"The sting of a scorpion is not more painful than being stung by a bee. I know it from experience. Snakes are plentiful around here. Some are really dangerous, but a cane is always a good weapon," wrote Charles.

Butterflies were like those of Germany, and mosquitoes were closely related to those of Charles' native land.

"Further, little tiny insects, called 'redbucks,' are just as big as a needle head. They irritate the skin after digging themselves into it. They surely can give you the itch.

"Fish and turtles are plentiful here. I do not know the names, except what I have caught so far: catfish up to 10 pounds; buffalo fish, five to six pounds; flounders, one pound. They are easily caught with a pole using birdmeat as bait.

"Your device, Hermann, to catch crabs is known, and we used it too. Nevertheless, we thank you anyhow for your help in trying to add another dish to our meals."

Charles recommended for good eating the coastland turtles, one and one-half feet in diameter, and the grassland turtles with soft, leatherlike shell.

"Fritz says in his letter that he would like to come," Charles reported in a letter to Germany, "but I don't believe that there is any money in that business over here. Every art is made a plain trade. You don't have any idea how quackery is practiced here.

"If he wants to farm, he will have a good start, but it is a lot of work. He would have to clear the land and plow, and I don't believe that he would like that kind of work.

"One can buy land in any quantity, anything from ten to 100,000 acres. Outside of the settlements, an acre sells for 25 cents. Inside, one has to pay approximately two dollars per acre. Close to a town, the prices run up to $5 to $6 per acre.

"In German towns, acreage is comparatively high priced because newcomers seem to like to settle among Germans, and therefore, the demand is greater, as for example in New Braunfels.

"The soil is good and bad; it depends on the location, as in Germany. One will find large areas of good land as well as bad. The river bottoms are superior in quality and heavily wooded, but they are flooded easily and not healthy at all.

"A black soil, largely mixed with sand therefore light, is to be found in many parts, as for example between the Colorado River and the Brazos River. This ground is wooded with postoaks without any underbrush which offers grazing for animals at the same time. The soil is fertile but also easily used up and the terrain is usually very irregular, and therefore it is practically impossible to have a level field. Soon the heavy rains wash away the fresh dug soil and form gouges.

"I would advise Germans, especially those who are poor, to settle close to a market because it will really help them if they are able to sell eggs, butter, vegetables, poultry, etc.

"As far as the Germans are concerned, there are some very nice families over here. The educated German is not quite happy among Americans.

"The common laborer likes it the best. He only sees his daily wages and does not have any other interest. Blacksmiths and coach and wagon makers are in good business."

Jacob de Cordova, Charles Pressler's employer, acquired script on one million acres of Texas land. One of his projects was the development of Neighborville near the outskirts of New Braunfels in March 1848. The map is on page 305, Volume 34, of the Comal County Deed Records, according to Oscar Haas.

Soon after the filing, Charles decided to return to Germany.

"In April 1848, I read about the revolution in Germany," Charles reminisced 44 years later, "so I decided to go back."

Throughout the first half of the 19th Century, there was a repeated effort to throw off the tyrannical governments of separate German states and principalities and effect an unification of Germany. A popular uprising erupted in 1848 with numerous riots and barricade fights in almost every city of any importance. The strength of the movement for a republic came from southern Germany and the Rhineland and from the major cities elsewhere.

"I left for New Orleans and went to LeHavre and Paris. Here I stayed for a week and went to Cologne, Minden, Magdeburg, and Halle."

The letter was written in 1892 to a grandnephew in Germany.

"You know the Reaction was victorious," wrote Charles. Although a true republic did not evolve then, a constitutional monarchy and unified nation were achieved (in 1871).

Before Charles returned to Germany in 1848, he wrote his relatives that he had not made a decision as to who his future wife would be. He did know, however, that there should be a practical discussion with any candidate and one should be informed on "the different charms, defects, and deficiencies."

Whether it was Charles, a prospective bride, or life in Texas that was to be subjected to this analysis was not made clear.

He found a wife in Eisleben, the city where he attended school and worked as a surveyor, from the age of 13 until his departure for Texas in 1845. His bride was Clara Johanna Doerk, daughter of the land and city director. They were married in Eisleben on June 18, 1849, and he brought her back to Texas. He bought 160 acres near New Ulm in Austin County, near a good friend. One of the few boyhood friends whose names he could recall in 1892 was Fritz Luedecke. Among the 1850 residents of New Ulm was a F. Luedecke, perhaps the same. New Ulm, too, was not far from the Cummins Creek farm in Fayette County where Charles had worked with fellow immigrants in 1846.

The young Presslers moved to Austin in 1850, and he became a draftsman in the General Land Office. He served with the agency until his retirement on January 16, 1899, with the exception of brief periods of employment elsewhere.

Pressler checked the details of de Cordova's first map of Texas issued in 1849. With W. Voelker, he issued a map of Texas in 1851 which was published in Germany.

He computed the area of Texas counties for de Cordova's TEXAS: HER RESOURCES AND HER PUBLIC MEN (1858), revised and corrected de Cordova's 1856 map of Texas, and in 1858 published his own map of Texas. The latter was revised in 1862 and again in 1867 when it was issued as the Traveler's Map of the State of Texas.

Pressler was one of the incorporators of the German Free School Association in Austin in 1856.

He served in the engineering department of the Confederacy and was commissioned a captain in the Texas Infantry June 30, 1864. In Galveston he served as city engineer during the summer of 1867, and the federal government employed him to compile a map of the route from Austin to Fort Yuma, Arizona, in 1870. From June to October, he accompanied an U.S. Engineering Corps expedition to survey and inspect Forts Richardson, Griffin, Concho, McKavett, Clark, Duncan, and McIntosh.

A map of Texas in three sizes was issued in 1879 by Pressler in cooperation with a man named Langermann. Ten years later he prepared a map of Texas which was never published. He also compiled several Texas county maps.

Charles W. Pressler died in Austin February 6, 1907, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Arriving in Texas at the very beginning of its statehood, Pressler watched its wilderness land develop for over half a century and emerge into the 20th Century.

He acquired a geographical knowledge of the state which few men, if any, have equalled. His active service with the Texas General Land Office spanned a period of 50 years.

(End)

Library Basement At A&M Houses Half Million Nazi War Documents

The Bellville Times
BELLVILLE, TEXAS,
SEPTEMBER 6, 1990
(ISB: #29)

Stored in a library basement at Texas A&M University are a half million Nazi war documents that could help provide an alternative to Middle East crude.

Scholars say the papers outline "secrets" of how Germany made oil from coal as the size of its war machine and Allied bombing depleted vital oil supplies.

Yet that information may never be fully unearthed because research support is unavailable, notes Texas A&M historian Dr. Arnold Krammer, a specialist on 20th century Germany.

Fewer than 10 percent of the documents are translated and catalogued.

U.S. government officials reconstructed two German-style synthetic fuel plants in Missouri, Krammer explained. Both worked well -- turning out 200 to 400 barrels daily. But by the early 1950s, government disinterest and plentiful gasoline had closed down the synfuel project, he said.

Krammer, an original member of Texas A&M's German Document Retrieval Project, said a similar fate befell the documents, stored untouched and unwanted until the project began in 1973.

In 1973, gasoline lines grew long while the OPEC oil exporting cartel tightened its grip on oil supplies. At that time, Texas A&M professor Dr. Richard Wainerdi -- now president of the Texas Medical Center in Houston -- first conceived of the retrieval program.

At the time Wainerdi headed the university's Center for Energy and Mineral Resources and was a chemical engineering professor. But he also was a part-time historian, and it occurred to him that the Germans had been in a similar situation.

Intrigued by the parallels and excited by the possibilities, Wainerdi pulled together an eclectic band of detectives drawn from historians, chemists and researchers.

They were not disappointed with the results, said Krammer, now the last of the three major project figures still at the College Station campus. Colleague Dr. Kurt Irgolic, a chemist, has moved on to a university in his native Austria.

Krammer said the researchers found an entire technology that had been lifted from Germany and transported to the United States. There were plant and research records, transcribed interviews and construction plans.

All these had been gathered by GIs during World War II. When a synfuel plant was captured, American oil technologists followed, snatching all the information they could. Just as quickly, the material was boxed and sent home.

In 1947, the Bureau of Mines, which had jurisdiction over oil-from-coal technology, acquired a synthetic ammonia plant in Lousiana, Mo. Agency officials and engineers -- using documents, equipment and scientists plundered from Germany -- brought two plants into operation by 1951.

Renewed interest arrived only with the 1973 oil crisis. With the financial support of Dow Chemical, Diamond Shamrock and Union Carbide, the Texas A&M researchers led the rediscovery of the synfuel papers. Some were uncovered at the National Archives in Washington. Others were found crated in government buildings.

And, as the project gained exposure, strangers stepped forward, producing previously unseen documents that had gathered dust in attics and garages.

Before long, there was a paper mountain nearly half a million documents high. While most were in German, some were in French, Polish and other European languages. All needed to be organized and translated.

That's what the Retrieval Project did. At its peak, 14 people were involved in the organization. They located and read documents, wrote English-language summaries, and forwarded those summaries to the Department of Energy's computerized data bank in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Though the project was successful, it lost funding and work skidded to a stop by 1980. Predictably, as the price of oil plunged, so did interest.

Corporate sponsors dropped out and the Department of Energy denied a $400,000 request, ending work.

Critics pointed out that the data was many decades old, recalls Krammer. Even the most ardent project advocates admit just about every fourth-year chemistry student knows the basic process.

But what they don't know is how to avoid the mistakes the Germans made -- or how to design plants more efficiently, he explained.

So while Texas A&M's Krammer doesn't suggest building a 1944 facility, he points out that any good study begins with a thorough literature search. Completing the project would provide scholars and scientists a vast, long-forgotten lode of resources.

"We must examine what has been done and learn from the mistakes. Why reinvent the wheel?" he asks.

The South Africans have heeded this advice. Using German scientists and technology, they built a synfuel industry after World War II.

By 1980, South African Synthetic Oil Ltd. had four plants that produced 37 percent of the country's energy needs. Today, experts feel that figure may be much higher.

Such potential may never be realized in this country, says Krammer. Cataloguing and translating of synfuel documents at Texas A&M is at a standstill, with about 7 percent being completed.

Today, the project is inactive and materials have been transferred to the university's archives while researchers await better days.

Although completion would be relatively inexpensive, Krammer claims, the project remains a victim of resource allocation and public policy.

"It would take a fraction of what it costs to place American military forces in Saudi Arabia for one day," says Krammer.

"That does not seem costly at all given the lessons that might be learned," he says. "After all, the whole value of history is to prevent the recurrence of failure."

Alamo Dome: Texas' largest urban archeology site

The Medallion October 1990 by the Texas Historical Commission

Archeologists are gearing up for fast-paced scientific activity on the largest urban archeology project in Texas.

Several square blocks of a commercial warehouse district near downtown San Antonio are now being demolished to make way for construction of Alamo Dome. When completed, the enclosed sports complex will hold more than 60,000 fans and span a total of 14 square city blocks, including parking lots. Construction of Alamo Dome is scheduled to begin this fall.

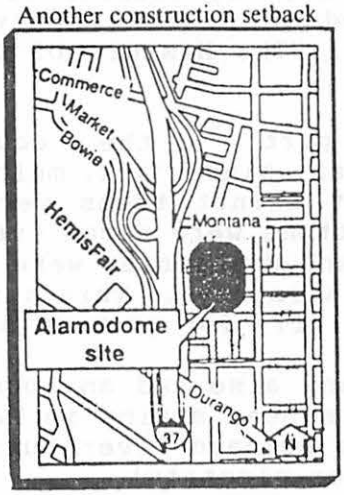
Under the Antiquities Code of Texas, proper archeological investigations for projects on public lands must be conducted prior to construction. The Center for Archeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio has been retained to complete the investigations, and other researchers will conduct historical research on the mid-19th through early 20th-century mixed commercial, residential, and industrial district.

Preliminary investigations indicate that, except for possible evidence of five adobe structures, the Alamo Dome site is not situated over land that was extensively settled prior to 1850. The site is just south of the St. Paul Square Commercial District, a National Register Historic District that will not be directly affected by construction. The Dome itself will be inset to a depth of 20 feet below ground level. The Dome's footprint will cover about four square blocks, now mostly consisting of mixed warehouse and residential structures, including the historic 1884 Alamo Iron Works, the first industrial facility built in this part of San Antonio.

Historically, the area surrounding the Dome site was slow to become industrialized, despite the presence of the Iron Works and the construction of the 1903 Southern Pacific Railroad depot. The first Anglo residents to occupy the area, from 1850 through the 1860s, were skilled tradesmen— including stone masons, carpenters, painters, and shoemakers— of German extraction. From the 1870s to the 1890s major construction of single family frame structures occured. Most of these also were occupied by residents of German extraction. The neighborhood retained its residential character through the 1930s, after which commercial buildings began to replace all but a few pockets of residential structures. During this period the racial and ethnic makeup of the area changed to its present predominantly black and Hispanic makeup. To help document the development of the neighborhood, historians are now collecting oral histories from current and former area residents who recall the changes it has undergone.

Archeologically, the area of the Alamo Dome project is not as sensitive as the rest of San Antonio, which was settled in the 1600s. However, the site is located over the San Antonio River flood plain, and archeologists are digging test trenches to determine if there is evidence of prehistoric human habitation.

Another construction setback



might come if archeologists find remains of five pre-1850 adobe structures that are thought to be in the Dome's footprint. This would provide important new data on the 1850 period in San Antonio.

Several architecturally significant residences that exist on the Dome site may either be preserved and integrated into the complex, or moved to a nearby location. □

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, October 10, 1990

Digging at dome to resume

By SUSIE PHILLIPS GONZALEZ
Express-News Staff Writer

Archaeologists from the University of Texas at San Antonio will return to the Alamodome site Wednesday to continue looking for relics from the 1850s.

"We will be back in the field beginning tomorrow for about seven days," UTSA archaeologist Anne Fox said Tuesday.


FOX

She said the archaeology team will comb through the site where the remnant of another house has been discovered, and will test soils in the area of Hoefgen and Nevada streets.

After working in the southern half of the 57-acre Alamodome site for about two months, the archaeologists returned to the UTSA lab 10 days ago to analyze items they recovered from underneath a former Alamo Iron Works parking lot.

Previous research by the team uncovered the foundations of at least four adobe-styled homes believed to be built by German settlers of one of San Antonio's first suburbs.

(ISB: #8)

```
*************************
*        the Alamo Dome area is  *
*        the second San Antonio  *
*  note  German neighborhood to  *
*        succumb to modern       *
*        construction.  Across   *
*        IH-37 to the west is the*
*        location of a former old*
*        German neighborhood,    *
*        cleared in the 1960s for*
*        the site of HemisFair.  *
*************************
```

EARLY HISTORY OF AUSTIN COUNTY
(1830-1850)

PRESENTED BY JAMES LINDEMANN TO THE GERMAN TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1990 (ISB: #19)

This paper deals with the early German history of Austin County which began in 1831 and covers the period between 1830 and 1850. This is very early German-Texan history, therefore, if some names whom we consider early Germans are not mentioned, it may be because they arrived after 1850. When one reads this paper, two major considerations should be, how the nature in the area has changed, and the loneliness which the early settlers must have experienced.

Some introductory comments are in order to set the stage for the arrival of Frederich Ernst and Charles Fordtran, the first two German colonists to arrive in Texas at San Felipe in 1831.

In 1821, the last Spanish governor gave Moses Austin permission to settle 300 families in Texas. The colony would be a buffer zone between cities of Mexico and the United States. Inhabited only by Indians, the Spaniards felt Texas unimportant. They also hoped Austin's colony would provide protection from the Indians. The first colonists reached New Year's Creek in Washington County on January 1, 1822. In the years 1823 and 1824 families from Louisiana, Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee came to the colony. By 1824, Austin fulfilled the conditions of his concession and for this he received 25 leagues of land. Each married colonist received one league (4444acres) for grazing and one "labor" (177 acres) for cultivation.

By 1830, the town of San Felipe had become Austin's colonial capital and center for the land office. It had grown to 300 inhabitants. Austin County had a population of nearly 2000 Americans with their black slaves. Immigration was flourishing. So much so, that the Mexican rulers who had taken over from the Spanish started to worry about Texas' loyalty to Mexico. A major attraction for the Germans, Ernst and Fordtran, was freedom and the right to own land.

In the 1899, History of Austin County, by Charles Trenckmann, he described what the Germans saw when they arrived in Austin County: (This reference is used extensively by Biesle in his book, "The History of German Settlements in Texas 1831-1861)

The Germans came to the northwest part of the county that was heavily wooded with post oak, white oak, spanish oak, black jack, mulberry, gigantic cottonwoods, hickory and walnut groves. (Most walnut trees were felled early for use in furniture making.) Along creek bottoms were pecan trees whose nuts were used for food and sold. Wild plums, grapes and dewberries were plentiful. Black clay soil alternated now and then with sandy stretches. This soil was ideal for cultivation of vegetables, fruits, and particularly for growing superior tobacco.

The alternating hills and prarieland also had an abundance of flowing water and clear springs. Mill Creek with its head spring in Washington County was fed by a dozen good-sized streams and the Bernard River furnished crystal clear water. Travellers in these days found water plentiful.

Prairie grass was as high as a man and surged to and fro in the breeze. Great droves of deer could forage undetected by hunters. Today we can still claim the rolling hills and alternating prairieland, but the water situation has made a dramatic change since this 1890's account.

Ernst received his league of land in April, 1831. We believe he travelled up the Gottier Trace to get to his league. (The Gottier Trace had been cut in 1828 by Gottier who was hired to mark a road from San Felipe to Bastrop. This Trace joined the El Camino Royal at what would become Bastrop. The El Camino Royale was the main road from Nacadogdoches to San Antonio. The trace was probably only a tree marked

path.) Ernst's league was 28 miles northwest of San Felipe. Today this is about a 30 minute drive, but in the 1830's it was a 3-4 day oxcart trip. The Ernst family including, Frederich, his wife and 5 young children lived an isolated life during those first years. Mrs. Ernst in her memoirs said Fordtran lived a mile west, with no northern neighbors all the way to Arkansas, no eastern neighbors until the Sabine River, and no neighbors to the south until San Felipe. This exaggerated description probably reflects just how isolated life was for this German family. Mrs Ernst also said thousands of buffalo and other wildlife roamed on the prairies and they lived all alone in the wilderness except for Indian visitors in 1831 and 1832. Until the fall of 1834 only four American families had settled within a ten mile radius.

Fordtran made some improvements to the land he received from Ernst for doing the surveying. Fordtran became friends with the colonial secretary, Samuel Williams and other men of note, thus he spent much time travelling and surveying. Williams hired Fordtran to survey two leagues of land, one of which he received for the surveying work. Fordtran gathered a few head of cattle, horses and some implements. In 1832, he offered for sale all of his possessions for $1000 but found no purchaser. Failing health caused him to go to Mississippi. Here he regained his health and endeavored to bring other families to Texas. Results were discouraging but he did recruit the Zimmerscheidt family who later settled near Frelsburg in Colorado County and the Biegels who later settled near LaGrange in Fayette County. These families were Fordtran servants for two years and then received their own land which they had been promised in exchange for their services. After Fordtran came back to Industry, he married and farmed his land. The 1840 census shows Fordtran had 75 cattle, 6 horses, and 2 slaves. In the 1840's while the venture lasted, Mr. Fordtran was hired to oversee Nassau Plantation and was one of the consultants to Prince Solms. The remainder of his 99 years were spent in Industry .

Some Germans lived in Texas before Ernst came to Texas, but Ernst's historical claim to fame is that he was the first German to bring his family to Texas. The Ernst family had small children and life was difficult. A daughter, Caroline, described their first home as a miserable hut. It was six-sided, doorless and windowless, with a moss roof. The fireplace was made of clay-covered logs and fear of fire prevented its use. The house was easily combustible and provided little shelter from the rain and the cold. This description is in contrast to the way Frederich described the house in his letter to Germany. He said everybody builds himself a house, either alone or with the help of his neighbors. Not much effort is expended on its beauty, rather it is built of dressed tree trunks. The six-cornered house in the style of an Oldenburg summer house was quite a departure from the conventional pioneer log hut. The Ernst family lived in the house until after the War for Texas Independence.

In 1832, Ernst wrote a letter to Germany describing Texas. This has become a very famous letter because it influenced many German immigrants to come to Texas. The letter was written one year after Ernst arrived. He was experimenting with making a living and had few neighbors, but he did have his freedom. He stated in the letter: "The ground is hilly with forest and natural grass plains. A climate like that of Sicily. The soil needs no fertilizer. Almost constant east wind. No winter, almost like March in Germany. Bees, birds and butterflies the whole winter through. A cow with a calf costs ten dollars. Planters with seven hundred head of cattle are common. Principal products are: tobacco, rice, wild indigo, sweet potatoes, melons, watermelon, wheat, rye vegetables of all kinds; peaches in great quantity grow wild, mulberries, many kinds of walnuts, wild plums, persimmons sweet as honey, wine in great quantity but not of a particular taste; honey is found chiefly in hollow trees, and birds of all kinds, from pelicans to hummingbirds. Wild prey such as deer, bear, raccoon, wild turkey, geese, and partridges in quantity with free hunting and fishing. Wild horses and buffalo in hordes; wolves, but of a feeble kind; also panthers and leopards, of which there is no danger; rich game, delicious roasts. Meadows with the most charming flowers. Many snakes, also rattlesnakes. The full text of this letter is in Mrs. M. York's book, "Frederich Ernst of Industry".

Early families to arrive here, in addition to the families brought by Fordtran to Industry, were William F Bartels and C Juergens (who settled at Post Oak Point about four miles from Industry). They were enticed to come because of Ernst's letter.

In 1834, the large von Roeder family came to Austin County as a result of the Ernst letter. The family consisted of an aged nobleman, Ludwig Anton Sigmund von Roeder, head of the family, and his six sons and three daughters. Von Roeder obtained part of a land league for surveying it for Karl and Marcus Amsler, two Swiss brothers, who had settled in the Cat Spring area in 1834. The vonRoeder family in contrast to the Ernst family were wealthy. They bought goods after arrival in Texas, which included a piano. Unfortunately the piano never made it west of Houston. Also in contrast with the young Ernst family the von Roeders had six young men who were able to accomplish the clearing and building more expeditiously. In comparison to the earlier description of Ernst's home, the von Roeder house was made of felled trees of four inches diameter. The trees were set in the ground at intervals of two feet and shingles were nailed on the outside. The roof, doors, and windows were likewise made of shingles. The spaces between the upright posts were filled with clay and wood. Two von Roeder houses were built, one of which had sawed oak plank flooring and ceiling.

Other German families who came in 1834 included Jacob Wolters, Robert Kleberg, Louis von Roeder, William Frels, Carl Siebel, and F W Grassmeyer. Von Roeder and Kleburg settled in Cat Spring. As a result of Ernst's letter others who came to Texas included Dr. John D G Varrelmann, the first Oldenburger. Robert Kleburg kept a diary that listed the families of Wm Bartels, John Heinike, George Herder, John Reinermann, and R D Stoelje, who were families from the states of Oldenburg and Westphalia. Additional arriving German families mentioned by others include Benninghof, Kleekaemper, Wm Schneider, and Peter Pieper. We believe these families all communicated and visited between Industry and Cat Spring while seeking land and a home.

By 1835 Texas independence was gaining momentum and in the fall war broke out. Families had barely arrived and set up house when the runaway scrape occurred. In this event, property that could not be carried was ordered to be destroyed. After the war, times were difficult but there was little need for money because purchased goods were rare or non-existent. As more Germans arrived, most had difficulty managing their money spending before they had learned to accommodate themselves to their new surroundings.

The Ernst family's early years included some of the following experiences.

The Ernst boys gathered meat which was available year round. Berries in season were plentiful. Corn was the diet mainstay and monotony in the diet was a problem. First the family suffered from the lack of corn meal and flour, until a hollow tree stump was engaged for grinding purposes. The family brought wheat from San Felipe for bread until the first corn harvest was made. Ernst traded land for milk cows which provided plenty of milk and butter. The family ate small baked cornbread cakes and there were peaches and figs from Ernst's orchard.

As far as crops were concerned, Ernst raised cotton the second year (1832) on the land. Von Roeder planted ten acres of cotton and corn during his second year (1836). The Anglos raised lots of cotton, but the Germans acreage was small without slaves. Germans adopted cotton almost immediately upon arrival in spite of total lack of familiarization with it. They had no qualms about competing with the slave holders. By 1856, cotton was the chief cash crop for the Germans in Austin County. Cat Spring was the area where new innovations in agriculture were being given special attention. Most Germans were not farmers, but were intellectuals. They knew little about the crops they were growing and as a result the Cat Spring Agriculture Society was formed. The Society was formally organized in 1854, but from 1834 until then, the Germans were corresponding among themselves and elsewhere for tips on productivity. Ernst even wrote tips to the German newspaper in Galveston in 1845 on how to grow plants.

Tobacco was a crop well suited for soil here and it attracted the Germans. Tobacco production was ideal for a small-scale operation of intensive care, conditions under which the Germans felt they had an advantage over slaveholding competition. Ernst and Kleburg were very successful in raising tobacco, making cigars and selling them in San Felipe and Houston. In fact, Industry got its name from the industrious cigar maker. Later when it became apparent that cotton could compete with tobacco, tobacco farming declined.

In 1838, Ernst laid out the town of Industry made specifically as a town for German immigrants on his plantation. At that time, Industry consisted of three buildings: a house where three bachelor physicians (Ricklewmann, Schade, Sigismund) lived; the Ernst family home which included a hotel; and Siepers's store. J G Sieper who was Ernst's son-in-law was the first postmaster. Industry had been designated a postal office by the nation of Texas in December 1837 as part of the Texas Republic's Postal System. The post office is the only landmark left of the original pioneer buildings and is located in the Frederich Ernst Memorial Park in Industry. The building has been restored by the Industry-West End Lions Club.

Despite frontier problems with the Indians and the Mexicans, skilled penman as Ernst, Louis Kleburg and others kept writing letters to Germany which enticed more people to come to Texas. Even with all this publicity the facts are, that the 1840 census listed thirteen German families in Austin County.

In the early 1840's the Ernst Hotel was referred to as "an oasis in the desert" and became a gathering place for Germans who were going from Galveston and Houston into the interior of Texas. Count Boos-Waldeck and Price Victor Leiningen lodged at this hotel in 1843 while they were in Texas studying conditions for the Adelsverein. When Prince Solms Braunfels, first commissioner-general of the Adelsverein, was a guest at the hotel in 1844, he consulted with Friedrich Ernst. Feiederich Ernst Jr became a guide for the Prince and he travelled through parts of Texas with the Prince Solm Party. (It is also probable that the Prince spent some nights in Cat Springs at the Amsler hotel.) Other German guests of Industry's Ernst hotel were the countess of Stolberg, W Wrede, vonSpoecht, two brother vonWedel and various other members and emigrants of the Adelsverein. Remember at this time Industry was at the western edge of Texas settlements in which Germans lived. Ernst became known as the "father of German Immigrants" because he assisted everyone in a most unselfish manner. Industry received the title "Cradle of German Settlement in Texas". The hard working Ernst probably never achieved quite all he wanted to accomplish. He died in 1848 and probably kept working right up to the end.

In the early 1840's the Adesiverein project was taking shape in Germany. The Adelsverein exerted tremendous influence on a far greater area in Texas than just the actual Adelverein grant out west. Analysis shows that many contract holders withdrew or peeled off the Adelsverein project enroute to their granted lands. These individuals settled a much broader area of Texas and "caused an extensive thread of German influence to become woven into the cultural fabric of Texas". When word circulated about the plight of early immigrants arriving at Carlshaven(Indianola), many immigrants did not go further by sea than Galveston. They got off the ships and went to Houston where they began the overland trip to the grant. As a result many stopped en route, clustered together and populated established German settlements on the major overland travel routes of Texas. Some Austin County places as Industry, Cat Spring, Shelby, Latium, New Ulm, and Milheim began to swell with Germans. The reasons for stopping were many-one of which was was cheap and fertile land. Acreage was not in the large tracts offered by the Adelsverein but in most cases it was more manageable in size and more in line with what Germans were accustomed to farming in the homeland. In some cases families ran out of supplies or were just plain exhausted and settled before reaching the land promised by the Adelsverein.

By the mid 40's because of the Adelsverein, more and more German settlers came to Austin County. By 1846, Germans had become active in county affairs. Enterprising

German businessmen, industrious German Craftsmen and hardworking farmers helped to develop the natural resources of the county. Numerous German organizations developed. An intellectually stimulating social life was carried on through group activity as singing and gymnastic societies.

A princpal Austin County German settlement evolved on the David Shelby league west of Industry. Shelby acquired his league in 1822. Otto vonRoder built a gristmill there in the early 1840's and the area was named Roedersmuehle by the Germans of the area. In 1843 just four miles northwest of Shelby, Nassau Farm was bought by the Adelsverein.

Situated on the eastern border of the Ernst league was the J F Pettus league. Ernst formed the town of Industry on the far eastern edge of his league. Early Austin County records show the first land transactions on the Pettus League appear in June, 1846. That is when Ernst Frederick Gottlieb Knolle bought 1000 acres of the Pettus League. The next large transaction occurred in January, 1850 when Frederich Knolle bought 2000 acres. The present town of Industry is today situated on these two parcels of Knolle land. Ernst Knolle was a planter and merchant. Cotton was a main product and Knolle had slave holdings to carry on extensive agricultural activities. The Knolles sold smaller parcels of their land between 1847 and 1863 to German immigrants. In many cases, arriving Germans did not purchase their own land immediately. Usually several years passed before land was actually acquired. Cotton gins, saw mills, grist mills, blacksmiths, and general stores began thriving in the 1850's when there was a large influx of Germans.

In Austin County,Millheim and Cat Spring were two German settlements located very close together. Millheim had some interesting early settlers. One of these was Louis Constant. He wanted to make Mill Creek navigable. His plan was probably to connect Industry through Millheim to San Felipe at the Brazos River, longer than a 30 mile waterway. Other interesting Millheim residents included: A Hageman who was noted for making the first tomato cider; J R Wilm who had the first cotton gin; J H Krancher who had the first sorghum press and Adreas Trenckmann who founded the Agriculture Society.

Settlement of New Ulm began in the 1840's. New Ulm's first German settlers came from the failed Nassau project. Industry and Shelby also supplied early New Ulm settlers. Duff's Settlement was the town's early name, then came a large influx of Germans many with roots in Ulm, Germany. When a town meeting was held, the first postmaster Lorenz Mueller proposed Duff's Settlement's name be changed to New Ulm. Supposedly his motion of the name change passed because if the town name were changed to New Ulm, a case Rhine wine was promised as a toast to the new name. The present town of New Ulm is located one mile south of the original settlement and was moved because of the railroad in the 1890's.

Between Industry and Shelby and area developed named Rockhouse (Schoenau). The area was named after a rockhouse which may still be standing today. The Witte's-Victor and Bernhard settled her in 1848.

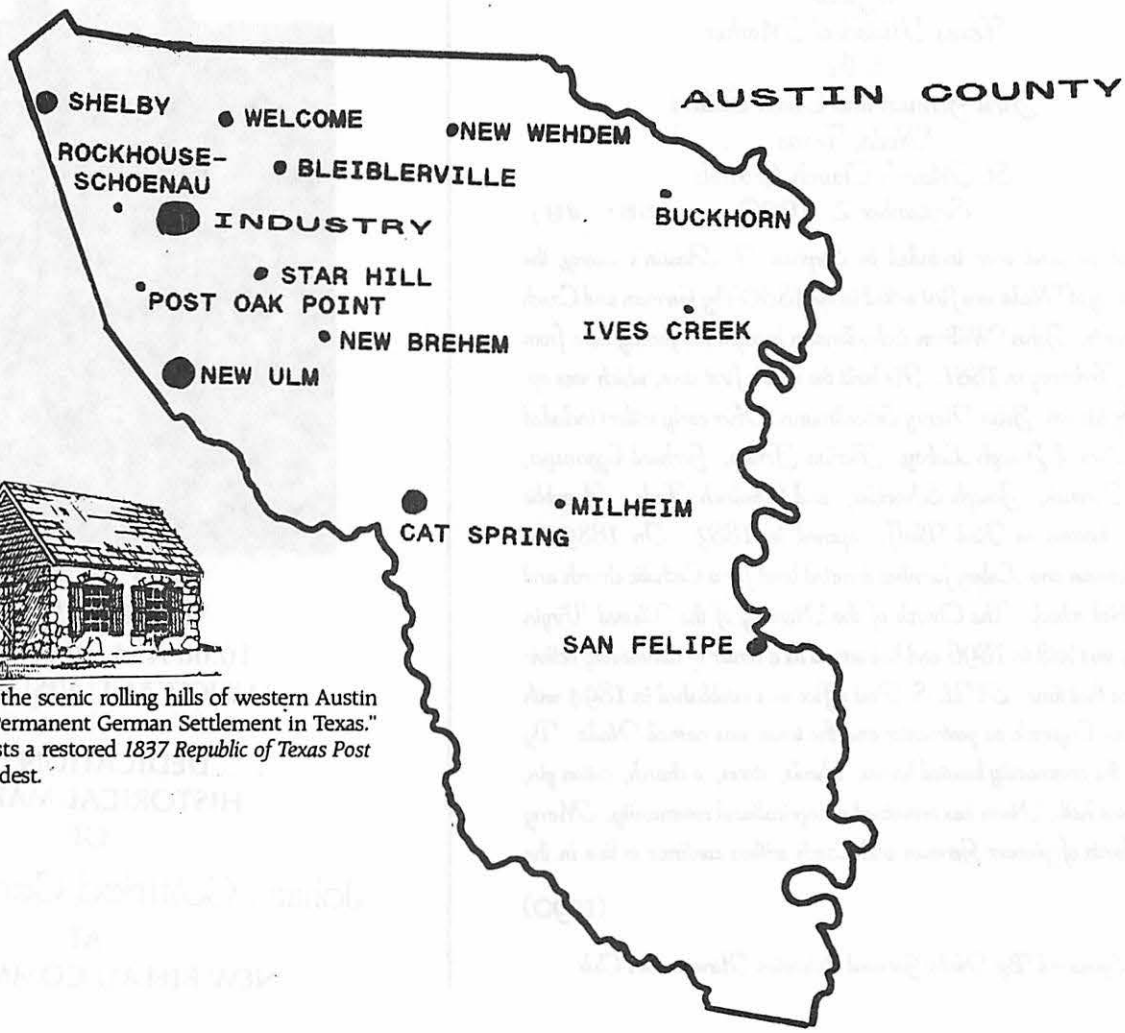
Another German settlement in Austin County before 1850 was located in the northeast part of the county. It was called Buckhorn and was settled in 1846 by Jacob Schmidt, an Adelsverein member who stopped enroute. The Ives Creek area was also German. The population experienced continuous growth in other German communities like Welcome, New Wehdem, Bleiblerville, New Bremen, Post Oak Point, and Star Hill, all of which were formed after the 1850's by Germans. Note that the German towns did not end up with German names. This was part of nationalizing to the American ways. It was not as patriotic to use a German name.

Austin County is still influenced by German History and even today you will still hear German spoken, a polka danced, a game of Skat being played, a group singing German songs or bands playing ompah music. Even the meals of the day are called breakfast, dinner, a lunch in the afternoon, and the evening meal is called supper.

Yards and homes still reflect the well kept German customs. Times and people have changed but the German influence is still very much in evidence in Austin County..

BIBIOGRAPHY

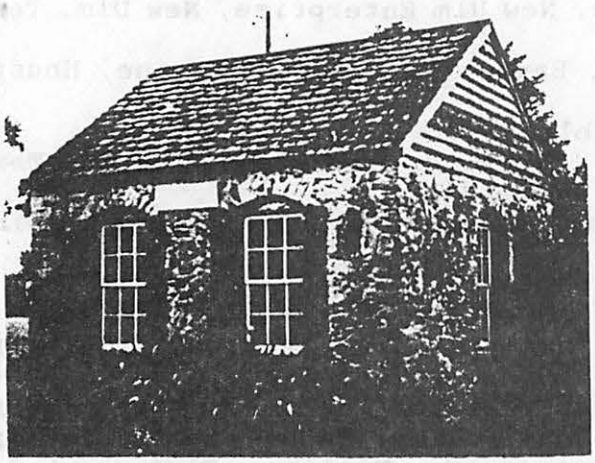
Biesele, R.L., The History of German Settlements in Texas 1831-1861, Second Printing, 1964, MacNaughton and Gumen, Ann Arbor, Michigan, pp.42-65.
Schmidt, C.W., Footprints of Five Generations, New Ulm Enterprise, New Ulm, Texas, 1930.
von Roeder, Flora, These are the Generations, Baylor Collge of Medicine, Houston, Texas, Sept, 1978.
Knolle Gamily History, a family history unpublished.
Ragsdale, Crystal Sasse, The Golden Free Land, Landmark Free Press, Austin, Texas, 1976, pp 1-39.
York, Miriam Korff, Frederich Ernst of Industry, Nixon Printing Company, Giddings, Texas, 1989.
White, Gifford E., The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas, 1966.
Austin County Clerk's Office, Land Titles.
Lindemann Ann, "The Adelsverien in Context of Family and Local History", Deminsions of Discovery, Adelsverien Conference, Baylor University, Waco, Feb, 1990.
Buenger, J.C., Historical Manuscript of Industry, Texas, unpublished manuscript.
Trenckmann, William A., History of Austin County, Texas, Supplement fo Bellville Wochenblatt, Bellville, Texas, 1899, Translated by William, Elsa, and Clara Trenckmann.
Haas, Oscar, History of New Braunfels and Comal County, Texas, 1844-1946, Second Printing, 1975.
Jordan, Terry G., German Seed in Texas Soil, University of Texas Press, 1975.



INDUSTRY, situated in the scenic rolling hills of western Austin County is the "Oldest Permanent German Settlement in Texas." *Friedrich Ernst Park* boasts a restored *1837 Republic of Texas Post Office* - one of Texas' oldest.

PRESERVATION
HERITAGE A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION FALL '90

INDUSTRY



Industry post office established in 1838.

(ISB: #29)

The town of Industry was the first permanent German settlement in Texas, according to local historical society founder* Ann Lindeman. In 1991, Industry will celebrate its 160th anniversary. Recently, in the process of enlarging the park to make it more accessible to the tour buses on the Pioneer Trail, workers unearthed the foundation and fireplace of an old German home or 1840s hotel. The first impulse was to launch an archæological dig to learn more about the lifeways of the Germans in Texas in 1831 as well as unearth certain buildings which were known to have existed. In consulting with professional archæologists, they learned that a dig would be expensive. Dan Utley, archæological historian from the Texas Archæological Research Laboratory advised that a first step would be to devise a master plan of the entire area with the purpose of staying on track and using resources effectively. They could then follow the overall plan as they proceed with the preservation and restoration work as they build on the architectural and archæological information.

The excitement generated by this information and activity has stimulated local residents to feel more pride in their community and heritage and regard their old buildings as something to be preserved, not razed. (* one of the founders)

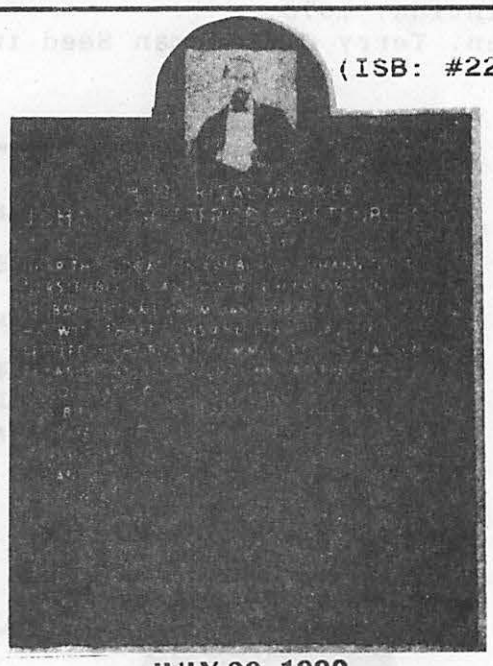
Dedication of the
Official
Texas Historical Marker
to the
First German and Czech Settlers
Nada, Texas
St. Mary's Church Grounds
September 2, 1990 (ISB: #8)

Located on land once included in Stephen F. Austin's colony, the community of Nada was first settled in the 1880's by German and Czech immigrants. John William Schoellmann brought his family here from nearby Frelsburg in 1881. He built the area's first store, which was operated by his son, John Henry Schoellmann. Other early settlers included the families of Joseph Labay, Florian Frnka, Gerhard Eggemeyer, Ernest Krenek, Joseph Schneider, and Diedrich Frels. A public school, known as Red Bluff, opened in 1883. In 1889 the Schoellmann and Labay families donated land for a Catholic church and Parochial school. The Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was built in 1896 and has served as a center of community activities since that time. A U. S. Post office was established in 1894 with William Engbrock as postmaster and the town was named Nada. By 1904 the community boasted homes, schools, stores, a church, cotton gin, and dance hall. Nada has remained an agricultural community. Many descendants of pioneer German and Czech settlers continue to live in the area.

(1990)

Sponsored By: Nada-Garwood Extension Homemakers Club

(ISB: #22)



JULY 29, 1990
WEIMAR, TEXAS
10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
LUNCH AND VISITATION

DEDICATION OF
HISTORICAL MARKER
OF

Johann Gottfried Gerstenberger

AT
NEW BIELAU COMMUNITY

History buff brings old Austin home back to life

Austin American-Statesman
September 23, 1990
(ISB: #21)

By Walter Brewer
Special Sections Writer

Margie Hale, a self-described history buff, couldn't stand the thought of another old Austin home left to the ravages of time or turned into student housing. So she bought the von Rosenberg estate at 1500 Lorraine, sifted through the history and peeled away years of neglect to reveal a piece of Austin's past.

"My husband calls it Margie's Madness," Hale said. "We live about two or three blocks from there in a home we had restored (in the 1950s). For years we had been seeing that old house and it looked like it needed some tender loving care. I hate to see a piece of Austin history go down the drain."

Columns, elaborate ironwork, and beautiful wood windows complement a grand design that typifies an architectural style from years long gone.

While the exterior is opulent, the interior was not so grand. Structurally, the inside was in excellent condition because of the quality of materials used.

But, decades of family correspondence, newspapers, furniture and old clothes stood between the history buff and remodeler and the home's original interior. For two months, Hale carefully sorted through the memorabilia and she even uncovered such treasures as a World War I uniform that she donated to a museum.

Beneath the years of sludge lay materials the likes of which will never be seen again.

"There are wood floors upstairs and down," Wise said. "The downstairs is an expensive floor used in that day — edge-grade pine. It came from virgin pine forests 300 to 400 years old. In the downstairs floor there is not one knot, crack or blemish. The upstairs surface is long leaf pine."

"There were a lot of broken and inoperable windows. They moved by ropes and weights encased in the wall. We had to dismantle the windows, restring the ropes and get each window operating properly. Many were handmade windows."

Bringing the floors, doors and windows back to life was just the beginning of the modernization project. This home needed major surgery for its return to active duty.

"We re-wired, re-roofed, any re- you can name, its been done," Hale said.

A revamped floorplan stands out as one of the most visible transformations. Upstairs, a large master suite emerged from two smaller bedrooms and one bath. The bedroom is spacious and the bath has the separate shower and tub along with a two-lavatory vanity so popular in today's master baths.

An upstairs utility/laundry room along with additional closet space is included in the new plan. This modern and practical shift of the laundry room actually helped facillitate an open kitchen plan.

The renovation added square footage to the home by enclosing a patio and turning it into an atrium.

Outside, Wise said the stucco held up through the years quite well.

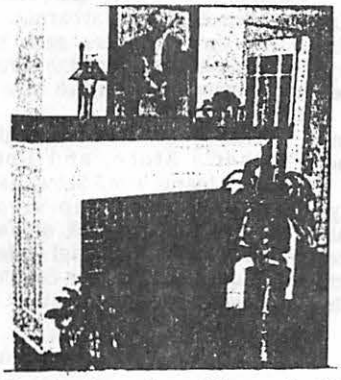
"There was very minor cracking in the exterior walls. When they made it back then, the stucco was very hard and very thick."

Hale said the large iron flower boxes on the front of the home were identified by an architect as being made of hand-forged iron and very valuable.

One of the important results of this restoration is the salvaging of history — the history of the von Rosenberg family. Frederick von Rosenberg built the home in 1917.

Frederick von Rosenberg's father, William had moved to Austin with his wife and children in 1856. In 1880 William von Rosenberg was elected to the first school board of Austin and was instrumental in founding Austin High School that year.

Frederick was an Austin attorney, an officer in World War I and had several government appointments including a term as Commissioner of Insurance and Banking. He and his wife Nina had two children, Esther and Frederick. Neither of the children ever married and they lived in the house until their deaths in 1981 and 1988, respectively.



The pine floors downstairs are flawless.

Tricounty area coordinates

(ISB: # 8)

San Antonio EXPRESS-NEWS — Saturday, April 14, 1990

By Nelson Allen

FISCHER — This small, tree-shaded town seems not to have changed in a century.

Except for a few scattered farmhouses, there are only three buildings of note — Fischer Store, the dance hall and the bowling alley.

Fischer Store, originally built in 1853 and at its present location since 1902, serves as the post office for townspeople and area residents. Today, however, it is more of a museum than a store.

The dance hall, maintained by the bowling club, is used only for special events.

Fischer Bowling Club, however, is rolling and crashing almost every night of the week.

We're talking nine-pin bowling here, a little more modern than the game played by the German settlers but almost the same. And, judging from the crowds at Fischer and other nine-pin bowling alleys in surrounding counties, it's more popular than ever.

"The store is not open anymore; really, we're just a post office," said Gertrude Fischer, postmaster of Fischer.

There are a few cans of Comet, Spic 'n' Span . . . and sodas in a box where "people just help themselves," but no "ice-gro-milk-beer" here. Wood and leather chairs circle a wood-burning stove, still used to heat the store in winter, but no one sits in them anymore.

"They don't sit around much. No one has time for that," Gertrude Fischer said.

The place was busy, however, as people kept coming in to get their mail. Many of them were named Fischer.

"They're Fischers all around here," said Mrs. Walter Fischer.

Gertrude Fischer's husband was a grandson of Herman Fischer, the town's founder. Her daughter Charlene now owns the store.

Visitors to Fischer, however, should stop in the store for a glimpse of the past. The ancient shelves are filled with rocks and fossils, cracker and coffee tins and other trinkets from bygone years. Herman Fischer's original black-enameled safe, which bears his name in gold gilt letters, sits behind the postal boxes. In one corner, a blackboard lists Fischer's annual rainfall for every year from 1890 up to 1987.

Recent years will be added when they find the time, Gertrude Fischer said. For anyone interested in the temperature in Fischer, the minimum was 8 degrees on Jan. 12, 1962, and the maximum was 106 degrees on Aug. 9 of that same year.

Before 1890 "they just wrote down when they had a big rain or ice on the trees," Gertrude Fischer said.

Retired residents

Despite the fact that mail is delivered, many people in the area, even closer to Canyon Lake, prefer to pick up their mail at Fischer Store.

"A lot of retired people live around here. They travel, and they know their mail is always safe here," explained the postmaster.

The liveliest action in town takes place at the Fischer Bowling Club, generally from 7 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday afternoons.

The night I stopped by, four teams, with six members each, were bowling in league competition. The alley has only four lanes; so league games are held nearly every night. Moe Schwab, the club's standard bowling captain, explained a little about the club's history and the rules of nine pin.

The nine pins are set in a square with a red pin in the middle. There are corner pins, beer pins and the sleeper. The square is twisted so that the bowler faces a diamond pattern of pins.

At Fischer, the pins still are set by hand, and the young pin setters scramble to keep the games going.

Teams play six frames. Each bowler may bowl twice in an attempt to knock down all nine pins. All the pins must be knocked down to score nine points. A strike, called a ringer in nine pin, does not count more than nine points. If the red pin in the center, called the redhead, is left standing with all the other pins knocked down, then the player gets a 12-point ringer.

Originally, the German settlers played with various sized "handballs" (no finger holes).

"We don't use a handball anymore, but I remember some of the old-timers were pretty good with that little ball on a single pin," Schwab said.

Bowling has been going on in Fischer since around the turn of the century. In 1875 an organization was formed known as the Agricultural Society of Fischer Store. Its purpose was to promote livestock raising and agriculture as well as to provide entertainment and community fairs. In 1927 the society merged with the Fischer Store Bowling Club. In 1964 the name was revised to be the Fischer Bowling Club of the Agricultural Society of Fischer. The organization has a board of directors and bylaws.

54-minute videotape

Schwab has been nine-pin bowling most of his life and has been a bowling captain with the Fischer club for 31 years. He has made a 54-minute videotape explaining the rules of nine pin and is planning to write a book, possibly with writer Jan Reid, on the history of nine pin in what Schwab calls the "tricounty area."

Ten-pin bowling came about in the late 1700s or early 1800s in Philadelphia, according to Schwab.

"They had been bowling nine pin on Sunday mornings and gambling; so they passed a law outlawing nine pin on Sunday mornings. So then the bowlers went to 10 pin," he said.

There is only one restriction on nine-pin bowling in Fischer and the surrounding area.

"There is never any bowling on Mother's Day," Schwab said.

He doesn't know when the tradition started, but it is followed religiously. Once a nine-pin house scheduled a tournament on Mother's Day, but no one showed up, and the tournament was a failure.

Schwab knows of nine-pin houses in distant places — one in Fredericksburg, one in Wimberley and one in Austin, Saengerunde, next to Scholtz Beergarden.

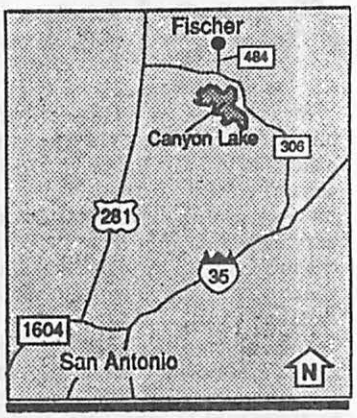
But it is the tricounty area, including Comal, Guadalupe and Bexar, that keeps nine pin alive.

For example, in Comal County, Schwab said, there are nine-pin alleys in Sahms, Freiheit, Mission Valley, Bulverde, Spring Branch and Blanco besides Fischer. In Guadalupe County, nine pin can be found in Cibolo, Germania, Marion, Laubach, Zorn and Barbarosa.

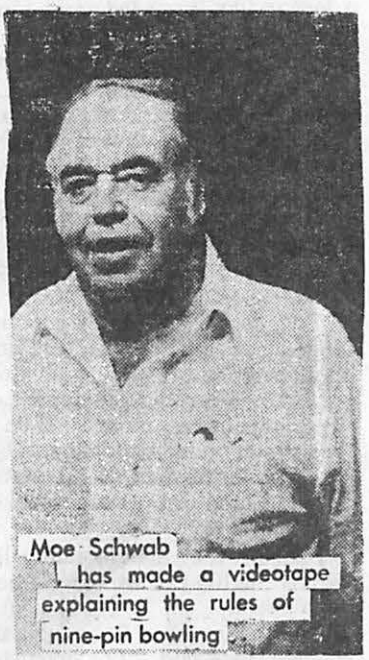
The three counties each have tournaments, and then the winners and runners-up compete in a tricounty tournament.

"This year it was held at Fischer's Store, and Comal County's teams won," Schwab said.

In 1988, the group created Nine Pin Bowling Hall of Fame, which is at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Hall in New Braunfels, the Fischer bowling captain said.



EXPRESS-NEWS MAP



Moe Schwab has made a videotape explaining the rules of nine-pin bowling

Continued

nine-pin bowling tournaments

German ancestry

How important is the German ancestry of this area to the survival of nine pin?

Not much now, according to Schwab.

"Every nine-pin house in the area would go broke if we only depended on Germans," he said.

Still, on this one night, he was able to count six people in the club who "can speak German fluently and two who can understand but speak brokenly."

"I couldn't speak English until I went to the first grade. Probably 90 percent of the people my age and older came from German-speaking homes, but it's disappearing very much," said Schwab, who is 58.

So what's the appeal of nine pin? Is it more difficult than 10 pin?

"I think nine pin's easier, but I'm not much of a 10-pin bowler," Schwab said. "Comparing nine pin with 10 pin is like comparing a baseball game with a tennis match. Nine pin is unique because each team bowling captain can select the order of players. There's more strategy to it. People get interested in the difference."

Sometimes nine pin can be a little slower than 10 pin, but Schwab says that has more to do with the social nature of their league than anything else.

"People like to blame it on the pin setters, but most times it's just old people talking. That's why we're different. Others don't laugh and have so much fun."

At a break in play, the pin setters headed for the front porch to cool off and rest a bit.

It was tiring work, they admitted, and one young girl added "boring."

They get $5 from the bowling club, and tips are placed in small boxes next to the chalk scoreboard. Each pin setter usually walks away with $10, Schwab said.

After the break, I watched Schwab roll a ringer. His team was ahead although one member was in Las Vegas, Nev., and another attending an archery contest in Australia.

Doris Rust, the club manager, served me a beer. I thought I'd do what I could to help the club, since Schwab said that was really how they made money and not by the dues they collected.

Rust also bowls, and when she does, people help themselves, she said.

"I wouldn't give up my bowling," she said.

The Fischer Bowling Club has more than 200 members. Aside from league play, they have prize team bowling and occasional pot tournaments, in which a little wagering is sometimes done.

In addition, the club sponsors several fish fries and a Christmas dance in the old Fischer dance hall.

Well, you never know what's going on in some of these towns, but in Fischer, they're bowling — almost every night of the week.

Fischer postmaster Gertrude Fischer keeps shop in Fischer Store, which functions more as a post office than as a store. The building offers a glimpse of the past, however, with ancient shelves filled with rocks and fossils and cracker and coffee tins.

TRAVEL

German student visiting New Berlin family

The Seguin Gazette-Enterprise - Seguin, Texas, July 29, 1990

In Germany, East and West Berlin have reunited, and in New Berlin, Texas, citizens have also been renewing their ancestral ties.

German exchange student Andreas Gewies has spent the past week and a half in New Berlin living with Mayor Freddy Friederick and his wife Joyce. Nineteen-year-old Andreas is one of 81 students who are visiting towns in the United States named after their home town of Berlin, Germany.

The exchange program is part of Berlin's celebration of its 750th birthday. There are at least 17 towns in the U.S. named after Berlin, most in the northeastern part of the country.

Last July, five students from New Berlin, accompanied by Mayor Friederick and his wife, traveled to Germany and were hosted by families who live in Berlin. The Friedericks were the guests of Andreas' family, so last week they returned the favor.

The citizens of New Berlin welcomed their visitor as one of their own. On Sunday, Andreas was the guest of honor at a community social attended by about 50 local residents. The following week New Berliners showed off the diverse character of the region, including tours of a local dairy and feed yard.

Two of his favorite outings included taking his first horse ride and a successful venture to a local fishing hole. The German heritage of central Texas was investigated at New Braunfels and Fredericksburg.

Andreas also sampled a bit of the old west at Alamo Village at Bracketville, toured The LBJ Ranch, visited the capitol and the LBJ Library in Austin, and spent a day at Sea World.

Comparing his home in Germany to Texas, Andreas said "It is cooler, and the landscape is more varied around Berlin. We have more forests there. And I don't like American TV. There are too many commercials, and the programs are all alike."

Andreas' family lives only three miles from where the Berlin Wall stood for nearly 30 years.

"The first thing I knew about it was on the nightly news. They said people were coming over the wall. No one went to school the next day. All the students and most of the teachers went to the wall. It was winter, and later when the East Berliners were coming over and standing in line at the banks to get their free 100 marks, my mom took hot soup to them."

Of his visit to Texas, Andreas said "It's nice here, but I was most impressed by the hospitialty and the friendship of the people. Thank you to all the people of New Berlin who made me feel welcome and who treated me so well and taught me about Texas."

ANDREAS GEWIES in New Berlin visiting with people he met when New Berlin residents traveled to Germany last year

(ISB: #29)

Rita Wagenschein First Exchange Student From Yorktown

Rita Wagenschein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Wagenschein has been accepted by Youth For Understanding International Exchange as an international exchange student. Rita will live with a family in Australia on YFU's 1991 Academic Year Program. She will leave for Australia in January 1991 and return in December 1991.

Rita is currently a Junior at Yorktown High School.

Yorktown News
8-22-90
(ISB: #11)

Travel in Germany undergoes changes

New York Times Service

GermanRail, the West German network, says that by next month it will increase by almost fivefold the number of trains between West and East Germany.

The rail service announced in late May that it would add 165 daily trains to the existing 37 between West and East Germany.

InterCity service is scheduled to make express runs between Frankfurt and Leipzig, via Bebra-Gerstungen. Service on slower InterRegio trains is planned between Cologne and Berlin via Hanover, Munich and Leipzig and Nuremberg and Leipzig.

The rail service says it plans to improve tracks so trains can travel faster on the Hanover-Berlin route.

The East German system has agreed to introduce four-day ($72 for first class, $52 for second class) and eight-day ($108 and $72) train passes, allowing unlimited travel, that GermanRail will sell. For information call (212) 308-3100.

Meanwhile air travel has also been affected by changes in Germany. Passengers embarking on planes in West Germany now have to pay a $2 security charge imposed by the West German government. The levy took effect July 1 and affects all passengers on all airlines at all West German airports.

The move has been criticized by the International Air Transport Association, which represents the world's major international airlines.

"We firmly believe that the cost of maintaining security at airports, like anywhere else in a country, should be borne by the state in question," said Guenter O. Eser, the director general of association, at its Geneva headquarters.

Eser said that the association, which has 190 airline members, was not in favor of governments' using airlines as collecting agencies.

In the past, he said, passengers paid airport taxes separately and knew what they were paying for and to whom. Now the levy is hidden in the price of the ticket, with the carriers legally liable for their collection and payment to the government, he said.

The SUNDAY EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, July 8, 1990

(ISB: #8)

A really hot time

German, Swiss Scouts adjust to Texas heat

By JEAN DEL CASTILLO
Express-News Staff Writer

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, Monday, August 6, 1990

About 80 German and Swiss Scouts on a tour of the state came into San Antonio Saturday for five days of warm, Texas hospitality and hot weather.

The group arrived in two buses from Athens after a two-week sojourn in the Dallas area, where they spent a week in the homes of American Boy Scouts and then another seven days at a summer camp.

In San Antonio they were welcomed by host families, the sons of whom are members of the Alamo Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, during a potluck dinner for about 250 people at the McGimsey Boy Scout Park, 2226 N.W. Military Hwy.

Their itinerary will include visits to Sea World, the Alamo and El Mercado, as well as tubing on the Guadalupe River.

The group included 69 girls and boys from Mannheim, West Germany, as well as nine Swiss male and female scouting leaders and two of their Scouts. They seemed overwhelmed by the Texas heat but said they were enjoying the state's people and sights.

Thomas Brosch, a member of the Council Committee of Scouts and the German Scout Association of St. George in Mannheim, said he previously had visited the United States and was not as "wide-eyed" as the others.

"It's too hot in Texas," he said with a laugh. "In Germany it does not get hot as it does here."

Luise Antonetty, 17, an exchange student in Madison, Wis., since August 1989, said she met with her German scout troop in Texas before she flies back home alone on Friday.

"I like Texas; it's really hot," she said. "We were able to visit a lot of the sites in Dallas — like Six Flags — and yet we had a lot of free time to do what we wanted.

"I'm enjoying meeting the people and seeing many of the sites."

Regula Wetli, 21, a scouting leader from Switzerland, was impressed by the green Texas countryside and the amount of space available in the city for homes.

"It's very hot and the people are very nice," she added. "I was really impressed that there is so much space to build. Here many of the houses are large and have one floor.

"Most of the buildings and houses in Switzerland have at least two or more stories because there is not enough land. People who had visited Texas had told me that it was very dry and brown, but it's very green."

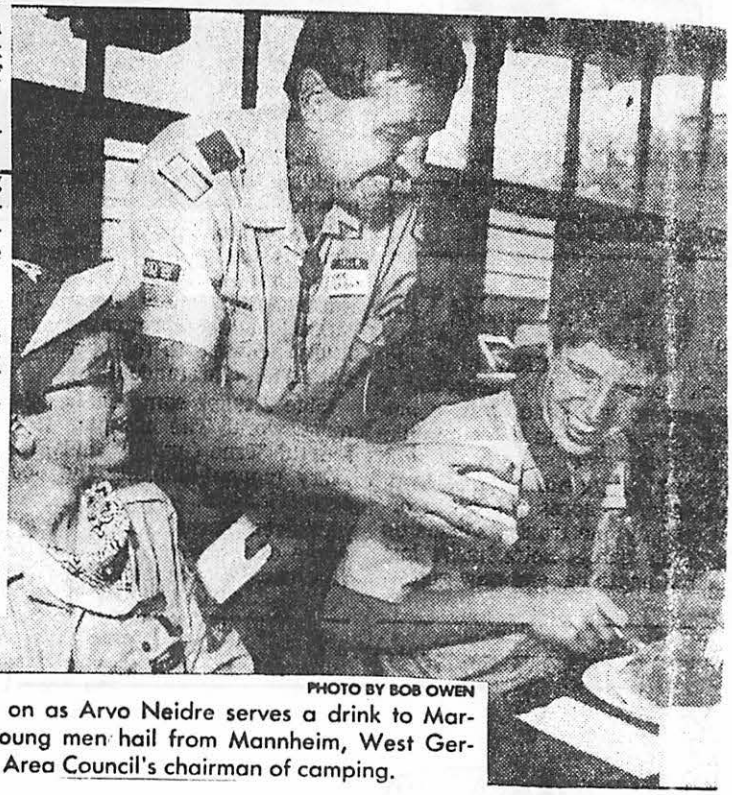


PHOTO BY BOB OWEN

Sven Schramm (left) looks on as Arvo Neidre serves a drink to Markus Heckmann. The two young men hail from Mannheim, West Germany; Neidre is the Alamo Area Council's chairman of camping.

(ISB: #8)

NORDHEIM MUSEUM NEWS

Once again the Nordheim Museum was visited by residents of Northeim, Hanover, Germany. This particular Northeim, Germany is the sister city of our Nordheim, Texas, and is the one our town was named after by William Frobese.

The visitors were Helene Bonk and M. Hill accompanied by a couple from San Antonio and the lady of the couple was born in Northeim, Germany. Helene Bonk took back greetings to the young couple named Reichert who had visited here about a year ago. The Reicherts own a "stoneworks" in Northeim, Germany and Helene Bonk remembered doing business with them. Helene Bonk was a very captivating and interesting person.

These visitors were disappointed that no history of Nordheim was available to take with them, but they bought Nordheim picture post cards and mailed some back to Germany from the post office here.

Yorktown News
4-18-90
(ISB: #11)

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, August 12, 1990

Germany brochure geared for Jewish traveler

New York Times Service

For the first time, the German National Tourist Office has produced a brochure aimed specifically at Jewish travelers.

The 40-page "Germany for the Jewish Traveler" includes a history of Jewish communities in several West German cities, advice on contacting the local rabbi and information on obtaining kosher food. Synagogues and Jewish cemeteries are also listed.

In addition to Berlin, Frankfurt, Munich and major cities, some lesser-known communities with sites of interest to Jewish visitors are described, including Augsburg, Furth and Bamberg. There are also sections on the Bergen-Belsen and Dachau death camps.

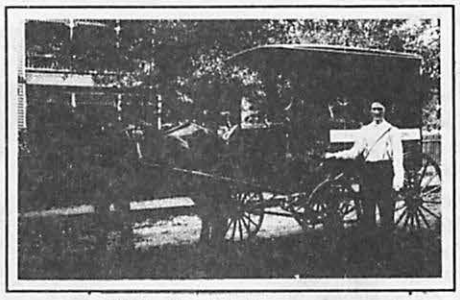
Copies of "Germany for the Jewish Traveler" are available free from the German National Tourist Office, 747 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

PLACES

1922 – Mr. Eilenberger waits on customers in his retail store. All our fresh bakery products are still available in the very same location.

Eilenberger's SINCE 1898

Eilenberger's Bakery
512 N. John / P.O. Box 710
Palestine, Texas 75802



1919 – Fresh delivery was made by horse drawn carts.

For almost a century the Eilenberger Bakery has helped people remember those people they love. . . with the world's best cakes.

Our recipes came over with the family in 1881 when F. H. Eilenberger's parents left their home in Leipzig, Germany to live in the land of opportunity. In 1898 young F. H. opened the bakery here in Palestine, Texas. In spite of a fire in 1915, which destroyed 17 years of hard work, the depression and two world wars, F. H. continued to build his dream. In time, his two sons and son-in-law joined him in the business, and in 1949 took over the business completely. They opened the Eilenberger name to a world wide audience.

Today his son, Fred, is the Master Baker and personally supervises the making of every cake. All our baking is still done the old-fashioned way. We mix, decorate and take our cakes in and out of the ovens by hand. We use only the finest ingredients to assure all of our cakes arrive bakery fresh.

F. H. Eilenberger and his crew at work in the bakery, around the turn of the century.

(ISB: #29)

GUARANTEED QUALITY

PIONEER
Flour Mills

129 EAST GUENTHER STREET
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

The year was 1851. C. H. Guenther stood in the rain on the banks of Live Oak Creek near Fredericksburg, Texas, and watched the wreckage of his grist mill flood by in the swollen river below. The mill would have been completed in a matter of days.

Guenther started again, and the mill opened. Business was good until 1858 when drought so depleted the crops that Guenther had little grain to grind and little water to turn the wheel. So Guenther closed his little mill and relocated his business just outside San Antonio, on the more powerful San Antonio River.

Pioneer Flour Mills. It began with one man's dream more than 135 years ago. Today, Pioneer is one of the leading manufacturers of baking mixes in the United States.

PIONEER
PIONEER FLOUR MILLS
P.O. BOX 118 • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78291 • (512) 227-1401

COLLIN STREET BAKERY

401 W. Seventh Avenue • Corsicana, Texas 75110

Collin Street Bakery Express at The Turn of The Century.

Since 1896

SAME SMALL TOWN
SAME-DELICIOUS RECIPE

We still make DeLuxe Fruitcake true to the Old-World recipe, brought to Corsicana in 1896 from Wiesbaden, Germany by master baker Gus Weidmann. He and his partner, Tom McElwee, introduced their delicious fruitcake to the many famous entertainers and circus performers who came to Corsicana at the turn of the century.

These celebrities often asked to have DeLuxe Fruitcake sent to family and friends around the world. And so began our bakery's entry into mail order on a global scale.

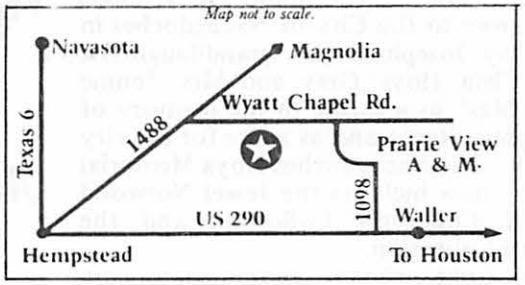
Liendo Plantation

(ISB: #29)

Liendo is listed in both State and National Historic Registers

Liendo was also occupied by world renowned sculptress Elisabet Ney and her husband Dr. Edmond Montgomery from 1873 to 1911. She and her husband had immigrated years before from Europe to the United States but had never found a new home until they found Liendo. It is reported that she, upon arriving at Liendo, walked out on the balcony, threw out her arms and said "This is where I will live and die." She lived out her life at Liendo, commuting to her art studio in Austin. She and Dr. Montgomery are buried on the Plantation grounds. She sculpted many notable works, two of her most recognized pieces being the statues of Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston which now stand in the state capitol.

In 1960 Carl and Phyllis Detering purchased Liendo from Miss Willene Compton and began their 10 year job of restoring the plantation home. Traveling throughout the deep South and Europe, the Deterings acquired period furnishings and faithfully restored Liendo to its former glory. Liendo is recognized as a Texas historic landmark and is listed on the national register of historic places.

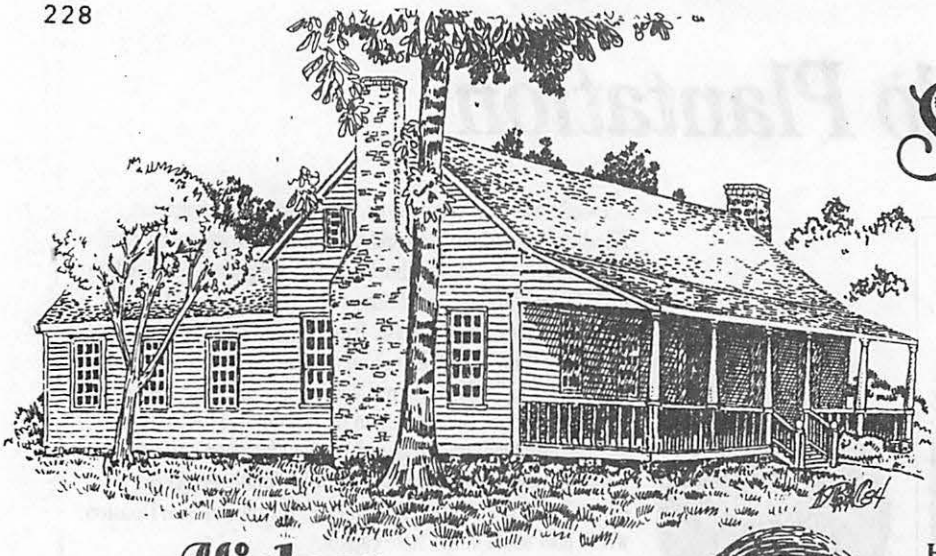


Liendo Plantation was built in 1853 by Leonard Waller Groce, the son of Jared Groce, who was one of the largest most respected land owners in Texas. Originally a Spanish land grant of 67,000 acres assigned to Justo Liendo, the plantation's namesake, Liendo was one of Texas' earliest cotton plantations. It was considered the social center of Texas receiving and lavishly entertaining early Texas dignitaries and notorieties. Liendo was considered a typical Southern plantation, having over 300 slaves and being itself built by slave labor. Sufficient in all its needs; it was a self contained community. Like most Southern plantations, however, Liendo fell on hard times after the Civil War and changed owners several times thereafter.

Liendo had always been recognized for its warm Southern hospitality, but few people know that this same tradition of generosity probably saved it from destruction. Among the more notable statesmen and historical figures that have spent time at Liendo was George A. Custer. Toward the end of the Civil War, he was stationed at Liendo as the director of a Union camp for Confederate prisoners. It is said that both Mr. Custer and his wife were so impressed with the plantation and the gracious hospitality shown them during their stay, that they made sure Liendo was left standing after the war in appreciation.

Liendo is open for public viewing on a fee basis the first Saturday of each month. The Waller County Historical Society furnishes docents familiar with the rich history of Texas and Liendo. Tours begin at 10:00 am, 11:30, 1:00 pm and 2:30. Special group tours are available with some requirements and advance notice.

Liendo Plantation
Rt. 1, Box 386 • Hempstead, Texas 77445
409/826-3126



The Sterne-Hoya House

Nacogdoches

(ISB: #2)

From its earliest days the Sterne-Hoya House was identified with the history of Texas . . . .

History

When Texas was still part of Mexico, this fine, architecturally detailed house was built (circa 1830) by Nicholas Adolphus Sterne for his bride, Eva Catherine Rosine Ruff. It is the oldest on-site dwelling in the city and the only one dating from before the Texas Revolution.

In 1869, seventeen years after her husband's death, Mrs. Sterne sold it to Joseph von der Hoya. The home and grounds were given to the City of Nacogdoches in 1958 by Joseph Hoya's granddaughters, Mrs. Clara Hoya Gray and Mrs. Jennie Hoya Mast, as a shrine to the memory of Adolphus Sterne and as a site for the city library. The Nacogdoches Hoya Memorial Library now includes the Jewel Norwood Tilford Children's Collection and the Texana Collection.

The front rooms and upstairs are original parts of Sterne's house. One parlor has been authentically furnished and restored to the early Texas period of the Sternes and the other to the Victorian times of the Hoyas. Particularly unusual is the stone wine cellar, which was added in 1845.

Adolphus Sterne

1801-1852

- German immigrant to New Orleans at age sixteen
- Nacogdoches settler in 1826
- Prominent merchant and Texas Revolutionary leader
- Conspirator with Haden Edwards in the Fredonian Rebellion in 1826
- Agent for the Republic of Texas in recruiting and financing two companies of volunteers in New Orleans during 1835
- Captain of a volunteer company under General Thomas J. Rusk in 1839 at the Battle of the Neches
- Civic Leader - Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, Land Commissioner
- State Representative and Senator

Joseph von der Hoya

1811-1896

- German immigrant and Nacogdoches settler about 1836
- Farmer and large land owner
- Buyer of the Sterne property in 1869 from Mrs. Sterne
- Father of prominent Nacogdoches citizens:

  Joseph - medical doctor

  Charles - banker and owner of Hoya Land Office

  Fritz, Henry, Tillie - merchants and farmers

Monday - Saturday 9 to 12 - 2 to 5
Closed Sundays and major holidays

Tours

Visitors - during all regular hours
Large Groups - by special arrangement

Tel. (409) 560-5426

Free Admission

211 South Lanana Street
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

San Antonio's German Legacy

(ISB: #12)

Southern Living
June 1985

Like the city itself, San Antonio's King William Historic District is filled with variety and richness. Here, just a few blocks from the River Walk and the restored Spanish settlement of La Villita, century-old mansions and cottages of stone, wood, stucco, and brick show off the architectural styles of an eclectic era.

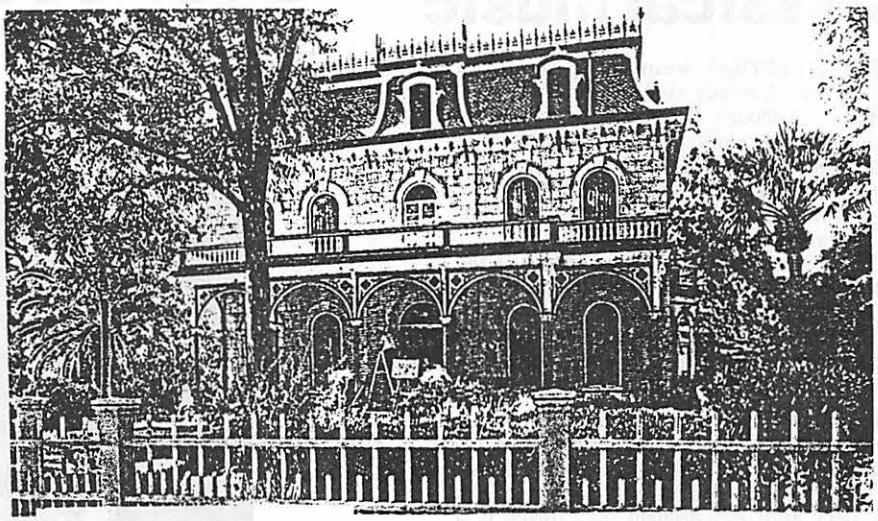
Yet, like the city, the parts blend, creating a place with a character all its own. Old trees, grown massive with age, make it easy to forget that King William is nearly downtown. Stone walls and iron or wood fences tie its houses together. But the neighborhood's true common thread is the people who built it. It was here, in a sharp curve of the San Antonio River, that the city's successful German businessmen settled and made their homes.

One hundred and fifty years before it became a fashionable neighborhood, King William was among the landholdings cultivated by the mission known today as the Alamo. The land passed to private owners after the missions were secularized in the 1790's, and in the 1860's it was subdivided to create one of San Antonio's first planned neighborhoods.

A miller named Carl Guenther was the first German immigrant to move into the area; he built a mill and a home here on the San Antonio River in 1859. He was followed by other prosperous Germans, many of whom had first come to Texas in the wave of immigration during the 1840's. It was one of these early residents, Ernst Altgelt, who named the neighborhood's principal street King William in honor of Kaiser Wilhelm I of Prussia. Altgelt also named two streets—Washington and Madison—for American Presidents. (During World War I, to show their loyalty to their new country, the neighborhood's German residents briefly renamed King William Street Pershing Avenue in honor of the American general.)

The early houses were mostly small cottages. A notable exception is the Steves Homestead, built in 1876 by a successful lumberman, Edward Steves. Now owned by the San Antonio Conservation Society, it is the only house in the neighborhood open to the public. The large limestone mansion features the rounded windows of the Italian Villa style, yet it is topped by a Second Empire-style mansard roof. Out back, the home has what was one of the city's earliest indoor swimming pools. In the side yard stands a fountain from the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. (The Steves family eventually was to build homes on two other corners opposite the homestead, and their descendants would occupy the neighborhood for three generations.)

Most of the mansions that characterize the district today were built in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Though large, these were not the homes of the idle rich. Rather, they were occupied by the families of merchants actively engaged in building their businesses in San Antonio: Carl Wilhelm Groos, merchant and banker; August Biesenbach, hardware merchant; Carl Harnisch, confectioner; Charles Hummel, firearms dealer. Yet with streets unpaved until the 1920's, spreading trees to provide shade, and the river nearby for fishing, swimming, and boating, the neighborhood had a leisurely quality. A streetcar on nearby Alamo Street connected it with downtown. German beer gardens, also nearby, provided relaxation.



Photograph · Mac Jamieson, Bob Lancaster

Edward Steves, Sr., built and lived in this house **(above)**, *a combination of Italianate and Second Empire styles.*

Most of the homes along King William Street itself date from the 1800's. But on Madison and other streets of the neighborhood, development continued into the first decades of this century. Styles reflected the Colonial Revival, with columns and other classical elements. And the neighborhood continued to be one of San Antonio's most elegant, attracting such families as the Joskes, founders of the department store chain. In 1901 they built a large home on King William Street with soaring Ionic columns, lofty chimneys, and bay windows.

The development of newer suburbs in the 1920's, the Depression of the 1930's, the increased military population of the 1940's, and the death of the generations who had built the neighborhood conspired here as they did in other cities to begin the area's demise. Large homes were no longer affordable or practical, so they were divided into apartments, often for servicemen and their families.

But the district began to see signs of revival earlier than historic neighborhoods in most cities. In 1947, the King William Area Conservation Society—forerunner of the present group—was founded. The San Antonio Conservation Society acquired the Steves Homestead in 1952. And in 1958, the late O'Neil Ford moved his architectural practice to a house in the neighborhood, in part to attract attention to the area's potential.

By the late 1960's, HemisFair was attracting attention and residents to the area, and a new King William Association had been founded to serve them. In 1967, local investment banker Walter Nold Mathis bought an 1870's mansion on King William Street and restored it as his own residence. (Since then he has bought and restored 13 others.) In 1968, the city designated King William as the state's first historic district and established controls over renovation, new construction, and demolition.

Today, King William is recognized as a nearly intact late 19th- and early 20th-century neighborhood and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Nearly all the homes on King William Street itself have been restored, along with about 35% of those on the adjoining streets. There is a neighborhood fair every year, with house tours, music in King William Park, an art show, and other events. The City of San Antonio and the San Antonio River Authority have completed a new pedestrian bridge over the river and paths along its banks within the neighborhood. Plans call for eventual connection of these paths to the River Walk.

Yet King William remains a peaceful island in the center of the city. Bounded on two sides by the river, it has not been disrupted by commercial development or traffic. Even so, it touches both the 19th and 20th centuries. The HemisFair tower peeks over rooftops and trees at one end of King William Street. At the other end, across the river, stands the Pioneer Flour Mill, descendant of that first mill built by Carl Guenther—and a reminder of the German entrepreneurs who helped build San Antonio and who once called this neighborhood home.

Sept. 9, 1990 Houston Chronicle

Classical music

ORCHESTRAS seem to be seeking a solid, steady kind of music-making.

Although the management of the Philadelphia Orchestra, still enmeshed in its labor negotiations, will neither comment nor confirm, it seems likely that Wolfgang Sawallisch will be named to succeed Riccardo Muti as the orchestra's music director.

Sawallisch, who turned 67 this month, is the director of the Bavarian State Opera in Munich and is said by several music-business executives to have agreed to accept the Philadelphia post, although contract details are still be be worked out.

Known primarily as a solid and steady if not particularly imaginative opera conductor, Sawallisch will bring something rather different to the sumptuous Philadelphia ensemble than the fiery Muti has brought. Sawallisch is a German through and through, with all the debits and credits any national stereotype entails.

He is also not alone. After a generation in which almost every nationality but the Germans won prominent music directorships in this country, North America suddenly seems flush with them and their Germanic allies.

There is, of course, Kurt Masur as the newly appointed music director of the New York Philharmonic. Gunther Herbig, having spent time in Detroit, has moved on to Toronto. Christoph Eschenbach seems to be a hit in Houston; the Swede Herbert Blomstedt spent years in Dresden before going to the San Francisco Symphony; Claus Peter Flor and Bruno Weil and Christof Perick are rising stars in this country, and so is the Viennese Nikolaus Harnoncourt. And, to be sure, there are Klaus Tennstedt and Carlos Kleiber, both of whom appear here frequently (Kleiber has just been announced for the Metropolitan Opera's *Rosenkavalier* this fall) but who seem just a bit too mercurial to settle down to any one post.

What binds these conductors together? Naturally, each is an individual, and Tennstedt and Kleiber are too flamboyant to conform neatly to any stodgy *Kapellmeister* stereotype. But it is just the solid, steady kind of music-making implied by the term *Kapellmeister* that seems to make these men desirable to American orchestras. What might seem boring to some sounds refreshingly sane to others. German conductors are sought for their supposed high seriousness, their idiomatic sympathy with the Germanic masterpieces at the core of the repertory and their skills as orchestra disciplinarians.

Indeed, an interesting possible aspect of the surge in German music directors involves the American orchestra musicians themselves. As the players participate more and more in the selection of music directors, they seem to crave the musical and even moral authority that a German conductor still symbolizes. As unionized musicians press for more power and benefits, they also seek more guidance and authority.

CULTURE

U.S. orchestras turn

By JOHN ROCKWELL
New York Times

(ISB: #15)

East German conductor Klaus Tennstedt is a frequent guest on podiums in the United States.

This shift follows a generation in which seemingly everyone but the Germans commandered music directorships. English, French, French-Swiss, Italian, Estonian, Finnish, Mexican, Indian, Japanese, Korean, even American — the whole world crowded American podiums. Tennstedt once referred to this rainbow coalition of conductors as "the exotics." Germans, conversely, seemed to fall into two categories. There were old masters — Herbert von Karajan, Karl Boehm, Eugen Jochum — who didn't travel much. And there were younger conductors who didn't seem to be courted abroad. Clearly, a backlash against Nazism lingered in the musical world. But that seems to be fading in this new era of excitement about a soon-to-be-united Germany.

A disproportionate number of the best-known German conductors today are either from East Germany or built their early careers there — Masur, Tennstedt, Blomstedt and Herbig among them. Paradoxically, the supposedly materialist (philosophically speaking, that is) and internationalist Communist regime in East Germany served to retain the old German provincialism and artistic idealism that seems so desirable in today's commercialized, deracinated international musical culture.

The reason for this odd juxtaposition of old-fashioned musicality and official progressivism was partly political, in that enforced isolation artificially re-created the circumstances of the pre-World War II era — as with Masur's Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra being largely stocked with graduates of the Leipzig Conservatory. It was partly economic, in that poverty and a worthless currency forced East Germans to stay at home. And it was partly a reaction against the harshness of the Communist regime, as musicians and audiences turned inward, in classic German fashion, to find solace in art.

The new popularity of German conductors and things German in general makes life harder for non-Germans. One has to feel a little sorry, for instance, for Charles Dutoit. Perhaps this Swiss-French conductor is perfectly happy in Montreal, where he has been music director since 1977. But one can't help think he might have been chosen in either New

Continued

to German conductors

York or Philadelphia, where he is known to have been a candidate.

Yet he was not, and the reason seems to be a perception among many musicians and administrators that he is not strong enough for the task. Maybe he is, maybe he isn't. But orchestras play beautifully for him; he conducts plenty of interesting 20th-century music, and he sells far more records than either Masur or Sawallisch. One plausible explanation for his image problem is that, as a specialist in French music, he is slighted in a climate that has newly come to prefer solid German musicians playing solid German music.

In that sense, the stall in Dutoit's career, if it is a stall, amounts to a setback for the diehard Francophiles among us, those eager exponents of French culture who fought the unthinking admiration for all things Teutonic that had prevailed in American culture before World War I.

But do German conductors really play German music with any greater authenticity or native insight than anyone else? It might seem unlikely, in our internationalized musical culture, in which conductors and performers of every nationality address every school of music. But there are those who regret this cosmopolitanism as a loss of national authenticity. For them, the return of the Germans may be a source of profound satisfaction, given the centricity of Germanic music in our orchestral life.

As far as Masur in New York and Sawallisch in Philadelphia are concerned, one must simply wait and see. I myself, however, recall with fondness a Mostly Mozart Festival concert a couple of summers ago in which Masur led the Israel Philharmonic in, of all tired warhorses, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

His interpretation was in no way flashy. He played the score neither particularly fast nor particularly slow. He brought no special musicological insight to his conception. He and the Israelis just played the music, but with a rock-solid authority and confidence and, in the end, conviction that proved engrossing. If that's what German music-making in German masterpieces can mean for New York and Philadelphia, then both cities should have many satisfying concerts in store.

Kurt Masur, head of the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig, will become music director of the New York Philharmonic.

Eschenbach to conduct Mahler's Symphony No. 3

By CHARLES WARD
Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON Symphony music director Christoph Eschenbach will open the orchestra's classical season with a work that brought him rave reviews in Chicago this summer.

Mahler's Symphony No. 3 will be the single piece on the program, scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sept. 16, and 8 p.m. Sept. 17 in Jones Hall. Dutch mezzo-soprano Jard van Nes will make her Houston debut as soloist, joining the Houston Symphony Chorus and the Singing Boys of Houston.

Continuing Eschenbach's cycle of the Mahler orchestral pieces, the six-movement work, in two parts, will be played without intermission.

Eschenbach conducted the work at the Ravinia Festival in August to conclude the Chicago Symphony's classical concerts in the northern suburban outdoor pavilion.

Howard Reich of the Chicago Tribune wrote that "such was the lyrical beauty of Mahler's Third Symphony in Eschenbach's reading that the oft-rambunctious festival audience seemed barely to breathe at particular junctures of the performance." The interpretation was "as individual as it was persuasive."

Robert C. Marsh, veteran critic for the Chicago Sun-Times, called the performance "one of the great events of the season, a thoroughly idiomatic, deeply felt and dramatically convincing account."

For Marsh, the performance of the final movements was "one of the most glorious . . . I have ever heard. There is no greater test for a conductor than to sustain, develop and build to a noble climax a long, slow movement such as this. Eschenbach managed it with a true master's hand."

Van Nes, who will sing a text from Nietzsche's *Also sprach Zarathustra* in the fourth movement, made her debut with Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in 1983 as soloist in Mahler's Symphony No. 2. Since then, in appearances with major European and American orchestras, she has become one of the leading interpreters of his music. She also sang the same piece for the Dallas Symphony when it opened its new hall in September 1989.

Israelis changing views on Nazi-tainted artists

The SUNDAY EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, April 8, 1990

Associated Press (ISB: #25)

JERUSALEM — Slowly, one step at a time, Israelis appear to be changing their feelings toward German artists and intellectuals tainted by Nazism and are beginning to accept them into the nation's cultural mainstream.

Such as composer Richard Wagner, philosopher Martin Heidegger and conductor Herbert von Karajan.

But their names and their works still arouse strong emotions in this Jewish state, which served as a refuge for hundreds of thousands of survivors of the Nazi Holocaust.

The changing attitudes were recently reflected in the visit to Israel of Wagner's great-grandson, Gottfried, 42, who came here in an effort to erase, or at least change, the image of the composer as a symbol of the Nazi regime.

He said he found wide support for lifting the Jewish state's ban on Wagner's music.

"It was more than I had hoped for. Again and again people told me, 'Come back, you are on the right way, we are on your side'," Wagner said.

Anti-Wagner feelings still abound, however.

Holocaust survivor Ben Zion Leitner said hearing Wagner was like being back in the Nazi labor camp where he was held as a teenager and where a sadistic commandant played Wagner's operas when guards whipped inmates.

Nine years ago, Leitner stopped an attempt by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra to break the Wagner ban and play the overture to "Tristan and Isolde." Leitner, an usher at Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium, rushed to the stage, pulled up his shirt to show Nazi-inflicted scars and shouted, "Play Wagner over my body."

"As long as survivors are still alive, we must not play Wagner in public," Leitner, 65, said in a recent interview.

But Gottfried Wagner said he did not encounter protests aimed at him or his ancestor during his 12-day visit, which included four university lectures, talks with Israeli music lovers and intellectuals, media interviews and an appearance on state television.

He told Israelis that the 19th century composer did not deserve to be shunned, arguing Wagner was exploited by the Nazis and members of the Wagner clan close to Hitler.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Conductor Herbert von Karajan of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra never came to Israel because he was a member of the Nazi Party. He is shown in a 1986 photo conducting the Vienna Philharmonic.

The younger Wagner said his great-grandfather had an ambiguous attitude toward Jews.

On the one hand the composer expressed anti-Semitic views sparked by jealousy of successful Jewish composers, but on the other hand several of his close collaborators were Jews. In his stagework, the composer did not express anti-Semitism, Gottfried Wagner argued.

However, he said it was up to the Israelis to decide whether to end the ban.

"Israelis of all generations have the right to be skeptical toward Wagner," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Cerro Maggiore, Italy. "But a serious debate about Wagner should finally make it possible to rediscover his international importance as an avant garde music drama man, and prevent future political abuse of his work."

Much of Israel's music establishment, including most musicians of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, favors an end to the Wagner ban.

"You have to distinguish between the composing genius and the somewhat tainted human being," said Alfred Frankenstein, 84, a Tel Aviv music critic who fled Berlin in 1935. "We are the ones who are losing by not playing Wagner."

The Wagner case indicates that while the Holocaust still shapes Israeli attitudes, there is less sensitivity about old taboos because of the passage of time and the emergence of a new generation that has no direct experience of Nazi rule.

"Many people belonging to the generation concerned have died out. There is still high awareness, but it's maybe less raw, less emotional than in the 1950s and '60s," said Daniel Shek, a government official in his 30s whose Czech parents survived the Theresienstadt death camp.

Greater historical and emotional distance to the Holocaust also has sparked a re-evaluation of other artists and thinkers associated with the Nazis.

One example is German composer and conductor Richard Strauss (1864-1949), who had been boycotted in Israel because he served as head of musical affairs under the Nazis in 1933 and 1934.

Two recent recitals included Strauss lieder and passed without protest. On March 18, the Symphony Orchestra of Rishon Lezion, a Tel Aviv suburb, played for the first time a major Strauss work, the "Metamorphosen" for string instruments.

It was received by the audience with shouts of "bravo."

"We cannot escape Richard Strauss. It is a must for the Israeli music lover to hear this work," said Noam Sheriff, the orchestra's musical director.

Sheriff recently asked his musicians to play Wagner in rehearsal, arguing that they would not become polished musicians without mastering Wagner. The musicians, most in their 20s and 30s, practiced "Die Meistersinger" without protest, he said.

Another example is German philospher Martin Heidegger, a fervent Hitler follower who denounced colleagues at Freiburg University to the Gestapo, the Nazi secret police.

The works of Heidegger, whose ideas influenced existentialists such as Jean Paul Sartre, have been taught at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem since 1982.

Lecturer Gabriel Motzkin said that he included Heidegger in his course on German philosphers because his work is too important to ignore, but that he made students aware of Heidegger's political beliefs.

The dilemma faced by Israeli music lovers or philosphy students is not present in the world of publishing.

"Totalitarianism by nature does not produce good books that are worth translating," said Beth Elon, editorial director of the Domino publishing house in Jerusalem.

She said her company refused to publish a Hebrew version of Hitler's manifesto, "Mein Kampf" (My Struggle), but said the considerations were purely commercial.

"It was a dull, unwieldy book, real heavy going. Even the shock value wasn't shocking," Elon said.

These developments suggest that while certain barriers have fallen, the trauma of the Holocaust remains a central part of Israeli life.

The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, for example, never set foot in Israel because its conductor, Herbert von Karajan, had been a member of the Nazi Party. Only Karajan's death last year paved the way for a tour of Israel by the orchestra, scheduled for this month.

Mozart's music celebrates bicentennial

(ISB: #8)

By H.C. ROBBINS LANDON
Sunday Times of London Magazine

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, July 29, 1990

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart started playing the harpsichord when he was 3. Only two years later he was giving concerts and writing his first pieces of music. He was obviously no ordinary child — and he grew up to be the greatest composer of all time. Two hundred years ago this winter, he was given a pauper's burial at the age of 35.

Mozart has become the most celebrated composer in history. One vulgar way in which a composer's standing can be assessed in our money-minded world is to look at the prices his autographed letters and musical manuscripts fetch at auctions.

An auction on May 17, for example, an envelope that Wolfgang addressed to his father, containing exactly 17 words, sold for $18,000; a four-page sketch for an aria for "Figaro" fetched $124,000; and a letter written jointly by Wolfgang and his father from Milan in 1772 went for $120,000.

To understand why Mozart and his music to have reached this extraordinary degree of popularity, some serious examination and analysis seem to be required. For that, we must return to Central Europe 199 years ago.

When Mozart's body was laid to an ignominious rest in a nameless Viennese grave with five others on an unusually mild December 6, 1791, he enjoyed a much greater reputation than is often realized. As he lay dying, "people halted down on the street in front of his apartment and waved their handkerchiefs," as his widow Constanze later reported. His new opera, "The Magic Flute," was playing to packed houses in a Viennese suburb and would soon be performed all over Germany and printed in dozens of pirated editions.

In Central Europe, Mozart's was a respected, and in part, adored name for a substantial circle of patrons, friends and admirers. In England news of his death was considered sufficiently important to be included in the monthly obituary of the European Magazine and London Review for January 1792: "Dec. 5. At Vienna, Wolfgang Mozart, the celebrated German composer." But in countries where he had been a famous child prodigy, such as Italy, Holland and France, he was largely forgotten or known only by a handful of works.

As the 18th century waned, however, Mozart's music began to be published posthumously by several German publishers, culminating in a series of elegant oblong volumes by Breitkopf and Hartel called the "Oeuvres Complétes" — an enthusiastic but hardly accurate description. In 1800 that same firm issued the "Requiem," which because of its mysterious and secret origins, became a *cause celébre* that even in 1990 shows no signs of abating.

After World War II Mozart's international popularity began to reveal to many his special qualities. Far from being just Beethoven's precursor he began to be considered by many as the greatest of all composers. What is it in his music that seems to so many to be so unique?

One element is his ambiguity, a sense that much of his music is of a profundity beyond the ordinary senses of joy and sadness or perhaps it goes to such depths that the two become interchangeable. His music is also of a boundless humanity, which displays itself in many ways. His fascination with human beings led him naturally to opera.

In instrumental music, Mozart made the piano concerto — a relatively new form, it had been invented by Bach half a century earlier — his own greatest contribution, by fusing in it for the first time the new Haydnesque principles of symphonic unity and many elements of opera; the whole was clothed in Mozart's brilliantly original orchestrations, where the wind instruments, and especially the clarinet, played a new, dominant role.

Many of these all-embracing qualities were obliquely suggested in Peter Shaffer's very successful play and film, "Amadeus." Despite the biographical idiocies, the film contained much of Mozart's greatest music, and the photography was magnificent. Mozart and his music were made fascinating to millions of new listeners.

MID-TEXAS SYMPHONY PROGRAM NOTES

Requiem
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart — 1756-1791

Requiem is being presented this season to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Mozart's death in 1791.

Requiem began with a visit in 1791 from a mysterious stranger who offered Mozart a handsome sum for a requiem mass, to be composed in secret and turned over to the messenger without its authorship ever being revealed. Mozart accepted, but the rather sinister circumstances preyed on his mind as he set his imagination working on the theme of death.

Work on the piece was interrupted while he completed a commissioned work for his admirers in Prague. In Vienna he resumed feverish work on the *Requiem*, increasingly convinced that it was his own requiem he was writing.

Meanwhile *The Magic Flute* was turning into a popular hit. When he became so ill in mid-November that he had to take to his bed, Mozart would put his watch beside him each evening and follow the progress of the opera in his imagination, humming the melodies.

On his last day, he asked some friends to help him sing the score of the unfinished *Requiem*, but at the *Lachrimosa* he broke down, weeping and could not continue.

He died a few minutes after midnight on Dec. 5, 1791 of what doctors believe was nephritis, or acute kidney inflammation.

All his life, through every difficulty, he had ceaselessly gone on creating, like some divine mechanism set into motion by forces beyond the limits of his existence.

Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Major
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart — 1756-1791

In 1775, in a burst of creative growth, Mozart wrote five brilliant concertos for violin. With their wealth of melody, elegance of phrase and subtle nuance of orchestral color, they provide the solo instrumentalist with some of his most rewarding vehicles — not of mere virtuoso display for its own sake, but of a harmoniously balanced beauty.

(ISB: #29)

PEOPLE

The SUNDAY EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, May 20, 1990

Kerrville pastor elected bishop

(ISB: #8)

By J. MICHAEL PARKER
Express-News Religion Writer

Religious leader ex-San Antonian

A 53-year-old Kerrville pastor was elected Saturday the second bishop of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Rev. Henry Schulte Jr., pastor of the 800-member Zion Lutheran Church in Kerrville since 1983, was elected to succeed the Rev. Arthur Rode during the synod's annual meeting at Texas Lutheran College in Seguin.

Rode retires July 31. Schulte will serve as bishop-elect through August, and his four-year term as bishop will begin Sept. 1.

No date has been set for his installation.

Schulte received 293 votes on the sixth ballot Saturday, with the second-place candidate, the Rev. Charles De Haven, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Braunfels, polling 179.

Schulte's name had been placed in nomination for the post in 1987, but he withdrew his name from that ballot.

But when he was nominated again Saturday, he said, he was "convinced the Holy Spirit had a hand in it and said, 'If that's God's will, so be it.'

"I'm still in a state of shock," Schulte said in a telephone interview immediately after his election.

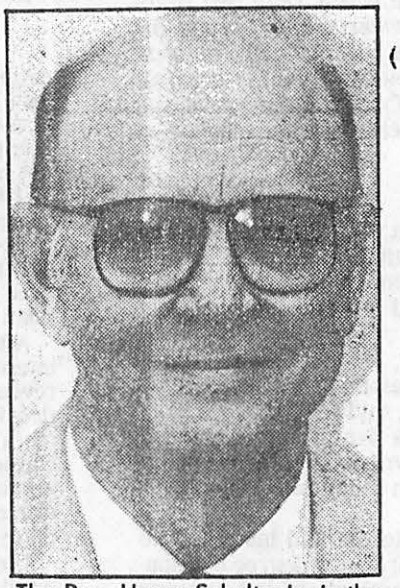
"To go in not even thinking of being elected and finding myself in the running gave me an overwhelming sense of awe and some fear and trembling," Schulte said, but he added:

"I also had a sense of joy and confidence that the Lord is still Lord of the church and that includes me."

Schulte grew up on a farm and graduated from Crawford High School near McGregor. He graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, and was ordained in McGregor in 1965.

He served two congregations in Shelby and Fayetteville from 1965-69, spent 10 years as pastor of Highland Park Lutheran Church in San Antonio and was assistant to the bishop and director of personnel for the Texas District of the old American Lutheran Church, one of the three merging denominations that formed the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, from 1979-83.

"We have an outstanding synod. Bishop Arthur Rode had done a magnificent piece of work organizing it, and our synod compares favorably with any synod in the country in its organization and activities," the new bishop-elect said.



The Rev. Henry Schulte Jr. is the second Lutheran bishop of the Southwestern Texas Synod.

Schulte said the synod faces a tough challenge in reaching out to Hispanics and others whose primary language is not English.

"We want to be an inclusive church in our openness to the ecumenical movement and to reaching out to people who need the gospel and know the grace of God is real," he said.

He and his wife, Frances, have a son, the Rev. David Schulte, pastor of Peace Lutheran Mission in New Braunfels; and a daughter, Dana Broddrich of Austin.

NEW CONDUCTOR: David G. Mathis has been appointed as the permanent conductor of the Beethoven Concert Band succeeding Philson Freeman who has retired. Mathis has conducted several United States Army bands in the United States and overseas. Upon his retirement in 1985, Mathis has devoted much of his time to the establishment and organization of the San Antonio Municipal Band.

Southside Reporter
San Antonio
9-20-90

Riding Line

Texas State Historical Association

. . . Terry Jordan, who holds the Walter Prescott Webb Chair in History and Ideas in the Department of Geography at the University of Texas at Austin, has won the Theodore Saloutos Memorial Award in Agricultural History for writing the best book in the field of agricultural history in 1989. Co-authored by Matti Kaups of the University of Minnesota, *The American Backwoods Frontier: An Ethnic and Ecological Interpretation* (The Johns Hopkins University Press) deals with the evolution of the highly successful forest colonization system of the woodland pioneers of eastern North America. . .

Summer 1990 (ISB: #29)

Exchange teacher helps special education pupils

Houston Chronicle May 16, 1990

By **BRENDA RITTER**
Special to ThisWeek

Volker Thum didn't know what to expect when he showed up for work at Katy High School last August. However, that didn't dampen his desire to seize the opportunity which Katy Independent School District had offered.

Thum, 30, of Frankfort, West Germany, teaches special education at Katy High School as part of the West Germany/Texas Exchange Teacher program. According to Jim Clark of the Texas Education Agency, the program began after the agency was contacted by several principals of West Berlin schools who were interested in starting an exchange teacher program.

"The program, first offered in the Houston Independent School District, has since grown to include 20 school districts," Clark said. "The idea behind the program is that we can learn from one another, and it's been exceptionally successful in smaller school districts where the teacher becomes part of the community."

After applying for the program, Thum was interviewed in West Germany. Then he was notified that Katy ISD was interested in hiring him, along with Seigred Rochling.

"Seigred and I went to school together in Heidleburg," Thum said. "Before we accepted, we went to West Berlin and talked with American teacher observers Judy Durkin and Lynda Lewis." The pair then accepted Katy ISD's offer. Thum was assigned to Katy High School and Rochling to Pattison Elementary. Before they arrived in Katy, the school district had found two families for them to stay with and later helped them find apartments.

"From the beginning, everyone was friendly and that helped us adjust," said Thum. "But it wasn't easy. We arrived in Houston late at night on Aug. 16 and had to be at teacher in-service the next day."

He said the in-service gave him the opportunity to talk with other teachers and get used to the language. At Katy High School, new teachers are assigned a buddy for one year which made the transition easier.

He was assigned to work as part of a team with two other special education teachers at the high school. "The other teachers helped me a lot; especially with the paper work and Texas expressions," he said.

Thum says he prefers the way special needs children in Texas are mainstreamed into public schools vs. the West German system, where the children are isolated at separate schools.

"I've always been in favor of integration," he said. "I think it's good for special ed students not to be isolated. The contact with other kids makes it easier for them to learn and adjust later in life."

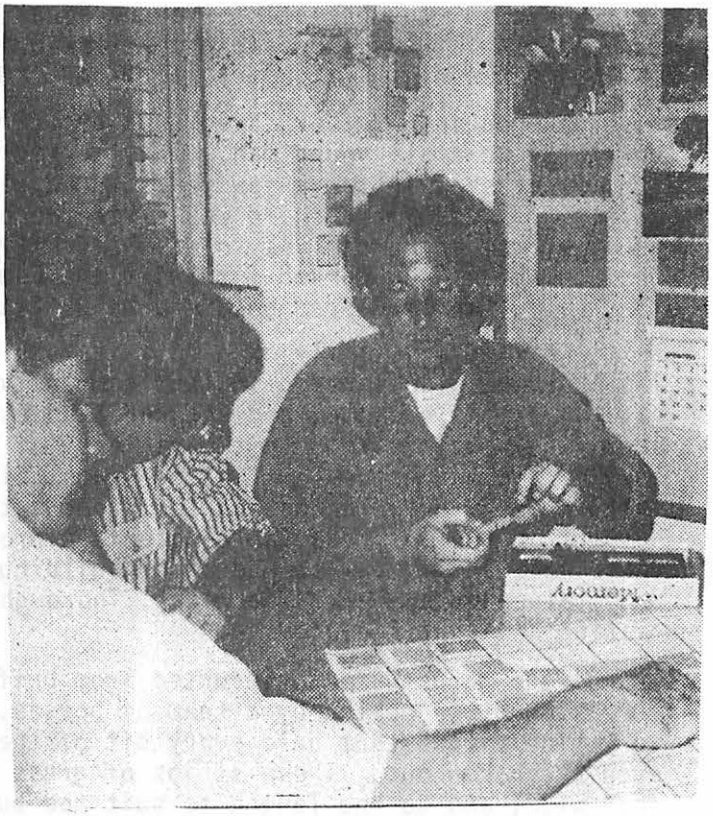
Thum has four students; three 20-year-old boys and a 17-year-old girl. When he talks about them, his blue eyes shine and a smile beams from his face.

"I love my kids and have a good relationship with them, " he said. "My main goal is to make tham as independent as possible, so they can live at home and in the community. In our special ed program, we also try to teach students vocational skills, so they can work at shops later. We teach them simple tasks such as putting plastic knives, forks and spoons into plastic bags."

He said classes include several ongoing projects such as planting and growing a garden at the Outdoor Learning Center. "When I came here, my students didn't know anything about gardening, but now they can make several independent steps such as watering plants, pulling weeds and tying strings around tomato plants. These simple tasks are difficult for them

"We teach them how to prepare snacks and fix small meals. We take them to the grocery store and give them a list of things to buy. They have to find the items and learn to put vegetables into plastic bags. Then, they have to check out. It helps them be more independent. That's our goal. They'll never be independent, but they can learn some things. It just takes them longer." He said the program is called L.I.F.E. (Learning In Functional Environment).

The students also participate in physical education or therapy and play memory games where they set goals. "One goal is to learn how to take turns, or how many cards to turn over. The children really enjoy the games. Other things they've learned is how to change their clothes and wash, dry and fold them," he said.



West German exchange teacher Volker Thum, center, plays a memory game with his students.

(ISB: #9)

Physical therapist Maggis Williams works with the special needs students and said she's noticed a great improvement in Thum's students since he's been at the school. "Volker has done a wonderful job," she said.

Thum said he'll be at Katy High for another year, but hopes his contract is extended for a third year. "That's when my kids graduate, and I'd like to stay with them until they do," he said.

A GERMAN METHODIST PASTOR (ISB: #6)

During his lifetime of 95 years, Reverend Henry Martin Hopkins kept diaries and journals; wrote many letters to friends and relatives. In his later years, at the request of his children, he also wrote a few sketches of his early life. From these materials, his daughter Margaret Edwards, has excerpted some items of general interest.

Unlike most German immigrants to Texas, who embarked at ports along the Gulf Coast, the Hopkins family came to America through Ellis Island, New York. As many other European immigrants did at the time, they 'Anglicized' their surname, changing it from Hopken to Hopkins. The Hopken family originated in the Northwestern part of Germany in the Duchy of Oldenburg, not far from the Dutch border. They were farmers who extracted from 'Mother Earth' the essentials for physical survival. With the promise of larger rewards for their toil, they crossed the Atlantic in the 1880's to make their home in the new world. Dates of their departure from Germany and arrival in New York are unknown.

Reverend Hopkins' father, Fred Hopkins, first came to America with two of his brothers when they were all young men. They worked on the Union Pacific Railraod near Grand Island, Nebraska. After a few years, Fred returned to Germany where he married Margarethe Martens. Their first child was given the name of Johann Heinrich Martin Hopken. When the baby was about one year old, the family emigrated to America. They first lived in Chicago where Fred worked for Swift and Company. Two more children were born to them in that city. In 1888 Fred became a U. S. citizen.

Next, we find the family on a farm in York County, Nebraska, West of Lincoln. Fred's two brothers also settled in that community at first. After two years, Fred decided to have a farm of his own, and secured a homestead from the U. S. Government for a quarter section of prairie land in the vicinity of McCook, Nebraska. Living conditions were very primitive because of limited means, Since the rainfall on the prairies was so slight little timber grew in that part of the State. The settlers lived in sod houses, which they built from the only available materials provided by their environment. Before the railroads were built, lumber and other building materials, as well as coal for fuel, could not be obtained by the early settlers. Thoroughly dried 'cow chips' were generally used for heating and cooking purposes.

Houses and barns were constructed from buffalo grass sod which was cut in strips with a 'breaking plow' pulled by a team of horses. The buffalo grass had short, curly roots of very fine fibers that held every bit of the soil between them, so that the soil could not even be shaken out. These strips of grass were cut into slabs about two inches thick, a foot wide, and to the length to suit the builder. This material made a strong wall about two feet thick, which kept the building warm in winter and cool in summer. The inside walls were smoothed off and plastered over with mortar, then 'whitewashed,' so that there was no sign of dirt or grass. The roof consisted of a ridge pole with rafters, covered with boards and tar paper; and topped off with a layer of sod. The buffalo grass held the dirt so close, and so very little rain fell in Nebraska, that such a roof lasted for many years.

The Hopkins family lived in a new sod house until one year when not enough rain fell to germinate the corn that had been planted. Then Fred Hopkins rented a large two-story house on a deserted farm in an adjoining county in the Republican River Valley near Culbertson, Nebraska. The owner of the farm had moved to town and was glad to find a renter to care for his herd of horses and to plow his fields. Young Henry, who was about ten years old at the time, was given a pony by the owner of the horses. Many years later Henry told his grandchildren stories about that pony.

The long drought continued in Nebraska, so when Fred Hopkins heard of some people who were leaving for Texas in wagons, he decided to join them with his family and possessions.

Through the Methodist minister at Culbertson, Nebraska, Fred Hopkins contacted the Reverend Bruno Boezinger, who served a small German Methodist congregation in Denton County, Texas. The Reverend Boezinger was also a professor at North Texas Normal College, which later became North Texas State University in Denton. He encouraged the Hopkins family to make the trip to Texas. They started their journey in two covered wagons, the father driving the first one, loaded with furniture and bedding, and the mother following in the second wagon with the five children.

Leading the procession were two wagons whose owners intended to settle in Galveston. Those wagons were not loaded like the Hopkins wagons, so the trip was not as hard on their teams. Through Kansas and part of Oklahoma, the dirt roads were in fair condition because some of that region was settled. However, Indian Territory was new to settlers, and here the travellers had to follow such trails as they could fine. Unfortunately, Henry's pony was lost somehow on the journey. Later he commented in a sketch, "The pony probably wandered away from one of the campsites because it did not want to come to Texas." That pony was his pet, and he missed it very much.

The most difficult parts of the trip were the trails through the Arbuckle Mountains and the rivers that had to be forded. There were as yet no bridges in Oklahoma except for the railroad bridges. Some of the streams were just wide stretches of sand with only a narrow flow of water at some places. But others, like the Red River, were so wide and swift that the horses had to swim part of the way across. Before crossing the Red River into Texas, Fred Hopkins abandoned one team and one wagon because the horses were almost worn out. Since it was not too far to Denton, he hoped he could return to get the team and wagon later, but there was so much work to be done, that he never found the time to go back for them.

Finally the family arrived in the area designated by the Reverend Boezinger, where they joined the German community called, 'Blue Mound,' north of Denton. Since there were no houses available, the Hopkins family moved into the one-room schoolhouse which was not being used during summer vacation. The school was situated on a dirt road that later became I-35. In a sketch which Henry wrote during his retirement, he commented, "I liked this home so much (the schoolhouse) that I kept going back to it every week for years." He continued, "While we lived in the school, father built a 'box house' on land two miles north of our temporary home. A banker in Denton sold him 200 acres of land and lumber for the simple structure, which was constructed of 12-inch boards set upright on a sill. Cracks between the boards were covered with 3-inch strips to keep out the rain and wind. Such a building was quickly erected, and served very well as temporary housing. I lived in that house until I was 23 years old, when I went away to college."

The Hopkins family attended the Blue Mound Methodist Church regularly where Fred had been on the building committee. When Henry decided to become a Methodist pastor, he worked diligently during his youth to earn money for his education. The early diaries of Henry Hopkins indicated that most of his youth was spent working with his brothers on their father's farm and adjoining farms sowing, cultivating and harvesting wheat, oats, corn and cotton. In 1904, Henry noted that he was picking an average of 700 pounds of cotton per day. He also worked on the construction of houses and fences. In August 1907 he contracted to paint the 'new schoolhouse' at Blue Mound. At one time he worked for a firm in Dallas where engines were repaired, sold and delivered or shipped. The diaries often mentioned his times of great weariness from long hours of work.

Henry and his brothers made several trips by train to Kansas and Nebraska to work in the fields of relatives, harvesting not only grains, but potato and corn crops as well. Here they stayed in a sod house on one of the farms, which reminded him of the one that his family occupied when he was a boy in Nebraska. On one of these train trips, he recalled that he and his brother Will rode freight trains for lack of money to buy the tickets. They slept in a field near the track one night while they waited for the train to slow down for the station in the nearby town.

However, most entries in the diaries during this time concerned the work that was done during harvest time in their home community. The father, Fred Hopkins, not only bought two more farms in addition to the original 200 acres, but also invested in harvesting equipment, including a threshing machine, binders, cook wagon, etc. which his four sons and hired hands operated during the times of grain harvest. Being the eldest, Henry had the responsibility of seeing that the equipment worked properly and that the workers were present. He awakened some of them at night to assure that they began their 'shift' on the job. They all worked long hours to harvest the grain of farmers in the whole community during the time that the grain was ripe, and before heavy rains might damage the crops. Even after he became a student at college, he continued to work in the fields during his summer vacation.

In one diary, written the year before he graduated from Blinn College, he described his activities on the last day in Brenham and his return to Blue Mound. "June 5th....I

walked in the Brenham Cemetery with friends in the afternoon; went to graduation that night; caught 12:22 a.m. train for home. When I got home, I had not slept all night, but went to work in the harvest. Worked without much rest from Wednesday through Saturday. From June 5th. through July 31st., we operated the threshing machine with five teams of workers. Sometimes we got up at 2 a.m. to start the day. Other times we worked until after midnight, depending on when we began or finished a job on a certain farm. When the threshing machine was pulled into the shed on July 31st., we had harvested 5200 bushels in 36 days. Pay for my time was $152." More than once he wrote in his diary that he was exhausted, but he missed church services only once during those weeks. No one worked on Sunday.

Henry Hopkins had enrolled in September 1908 at Blinn Memorial College in Brenham, where theology students were trained to become bilingual pastors in the Southern German Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This unique ministry to congregations of German settlers in Texas and Louisiana, provided services in both English and German languages, thus aiding immigrants in their transition from Europe to their new cultural enrivonment in Texas.[1]

While he was a student at Blinn College, Hopkins worked for several Brenham families in order to supplement what he had earned during the summers at his home in Blue Mound. He sawed and chopped wood, built fences, did yard work for the Buehrers, Hoddes, Doers, Beckers, Winkelmans, and others. During his last year at Blinn, he worked at night at the Brenham Creamery.[2]

In his diaries, he recalled many train trips. When he attended college, he had to commute by train, and usually had to walk from the train stop to his destination. On several occasions he had to walk from Sanger, Krum and once even from Denton to his home in Blue Mound. He noted in his diary each time how very tired he was. While he was a student at Blinn, he sometimes walked from Brenham to the Phillipsburg Community, or back again, about seven miles, to hold a church service. If a train was going in that direction at the time that he needed to go, and he could afford the train fare, he rode the train; otherwise he walked. Perhaps his many experiences of having to walk for long distances, caused him to become so fascinated by the development of transportation during his lifetime. Born during the 'horse and buggy' era, he lived to experience air travel. He was excited about the first events of the space program, especially the first 'moon walk.'

Henry's father, Fred Hopkins, owned one of the first cars in the Blue Mound Community. A former neighbor, a child at the time, recalled that she was fascinated as she watched him 'crank' the vehicle to start the motor, and then run back to the driver's seat as the car moved slowly forward. Some early drivers doubtless suffered accidents. Tires on the first automobiles were unreliable. Henry's diaries mentioned several times that he or others had to stop along the road to repair the 'inner tube' and 'pump up' the tire before they could continue the journey.

In his diaries, H. M. Hopkins often described news events, such as the San Francisco earthquake, sinking of the Titanic, eclipses of the moon, epidemics, weather conditions, and other circumstances. On January 18, 1908, he paid his first 'poll tax,' a levy that is no longer required of taxpayers. He noted that farmers planted potatoes on George Washington's birthday in February. A significant event in Henry's life, was the Bible Conference of the Southern German Conference ("Bibel-Konferenze der Sudlich-Deutschen Konferenz") held in Seguin, Texas, May 1911, while he was still a student at Blinn College. The speaker for the occasion was Bishop J. L. Nuelsen from Zurich, Switzerland.[3] Hopkins was already of member of the Southern German Conference at the time.

Descriptions of the annual Brenham Maifest and Blinn College athletic competitions were also noted in his diaries. Perhaps Hopkins wrote most often about the activities of the Literary Societies at the college. He was a member of the Schiller Literary Society for at least two years; served as president during his senior year. His friend and future wife, Madge Golbow, belonged to the Philo-Aletheans. Members of these organizations presented annual programs for the general public. The programs, which included music and 'declarations' or debates, provided friendly competition in a social atmosphere. Each group was sponsored by a faculty member.[4]

During the first 25 years of his ministry, Reverend H. M. Hopkins served congregations in the Southern German Conference. His first appointment after graduation from Blinn College in 1913, was to a church at 1606 Washington Street in Dallas. He also served

a mission at 2727 Grand Avenue. He spent many hours during that year, walking the streets of Dallas, trying to build up those two congregations. He also visited in a few rural German settlements near Dallas to encourage the formation of new congregations.

Unfortunately, Henry's friend Madge Golbow was unable to finish college because her father died unexpectedly of tetanus in March 1913. But she and Henry became engaged and were married at her home in Addicks, Texas, December 3, 1914. Henry's father gave the young couple a buggy as a wedding gift. Madge had a horse of her own, which she had inherited from her father. Their first home was a small parsonage in Sealy, Texas, where their only furniture at first consisted of a bed and four chairs. Henry sold Bibles in the area to supplement his small salary. With a garden, food from members of the congregation and Madge's mother's farm, they managed to survive that first year of marriage. When they made an occasional trip in the buggy to visit her mother, they often had to ride through muddy areas where Henry walked so that the buggy would be lighter and not get stuck in the mire. Once they lost their way in the woods at night.

Besides the German-speaking congregation in Sealy, Henry also served the nearby Pattison Methodist Church, part of the circuit.[5] Sometimes the young couple spent the night in Pattison with the Ed Neuman or Ehlert families after Sunday evening services. Henry's sister, Louise Hopkins, married Will Ehlert and is buried in the Pattison Cemetery.

From Sealy, Texas Henry and Madge Hopkins moved by train to New Orleans where they lived at 830 Eighth Street, just a block from the Mississippi River levee. Two daughters, Margaret and Esther, were born in the parsonage next to the church there. While they lived in that city, Henry's ministry to groups in the community was described in a sketch which he entitled, 'No Pulpit.' He held services at the city Charity Hospital, and went also to the "U. S. Leprosarium located about 50 miles upriver at Carville, Louisiana, where all cases of leprosy in the U. S. were sent for treatment at that time. Ministers were not allowed to mingle with that congregation." Their stay in New Orleans occurred during World War I, when submarines were patrolling the shipping routes between Europe and the U. S. At one time, three German merchant marine vessels were interned in the New Orleans harbor. Knowing that Hopkins spoke German, the Ministerial Association chose him to preach to the seamen detained there. The seamen were so grateful to hear a sermon in their native language, but after the service he was not allowed to speak to them. He was promptly escorted to the Officer's Quarters for 'kaffe und kuchen.' He wished that he might have had the opportunity to visit with the seamen.

The Southern German Methodist Conference next appointed Henry and Madge to the Fourth Street Methodist Church in Brenham, where some of their former Blinn professors were members of the congregation. During the four years that the family lived there, a new parsonage was built on Jackson Street, and the church celebrated its Golden Anniversary in 1924. Years later, that congregation merged with the Giddings Methodist Church, South to form the First United Methodist Church of Brenham. The former German church with its lovely stained-glass windows at College and Jackson Streets is now occupied by a Presbyterian congregation. The parsonage on Jackson Street that was built while the family lived next to the church, has recently been sold to a congregation in a nearby community and moved. A parking lot for the Presbyterian Church now occupies that space.

The next move for the family to the Rosenburg/Richmond/Orchard Circuit, was difficult. The little daughter Dorothy had died at age 18 months in Brenham just before they moved. The house in Rosenburg was small, and Henry picked cotton that year to supplement his earnings. Madge's mother supplied food from the farm. The following year they were sent to the Norhill Methodist Church in Houston. They then returned to Brenham for three years when Henry was appointed as Presiding Elder (now called District Superintendent) of the Brenham District. During this time, the family lived in the District parsonage located behind the church, next to the Niebuhr family and across the street from the Warnaches. After the years on the Brenham District, the family was moved back to the Norhill Church in Houston. So, they lived twice in Brenham and twice in Houston. Their sons Paul and David were born in Houston; daughters Dorothy and Kathryn were born in Brenham.

The Norhill Methodist Church and parsonage were located on East Eleventh in Houston, across the street from Hogg Junior High School. While Hopkins was pastor there, a new addition was added to the Spanish-style stucco church. At the time, the Norhill subdivision was new and growing. However, that area of Houston has changed since then.

The school is still there, but the church property is gone. When 'Unification' occurred in the (national) Methodist Churches, the Norhill congregation merged with the Woodland Methodist Church, South. The combined group built the beautiful St. Pauls United Methodist Church on Pecore Avenue in the Heights not far from I-45 North.

When he transferred to the Central Texas Conference, Hopkins served in Waco (Colcord Avenue Church for eight years), Itasca (during WWII, 1940-45), and in Fort Worth (at Oakhurst for four years and Highland Park, six years). At the end of his ministry at the Highland Park Methodist Church, the congregation built a new church on Seminary Drive in Fort Worth. "The combination Sanctuary-Fellowship Hall, later to become the sanctuary, was named, 'Hopkins Hall.' After his retirement in 1957, the congregation continued to remember him by inviting him back to preach his 'birthday' sermon (in April) and to have a special 'Hopkins Day at Carter Park.' The last of these was held shortly before his death."[6] He died May 27, 1980 at the age of 95 years.

For awhile after he retired from the pastorate, he drove from Fort Worth to Waco each Sunday morning to hold chapel services at the Methodist children's home there. He loved young people; had served more than 25 years in youth camps. While still in the Southern German Conference, he was registrar and teacher for 'Epworth League Institute' groups which met at Blinn College in Brenham. During his 44 years in active ministry, eight young people decided to become ministers or missionaries. His son Paul was a supply pastor in the Central Texas Conference, and two grandsons, David and Tim Edwards, are Methodist ministers in the Pacific Northwest and Texas Conferences, respectively.

After his retirement in 1957, he and Madge finally moved into a home of their own, purchased with her inheritance. Their house on Goldenrod in the Oakhurst subdivision in Fort Worth, was near the church that they had served earlier. Friends lived nearby. In their own home at last, Madge enjoyed gorwing flowers and Henry had his usual large 'organic' garden. The day before he died, he fell in his garden while picking beans. His daughters harvested and processed the vegetables from his last garden after the funeral. Madge died in 1977; he, three years later. Both are buried in a cemetery near their last home on Goldenrod Avenue.

Physically active and mentally alert, he advocated and practiced regular exercise to maintain physical health, and mental stimulation to prevent deterioration of the mind. He did not neglect his spiritual health either. He had a remarkable memory for names, scripture passages, etc. He often quoted his favorite 103rd. Psalm from memory as a table grace at family gatherings. On Christmas eve, the family always sang carols and he read the nativity story from the Gospel of Luke. Then gifts were exchanged. A tall man, erect even in his 90's, he had a resonant bass voice. He will be remembered for his dignity, wisdom, patience, good humor and inner strength.

REFERENCES

Former History Professor Charles F. Schmidt, who later became President of Blinn, wrote two histories of the college. In the History of Blinn Memorial College, 1883-1934, and History of Blinn College 1883-1958, he described the formation and growth of the Southern German Conference, and the development of the college.

When officially organized in 1874 at Industry, Texas, with Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding, the Southern German Conference had only 438 members, with 16 pastors and seven local preachers. Membership grew rapidly, however, so the conference leaders saw the need for an "institution of higher learning" to educate young ministers to work among German immigrants. First called 'Mission Institute,' the school was established in 1876 with just eight young men enrolled. Dr. E. F. Stroeter, pastor of the Methodist Church in Brenham, was the only faculty member. In the 1880's, pastors Dietz, Dosdall, Schuler, and Pfaeffle, who transferred from northern conferences "took an active part in the development of the education program of the Southern German Conference."

From 1883-89, the Reverend Carl Urbantke, then pastor of the Fourth Street Methodist Church, taught students at the church and boarded them in his home. The financial officer of the school, Reverend Wm. Phaeffle, collected what funds he could from the congregations of the Southern German Conference. A white frame house was built where students attended classes in the largest room and lived in the four smaller rooms. As college enrollment grew, the Southern German Conference had a financial struggle in supplying the needs of the school until the Reverend Christian Blinn, a friend of the Reverend Phaeffle, from New York came for a visit. Seeing the great need and potential of the college, the Blinns contributed a large sum of money for buildings. He solicited more funds from Brenham residents, and personally supervised construction of a two-story frame building for classrooms. That structure eventually became a men's dormitory when a large brick building was constructed for offices and classrooms. In 1889, the school became Blinn Memorial College in honor of its benefactors.

As student enrollment increased, a larger faculty was employed. During the presidency of Dr. John Pluenneke, 1901-09, the college reached its highest enrollment. The faculty consisted of nine educated professors. "Dr. Pluenneke was a man of exceptional intellectual powers, a thorough scholar, an independent thinker, and a gifted orator." As President of Blinn, he obtained a donation from Andrew Carnegie to enlarge the facilities on campus. The frame buildings were moved and renovated. A new administration building was constructed in 1906. New equipment was installed. A girls' dormitory, of the same architecture as the main building, was added in 1913.

In 1909, Dr. Pluenneke "at his request was released of administrative duties and was given the instructorship of theology and history, in which he served until 1915." It was during this period of the school's history that the Reverend Henry M. Hopkins received his college education and theological training.

During the next two decades, Blinn Memorial College experienced great financial stress. Contributions to the endowment fund diminished and indebtedness grew. Student enrollment decreased during WWI and continued to do so as State schools and colleges developed. A merger with Southwestern University in 1930 did not solve the financial dilemna, so a decision was made to issue bonds to stabilize the financial situation, and the status of the school was changed to a Junior College. In 1937, the school became the first County owned college (Washington County), "chartered as a private, non-sectarian institution, with a board of regents and named Blinn College."

A popular student activity during the early years of Blinn College was participation in one of the Literary Societies. These groups stressed cultural interests, but included social gatherings as well. The Demosthenes Society organized in 1887, later became the Schiller Literary Society in 1893. Both English and German languages were spoken in the latter organization. Membership was limited to male students; the works of German poet Schiller were emphasized. The Philo-Alethean Society for young women, was formed in 1902. Literal translation of the name was 'female students of the Truth, or lovers of the Truth.' The Olympian Society, organized later, used the English language in its meetings and programs. Interest in these groups was strong for about 40 years, but eventually students became involved in other school activities.

In Methodist Conferences, congregations that are unable to support a fulltime pastor share a minister with one or more nearby churches. The history of the Rose Hill Methodist Church in Tomball, Texas, includes some records of the early Pattison congregation when it was a part of that circuit, before it became a part of the Sealy Circuit. At one time the Phillipsburg German Methodist Church building was moved to Pattison, according to Reverend Bruno Schmidt, son of the former President of Blinn College, and an authority on the early Southern German Conference. If the church building had been moved from Phillipsburg to Pattison before Rev. Hopkins served the Sealy-Pattison Circuit is not known. The present attractive Pattison United Methodist Church was a member of the M. E. Church, South.

The History of the Highland Park Methodist Church and Carter Park United Methodist Church was published by the church Historical Committee, Mr. Ted Loggins, Chairman. The history includes biographies of all pastors who served the congregation at its two locations in Ft. Worth. Reference has been made to the biography of Reverend Henry M. Hopkins.

"Staatsverband" honors two members

At its 92nd annual convention, June 20-July 1, at Nada, Texas, the Catholic State League of Texas honored the man and woman with the longest term membership. Honored were Alvin Stehling, age 90, of St. Joseph's Society, Fredericksburg, for 71 years of membership; and Elizabeth Wobbe, age 95, of St. Elizabeath Christian Mothers' Society, Nada, for 76 years of membership.

The Catholic State League of Texas was founded in 1898 as the Deutsch Romisch Katholischen Staatsverband für Texas ("Staatsverband"), a federation of local German Catholic benevolent societies, and affiliated with the national Deutsche Römisch-Katholische Central-Verein von Nord-Amerika ("Central Verein"). The Texas Staatsverband's official organ was "Die Katholische Rundschau," a German-language Catholic weekly newspaper, published in San Antonio from 2 December 1897 through 14 August 1918. In 1901, the Staatsverband established an insurance branch, today's Catholic Life Insurance Union, a national leader among fraternal benefit societies, with insurance-in-force of $866 million, assets of $88 million, and 50,000 members. (ISB: #8)

Germans to the fore

From: Texas Catholic, Dallas, March 23, 1990.
Reprinted with permission.

German-Texans assuming leadership positions in the Texas church

By JOE MICHAEL FEIST
Editor

DALLAS — As East and West Germany move ever closer to unification and possible dominance of Europe, the Texas Catholic Church is experiencing its own form of German ascendancy.

Fully a third of the state's 18 active bishops are of German heritage, and most of them were raised in small-town Texas environments.

Moreover, a host of other leading Texas church figures — priests, Religious, and lay professionals — trace their family's roots to Germany.

German-Texans among the hierarchy include:

— Bishop Thomas Tschoepe of Dallas, born and raised on a farm in Pilot Point. The bishop's paternal ancestors came from Habelschwert in Silesia, now a part of Poland.

— Coadjutor Bishop Charles V. Grahmann of Dallas, born in Hallettsville, whose grandparents came from Ankum in the Westphalia region of Germany.

— Bishop Leroy T. Matthiesen of Amarillo, born in Olfen, a German farm community about 35 miles east of San Angelo. The bishop's ancestral home is also in Westphalia, in the town of Münster.

— Bishop Charles Herzig of Tyler, born and raised in San Antonio. His paternal grandfather, John Herzig, was a Swiss-German born in the village of Wynauo, near Bern, Switzerland. His mother, Theresa Schneider, was from a prominent German Catholic family in San Antonio.

— Bishop Michael Pfeifer of San Angelo. Born and raised in Alamo in the Rio Grande Valley, Bishop Pfeifer's great grandfather was born near Munich in Bavaria.

— Auxiliary Bishop Bernard Popp of San Antonio, born in the Central Texas German-Czech town of Nada. Bishop Popp's grandfather, Ferdinand Popp, came from a German-speaking family and was born in Heinzendorf, now called Hyncice, in Moravia.

Other German-Texans in church leadership positions abound. They include at least three vicars general of Texas dioceses: Msgr. Robert Rehkemper, Dallas; Msgr. Lawrence Stuebben, San Antonio; and Msgr. Joseph Schumacher, Fort Worth. Diocesan chancellors of German heritage include Msgr. Lawrence Droll, San Angelo, and Msgr. Daniel Scheel, Galveston-Houston.

Other notables include Benedictine Abbot Alfred Hoenig, a native of Muenster, Texas, and former abbot of Corpus Christi Abbey in Sandia, Texas, and Divine Providence Sister Elizabeth Anne Sueltenfuss, the first woman president of Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio.

Among German-Texan lay leaders, Ray Neumann of San Antonio is state deputy of the Knights of Columbus.

With over 12,000 members, the Hoelscher-Buxkemper family, predominantly German Catholic, is the largest family in Texas. Spread throughout the state, the family contributes to every level of the church.

Historians and others familiar with the Texas Catholic Church cite a number of reasons for the current rise of German leaders, not the least of which was 19th-century immigration.

"There was a very heavy migration of Germans to Texas beginning in the 1830s and continuing on through the end of the century," said Dr. Patrick Foley, a professor at Tarrant County Junior College in Fort Worth and editor of the Journal of Texas Catholic History and Culture.

Bishop Tschoepe, Dallas

Bishop Grahmann, Dallas

Bishop Matthiesen, Amarillo

Bishop Herzig, Tyler

These immigrants, he said, settled in rural areas and small towns in Central and West Texas "and were very serious Catholics. Sometimes people forget that. These people were very down-to-earth and very serious about their religion, usually."

Another Texas church historian, who asked not to be identified, said that "those Germans who came to Texas in the 19th century were fleeing various forms of oppression — political and economic oppression — that was clamped down on them following the failed 1848 revolution. A large number of these tended to be very educated people. It might be that you had an emphasis in those groups on education."

That fact, he said, might account for the numbers of religious vocations from German communities.

The historian added that young German-Texans might have been attracted to the priesthood because of the nature of the church itself.

"Germans have at least got the reputation for organizational abilities, sort of a propensity for order and efficiency," the historian said. "And certainly a hierarchical structure such as the church lends itself to order."

San Angelo's Bishop Pfeifer echoed some of the historians' views.

Bishop Pfeifer, San Angelo

Bishop Popp, San Antonio

Msgr. Rehkemper, Dallas

Msgr. Stuebben, San Antonio

German immigrants to Texas in the 19th century, he said, "were forced to immigrate for economic and political reasons. They had to work very hard to stay with their faith and pass on their heritage."

Germans in small Texas towns formed close-knit communities and were protective of their history and culture, said Bishop Pfeifer. This had the effect of "enhancing and enriching family values," he added, "and that translates into vocations."

Father James Vanderholt, editor of Beaumont's *East Texas Catholic* and an amateur church historian, offered one additional explanation for the large number of vocations from German and other ethnic communities.

In the 19th century and the first half of this century, he said, pastors tended to remain in parishes for long periods. "It didn't matter so much if they were liberal or conservative. Just being there for a long time fostered vocations," he said.

However prevalent today, Texas-born priests of German descent began entering the hierarchy in the 1940s. Bishop Sidney Metzger, born in 1902 in Fredericksburg, in 1940 became the first Texan of German heritage to be ordained a bishop for service in Texas. He served as bishop of El Paso until his retirement in 1978. He died in 1986.

Two other German-Texans, both priests of the Diocese of Dallas, were made bishops in the 1940s. Bishop Augustine Danglmayer, now living in retirement in his hometown of Muenster, was ordained auxiliary bishop of Dallas in 1942. Bishop Wendelin Nold, a native of Bonham, was named fifth bishop of Galveston-Houston in 1948.

Others of German heritage who served as bishops in Texas, none of whom were born in the state, include Bishops Paul Nussbaum (Corpus Christi, 1913-1920), Rudoph Gerken (Amarillo, 1927-1933), Anthony J. Schuler (El Paso, 1915-1942), and Louis Reicher (Austin, 1948-1971).

Bishop Adolph Marx, first bishop of Brownsville, was born in Germany. He died while visiting relatives in Cologne, Germany, Nov. 1, 1965, less than two months after his installation in Brownsville.

The modern era of Texas-born German leadership in the Texas church began in 1966 when then-Msgr. Thomas Tschoepe of Dallas was ordained the second bishop of San Angelo.

(ISB: #8)

In addition to the German-Texan bishops named in the article, three others should be included, including Bishop Bernard J. Ganter, Galveston-born of a German-Texan family, and bishop of the Diocese of Beaumont. Bishop Hugo Gerbermann, retired auxiliary bishop of San Antonio, is another native of Nada, Texas. With the May 1990 installation of the Most Rev. David Fellhauer (of German descent, but not Texas-born) as bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, the of bishops of German descent in the fourteen dioceses of Texas numbered nine: In Dallas, Bishop Charles Grahmann and now retired Bishop Thomas Tschoepe; in Amarillo, Bishop Leroy Matthiesen; in Tyler, Bishop Charles Herzig; in San Angelo, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI; in Beaumont, Bishop Bernard Ganter; and in San Antonio Auxiliary Bishop Bernard Popp and retired Auxiliary Bishop Hugo Gerbermann, MM. Several of them are GTHS members.

Sausage man continues German family tradition

(ISB: #8)

By NIKI FRANCES McDANIEL
Express-News Staff Writer

EXPRESS-NEWS,
San Antonio, Texas,
October 10, 1990

NEW BRAUNFELS — You might call him Mr. Sausage. For that matter, you might call him Mr. Ham, Mr. Smoked Turkey, Mr. Bacon or any number of savory prepared meats.

In real life, he's William Henry "Rocky" Tays, smokemaster and assistant general manager of New Braunfels Smokehouse here. Tays is the man who's responsible for the quality and flavor of the various ham, turkey, brisket, jerky, dried beef, pork, chicken, ribs and, of course, sausage sold in the New Braunfels Smokehouse restaurant and delicatessens both here and in San Antonio.

In addition, he oversees the buying, butchering, trimming, boning, curing, smoking, drying and packaging of all the meats sold through the company's burgeoning mail-order enterprise, which in 30 years has grown to represent half of New Braunfels Smokehouse's business.

Tays comes by his affinity to good meats naturally. He has a photograph taken in about 1918 showing his great-grandparents, his grandfather and his mother's uncle grouped around a slaughtered hog, which they are scalding with boiling water to remove the hair in preparation for butchering and making into sausage.

Tays' great-grandfather, William Henry Tays, was one of the original settlers of New Braunfels and came from Germany in 1845 with the town's founder, Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels. Tays comes from a family of German Texans who always made sausage.

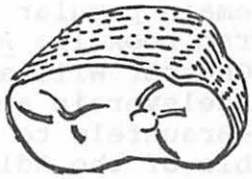
"Sausage making in the early days was a means of survival," he said. "No one would think of taking the family cow or hog to a butcher — you'd do it yourself. And it was always a family-oriented thing."

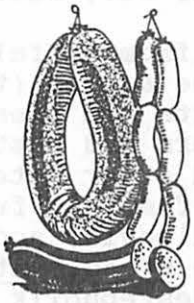
Back then, sausage making was a strenuous undertaking involving the whole family. The men did the hard labor — butchering the hog — while the women and children mixed ingredients and handled other chores. The meat was cut, ground and seasoned, then stuffed into casings made from animal intestines. The sausage was tied, then hung in the smokehouse for three days for fresh sausage, two or three weeks for dried sausage. No part of the pig went to waste, or as Tays said, everything was used "except the squeal."

Today, Tays still gets together with his extended family every year to butcher a couple of hogs and some deer and turkey to make homemade sausage. "There's lots of camaraderie. We all get along quite well," he said. Even the kids help. His son, 9-year-old Dustin, and daughter, 4-year-old Lisa, are beginning to learn the family sausage-making tradition.

And the family fills up their freezers, too, ending up with 600 or 700 pounds of sausage before they're through.

The secret to good sausage? In the New Braunfels Smokehouse plant — where 13 kinds of sausage are made — or in making sausage at home, the answer is always the same. "This is going to sound sort of corny, but if it's good going in, it's good coming out," Tays said.





As smokemaster, he purchases cuts of meat that are "excellent" to start with — "I have the luxury of not having to use odds and ends," he said. "We have very lean sausage," he added, using beef that is 90 percent lean and pork that is at least 80 percent lean. New Braunfels Smokehouse sausage uses no additives and the spices and seasonings are mixed at the plant.

In terms of the end product, there's not much difference in the sausage he makes at home versus that made at the plant, Tays said. Homemade sausage takes a lot longer, however — what would take three weeks to make at home takes three days at the plant.

Tays, who is 41, has worked at New Braunfels Smokehouse for more than half his life. He started at the New Braunfels restaurant as a dishwasher at age 14.

After Tays' first year, he was asked if he had a friend who could come to work, too. He did. His best friend, Mike Dietert, came to work with him and the two have worked together ever since. Dietert is now general manager of the plant. And today they are more than friends, Tays said, serving as best men at each other's weddings and godparents to each other's kids. Both he and Dietert took enough time out from working to earn degrees together in industrial arts at Southwest Texas State University.

Tays has worked in every department at the plant and even did stints as manager of the restaurant and of the New Braunfels deli. He worked under three prior smokemasters at the plant to learn the art and craft of preparing meats. "Eventually, I moved up," he said. "Things just kind of took off rolling."

The plant on Walnut Avenue where New Braunfels Smokehouse meats are prepared and packaged has something of a checkered past itself. Originally a brewery, during Prohibition it was bought by City Public Service in San Antonio to be used as a freezer for ice.

The R.K. Dunbar family bought the place in the 1940s — and still owns the business — and began doing custom sausage-making and butchering as something of a sideline.

In the 1950s, the family opened what they called a "tasting kitchen," where prepared meats were sold, out on old Highway 81. Then in the 1960s, the company got into the mail-order meat business, which was something of a rarity at that time. The plant has been USDA-approved since 1968, meaning it has to be monitored daily to ensure it meets federal standards.

Part of the plant — now entirely modernized with stainless steel everything and huge computerized smokers and dryers — once was used for meat lockers that were rented to individuals; the company still makes and sells ice as a sideline.

Tays beams with pleasure at his work and his working environment during a tour of the plant. He shows off the curing room and sausage kitchen where 500 turkeys, 400 hams and two tons of bacon might be prepared on any given day.

He points like a proud papa to the fully air-conditioned smokehouse — loaded at the moment with 1,200 pounds of jerky with smoke produced from hickory sawdust that comes from a hoe-handle factory in Arkansas — as well as to a small electric frypan used periodically to cook up sausage patties and be sure they taste right.

It's quite a difference from the old days, when a knife, small meat grinder and sausage stuffer were the essential items. But in both cases, the end result is the same — savory sausage made the homestyle way.

GENEALOGY

GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

Genealogy Program at our GTHS meeting in Brenham in September was well recieved by all who attended. Robert Robinson-Zwahr and your Genealogy Editor thank all for their kind remarks. As suggested, we are sharing in this issue information on ordering the books by the Geues, new items available through Genealogy Unlimited, Inc., and the guide to old German handwriting and printing. Let us have your suggestions--what topics would you like covered at our 1991 meeting in Corpus Christi? Maybe more on research in Texas, the treasures to be found in county courthouses? Or, a whole session devoted to maps and gazetteers? Or, more just on writing letters to Germany? Make your suggestions known by writing to your Genealogy Editor.

The Geues' Books are both available at discounted prices from Clearfield Remainders in Baltimore MD. Both of these books list thousands of families immigrating from Germany to Texas, in two different time periods. Many of the entries include the name of the ship, date of arrival, and town of origin. The Geues used not only ships' lists but also Census schedules and other information to compile the comprehensive list. This makes it difficult, if not impossible, for today's researchers to trace the entries back to the original, or primary, source of the information for complete documentation. (See, for example, the article, "Some Comments on the Galveston Passenger Lists, 1846-1871," by Harold Mueller, in our GTHS Journal, Vol. XI, No. 3, Fall, 1989, pageas 214-217.) Nevertheless, the two "Geue books" remain popular with all researchers of German-Texan family history. The first book is: A New Land Beckoned: German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847, by Chester William Geue and Ethel Hander Geue. This book includes a history of the Adelsverein and translations of eleven reports made by Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels to the Adelsverein directors. Although better histories are available of the Adlelsverein, the Solms reports are difficult to find in English. The other book is: New Homes In a New Land: German Immigration to Texas, 1847-1861, by Ethel Hander Geue. The first of the two to be published, this volume contains a shorter narrative history of German settlements in Texas from 1836 to 1861. These volumes are now available at $14.00 each, plus $2.50 postage for one item and $1.00 for each additional item. State taxes apply only to residents of Maryland and Michigan. Order from: Clearfield Company, Inc., 200 E. Eager St., Baltimore MD 21202.

Genealogy Unlimited, Inc., has moved from Buffalo Gap IL to Orem UT and has an exciting new catalog available for the asking (that's free). Although their catalog includes binders, forms, charts and preservation supplies, the strength lies in the books and maps (both modern and historical) you can order. They have a strong offering of atlases and other materials published in Germany, plus items of interest for researchers of families from other lands such as Czechoslovakia, Poland, Russia, Scandinavia, and the British Isles. For example, we have ofen recommended the RV Auto Atlas. It is very detailed, on a 1:2000,000 scale, but is for the Bundesrepublik Deutschland only. Now with the unification, a new atlas is available; the Euro-Reiseatlas Deutschland covers the unified Germany, on a 1:300,000 scale. Genealogy Unlimited also carries an atlas of the German Empire of 1892 and gazetteers of the 1871 Empire. They still have the German zip code directory and map (now $4.00 each) and will have the new edition of the Taschenbuch für Familiengeschichtforschung in late 1990. Also available is an updated version of Schlyter's Handbook of Czechoslovak Genealogical Research that incorporates the changes in procedures we called to your attention (in our GTHS Journal, Vol. XII, No. 1, Spring 1990, page 59. See also Vol. X, No. 1, Spring 1988, page 81). Plus so many other goodies, it'll make your mouth water, we promise. Send for their free catalog: Genealogy

GENEALOGY: Bits & Pieces & News (continued)

Unlimited, Inc., P O Box 537, Dept. GT, Orem UT 84059-0537, or call 1-800-666-4363.

GTHS on COMPUSERVE Members with computers and modems who access the electronic bulletin boards will like to know that our GTHS is mentioned on the genealogy forum, ROOTS. It is accessed through the command GO ROOTS. This information was shared with us by new GTHS member James T. Lentz. P O Box 446, Waterproof LA 71375. He learned of the GTHS via computer! Through this network, genealogists contact each other and often assist with advice and explanations--or even do records research for each other! If you don't have a computer and modem and don't deal with electronic bulletin boards, this item won't mean much to you, so just skip to the next one.

Southern German Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church published a journal, and GTHS member Jean M. Meier has several issues which she received from her grandfather, the Rev. William Makowski. Jean says the most significant issue was published in 1922, the 50th anniversary of the Conference. It contains a brief history of each church, some with photographs, a brief biography of the (then) current pastor, and a listing of all previous pastors. Although the Journal is in German, Jean feels she can make her way through it with the aid of her grandfather's thick dictionary. If any of this information could be useful to your family history, contact Jean M. Meier, 253 Westover Dr., Granbury TX 76048, and she will share the information with you. Please remember to send a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) for her reply.

German Surname Study is being conducted by Prof. Juergen Eichoff. He is collecting samples of German surnames and the changes in spelling and prounciation they have undergone in the United States. If you have examples from your German surnames that might further this project, submit them to: Prof. Juergen Eichoff, 3950 Plymouth Circle, Madison WI 53705. (This item from Immigrant Genealogical Society's Newsletter, October 1990)

East German Telephone Books have been acquired by the Immigrant Genealogical Society. As the complete set consists of 15 telephone books, and the IGS's set of telephone books for West Germany total between 80 and 90, you can see how restricted the Germans in the Democratic Republic have been in obtaining telephones. Also consider, the DDR had only about one-fourth the population of the BRD. For a $5.00 fee, their volunteers will copy the page of your requested surname from a specific town, supply the proper zip code, and furnish a German/English letter. Contact the IGS at P O Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369 for further information. (This item from IGS Newsletter, October 1990)

Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy, Volume I, Sources in the United States and Canada, will be available on or about 1 Dec 1990. The price is $30.00 (plus $2.00 postage for the first copy and $.75 for additional copies). Order from Jason Aronson, Inc., Fulfillment Department, 1205 O'Neill Highway, Dunmore PA 18512. For credit card orders, call 1-800-782-0015. The entire series is scheduled to be completed in five volumes.

Ancestry Newsletter has several recent articles of interest. Among the articles in the July-August 1990 issue were "Unusual References to Confederate Military Service" and "A Look at the Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research, Houston." In the May-June 1990 issue, we recommend "Warts and All: Dealing with Sensitive Issues in Family History." (Do you know which famous person said, "If you are going to paint a picture of me, paint warts and all"?) For information on Ancestry's Newsletter, write Ancestry, Inc., P O Box 476, Salt Lake UT 84110. It is $12.00 for six issues per year. Also ask for the Ancestry catalogue of their own publications, plus some publications imported from Germany.

GENEALOGY: Bits & Pieces & News (continued)

"Documentary Editing for Family Historians" is the title of an article in the Fall 1990 issue of APG Quarterly, published by the Association of Professional Genealogists. If you are remotely interested in publishing family diaries, memoirs, journals, or correspondence, please consult this excellent article before you decide to do it. If you are fairly sure you will edit and publish such material, please consult A Guide to Documentary Editing by Mary-Jo Kline. Published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1987, the Kline book has been termed "an authoritataive guide" that "will probably remain the reliable volume on the subject for years." If you are interested in the Quarterly article, contact your GTHS Genealogy Editor, a member of the APG. If you would like to consult the Kline book, have your local librarian track it down for you. Your genealogy editor recommends it for this type of editing.

How complete is the Württemberg Emigration Index? Not very, concluded Friedrich R. Wollmershäuser in an article in the March/April issue of German Genealogical Society of America's Bulletin. Although extensive emigration records survive for Württemberg, and these records were available through the LDS Family History Library, they were not indexed until Trudy Schenk, Ruth Froelke, and Inge Bork began indexing the microfilmed records in the early 1980's. So far, five volumes of the Württemberg Emigration Index have been published, with three additional volumes projected. Although these volumes will cover thousands of names of persons emigrating from Württemberg, Wollmershäuser used demographic and archival approachs to conclude that, even when the series is complete, it will cover only about 20 percent of the total number of emigrants. For information on the GGSA and its Bulletin, write to German Genealogical Society of America, P O Box 291818, Los Angeles CA 90029.

Lithuanians in Texas is the title of an article in the September 1990 issue of Stirpes, the quarterly of Texas State Genealogical Society, written by GTHS new board member Patsy Dearman Hand of Victoria. One of the Baltic States, just north and east of East Prussia, Lithuania is now within the Soviet Union. Patsy had identified 75 immigrants to DeWitt and Goliad counties during the 19th Century from the Lithuanian province of Suvalkai, then in East Prussia. They assimilated so well into the German-Texan culture that two generations later they were almost indistinguishable. Their letters appear to be in a mixture of German and Lithuanian, now identified as the Memel Land dialect. Translation of these letters, the earliest written in 1865, should give further insight into the details of their immigration. This article has a bibliography, list of organizations and individuals, plus a list of the early Lithuanian-Texan immigrants.

Another article in the same issue of Stirpes (see item above) is about Judge Howard Templeton of Sulphur Springs, written by his granddaughter, Frances R. Condra of San Antonio, also a GTHS member!

****

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.

GENEALOGY: From Our Members (continued)
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.

****

NOTE: Because of concerns as to the length of the Journal, future articles will be limited to two pages only.

****

Arliss Treybig P O Box 1236, El Campo TX 77437 wants to complete the partial history she began in 1982 on the Hennecke family. She has made contact with families of all the descendants, except descendants of Conrad Hennecke. Conrad was born about 1820 and married Barbara Glober who was born about 1840. Death dates of both are unknown. Their daughter, Maria, (born about 1859, death date unknown) married Adolph Wendel (born about 1853, death date unknown). He was the son of John and Christina (Damm) Wendel. One of their daughters was Cecelia E. Wendel who married John Marvin Faglia on 24 Oct 1956 at St. Cecelia Catholic Church in San Antonio. A son, Karl (possibly called Charles E. or Charlie) married Elizabeth Margaret Eisenloh on 7 Oct 1914 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in San Antonio. Two of Conrad and Barbara's daughters, Anna and Margaret, entered the Congregation of Sisters of Divine Providence, but both died at early ages according to records in the Sisters' archives in San Antonio. Arliss wants to contact any descendants of these families to add to that part of the Hennecke history. She has compiled books on several other family lines and gave us a super program on the German settlements of Colorado County at our GTHS meeting in Brenham in September.

Gladys Arnold (Mrs. E. B., Jr) Rt 3, Box 279, Victoria TX 77901 is looking for information on her great great grandfather, Frederick Keil. He and his wife, Ernestine Michling Keil, came from Germany with three children and settled in in 1869 in the Industry/New Ulm area of Austin County. In 1871, they were in Content, Colorado County. In December 1875 Ernestine remarried. Gladys would like to know what happened to Frederick Keil as well as where in Germany the family originated.

The second famiily group of interest to Gladys is that of Joseph J. Schindler, and his wife, Mary Preiss Schindler. The only information she has found is that they were married on 4 April 1888 in a Catholic church in Victoria. In 1890 and 1891, they were in Goliad County. Suposedly they went somewhere in Arkansas and, in later years, they returned to Texas, but to Bastrop County. Any information on this family would be of great help to her.

Nancy Sauceda 802 Saunders Dr., Round Rock TX 78664 is currently compiling a book on the family of Carl Traugott Kutschke and his wife, Johanne Eleanore Lehman. She knows only of their children who came to this country: Henrietta C. and Ludwig Herman Kutschke. Ludwig was her great grandfather, but she has very little information on Henrietta's family, possibly because of the difference in their ages and because Henrietta died at a relatively young age. She also has no information on the possibility of other brothers and sisters who stayed in Germany. This is a summary of the information she has: Henrietta was born in 1849 and died in 1891. Her first husband, Max Mittag, died before she emigrated from Germany, and her second husband was Jacob Meinhardt. Ludwig was born in 1866 and died in 1941. In 1892, he married Anna Auguste Kriegel (1869-1949). Herman and Henrietta came from Saxony and landed at New York on or about 10 May 1884. Both settled near Lexington in Lee County, and Herman worked on the construction of the Texas State Capitol in Austin. Henrietta stayed in Lexington, even after her marriage to Jacob Meinhardt. But after Herman and Anna were married, they made their home at Manheim, also in Lee County, where

GENEALOGY: From Our Members (continued)

they attended the Manheim Lutheran Church. Nancy recently heard that Herman's grandfather had come from Poland and changed his name to Kutschke from Kutschski, but she has not taken the opportunity to research this possibility.

Darrel Menking 121 Lapidum Rd., Havre de Grace MD 21078 wants to correspond with members of the Frederick and Carolina (Koch) Menking family. They settled at Haw Creek, Fayette County, in 1853. Their seven children were: Heinrich who married Elisa Wied, Frederick (Fritz) who married Christine Schmidt and then Elizabeth Stubblefield, Caroline who married Henry Finck, Ferdinand who married Amma Scharnberg, William who married Katherine Bauerkemper, Walter who married Liva Giese, and Louis who married Hedwig Kinkler. He is also seeking more specific information on the family of his great grandmother, Katherine Bauerkemper. Her parents may have been named Frederick and Martha (Kuenemann) Bauerkamper. He is also seeking information on the Robert Weisbach family that settled in New Braunfels. One of the daughters married into the Blumberg family.

Kay W. Davis 316 Chuch Wagon Tr., Willow Park TX 76087 needs information on the parents of Susan Marguerite Berringer, Beringer or Behringer, born 29 May 1848 in Germany. By 1873, she was married and living in Dallas County. She came to America "as a young girl" with her parents, J. E. and Christine B. (Huber) Berringer/Beringer/Behringer. Kay also needs information on Frederick Ernest Foshall or Forshall, who was born in Germany and married Sue Berringer between 1868 and 1873 in Texas. She will trade or pay for additional information on immigration dates, home of origin, or other family information.

James L. App 2005 N. W. 18th Lane, Gainesville FL 32605 found his family roots in Zaisenhausen, Germany, and now he is anxious to find relatives or descendants of these two brothers: Karl Wilhelm App, born 3 Oct. 1845, came to Texas in 1882 from Zaisenhausen; and Wilhelm App, born 4 March 1853, and emigrated to Texas on 2 Dec. 1871. James is anxious to find out what happened to these two men.

Jeane Bitterly P O Box 70, Hochheim TX 77967 needs information on the descendants of Andreas Hotz (also found as Houtz or Hutz). He was born around 1805 in France, the son of Franz and Barbara (maiden name illegible, something like: ***chi) Hotz. Andreas married first Henrica Rickman in Galveston in 1843. He was widowed soon, for he remarried on 4 Jan 1845 to Marie Bitterly. She was born 11 Jul 1817 in Fellering, Alsace, the daughter of Jean and Marie Anne (Schmidt) Bitterly. Marie Bitterly had traveled to Texas in 1843 with her cousin, John Stephan, and his fiance, Agathe Arnold, on Henri Castro's ship "Henrich" with Castroville as their destination. Andreas and Marie Hotz had at least five children who were baptized at St. Mary's Catholic Church (later, Cathedral) in Galveston. These included: Carl Peter (1845), Carl Franz (1847), Joseph (1849), Maria (1854), and Thaddeus (1857). For reasons unknown at this time, Andreas returned to France and died there on 9 June 1860 in the home of his brother-in-law, Thiebaud Bitterly. The record states that his wife was still in the United States. What happened to Marie Bitterly Hotz and the five children?

Jeane also needs information on descendants of James Lindsay, born in Scotland, and Agathe Golly born in Fellering, Alsace, in 1838. Agathe's first husband was Pantaleon Luder. They married in DeWitt County, and their children were: Emiliana, who married John Hotz (possibly related to the Hotz metioned above); Alphonse, who married Alvina Schaefer; and Edward, who died young. After Pantaleon Luder's death, Agathe married James Lindsay, his previous marital status unknown. They had two children: Susie (born in 1876, married Wm.

F. Bergman in 1893, and died in 1957 at Cuero in DeWitt County) and Robert (born in 1879). DeWitt County records reveal that in November 1889, Susie and Robert Lindsay were placed under the guardianship of their half-sister, Emiliana Luder Hotz, and her husband, John Hotz. The last entry in this case was recorded in 1900 when Robert Lindsay, then of legal age and earning his own living, was released from the guardianship of John Hotz. At that time, Robert was supposedly living in Yorktown. In the meantime, a marriage record from Goliad County shows a James Lindsay married a Mrs. Birdella Evans on 21 March 1888. This may, or may not, be the same Lindsay. Jeane wants to know what happened to Robert Lindsay and if there are any descendants of Susie Lindsay Bergman.

Mildred Connor Stephens 3318 Rosewood Dr., Temple TX 76502 has traced her own maternal lines, Miller, Ringer, Gross, and Moyers on the East Coast of the US, in Pennsylvania and West Virgina. Her husband has traced five ancestors back to the Revolutionary War and three to the War of 1812. But, now Mildred has turned her attention to assisting her sister-in-law, Jean Halfmann Connor, with her family research. Jean is descended from Bernard Halfmann and his wife, Elizabeth Imholt (also found as Imholdt and Imholtz). Bernard came to Texas in 1848 from Lüdinghausen in Westphalia and settled in Colorado County. His brother, Heinrich, followed in 1850. They joined an uncle, Johann Bernard, who had brought his wife and two children to Texas in 1846. After the deaths of the wife and children soon after his arrival, Joahnn Bernard Halfmann sent for his two nephews to join him in this new country. The Halfmann line that concerns Mildred is Bernard and Elizabeth's son August (born 1862, Frelsburg, Colorado County) who married Anna Maikoetter. Their son, Adolph, married Pauline (Lena) Schaefer in 1913 in Shiner, and they moved to Runnels County. The Halfmann family has been researched by others, and readers having this information are encouraged to share with Mildred. Her research now centers on the Schaefer family. The Census for 1900 and 1910 in Lavaca County show Pauline's father as Edward Schaefer, born in 1856 in Germany. But, it appears that his wife, Rozalia (maiden name unknown) may have been his second wife, and not the birth-mother of all the children in the family. Anyone having information on this Schaefer family, please contact Mildred.

Jo K. Schnitzendoble West Rt. 1, Box 200, Gonzales TX 78629 says her grandparents and great grandparents were from Frankfurt in Germany and settled in the small town of Dewville in Gonzales County. Her grandparents were Herman and Bertha Schnitzendobel and her great grandparents were Carl and Elizabeth Schnitzendobel. All her aunts and uncles were born in Germany, but her father was born in Texas. She also mentioned a cousin, Paul Obolink, who was related through her father's mother. Anyone knowing anything about these names, please write to Jo.

****

The John B. Olfers Family: Germany to America, 1813-1990
A Book Review

The John B. Olfers Family: Germany to America, 1813-1990, by Doris Felps Gilpatrick, privately printed. $22.00 postpaid from Doris Gilpatrick, 3302 Catalpa, Victoria TX 77901, or Edna Felps, 3234 Gypsy, San Antonio TX 78228.

This 350-page, softcover book covers the life and family of Johann Bernhard Olfers, who was born in 1837 in the province of Hanover. The story covers his Civil War service in Refugio County, Texas, his marriage to Anna Friederichs and purchase of land in DeWitt County, the birth of his first two children, the early death of his young wife, his remarriage to Louise Reinhardt and the start of a second family, their move to Gillespie County, and two other moves to San Antonio. Included are brief histories of the two churches John was instrumental in founding: Zion Lutheran Church at Arneckeville in DeWitt County and St. Paul

GENEALOGY: Book Review, Olfers Family (continued)
Lutheran Church in the North Grape Creek community in Gillespie County, as well as background "biographies" on the families of John's two wives.

Chapters 8-22 cover the families of the children. Surnames that entered the family through marriage include: Ottmers, Gold, Quindel, Schoenfeld, Hitzfeld, Flowers, Kroll, Sangerhausen, Wille, and Maltby. Each chapter includes photographs of the family and copies of relevant documents. Although there are no footnotes, each story ends with a list of references. Also included is a 1987 survey of St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery at Cave Creek in Gillespie County. The book concludes with 22 pages of full name index.

A copy of this book has been donated to German Texan Heritage Society.

****

Which Archive?

By Theresa Gold, in response to a special request

Which archive in Germany should you contact for genealogical information--births, marriages, deaths? Just as in this country, records are kept on several levels: state, city, and local, as well as by churches and other specialized agencies. Some of the lesser-quality books on "how to" conduct family research in Germany include a list of State Archives (Staatsarchiv). This list is also found in leaflets, brochures, and booklets published in Germany for use by Americans. However, these are not the best sources for family genealogists, at least not for basic information.

Why not? Consider the Archive and the purpose it serves. Any archive collects matters pertaining to the operations of the government (or agency, or organization, etc.) on that level. The state archives are likely to contain documents concerning the affairs of the state and its government--usually not of interest to genealogists unless an ancestor was a governmental leader at that level. The more localized repositories of documents are more likely to have valuable information for genealogists.

Why? Consider how localized the governance of Germany has been throughout the ages--and still is, to some extent. Therefore, a better source of information for genealogists would be a more localized archive, a city archive (Stadtarchiv), for instance. Because the total number of Stadtarchive is in the hundreds or more, the "how to" books and brochures simply print the same list of Staatsarchive (state archives) since it is a relatively short list.

Another important source is the civil registry office (Standesamt), sort of like our county courthouse records office. This is where you are most likely to find the registration of births, deaths, and marriages. (Recall that civil registration became the law in different parts of Germany at different times.) The Standesamt may be in the same town where the event took place, or small towns and villages may have their Standesamt in a larger town, sometimes nearby but sometimes miles away. Determining the proper Standesamt is too complicated to append to this little article, so let's save that topic for next issue.

In looking for records that pre-date the civil registration law, you will turn to church records. Often the old church books will still be in the local parish, but sometimes they will have been turned over to a church archive. There are about 25 Catholic and about 50 Evangelisch church archives in Germany (the former Federal Republic part). Like other regional archives, these coincide with ecclesiastical jurisdictions.

Having stated that there is no definitive list of archives, now let's contradict that statement. In Ribbe and Henning's Taschenbuch für Familiengeschichtsforschung, there is a whole chapter of 40 pages giving the name and address of each archive in the larger cities of Germany (both pre-unification parts), Austria, and Switzerland. For example, in D-4630 Bochum, there are seven different archives, including three Evangelisch. The Taschenbuch is being revised and will be available soon by mail order in this country from Genealogy Unlimited, Inc. (See item on their services in this issue and order their catalog.)

GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

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

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Gladys Arnold Rt 3, Box 279 Victoria TX 77901 (512) 575-0560	Keil	Austin/Colorado	Lutheran (?)
	Dohmann	Austin/Colorado/ Goliad/Victoria	Cath/Luth
	Preiss	Vic/Gol'd/Bastrop & in Arkansas	Catholic
	Schindler	Vic/Gol'd/Bastrop & in Arkansas	Catholic
	Weber	Victoria/DeWitt	Cath/Luth
	Michling	Austin/Colorado/ Gol'd/DeWitt/Lavaca	
Eugenia P. Krause RR 20, Box 661 San Antonio TX 78218 (512) 438-2797	Lehman	Bell	Catholic
	Geistman	Colorado	Catholic
	Krause	Colorado/Milam	Cath/Luth
	Bloomer	McLennan	Catholic
	Kleypas	McLennan	Catholic
Rev. James Plagens St. Ambrose Parish P O Box 228 Wall TX 76957 (915) 653-8335	Plagens	Brazos	Evangelical
	Kindt	Brazos	Lutheran?
Kay W. Davis 316 Chuck Wagon Tr Willow Park TX 76087 (817) 441-8479	Berringer/Behringer	?/Dallas/Tarrant	Luth/Evang
	Blocker/Blucher	Hopkins/Parker	Protestant
	Brisco/Briscoe	Shelby/Hill	Protestant
	Buce/Bruce	Shelby/Hill	Protestant
	Callis/Kallis	Shelby/McLennan Runnels/Sterling	Baptist
	Cockrell/Cockerell	Williamson	Protestant
	Crisp/Crysp/Cripps	Red River/Titus McLennan	Protestant
	Davis/Davies	McLennan/Sterling	Meth/Bapt
	Duff	Hopkins/Parker	Protestant
	Foshall/Forsahll	?/Dallas/Tarrant	Lutheran (?)
	Harrison	Hopkins/Parker	Baptist
	Huber/Hueber	?	?
	Kendall/Kendal	McLennan	Presbyterian (?)
	Ray/Wray	Wise/Tarrant/Coryell	Methodist
	Robbins/Robins	McLennan/Stephens	Protestant
	Robertson	Hopkins/Parker/Young	Baptist
	Thomas	Wise	Methodist (?)
	Ward	Angelina/Tarrant	Methodist
	Whitley/Whitly	Wise	Ch of Christ (?)
	Williams	McLennan/Young Stephens/Sterling	Methodist

GENEALOGY: Members' Exchange (continued)

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Jeane Bitterly	Hotz	Galveston/DeWitt (?)	Catholic
P O Box 70	Gewiss	DeWitt/Victoria	Catholic
Hochheim TX 77967	Deckert/Decker	Victoria	Catholic
(512) 293-7060	Sitterle	Victoria	Catholic
	Arnold	Victoria	Catholic
	Weitz	Victoria	Catholic
	Lindsay	DeWitt	Catholic (?)
	Luder	DeWitt	Catholic
	Thane	Fayette/Lavaca Washington/Atascosa	Lutheran
Charles E Riley	Syring	?	Protestant
3315 North Hills #205			
Meridian MS 39305			
Darrell Menking	Menking	Fayette	Luth/Meth
121 Lapidum Rd	Bauerkemper	Fayette	Methodist
Havre de Grace MD	Kuenemann	Fayette	Methodist
21078	Weisbach	Comal	Methodist
Sam Kretzschmar Jr	Kretzschmar	Austin	Lutheran
3630 Old Post Rd	Tiede	Austin/Washington	?
San Angelo TX 76904	Leschpar	Austin/Washington	?
Doris K Brown	Schmidt	Harris	Methodist
Box 788	Kirschke	Harris	Methodist
Lake Mary FL 32795	Friederich	Harris	?
(407) 333-0889	Behrends	Harris	?
Tishua Rowe	Buerger	Galveston	Catholic
374 Fenwick Dr	Keis	Galveston	Catholic
San Antonio TX 78239			
(512) 656-1071			

MEMBERS! Let us hear from you. If you are actively researching your family lines--or even if you are not presently--tell us your family "stories"--for they are the stories of our German-Texan pioneers. If you have a tough research problem--or if you have found the solution--please share that with all our other members. Is your family planning a reunion? Let us hear about yours. And, let us know what items you would like to see in future issues. Write to your Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213.

A Connection to the Past

by Christy Baize Cave
HC 51, Box 1244, Bulverde, Tex. 78163

I have always been interested in family history and Texas history, but recently began seriously researching to be able to give my four daughters and their families a sense of who they are and how they came to be. I find it fascinating to trace our family's journey to a point whesre it came together to result in their births.

My father's family is the German-Texan path; my mother's was German, Irish (or Scotch-Irish) and English; my children's father's family was even from Russia, Latvia, and Lithuania. All branches of our family tree came to America to escape religious and political oppression, and I believe they showed tremendous courage and strength in doing do. As both a therapist and family history enthusiast, I search for common threads, to make connections between people, and to focus on strengths.

Besides wanting to know more about my own family, I am interested in knowing others who also have the German-Irish combination. It would be fascinating to take a passenger list (such as the one I have listing my Voight relatives) and tracing as many of those listed as possible to the present.

My father, Bernie Virgil Baize, was the son of Vesta Evalee Moore and Gustoff Jonathan Baize. G. J. as the son of William Washington Bays and Amanda M. Voight. The Moore and Bays families were from Virginia and before that from Ireland, we think. Vesta's father died in Virginia, but her mother, Mary Jane Necessary Moore Smith, later came to Texas with her children. She is buried at Pettytown. Amanda and W. W. Bays (later changed to Baize) are also buried at Pettytown. Amanda's parents, grandmother, and other family members are also buried there.

According to New Homes in a New Land: German Immigration to Texas, 1847-1861, by Ethel H. Geue, records for the ship "Chas. N. Cooper," which sailed from Bremen on Oct. 23, 1847, show that Samuel Voight and his family sailed to Galveston, Texas--and were from Sachsen-Meiningen. Samuel, age 47, and his daughter, Caroline, died at sea of seasickness. There were also his wife, Caroline Augusta Ackerman; and the other children, Ferdinand, age 27, and probably, although not listed here, his wife Agnes Adeline Lehman and their infant daughter, Susan; Ed, 19; Hein, 16; and Adolph, 9. We've been told that they probably landed at Indianola, possibly after the ship went to Galveston. Then they went on to Bastrop County, where Augusta was born Feb. 22, 1849, to Ferdinand and Agnes. My great-grandmother, Amanda, was born Feb. 26, 1851, in Austin County. Apparently there was another son, August, who was already married when the family came to Texas. He eventually did, also, but by way of New York. Caroline "Voight" and her son, Adolph "Voight," are buried at Pettytown. I do not know what happeened to Hein or Ed nor where they are buried. Ferdinand and Agnes are buried at Pettytown. They dropped the "h" and spelled their name Voigt. Their children, Augusta (and her husband, Flanders Barker), Amanda (and husband, William Washington Bays, Flanders' half-brother), Edward, Samuel (and his wife Martha Wood, also related to W. W. Bays), and Gurtoff (and his wife, Sofronia Corbell) are all buried at Pettytown, along with some of their children. Susan Voigt, who had been born in Germany, married S. R. Yates; they are buried in the Kempner Cemetery, between Copperas Cove and Lampasas.

Pettytown Cemetery is at least 139 years old. There is an annual Homecoming the first Sunday in May. This past year was the 50th, and a booklet with familiy histories of the persons buried in the cemetery was published by Nolan Petty. It is available from him at Rt. 1, Box 99, Red Rock, Tex. 78622, for $5.00 a copy.

Pettytown was named for John and Elizabeth Dawson Petty, who came to Texas from Tennessee. Elizabeth was a half-sister to Katrina, Sam Houston's second wife. The earliest markers are for Mary Petty (died 1848) and Nancy Petty Black (died 1867). It is in Bastrop County, near the Caldwell County line, in the Red Rock area. There are apparently many unmarked graves in addition to the marked ones listed in Nolan Petty's book.

My father grew up in Coryell County, and my mother in Stephenville. Both my husband and I grew up in Corpus Christi, but we now live in the Smithson Valley area of Bulverde in Comal County. I love living in the Hill Country; I guess I feel a connection to my past here.

Roman Type	German Type	German Script	Roman Type	German Type	German Script
A a	𝔄 𝔞	𝒜 𝒶	N n	𝔑 𝔫	𝒩 𝓃
B b	𝔅 𝔟	ℬ 𝒷	O o	𝔒 𝔬	𝒪 ℴ
C c	ℭ 𝔠	𝒞 𝒸	P p	𝔓 𝔭	𝒫 𝓅
D d	𝔇 𝔡	𝒟 𝒹	Q q	𝔔 𝔮	𝒬 𝓆
E e	𝔈 𝔢	ℰ ℯ	R r	ℜ 𝔯	ℛ 𝓇
F f	𝔉 𝔣	ℱ 𝒻	S s	𝔖 𝔰 ſ	𝒮 𝓈
G g	𝔊 𝔤	𝒢 ℊ	T t	𝔗 𝔱	𝒯 𝓉
H h	ℌ 𝔥	ℋ 𝒽	U u	𝔘 𝔲	𝒰 𝓊
I i	ℑ 𝔦	ℐ 𝒾	V v	𝔙 𝔳	𝒱 𝓋
J j	𝔍 𝔧	𝒥 𝒿	W w	𝔚 𝔴	𝒲 𝓌
K k	𝔎 𝔨	𝒦 𝓀	X x	𝔛 𝔵	𝒳 𝓍
L l	𝔏 𝔩	ℒ 𝓁	Y y	𝔜 𝔶	𝒴 𝓎
M m	𝔐 𝔪	ℳ 𝓂	Z z	ℨ 𝔷	𝒵 𝓏

Adapted from Beginning German by
Schinnerer, Otto P., 1935

Genealogy Editor's Note: Members attending our Genealogy Workshop at the meeting in Brenham in September all agreed that it would be helpful to print this chart in the Journal so that all could have a copy for handy reference.

1920 CENSUS RELEASE

(Excerpts from)
Opening the 1920 Census
by Don W. Wilson, Archivist of the US

On Monday, March 2, 1992, the directors of the National Archives eleven regional archives from coast to coast and I, here in Washington, D. C., will unlock the microfilm cabinets housing the 1920 census microfilm. This simple act will be the culmination of four years of work by more than forty staff members at a cost, not including salaries, of over $1 million. In preparation for the opening of the 1920 census, the National Archives will have produced seventeen complete duplicate sets of the material-more than 3,400 miles of film, roughly the distance from Washington, D.C., to San Francisco.

January 1 was the official enumeration date of the 1920 census. The National Archives is, then, enjoined from opening the census until January 1, 1992. My staff has selected March 2, 1992 - two months after the enumeration date - as the opening date for the 1920 census to ensure that all the necessary copies will be distributed and ready to use.

Preparations for 1920 opening

The next census opening is now in the planning stage. We have looked carefully at previous openings and not only begun to plan earlier for this opening but also to coordinate our efforts better within the Archives.

The 1920 census exists only on microfilm and consists of 2,076 rolls of population census schedules and 8,590 rolls of the Soundex index. Every state in the 1920 census is indexed, which will simplify access for genealogists and family historians. Our Special Media Preservation Branch already has undertaken a frame-by-frame review of each roll of microfilm. The rolls were examined for density, scratches, focus, film curl, fungus, gasses, and fog. At the same time, the staff noted for each roll of film the location of any physical problems that could not be corrected. The National Archives will produce the highest quality of the original film.

The microfilm catalog for the 1920 census will be similar in format to the 1910 census catalog. The most significant changes will be the inclusion of additional information about legibility problems on individual roll listings, a new appendix outlining the data elements included in the 1920 census, and a reproduction of an original schedule form. The 1920 catalog will be published in the spring of 1991, nine to twelve months before the 1920 census is released. The catalog will be available free to libraries and for sale to interested individuals. Publishing the catalog in 1991 will allow prospective purchasers to place orders early. Advance orders for complete duplicate sets or for copies of all rolls from a state that are received by September 1, 1991, will be shipped on March 2, 1992. All other orders will be shipped as soon thereafter as possible.

The National Archives Microfilm Rental Program will also have a set of the 1920 census and indexes available for rental beginning on March 2, 1992. Advance orders for rentals may be submitted after September 1, 1991. Those orders will be filled beginning March 2, 1992.

The opening of a new census is a major event in the life of the National Archives. When we unlock the cabinets, we unlock information about a generation of family life in the United States. We are as eager as all of you for that day.

The LDS (Mormon) Family History Library contains millions of microfilmed records, including many records from Germany. Among these are the Hamburg Passenger Lists. Also available are other records from Hamburg, two types classified as Hamburg Police Records. The article below appeared in the July-August 1990 issue of The Genealogical Helper. See also our article on the Hamburg Passenger Lists in Fall 1987 issue of GTHS Newsletter (Vol. IX, No. 3, pp. 181-183).

Hamburg Passenger Lists

Almost one out of three central and eastern European emigrants is found on the Hamburg passenger lists. Most who departed through Hamburg went to the United States, but some emigrated to Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, South Africa, and other places.

The Hamburg lists are one of the finest single sources of information for locating an immigrant ancestor's place of origin in central or eastern Europe.

The original Hamburg passenger records are stored in the State Archives at Hamburg. In 1984, the Museum for Hamburg History opened an Historic Emigration Office. They will search microfilm copies of the passenger lists for you for a fee of approximately $30.00 per year searched. The address is Hamburg-Information GmbH, Museum fur Hamburgische Geschichte Holstenwall 24, D-2000 Hamburg 36, Federal Republic of Germany.

In 1964 and 1975, the Family History Library obtained copies of the same lists and indexes. You can personally search for your ancestor in the Hamburg passenger lists and indexes using microfilmed records at the Family History Library or at any of its family history centers.

The library's collection consists of the following: **1. Direct Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934 (256 Films); 2. Fifteen-Year Index, Direct Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1856-1871 (10 Films); 3. Indirect Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1854-1910 (81 Films).**

Hamburg Police Records

Passport Records for Citizens of Hamburg and Non residents, 1852-1929 — These are applications for passports to America and other locations. They are indexed at the end of each volume for 1851 to 1897 and include a cumulative index for 1897 to 1929. These records are listed in the catalog under "Germany, Hamburg - Emigration and Immigration."

Registers of Non-Citizen Workers, 1834-1890 — Many non-citizens working in Hamburg were registered under the year they arrived in Hamburg. Each time a non-citizen moved, his registration entry was updated with the new address. These updates continued until the person left the city, became a citizen, or died. There are several sets of these registers covering various time periods. Each set of registers is indexed.

Cumulative indexes are available for some, while others have yearly indexes. Microfilm numbers for these records can be found in the catalog under "Germany, Hamburg, Hamburg - Occupations."

State Library expands genealogy section

The Genealogy Section of the Texas State Library in Austin has undergone an expansion project in preparation for adding to their collection this fall. About 1400 square feet were added to the genealogy section of the library by taking in the Pease Gallery and a section of the archives stack area. The Pease Gallery is being moved to the Capitol Building.

The State Library hopes to receive a foundation grant of around $800,000 to purchase books, microfilm, periodicals, and equipment to enhance the genealogy collection. A definite amount will not be determined until after the budget is completed in September.

One large acquisition the Library hopes to make next year will be the 1920 Census to be released March 2, 1992. The census exists only on microfilm and consists of 2,076 rolls of population census schedules and 8,590 rolls of the Soundex index. Every state in the 1920 census is indexed. At the current price of $20 per roll the complete set will cost more than $200,000.

Texas State Genealogical Society Newsletter, May, 1990

GTHS "The Journal" Year 1990 Vol. 12 (XII) No. 3 (Fall)

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

LORENZO DE ZAVALA STATE ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY BUILDING
BOX 12927, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

Texas State Library
and Archives Commission

William D. Gooch
Director and Librarian

Dear Librarians and Genealogists:

The Texas State Library announces the availability of microfilm copies of the indexes to the Texas birth records, 1903 through 1976. We are pleased to be able to fulfill a need for better access to these indexes.

The microfilm is a page for page copy of the indexes available in book form currently accessible in the Geneealogy Collection at the Texas State Library. Each entry in the indexes gives the last and first name of the child, the county of birth, the date of birth and the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics certificate number. There is no additional information about the individual in the index. If the child was not named at birth, the listing will appear as "infant of" under one of the parent's names.

This 16mm, 2.5 mil silver negative microfilm may be purchased, at $14.00 per reel, either individually or as a set. It is ready for shipment on June 1,1990.

A contents list is enclosed to help in ordering individual reels. Please order the Texas Birth Indexes, 1903-1976 by contacting::

Records Management Division
Microfilming Department
Texas State Library
P. O. Box 12927
Austin, Texas 78711

NOTE: The best hard copy available was used to produce the microfilm. Due to the generation of the hardcopy some pages might appear blurred.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Administration	(512) 463-5460	Information Services	(512) 463-5455
Administrative Services	(512) 463-5474	Library Development	(512) 463-5465
Archives	(512) 463-5480	Local Records	(512) 463-5478
Blind and Physically Handicapped	(512) 463-5458	Records Management	(512) 454-2705
Data Processing	(512) 463-5483	Fax Number	(512) 463-5436

TEXAS BIRTH INDEXES 1903 - 1976

REEL #	CONTENTS
1	1903-1909 Vol.1 - Vol. 5 Osborn, J.
2	1903-1909 Vol. 5 Osborn, J. - Vol. 7
3	1910 Vol. 1 - 1913 Vol. 2
4	1914 Vol. 1 - 1917 Vol. 3
5	1918 Vol. 1 - 1921 Vol. 1 Fugate
6	1921 Vol. 2 Fugatt - 1923 Vol. 3
7	1924 Vol. 1 - 1926 Vol. 2 Marlow, L.
8	1926 Vol. 3 Marlow, R. - 1928 Vol. 4 Tomlinson, M.
9	1928 Vol. 5 Tomlinson, M. - 1930 Vol. 4
10	1931 Vol. 1 - 1932 Vol.5
11	1933 Vol. 1 - 1934 Vol. 5
12	1935 Vol. 1 - 1936 Vol. 4 Thomas, B.
13	1936 Vol. 5 Thomas, B. - 1938 Vol. 3 Miller, D.
14	1938 Vol. 4 Miller, D. - 1940 Vol. 2 Henera
15	1940 Vol.3 Heney - 1941 Vol. 6
16	1942 Vol. 1 - 1943 Vol. 3 Johnson, M.
17	1943 Vol. 3 Johnson, M. - 1944 Vol. 5 Rojo, F.
18	1944 Vol. 6 Rojo, G. - 1946 Vol. 1 Carter, R.
19	1946 Vol. 2 Carter, R. - 1947 Vol. 3 Harris, J.
20	1947 Vol. 4 Harris, J. - 1948 Vol. 4 Lawrence, S.
21	1948 Vol. 5 Lawrence, S. - 1949 Vol. 5 Moreno, R.
22	1949 Vol. 6 Moreno, R. - 1950 Vol. 6 Rawlings, J.
23	1950 Vol. 7 Rawlings, L. - 1951 Vol. 7 Sellers, W.
24	1951 Vol. 8 Sellers, W. - 1952 Vol. 7 Rogers, H.
25	1952 Vol. 8 Rogers, L - 1953 Vol. 6 Murphy, D.
26	1953 Vol. 7 Murphy, D. - 1954 Vol. 5 Little, D.
27	1954 Vol. 6 Little, E. - 1955 Vol. 4 Holder, F.
28	1955 Vol. 5 Holder, F. - 1956 Vol. 3 Garcia, R.
29	1956 Vol. 4 Garcia, R. - 1957 Vol. 2 Daniels, F.
30	1957 Vol. 3 Daniels, G. - Vol. 10
31	1958 Vol. 1 - Vol. 8 Shannon, T.
32	1958 Vol. 9 Shannon, V. - 1959 Vol. 7 Poteet, D.
33	1959 Vol. 8 Poteet, D. - 1960 Vol. 5 McGehee, R.
34	1960 Vol. 6 McGehee, T. - 1961 Vol. 4 Jackson, T.
35	1961 Vol. 5 Jackson, T. - 1962 Vol. 4 Jalowy, J.
36	1962 Vol. 5 Jalowy, R. - 1963 Vol. 4 Johnson, M.
37	1963 Vol. 5 Johnson, M. - 1964 Vol. 4 Jones, R.
38	1964 Vol. 5 Jones, R. - 1965 Vol. 4 Lecroy
39	1965 Vol. 5 Lecusay - 1966 Vol. 4 Lopez, M.
40	1966 Vol. 5 Lopez, M. - 1967 Vol. 4 Loryea
41	1967 Vol. 5 Losack - 1968 Vol. 5 Nicholds
42	1968 Vol. 6 Nicholes - 1969 Vol. 5 Miller, S.
43	1969 Vol. 6 Miller, S. - 1970 Vol. 5 McDaniel, C.
44	1970 Vol. 6 McDaniel, C. - 1971 Vol. 5 McCurley, D.
45	1971 Vol. 6 McCurley, J. - 1972 Vol. 5 Moore, T.
46	1972 Vol. 6 Moore, T. - Vol. 8
47	1973 Vol. 1 - 1974 Vol. 1 Canady, K.
48	1974 Vol. 2 Canady, K. - 1975 Vol. 2 Edwards, N.
49	1975 Vol. 3 Edwards, N. - 1976 Vol. 2 Ealy, A.
50	1976 Vol. 3 Ealy, T. - Vol. 8

THE JACOB CHRISTIAN SEILER reunion was held the second Sunday of June, 1990, at the VFW Hall in Schertz. Betwen 60 and 70 descendants attended this, the 37th reunion. Next year, the reunion will be held on 9 June 1991, with the location pending. The hostess will be Josephine Seiler Bartlett of San Antonio, telephone (512) 344-6039. The FRANK SEILER, SR. family had its reunion on 22 July 1990 at Weesatche. Frank was a son of Jacob Christian Seiler.
Submitted by Alma Amalia "Dusty" Seiler Sherrill, 2122 Black Gap Dr., San Antonio TX 78245. (512) 673-6614.

Olfers Family Reunion Held

Advocate News Service

SAN ANTONIO — The descendants of John B. Olfers and Anna Friederichs/Louise Reinhardt Olfers gathered for their annual reunion recently at the Raymond Russell Park in San Antonio with Susan and Bruce Young and Doris and Ray Gilpatrick of Victoria and Edna and G.A. Felps, Rita and Darryl Felps, Kathy and Jeff Nobles and Nancy and Bill Felps of San Antonio hosting.

Events included horse shoes, dominoes, the awarding of prizes and listening to music provided by D.J. Bruce Young of Victoria.

The family book was available for viewing. Members wanting to purchase the book may contact Doris Gilpatrick, 3302 Catalpa, Victoria, Texas, 77901, or Edna Felpa at (512) 434-2990.

John B. Olfers came from Germany in December of 1857, landing in New York. He made his way to Texas settling in DeWitt county. He and his first wife, Anna Friedrichs, had three children. After he died, he married Louise Reinhardt, and they had 12 children.

The 1991 reunion will be hosted by the same families, to be held July 21, 1991, at the same park.

Victoria Advocate
July 29, 1990
This family book is reviewed in this issue

15th Krischke Family Reunion Held

The 15th annual Krischke reunion was held Sunday, July 15 at the Schulenburg Civic Center in Wolters Park.

Mass was held at St. Rose Church and registration for the day began at 9 a.m. The reunion was attended by 188 family members and four guests.

A gratis catered meal of picnic stew, sausage and trimmings was enjoyed by all. A special "thanks" is extended to the ladies who provided cakes, pies, cookies and fudge for dessert.

The reunion highlight was the auction. Thanks to the people who donated the 41 items to be auctioned for the benefit of the reunion fund. A 100-year-old brick from High Hill was auctioned for $37; a framed slate from St. Mary's Church roof with cedar cross went for $65; a quilt top sold for $35; a Senior League "Baseball Hall of Fame Pig-In-A-Poke" sealed package containing a baseball uniform, cap, glove and ball went for $37; an old coal-oil lantern went for $25; two Jobes Tears rosaries were sold for $16 each; picante sauce went for $9 a pint; a well digger's wrench went for $11; a jar of honey was sold for $17; and pickles went for $10 a quart. Thanks to those who helped with the auction and to the buyers who spirited bidding made the auction a success.

The business meeting was conducted by President Melvin Kunz who opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer for deceased members of the family: Preston Gerrard Jr. who died July 9, 1989; and Rudolph J. Miksch who died Dec. 2, 1989.

Secretary Ruth Kunz read the minutes of the last reunion and Norman Krischke presented the treasurer's report. Melvin Kunz and Stuart Krischke were nominated for reunion president and Stuart Krischke was elected. Shirley Machicek was elected to the position of secretary and Norman Krischke was elected to another term as treasurer.

Beverly Turner, the reunion birthday girl born July 15, received a birthday cake, and Henry Krischke, born July 19, received a giant birthday cookie; each received congratulations and a "Happy Birthday" in song.

President Melvin Kunz presented special awards, Mathilda Rose's famous rose plaques, to the following: Senior lady descendant, Annie (Krischke) Kunz; senior gentleman descendant, Henry F. Krischke; senior lady in-law and oldest member of the clan, Gertrude O. Krischke; senior gentleman in-law, Henry F. Koehler; youngest little lady present, Erin Nicole Krischke, born May 26, 1990; youngest little gentleman present, Kyle Edward Herbold, born May 8, 1990; couple married longest, Eddie and Tillie Krischke; longest distance traveled, Harvey and Helon Krischke of West Palm Beach, Fla.; and shortest distance traveled, Annie Kunz.

Reunion plaques were given to 15 lucky people as door prizes just for being there. Tickets for door prizes were drawn by Chris Rue assisted by Jessica Rue, children of Robert and Sally Rue of Waco.

A solar powered calculator donated by Marian Norris and a Susan B. Anthony silver dollar were given to Chris Rue for his help and Jessica Rue received a silver dollar. (The reunion pays minimum wages -- as little as possible.)

An old picture of C.J. Krischke, Henry Krischke and Eddie Krischke was displayed, showing them at about age 6, 4 and 2 years old, with a challenge to guess their names for a prize. Silver dollars went to Henry Krischke, Eddie Krischke, Reinold Krischke, Frank Krischke, Franklin Krischke, Herbert Lee Krischke, Harvey Krischke and Adela Hertel who guessed correctly; they grew up with the picture in the F.A. and Anna Krischke home.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

The 1991 reunion is scheduled for Sunday, July 21 at the Civic Center, Wolters Park, Schulenburg.

NIXON FAMILY REUNION, Sunday, August 11, 1991, at Doss School.
For information contact: Gaynel Conner, 12616 Darryl Dr. Buda TX 78610, or call (512) 295-3592.

Treybig Reunion

Celebrating 145 Years in Texas

Saturday, April 27, 1991
Harmonie Hall Shelby

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT Arliss Treybig
Box 1236
El Campo TX 77437

This copy of the Duderstadt family Coat of Arms was obtained by the late Mrs. Larry Riedel from Munich Germany for her parents the late Lem Duderstadts from Yorktown. According to the international arm-register of Germany, volume VI, "in the year 1692, the patriot and fighter for freedom, Friedrich A. Duderstadt, was distinguished from the Prussian herold office with the bravery-medal lat class and the great coat of arms for his merits in the nation."

The growing unicorn, set on a golden crown, symbolizes courage and patriotism while the eagle "set on a green triple mountain is a symbol of vigilance and bravery." (While we Duderstadts here in America are proud of the coat of arms, we have as yet, not been able to trace our family tree to this hero! FH)

Munke Reunion Is Held At Ammannsville Sunday

The 1990 reunion of the Christian Munke/Margareta Laux Munke family was held on Sunday, June 3, at Ammannsville, with 106 descendants and friends present.

The Joseph J. Munke branch of the family hosted with Elva Oeding Koenig, chairpersons Rear Admiral Weldon Koenig officiated at the reunion meeting.

A luncheon prayer was sung, with Lois Carby Marsh, Nathalie Carly Aduddel and Marjorie Carly Schulz leading the singing. Following a delicious pot lunch meal, Weldon Koenig called the meeting to order.

Recognition was given to numerous persons including the following: Rhonda Marsh Kruse and Steven Kruse traveled the greatest distance from Winters, Leo Heller of Ammannsville traveled the shortest distance, Adolf Hollar was oldest man at age 86, Emma Wich was oldest woman at age 90, Kimberly Whitley was youngest person and youngest girl at age 4 ½ months, Steven Kruse was youngest boy at 18 months, H.R. (Bud) Marsh and Cheri Marsh were most recently married (7 months) and Adolph and Edna Hollar were married the longest (61 years). Special recognition was given to Archie Oeding since the reunion was on his birthday.

Branches of the family were represented through children of Christian and Margareta Munke as follows: Joseph J. Munke, 51 present; Charles Munke, 21 present; John Munke, 18 present; Fritz Munke, 5 present; and Anna Munke Heller, 7 present; and 4 visitors rounding out the attendance.

Michael Wied reported on his research on the Laux and Munke family in Austin at the state library. He also suggested that a brief history of the Munke and Laux family he prepared to be included in the book which will be feature families in Fayette County.

Rodney Koenig, Weldon Koenig and Michael Wied will work on a history, using information from the prin booklet printed by Margaret Munke Oeding and Rodney Koenig many years ago.

Rodney Koenig also commented on some early aspects of the family, including comments on Peter Laux and Rosina Laux, who came to Texas in 1845. It was noted that family members are eligible for membership in the Sons of the Republic of Texas and related organizations.

The Williams Creek Cemetery history, written by Norman Krischke, which mentions the Laux and Munke families was also discussed.

Leo Heller reported that the Ammannsville centennial will be celebrated on June 17, 1990, with a special invitation to Laux and Munke descendants. He also invited all descendants to see the beautiful Ammannsville Catholic Church, one of Fayette County's painted churches.

The 1991 reunion will be held on the first Sunday in June again, with descendants of Charles Munke being the hosts.

Duderstadt Reunion Set Here July 29

Descendants of the late Duderstadt brothers, Andreas and Friedrich, who came to Texas from Germany in the 1850's, will hold their biennial reunion on July 29 at the Yorktown Fire Station Auditorium.

Each family is requested to bring a dish for the noon lunch, a snack for the afternoon and several favorite recipes for the family cookbook that is planned to be compiled. An interesting program is planned.

Present officers are: chairman, Pete Duderstadt, Yorktown; vice president, Tommie Sheffield, Seguin; treasurer, Richard Bettge, Meyersville and secretary, Frances Hartmann, Yorktown.

Yorktown News, July 18, 1990

FAMILY REUNIONS (continued)

FOUR FAMILY LINES HOLD REUNION

The second family reunion for the Schultz-Kulow-Beckmann-Siegert lines was held Sept. 9, 1990, in the Sealy American Legion Hall, with some 271 persons attending.

The reunion included a history table with pictures, a barbecue dinner, and presentation of awards and prizes. A "playlet" featured "Grandpa" dreaning of his youth while costumed children presented musical selections.

The Rathkamp German Folkdancers from Houston performed to lively music from Baveria.

Relatives involved in reunion presentation included: Marcel Gau, Erna Kulow, Lucille Siegert Ricke, Julie Strassner, Cathy Besetzny, Sarah Arnold, Dorothy Siegert Storenski, Jennifer Hill, Brian Ramsey, Earl Siegert, Bud Cain, Lavern Siegert, Irene Leatherwood, and Jo Ann Cain.

From outside Texas, relatives came from Alabana, Mississippi, Oklahoma. Texas residents cane from Fredericksburg, San Antonio, Edna, Victoria, Snook, Speaks, and Bryan.

Submitted by: Lucille Siegert Ricke
1302 Overhill Dr., Houston TX 77018.

9th HEIL FAMILY REUNION HELD

The ninth annual Valentine and Katherine Kampf Heil family reunion was held on Saturday, June 9, 1990, at the Yorktown Fire Station. Thirty family members and two visitors were present.

A covered dish dinner was enjoyed by all. A short business meeting followed and door prizes were awarded.

Lisa Gates and Sandra Sullivan won the women's prizes while Ronnie Childs and Wilfred Jacob won the men's prizes.

It was decided to have the reunion again next year, same time, same place. Sandra Heil and Carol Semper will be in charge.

Yorktown News
June 14, 1990

7TH ANNUAL HENRY VOLLENTINE FAMILY REUNION
SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1990
AMERICAN LEGION HALL - HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS

This year's reunion will be in memory of Francis "Frank" Vollentine, the third child of Henry and Mariah Brown Vollentine. "Frank" was born June 20, 1851 in Breslau, Texas. On November 1, 1871, he married Elizabeth Stubbs in Travis County (Austin, Texas). "Frank" and Elizabeth had four living children: Maude Virginia, born in 1875 and died in December, 1944; Guy Joseph, born November 22, 1876 and died March 1, 1963; John Fredrick "Fred", born January, 1880 and died September 16, 1940; and Claude Frank "Buck", born August 10, 1885 and died January 24, 1960.

"Frank" was a farmer, rancher, horse trader and owner of real estate in Hallettsville. The land he owned was near Breslau and Witting. In about 1890 he and Elizabeth moved to Hallettsville. While living there, he had a stroke in about 1912 and later passed away on December 26, 1913. His wife, Elizabeth, and their son, Guy, moved back to the farm between Breslau and Witting. Guy never married, but in about 1923 he and his mother, Elizabeth (Granny), adopted the children of my parents, John Fredrick "Fred" and his wife, Julia Becka. "Fred" and Julia divorced and both agreed to let Granny and Uncle Guy adopt me, John Francis, and my sister, Susie Louise. Granny Elizabeth passed away on May 8, 1930 and both she and Grandpa "Frank" are buried at St. Mary's, west of Hallettsville.

John Francis Vollentine
Route 3, Box 228
Caldwell, Texas 77836
409-272-8711

Lavaca County Tribune-Herald, June 15, 1990

RELATIVES FROM GERMANY HONORED IN SAN ANTONIO

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Domann, Mary Lee Kozielski, Sonny Zaiontz, Mr. and Mrs. George Gibson and Jack were in San Antonio Saturday visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Lee Harms and Mr. and Mrs. Aloys Kortz for a supper honoring Otto Domann and son, Robbie, and George and Helen Rieger of Winterbach, Germany.

THE 17th ANNUAL LANDGREBE REUNION PLANNED

The descendants of Heinrich and Katharina Borth Landgrebe will be having their 17th annual reunion on Sunday, September 2, 1990. The reunion will be held at the V.F.W. Hall in Yorktown. The noon meal will be served at 1 p.m., but everyone is encouraged to come early to visit and play some games. A family meeting will be held later in the afternoon.

Heinrich and Katharina Landgrebe had eleven children: Mary Sievers, Willie Landgrebe, Louise Hardt, Henry Landgrebe, Elizabeth Brandt, Louis Landgrebe, Katie Sievers, Natalie Sievers, Henrietta Wagener, John Landgrebe, and Erwin Landgrebe. Henry and John died shortly after their births. Of the nine remaining children, Henrietta Wagener and Erwin Landgrebe are the only surviving children.

Edna Brandt is in charge of the entertainment this year. She would like everyone to come early for a game of dominos, cards, or for some outdoor fun. Kids and adults should bring their favorite athletic gear: football, baseball and glove, volleyball and net, or soccer ball.

The plates and eating utensils, tea and coffee, potato salad, bread, and beans are being provided by volunteers. Other family members should bring a salad, vegetable side dish, or a dessert along with serving utensils for their dish. The barbecuing will be done by Gaylon Franke with the help of some volunteers.

Copies of the family tree will be available after all updates are made to the computer. There will be a small charge for the printout to cover the costs of making copies and postage when it is sent.

 THE VICTORIA ADVOCATE, Sunday, September 2, 1990

German Immigrant Family Gathers

Advocate News Service

SEGUIN — The Smith family reunion was held recently at the American Legion hall in Seguin. The descendants of John P. Smith, Louisa Smith Braden and Teresa Schmitt McBride made the arrangements for the event.

The German immigrant family of Johann Schmitt left Budesheim, Germany and sailed to Indianola, Texas in 1845-46. Johann drowned at the docks just prior to leaving Germany and his wife, Maria Ruder Schmitt came to the U.S. with her five children, Elizabeth, Teresa, Henry, John Baptist and Margaret. Maria died near Indianola three years after arrival.

Most of the children married and made their homes in the coastal area, Indianola, Matagorda Island and Peninsula, and in the Copano Bay and San Antonio Bay area. Many of the descendants remained in the coastal area, becoming prominent citizens in these communities as well as in other Texas towns.

Descendants of Teresa, Henry and Margaret were among the 165 family members who attended the reunion, the largest group was Henry's family, who traveled fro California, New Mexico, Florida, Michigan and other Texas cities.

There were no descendants of Elizabeth Schmitt Hill present, although some have attended past reunions. No descendants of John Baptist Schmitt have been located to date, but family researchers believe there are descendants living in the area and hope to contact some of them in the future.

The oldest member present was Arthur Smith, 90, son of John P. Smith, grandson of Henry Smith. Arthur passed away several days after the reunion.

A large collection of pictures, genealogy records and family history was on display, most of which was the work of Mrs. James W. Boyd of Yoakum. A brief history of the family was given by Mrs. R.A. Stevenson of Victoria, providing the descendants with an overview of their ancestor's rich heritage. It was noted that Henry Schmitt changed his name to Smith when he became a naturalized citizen in 1850.

A barbecue meal was catered with family members providing desserts. Announcements were given by Sen. and Mrs. John Traeger, and the invocation was given by Mrs. Nell Smith Preston of San Antonio. Mrs. Helen Smith Crump and Mrs. Pat Saegert, a McBride descendant, registered families.

Mrs. Lillian DuBilier and Mrs. Marie Heil, both Smith/Braden descendants were in charge of other arrangements.

THE VICTORIA ADVOCATE, July 29, 1990

Arneckeville Site of Family Reunion

The Arneckeville Community Center was the site of the reunion of the descendants of the late Rev. Christoph Adam Sager and Justine Sophie Dreier. The Henry Sager family branch served as hosts.

Special guests welcomed were Rev. Lee Eschberger of Zion Lutheran Church and Rev. Al Hoerig. Rev. Esberger gave the invocation, and attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rev. Felix Sager, grandson of the Rev. C.A. Sager, led the program, and Albert Sager conducted the business meeting. A photo was displayed of Rev. C.A. Sager, thought to be the only photo in existence of him; and family statistics were updated. A committee was formed to revise the history and to incorporate all available dates.

Prizes were awarded to Frelda Duderstadt, 91 years of age, oldest person to attend; Molly and Jenny Nagel, twin daughters of Jeff and Katy Nagel, youngest people to attend; Werner and Margaret Hartman, married 56 years, longest married couple; Rodney and Vickie Flessner, most recently wed; and Ray and Teresa LeSage and Elizabeth LeSage, of Sulphur Springs, who traveled the farthest, 420 miles.

Rev. Christoph Adam Sager was born in Germany, educated in Basel, Switzerland, and answered a mission call to America. He was also a trained cabinet maker and a farmer. He came to Texas in 1850 and established congregations in Meyersville and Arneckeville and also worked in the Victoria area. He married Justine Sophie Dreier who had come to America with her parents and settled in the Meyersville community.

The couple had nine children, seven of whom grew to adulthood. They were Friedericke, who married Heinrich Koehler; Caroline, who married Friedrich Krueger; Friedrich, who married Dorothea Wolf; Christian, who married Louise Stahl; Heinrich, who married Alma Stahl; Justine, who married Friedrich Hartman; and Wilhelmina, who married Friedrich Wolf.

The next reunion will be held in 1992 on the second Sunday in July. The Justine Hartman family branch will be the hosts.

THE VICTORIA ADVOCATE, July 22, 1990

Grunewald Family Holds Reunion

Advocate News Service

GOLIAD — The descendants of Joseph and Anna Maria Arnold Grunewald held their third family reunion recently at the Hermann Sons Hall in Goliad. One hundred family members attended the gathering.

In attendance was Freda Grunewald Peters, daughter of Paul Grunewald, and the only living grandchild.

Activities included memorabilia, photographs and family tree display; the awarding of prizes; a business meeting; and a barbecue lunch prepared by the reunion committee of Pauladene, Anton and Kelvin Schoener, Joy Cole, and Don and Mary Oldmixon. Other committee members were Patrick Schindler and Russelel Grunewald.

Joseph and Anna Grunewald had two children, Cecilia and Paul. Cecilia married Siegfried Jacob and the couple had four daughters, Amalia Dentler, Melina Baecker, Paula Arnold and Frieda Koenig. After the death of Siegfried Jacob, Cecilia married Ben Arnold, the they had five children, Richard Arnold, Josephine Schindler, Elsie Noll, Othelia Vogt and Alphonse Arnold.

The family's next reunion will be held in July of 1992. Officers elected for that reunion are Forrest Schindler, chairman; Doug Hillyer, vice-chairman; Robbie Nell and Roland Karnei, treasurers; and Ella Arnold, secretary.

The Schulenburg Sticker--Thursday, July 26, 1990

Burger Family Holds First Reunion

The descendants of Henry Christ Burger and Carolina Merri Windmeyer held their first reunion July 21 at the Community Center in Schulenburg.

Henry Christ Burger was born Oct. 4, 1839 in Zweibrucken, Germany. He came to this country in 1864 and settled in La Grange and operated a ferry. Before leaving Germany, he attended a university where he studied astrology.

Carolina Merri Windmeyer came to America with her family. She was born June 20, 1852 somewhere in Germany. She had a brother, August Windmeyer, and two sisters, Flora Windmeyer and Anna Windmeyer who married Frank Huebotter.

Henry Burger married Carolina Windmeyer Jan. 4, 1875. They settled south of Schulenburg on a farm. He passed away in 1931 and she passed away in 1896.

They had 11 children. Two died as infants and Margaret died as a young teen. The rest are now deceased including: Christ, Gus, George and Fred Burger, Lena Price, Betty Nabis, Emma Brauer and Minnie Engelhardt.

Many relatives attended the reunion including 75 aunts, uncles and cousins. There are 12 first cousins left and out of that 12, seven were able to attend, including: Leona Surcula of Schulenburg, Carolina Howell of Bulverde, Emma Jean Jennings of Mathis, Fred Burger Sr. of Sealy, Bill Engelhardt of Dayton, Dorothy Dashier of Clinton, Ark., Anthony Gellis of Jacksonville, Fla., and one cousin by marriage, Amanda Burger of Schulenburg, wife of the late Chris Burger.

The day was spent getting acquainted, enjoying a catered meal and having good fellowship as one big family.

Everyone voted to have a second reunion in Schulenburg on July 20, 1991.

Those in attendance were from various places including: Schulenburg, Houston, Dayton, San Marcus, Bedford, Mathis, Sealy, Bellaire, Cat Spring, Tomball, McCoy, San Antonio, Bellville, Bulverde, LaPort, Melbourne, Fla., Jacksonville, Fla., Clinton, Ark. and Joshua Tree, Calif.

Those in attendance from Schulenburg were Leona Surcula, Bonita and Franklin Guettermann, Amanda Burger, Dusty Wagner and daughters, and Glenda and Donald Vanicek.

Yorktown News
March 21, 1990

CONFIRMATION CLASS CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

The golden anniversary reunion of the 1940 Confirmation Class was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 18, 1990. Twenty of the original forty confirmants were in attendance. Nine members of the class are deceased and were memorialized by the class with a gift of the altar flowers. Gratitude to St. Paul Lutheran Church was expressed through special anniversary offerings.

Marie and Ruth Hankammer, daughters of Pastor C. G. Hankammer, the confirming pastor, were honor attendees at the reunion function.

Members were in attendance from Houston, Victoria, San Antonio, Kerrville, Mathis, Corpus Christi, Westhoff, and Yorktown. Twelve of the class are still members of St. Paul Lutheran in Yorktown.

Following the 10:30 worship service, group pictures were taken before the guests went to the fellowship hall to enjoy a delicious turkey dinner catered by Alice Weise.

Pastor David Heidtke and Pastor and Mrs. James Pearson were guests of the Golden Anniversary Class at the dinner. Pastor Daniel Schorlemer of San Antonio was Master of Ceremonies at the brief program, which featured introductions of the members of the class and their spouses. Class members then shared memories of their class experiences of fifty years ago.

The group expressed special thanks to Olivia Riedesel Janssen, Lorene Stanchos Koopmann, Edna Richter Heil, Gerald Gerhardt, and Wilfred Riedesel and their spouses for all the arrangements carried out; also, to Caroline Wischkaemper Schorlemer for initiating the celebration.

50 YEARS AGO

-50-

Confirmation class of St. Paul's Lutheran Church last Sunday was composed of: Lovell Artice Blain Jr., Bernice Brown, Royal Brown, Lou Ella Eckert, Annie M. Geffert, Clara Marie Geffert, Freddie Charles Geffert, Ruby Joyce Geffert, Ruth Joyce Geffert, Doris Willis Gerhardt, Gerald Gilbert Gerhardt, Lorine Agnes Gloor, Norman Wehmann Gloor, Raymond John Gloor, Harold Karl Gohmert, Mary Jane Halberdier, Norma Lydia Hankammer, Edwin H. H. Jacob, Lillian Mildred Jaeger, Gilbert Alvin Koopmann, Harlan Luedecke, Esther Machost, Irene Elmera Mayer, Ruth Louise Menn, Emil F. Metting, Gottfried Metting, Norris Lee Metting, Ottwald Metting, Calvin Otto Mueller, Lena and Joe Richter, Emilie Norma Riedesel, Olivia Marie Riedesel, Wilfred F. Riedesel, Ilsie Mary Schmiedlin, Berta Belle Schorlemer, Lorena Stanchos, Caroline and Josephine Ellen Wischkaemper and Ethleen Addit Woltersdorf.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Two Germanys Are United

In ceremonies beginning on the evening of Tuesday (October 2) and continuing throughout the following day, the German Democratic Republic acceded to the Federal Republic and Germany became a united and sovereign state for the first time since 1945.

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, October 3, 1990

Die Einheit Unified Germany, 1990

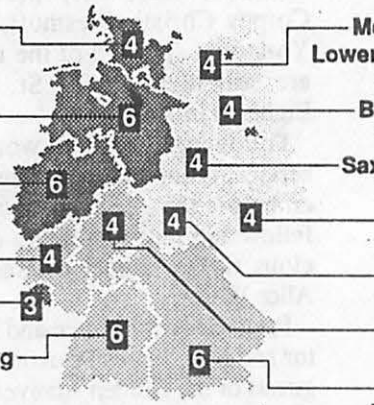
New Political Landscape

The former East is being organized into five new states, which will be represented in both houses of the Federal Republic parliament on equal terms with the existing eight states and three independent cities. East and West Berlin will combine into a single capital city. Most Eastern political parties will merge with counterparts in the West.

Bundesrat – Upper House

Seats are allocated by state; representatives are chosen by state legislatures. Minimum of 3 seats per state, with more for those with populations over 2 million.

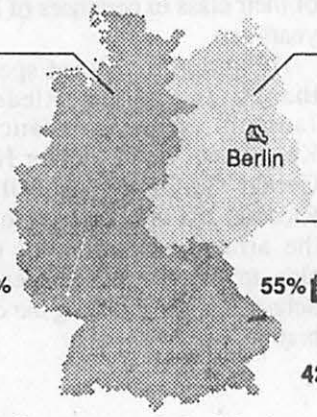
Key to current ruling party: Christian Democrats | Social Democrats | No local election yet



* Mecklenburg-Lower Pomerania may be allotted only three seats.
Populations for 1987 except former East (1990 estimates); Berlin party control is West only.

Bundestag– Lower House

After an all-German election Dec. 2, the 656 seats of the lower house will all have been elected directly by voters in 328 voting districts, 2 seats per district.



Former West Germany
Including West Berlin
512 seats

Choice for chancellor in recent poll:*

Helmut Kohl
Christian Democrat
49%

Oskar Lafontaine
Social Democrat
41%

Former East Germany
Including East Berlin
144 seats

Choice for chancellor in recent poll:*

Helmut Kohl
Christian Democrat
55%

Oskar Lafontaine
Social Democrat
42%

* Published Sept. 17 by West German newsweekly Der Spiegel

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany by the Numbers

Following the October 3 unification, the Federal Republic became the second largest country in Europe, right behind the Soviet Union. The 16.4 million inhabitants of the 108,000 square kilometer German Democratic Republic bolstered the Federal Republic's landmass to 357,000 square kilometers with a total population of 78.7 million. The united Germany will be about the size of the state of Montana.

A reunited Berlin serves as official capitol, although the government will initially remain in Bonn The country nowconsists of sixteen states, with Berlin the largest city (3.4 million residents).

The Federal Republic of Germany's annual 2.2 billion gross national product will be virtually unaffected, nor will the addition of the GDR gross national product change the Federal Republic's place in world trade. Although the GDR did control one percent of world trade (as opposed to the FRG's ten percent) these contracts were with other east bloc countries and were invalidated when the GDR converted to a D-Mark based economy.

The Week in Germany October 5, 1990
A Weekly Publication of the German Information Center

16 Components of Federal Germany

German wine, Texas beer help New Braunfels celebrate unity

By Siva Vaidhyanathan
American-Statesman Staff

Austin-American Statesman
10-3-90

(ISB: #23)

NEW BRAUNFELS — Celebrating feelings of joy, relief and pride, members of the German-American society of New Braunfels raised a toast Tuesday night to the people and leaders of the newly united Germany.

"This is both an exciting and sobering time for us," said Benno Engel, a German teacher at New Braunfels High School, who led the gathering of more than 100 in a toast.

"We thank the leaders of all the great powers who had the courage to bring this about."

Engel said Central Texas, with its many German-American communities, has been watching the events of the last year with a sense of amazement.

"I told my students last year that we would never see a united Germany," Engel said. "Three months later the German people made a liar out of me."

Engel said massive political change can yield uncertainty, but the focus of the community has been on the positive aspects of unification.

"The only thing we are really scared of is what's going to happen to our German friends. Will we ever be able to travel over there because the deutschemark is so strong compared to the dollar?" Engel said.

The gathering in New Braunfels brought together people whose families had come from Germany from as recently as three months ago to as long as three generations ago. They paid tribute with a moment of silence, then toasted and sipped Rhine wine or Shiner beer under flags of the United States and West Germany.

Cash Hermes, president of the society, said German-Americans in New Braunfels have been in constant contact with friends and relatives in Germany.

"Last year at Wurstfest, about 20 to 25 people were visiting from Germany," Hermes said. "When they heard about what was happening over there, they started crying and hugging each other."

Gertrude Fischer's cousins called her at 6 p.m. Tuesday from Germany, where it was midnight.

"They were all celebrating and drinking wine for a wonderful future," she said. "I told them I would do so also."

Hannelore Brotze, who returned from a trip to Germany last week, said many German-Americans share concerns for the future of Germany with those who live there.

One major concern is the immediate economic effect on West Germany, she said. "The East Germans haven't had anything for 40 years, and they're buying all the TV sets, cars and stoves they can find. Everything is very expensive in Germany right now."

Another major concern is the recent reduction in U.S. troop strength in Germany as a result of the decrease in Cold War tensions, she said. "It takes the Russians just 15 minutes to get there," Brotze said. "The Germans just don't trust the Russians."

Regardless of suspicions about its Eastern neighbors, the new Germany has infused German-Americans in Central Texas with a new energy.

"I'm sure a lot of people are going to try to go over there and see what it's like," Hermes said. "We'll have to get a new flag."

Hermes said her organization has more than 200 members in the New Braunfels area and more than 40 percent of the city of 30,000 is of German descent.

German American Day To Recognize German Contributions To U.S. Society

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, in cooperation with the German Association of Cities and the Federal Republic of Germany, has proclaimed Oct. 6 as German American Day.

German-Americans in cities and small communities throughout the U.S. will observe the day with a variety of celebrations. Those whose ancestry lies in what is now East Germany will have special cause for celebration with the upcoming unification of the two Germanys.

Oct. 6 commemorates that date in 1683 when a group of 13 Mennonite families emigrated from the city of Krefeld, Germany, to found Germantown, Pa. They came to the U.S. in search of religious freedom.

Since then more than seven million German immigrants have entered the United States in search of personal freedom, social justice, fortune, and happiness.

A large number of political refugees came to the U.S. following the crushing of the 1848 revolution in Germany. Prior to World War II, approximately 200,000 Germans left the persecution of Hitler's Nazi Germany and came to the U.S.

These immigrants included scientists, artists, musicians, writers, philosophers, doctors, actors, and architects.

Following World War II tens of thousands more sought an opportunity for a new beginning in the U.S. Today there are more than 60 million Americans of German descent with nearly every state having some German element.

Even if the individual dreams were not always realized, many Americans of German descent nonetheless contributed significantly to the development of American culture, technology, society, and economic structures.

Some have gone down in history as presidents, cabinet members, generals, or business tycoons; as Nobel prize winners, painters, writers, scientists, musicians, actors, athletes, or labor union leaders.

Countless craftsmen and teachers, farmers and factory workers, clergymen and businessmen have also played a part in influencing and helping to shape American life.

During the middle of the 19th century hundreds of thousands of German families, fleeing overpopulation, land shortages, and rural economic depression at home, crossed the Atlantic and came to America.

A large number of these immigrants found their way to Texas, coming at first in the 1830s from Germany to New York and then inland.

Later, in the 1840s and 1850s, they came directly to Texas from German and other European ports.

The first German settlements were on the post oak prairies and bottom lands between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers in present Austin, Fayette, Colorado and Washington counties.

The first of these settlements were established in the 1830s and early 1840s. In the mid 1840s the German Emigration Company founded the towns of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg in the Hill Country west of Austin and San Antonio.

Settlements were also founded in an area south of the Guadalupe River in DeWitt, Goliad and Victoria counties, centering around Yorktown and strung along the immigrant road from Indianola to New Braunfels.

In addition, the cities of Houston, Galveston and San Antonio also had large German populations. From these centers, groups of immigrants moved northward and westward into central and West Texas.

(ISB: #29)

The Texas Germans established communities, schools, churches and businesses of all kinds. They founded the social and civic organizations important in German-American life: athletic clubs, hunting associations, singing groups, and bands -- many of which are still active.

Just as the German-Americans have made significant contributions to the national scene, they have also influenced Texas politics, business, culture, and education.

Evidences of the German influence can still be seen in the names of the communities, the use of the German language, and the various ethnic celebrations. Reunions of Texas-German families and organizations promoting the German language, culture, history, and music further pride in the Texas-German heritage of perhaps a fifth of the state's population.

BEL: VILLE, TEXAS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1990

New Yorker
Staats-Zeitung und Herold

Felix Productions, Inc. 130 West 29th Street - New York, N.Y. 10001 - Tel.: (212) 967-5056

Es gibt Jahre im Leben,die spurlos im grauen Fluss der Geschichte zu versinken scheinen.Nicht so das zurückliegende Jahr: Es wird auch im anbrechenden nächsten Jahrtausend herausragen aus der amorphen Masse der Vergangenheit. Wir Deutschamerikaner werden den Moment nie vergessen,als tausende junger Leute in Berlin vor Glück auf der Mauer tanzten,nachdem das DDR-Regime gezwungen war,die Einkerkerung der ostdeutschen Bevölkerung aufzuheben."Freude schöner Götter Funken" überschrieb damals die New Yorker Staatszeitung & Herold ihren Leitartikel auf der Titelseite. Die Redaktion der Zeitung ahnte,dass die Öffnung der Mauer die Kräfte freisetzen würde, die die Spaltung Deutschland überwinden würden.

Das Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl der Deutschen erwies sich als so stark, dass nur ein Jahr später die Einigkeit ihrer Nation wieder hergestellt wird: Am 3.Oktober tritt die DDR der Bundesrepublik bei.Recht und Freiheit herrschen damit im vereinten Deutschland. Die jüngere deutsche Geschichte hat uns so viele Daten hinterlassen,die schmerzliche Erinnerungen wachrufen.Aber am Tag der Einheit am 3.Oktober haben die Deutschen allen Anlass, ihre Liebe zu ihrem Vaterland zu demonstrieren.Mit dem 3.Oktober haben die Deutschen endlich ihren eigenen Nationalfeiertag.Wir Deutschamerikaner sind so stolz auf unsere Heimat!

Den German American Day,an dem wir den Beitrag der Deutschamerikaner am Aufbau Amerikas feiern,begehen wir zwar erst am 6.Oktober.Das soll uns aber nicht daran hindern, am Tag der Einheit die Verbundenheit mit der alten Heimat zum Ausdruck zu bringen.

Die New Yorker Staatszeitung & Herold würdigt die historische Bedeutung des Tages der deutschen Einheit mit einer Sonderausgabe,in der durch eine Vielzahl von Beiträgen der Aufstieg des freien,friedlichen Deutschland aus der Asche des Zweiten Weltkrieges beleuchtet wird.Die Beiträge sind in deutscher Sprache verfasst,doch fügen wir eine englische Zusammenfassung für diejenigen bei,die besser englisch sprechen als deutsch.Wir haben uns vorgenommen,diese Ausgabe der "Staats" zu einem kostbaren Zeitdokument zu machen, welches künftige Generationen von Deutschamerikanern an den Freudentag erinnert,an die geschundene,geteilte Nation im Herzen Europas sich zu einem Vaterland vereinte.Dieses Dokument der deutschen Einheit möchten wir nicht nur unseren Lesern zugänglich machen sondern allen,die durch ihre Loyalität und Zuneigung zur deutschen Sache mit zu der Wiedergeburt der deutschen Nation beigetragen haben.

Dazu gehören vor allem die Mitglieder der deutschamerikanischen Vereine,die sich tapfer zu ihrer Herkunft bekannten,als man deretwegen noch weit mehr diskriminiert wurde als heute. Aus Verbundenheit zu diesem harten Kern der Deutschamerikaner möchten wir allen Vereinsmitgliedern,nah und fern,die Sonderausgabe der Staatszeitung zum Tag der Einheit zukommen lassen - kostenlos. Wir bitten Sie deshalb,uns zu diesem Zweck die Adressen ihrer Mitglieder zu Händen von Steve Hölzle zuzusenden.Wenn Sie irgendwelche Fragen haben,setzen Sie sich bitte mit Steve in Verbindung.Seine direkte Telefonnummer ist 212 - 967 51 82.

In herzlicher Verbundenheit
bin ich Ihr

Jes Rau
Publisher

(ISB: #21)

(ISB: #29)

New Braunfels spiegelt noch Sprache und Tradition

Wer in den USA lebendige Zeugnisse deutscher Kultur sucht, der sollte neben Pennsylvania vor allem Texas in sein Reiseprogramm aufnehmen. Im Land der Bohrtürme und riesigen Rinderherden, einem der größten Bundesstaaten der USA, besuchte die Studiengruppe der Landauer EWH Gemeinden, in denen die deutsche Sprache und Tradition bis heute gepflegt werden.

New Braunfels ist eine solche Stadt, deren Geschichte schon im Namen anklingt. Die Siedler kamen durch Vermittlung des hessischen Grafen Solms-Braunfels dorthin. Während der großsprecherische Graf, „Texas-Charlie" genannt, sich schon bald aus diesem Abenteuer zurückzog, blieben den Einwanderern große Flächen fast unfruchtbaren Bodens, den sie in mühsamer Arbeit kultivierten. Dieses Land gehörte den Commanchen, einem sehr kriegerischen Indianerstamm, mit denen die Deutschen einen feierlich beschworenen Vertrag abschlossen. Es heißt, daß dies der einzige Vertrag mit Indianern war, der je eingehalten wurde. Romantische Darstellungen dieses historischen Ereignisses, die von einer Siedlertochter gemalt wurden, finden sich in der früheren Vereinigungskirche von Fredericksburg.

Unter den Deutsch-Amerikanern in dieser Stadt, in der sich viele Vereine besonders um das deutsche Erbe bemühen, ist der katholische Pastor Knopp eine herausragende Persönlichkeit. Er klagt darüber, daß für die Deutsch-Texaner von der Bundesregierung nur wenig getan wird; im Vergleich dazu würden die Nachfahren der französischen Siedler in Louisiana von der französischen Regierung sehr großzügig finanziell und ideell unterstützt. Die Studenten und Lehrer aus Landau begleiteten Knopp zu seinem „Kindergarten", der sich überraschenderweise als ein Kreis älterer Deutsch-Amerikaner entpuppt, denen der Seelsorger einmal die Woche bei Speis und Trank deutschen Sprachunterricht erteilt. Die Gäste wurden sofort in die Übungen einbezogen, sie erklärten Regeln und demonstrierten ihren Schülern die deutsche Aussprache.

Beim Abschied wandte sich Pastor Knopp mit einer eindringlichen Bitte an die Besucher: „Wir brauchen dringend einen deutschen Bäcker, gut ausgebildet, verheiratet, mit Kindern; er kann hier ein Geschäft übernehmen und durch harte Arbeit bald reich werden". Die EWH-Studiengruppe konnte ihm diesen Wunsch zwar nicht erfüllen. Ihre Leiterin, die Akademische Direktorin Gudrun Schäfer, versprach aber, nach der Rückkehr bei der Reiseberichterstattung in der „Rheinpfalz" allen Bäckern mit Fernweh den Tip zu geben, daß in Fredericksburg/Texas eine Backstube leersteht. (Wird fortgesetzt. Erste Folgen erschienen am 20. und 25. Juni).

Oh No! Noble Apache Bites the German Dust

By STEPHEN KINZER
Special to The New York Times

BAD SEGEBERG, West Germany — This resort town turns into a shrine each summer as hundreds of thousands of people come to admire the most popular hero a German writer has ever produced: a wise and brave Apache chief named Winnetou.

Though virtually unknown in the United States, Winnetou has a firm hold on the German imagination. Perhaps more than any other figure, real or fictional, he has shaped Germany's perception of America.

Winnetou's creator, Karl May, who died in 1912, is the best-selling German author of all time, surpassing even titans like Goethe and Thomas Mann. More than 80 million copies of his books have been sold in Germany alone.

Many young people who discover Winnetou persuade their parents to bring them to Bad Segeberg, 60 miles from the Danish border. At a giant outdoor amphitheater here, Winnetou's adventures are brought to life by a cast of more than 100.

A Legend Steps Down

"These are stories about love, about freedom and human rights," said Pierre Brice, the French-born actor who has been portraying Winnetou since 1962. "They have a lot to teach us."

But this summer there is a special disquiet among the pilgrims flocking to Bad Segeberg. Mr. Brice, who after 11 films and countless live performances has come to embody the beloved Apache, has announced that he will abandon the role at the end of this summer. He is 61 years old.

Many fans have signed petitions urging Mr. Brice to reconsider his decision. At some performances he is met with cries of "Keep it going!" and "Winnetou must not die!"

The show, which is set on the banks of the Pecos River in Texas, is full of action, highlighted by stunt men falling from high promontories and being dragged through the dirt by galloping horses. But it has a sad ending. This year's production is called "Winnetou's Last Battle." In it, the Indian hero dies at the hands of a mean-spirited white man. Spectators gasp as the fatal shot rings out and Winnetou falls.

The Winnetou stories are couched in simple good-versus-evil terms. But unlike many American books about the Old West, in the Karl May novels evil is most often embodied by white people. Gold-crazed prospectors are depicted as treating Indians cruelly, and the United States Cavalry supports greedy ranchers who steal Indian lands.

"The whites came with sweet words on their lips, but also with sharp knives in their belts and loaded rifles at the ready," May wrote in one novel. "They talked about love and peace, but their actions were hateful and bloody."

Reversing the roles found in many American Westerns, May portrayed Winnetou as mentor to a white man, Old Shatterhand. Winnetou and Old Shatterhand become blood brothers and share many adventures, but it is usually Winnetou who has the ideas and insights, and Old Shatterhand who learns and obeys.

"Karl May had his own view of the American West, and it wasn't the Howard Hawks or John Ford view," said Helmut Schmiedt, a university professor in Bonn who is one of May's biographers. "It was a fantasy, but a very different fantasy."

Simple Themes

For all of May's popularity, even his admirers are reluctant to claim that his works are great literature. "These books have a lot to recommend them," Mr. Schmiedt said. "They are well constructed and very readable, and there are some wonderful descriptions of people and places. But psychologically they are very simple. The best that can be said about them is that they are appeals to create a better world, a tolerant world without class or race hatred."

May's works have been translated into 28 languages, and have become popular in many countries far from Germany. But in the United States they have not sold well. The few American editions that have appeared are now out of print.

At the time May wrote the Winnetou novels in the late 19th century, he had never visited the United States. Nor had he set foot in any of the exotic places where his other novels were set: the Balkans, Kurdistan, South America and various Levantine kingdoms. Yet his books are richly detailed, and many readers came to think that the author was himself a great adventurer.

May cultivated the image. He falsely claimed that he had traveled the world and mastered dozens of languages.

Blindness Led to Fantasies

Students of May's work say he developed his capacity for fantasy early in life. He was born blind, and until he gained his sight at the age of 5 he was forced to live largely in a world of his own invention.

May's books can be found everywhere in Germany, and new editions are still being printed. Yet there are signs that the current generation of schoolchildren may be the first in a century not to fall in love with Winnetou and Old Shatterhand.

"As recently as 20 or 25 years ago, when I was in school, everybody was still reading those books," said Mr. Schmiedt, whose biography of May was published in 1987. "I'm not sure that's true anymore. Kids today don't read as much."

At the amphitheater in Bad Segeberg, there is no sign that Winnetou's appeal is fading. Seven times a week, the seats fill with thousands of children and their nostalgic parents and grandparents.

This resort town where the shows are given has no connection with the life of Karl May, a Dresden native. But the Wild West theme has been a smashing commercial success.

Although most of the young spectators knew that Winnetou was to die at the end of the show, some shed tears as his body was solemnly taken away. A few moments later the crowd was on its feet, cheering Mr. Brice and the other performers as they took their bows.

With the show over, Mr. Brice rode his horse back to the dressing complex and dismounted. He fed the horse several bunches of carrots and sat down for a cool drink served by his wife, the actress Hella Krekel, who also performs in the show.

"What Winnetou believes is what I believe," Mr. Brice said as he pulled his flowing wig. "His message is that we have to live in harmony with each other and with nature. That's a message for all time."

Karl May, creator of Winnetou, the Apache chief who has become the most popular hero a German writer has ever produced.

Thomas Meyer/Action Press

chief Winnetou as portrayed by Pierre Brice in the annual theater production in Bad Segeberg, West Germany.

(ISB: #7)

HUMOR

Staubsauger explodiert

(ISB: #23)

Deutsche Staubsauger-Vertreter erzählen sich einen merkwürdigen Fall von Kunden-Reklamation: Eine Hausfrau aus Kassel hatte der Herstellerfirma geschrieben: „Mein Staubsauger ist explodiert, die ganze Wohnungseinrichtung ist verbrannt. Ich verlange Schadenersatz und einen neuen Staubsauger!"

Ihre Geschichte:

„Ich erwartete mein Kaffeekränzchen und hatte Erdbeerkuchen gebacken. Den stellte ich ins geöffnete Küchenfenster. Da sah ich, daß ein ganzer Wespenschwarm sich über den Kuchen hermachte.... Da hatte ich eine Idee. Ich holte den Staubsauger und saugte die Wespen einfach weg." Kaffeekränzchen gerettet!

Doch am nächsten Morgen summte es im Staubsauger wie im Bienenkorb: Die lebten alle noch! Die Hausfrau hatte noch eine Idee: Sie hielt den Staubsauger-Stutzen über den Gasherd und drehte das Gas auf. Das Summen erstab...

Wenig später wollte die Hausfrau Staub saugen. Als sie das Gerät anstellte, explodierte es: Der elektrische Funke hatte das Gas im Staubsauger entzündet.

Vacuum Cleaner Explodes

Vacuum cleaner salesmen in Germany were talking about their customer complaints:
One told this story: A housewife from Kassel wrote to the manufacturer:"My vacuum cleaner exploded and all my furniture burned. I demand reparation and a new vacuum cleaner! "
Her story: I was waiting for my "Kaffeekränzchen" to come and had baked a Strawberry cake. I put the cake in the open kitchen window. Then I saw a swarm of wasps were at my cake. I had an idea! I got my vacuum cleaner and sucked up all the wasps. The Kaffekränzchen was saved.
The next morning, I heard humming in the vacuum cleaner like in a bee hive. The wasps were all still alive! The housewife had another idea. She held the vacuum cleaner hose over the gas stove and turned it on.
The humming stopped.... Later, the housewife wanted to use the vacuum cleaner.
But when she turned it on- it exploded.
The electric spark had set off the gas.
(So much for human ingenuity!)

(ISB: #10)
(sign found attached to computer in Central Texas hopsital labratory)

Achtung!

Das machine is nicht fur Gerfingerpoken und mittengraben. Is easy schnappen der Springenwerk blowenfusen und poppencorken mit spitzensparken. Is nicht fur gerwerken by 'Dummkopfen'. Das rubbernecken sightseeren keepin hands in das pockets. Relaxen und watch das Blinkinlights.

Kleinigkeiten

(ISB: #7)

Die U-Bahn ist völlig überfüllt. Ein Mann schimpft: "Die Jugend von heute hat eben keine Manieren mehr!"

Ein anderer Fahrgast meint erstaunt: "Aber der Junge hat Ihnen doch eben seinen Platz angeboten!"

"Ja, mir schon, aber meine Frau hat noch immer keinen Platz!"

Der Gerichtsvorsitzende fragt einen Zeugen: "Sie kannten doch den Verunglückten sehr gut. Hatte er vielleicht die Angewohnheit, mit sich selbst zu sprechen, wenn er allein war?"

"Das kann ich leider nicht sagen", meinte der Zeuge, "da ich nie mit ihm zusammen war, wenn er allein war."

Deshalb

Ein Nachwuchs[illegible] er klopft wieder einmal mit einem neuen Demo-Band bei dem berühmten Produzenten an. "Tut mir leid, der Producer-King ist nicht da." "Aber ich hab ihn doch vorhin am Fenster gesehen!" "Ja, er dich auch!"

Schwieriger Fall

Beschwert sich Frau Mübbel beim Elektriker: "Seit vier Wochen bitte ich Sie, meine Klingel zu reparieren."

"Aber ich war schon fünfmal bei Ihnen, doch niemand hat aufgemacht!"

Probleme

"Warum stöhnen Sie denn so, Herr Kalubke?" — "Ach, meine Schuhe sind zu eng." — "Warum tragen Sie sie dann?" — "Meine Frau ist krank, der Chef ein Ekel, die Gläubiger hetzen mich, meine Töchter sind hässlich und ledig. Wenn ich abends nach Hause komme und die Schuhe ausziehe, dann habe ich wenigstens einmal am Tag ein Glücksgefühl."

...a "German/English Comedy" presented by Leola Tiedt at the 12th Annual Meeting Banquet

SNOW WHITE

SCHNEEWITTCHEN (ISB:24)

Es war once upon a time eine schöne Princess named Schneewittchen. Sie hat eine terrible Stepmutter, who would nicht permitten that someone else schöner than she should ever live. Every Tag she asked her Magic Looking-Spiegel diese question: "Mirror, Mirror auf der wall am I die schönste girl of all?" And die magic looking-spiegel would sagen: "Queenie, du bist really tops."

Aber, after a while, little Schneewittchen hat prettier and prettier ge-wachsen, and one day when the Stepmutter hat in der looking-spiegel gelooked and asked the question, the looking-spiegel sagte: "Stepmutter, you ain't so bad, aber schneewittchen really takes the Kuchen." Now, dis made the Queen ser hot unter dem Kollar, and sie wanted to put Schneewittchen out of der way. So she called der bester hunter to come in. Zu him she sagt, "Take das Brat out im dem woods, and get rid of her."

Der hunter took das kid bei der hand and led her away, aus in dem woods; aber when he wanted to kill her, er konnte es nicht, because he war chicken-herzlich. Der hunter sagt, "Brat, scrammen sie." Und Schneewitten scrammte. Now war die little Schneewittchen all alone in der great big woods. Sie war scarred. Aber suddenly sie saw ein little Hauslein und ist ingewandert. Es war die home der seven dwarfen. Schneewittchen war ganz tuckered out, so sie fell to schleep auf die whole row of beds.

Dann kamen die Dwarfen home again. Diese waren: Herr Grumpy, Sneezy, Bashful, Sleepy, Doc, Happy, and Dopey. When they saw Schneewittchen auf dem beds lyin, sagen sie auf Deutsch whistle. Now mit dat loud whistle hat sie upge-waked und dann hat sie die Dwarfen getold who she was. Und die Dwarfen hat her getold that she could mit them livin. Und so hat sie dere gelived, und the Haus fur die Dwarfen gekept.

Meanwhile hat die Stepmutter again her magic lookin-spiegel diese question geasked: "Mirror, Mirror auft der wall am I die Schönste girl of all?" Und der Mirror sagt, "Ja, du bist die schönste hier, Aber Schneewittchen, who mit der dwarfen lives, she got it alles over you.

Den ist die Stepmutter off den handle geflogen. In disguise she went to dem Haus of der seven Dwarfen. Schneewittchen thought das sie ein old farmer's wife war, and let her in-kommen. Die Stepmutter hat Schneewittchen eine schone little apron gebracht, put it on her, und hat es so tight up ge-tied, das Schneewittchen could nicht breathen, and fell down like tot.

Now in der meantime, die Stepmutter asked her looking-spiegel die question again and got the same answer, namelich das Schneewittch prettier war and so she went back to der Haus der seven Dwafen. Da sie gave Schneewittchen ein ge-poisoned apple, and when de little kid hat die apple gegessen, fell sie down like tot. Dann lachte die Stepmutter to herself. Now die poor Dwarfen kammen back again and found her dead. Die Dwarfen weinter sehr much for her. And so they made her ein Koffin, mit ein Glas top and put her darin.

Dann, here kam den Prince through die woods and saw her da lying. Er sagte auf Deutsch (whistle). Er went zu die Dwarfen and sagte, "Sell me das Koffin, Ich will dir payen whatever worth it ist."

Aber die Dwarfen said, "Nicht fur all die Bier in Industry." Und die Prince sagte, "Denn give her to mich, because ich Kann nicht without Schneewittchen liven. I will watchen and guarden her fur always." Dann gaven die Dwarfen der Prince den Koffin mit Schneewittchen in it. Der Prince took die glass cover off and Kisst her auf die schone lippen und sie war wieder alive. Der Prince war over-joyed. Schneewittchen sagte: "Ach! Was ist gehappened? Wer bin ich?"

Der Prince sagte, "Du bist mit mer, Baby, und mit mir you gonna stay." Es war love zu firster zeit, und they fallen each other in die Armen. And she went zu der castle mit der Prince and they lived happily ever after.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

TEXAS LAND MEASURE

Unit of measure: The vara = 33 1/3 inches. 36 varas = 100 ft.
1,900.8 varas = one mile = 5,280 feet
5,645.4 varas sq. = one acre = 4,840 yds. sq. = 43,560 ft. sq.
One league = 5,000 varas sq. = 4,428.4 acres = 13,889 ft. sq.
One labor = 1,000 varas sq. = 177.1 acres = 2,778 ft. sq.
1,900.8 varas sq. = 640 acres = 5,280 ft. sq.
1,334 varas sq. = 320 acres = 3,733 ft. sq.
950.4 varas sq. = 160 acres = 2,640 ft. sq.

To reduce:
Varas to feet multiply by 100, then devide by 36
Feet to varas multiply by 36, then divide by 100
Sq. varas to acres multiply by 177, then divide by 1,000,000
Sq. ft. to acres multiply by 23, then divide by 1,000,000

Information provided by the Texas General Land Office.

100 years in agriculture

Texas farmers and ranchers once again have an opportunity to preserve their families' agricultural heritage as participants in the Texas Family Land Heritage Program.

Join us in this year's search to locate Texas farms and ranches which have been continuously owned and operated by members of the same family for 100 years or more.

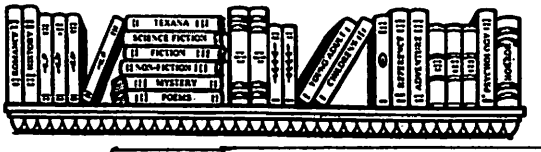
The Program is designed to recognize much more than mere ownership. It seeks to chronicle the uniquely personal histories of agricultural productivity in this state, a proud record which might otherwise be lost forever. Participants who qualify in the Program receive a certificate of honor in the name of the land and are listed in the annual Family Land Heritage Registry.

Under provisions of the Program, Texas residents who own agricultural land may apply if they can trace the line of ownership from the first family member to the present either through direct relatives or by marriage. The land, which must be currently productive, must also fit the old U.S. Census definition of a farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of $50 or more a year; or if less than 10 acres, sales of at least $250 a year.

If all the land has ever been rented outside the family, it will not qualify. Also, owners must live on the land and work the property or, if living elsewhere, must actively manage the day-to-day operation. Texas residents who own agricultural property which they think may qualify can obtain application forms and information about the Program by contacting their local county judge or county Historical Commission chairperson. Forms and information may be obtained from any Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) district office or the main Austin TDA office, P. O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711.

(ISB: #28)

FAMILY LAND HERITAGE PROGRAM · TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



BOOKS

NEW BOOK FROM COMAL COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

"COMAL COUNTY CEMETERY RECORDS OUTSIDE NEW BRAUNFELS" is due for publication in September. Pre-publication price will be $18.00 plus $2.00 postage and 1.35 Tax for Texas Residents. Send order with check to Comal County Genealogy Society, PO Box 583, New Braunfels, TX 78131-0583.

(ISB: #11)

RONdom thoughts *On the Fritz*

By RON BIRK

THE VISTA/September 1990 Southwestern Texas Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

It had been a tough, tiring morning of defending our ranch from the foreign invaders — especially for a 7 year old.

So I took a break from my war games and went to Grandma Birk's for refreshments. As I ate her cookies, she asked what I had been doing. "Fighting Germans," was my reply.

She looked at me a moment. Then softly said, "Do you realize you are a German?"

That warm summer day during the early years of World War II was the dawning of my ethnic awareness.

I have come a long way from those childhood days. Not only am I aware of my German heritage, and proud of it, now I can also laugh at it.

John Louis Anderson has followed up on his book *Scandinavian Humor And Other Myths* with a delightfully wry and smile-provoking publication entitled *German Humor: On The Fritz.* (Harper and Row, 1989).

If you haven't discovered who you are, like I have, you may want to take Anderson's "True/False" exam. The following are a few sample questions:

____A messy farmyard is an absolute sign of an incompetent farmer.

____The three dirtiest words in the English language are Lazy, Late and Liberal.

____Spending money causes insanity.

____Most of the world's woes come from people who get excited about any and everything.

____Farm loans lead only to poverty.

____Every school child ought to learn English, German, and at least one foreign language.

If you answered "True" to the above questions, Anderson would say chances are good you have German blood in you, whether you know it or not.

"There is an equation you should know. One German/American equals a certainty. Two German/Americans equal an argument. Four German/Americans equal a religion and eight German/Americans equal two religions at each other's throats."

Most German/Americans are either Catholic or Lutheran. These differences are the basis for some of Anderson's best humor.

Birk

It is his contention that for the average Catholic or Lutheran layperson, theology plays a minor role.

"Theologians forget that most of us are simply born into, or marry into, a religion. After that, we spend the rest of our lives looking for arguments in our own favor, not comparison shopping in the Mystical Supermarket."

There are, however, things that Catholics do better than Lutherans, and vice-versa.

For example, Catholics are better at weddings and Bingo.

"Lutheran weddings are over in 20 minutes. Then the bride and groom shake hands with the guests and everybody leaves. Some good German Catholic wedding dances last nearly as long as some Protestant marriages."

"Catholics are better at gambling than Lutherans, because Lutherans don't believe there is any such thing as *chance* in either life or religion. While Catholics believe the Lord doesn't frown on gambling as long as it helps the church's work . . . "

Lutherans, on the other hand, are better at singing and no-confession.

"Lutherans sing confidently and lustily because of their centuries of practice and all the great songs they've stolen from the Baptists."

"Lutherans don't have confessionals because they never really believe they can be totally forgiven. They do, however, believe that God occasionally agrees to let some things slide, but that he doesn't like to be reminded of it. This is why Catholics confess things they don't have to confess and Lutherans don't confess things they darn well ought to."

If you are a German/American, or just want a better understanding of your neighbors who are, march, don't walk to your nearest bookstore and get a copy of *German Humor.* It "haz vays uf meking you laf!"

Ron Birk, a member of First, San Marcos, is chair of the synod's Commission for Communications.

(ISB: #22)

Eisabet Ney, Sculptor of American Heroes. Written and illustrated by Marjorie von Rosenberg. Austin: Eakin Press, 1990. $10.95.

This new children's book on the premier woman artist of Texas (and fortunately for us, a German-Texan!) is interestingly written and beautifully illustrated by Marjorie von Rosenberg, Herself an artist, and a descendant of a family whose members were friends of the sculptor, Ms. von Rosenberg has a special understanding of the problems of the woman artist. Especially interesting are all the fine drawings of Ney's major works. They form not only a historical retrospect of Texas,but of much of Western Europe.

Ms. von Rosenberg's book is aimed at third and fourth graders, but it will give even adults a basic autobiography of Ney, an acquaintanceship with her works and an understanding of the process of creating them. A short bibliography and a listing of where many of the statues can be found complete a very attractive and worthwhile volume. Ms. von Rosenberg is also availabe for a slide presentation of this book. Contact her at

6036 Del Norte Lane
Dallas, TX 75225
(214) 739-0649

Review by
Hanna B. Lewis

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of Foreign Languages
Division of English and Foreign Languages
Huntsville, Texas 77341

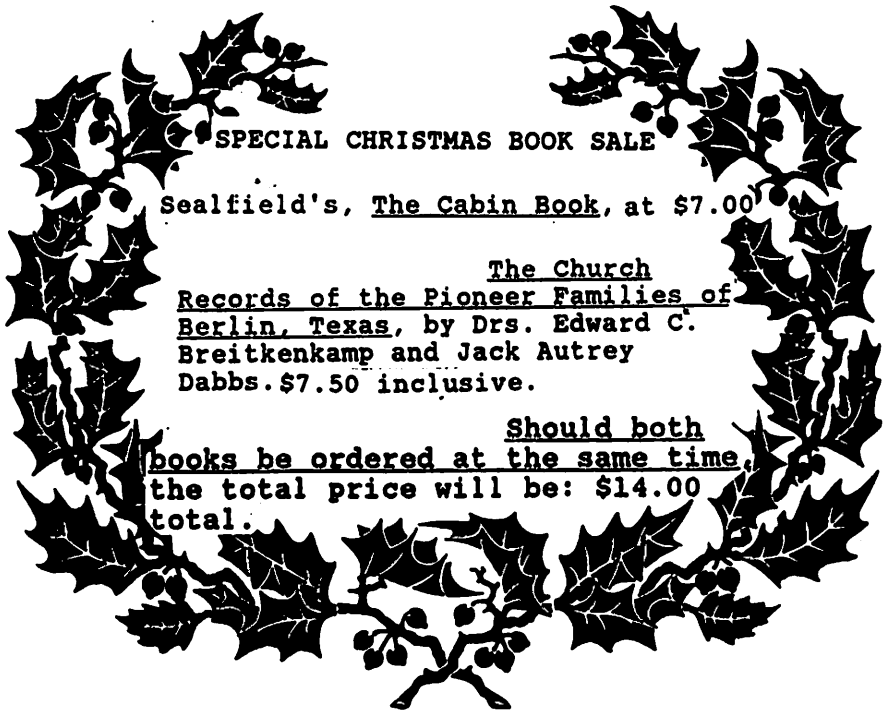
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS

Roemer's TEXAS $17.12 plus $2.00 postage & handling:.....$19.12

Biesele, THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861
$17.17 plus $2.00 postage & handling:.....$19.17

Von-Maszewski, HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE
$8.00 plus $2.00 postage & handling:.....$10.00



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BOOK SALE

Sealfield's, The Cabin Book, at $7.00

The Church Records of the Pioneer Families of Berlin, Texas, by Drs. Edward C. Breitkenkamp and Jack Autrey Dabbs. $7.50 inclusive.

Should both books be ordered at the same time, the total price will be: $14.00 total.

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIPS and BOOKS are Christmas Gifts that are appreciated all year long. Give them to your special friends to enjoy.

AVAILABLE AT GTHS, P. O. Box 262, Manchaca, Texas 78652, (512) 280-3351

ORDER FORM

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Name of Book	# Ordered	Unit Price	Total

Make check payable to GTHS TOTAL _____

German-Texan Heritage Society

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

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

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

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

Membership categories are:

Student	$ 5.00
Regular	8.00
Contributing	15.00
Institutional	15.00
Patron	30.00

Add $4.00 for postage to a foreign country.

The German-Texan Heritage Society calendar year is from January 1 to December 31. Membership payments and renewals are due in January.

Completed projects of the Society:

1. The reprint of *ROEMER'S TEXAS*,
2. Sponsorship of the reprint of *THE CABIN BOOK (DAS KAJUTENBUCH)*, by Charles Sealsfield,
3. The reprint of Rudolph Biesele's *THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861*.
4. *THE HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE*.

All books are available through the Society. Please request price list.

For more information or price lists for books and back issues contact:

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

1011 Meredith Drive
P. O. Box 262
Manchaca, Texas 78652

FOUNDED 1978

German-Texan Heritage Society

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

____ $5 Student (verified by teacher)
____ $8 Regular
____ $15 Contributing
____ $15 Institutions
____ $30 Patron (saints of the society)

Add $4.00 for postage to a foreign country.

19____ Indicate year membership should go into effect.

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name_____
Street_____
City_____
State_____Zip_____
County_____Telephone_____
Occupation (if retired, former occupation)____
_____
Special Projects (relating to German-Texana)
_____
_____
Publications (relating to German-Texana)____
_____
_____

Please check the following interest categories:

____ I prefer to just read the JOURNAL and learn new things.
____ I would like to help out with all of the following categories.
____ I would like to help out with only the categories I have checked.
____ Typing for the JOURNAL.
____ Writing articles for the JOURNAL.
____ Transcribing/translating old German hand-writing.
____ Showing visitors historical sites in my town/city/area.
____ Doing research in archives, libraries, etc.
____ Genealogical exchange. (What names?)
____ Photographing historical sites; Annual Meeting.
____ Speaking German.
____ Other. Please list.

Send your check and this page to:

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

1011 Meredith Drive
P. O. Box 262
Manchaca, Texas 78652

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ISSUE	DEADLINE	ARRIVAL
SPRING	February 10	April 1
SUMMER	June 10	August 1
FALL	October 10	December 1

(This schedule allows one week to assemble, four weeks to print, one week to prepare for mailing, and time for the US Mail.)

Subscriptions should be sent to the Membership Editor. Announcements, articles, genealogical inquiries, conference, meeting and reunion dates, news of other German heritage events, etc., are always welcome from members. Correspondence, contributions and manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief or to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board. Deadlines are posted on this page.

All articles must be typed, SINGLE SPACED, on 8 1/2-inch by 11-inch white paper, with a 1/4-inch margin on all edges. The Editor-in-Chief has the right to refuse any materials that may not be in accordance with the by-laws of the German-Texan Heritage Society.

Zur Erhaltung der deutschen Tradition

ANNUAL MEETINGS

1991---September 6-8
CORPUS CHRISTI
Ingrid Brock
4317 Patrick
Corpus Christi, TX 78413
(512) 852-8751

1992---September
NEW BRAUNFELS
Helgard Suhr
8 Mission Dr.
New Braunfels, TX 78130
(512) 625-6330

1993---
SAN ANGELO
Otto Tetzlaff
Angelo State U.
(915) 944-1927

1994---
FREDERICKSBURG

1995---
VICTORIA

1996---
INDUSTRY

ADDRESSES OF GTHS INTEREST

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
4645 Reservoir Road N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007-1998
Tel. No.: (202) 298-4000

Consulates-General of the Federal Republic of Germany

Houston: 1330 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1850, Houston, TX 77056-3018; Tel. No.: (713) 627-7770/71
(Serves: States Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)

German-American Chamber of Commerce, Houston
909 Fannin, Suite 3750
Houston, TX 77010
Tel. No.: (713) 658-8230

German Information Center
950 Third Ave., 24th Floor, New York, NY 10022
Tel. No.: (212) 888-9840

Goethe Institute Houston
3120 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110
Houston, TX 77098-4614; Tel. No.: (713) 528-2787

Honorary Counsuls

Corpus Christi
5440 Old Brownsville Road
Corpus Christi, TX 78415
P.O. Box 4897
Corpus Christi, TX 78469
Tel. No.: (512) 289-2416
(Serves: Texas counties Victoria Calhoun, Goliad, Bee, Duval, Webb, Jim Wells, San Patricio, Nueces, Kleberg, Kenedy, Wallacy, Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Brooks, Jim Hogg, Zapata, Refugio, Aransas Pass)

Dallas
5001 Spring Valley Road
Suite 1000 E. L.B. 3
Dallas, TX 75244-3910
Tel. No.: (214) 239-8687
(Serves: Texas counties Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufmann, Parker, Rockwell, Tarant, Wise)

San Antonio
1500 Alamo Building
105 South St. Mary's Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
Tel. No.: (512) 224-4455
(Serves: Texas counties Atacosa, Bandera, Bastrop, Bexar, Blanco, Caldwell, Comal, Dewitt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, Lasalle, Live Oak, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Real, Travis, Uvalde, Val Verde, Wilson, Zavala)

Dallas Goethe Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 8233
Dallas, Texas 75205

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

1011 Meredith Drive, Suite C
P.O. Box 262
Manchaca, TX 78652

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Manchaca, TX
78652
Permit No. 100