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ABOUT GTHS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

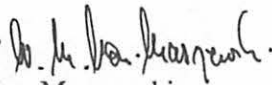
Dear Friends of GTHS,

I consider it an honor to have been elected president of this august Society. To lead the GTHS in the coming year is a particular challenge. 1992 is the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Adelsverein. Many events will take place throughout the state in observance of this occasion. The Society will have an active part in these, not the least of which is our own annual meeting in New Braunfels, the first German settlement founded by the Adelsverein in Texas.

In its dedication to preserving the German heritage in Texas, the Society actively continues its publication program. As its contribution to the anniversary of the Adelsverein, the Society will publish, for the first time in English, the observations of a German traveler in Texas in the 1840's. The Society is also actively working on Volume II of the **Handbook and Registry**. For your part in this project, I ask you to look at your community for elements of German-Texan heritage, elements that need to be recorded before they are lost to posterity.

At our annual meeting in Corpus Christi you heard of the donation to the Society of the German Free School building. This gift will provide a viable headquarters by giving the Society a permanent home as well as being housed in a structure with German-Texan history from the 1850's.

Your Society is growing and receiving nationwide attention. This momentum must be sustained. The chance to make 1992 an outstanding year for GTHS is in our grasp. Let me know of your thoughts and give me your assistance. I am looking forward to working with, as well as for, all members of GTHS.

Regards, 
 W. M. Von-Maszewski
 President



Pictured are Ann Lindemann, retiring GTHS president, and W.M. "Von" Von-Maszewski incoming GTHS president. Photo by Rod Koenig taken the Corpus Christi Annual Meeting Banquet.

Dr. Kelly H. Stevens Leaves His German Mark and Donates German School

By Rodney C. Koenig
Chairperson, Gifts & Memorials

The German Free School Association, established in 1857, was originally comprised of eight men in Austin, Texas. The first man was Wilhelm von Rosenberg from near Memel in East Prussia, who donated the lot and \$1,000 in cash to build the school, which is located near 10th and Red River in Austin, Texas, east of the Capitol. The community volunteered labor to complete the school, which was done by January of 1858, and the first term of school began, with a young German, Julius Schütze, as the first schoolmaster. The original incorporators were Wm. von Rosenberg, Charles Pressler, Joseph Martin, H. Steussy, Dr. J. A. Brown, Wm. Sattler, and Christian Wilhelm. A roster of students in 1858 is attached. The von Rosenberg and Schütze families were connected to the school and Austin from that time to the present. Julius Schütze, the schoolmaster, lived in the school for quite some time and was editor of Texas Vorwaerts, a German newspaper in Austin.

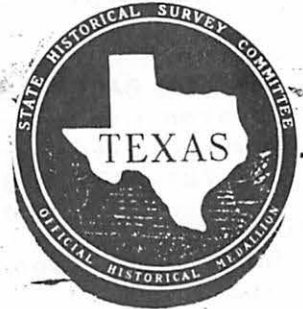
In 1948, Dr. Kelly Haygood Stevens purchased the old German Free School, which had fallen into disrepair. Over the next 40 plus years, Dr. Stevens poured his love and care into the German Free School, researching the history and carefully restoring the old school, which he made into his home. Dr. Stevens is justifiably very proud of his home, including the doors from the Albert Sidney Johnson home, through which Robert E. Lee passed. Dr. Stevens, an artist who is deaf, was born before the turn of the century, on March 30, 1896. He painted and also taught in Austin at the Texas School for the Deaf.

Dr. Stevens discussed the future of "his school" with his friends, Rosemary Stapp and Patti Stoetzner and then approached the German-Texan Heritage Society, wanting to donate the home to the "Germans" in light of the German history of the school.

On August 2, 1991, he deeded his home to the German-Texan Heritage Society, reserving the right to reside in the home for the rest of his life. He has truly left a magnificent German mark. The old German Free School will become the headquarters of the German-Texan Heritage Society and likely will be available for German-Texan functions. We all owe Dr. Stevens a huge debt of gratitude and hope all German-Texans will contribute to an endowment fund to help maintain this historic landmark.



Photos by Hans von-Schweinitz



1992

CALENDAR OF GERMAN-TEXAN EVENTS

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

JANUARY

- 6 Corpus Christi-
GERMAN SOCIETY OF THE COASTALBEND - monthly meeting includes social hour, business meeting, dinner and programs = educational, cultural entertainment. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. (visitors welcome)
 Time & Place (contact: Ingrid Brock)
 512-852-8751 * 4317 Patrick, Corpus Christi TX 78413
- 25 Houston-
"GROSSE PRUNKSITZUNG" - "Gala Session" (sponsored by the "Houstoner Karneval Verein" a sub-branch of the Houston Liederkrantz- featuring entertainment, skits, and dancing with audience participation)
 Houston Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
 713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018
 * 4916 Cedar St., Bellaire TX 77401

FEBRUARY

- 7 New Braunfels-
"MASKENBALL" (Dance, sponsored by New Braunfels German American Society)
 New Braunfels Civic Center
 512-625-6330 * 8 Mission Dr., New Braunfels TX 78130
- 8 Corpus Christi-
FASHING PARTY (Dance, sponsored by the German Society of the Coastal Bend. This celebration of the Marti Gras time in Germany, will have Alpenfest play. Costume prizes will be awarded to the best/ original outfits.
 Time & place: (contact Ingrid Brock)
 512-852-8751 * 4317 Patrick, Corpus Christi TX 78413
- 8 Houston-
"MASKEN BALL" (sponsored by "Houstoner Karneval Verein"-part of the Houston Liederkrantz-live music, prizes for best costume)
 Houston Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
 713-721-8177 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018
 * 4916 Cedar St., Bellaire TX 77401
- 9 Violet-
GERMANFEST (sponsored by Violet Historical Society)
 512-387-2273 * Robstown TX 78380
- 22 Houston-
"LUMPENBALL" (sponsored by "Houstoner Karneval Verein"-part of the Houston Liederkrantz)
 Houston Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
 713-721-8177 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018
 * 4916 Cedar St., Bellaire TX 77401
- 29 Fredericksburg-
"MASKEN BALL" (sponsored by Gillespie County Historical Society)
 512-997-2836 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624

MARCH

- 14-15 New Braunfels-
WALKFEST (Internationaler Volkssport Verband)
 sponsor: Marsch-und Wandergruppe
 512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels TX 78131
- 24 Fredericksburg-
NIMITZ SYMPOSIUM PRESS CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT OPENING
 (symposium will be held in San Antonio)
 512-997-4397 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624
- 21 or 25 Houston-
"SPRINGFEST" (sponsored by Houston Liederkrantz)
 Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
 713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018
 * 4916 Cedar St., Bellaire TX 77401

APRIL

- 3 Round Top-
WINE DALE HISTORICAL CENTER GERMAN PLAY (University of Texas German Dept.)
 409-278-3530 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top TX 78954
- 4-5 Round Top-
WINE DALE 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
- 10 Austin-
GERMAN CHOIR CONCERT - Three choirs from North/Rhine-Westphalia area will perform concerts during a tour in Texas.
 For details and information see (April 13 - New Braunfels)
- 11 Fredericksburg-
GERMAN CHOIR CONCERT
 For details & information see (April 13 - New Braunfels)
- 11 San Antonio-(date tentative)
TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION - honoring G.H. Kalteyer and C. Bamberger/ Alamo Roman & Portland Cement Co. (sponsored by Bexar County Historical Commission)
 Sunken Gardens. Brackenridge Park
 512-220-2657 * Bexar County Courthouse, San Antonio TX 78205
 512-327-9279 * 70 St. Stephens School Rd., Austin TX 78746
- 13 New Braunfels-
GERMAN CHOIR CONCERT (sponsored by German American Society)
 7 PM at the New Braunfels Civic Center
 512-625-6330 * 8 Mission Dr. , New Braunfels TX 78130
- 15 Columbus-
GERMAN CHOIR CONCERT
 for details & information (see April 13 - New Braunfels)
- 18 Houston-
GERMAN CHOIR CONCERT
 for details & informaiton (see April 13 - New Braunfels)

- 18 **Fredericksburg-**
EASTER FIRES PAGEANT (sponsored by the Gillespie County Fair Association) cast of over 600, reenact legend of Indian fires of early pioneer days
 Gillespie County Fair Grounds (3 mi. south on Highway 16)
 512-997-6523 * P.O. 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624
- 22-24 **San Antonio-**
"HERMANN'S HAPPINESS" (sponsored by Grand Lodge of Order of Sons of Hermann)
 5-11 PM, Lodge Building, 525 S. St. Mary's Street
 512-226-9261 *
 1-800-234-4124 * 525 S St. Mary's Street, San Antonio TX 78205

MAY

- 2-3 **Comfort-**
MAIFEST (sponsored by Comfort Heritage Foundation, Inc.)
 * P.O. Box 433, Comfort TX 78013
- 2-3 **New Braunfels-**
FOLKSFEST (sponsored by Sophienburg Museum, Conservation Society & Heritage Society)
 Conservation Plaza
 512-629 1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels TX 78130
- 3 **San Antonio-**
GERMAN MASS featuring San Antonio Liederkrantz (sponsored by St. Joseph Church)
 7 PM * St. Joseph Church, 623 E. Commerce St., San Antonio TX 78205
- 7-9 **Brenham-**
MAIFEST (celebration of old fashioned German folkfest-food, music, parades & entertainment)
 409-836-3776 * 314 S. Austin, Brenham TX 77833
- 9 **Fredericksburg-**
FOUNDER'S DAY - Spring Tour of Homes (sponsored by the Gillespie County Historical Society)
 512-997-2835 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624
- 17 **Anhalt-**
MAIFEST (sponsored by Germania Farmer Verein- traditional food feast to celebrate completion of planting season)
 512-438-2339 * H C 52 Box 2264, Bulverde TX 78163

JUNE

- 5-6 **New Braunfels-**
"WASSERFEST" -community summer celebration, with related water & sporting activities, floating parade, entertainment, dance, food and special water events (sponsored by Wurstfest Association)
 Wurstfest Grounds
 1-800-221-4369 * P.O. Box 180, New Braunfels TX 78130

JULY

5,12,19,26

Fredericksburg-

VAN DER STUCKEN SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL (features work of Fredericksburg native son - famed international composer-conductor)
512-997-6523 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624

10

Houston-

"ETHNIC FEST" (sponsored by the Houston Liederkrantz)
Houston Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.
713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

17-18

Fredericksburg-

"NIGHT IN OLD FREDERICKSBURG" (sponsored by Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce)
512-997-6523 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624

AUGUST

6-9

San Antonio-

FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL (sponsored by Institute of Texan Cultures)
Festival features music, food, dancing, crafts and stories from over 30 ethnic and culture groups in Texas - an educational extravaganza
512-226-7651 (ext. 267 or 235) * P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio, TX 78294

9

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

11-13

New Braunfels-

GTHS ANNUAL MEETING (reception, music, program with lectures & seminars, banquet, awards & business meeting)
512-625-6330 * 8 Mission Dr. New Braunfels TX 78130
512-280-3351 * P.O. Box 262, Manchaca TX 78652

22

Castell (Llano County)-

LLANO RIVER VALLEY GERMAN HYMN FEST (42nd annual festival) German hymns, visiting & refreshments
3:00 PM
915-347-5605 * HC 10, Box 55, Mason TX 76856

OCTOBER

2-4

Fredericksburg-

OCTOBERFEST (sponsored by Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance)
512-997-4810 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624

3-4

Brenham-

OCTOBERFEST (celebration with singing, dancing, special events, games contests, antiques, traditional German food & music)
409-836-6976 * 314 S. Austin, Brenham, TX 77833

3-4

Round Top-

OCTOBERFEST - Winedale Historical Center
409-278-3530 * P.O. Box 11, Round Top, TX 78954

184 October continued

10 or 17

Houston-

OCTOBERFEST (sponsored by Houston Liederkrantz)

713-957-9004 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

* 4916 Cedar St., Bellaire TX 77401

17 Fredericksburg-

DAMENFEST (sponsored by the Fredericksburg Heritage Federation)

512-997-6523 * P.O. Box 506, Fredericksburg TX 78624

30-Nov. 8 New Braunfels-

WURSTFEST (unique celebration attracting national tourists, featuring German sausage making, music, famous entertainment performers, singing, dancing, German food & drink)

1-800-221-4369 *

512-625-9167 * P.O. Box 1194, New Braunfels TX 78131-1194

31- Nov. 1 New Braunfels-

WALKFEST - Internationaler Volkssport Verband (sponsored by Marsch-und Wandergruppe)

512-625-8630 *

NOVEMBER

1 Cost-

GERMAN HYMN FEST (sponsored by Monthalia United Methodist Church) 26th Annual Hymnfest

2:30 P.M.-Monthalia Methodist Church (4.5 miles west of Cost)

512-437-2650 * Rt. 1, Box 84, Cost, TX 78614

713-465-7792 * 13167 Barryknoll, Houston, TX 77079

14 Houston-

"CROWNING" (sponsored by Houston Karneval Verein of the Houston Liederkrantz)

Houston Liederkrantz Hall, 5100 Ella Blvd.

713-721-8177 * 5100 Ella Blvd., Houston, TX 77018

14 Muenster-

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION (sponsored by MÜNster Historical Commission A cultural & genealogical event.

* P.O. Box 282. Muenster TX 76252

27-29 New Braunfels-

"WEIHNACHTSMARKT" (Christmas Market sponsored by Sophienburg Museum)

512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78131

28-29 Comfort-

"CHRISTMAS IN COMFORT" (sponsored by the Comfort Heritage Foundation

* P.O. Box 433, Comfort TX 78013

* Rt. 1 Box 150B, Comfort TX 78013

DECEMBER

4 Boerne-

WEIHNACHTS PARADE (sponsored by Boerne Chamber of Commerce

6:30 PM

512-249 8000 *

December continued

- 5-6 Boerne-
OMA'S CHRISTMAS FAIR
 Kendall County Fairgrounds
 512-537-4512 * Hwy. 46, Boerne TX 78006

- 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 New Braunfels-
CANDLELIGHT TOUR at Sophienburg Museum, Conservation Plaza and Handmade Furniture Museum. All three sites are decorated for Christmas and open for touring
 512-629-6504 * 1370 Church Hill Dr. New Braunfels, TX 78130
 512-629-1572 * 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, TX 78130

- 11-13 Fredericksburg-
KRISTKINDL MARKET (sponsored by Fredericksburg Shop Keepers Guild)
 512-997-5886 * P.O. Box 506. Fredericksburg TX

- 20 Round Top-
WINE DALE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE (19th 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

1992 marks the 150th Anniversary of the Adelsverein. The Annual GTHS Meeting will be held in NEW BRAUNFELS where GTHS will pay tribute to this special Sesquicentennial Celebration.
 Make your plans now to attend the Annual Meeting in NEW BRAUNFELS on September 11, 12, & 13- 1992!

EDITOR'S NOTES

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY :

1. Ingrid Brock, Corpus Christi	9. Rodney Koenig, Houston
2. Bessie Evers Fredericksburg	10. Walter Moser, Houston
3. August Faltin, Comfort	11. Theresa Gold, San Antonio
4. Theresa Gold, San Antonio	12. Wilhelm Niermann, Wehden, Germany
5. S. Marlene Fritz, Plainfield, NJ	13. Dona R-Marquardt, Buda
6. Frances Harrison, San Antonio	14. Lillian Schneider, San Antonio
7. Harrold Henck, Jr., Galveston	15. Anna Thompson, Austin
8. Florence & Lawrence Hoff, Houston	16. Esther Wiedenfeld, Comfort

Credit for information in the JOURNAL is given as: (ISB: #00)

Note: SEE SPECIAL GTHS CHRISTMAS BOOK SALE on page 253

[Note: Florence and Lawrence Hoff - answer to the request in JOURNAL XIII, #2, Page 161 - "Although the Austin Co. Court House in Bellville, TX burned, records were preserved in concrete and steel reinforced Vaults".]

German-Texan Heritage Handbook and Registry Volume II

EXCITING THINGS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR THE YEAR 1992!



FOUNDED 1978

Next year the United States will commemorate the quincentenary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. All over the great 50 states, events will be happening to celebrate this historic event.

In Texas, there will be another reason to celebrate. Societies, institutions and cities interested in the German culture are meeting to plan for the 150th anniversary celebration of the German Adelsverein... a society founded in Germany in 1842 to promote the development of a German Colony in Texas.

The Board of the German-Texan Heritage Society feels it is an opportune time to begin collecting materials necessary to publish Volume II of the HANDBOOK & REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HISTORY. Volume I of the HANDBOOK & REGISTRY grew from the idea that the richness and diversity of the German contribution to Texas cultural history needed to be recorded. This was begun as a sesquicentennial project and was published in 1989. [This book is for sale at the GTHS Headquarters for \$8.00.]

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. We will accept entries for all the following categories:

- I. Old Businesses.....Stores, banks, newspapers, mills, etc..founded before 1892 and still in business today. Need not be under the original owner, buildings alone may be registered if 100 years old.
- II. Vereine.....Organizations founded before 1892 and still active, including, agricultural, musical, literary, shooting clubs, etc..and/or their buildings.
- III. Churches & Synagogues...Congregations founded and/or buildings erected before 1892 by German speaking people and still in existence.
- IV. Cemeteries.....Public, private, and church cemeteries which primarily contain German-Texan graves.
- V. Schools.....Public, private and parochial schools founded before 1892 and still in existence and/or their buildings.
- VI. Farms & Ranches.....Historical homesteads of considerable size and/or significance developed before 1892 and still intact. Ownership need not be the original family.
- VII. Fachwerk Construction.....Buildings using fachwerk (half-timbered) construction in all or part of the structure.
- VIII. Museums, Historical Societies, Libraries & Institutions.....Those devoted to preservation of German-Texan history, culture, or the work of a German-Texan, or housed in a historic building of German-Texan significance.
- IX. Historical Markers.....State of Texas historical markers, local plaques, monuments, statues and National Register of Historic places plaques pertaining to German-Texas heritage or history.

At the present time, we will accept your entries at our GTHS Headquarters. Appropriate chairpersons will be appointed at a later date. For further information, contact Mrs. Patsy Hand, 417 Cottonwood St., Victoria, Texas 77904.

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 262
MANCHACA, TEXAS 78652



(ISB: 1)

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GTHS expresses thanks to American Airlines
for the donation of two free roundtrip airline tickets
to Germany
given as door prizes at the
Corpus Christi 1991 Annual Meeting.

THANK YOU to everyone in Corpus Christi who made the 1991 GTHS Annual Meeting such an enjoyable one for all who attended. A special thanks to Ingrid Brock who chaired this event, to Gigi Hunnicutt co-chair, to Gerda Green, committee member and President of the German Society of the Coastal Bend, and all the members of the German Society of the Coastal Bend who made this GTHS Annual Meeting the most memorable ever!.

RESEARCH

The Adelsverein Immigration to Texas: Research, Education, and Sesquicentennial Celebration

By Theodore G. Gish

Institute of Texas-German Studies, University of Houston

The Adelsverein (The Society of Nobles) settlement of Texas during the decade around the middle of the 19th century is a highly dramatic and unusual chapter of German-American history. It was the largest, the most ambitious, and the most controversial mass immigration of Germans to America in the 19th century. With the characteristic noblesse oblige of that time, the organization formed to direct German colonization in the Republic of Texas entitled itself the Gesellschaft zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas (The Society for the Protection of the German Immigrants in Texas). But since 21 members of the nobility (including five sovereign princes) came together in April, 1842 to form this organization, it has been more popularly known from its beginnings as the Adelsverein. The ensuing immigration took place during the annexation period of the Republic of Texas, when French, Spanish, and especially British eyes saw Texas playing an important role in curtailing America's manifest destiny. The interplay of aristocrats, immigrants, and Anglo-Texans against this political background, as the Society attempted in vain to fulfill many of its ambitious plans for the colonization of Texas, seems to epitomize and symbolize culturally so much of what was taking place between Europe and America at the midpoint of the 19th century.

Because of organizational, logistical, and particularly financial problems, the Adelsverein fell far short of its elaborate colonization plans for Texas. On a strictly numerical basis, however, the Adelsverein undertaking was very successful. Beginning with several hundred Society immigrants who came to Texas in the fall of 1844, from October, 1845 to April, 1846 over 5,000 arrived in 36 ships. All told, by 1850, over 10, 000 German immigrants came to Texas on 93 ships under the auspices of the Adelsverein. But by 1847, the Society was bankrupt and its operations virtually collapsed within the next few years. There were also numerous deaths in the first few years, because of tropical diseases and privations due to lack of adequate shelter. During the spring and summer of 1846, for example, nearly 3,000 immigrarants had to live at Carlshafen (the Society's port of debarkation) under deplorable conditions. Hundreds of these already weakened and sick immigrants died when they attempted to reach New Braunfels - 150 miles into the interior - later in the year. The Mexican-American war which broke out at this time was also a contributing factor to this calamity. (400 young German males, incidentally, joined the American army en masse, as a means of escaping the squalor of Carlshafen.)

German-Texan residents of the Texas Hill Country and Germans in Germany, (now mostly scholars knowledgeable about these distant events), look at the Adelsverein settlement of Texas quite differently. German-Texans generally see in

the event the typically American pioneer successes with the overcoming of frontier hardships. In Germany, in the 19th century as well as now, the Society's settlement of Texas was and is frequently regarded, as one contemporary German historian has put it, "an unbelievable misjudgment of irresponsible aristocrats." Be that as it may, over 10,000 German immigrants settled Texas under the plan of the Adelsverein, while at least an equal number of German immigrants heeded the cry of "Hin nach Texas" ("Off to Texas") because of the activities of the Adelsverein. Few settlers ever acquired the land (320 acres for a family or the 160 for an unmarried male) promised by the Society. But the Adelsverein did establish the port city of Carlshafen (which later became Indianola) and founded the two primary German cities of Texas, New Braunfels and Fredericksburg. In these settlements, the Society was able to give the immigrants town lots and ten acre farm sites, at the stage of the settlement when the Society still felt it could eventually provide the immigrants with the land promised them in the so-called Fisher-Miller grant in West Texas. The Adelsverein had entered into a settlement plan for the grant with a Fisher and Miller, German-Americans already established in Texas. The size of this land grant alone, three million acres, ten times the size of the Dutchy of Nassau, in which the Society was incorporated, greatly impressed the officers of the Adelsverein. But the grant was too far from the coast, much of it was unsuitable for farming, and was it ruled over by hostile Comanches. Consequently, only a very few settlements were ever established on the grant site.

Carlshafen prospered as a port city, well located on the route to the California gold fields, before it was literally wiped off the map of Texas by two disastrous and successive hurricanes at the end of the 19th century. New Braunfels, named for the ancestral home of Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels, the first Commissioner-General of the Society in Texas, became the fourth largest city in Texas for a time. Fredericksburg, was founded a year after New Braunfels by the second Commissioner-General, Baron Ottfried Hans von Meusebach, whose prudence in calling himself John Meusebach was reflected in his ability to bring some amount of order into the highly disorganized financial affairs of the Society's operations. Meusebach also concluded a locally famous peace treaty with the Comanches and several other tribes, thus opening up the route through Texas to the West.

Despite the inability of the Adelsverein to realize its ambitious colonization plans, because of its presence in Texas, San Antonio and the Texas Hill Country still retain today, as an anomalous and unusually large "folk island," an enduring and pervasive German quality. The colorful and dramatic history of the Adelsverein settlement also resides, in a variety of ways, as a collective memory in the minds of the German-Texans of the region.

One of the original settlers of New Braunfels, Hermann Seele, who became a civic and cultural leader of the German-Texans, wrote the first histories of the settlement. These were published in German-language publications in Texas during the latter part of the 19th century. Apart from the still useful, but dated work by Gilbert G. Benjamin: The Germans in Texas: A Study in Immigration (1909), the

most comprehensive and most scholarly American examination of the Adelsverein is Rudolph L. Biesele's History of the German Settlements in Texas: 1831-1861 (1930). Wolf-Heino Struck's chapter on the Society in his book Die Auswanderung aus dem Herzogtum Nassau: 1806-1866 (1966) is without doubt the best German examination of the political and organizational development of the Adelsverein.

Both Biesele and Struck utilized in varying degrees the 45,000 page archives of the Adelsverein which like the Society itself have undergone a somewhat curious history. The archives resided in Wiesbaden, the seat of Herzog Adolf, the Protector of the Society, and in Mainz, the Society's business headquarters, until 1893, when they were transferred to Schloß Braunfels, where they remained until 1965. In 1929-31, the collection was taken to Berlin where ca. one-third of the material was photostated for the Library of Congress. Biesele had these photostats transcribed for the University of Texas and a second copy of the transcripts resides in the archives of the Sophienburg Museum in New Braunfels. It is primarily this photostatic material that Biesele used as an archival source for his history. In 1965, the Adelsverein archives were sold to parties in the United States. Before the archives left Germany, they were microfilmed for the Marburg State Archive and the Federal Archive in Koblenz. The whereabouts of the original archives in the United States remained unknown for two decades, until the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the Yale University Collection of Western Americana announced their acquisition in 1985. This acquisition by Yale came as some surprise, for a short time before the purchase, archivists in Germany had assumed logically that the University of Texas would acquire the archives. Some files disappeared from the archives between 1930 and 1960, and again between 1960 and 1985, and some of them have been recovered by Yale. Since a description of the collection has only been publically available since late 1988, American scholars have scarcely had an opportunity of benefitting from an examination of these materials. (Wolf-Heino Struck very likely did have access to the collection in Germany, or its microfilm, for his study.) Thus far, principal investigators of the general collection have been Glen Lich of the University of Winnepeg and Günter Moltmann of the University of Hamburg who surveyed the archives at Yale two years ago.

While these archives contain the majority of the Adelsverein's documents, virtually every state archive in Germany contains additional, often valuable material not yet sufficiently examined by scholars. Prince Solms' Texas diary and a "white" paper on Texas which Prince Solms directed to his aunt, Queen Victoria, for example, are located in the State Archive at Koblenz. (There have been discussions with the Hessische Historische Kommission of publishing a dual-language, critical edition of these two items.) The Barker History Center at the University of Texas also has largely unexamined Adelsverein items, most notably, the "Wied" archive of Adelsverein material. The Barker library acquired this "Wied" archive at about the same time as the Adelsverein archives made their way to America. The acquisition of this "Wied" collection helped to support the belief of German archivists that the overall collection was going to Texas.

Sparked by Yale's acquisition of the Adelsverein archives, and with the realization that the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Adelverein's founding in 1842 coincides with the Columbian quincentenary in 1992, Glen Lich (at that time, Director of Baylor University's Regional Studies Program) developed the only research conference ever held on the Adelsverein. Attending the two-day meeting at Baylor early in 1990 were representatives from state historical societies (including President Ann Lindemann of the GTHS) and government historical groups, Texas and German scholars, representatives from Texas, American, and German museums, libraries, and archives, and the Texas Committee for the Humanities. Aside from the wealth of interchange among the participants at the two-day meeting (which should lead to the fruition of several scholarly and other sorts of projects), the group is preparing a "state of research" handbook on the Adelsverein which will be published shortly. The availability of the archive collection at Yale, coupled with the publication of the handbook, should prove a considerable impetus to much needed additional Adelsverein scholarship.

Independent of the scholarly activities emanating from the Baylor conference, there are other important scholarly Adelsverein projects. GTHS member Daphne Garrett will publish in the anniversary year, 1992, a history of Nassau farm, the headquarters of the Adelsverein in Fayette County. GTHS member Dona Reeves-Marquardt published in the GTHS Journal (Spring, 1991) the reprint (in the original German) and translation of a settler's account of his family's immigration with the Adelsverein which originally appeared in a 1902 issue of the Deutsch-texanische Monatshefte. Such dual-language publications make this valuable information, virtually "lost," available again to contemporary audiences.

Another outcome of the Baylor conference and the resulting increase of research activity will be the hoped-for development of educational programs about the Adelsverein. While there is the dissemination of a good deal of popular historical information about the events of the Adelsverein settlement, particularly in the cities of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg, there is also in general currency a good deal of misinformation, part of which lies understandably within the parlance of folklore. This is particularly true with respect to the figure of Prince Solms. At the risk of "demythologizing" this folklore, an educational process could establish a more accurate public history of the Adelsverein settlement which is interesting and unique enough, in its own right. Perhaps through the impetus of the Adelsverein sesquicentennial, the public schools of Texas, particularly within the region of the Adelsverein settlement, could be encouraged to give greater attention to this historic event in the teaching of Texas history. In the current climate of ethnic awareness, particularly in such a multiethnic society as that of Texas, German Texans can justifiably argue that such an important experience as the Adelsverein settlement should have a greater role in the teaching of Texas history. Marj Gurasich's Letters to Oma (1989) is the most recent example of a children's book which incorporates story material from the Adelsverein immigration. In this important way too, the Adelsverein story can reach young readers.

In 1986, in the aftermath of the German-American tricentennial observation and during the period of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Texas Republic, the only German-Texan musical ever written (in the 1850s), Hermann Seele's Texas Fahrten (Travels in Texas), had its premiere performance. Seele also wrote and published numerous historical sketches about the Adelsverein. Translations of them were published a few years ago as The Cypress and Other Writings of a German Pioneer in Texas (Translated by Edward T. Breitenkamp; University of Texas Press, 1979). Seele's historically extremely important day-to-day diary account of the Adelsverein settlement will also be published in translation in 1993. Texas Fahrten likewise celebrates the Adelsverein event. In the final scene of the musical, in fact, which culminates in the marriage of two of the immigrants at a now flourishing homestead, Prince Solms (who in the work has brought the bride from Germany) makes an appearance and blesses the occasion.

When Texas Fahrten had its premiere in 1986, it is estimated that the largest gathering of German-Americans in Texas since 1914 (approximately 900) saw the performance in New Braunfels. Because of popularity of this work, the south-central United States office of the Goethe Institute is supporting another performances of Texas Fahrten in 1992 as a way of commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Adelsverein. A second more scholarly activity will be the session on the Adelsverein at the 1992 annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association.

A vehicle which supports both the educational as well as the commemorative aspects of the Adelsverein anniversary is the long-standing television project on the Adelsverein settlement, developed by the author and the award-winning PBS (KUHT-Houston) producer and director, Robert Cozens. This presentation focuses on families where some members immigrated with the Adelsverein, while others remained in Germany. It also examines the attitudes of current members of aristocratic families (e.g. one of the present Prince Solms) whose ancestors participated in the Adelsverein. With the impetus of the Adelsverein sesquicentennial and additional encouragement from media sources in Houston, there is hope that this project can now be realized.

The foregoing represents some of the research, educational, and commemorative activities associated with the Adelsverein settlement of Texas, as the sesquicentennial anniversary of the founding of this unique immigrant society draws nearer. As was stated earlier, the quincentenary observation of Columbus' encounter with the New World was the motivation for the observation of the Adelsverein sesquicentennial. Even though the German immigration to Texas under the auspices of the Adelsverein is a unique chapter in the annuals of the German settlement of America, this distinction is blurred when one considers the endless tide of Europeans who came to the New World in the aftermath of Columbus. And yet, a reexamination of the Adelsverein in 1992 can provide both a fitting way of seeing the German consequences in Texas of the Columbian encounter of the New World and, at the same time, give the historical event of the Adelsverein immigration a much needed educational and research stimulus.

HISTORY

EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN COLORADO COUNTY

This article is based on an oral presentation given at the 1990 state meeting in Brenham. A handout containing a bibliography, a map of Colorado County and adjacent Austin and Fayette counties, and a grid/outline of basic information about each German settlement was used as a reference for the presentation. Because of the difference in formats, there is information contained in this report that was not included in the oral presentation and vice versa. The overall "flavor" of the information is also different from that of the oral report. Since this is a record of the settlements, not the families, only a few family names are mentioned. More were included in the handout at the 1990 meeting. A more complete history of Colorado County Germans can be found in Colorado County Chronicles, chapter 9.

* * * * *

Colorado County was an original county organized in 1836. Columbus, the largest town and county seat, was laid out about 1836 but was the site of an earlier Anglo settlement. By 1844, however, perhaps as many as thirty German families were also there. The Texas Almanac of 1859 states that there were a great number of small German farms in the county and that Frelsburg was quite a flourishing village.

Frelsburg Area

The community of Frelsburg is located in the northern corner of the county at the junction of farm roads 109 and 1291; it is located in the Cummins survey. German settlers were in the area by the 1830's. The Peter Pieper league running east and west is adjacent to the Cummins survey. The Friedrich Zimmerscheidt league runs north and south from the Pieper league. Pieper secured title to his league in 1836. Zimmerscheidt, who had been brought to the area by Charles Fordtran, took occupancy of his league in the summer of 1834 although he did not obtain title until 1846. The names of other German families also appear in early records for that part of the county.

During its history the Frelsburg area was known by several other names: Cummins Creek Settlement, Westmunster, Blumenthal, and just simply "the German settlement." (For a more complete discussion of the various names, refer to the Nesbitt Memorial Library Journal, August, 1990, Volume 1, Number 6.) According to this reference, "...Cummins Creek, Westmunster, and Blumenthal may well have been overlapping or successive names of one widespread rural community without any semblance of an urbanized center. Or there might have been micro-communities with names along religious affiliations." The name Kraewinkel appears in a recent history of Frelsburg; however, this name may have been more of a nickname meaning "small, out of the way place" and may have been found only in informal usage.

Cummins Creek is to the west of the Pieper and Zimmerscheidt leagues and was a major water source. Because of the significance of the creek and its use as a landmark, the term Cummins Creek Settlement appears in some early records. The first post office was established in 1846 under the name of Cummins Creek.

Pieper, Beimer, and Heiman, among other families, were from the area of Munster, Westphalia. These families were Catholic. The first Catholic church records were "saddlebag" records by itinerant priests based in Houston. These records from 1843 use the reference Westmunster, probably in honor of the homeland of these settlers.

The term Blumenthal (valley of flowers) was used in connection with the Protestant congregation or community ministered to by Reverend L. C. Ervendberg who was in the area by 1840. The land he bought was in the Pieper league. Samuel W. Geiser in his work on Ervendberg, refers to "Blumenthal, or Cummins Creek, as it came to be called..." These records would indicate that Blumenthal, Cummins Creek, and West Munster were different names for the same general area. After serving his congregation of about seventy-six souls in Blumenthal, as well as congregations in nearby communities, Ervendberg went with Solms Braunfels to New Braunfels where he served as spiritual leader and also founded an orphanage.

Although the first post office was established as Cummins Creek, by 1847 the settlers must have determined that a different type of name was needed. According to some sources (whether fact or

legend) the choice was between Piepersville and Frelsburg. William Frels was also an early settler of the area having come from Oldenburg in 1834 on the same ship with the founders of Cat Spring. Pieper was Catholic, and Frels was Lutheran; the Lutherans won by one vote.

According to a letter dated 14 May 1844, the Catholics were building a church and had a priest who conducted services every Sunday. However, the first parish books are dated 1847. The parish itself and the diocese records from Galveston also give the date of 1847 as the establishment of the parish with a resident priest. The priests from Sts. Peter & Paul Church ministered to the Catholics within a radius of about fifty miles, traveling on horseback. As a result, early Catholic records for many settlements appear in the Frelsburg books. The first Catholic theological seminary in the state was also established at Frelsburg in 1854. A Catholic school existed from 1870 to 1915. Pieper is credited with donating the land for the church. Trinity Lutheran Church was established in 1855. Frels gave land for the church building, school, parsonage, and cemetery.

Hermann's University was the first school chartered in Texas by Germans. It was chartered by the Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1844. The memorial was signed by men from Austin, Colorado, and Washington counties including Ervendberg, Zimmerscheidt, Jordt, Rohde, Ruhman, and Wolters. The school was to have departments of theology, law, medicine, and philosophy with a Protestant faculty. The professors were to lecture in both English and German. The location was to be on Mill Creek or Cummins Creek.

Very few shares were sold; they were expensive, and people had land but no cash. In 1846 the charter was amended. Professors could be of any religion and any site designated by the president and trustees could be used. Later the cost of shares was lowered. A two-story building was finally erected in Frelsburg in 1869; it was sold to the public schools and opened in 1874 as a lower level, public school called Herman Seminary. The act of incorporation was repealed in 1871. Another early school in the area was the Zimmerscheidt school established in 1857 several miles south of Frelsburg on the Zimmerscheidt league.

According to one source, by 1852 the community consisted of two blacksmith shops, a post office, a cobbler shop, two general stores, and a cotton gin. In 1878-1879 there were a boot and shoe manufacturer, a blacksmith shop, gins, saw mills, grist mills, carpenters, harness and saddle maker, baker, cane press, doctors, shoe maker, tailor, lawyer, and dry goods, general merchandise, and grocery stores. At the present time the community has one general store and a Volunteer Fire Department building. The Lutheran church, parsonage, and cemetery are near the crossroads. The Catholic church, hall, rectory, and cemetery are about one-half mile from the crossroads.

Bernardo and Mentz Area

Bernardo is about ten miles southwest of Cat Spring on farm road 949. About four miles west of Bernardo is the settlement of Mentz. Determining the "city limits" of these settlements at a given period of time is also difficult. Just as the Frelsburg area was known by several names, Bernardo and Mentz also had various designations. Bernardo was known as Braden Settlement (for early settlers) and Bernard Prairie (for its location on the prairie land of the San Bernard River). Mentz was also known as San Bernard and Neu/New Mainz.

Although settlers may have been in the area earlier (Caspar Heiman's one-third league of land granted in 1838 included the present village of Bernardo), a large group of settlers came in 1846. At that time thirteen families including about forty persons came from the village of BÜdesheim by Bingen (also the home of Friedrich Zimmerscheidt). They came to Texas as part of the colonization effort by the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants to Texas. However, when they reached Galveston, they came inland to an area already settled by Germans rather than go to the society land in west-central Texas. In 1848 about forty-three others came from the same village and settled in the Mentz-Bernardo area.

Bernardo was on the main road from Houston inland; oxen wagons hauled merchandise and lumber inland and returned with produce and cotton. Charles Nagel, later to become Secretary of Commerce and Labor under President Taft, was born in Bernardo in 1849. His family had come from Pritzwalk, Mark Brandenburg in 1847. The family later moved to Millheim in Austin County. The father, Dr. Herman Nagel, remained loyal to the Union during the Civil War; he and Charles

escaped through Mexico and settled in St. Louis. Dr. Nagel continued his work as a doctor, and Charles studied law. Charles Nagel was the first native-born Texan to be a member of a President's cabinet.

Many of the early settlers of Bernardo and Mentz came from the Catholic diocese of Mainz (about fourteen miles east of Bingen) and were predominately Catholic. They established a church at the settlement which they called Neu Mainz for their homeland. They named the church St. Roch for the chapel of St. Roch on a hill near Bingen. The first church was built in 1857; a stone church was built in 1867 using stone from the Zimmerscheidt area. The first church books are dated 1860.

Bernardo and Mentz both had Catholic schools from 1872. The school in Bernardo closed in 1911; the one in Mentz closed in 1916. There were other schools in the area. Bretschneider School, a private one, opened in 1867; the Bachelor Hill School opened in 1897. Public schools were later established in Mentz and Bernardo.

The first post office at Bernardo was established as Bernard Prairie from 1875-1898; it was called Bernardo from 1898, closing in 1917. The Mentz post office went by the designation San Bernard from 1853 to 1860 at which time it was changed to New Mainz; it closed in 1866. When it reopened in 1889, it was called Mentz; the Mentz post office closed in 1913.

At one time Bernardo had a doctor, dance hall, blacksmith shop, cotton gin, garage, millinery shop, and a store as well as the school and post office. At the present time there are a general store, a Volunteer Fire Department building, and a few homes at the crossroads on farm road 949.

Mentz also had a general store and dance hall in addition to a school and post office. Now, only the church and its buildings (rectory, hall, picnic buildings), the cemetery, and a baseball field are located on the grounds by the Mentz road.

Descendants of early Colorado County German settlers later moved to other parts of the county as well as other parts of Texas. As a result, the influence and heritage of these early German settlers have been significant in the history of much of the state.

Arliss Treybig
El Campo, Texas

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E. H. Marks Preserved Longhorns But Lost His Ranch To Houston

The late E. H. Marks, who began ranching before the turn of the century some 20 miles out of Houston, is credited today as one of the men who saved the Longhorn from extinction. The Longhorn herd he preserved on his LH7 Ranch in the early decades of this century became a prime seedstock source for resurrection of the breed.

The story of Emil Henry Marks and his times is recounted in a new book, "The LH7 Ranch, in Houston's Shadow," by Deborah Lightfoot Sizemore. It is published by the University of North Texas Press at \$22.50.

Marks' father, August Texas Marks, was born in 1843 to a German immigrant couple on a wooden ship stalled in the Gulf of Mexico by an outbreak of smallpox and yellow fever ashore. Landing finally in Galveston, the family proceeded to a new German community later called

Addicks, near Houston. There the father began raising cattle but disappeared on a job-seeking trip to Galveston.

A. T. Marks picked up his father's cattle business, fought in the Civil War and made many trips up the cattle trails to Kansas. He lost his wife in childbirth in 1887. In 1891 Marks contracted smallpox while stealing his sick daughter out of a pesthouse to which authorities had consigned her. She lived, but he died.

The orphaned E. H. Marks was then 10 years old. He gave up school and began cowboying for an uncle at \$15 a month. He registered his LH7 brand in Harris County in 1898, when he was 17 years old. From then until his death in 1969 at almost 88, he always owned cattle carrying that brand.

Like his father before him, he was ever alert to a chance to make an honest dollar. His father had killed wild game

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and sold it on the streets of Houston. E. H. began slaughtering his own cattle and selling the meat to city customers. As his operation grew, he moved to the Barker community and built a slaughtering plant at his ranch headquarters, killing up to 100 head a week, selling the beef in Houston.

He came around very early to the use of Brahman blood for its resistance to the Gulf Coast's heat and high humidity, its insect problems and tick fever. But he always felt that natural selection had given this resistance to the Longhorn, and he kept a small nucleus herd of the Texas natives while almost everyone else was trying to breed out the last taint of Longhorn blood.

As his main herd approached 6000 head, branding time began to draw crowds of urban observers. About 1918 Marks put on a little impromptu show for some of his guests. This

rapidly grew into an annual ranch rodeo that for some 30 (ISB: 11) or so years became a Houston-area tradition. Income from the rodeo helped him survive the hard years of the Depression.

Though he was a strong booster of Houston, the city eventually shut him out of that beef market by passing ordinances against the sale of beef from out-of-city plants. Then it condemned a major part of his land for civic purposes.

Before his death he saw urban expansion swallow up much of what he had built. Today his heirs are struggling to preserve even the headquarters itself as a historic site.

An avid traveler, hunter and story-teller, Marks considered himself basically a cowboy all of his life. He said he never quite got out of the third reader, but he received a well-rounded prairie education.

He has now received a well-written biography, done by a Fort Worth-area ranchwoman.

PUBLICATIONS

Coming to Terms

The German Hill

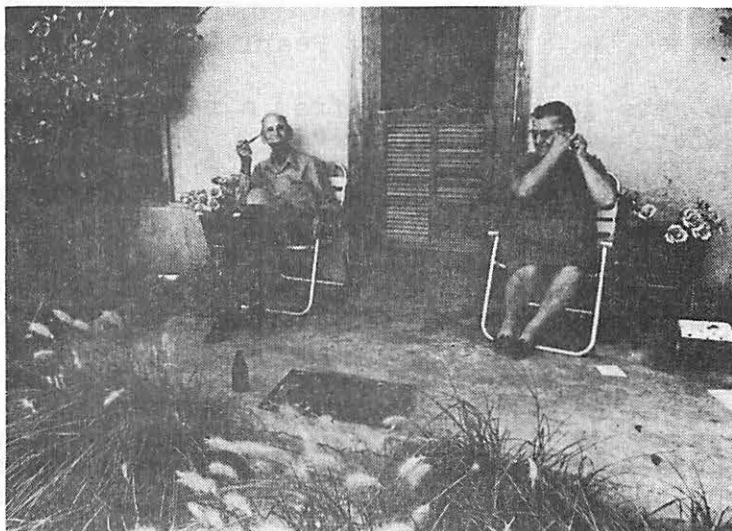
Country of Texas

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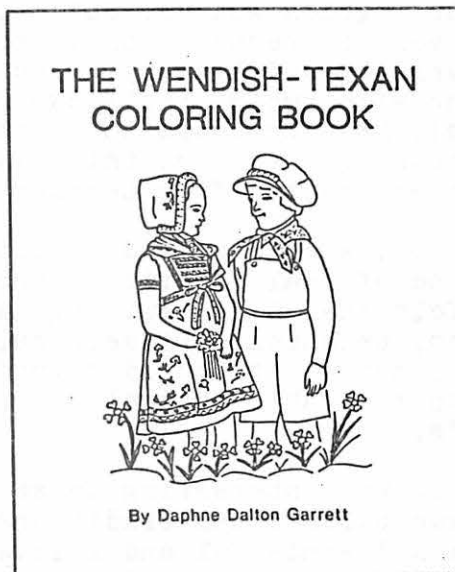
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TEXANA AUTHOR MAKES FIRST VISIT TO GERMANY!

By Pearl Elley Bethune

I have just returned from a rewarding two week visit to Germany and Switzerland. "Wunderbar!"

My name is Pearl Elley Bethune, a fifth generation German--Texan, who lives in Austin, Texas. I am an author and publisher of Texana, and my books are about early Texas history. My books have a German flavor because many of my ancestors lives are inseparable from this history, having emigrated from The Kingdom of Saxony in 1836 and Kulm, Prussia, in 1845.

This, my very first trip to Germany, was inspired by the publication of my new book, FORWARD TO THE PAST!, on June 20, 1991. It features the first complete emigrant's journal from Prussia to Texas, September 26th to December 22nd, 1845, and was written by my great great grandfather Carl Blumberg .

On that long, all night flight across the Atlantic, I had plenty of time to think about how comfortably I was traveling and how uncomfortable it was to sail across these same waters for seven and one--half weeks, crossing in the opposite direction, in 1845. (from the Journal).

Flying into the rosy dawn towards Frankfurt on Friday, the 13th of September, I looked down upon charming little villages surrounded by large patchwork--quilt appearing fields, and the Rhine and Main Rivers flowing through the land. So much better than looking at a map!

FORWARD TO THE PAST! has opened many new doors for me. I had the opportunity to meet many notable people. I presented three autographed complimentary copies of my book to: Dr. Ulrich Wagner, Dr. Ohlhoff, and Dr. Lutz Schubert of the Bremerhaven Deutches Auswanderermuseum in appreciation for the pictures and research extended to me during those seven years of working on those 310 pages of German and English.

Dr. Ulrich Wagner, Scient. Assist. of the Deutches Auswanderermuseum, was very impressed with my book and said it deserved to be in every university and library. The Museum plans to include FORWARD TO THE PAST! along with two of their own publications about emigrating (to other countries), in a brochure to be mailed out in April or May of 1992. There is a strong interest at this time to collect historical material dealing with emigration from Germany in the 19th Century.

Dr. Wagner called my book "very timely", and feels it will inspire and be of real benefit to people seeking freedom and new homes today. He felt that Carl Blumberg had set a remarkable example in coming to Texas, an untamed wilderness, and how with faith, courage, and perseverance, managed to build a good home and good life for his family in spite of unbelievable obstacles--starting out with just the soil and his bare hands.

It was interesting to see, unfolding everywhere, the strong roots of German culture and traditions that shaped my childhood. The people are warm and wonderful and I loved their surprising outbursts of singing. I never told anyone goodbye. It was good to just give a hug or a firm handclasp and offer a hopeful "Auf Wiedersehen!"

Book-Report by Helga von Schweinitz

FORWARD TO THE PAST (ISBN 0-9620124-1-6)

Here is a book I wanted to read the minute I heard that its major section is a day by day journal written by an immigrant during his sea voyage from Bremen to Texas in 1845. I had often wondered about life on those sailing ships that were tossed around on the Atlantic for endless weeks. How did the passengers keep themselves halfway clean and fed? How did they cope with boredom and the inevitable stench in such cramped quarters? Carl Blumberg, who made the journey on the Neptune with his family under the sponsorship of the "Adelsverein", gave an eloquent, inspired account of the daily events, of sickness, of dances, of baths in a barrel, of frightening weather and the beauty of the sea, of death and birth. One morning he wrote. "During the night...a remarkable happening took place on the ship. A woman in the third bedstead from me was delivered of a healthy boy...The woman made not a sound during the birth, so that no one was aware of it until the child began to cry." Reading of this life in a nut shell, I felt I was with those people on the boat, feared for their well being and enjoyed their little pleasures.

Blumberg, who wrote in German, had his journal published in Prussia in 1846. His great great granddaughter Pearl Elley Bethune is now presenting the overdue English translation side by side with a reproduction of the original German. This bi-lingual feature adds considerably to the enjoyment and the significance of "FORWARD TO THE PAST". E. J. Hierholzer undertook the difficult translation with great attention to preserving the beauty and the long-winded language the well educated author had used.

The journal is followed by two of Blumberg's letters, both in English and in German. In the first one, dated 1846, he advises his son back home not to come to Texas. He elaborates on the hardships and perils of his new life and his disappointment in the "Adelsverein". The second letter was written seven years later and describes how his family eventually overcame the adverse circumstances, a success story. The journal with the letters are the most complete and moving eyewitness account of the immigrant experience of that period I have found in one book. Bethune brings the book to full circle by telling us how the Blumberg children and descendants contributed to Texas, including a feature on the first Texas motor and car manufacturing company, on ranger and circuit preacher Gus Elley and the history of Schumannsville, Hilda and McQueeney. The uniqueness of the indexed material, the very limited edition on 310 acid free pages with 72 photographs and illustrations, including a beautiful etching of the "Neptune", justify the price of \$60.- In "FORWARD TO THE PAST" many an immigrant would see his own story told, and descendants should take the time to read it.

Pearl E. Bethune, a member of GTHS, invites you to use the form below to order your copy today. Phone orders accepted. 512 - 459-6031

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FAMILY REUNIONS

(ISB: 11)

ERBEN FAMILY HOLDS REUNION

Descendants and friends of Konrad Erben and Margaretha Clarinisa Seidmann nee Balmert, held their first family reunion at Anhalt in the Germania Verein Halle on Sunday, 22 September 1991 from 11 a m until 5 p m.

Konrad Erben immigrated as a single man from Horchheim in the Rhineland-Palatinate, in 1845. He sailed from Antwerp, Belgium and landed at Galveston, Texas, then traveled to the New Braunfels/Seguin area where he married a widow, Margaretha Balmert.

They had eight children, six of whom grew to adulthood. Marie, who married Louis Krause; Anna, who married Hans Waganer; Conrad, who married Christina Krause, who died in childbirth; he then married Anna Minna Jauch; Franz (Frank), who married Anna Katherine Icke; Carl (Charles), who married Anna Wehe, and Emma, who married George Leonard Fuchs.

Descendants of Marie, Conrad, Franz, and Carl were represented by 182 family members and friends as follows: Marie, 4 present; Conrad/Christina Krause, 10 present; Conrad/Anna Minna Jauch, 40 present; Franz, 17 present; Carl, 107 present; and 4 friends rounded out the attendance.

A Kaffee-Klatsch from 11 a m until lunchtime, was hosted by Charlotte and Walter Moser. A delicious bar-b-que lunch was served by Clear Spring Caterers following an invocation by Milton Phillip Erben, grandson of Carl. After lunch, a band, "Oma and the Oompahs" of New Braunfels, played for listening and dancing. There was a lot of visiting, picture taking, and general good fellowship enjoyed as one big family. The door-prize, two free airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States that Continental Airlines flies, was won by Doris Herriage Schuldt, Broadus, Texas. The consolation prize, a bottle of Mosel wine from the Erben vinters of Germany, was won by Imelda Smith of San Antonio.

Those in attendance hailed from various Texas towns such as: Austin, Boerne, Brenham, Beaumont, Bulverde, Cibolo, Houston, Martindale, Odem, New Braunfels, Spring Branch, San Antonio, and Victoria. Florida and Washington states were also represented.

The oldest member attending was Henry Erben of Johnson City. At the age of 88, he is the only living grandchild of Konrad and Margaretha. The person that traveled the longest distance was Maury Erben of Seattle, Washington. The largest family group was that of Gertrude Erben/Thomas Edward Blundell (Conrad/Anna Minna Jauch). They numbered 22 and 1 friend.

All of the arrangements for the reunion were made by Milton Phillip Erben, Darlene Nolte Moore, Walter C. Moser, and Charlie A. Weidner.

Auf Wiedersehen until the next reunion!

Submitted by: Walter C. Moser, 8803 Valley View Lane, Houston TX 77074

Reunion Was Held By Schuessler Family

The descendants of John Adam and Eva Schuessler held their annual reunion at the Ft. Mason Park Community Building July 6th with 80 persons attending.

John H. Schuessler presided over the business meeting. Nina Schuessler presented gifts to the following: longest distance traveled, Virginia and Chris Hooten from Palmer, Alaska; youngest girl, Tabitha Ullrich, age four; youngest boy, Travis Tuckness, age six months; oldest person present, Alma Jentsch, 96 years.

John Schuessler recognized the four young men from Fort Hood who had recently returned from Operation Desert Storm. The group was delighted to have them attend the gathering. They were William and Henry Tuckness, Mason, Texas; Robert McClees, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Shawn Anderson, Bowling Springs, Pennsylvania. Henry Tuckness responded and thanked all who had sent letters and packages. He said that was the only thing they had to look forward to and they were very grateful.

Johnita Bohmfalk presented a memorial for the five members lost during the past year. They were Woody Schuessler, Frank Schuessler, Florence Field Schuessler, Patricia Anne Pries and John Vernon Pike.

Helmut and Anne Schuessler from Bonfeld, Germany called Mrs. Bohmfalk and sent greeting to the group. They plan to visit Texas later this summer. Pauline Schuessler Willoughby sent a letter from Gresham, Oregon, to all the cousins which many enjoyed reading.

A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed by all and the afternoon was spent visiting. The next reunion will be held on July 4, 1992.

From: Mason County News, July 17, 1991. Sent by: Johnita Bohmfalk, Box 306, Mason TX

WEINZAPFELS/WEINZAEPFLENS GATHER IN ALSACE

On 24 May 1991, David and Juanita Weinzapfel Bright of Muenster, Texas, and Msgr. Thomas Weinzapfel and Ronald Weinzapfel of Dallas departed for a reunion of the Weinzapfel/Weinzaepflen family in Ungersheim, a small village of 1,400 residents in Alsace, now a region of France.

Antoine and Annette Weinzaepflen and their son, Claude, of Ensisheim, Alsace, were the instigators and primary hosts of the wonderful event. Coordinating the mammoth effort in the U.S. were brothers Wilfred and Harold Weinzapfel and their wives, Betty and Roselle, of Indiana.

The Texans flew first to Chicago where they joined an additional 50 members of the Weinzapfel clan from North Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania, California, Arizona, and Indiana. Although all present were of the Weinzapfel lineage, the majority were strangers to each other. The layover in Chicago became a mini-reunion in itself as new acquaintances were made and established ties were renewed. It was truly a merry crowd that boarded the plane for Zürich.

Arriving in Zürich on Saturday morning, 25 May, the group was met by members of the European branch of the family with a tour bus which remained with them throughout their stay. Culminating an all-day scenic drive from Zürich to Ungersheim in southern Alsace was a champagne and cake welcoming reception at the City Hall. First, however, was a photo session of the group on the front steps of the City Hall beneath flags of Alsace, Ungersheim, France, and the U.S.

Jean Claude Mensch, mayor on Ungersheim, delivered a cordial welcome address and read a declaration granting each of the visitors honorary citizenship. The formal document was accepted by Msgr. Thomas Weinzapfel on behalf of all the visiting relatives. The area representative to the French Parliament in Paris was also on hand to extend a hearty welcome.

Sunday, 26 May, was THE day of reunion. More than 350 Weinzapfel/Weinzaepflen gathered in St. Michael's Catholic Church in Ungersheim for a high Mass combining Latin, English, and the native Alsatian dialect. Msgr. Weinzapfel was the celebrant, the local pastor delivered the homily, and members of the clan were liturgists and eucharistic ministers. Before and after Mass, descendants swarmed around Weinzaepflen gravestones in the walled cemetery surrounding the church. The oldest stone is that of John Baptiste Weinzaepflen, dating to the mid-1800s. Documented research has traced the family to 1585 with origins in Switzerland. The U.S. branches of the family tree are all descendants of Michael and Catherine Helfrich Weinzaepflen who immigrated to Indiana in 1847. There are known to be well over 300 leaves on that tree.

From the church, all migrated to a large community hall where photographs were made of the entire group. Wine from the Weinzaepflen winery in Soultz was the beverage of the day and flowed freely through the four-course dinner which lasted from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Between courses and after dinner, people circulated, studying the beautiful family trees and old photographs and letters posted on bulletin boards and on all the walls around the hall. Mutual interests were discovered and addresses exchanged.

Language difficulties posed few problems, although only a few of the Alsatians speak English and even fewer Americans can communicate in French, German, or Alsatian. Virtually all Weinzaepflen reside within the Alsace region of France, so today they are French. Over the course of history, the Alsace area has alternately been held by the Swiss States, Germany and/or France, with one generation being one nationality while the next would be another. This accounts for their fluency in both French and German and their tenacious clinging to the Alsatian dialect.

At 8:00 p.m. Sunday evening, another four-course dinner was served with appropriate wines accompanying each course. The party ended at midnight only to be resumed on a smaller scale in the homes of several host families. Most of the American visitors were guests in the homes of the Weinzapfel clan or close friends. Their cordial hospitality was beyond adequate description.

From 27 May to 3 June, the American contingent enjoyed sightseeing tours throughout the area and in the cities of Alsace and Switzerland where the earliest generations of Weinzapfels were known to have lived. Of special interest was a plaque in the restraining wall along the edge of a plateau on which the Cathedral of Bern was built. The inscription on the plaque states that in 1654 a priest, named Theobald Weinzaepflen, and his horse fell off the cliff and landed in trees 160 feet below. The horse died, but the man survived with only a broken arm and leg (we jokingly and irreverently suggested that he must have fallen on his head).

Other than Bern, Strasbourg, Comar, and Heidelberg, travel time was devoted to beautiful Alsace and her charming villages, castles, monasteries, and museums. A visit to the Weinzaepflen winery highlighted a week rich in Alsatian culture as well as international and family history. The journey ended on 3 June 1991.

By Juanita Weinzapfel Bright, P. O. Box 282, Muenster TX 76252

HOCK-RICKE REUNION

The first reunion of Hock and Ricke families and related lines was held 6 October 1991 at the Jack Brooks Highland Park, in Hitchcock, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The covered pavilion held some 86 guests who brought picnic lunches and lots of canardie and laughter. Relatives had not seen each other for years. The general agenda, chaired by Frank Girton III, was interrupted by squeals of surprise and joy as relatives were recognized.

Margaret Davis Treybig and Lawrence Ricke, Sr., had many pictures and documents on display, some dating to the 1600s. Other families with displays were: King, Baroncini, Hock, and Helfrich. Flags of Texas, the U.S., and Germany fluttered in the north wind.

In an election of officers for 1991-92, Jo Ann Ricke Cain, Darlene Ricke Burr and Deborah Girton were chosen by voice vote, and it was decided to hold the next year's reunion on a warmer, calmer day. Doris Ricke Robinson agreed to gather material and distribute a regular newsletter. Video and still cameras were kept busy as each group was pictured. Behind the cameras were James King, John Robinson, John Harold Ricke, Paul Lay, Rusty Malconcius, Earl J. Siegert, Mary Ricke Norwood, and Jo Ann Ricke Cain.

Prizes were awarded for oldest man, oldest lady, married longest, most children, and youngest child. Bernard Hock won a picture of an ancestor in a drawing. Paul Lay and Sandy traveled the greatest distance, from North Carolina, and took a prize. Mary Ricke Norwood drove from Alabama for the reunion and to visit with friends. Many Texas cities were represented: Dallas, Houston, Galveston, Texas City, Plano, and others.

The reunion cake, furnished by Agnes Baroncini Connally and Dorothy Baroncini King, was beautiful and impressive with the phrase "Unser Vaterland Deutschland," a German flag in the center, and the words "Hock-Ricke Reunion, 1991."

Submitted by Lucille Siegert-Ricke, 1302 Overhill Dr., Houston TX 77018

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 Pron: The Sealy News, June 27, 1991
 Sent by Lucille Siegert-Ricke, Houston

Schultz, Kulow, Beckmann, Siegert Family Reunion Held

Despite the gloomy, rainy day on June 9, the Schultz-Kulow-Beckmann-Siegert reunion was well attended by some 150 members and friends at the Cat Spring Agricultural Society Hall from noon to 6:00 p.m.

The day began with registration, greetings, and banter. The blessing before the meal was offered by G. O. (Bud) Cain, Jr. and the line formed for a delicious catered meal with all the trimmings, especially all the goodies of cakes, pies, cookies furnished by the membership.

Earl Siegert, treasurer for the reunion committee, gave a brief financial report, and read the names of the deceased since the last reunion in 1990. He also read the names of the ill at the present time and those ill since 1990.

A special tribute was offered to Major Robert Siegert, III, recently returned from his tour of duty in the Persian Gulf "Desert Storm" conflict. He is the son of Colonel Robert and Mrs. Dorothy Clary-Siegert of Bryan, and grandson of Mrs. Lillian Siegert, also of Bryan.

Belle, the clown, came in all her clown outfit, replete with games, magic tricks, animal balloons, face painting, and lots of laughter. The children loved her, as well as some of the adults.

The history table was manned by Lucille Siegert-Ricke, in charge of nine books of history, as well as old photos, clippings of by-gone days, and other memorabilia.

Two door prizes were given by ticket number drawing. A wet-dry vac furnished by Dorothy Storenski was won by Shelia Alford, and accepted for her by Sylvia Siegert. A set of frosted glasses was the second door prize. There were special gifts for the oldest lady, oldest man, married the longest, most children, most grandchildren, student with best grades, and who travelled the farthest which was won by Mrs. Leona Hairston, daughter Sharon, and friend Nancy, from Raymond, Mississippi. A table was filled with added prizes furnished by members and won by ticket numbers.

Birthdays in June were remembered as well as the 63rd wedding anniversary of Alfred and Nettie Schultz. A special thank you goes to J. O. Siegert, of Bryan, for his generous contribution financially, pulling the reunion out of the red.

Earl Siegert adjourned the reunion with fond farewell, and a See you next year for other surprises. Members came from all parts of Texas too numerous to mention. The special guest was Mrs. Herbert Necker. Special appreciation is extended to the following committee members who came early to set up the reunion and unload: Harold and Idell Siegert, Erna Kulow, Delores Craig, Hilda and Adolph Kovasovic, Adolph, Jr., Joann and Bud Cain, Harvey and Cathy Besetzny, Marcel and Leslie Gau, and others.

For videos or reunion contact Earl Siegert, 19 Veenstra, Houston, Texas 77022 or call 1-713-695-9986.

Schwartz Family Donates To Schulenburg Museum

The 22nd reunion of the Joseph and Sophie Schwartz family was held at the American Legion Hall in Schulenburg on July 6 with eight of the 16 original children present. The wedding date of Joseph and Sophie Schwartz was 1892.

Registration started at 10 a.m. There was a record number of 351 people participating in various activities. The reunion included horseshoes, auction, lots of good food, drinks and just plain good loving fellowship.

Awards were given to the oldest lady and man, youngest child, newest married couple, those traveling the farthest and the comical awards were

given to the loudest laughing lady and the loudest whistling man. Awards were also given to the four couples married the longest -- their combined years of marriage totaled 227.

An emotional memorial for the deceased was presented by Edna Grasshoff and Anna Marie Huebner.

The officers were Mickey Rice, president; Alvin Kocich, vice-president; and Barbara Mikulik, secretary-treasurer. The reunions, starting in 1951, alternate between Wall in Tom Green County, and Schulenburg.

There are 602 members of the Schwartz group to date and a

birthday calendar was made by Barbara Mikulik of each birth date, year, a number signifying their family and if deceased. These calendars were distributed through the third generation.

Highlighting the day was the presentation of a christening dress to the Schulenburg Historical Museum. The dress, which was made by Sophie Schwartz in 1893 and was used by all 16 children, is encased in a glass frame for preservation.

Evelyn Kaase, member of the museum board of directors, accepted the donation. She said, "Those of us who are interested in preserving the heritage of our families and our com-

munity appreciate this Schwartz family gift."

She continued, "We would hope that all families do as you do: 1) have family reunions, 2) write a family history, 3) preserve ethnic costumes and music, 4) share with all of us such things as this baptismal dress.

"For all these things we thank you."

New officers are Michael Mikulik, president, Michael Block, vice-president, and Becky Hoffman, secretary-treasurer.

Dancing and "kissing cousins hugging" ended the evening at 10 p.m.

BERNARD HALFMANN FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Bernard Halfmann held their first reunion 1 June 1991 in the Diamond Center of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church at Frelsburg.

Bernard Halfmann came to Texas from Lüdinghausen, Westphalia, Germany, in 1848 and settled in Colorado County. He had 15 children, three of whom died young. He and his first wife, Elizabeth Imholt, had eight surviving children: Elizabeth (Seidel), Anna (Wilde), Henry, Mary (Seifert), Theresa (Rabroker), Bernard, Caroline (Schertz), and August. He and his second wife, Rosina Schindler, had four surviving children: Clara (Kaiser), Josephine (Moeller), Herman, and Rosa (Hoelscher).

Of the twelve, there were at least nine represented by descendants at this reunion; they came from the western part of Texas, central Texas, and south Texas.

Several attended Mass prior to the registration and many visited the grave sites of their ancestors in the adjoining cemetery. Books and pictures were available for viewing at the registration desk.

A catered barbecue beef and sausage dinner was served, with desserts brought by families living nearby. Following the noon meal, relatives visited, and then Jean and Ed Ellis presided at a business meeting. An accordionist in typical German togs provided entertainment.

The group voted to hold the next reunion at the same place around the same time of the year in 1993. All were asked to provide names of those who might have been missed this time.

This successful reunion was organized by Jean Halfmann Ellis, but she has many volunteers to help her with the next reunion. Hope to see more Halfmann descendants out for the next one!

Submitted by Mildred Stephens, 3318 Rosewood Dr., Temple TX 76502

KEIL-DOHMANN REUNION

One hundred and fifteen descendants attended the first reunion of the Ernestine Michling Keil-Dohmann Family on 29 June 1991 at Trinity Luther Hall in Victoria.

Ernestine Michling Keil came to this country on 1 December 1869, landing at Galveston with her first husband, Frederick Keil, and three children. She married her second husband, August Dohmann, on 19 December 1874 at Content.

Hosting the reunion were Gladys Arnold, Valerie Sebesta, Joyce Baecker, Glendon Schmidt, Marilyn Williamson and Dorothy Faidley. The invocation was given by Donald Vogt.

Special recognitions were given to: Otto Weber, age 87, the oldest man present; Alvena Wernli, age 88, the oldest woman present; Patrice Solomon of Marlton, New Jersey, greatest distance traveled; T. C. and Evelyn Kolle, married the longest; Kenneth and Penny Biediger, most recently married; Valerie Biediger, the youngest person present; and the 61 members of the Anna Keil Weber family, the greatest number attending. Mrs. Weldon Schmidt won the door prize donated by Gladys Arnold.

The family of Rosie Weber Vogt-Rothlisberger will host the next reunion on 27 June, 1992.

Sent by Gladys Arnold, Rt. 3, Box 279, Victoria TX 77901

SCHWAB FAMILY REUNION

The 32nd annual Schwab family reunion was held Sunday 25 August 1991 at the Hermann Sons' Lodge Hall, Seguin.

At noon a catered pot roast dinner was served, followed by a brief business meeting and a memorial service for deceased relatives. Following a special guest speaker, the relatives played bingo and had a drawing for attendance prizes. At this reunion, a special attendance prize of \$100.00 was offered, but the winner was required to be present to claim it. The historical committee had the new "Schwab Family History Booklet" ready for distribution at this reunion.

Officers include: Monroe Weyel, president; Rudy Voss, vice president; Lorene Amerson, secretary; and Virginia Vetter, treasurer. Committee members include: historians Evelyn Kneupper, Lillian Schneider, and Vivian Zapp; parliamentarian, Bruno G. Schwab; tour guide/host, Monroe J. Schwab; kitchen, Alice Schwab and Virginia Vetter; and prizes and awards, Melvin Schwab.

Beethoven Home celebrates in traditional German style

If costume parties are your bag, you don't have to wait for Halloween.

Celebrate the German version of Mardi Gras, Fastnacht.

Fastnacht, which originally began as a heathen celebration of spring, evolved into a German tradition of fun-filled revelry traditionally held before Lent.

The German celebration culminated in the 16th century when noted poets, musicians, writers, and composers produced short, witty dramatic tales, satires, farces, funny plays, and musical performances.

The annual Faschings party, sponsored by the Beethoven Damenchor,

Recorder-Times—Thursday, Jan. 24, 1991—

Karneval is a traditional Catholic festival, a period of merrymaking, pranks and costumed celebration which precedes the forty-day Lent fast. It is celebrated in all Catholic parts of Germany. Although it begins officially on the 11th of November at 11:11 A.M. and ends on Ash Wednesday (this year, February 13), it is celebrated primarily on the two days before Ash Wednesday, when cabaret-type events, parades and balls take place.

THE WEIMAR MERCURY JANUARY 10, 1991

The Casino Association

(ISB: 14)

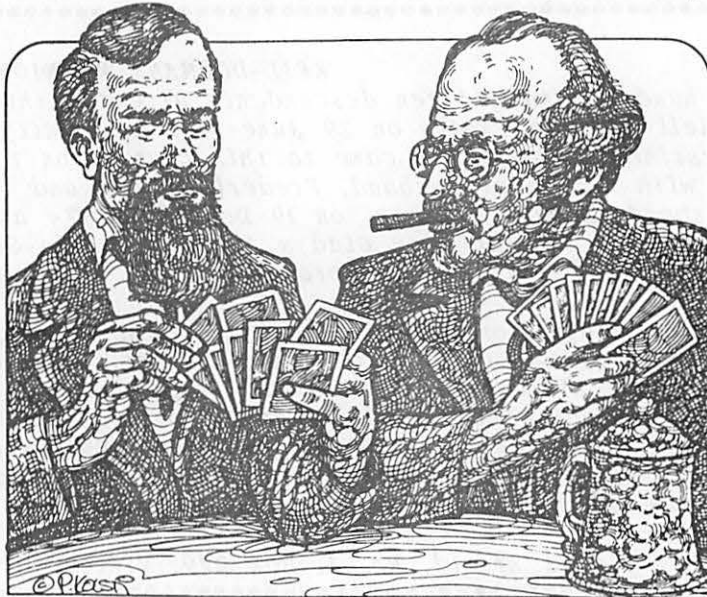


A.C. GREENE
TEXAS SKETCHES

In the 1850s, German artists, teachers, merchants and intellectuals, brought to Texas mainly by the *Adelsverein* (immigration society), comprised one-third of the population of San Antonio, according to Frederick Law Olmsted's *A Journey Through Texas*.

In 1854, 20 of these citizens started the Casino Association, an organization limited to German-speaking Americans who were U.S. Army officers. San Antonio was a major military center even then. Casino Hall, their meeting place on Market Street, was completed in 1858. It was designed by William C.A. Thielepape, who later (in 1867) was appointed mayor of San Antonio.

The Casino Association was the first social club and theater in San Antonio. Historian Charles Ramsdell called it "perhaps the greatest force for culture the city ever had." The hall, open daily to its all-male membership, was divided into a bar with skat tables (a library was added later), and a ballroom which also was equipped as a 400-seat theater. Gen. U.S. Grant was given a reception in the ballroom after the Civil War, and Robert E. Lee was entertained there before the war.



Paul Kolsti/The Dallas Morning News

The hall also had a lounge for the monthly entertainments — concerts or dramas — followed by dances, when the ballroom was opened for families.

The Casino Association's New Year's Ball, with the father-members' presentation to society of their daughters, the Kinderball and Maskenball for children set the pace and tone for San Antonio society for decades. Famed artist Herman Lungkwitz painted some of the backdrops used in the theater, which was available to non-members on a rental basis.

It was through efforts of the Ca-

sino Association that San Antonio's famous German-English School was opened in 1858. And there was a good deal of snobbery involved; one story is that two wealthy but uneducated brothers once asked the official of a masquerade ball what they should wear. "Come as peanuts; just come as you are," was his sneering reply.

Prohibition led the closing of Casino Hall, which was sold in 1923. The association continued as a men's club.

Distributed by
The Dallas Morning News.

Two Texas Histories: A Detail and an Overview

John Edward Weems

(ISB: 13)

Rise of the Lone Star: The Making of Texas, by Andreas V. Reichstein, trans. by Jeanne R. Wilson. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1989. ISBN 0-89096-318-5. 303 pp. \$29.95)

The History of Texas, by Robert A. Calvert and Arnoldo De Leon. (Arlington Heights, IL: Harlan Davidson, 1990. ISBN 0-88295-857-7 cl; 0-88295-867-4 pb. 479 pp. \$32.95 cloth; \$21.95 paper)

The publication of books on Texas history is becoming diversified, if these two books are valid examples.

Rise of the Lone Star was written by a (West) German with a doctorate in American history from a Freiberg university. *The History of Texas* was published in Illinois.

Close comparisons between the two books must end there. Andreas Reichstein's history is based on voluminous research and is thoroughly documented.

That is not to say it will prove absolutely convincing to every reader. Reichstein bashes a number of early Texans who have come down to us portrayed as "heroes," and he bashes a number of Texas historians, too.

Notable sufferers are Stephen F. Austin and historian Eugene C. Barker, for whom the University of Texas named its Texas History Center. (It is, of course, situated in the city of Austin, with a name commemorating Stephen F.) Reichstein acquired much of his research there, manifesting the extent of library holdings available.

The author wastes little time in putting a new face on Stephen F. Austin, depicting him as largely devious; proud and tenacious, but full of self-pity; vain and conniving, but genuinely naïve at times, especially in regard to Mexico and Mexicans.

No reasoning individual in these days of presumed enlightenment could suppose any man (or woman) to be absolutely good or evil, with the possible exception of Ivan the Terrible, Attila the Hun (as he is sometimes called), Joseph Stalin, Adolf Hitler, and maybe a few others. Avid readers of Texas history have known earlier that Austin, being human, fell short of perfection. Relatives of and sympathizers with the early Texan, Sterling C. Robertson, an impresario rival of Stephen Austin, have been vocal about this for years. Some of Austin's contemporaries (including Robertson, of course) had bad things to say about him.

Reichstein goes beyond these criticisms, however, and often with convincing documentation. On the other hand, some of his interpretation is based on conjecture (educated though it

may be), as will eventually become obvious to any reader. The author also wastes little time before stepping on toes of many historians who have preceded him. In his introduction he footnotes his varying degrees of criticism of Barker, Hubert H. Bancroft, John Henry Brown, Seymour V. Connor, David B. Edward, T. R. Fehrenbach, William Goetzmann, John H. Jenkins, Anna Pennybacker, David Vigness, and others. Later he sometimes has kinder words, or sometimes offers further criticism of them and others, including this reviewer (who still thinks his book is well researched and interesting, although no more infallible than other books of similar scholarship).

There certainly is more of thematic importance than the unfavorable depiction of Austin and Barker. Land speculation, the author declares, had a major part in bringing on the Texas war for independence against Mexico, and he contends that Stephen Austin's desire to secure his property was actually the reason for Austin's switch from an advocate of peace with Mexico to one of war.

He discusses "Manifest Destiny" and whether it was represented by United States annexation of Texas. He devotes considerable space to whether the "Texas Revolution" was indeed a revolution—and decides that it was not. The latter question will impress some readers as academic indeed (defining "academic" as a largely useless discussion now, except to readers who are up to their ears in history and loving every page of it).

Avid readers of professorial history are the people for whom this book can be highly recommended. It won awards from the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Historical Association.

The History of Texas offers a quick-moving panorama of Texas from prehistoric times to the present, including discussion of today's schools, prisons, economy, taxes, and so on. Considering the length of time and number of topics covered, only the highlights can be presented. This is not so disadvantageous as it might sound, however, because the book is apparently written for people who do not have extensive knowledge of Texas history and want a quick overview.

The sentences usually come clearly written and with brevity—not an easy way to write. Accompanying the text are numbers of photographs and lists of books suggested for further reading.

Many topics are discussed, including (for instance) Texas musicians and painters and writers. In such sections hitting the highlights can prove a bit risky. The authors mention a few playwrights of Texas association, but if Horton Foote is included, I cannot find his name, and he is not listed in the index. Foote won Oscars for the screenplays of *Tender Mercies* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Further, the iconoclastic journalist, William Cowper Brann, is called William Cooper Braum in the text (p. 248) and William Cooper Braun in the index (p. 452). A few mistakes like that can cause a person to wonder about the rest of the book, but for a general reader it is informative. □

John Edward Weems won this year's Barbara McCombs/Lon Tinkle Award given by the Texas Institute of Letters for lifetime writing achievement.

(Reprint permission granted to GTHS)

Volume 10, iii
(Fall 1990)

Texas Books in Review

PEOPLE

Note: GTHS director Patsy Hand was featured in a recent National Lithuanian-American publication. Some excerpts are reprinted here.

Genealogija
The Lithuanian American
Immigration History & Genealogy Newsletter

Volume II, Number II
Summer 1991



Genealogija Profile: Patsy Dearman Hand,
Victoria, Texas

Through her efforts to learn more about the history of her own family, Patsy Hand has discovered a group of Lithuanians who settled in Texas as early as 1852. While there are records of Lithuanians in the United States before 1852, to the best of our knowledge, this is the earliest viable settlement of a group of Lithuanians in the United States. In the photo above, Patsy points to the town of Ackminiszken, East Prussia, where her ancestors are from.

Lithuanians in Texas

Patsy Dearman Hand contributed the following article. Patsy is a native of Victoria, Texas. She is a descendant of Lithuanian Pioneers who emigrated to Texas in 1854. Her research has also included Lithuanian immigrants to Texas other than her own ancestors. To date, these are the earliest arrivals to the United States included in the Pioneer Project.

The earliest immigrants were David Stanchos and his wife Dora Scholze Stanchos. Family stories relate that they arrived in Texas about 1852. . . .

Over the next 20 years, until about 1874, another 70 immigrants from Lithuania (East Prussia) joined the Stanchos in the Yorktown area. Among the surnames are: Mertine, Luncschen, Praetz, Kerlick, Raguzus, Schonn, Jonischkies, Thrump, Gelssus, Lempke, Mosteit, Range, Waitschies, Jutzas (Jutz), Lenkiet and Junker. The Lithuanian places of origin of these families are known. They all came from small towns and villages within approximately 25 square kilometers from each other. . . .

The known Lithuanian immigrants to 19th century Texas are small in number. To date, only about 75 persons are known, all of them coming from the Lithuanian province of Suvalkai or what was then East Prussia. Most settled in DeWitt County in the vicinity of Yorktown and Meyersville, and a few settled in Goliad County. Yorktown is the largest German-American community on the lower Brazos-Colorado-Guadalupe region. . . .

Most of the Lithuanian peasants of East Prussia belonged to the Lutheran Church. All of the Lithuanian settlers of DeWitt County were members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Yorktown or St. John's Lutheran Church in Meyersville. Because of their religion and old-world cultural ties with Germany, the Lithuanian emigrants from East Prussia blended into the German communities of DeWitt County. The names became Germanized and the language a mixture of both languages. Ω

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Patsy Dearman Hand, a descendent of Lithuanians who immigrated to Texas in 1854, the Immigration History and Genealogy Department now has records of a community of Lithuanians who settled in DeWitt County, Texas, in the mid-19th century. These Lithuanians came to the United States from Lithuania Minor, and because of the predominance of the German language and culture of the group that these early Pioneers emigrated with, many of their descendants have only learned of their Lithuanian roots through Mrs. Hand's efforts.

Projects like Mrs. Hand's are important to Lithuanians, Americans, amateur genealogists, history "buffs" and serious scholars of immigration history alike. We are proud to be part of a nation-wide effort that includes the remarkable projects of individuals like Patsy Hand, who diligently pursue their own calling and make all of us richer for it.

— Juliana Daraškaitė

Anna Thompson: „Wenn die Alten sterben, dann schmeißen sie die Sachen weg“

Brückenschläge nach Old Germany

Deutsch-texanische Gesellschaft auf der Suche nach Dokumenten früherer Einwanderer

Waldsassen, Texas – fällt der Name des Bundesstaates im Südwesten der USA, dann denkt so mancher Stiftländer an Dallas und Southfork, an „Giftstachel“ J.R. und an den „Ball der Ölbarone“. Paul Wirth aus Waldsassen aber verbindet mit Texas Erinnerungen an seine Schwester Anna: Sie ist vor fast 35 Jahren dorthin ausgewandert und als verheiratete Thompson glücklich geworden im „Land der unbegrenzten Möglichkeiten“.

Ihre Heimat vergessen hat Wirths Schwester aber nicht, ganz im Gegenteil: Sie versucht Brücken zu bauen zwischen den heutigen Texanern und ihren Vorfahren in Deutschland. Um 1840 machten sich viele von Bremen aus auf die lange Schiffsreise nach Amerika, suchten und fanden dort ihr Glück. Unter den neuen Bürgern waren damals auch viele Männer und Familien aus dem Frankenwald, aus dem Fichtelgebirge sowie aus dem Eger- und Stiftland.

Den Nachfahren dieser Einwanderer auf der Spur ist Anna Thompson. Die im oberfränkischen Schwarzenbach (Saale) geborene Schwester von Paul Wirth ist 1957 als Fremdsprachenkorrespondentin nach Amerika gegangen und lebt heute in der texanischen Hauptstadt Austin.

„Ahnenforschung“ in Texas schwierig

Diese „Ahnenforschung“ gestaltet sich vor al-



Den Nachfahren deutscher Einwanderer auf der Spur ist Anna Thompson. Die im oberfränkischen Schwarzenbach (Saale) geborene pensionierte Lehrerin ging vor fast 35 Jahren nach Amerika und hat in Texas eine zweite Heimat gefunden. Links Annas Bruder Paul Wirth aus Waldsassen. pz

lem in Texas schwierig, wie die pensionierte Lehrerin jetzt bei einem Besuch bei ihren Verwandten in Waldsassen verdeutlichte. Zwar sei die junge Generation an der Heimat ihrer Väter und Großväter sehr interessiert. „Aber wenn die Alten sterben, dann schmeißen sie die Sachen weg“, sagt die heutige Texanerin in lebenswürdigem amerikanisch-fränkischen Akzent.

„Weggeschmissen“ werden der leidvollen Erfahrung von Anna Thompson zufolge vor allem alte Dokumente – Briefe an Adressaten hüben und drüben, irgendwo auf Dachböden und längst in Vergessenheit geraten. Dies zu verhindern sucht die Hobby-Ahnenforscherin mit Hilfe einer Organisation, die 1978 gegründet wurde: Die „German-Texan Heritage Society“ hat in Manchaca in der Nähe von Austin sogar ein eigenes Büro – Anlaufstelle für etwa 1250 Mitglieder.

Pflege deutscher Kultur und Tradition

Freilich wird in der deutsch-amerikanischen Gesellschaft in erster Linie die Kultur der Vorfahren und der Erhalt deutscher Tradition gepflegt – allerdings nicht in Form von „Oktoberfesten“ mit Heino und Toni Marshall als kräftige Zugnummern: Vielmehr bietet die Organisation vielbeachtete Vorträge über Einwanderer, Deutschkurse für Texaner, legt Bücher über deutsche Siedlungen in Texas auf und gibt für ihre Mitglieder regelmäßig gedruckte Informationshefte heraus, die von Anna Thompson maßgeblich zusammengestellt werden.

Vermutlich gibt die „German-Texan Heritage Society“ ihren Mitgliedern aber auch das, was als Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl bezeichnet wird. Denn wenn Anna Thompson von den Siedlern aus Old Germany erzählt, dann klingt

schon Nationalstolz durch: Deutsche hätten viel zur großartigen Entwicklung von Texas beigetragen, Deutsche seien oft schon am Zustand ihrer Häuser zu erkennen, beispielsweise „wenn’s außen sehr sauber aussieht“.

Ähnlichkeiten: Texas und Egerland

Nicht schlecht gestaunt hat Anna Thompson, als sie kürzlich zusammen mit ihrem Bruder Paul Wirth durch das Egerland gefahren ist. Viele – früher recht stattliche – Gebäude und Gehöfte erinnerten den Gast aus Übersee an die Wohnhäuser und Anwesen in dem Land, das ihr zur zweiten Heimat geworden ist. „Sowas sieht man jetzt noch in Texas“.

Und wer weiß, vielleicht liegen auf so manchen Dachboden oder verstaubten Speicher in der Oberpfalz oder in Nordböhmen alte Briefe entfernter Verwandter, die alle vor vielen Jahrzehnten in Texas einen Neubeginn wagten. Wer etwas findet, sollte dies dem Büro der Gesellschaft wissen lassen. Die Adresse: Anna Thompson, Schriftführerin, German-Texan Heritage Society, P.O. Box 262, Manchaca, Texas 78652, U.S.A. Paul Zrenner

NEUER TAG

LANDKREIS
TIRSCHENREUTH

Mai 1991

Samstag, 18./Sonntag, 19./Montag, 20

Pfingstgottesdienst

Waldsassen/Altkinsberg. (pz) Einen Pfingstgottesdienst in Altkinsberg (CSFR) veranstalten frühere Bewohner des Ortes am Pfingstsonntag. Die Meßfeier in der Schloßkirche beginnt um 14 Uhr. Die Organisatoren aus dem Raum Waldsassen um Anton Reinl freuen sich auf zahlreichen Besuch.

GUSTAVE DOERFFLER - SHUTTERBUG OF THE 1920'S by Mrs. Esther Wiedenfeld

It is an unusual event when a researchist finds photographs of farm life in the early part of the 20th century taken by a young man from a family of small means. It is equally unusual to discover that the photographs were taken in a community of German origin by a member of that community. This ethnic group took a dim view of spending money on photography and everyday pictures at that, not special events.

During the period when Gustave did much of his best work, a box camera, a Kodak, cost approximately \$4.00 to \$5.00. At that time a roll of film had only six shots and never more than twelve. This roll cost 35¢. The quality of paper used has helped preserve the majority of these photos for posterity. However, even at these prices, it took Gustave many months of hard physical labor to accumulate the money he needed to pursue his favorite hobby.

Gustave Doerffler was born September 7, 1895, in the Cypress Creek Community Kendall Co., about seven miles northwest of Comfort, Texas. Born to Rudolph and Agnes Wiedenfeld Doerffler Sr., his father was a school teacher in the Cypress Creek School for about 27 years. His grandfather, Theodor Wiedenfeld, was one of the first men to come to what is now Comfort, Texas.

Gustave began recording the everyday happenings in his life at about the age of 19. While others may have written about a beautiful flower garden, Gus, as everyone called him, took pictures of his mother and sister's rare plants. When it rained and the harvest was outstanding, Gus photographed his father and other work crews in the wheat and oat fields. When the Texas Hill Country was in the grip of a severe drouth and the field contained either stubbles or poor shoots withering away, Gus took his camera and documented the sad year. Perhaps one of his most valuable contributions in this field is that he dated the photos and recorded other pertinent information: cause of the crop failure, location, and some humorous comment.

He took photos of a yard after the weeds were cleared and the sand swept clean; As the turkey flock gathered around his mother at feeding time, Gus quickly snapped a shot of these yard birds. Bumper crops of fruit and vegetables were recorded. His family always cooperated with Gus and took their places in a field of waving grain, next to a cat that had become a family pet and at gatherings.

Social gatherings of all sorts were photographed. Funerals held in the home before Comfort could boast of a funeral parlor, Sunday School picnics sponsored by the Comfort School Organization, birthdays, graduations and Golden Wedding anniversary celebrations.

As he he joined his cousins and friends in the younger social life of the community, Gus always took his camera along. His photos show what a young man and woman would wear on Sunday outings. Groups of young people having a good time in rural German America filled his photo library. On rock outcroppings, by the river and creeks, and on the front porch steps Gus preserved a lifestyle now long past.

As Gus grew old he travelled by train to San Antonio where he photographed the river before the W.P.A. began working its changes. The four and five story buildings were of equal fascination. Parades in Fredericksburg interested Gus and of course, now the backgrounds of these early photos are as valuable as the parade entry itself.

When he worked for the limestone cutters in the hills that surround Comfort Gus took along his kodak and recorded the work crews. He photographed the women of families that sold the limestone and owned the quarries and the families who were their neighbors. He took special care to record the simple, crude tools that were used in the rock business. So far these are the only photos that have surfaced concerning this profession in this part of Texas. A call has been extended for further pictorial information on this craft but none has been found.

When Gus worked for a local business, he photographed the early buildings before merchants changed the facades to keep up with changing times. Some of his photos show how business houses merchandised their products before sophisticated trimmings were made available.

Gus sang second tenor in the Liedertafel and the Gemeiste Chor. He contri-

continued

DOERFFLER continued

buted in the Deutsche Theater and often played prominent roles in German. He worked as an electrician and volunteered his time and work for projects in the Comfort Museum and Park and took pictures the whole time. Without the avid interest shown by this man in the everyday, work-a-day world of the German community of Comfort, a tremendous amount of our history would be gone and forgotten.



Dean and Ursula Masters dockside at Pier 21 with the Pride of Galveston

Danke schön, Pride

(ISB: 7)

Surprise reunion stirs memories of 1953 flight from communism

By HEBER TAYLOR
The Daily News

GALVESTON — The first time Ursula Masters boarded the Pride of Galveston, it was a gamble — although it was long before the ship had a casino on board.

"She had just escaped from East Germany, from behind the Iron Curtain, and was coming to America," said her husband, Dean Masters, a Seattle, Wash., teacher. "She was 17. She was penniless. And she didn't speak English."

That was in 1953, when the Pride was a new ocean liner called the Ryndam.

After months of searching shipping records, Masters finally tracked the ship to the Galveston docks. He then planned a surprise visit for his wife, who saw the ship for the first time in 38 years Monday.

Although the interior has been remodeled extensively, Mrs. Masters recognized the ship that brought her to the United States.

"This is wonderful," she said, adding that the original cruise had been much less pleasant. "The ocean was rough. Everybody was completely seasick. They brought one woman off the boat on a stretcher, she was so sick."

Still, the trip to America was a dream for Mrs. Masters, who had planned her escape from East Germany for three years. Her family had been persecuted by the Nazis and the Communists. Several family members would eventually escape.

Her chance came when she found a note sewn into a coat that had been sent to Eastern Europe by members of a church in Seattle. After lengthy correspondence with the Seattle family, Mrs. Masters traveled from her home near Dresden to East

Berlin, where she escaped to West Berlin through the subway. She eventually made her way to Holland, where she booked passage aboard the Ryndam.

Although she booked the cheapest passage, she arrived in Hoboken, N.J., with just \$10. Determined to make it to the Seattle family that had helped her, she caught a train.

"She bought bread and cheese for the (train) trip," her husband said. "She was hungry by the time she got to Seattle."

Her future husband was at the first church service she attended. Although he could speak no German, and she could speak no English, "it was love at first sight," he said.

After 35 years of happy marriage, Masters said he was obsessed with trying to find the ship that brought his wife to America.

Mrs. Masters began to suspect something was up about a year ago.

"He kept asking me if I'd seen the Statue of Liberty when I came to America, and I said no," she said.

It was one of Masters' first clues: the Ryndam was owned by a shipping line that operated out of Hoboken, instead of New York. Masters traced the Ryndam through its career as the Waterdam, the Atlas and the Pride of Mississippi. At one point, he traced it to New Orleans, only to find that it had been sold.

"I thought, oh boy, it's scrap now for sure," he said. "I was overjoyed when I found it here."

The Masters were planning to board the ship today, although they are not interested in the ship's main attraction, the casino.

"For most people, it is a different kind of excitement," Masters said. "For us, there is so much sentiment."

Family plans Texas-size reunion for 190 German kinfolk

Houston Chronicle

Friday, June 14, 1991

(ISB: 9)

By CAROL RUST
Houston Chronicle

IT took \$125,000 worth of plane tickets, five years of planning, four chartered buses and the entire IMAX Theater one evening, but the Teltschik family had its reunion.

And they're still having it — all 450 family members.

The 15-day get-together has an itinerary that stretches over 3½ legal size pages and hundreds of miles of Texas.

"We think big in this family," said Jeanine Teltschik of Houston, who helped coordinate the event.

For most of the 190 German family members who flew in this week from Eu-

rope, it is their first visit to the United States. So the rest of the family, nearly all of them Texans, worked up a tour almost guaranteed to tinge their staccato German with a drawl.

They were greeted at Intercontinental Airport early Tuesday morning with yellow roses by relatives sporting everything from cowboy attire to Teltschik family T-shirts with a Texas logo made especially for the occasion. Waiting relatives held a banner that said, "Howdy, y'all," and another bearing the coat of arms of their family, which dates to 1301.

A three-piece band played *The Eyes of Texas*, *Deep in the Heart of Texas* and any other song that remotely mentioned the Lone Star State, not to mention the first bars of Hank Williams' *Hey, Good Lookin'* every

time a woman emerged from customs inspection.

Nearly all the incoming relatives stopped to take a picture of the band members, who wore cowboy hats, boots and bandanas. "I think they thought we had our horses outside," guitar player Buddy Griffin said.

Mechanical problems caused the Dutch jet to arrive almost three hours late, about 12:30 a.m. Tuesday. Other passengers and the flight crew got through customs before the Teltschik contingency, and they looked puzzled, as they emerged one by one, by the cheers and rousing applause from waiting Teltschiks who hoped it might be a family member. Six Dutch flight attendants sat in the lobby just to watch after they were applauded when they arrived.

Later that morning, German visitors were



David Fahleson / Chronicle

Teltschik family members are taking chartered buses on their tour of Texas. The group heads for San Antonio and Austin

out making videos of a strip shopping center and traffic on Loop 610 near their hotel as if they'd never heard of jet lag.

They boarded tour buses, murmuring excitedly as they viewed Houston in the daylight for the first time.

"It's so green," said Rainer Teltschik of Bobliugen, Germany. "And all the flowers!"

The expanse of land inside the city — quite different from tightly spaced houses in their homeland — surprised them.

"It's like a great (huge) park with houses in it," Marlis Schrader said. Schrader is a neighbor of Rainer Teltschik's, and decided to make the trip with him and his family even though she isn't a Teltschik.

"How many people live in a house like

that?" another asked as the tour bus wound through the posh River Oaks neighborhood.

"Which building is the medical center?" Rainer Teltschik asked as the bus drove through the complex that is home to 14 hospitals and nine campuses. His eyes widened when he learned *all* the buildings were part of the center.

They toured the Astrodome, where Dome tour director William Stone told them in broken German about construction of the Dome — at the time, the first of its kind — in 1965.

About half the Germans speak English, so tour guides on the buses are family members who speak German. They also interpreted for the various guides who led the Germans through Houston attractions.

But when family members walked out onto the playing field and took their first step on AstroTurf, they needed no interpreter. Nearly all of them bounced softly up and down on the turf, grinning delightedly at one other.

After a guide in the Wortham Theater explained some of the chamber hall's acoustical aspects, three Teltschiks lingered behind as

continued

Reunion continued

the guide took the group elsewhere. They stood in the center of the theater and sang a cappella, three-part harmony as if to judge the acoustics for themselves.

A board of family members selected the attractions on the tour, then presented them to Nancy Gerhardt of Allegro Travel Inc.

"They tried to find what, of all that Houston and Texas have to offer, would be most interesting to the Germans," said Gerhardt, who hired another full-time employee in December to deal exclusively with Teltschik travel and accommodation details. "Also, the sheer numbers limited what we could do."

That included shopping at Saks Pavilion and the Galleria, and touring a Randall's Flagship Store. The supermarket, Gerhardt said, "is something they've never seen before."

In Germany, they buy their meat at a butcher shop, vegetables at a green grocer's, canned goods at an-

other store and fruit at a fruit stand, Jeannine Teltschik said. "They have no concept of a store where they can get all this, and a cafe, flower shop and pharmacy," she said.

The German Teltschiks marveled over and over again about how big things were, and that was before they visited the IMAX Theater Tuesday night, which the Teltschiks rented for a special showing of *Grand Canyon*.

"One woman came up to me and just squealed, 'I have never experienced anything like this before in my life,'" Jeannine said. "She could hardly catch her breath, she was so excited."

Jeannine, Gerhardt and many other Teltschik family members began planning this reunion after the last family reunion five years ago in Nürtingen in south central Germany (formerly West Germany). The 1986 reunion marked the 50th anniversary of the family's first worldwide reunion, organized by the late Josef Teltschik.

No Americans attended the 1936 reunion. So when Walter Teltschik organized the 1986 reunion in memory of his father, it was the first time some of them had seen each other since before World War II, and the first time for many of them to see one other at all.

The huge family toured NASA and dined on Galveston's tall ship *Elissa* Thursday. Today they leave for San Antonio, and Austin, where more Teltschiks will join them.

They will attend a rodeo entirely for Teltschiks, tour the governor's mansion and the Capitol and go to Sea World. The attractions will be new material for many of them, but they've discovered they'll see at least one familiar thing along the way.

During their first day in Houston, amid their wide-eyed questions and exclamations, the tour bus turned a corner and they pointed at something, nodding their heads in recognition.

It was a McDonald's restaurant.

A Teltschik family reunion is no small affair.

Just ask Jeanine Teltschik, who helped bring nearly 400 family members from Texas and Europe for a reunion Saturday in San Antonio. The event celebrates the family's lineage, which dates to 1301 when the founding father of the clan established a village in northern Moravia.

"It's been a mammoth job, as you can imagine," the Houston woman said shortly before the official reunion program began with a concert by a 40-member family band.

Three branches of the Teltschik family migrated to Texas from Germany in the 1880s and settled in Weimer, Floresville and Hallettsville.

In 1936, a German descendent named Josef Teltschik researched his family's roots and held the first reunion in Europe. None of the American descendants were able to attend. Fifty years later, the family held a second reunion in Germany with American participants.

San Antonio Light
June 16, 1991

By LISA BAKER
Staff reporter

S.A. plays host to global reunion

(ISB: 4)

"We had so much fun we decided we would have this every five years," Jeanine Teltschik said. The 1991 reunion, which includes tours of Houston and New Orleans and day trips to South Texas towns, is the first gathering on American soil.

Jarrell Edwards, a Teltschik family member and master of ceremonies for the Saturday reunion, said 140 relatives traveled from Europe to attend the reunion, which included 260 American descendants. The family has more than 900 members, some living in South Africa and Canada.

Edwards said; 86-year-old German native Walter



FAMILY THAT PLAYS TOGETHER: Fran Randall, left, and Ernestine Roemer play at the Teltschik family reunion.

Teltschik compiled a 300-page chronicle of the clan's evolution that helps keep the family together.

Among notable family members is Horst Teltschik, a former adviser to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The Galveston

TEXAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER
(ISB: 7)

Daily News

Morning, September 14, 1991

Friends

Wall didn't hold back friendship or contraband

by BOB WHITBY
The Daily News

GALVESTON — It was friendship, not international intrigue, that prompted Harrold Henck to smuggle contraband Western literature through the infamous Checkpoint Charlie to East Berlin in 1987.

Wearing a trench coat stuffed at various times with forbidden Time magazines, a Webster's Dictionary and a German-language travel guide to Texas, Henck made several visits to Gerit Kostolnik, a young woman he met through the mail while in college.

It never felt like smuggling, he said. It felt more like a diplomatic duty.

"I really felt an obligation to bring information because my impression of the whole country was that it was just a very closed, contained society," he said.

"It was such a strange feeling. Why could I walk in and walk out when she had to stay behind?"

Since the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, Kostolnik doesn't have to stay behind anymore. She and her husband, Heiko, have spent the last few weeks touring Texas and visiting Henck in Galveston. The 12-year friendship between Henck and his German friends will come full circle when Gerit speaks to a Ball High German class Monday.



Staff photo by Jim Stotts

Harrold Henck, left, had no way of knowing a gift of a German-language Texas guidebook several years ago would come in handy for pen pal Gerite Kostolnik and her husband, Heiko.

As a Ball High freshman in 1978, Henck remembers when an East German woman spoke before his class about life behind the wall.

"At the time I was very curious about it, so I asked 10,000 questions," he said.

The speaker gave Henck an address of family members to correspond with, and pen pals were born.

In college, he went to live in Germany on an exchange program and took a civilian job with the military after graduating. After a barrage of paperwork to satisfy the East German government, he received permission to stay for a month with the family he had only known through the mail.

When he left East Germany, Henck thought it would be a long

time before he saw his friends again. Under Communist law East Germans were only allowed to leave the country after they had reached retirement age.

Four months later, everything changed.

"Instead of 40 years, it was four months later when the wall fell," he said.

Gerit, an English student, and Heiko, a farm management consultant, spent their life savings to visit Henck. After reading the travel book Henck smuggled in, Texas seemed larger than life.

"It was so far away it was exotic," Gerit said. "Reading that book was exotic. It was something you could not believe."

Not und Verzweiflung trieben die Menschen aus ihrer Heimat fort

Vor 110 Jahren gab es im Kreise Lübbecke die höchste Auswanderungswelle

Stemwede/Rahden. Viele Menschen, vor allen Dingen junge, ja selbst Kinder, verließen vor und nach der Jahrhundertwende Elternhaus und Heimat, um in Amerika, der „Neuen Welt“, ein neues Leben zu beginnen und sich eine eigene Existenz aufzubauen. Der ganze Kreis Lübbecke wurde damals von einer Auswanderungswelle großen Ausmaßes erfaßt, die in verschiedenen Orten trotz Geburtenüberschuß die Bevölkerung schwinden ließ.

Die Not trieb viele Menschen hinaus, hier und da vielleicht auch der Hang zum Abenteuer. Die meisten gingen dabei den vorgeschriebenen bürokratischen Weg, sie beantragten bei der Behörde ihre Auswanderung und führten diese dann „mit Konsens“ (Entlassungsurkunde aus der Staatsangehörigkeit) durch. Andere wieder wanderten heimlich über Nacht aus, darunter auch solche, die sich im Wehrdienstalter befanden oder die hier etwas verschuldet hatten.

Die Auswandererzahlen aus dem Kreis Lübbecke waren überdurchschnittlich groß, das beweisen alte Unterlagen. 1880 verließen 213 Einwohner mit Konsens

das Kreisgebiet, 1881 waren es sogar 718, die größte Anzahl Auswanderer, die in einem Jahr verzeichnet wurde. 1882 verließen 444 Menschen im Kreis Heimat und Vaterland, 1883 waren es 293 und 1884 238.

Besonders auf dem flachen Lande, wo es wenig Beschäftigungsmöglichkeiten gab, war die Not groß. Oft wanderte zunächst ein Mitglied von der Familie aus und holte dann später Angehörige nach. Ein Beispiel dafür war Fritz Thielemann aus Pr. Ströhen, der 1892 als 14-jähriger Junge nach Nordamerika auswanderte und später dann als 84-jähriger nach hier zurückkehrte, um in der Heimat zu sterben und hier begraben zu werden.

70 Jahre war er von seinem Heimatdort fort, ohne in der Zwischenzeit hier einen Besuch durchgeführt zu haben. Im Besitz von Fritz Thielemann befand sich noch die Entlassungsurkunde des Königlich Preußischen Regierungspräsidenten zu Minden, datiert vom 19. August 1892.

Dieses Schriftstück öffnete ihm einst als 14-jährigen das Tor zur Welt. Darin hieß es: „Der un-

terzeichnete Königliche Regierungs-Präsident bescheinigt hierdurch, daß dem minderjährigen Friedrich Wilhelm Thielemann zu Ströhen, geboren am 3ten Februar 1878 zu Ströhen, Kreises Lübbecke, mit väterlicher Genehmigung auf sein Ansuchen und behufs seiner Auswanderung nach Nordamerika die Entlassung aus der Preußischen Staatsangehörigkeit erteilt worden ist.“

Weiter hieß es in dem vergilbten Schriftstück: „Diese Entlassungs-Urkunde bewirkt für die darin ausdrücklich genannte Person mit dem Zeitpunkte der Aushändigung den Verlust der Preußischen Staatsangehörigkeit; sie wird jedoch unwirksam, wenn der Entlassene nicht binnen sechs Monate vom Tage der Aushändigung der Entlassungs-Urkunde seinen Wohnsitz außerhalb des Bundesgebietes verlegt, oder die Staatsangehörigkeit in einem anderen Bundesstaat erwirbt.“

Fritz Thielemann, der sich später Fred Tellmann nannte, wurde auf der Stätte Schwarze Nr. 39 geboren. Sein Vater stammte vom Hofe Thielemann

Nr. 28. Seine Mutter war von der Hofstätte Schwarze (früher Tinnemeier) gebürtig. Der 14-jährige wanderte zusammen mit einem Wilhelm Holste aus Pr. Ströhen aus. Später hörte man nur selten etwas von ihnen.

Fred Thielemann erlebte als junger Mensch die Pionierzeit in Amerika mit, er erwarb sich eine kleine Farm, handelte einige Jahre mit Eiern und Butter, hatte Pferde, Kühe und viele Schafe. Zum heiraten aber kam er nicht. Nach dem letzten Krieg zwang ihn ein Autounfall zur Aufgabe der Landwirtschaft (Farm). Das war 1960.

Die Gedanken Freds gingen dann öfter in die Heimat zurück, wohin er schließlich als 84-jähriger zurückkehrte. Mit wallendem Vollbart und der amerikanischen Flagge am Hut, so erinnert man sich in Pr. Ströhen noch an Fred Thielemann, der in der Familie des Zimmermeisters August Windhorst bis zu seinem Tode Aufnahme fand. Er war ein Naturbursche, der auch im hohen Alter noch gerne draußen schlief, wie er es in seinem Leben sicherlich oft getan hatte.



Das war Fritz Thielemann aus Pr. Ströhen, der als 14-jähriger Junge 1892 nach Nordamerika auswanderte, um dann als 84-jähriger nach hier zurückzukehren. Er verstarb Ende März 1968 im Alter von 90 Jahren.
on/Foto: Horstmann



Informationsbroschüren für Auswanderungswillige wurden auch hier an die Menschen verteilt, die ihre Heimat verlassen wollten. Hier eine Abbildung der Titelseite eines Handbuches von Texas.
on/Foto: Horstmann

(ISB: 12)

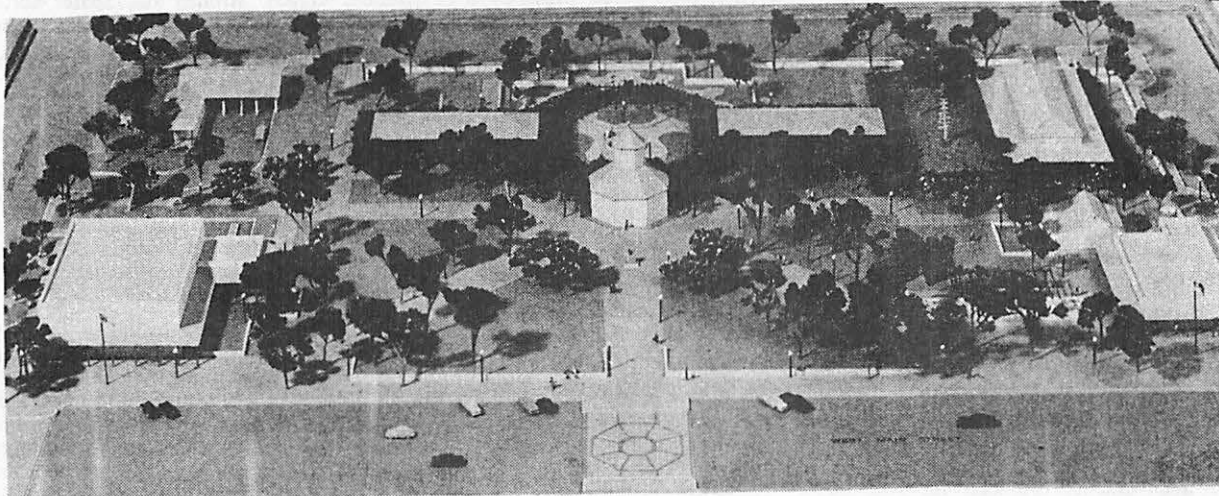
**Stemwede
Rahden**

Redaktion: Horst Benker
Antje Hartmann
Geschäftsstelle: Weher Straße 7,
4993 Rahden, Tel.: (0 57 71) 30 42/30 43

PLACES

Fredericksburg, Texas

The Redevelopment of Market Square is a project by the people for the people of Fredericksburg and surrounding communities ...



As John O. Meusebach sailed over the Atlantic destined for Texas, several ideas for a new settlement town were tightly stowed away in his heart and his mind. One of these ideas was for the development of a town center, a park or platz, where residents, their guests and visitors could congregate, socialize and share.

After arriving in Texas and establishing relations with the regional Indians, Meusebach set about the task of building Fredericksburg and the platz. He designated a two block square in the center of town to be the platz, or plaza, and since that time it has been the center of Fredericksburg geographically, spiritually, socially, politically and economically.

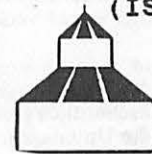
Adolphs Platz, Marktplatz, Market Square, Courthouse Square and Public-Free School Square are names that were given to the platz throughout the last 150 years.

The full area of the square that Meusebach envisioned for the town saw changes immediately with the construction of Fredericksburg's first public building, the Vereins Kirche, which was completed in 1847. The Vereins Kirche, which was built in the center of the square, was designed for functional use and was



History of Marktplatz

(ISB: 2)



used as a church, meeting hall, school and storage house. It remained functional until it was demolished in 1897, by the order of a county judge. Nearly 50 years later, in observance of the Texas Centennial of 1936, a replica of the Vereins Kirche was erected in the northern half of the platz, about 100 yards from the original site. The replica was built to commemorate the founding pioneers and to be used as a museum exhibiting present-day post office is located. In 1882 that building was demolished and a new courthouse was built in the center of the southern half of the platz. The new building was designed by the nationally famous architect Alfred Giles and it served as the center of county administration until 1939. At that time another county courthouse was built just east of the old courthouse. The 1882 courthouse was later refurbished and is now the Pioneer Memorial Library.

In 1920 the District Court of Gillespie County awarded the northern half of the platz to the Fredericksburg Independent School District and the southern half of the platz was awarded to Gillespie County. Since

lics and documents of the pioneer days.

Fredericksburg's first public schoolhouse, a two-room rock building was built just a few yards away from the Vereins Kirche in 1856. It was one of the first public schools in Texas and it stood where the City Hall/Fire Station building is now located, the southwest, corner of today's Marktplatz.

Following the demolition of the original Vereins Kirche, Fredericksburg's Main St. was extended through the middle of the original platz consequently dividing the square into a northern and southern half. Along with the building of the school and Vereins replica on the northern half of the square the southern half also experienced changes.

The first Gillespie County Courthouse was built on the southern half of the square in 1854 by two of the area's first colonists, Daniel and Jacob Arhelger. It stood on the corner of Main St. and Crockett, where the

continued

that time, the northern half of the platz has served as a commercial area with filling stations, used car lots, a drive-in bank building, professional offices and other commercial enterprises. The 1934 Vereins Kirche replica still stands in the center of the northern half of the square. Other buildings located on the northern half of the square are the Chamber of Commerce, the volunteer fire department, City Hall, the Schroeder/Penick building, public rest rooms and the Pioneer Memorial Garden, which was dedicated in memory and honor of the Founders of Fredericksburg.

The City of Fredericksburg negotiated with the Fredericksburg ISD in 1987 and purchased the northern part of the platz with the intention of restoring the Marktplatz to its original use - an area for public use and appreciation. Since 1989, a committee of citizens, appointed by the City Commissioners, researched possible uses for Market Square or Marktplatz. After obtaining suggestions from a Texas A&M graduate students architecture team, researching ideas used in other towns and hearing from local citizens through public forums, the Marktplatz commission submitted a proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square to the city for its approval. The City Commissioners reviewed and approved the proposal, then called for the development of a master plan. Since that time several decisions and changes (i.e. the move of the Chamber offices to the Penick building, the transplant of trees from the golf course and the decision to expand the fire station) regarding the redevelopment of Market Square have occurred.

The goal for the completion of the redevelopment project, which is being reached through local public support and state and national foundation grants, is 1996, the 150th anniversary of the founding of Fredericksburg.

Ella Gold, a local historian and educator, wrote,

"In 1896, May 8, 9 and 10, the time of our town's Golden Jubilee, Marktplatz truly became Festplatz, the festival place. The Ver-

eins Kirche, then in its last days since the various denominations had built their own churches, was converted into a pavilion by taking away its stone walls. It was festooned with greenery and be-decked with electric lights ... It was a beautiful sight, as some young visitors at the jubilee recalled in their old age. Here the bands played, choirs sang, speeches were made ... For the festival, a long brush arbor - 'two or three blocks long' as a teenage viewer described in his later years - was built along the north side of Marktplatz. This was used for food and drink stands and for sheltered seating space. There were also some tents pitched in the area."

Gold described the festivities on the Square through the eyes of the early settlers who were children at the time of the Golden Jubilee celebrations. Marktplatz was also the focal point for many other special celebrations of Fredericksburg including Fredericksburg's Centennial in 1946.

Following the original development of the square by Fredericksburg's founding father, John O. Meusebach, it has been lighted, danced upon and walked on, over and through for decades. Parties and festivals were thrown on the square, conversations were held, sermons preached, political decisions made and children were taught all within a two block area and over a century of time. Marktplatz, literally was the center of town and the center of Fredericksburg's public life.

Today, in the later part of the 20th century, the northern part of Marktplatz is still used for festivals and public celebrations. The square hosted the Texas Sesquicentennial in 1986 and was a festival place for the Fourth of July and Founders Day Celebrations. Annually the square still operates as it did originally, as a gathering place for the citizens of Fredericksburg and its visitors, by hosting public events such as Oktoberfest, Kristkindl Market and Food & Wine Fest. The heart of Fredericksburg, is, after all, for the public.



The Modern Day Story

Just as John O. Meusebach, Fredericksburg's founding father, had the idea and vision for the development of a town center or platz, local visionaries today have set a course to redevelop Meusebach's original idea of a town square.

The Redevelopment of Market Square is an idea that had its origins in the minds of citizens back in the late 1970's and earlier. Through the early part of the 1980's more and more people began to share in the idea and added their own thoughts and comments to a growing purpose.

In 1987, the redevelopment idea took its first major flight into reality when the City of Fredericksburg purchased the northern part of Meusebach's original square from the Fredericksburg Independent School District.

"We have been dedicated and committed to the idea of redeveloping Market Square since the beginning," said Fredericksburg's Mayor, Boyd Harper.

The Master Plan was designed with the purpose of developing a unique space that truly reflects the values of Fredericksburg and its people. "We are not trying to recreate an era," said redevelopment commission executive director, Ann Brey, "we are creating a feeling of what this town is about and of the people that live in Fredericksburg today."

Planners sought to combine various functional elements of the platz into a unified whole, while at the same time remaining in harmony with the varied surroundings. To achieve such harmony, materials under the Master Plan would be selected according to their compatibility with local architecture and construction would be done by local craftsmen to give the platz a unified feeling of local heritage.

The Redevelopment will embody new interpretive programs such as the History Walk and Pioneer Memorial Garden. These two areas will be included in a central courtyard directly north of the Vereins Kirche along with a central water feature.

Anhalt keeps up German ways (ISB: 10)

Farmers' group dances to preserve German culture, restore hall

By David Matustik
American-Statesman Staff

ANHALT — Food and drink still are verboten on the dance floor, but jeans, hats and shorts — although still frowned upon by some older members — are tolerated.

These days, beer is sold in cans, not from kegs. And they'll even open the place to the public today (a Saturday), breaking a Sunday-only, twice-a-year rite that's been around for more than 100 years.

Even at tradition-rich Anhalt Hall, things have changed to accommodate modern ways. But yet, a lot of things remain the same at this historic hall, where the new portion of the dance floor was built in 1908, and older sections date to 1887.

The dance hall's owner — Germania Farmer Verein, an organization begun in 1875 to



The kegs are gone, but the Germania Farmer Verein maintains many of the traditions of the time when this photograph was taken (around 1895).

combat cattle rustlers — plans to make today a day of traditional country music, and Western swing music to raise money to fix and refurbish the hall.

The fund-raiser will include the traditional German grand

march as well as members of Bob Wills' Original Texas Playboys and other bands. Festivities, including a barbecue cook-off, begin at 3 p.m. and last until 1 a.m. Sunday.

Anhalt is nothing more than the dance hall tucked on a

hillside on Anhalt Road off Texas 46, 4½ miles west of U.S. 281 between New Braunfels and Boerne. The hall is about 70 miles southwest of Austin.

The tin roof — with its arched wooden trusses that span 60 feet — has sprung some leaks above the main 4,800-square-foot wooden dance floor. Other parts of the building have original floor planks and walls that date to 1887.

"It's very much Hill Country," said Bill Wetz, one of the fund-raiser's organizers. "It's very much a tradition, especially the fests."

The fests began 116 years ago under the Hill Country oaks to celebrate the harvest in October and the end of planting season in May. Celebrations have evolved from outdoor fairs to family-style

Farmers' group holds fund-raising dance to repair leaky hall

German feasts with music and dancing in the hall on the third Sundays of October and May.

Historically, "the idea of this place was not to raise a lot of money," said Henry Schmidt, 70, treasurer of the verein or association. "It was never commercialized."

The early fests were two-day affairs with people traveling long distances in wagons. Everybody dressed up in their finest.

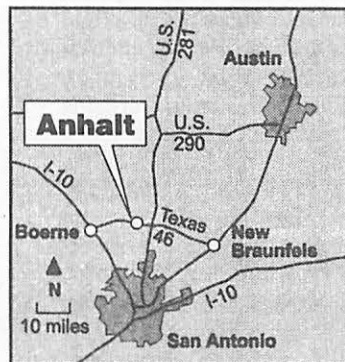
"In the afternoons, they (the women) would dance in short dresses and in the evenings the women would head to the brush to put on long dresses," said Schmidt, whose great-grandfather was a charter member of the farmers' group.

After the dancing, families would camp on the grounds or sleep in the dance hall.

In recent years, the hall has been rented occasionally for weddings, but the only other times the building is regularly used are for monthly meetings of members of the association.

The males-only club is a benevolent society that helps members and others in need.

"This is an organization of German people that were in this area



Staff graphics

and they saw some need for some social activity," said Darrell Moeller, 35, one of the organizers of Saturday's benefit. "They discussed Indian raids and cattle rustling."

But through the years, the association's emphasis has evolved from cattle to culture.

"The purpose of the organization is to promote the use and preserve the German language in the community," said Wetz. "Much of the German language has been lost. There are not too many young people that are fluent in the German language."

Many of Texas' dance halls were

built by agriculture organizations, such as Germania Farmer Verein, which needed meeting places, said Edd O'Donnell, executive director of the Texas Music Association.

The large dance halls, of which Gruene Hall in New Braunfels (circa 1878) claims to be the oldest, existed throughout Texas but were especially common in the Hill Country and West Texas.

"Their heyday was from the '20s to the '50s and most every place in West Texas, within a reasonable distance of a cluster of towns, had a dance hall," O'Donnell said. "Basically, they served as a community hall for a lot of places as well as a dance hall."

"That's why in Texas that traditionally if you go to the Saturday night 'do' at the dance hall in the country, you see the whole family — parents and children — because it's the focus of their social life," he said.

The lure of big-city entertainment — and its accessibility by automobile — helped lead to the demise of rural dance halls, O'Donnell said.

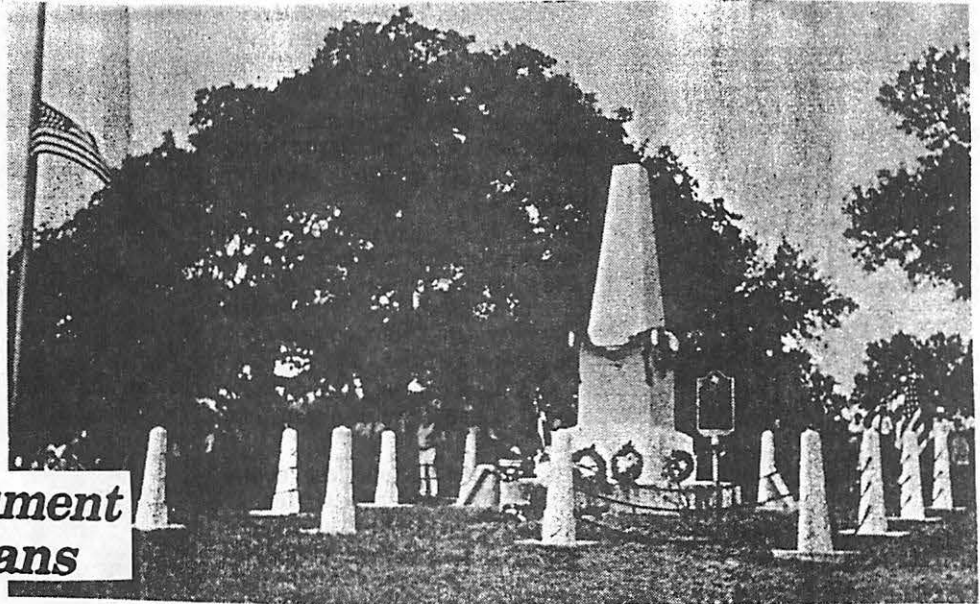
"As towns have grown up, people have just lost interest," he said. "They have gone to nightclubs. The automobile made a difference."

125th
 Anniversary Observance
 of the
 Nueces "Treue der Union"
 Monument

Thursday August 15, 1991

**COMFORT
 NEWS**

(ISB: 3)



**Comfort monument
 honors Germans**

**36 Star Flag to Fly
 At "Treue der Union"**

by Pam Duke

The 125th anniversary of the "Treue Der Union" Monument was commemorated last Sunday by a brief ceremony and the announcement of a distinctive honor.

Through the efforts of Marshall Steves, Sr. and Congressman Lamar Smith on behalf of The Comfort Foundation, The Treue Der Union Monument has been designated by Congress as a site which may fly the American flag at half mast in perpetuity.

At this time there are only five other sites which have been awarded this distinction. They are: The Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Arlington National Cemetery, Gettysburg Battleground, Battle Mountain (Site of Custer's Last Stand), and Mackinac Island.

The surprising thing was that it took only about three weeks to

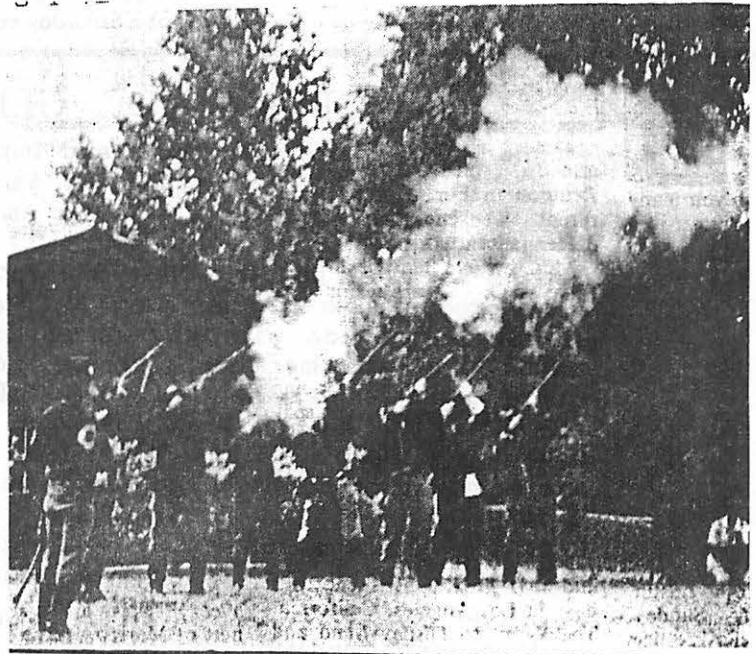
receive permission which in other instances has taken up to two years to accomplish.

The following is a letter from Lamar Smith which was read at the ceremony.

"I am pleased to recognize the 125th anniversary of the dedication of the "Treue der Union" monument on Monument Hill, Comfort, Texas.

The "Treue der Union" monument, the only monument to the Union south of the Mason-Dixon line, recognizes the courageous efforts of those settlers who died for their beliefs in the Union cause.

It is appropriate and fitting that the 36 star flag be flown at half-mast for perpetuity in remembrance of the 36 souls who perished in this tragic episode of our country's history.



INFORMATION

(ISB: 4)

Consul honors Germans in Alamo

By Don Driver
Express-News Staff Writer

The German consul general laid a wreath at the Alamo on Saturday in memory of two defenders of German descent who gave their lives during the historic battle.

"As we honor these two heroes of the Alamo who came from Germany, we also think of the many German-Texans who helped build this country and continue to do so," said Klaus Aurisch, consul general of the Federal Republic of Germany.

He spoke at a brief ceremony sponsored by the Grand Lodge, Order of the Sons of Hermann in

Texas, as part of the German-American Day Program.

Aurisch was joined by the Hermann Sons German Band and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in paying homage to the Alamo defenders.

Honor defenders

The ceremony honored all defenders, particularly Henry Thomas and Henry Courtland. Aurisch said they sacrificed their lives to prove there is no substitute for freedom and human rights.

He said those rights are just as important today, as Germans go through the difficult process of reunification.

"We are reunited, but history has gone on, and the effects of 40 years of communist rule on one part of Germany cannot be dealt with overnight," Aurisch said after the ceremony.

"We have challenges and a few years of hard work ahead," he said.

A two-day Octoberfest ended Saturday at Beethoven Garten. It featured songs, big bands, folk-dancing and polka bands, served with German food, wine and beer.



German Consul General Klaus Aurisch presents a wreath honoring the heroes of the Alamo at a Saturday ceremony, part of German-American Day activities.

OCTOBER 6 IS GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY

Ethnic holidays are significant and important, not just for German-Americans, but for all ethnic groups, for all Americans. Cultural heritage and ethnic belonging are cornerstones to being American. Combined they are this nation!

German-American Day was first celebrated in 1987. Joint Congressional resolutions created this popular day. A Presidential proclamation honored it. It is shared nationwide with government officials, legislators, state governors, mayors, and all Americans. Across the sea Germany and Germans remember their emigrants and their progeny. GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY is even more significant in this time of great historical changes in Germany and Europe, which began with the dismantling of the Iron Curtain and the unification of Germany, and is now proceeding to the formal beginning of a truly united Europe.

German-Americans constitute the historically staunchest supporters of the democratic values and principles of this country.

For more than three centuries, German immigrants in the United States have built a long tradition of loyalty in both peace and war.

PRESS RELEASE

of

GERMAN AMERICAN JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 5488

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016-5488

(ISB: 15)

German-Americans recall horror of deportation

SEAGOVILLE — Erich Schneider still remembers the knock on his family's door.

Only 13 when federal agents came for his family during a World War II roundup of German-Americans suspected of disloyalty, he clearly recalls the days in a Texas internment camp and the horror of deportation to Nazi Germany.

"I was sitting on the couch and Daddy went to the door and asked three men what they wanted and they forced their way in," said



Schneider

Schneider, 62, who now lives near Denver.

"Within 20 minutes we were out of the house with nothing but the clothes on our backs. That was the last we saw of our house and car."

For Alfred

Plaschke, the knock came at 4 a.m. He was asleep when FBI agents arrested his father, Rudolf Plaschke, and took him to an Oklahoma camp.

"The FBI agents surrounded the house, searched the house and took my father away," said Plaschke, 59, a Houston resident. "We didn't know where he was for three or four weeks."

While his father was detained in Oklahoma, Plaschke and his family were detained in "an old fire station near Kirby Drive in Houston" and later taken to Seagoville. The elder Plaschke and other German-Americans were reunited with their families at the camp several months later.

Plaschke and Schneider, who both maintain the innocence of their fathers, became friends in the camp.

The Seagoville camp has since become a medium-security federal corrections facility, while authorities said they doubt sections of the second detention camp in Texas, at Crystal City, remains.

The camps — surrounded by fences, equipped with searchlights and staffed by armed guards — became home for the families during the next three years.

Children were born and educated in camp schools. They seldom, if ever, were allowed to leave the compounds. Plaschke, for example,

remembers being allowed to leave the Crystal City compound once in two years when authorities took him to Uvalde for eyeglasses.

"In Crystal City you could actually touch the fence, while in Seagoville you couldn't," Plaschke said. "It was strung-up barbed wire on wooden poles with guard towers."

In Seagoville, Plaschke said he was warned not to cross a "white line" drawn down the center of a perimeter road to the compound.

"We went outside the white line to look at a grove of trees," Plaschke said. "We had never been there before."

"But when we did, half the camp guards came running with machine guns over to us. They said: 'Next time you go over there we'll shoot you!'"

"When my mother, Bertha, found out she just about died."

Plaschke said families living in camp dormitories attempted to have a "normal family life."

The camps had a wide range of activities that included movies, plays, sports and art. Plaschke said his father taught mechanics and shop. Other parents — along with Japanese-Americans detained with the German- and Italian-American families — also helped teach the children.

"I would say a fairly normal family life existed, except you didn't have a car and if you did, you couldn't have gone anywhere," Plaschke said. "I would say the life was as normal as possible under the conditions. The only beatings I saw was two Bavarian hot-head drunks fighting each other."

By February 1945 — five months before the conclusion of the war in Europe — the lives of the German-American families would change drastically.

Plaschke and Schneider and their families were deported to Nazi Germany along with hundreds of other German-Americans.

The deported civilians, shipped to Europe aboard a neutral Swedish vessel, were part of a swap for U.S. and Allied prisoners of war.

The families returned to Germany as Allied bombing raids peaked in their destruction.

"We arrived in Dresden, Germany, on Feb. 10, 1945," Schneider said. "If you look up in the Guinness Book of World Records, you'll find that three days later more people were killed in a conventional bombing raid on Dresden than any other air raid in history."

"In all, 135,000 people were killed that night," Schneider said. "The

Houston Chronicle Nov. 11, 1990

By MARK SMITH
Houston Chronicle

(ISB: 7)

Hundreds of detainees sent to Nazi Germany in POW trade

English dropped incendiary bombs and the Americans came in with high explosives — bombs they called 'block busters.'

Schneider said he remembers seeing the bombs fall from the airplanes.

"We — my father and I — had to help clear buildings and pull out bodies and stack them and burn them," Schneider said. "It took weeks to dig the corpses out. The stench was terrible."

Plaschke said he also remembers bombing raids over Hamburg, where he lived with his family.

"We were on occasion strafed by American P-51s," Plaschke said. "Mostly it was RAF bombers. Occasionally, we were bombed by B-17s or B-24s who hadn't dropped all their bomb loads over some other German city."

Plaschke said the bombing raids were "terrifying."

"Sirens would go off and we were in bunkers sometimes two to three times each night," Plaschke said. "Sometimes we wouldn't make it down to the bunkers until the bombing had started."

One horrible moment came when Plaschke was riding a bike with his cousin in a cemetery near Besigheim, Germany.

"We were riding from one town to another visiting relatives," Plaschke said. "We were going through a cemetery when we were strafed by some P-51s and we had to hide behind some gravestones for protection. They shot the buildings across the street from us. When they got through, we left."

Both Plaschke and Schneider were U.S. citizens and returned to the United States after the war.

Plaschke, ironically, became a tech sergeant in the U.S. Air Force where, during a 22-year career, he was issued clearance to review top-secret military documents.

"I guess that's how this crazy world operates," Plaschke said.

German-Americans rankled by World War II reparations

By MARK SMITH
Houston Chronicle

SEGOVILLE — After almost 50 years, the United States has formally apologized to more than 100,000 Japanese-Americans herded into internment camps during World War II.

But the \$1.2 billion in reparations being paid to about 60,000 surviving victims only has rankled another group — German-Americans who also were detained in camps during the war.

About 6,000 German-Americans were sequestered during the war, many of them in large camps in Seagoville, near Dallas, and in Crystal City in South Texas.

While the U.S. Congress voted to pay \$20,000 in reparations to each of the 60,000 surviving Japanese-American internees, German-, Italian- and Hungarian-American internees — 9,341 were held in 1944 — say they received only politely indifferent letters from lawmakers.

"The Japanese are getting paid and apologies and I don't understand why we don't all receive reparations," said Alfred Plaschke, 59, of Houston. "If it hadn't been for the Japanese-American reparations, I wouldn't have dredged this up."

Plaschke, imprisoned at both the Texas camps with his family in 1943-45, maintains his late father's innocence. His father's business partner used the wartime hysteria to seize control of their business, he claims.

But Plaschke said his calls for justice have fallen on deaf ears.

Letters to lawmakers, including U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, have met with only

terse, unsympathetic responses, he said.

"They just say they're sorry, there is nothing we can do," Plaschke said.

Many of the ethnic detainees were arrested in late-night raids; a sizeable number was deported to Germany or Italy in exchange for U.S. prisoners of war.

They were arrested under executive orders that allowed the federal government to exclude suspicious persons from military areas and to evacuate those who "may have something in their record showing an allegiance to the enemy," federal records show.

Plaschke's family was among those deported to Germany in 1945, and he recalls — sometimes bitterly — the bombings his family endured during the last months of the war in Germany.

Plaschke returned to the United States in 1948.

For Erich Schneider, 62, an intern in both Seagoville and Crystal City, the Japanese-American reparations caused him to question U.S. justice. He also maintains his father's arrest was not justified.

"We went through the same thing as the Japanese-Americans and lost all our property — our homes, car and possessions," said Schneider, who now lives in Evergreen, Colo., near Denver. "We're talking about property taken from people."

"I just hate to think my dad worked hard for his property and

someone said: 'That's tough, pal.' The German-Americans went through the same thing as the Japanese-Americans."

Arnold Krammer, 49, a Texas A&M University history professor completing a book on the topic, said he remains unsure if the German-American internees were imprisoned in camps fairly.

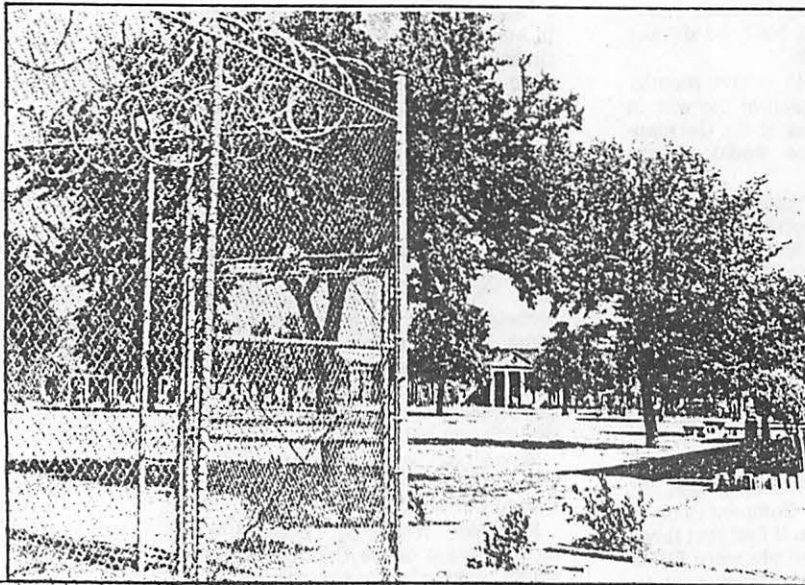
"I think it's one of those wrinkles in the tapestry of history that just got passed over," Krammer said.

Krammer said then-FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the surveillance of German- and Italian-Americans during the war, including opening letters sent to the German and Italian embassies and tapping telephone conversations.

The surveillance of Japanese, German- and Italian-Americans became further justified under Executive Order 9066.

That presidential directive authorized the Secretary of War and designated military commanders to exclude any and all persons, citizens and aliens, "from designated areas in order to provide security against sabotage, espionage and fifth column activity."

The order was signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on Feb. 19, 1942, about 10 weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the exec-



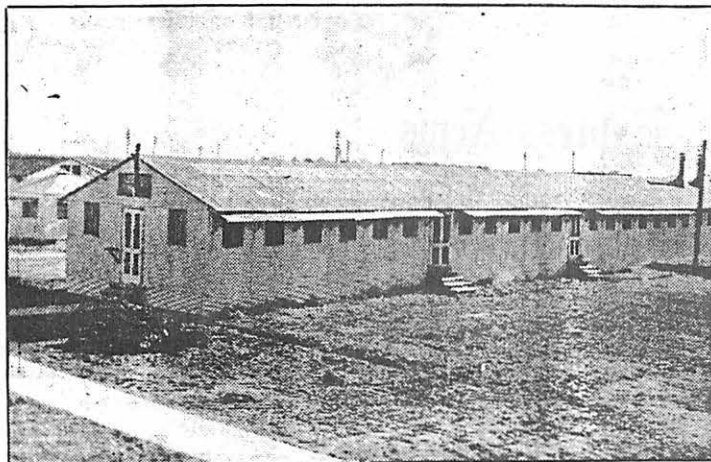
The Federal Correctional Institute at Seagoville once housed German-Americans. Detainees were eventually deported to Germany in a POW trade.



Chronicle

Camps

Continued.



U.S. government

German-Americans were moved and housed in dormitories in Texas.

utive order due to wartime emergency, but struck down the incarceration of admittedly loyal Americans on the grounds there was no statutory authority.

However, Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt, commander of the Western Defense Command for the War Department, defended the internment policy before a 1943 congressional committee by saying, "American citizenship does not necessarily determine loyalty."

In a press conference the next day, DeWitt added: "A Jap is a Jap."

Such an attitude concerns historians such as Krammer.

"They (German- and Italian-Americans) may have been reasonably innocent and Hoover's paranoia caused them to be rounded up," Krammer said. "They then might have become more paranoid and political as a result of the action taken against them."

However, Krammer said many historians believe the Japanese-Americans were imprisoned because of their race.

"They took 112,000 Japanese-Americans and hauled them off," Krammer said. "They lost their homes and farms because they couldn't pay taxes on their property while in camp. I think most historians believe it was racism, pure and simple.

"The Germans weren't discriminated against because of their race, but because of their politics. I'd like to think those (Germans) hauled away were not innocent. But we

can't be sure."

Records, however, show that few German- and Italian-Americans were interned, possibly due to their large numbers.

In 1940, Germans and Italians were the two largest ethnic groups in the United States, compared to a far smaller Japanese population concentrated on the West Coast. There were, for example, about 5 million German-Americans at the start of the war.

"The American population of German descent in 1940 was so large that any major program of exclusion or detention would have been very difficult to execute, with enormous economic and political repercussions," according to a December 1982 Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

The report also maintains that many German-Americans living on the East Coast of the United States during the war were in position to help the Third Reich, while the Japanese-Americans later interned posed little if any threat to the United States.

"In the first months of 1942, the United States was engaged in active warfare along the Atlantic Coast with the Germans, who had dispatched submarines to American Atlantic waters, where they patrolled outside harbors and roadsteads," the report said. "Unconvoyed American ships were torpedoed and destroyed with comparative impunity before minefield defense and antisubmarine warfare became effective, several months later."

In all, more than 150 U.S. ships were sunk off the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, the report said. The peak came in May 1942, when 41 ships were lost in the Gulf.

The threat became real to many Americans, who witnessed the devastation to U.S. shipping. On June 15, 1942, for example, two U.S. ships were torpedoed and sunk in full view of bathers and picnickers at Virginia Beach, Va.

Noted naval historian Samuel Eliot Morison said: "The U-boats were undoubtedly helped by enemy agents and clandestine radio transmissions from the United States, as well as by breaking codes."

The report said the commission was skeptical of charges of Japanese cooperation with the enemy.

"The few shells lobbed ashore at Goleta, Calif., and the incendiary balloons floated over the Pacific Northwest amounted to little more than harassment," the report said.

Some authorities maintain that the housing of internees reflected the prejudices of the U.S. military and Immigration and Naturalization Service.

"In Seagoville, the Germans and Italians got the solid, brick quarters to live and sleep in while the Japanese internees got the plywood huts," said Jerry Pugh, a superintendent at the Seagoville facility, which is now a medium-security federal prison.

"I think it shows they were suffering from the retribution of the bombing at Pearl Harbor."

Regardless of reparation payments, German-Americans such as Schneider said the years spent in guarded compounds cannot be erased from his memory.

"When I think back on it, I can understand war mania, when people do strange things," Schneider said.

"But I just feel things could have been done differently. We just didn't have that much forgiveness."



U.S. government

The drama club performs a play at the camp in Seagoville.

Talented musician entertains diners

If you plan to dine at Crumpets, a restaurant of long standing in Alamo Heights, don't take a noisy party on Wednesday night.

That is the night that Hans Mangold enters on the nose of 7:30 p.m. The 86-year-old Munich-born musician lays his zither, a flat, stringed instrument, on his lap and without fuss or fanfare begins doing what he learned from his father some 70 years ago.

"My father began to teach me to play the zither when I was young. When he was drafted for World War I, a friend of the family took over teaching me," Mangold said.

He came to San Antonio in 1923 when he was 18 "because after the war there wasn't enough to eat. I had an aunt and uncle here who sent me a ticket. I immediately began playing at the Beethoven Society."

Passed on profession

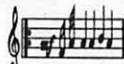
Mangold bought the City Upholstery Shop in 1935, a profession he has passed on to his son, Hans Frank Mangold, who today owns the shop.

But the gentleman is a creature of habit. "I am here at home every morning. But in the afternoons I still go to the shop. There, I'm just a part-time helper these days.

"Why do I play at Crumpet's on Wednesdays? Because I have to sing with the Beethoven group on Tuesday evenings," he said matter-of-factly.

His playing gives Crumpet's diners a

MUSIC



Express-News

San Antonio, Texas

August 21, 1991



pleasant dining and listening experience. The Cornel Saroodys are among them.

"My wife found him at the furniture repair shop some five years ago. We made a point of going to Crumpet's not long after," said Cornel Saroody.

"What I mainly enjoy is that the gentleman is totally self-effacing and unobtrusive. He plays old-time waltzes and polkas — not like any claptrap on Muzak — and sometimes he sings in his thin, reedy voice. He is entertaining because he is so different from other musicians. And he seems to love bringing his talents to Crumpet's diners," Saroody said.

Mangold has been a Wednesday fixture for 11 years, and he is a devoted professional. Crumpets owner/chef Francois Maeder said: "He has only missed two Wednesdays in 11 years: Once for a snowstorm and once on the day his wife died."

Trademark music

The Mangold trademark music comes from his homeland. "I like to play waltzes and polkas. And I still play at the Beethoven when the band is there. My time is before the band starts. Then, after they all go home, I'm sometimes asked to play a little more. I have a certain small following of people who knew me through the upholstery business."

Mangold maintains a repertoire of about 120 pieces, his treasures that he is always willing to share. "I love playing every time I can," he said.

But San Antonio's only professional zither player is even self-effacing about that title. "I guess I am, if you call playing at Crumpets a professional performance."

VAN DER STUCKEN NOTES

BRUGGE STUDENT OFFERS BIOGRAPHICAL TRANSLATION

Miss Christine Suy, college student from the historic city of Brugge, Belgium, has submitted her own translation into English of a short biography found in the Flemish language "Algemene Musiek-Encyclopedie" edited by A. Corbet, W. Paap, and J. Robijns, published in Antwerp & Amsterdam, Vol. R-Z, pp. 465-466.

She presented the special translation to Kenn Knopp in her family's inn, Hotel Ter Brughe, this May, as follows:

"Frank Valentyn van der Stucken, birthplace: Fredericksburg, Texas, date: October 15, 1858. He died in Hamburg, Germany on August 18, 1929. He was an American director and composer of Belgian origin. In 1868 his parents returned to Antwerp, Belgium from the USA. He became a pupil at the Vlaamse Muziekschool

headed by Peter Benoit. From 1876 until 1878 he studied in Leipzig with Reinecke, Danger, and Grieg.

During the season of 1881-1882 he was leading the orchestra of the Gera in Breslau; and the following year he stayed in Rudolfstadt together with Edward Grieg. Franz Liszt had performed many of Van der Stucken's pieces in Weimar. In 1884 he went back to America where he became director of the Arion Society. This was a men's choir in New York with whom he toured in Germany. He was very interested in the young American music which he helped make popular at the World Exhibition in Paris, 1889.

From 1895 until 1903 he was the head of the Cincinnati, Ohio, College of Music; and from 1895 until 1907 the director of the Cincinnati Symphony orchestra where he had performed many pieces of work of Flem-

Frank V. van der Stucken
Foundation & Music Festival
407 Cora St., Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Winter 1990

ish composers such as the "Kindercontate" of Peter Benoit.

From 1906 to 1912 and then again from 1923 on, he was the director of the Cincinnati Music Festival. From 1908 until his death he directed often in the leading European cities, mainly in Hannover and Copenhagen.

His main work: For orchestra: Prologue for "William Ratcliff" by H. Heine; Symphonical Prologue "Pax Triumphans"; and a festival march "Louisiana." Stage music: "The Tempest" by Shakespeare (1882); a Te Deum; and many other works for orchestra, choir, songs and a concert version of "les Trojans at Carthage" by Berlioz (1887)."

QUINCENTENNIAL OF COLUMBUS

[Note: To commemorate the Columbus Quincentennial celebration of 1992, Leola Tiedt submitted the following adaptation of a "German language" song she used with students to humorously reinforce language learning.]

Ein Mann, der sich Kolumbus nannt'

Ein Mann, der sich Ko - lum - bus nannt', wi - de - wi - de - witt, bum, bum.
 war in der Schiff - fahrt wohl be - kannt, wi - de - wi - de - witt, bum, bum.

Es drück - ten ihn die Sor - gen schwer, er such - te neu - es Land im Meer.

Glo - ri - a, Vik - to - ri - a, wi - de - wi - de - witt, juch - hei - ras - sa, - witt, bum, bum.

2. Als er den Morgenkaffee trank,
 da rief er fröhlich: »Gott sei Dank!«
 Denn schnell kam mit der ersten Tram
 der span'sche König bei ihm an.

4. Gesagt, getan, ein Mann, ein Wort,
 am selben Tag fuhr er noch fort.
 Und eines Morgens schrie er: »Land!
 Es - deucht mir alles so bekannt!«

3. »Kolumbus«, sprach er, »lieber Mann,
 du hast schon manche Tat getan!
 Eins tenit noch unser Gloria:
 Entdecke mir Amerika!«

5. Das Volk am Land stand stumm und zag,
 da sagt Kolumbus: »Guten Tag!
 Ist hier vielleicht Amerika?«
 Da schrien alle Wilden: »Ja!«

6. Die Wilden waren sehr erschreckt
 und schrien all: »Wir sind entdeckt!«
 Der Häuptling rief ihm: »Lieber Mann,
 du bist ja der Kolumbus dann.«

DIRECTIONS:

Verse 1: Kolumbus takes a bow with a grin on his face. (Es druckten---) He looks sad and goes to a map on the wall.

Verse 2: Kolumbus drinks coffee; jumps up and sings, "Gott sei Dank". The King approaches.

Verse 3: The King sings this verse except the words "spracher."

Verse 4: Kolumbus and King shake hands. Kolumbus takes canoe and paddles away. (We used a small cardboard canoe, hung on his shoulders with straps). He paddles slowly until he sings "Land! Es deucht mir alles so bekannt."

Verse 5: The Indians are excited and when Kolumbus sings, "Guten Tag! Ist hier vielleicht Americana?", the Indians scream, "Ja!"

Verse 6: Indians are shocked and sing "Wir sind endeckt." The chief steps forward and sings. "Lieber Mann, 'du bist ja der Kolumbus dann." Chief and Kolumbus shake hands; and Indians surround them.

(thanks to Mr. Mrs. H.W. Meiners for the music)

LANGUAGE DIFFERENCES

Note: This letter submitted by Carl Jockusch was received from his son Carl, while studying in Stuttgart. Carl the student went on to become a University Mathematics professor with a P.H.D. from M.I.T.

October 8, 1961

Family C. Jockusch
 San Antonio-Olmos Park, 12 Texas
 Thelma Drive 309

(after attending school
 at Stuttgart)

Dear Folks,

This letter will I with German word order write, since I very little practice in German now get. I hope that you it to understand be able will.

Thanks for your letters. Daddy I understand, that you very busy are, but you write just fine. I like it, the clipping and other material, that you send, to receive. Mother, you should lecture me, but I must admit, that sometimes I it resent. I like also some news to hear.

The seminars go fine. I have the impression, that everybody in both of them quite bright is and a good effort makes. It is wonderful, in a situation like that to be. In the physics seminar discuss we high-flown theory and have not yet our hands with a problem dirtied, although we problems on our own do. It is practically all math, and differential equations are much used, so am I my knowledge very quickly applying, sometimes before I it get.

I want on French to work. I have a little French with Lizbeth talked, but she has very much forgotten. I think, I will to the French table go, and this should very amusing to the people there prove. I believe, my French is about the equivalent of Josefina's English, minus very much vocabulary.

I have my room with Josefina's sarape, Alice's calendar, and Aunt Peggy's (or yours?) color picture of the Alamo decorated. My room have I now really gladly.

Have you from Alice heard? Was the junk, that you her sent the right size? I should her soon write.

Please send me Jeff's address in Austin. I will skeds with him have..

I am still pulling for it, that you to Swarthmore come. But have fun in San Francisco. How were the bids on the new building.

At German club meeting will I over Stuttgart talk and I hope, that we time have will, some of the Stuttgart songs to sing. Spanish club has not yet underway gotten, but I will it soon activate. Pedro Schoenbach is, however, off campus living.

This is Sunday morning, and soon will Lizbeth and I to church go. And then this afternoon will I like the devil to work have, since I Monday a lab and Tuesday a seminar have, and I myself not so very prepared have. The assignments are hugebig.

As you see, has the German language a rather strange wordorder. But things could worse be. At least come the adjectives before the nouns.

My telephone number here is KI39783 (after 10 PM, when I most likely to be here am) and otherwise KI302000 ext. 294. Sometimes are people slow, the phone to answer, so tell the operator to be patient. The preceding is general information only, and does a hint, that you me call, not constitute.

My regards to Gilbert. I should now, to work start.

Love,
 Carl

Hill Country Chronicles

Pannas, breakfast of cedar choppers

By JOHN PAPE

Have you seen the television commercial with Boomer ("You'd better not call me Norman") Esiason, Cincinnati Bengals quarterback, touting Wheaties? Esiason is just the latest of many professional athletes to credit Wheaties - "Breakfast of Champions" - for their physical prowess and athletic success. I can't help but wonder what would have happened if, instead of Wheaties, these super-jocks had been raised on breakfasts of pannas.

In years past, many Hill Country kids, especially those of German heritage, were awakened - no, jolted - from bed by the smell of frying pannas. These are the same kids who did two hours of chores every morning, walked a mile or more to school, attended class, walked back home, and then worked on the farm until past sundown. I wonder if they could have done all of that on a cereal breakfast?

Often, these kids ate only two meals a day - breakfast and supper. Schools didn't offer a lunch program and students were on their own for a noon meal. Some brought a modest snack, often just a sweet potato, while others simply did without. Breakfast was expected to carry you through until supertime.

Now I know there are

some people who will smile upon being reminded of pannas. Others will cringe. Still others will wonder just what the heck pannas is. Well, if Wheaties is the "Breakfast of Champions," pannas is the "Breakfast of Cedar Choppers."

Pannas is a pork dish, sort of. When a family butchered a pig, pannas was made from some of the left-overs. Remnants such as the head, ears, shin, liver and heart were put into a large caldron outside and cooked with water. This concoction was stirred, preferably with a reasonably clean two-by-four, as it was heated. The broth portion of the hot mixture would then be drained off to make the pannas.

The solids that remained were used to make blood sausage and head cheese. In case you didn't know it, Hill Country folks have a reputation for being somewhat frugal, even when butchering. No part of the pig was thrown away except the squeal.

The pannas broth was then brought inside, placed in a smaller pot, and mixed with a small portion of ground meat. To this, cornmeal (with a little touch of flour) was slowly added until the desired thickness was achieved. After that, everything was poured into a pan to cool and harden.

The final product was a

cake of pannas that looked somewhat like a cross between a block of cheese and a roll of breakfast sausage. For breakfast, Mama simply sliced off as much pannas as was needed to feed her herd of cedar choppers and fried it all up in a pan.

Pannas was a true stick-to-corners. This was a breakfast that would not only get you through a busy day, but helped keep you "regular" as well. In fact, my grandfather still swears that pannas is the best natural laxative in the world, even better than a bus station cheeseburger.

Over the years, thousands of acres have been plowed, hundreds of stumps have been pulled, and acres of cedar have been chopped by hearty Germans girded for a hard day's work by a breakfast of pannas. Had there been time for athletics after all of the chores, I wonder how many all-stars the Hill Country could have produced?

If Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls basketball team had been served pannas for breakfast instead of Wheaties, would he be able to score 50 points a game?

How about baseball? Would Mark McGwire of the Oakland A's be able to hit 60 home-runs a season after a hearty plate of pannas?

Would the Cincinnati Bengals be able to win the Super Bowl if they all tanked-up on Pannas instead of Wheaties?

Hey, Boomer. Better eat your pannas.

Heitere Medizin
Anekdoten von Ärzten und Patienten

„Seien Sie mal ehrlich und sagen sie mir, wieviel Bier Sie täglich trinken?“

„Lassen Sie mich nachdenken... so 15 bis 20 Flaschen täglich“, erwidert der Patient. „Allerdings gibt es auch Tage, an denen ich mich einfach nicht beherrschen kann!“

Ein absoluter Nichtsnutz

Ein einflussreicher Bürger sucht eine Stellung für seinen Sohn, der ein absoluter Nichtsnutz und Tage-dieb ist.



Begegnung in Indien.

Der Bürger wendet sich an einen Minister, mit dem er befreundet ist, und bittet ihn, den jungen Mann irgendwo im Ministerium unterzubringen.

„Gerne! Ich nehme ihn als Abteilungschef mit 40 000 Franken im Monat.“

„Nein, das ist viel zuviel. Mit soviel Geld macht er bloß Dummheiten.“

„Na schön, dann nehme ich ihn zu mir, als meinen Sekretär. Da kriegt er nur 25 000 Franken monatlich.“

„Das ist immer noch zuviel! Haben Sie nicht was so zwischen 7 000 und 8 000 Franken?“

„Das geht nicht. Dann wäre er ja bloß simpler Angestellter; dann müßte er vorher ein Examen ablegen.“

Die Frau des Arztes ist eine ausgesprochen üppige Erscheinung. Eines Morgens, ehe der Arzt in sein Ordinationszimmer geht, sagt er zu seiner Frau: „Heute darfst du dich nicht im Wartezimmer sehen lassen. Es kommen einige Damen, die abmagern wollen.“

Nach der Untersuchung diktiert der Arzt der Sprechstundenhilfe die Diagnose. Der Patient versteht die Fachausdrücke nicht und fragt ängstlich: „Leide ich an einer seltenen Krankheit, Herr Doktor?“ „Aber nein“, beruhigt ihn der Arzt, „alle Friedhöfe sind voll davon.“

Hunger

Leo Slezak war bekanntlich ein großer Esser und ein Feinschmecker obendrein. Als er einmal in München weilte und vier Stunden lang nichts zu sich nehmen konnte, da eine künstlerische Besprechung ihn einfach nicht zum Essen kommen ließ, fuhr Slezak, halbtot vor Hunger, mit der Tazze in ein kleines, aber bekanntes Feinschmeckerlokal. Gierig griff er nach der vom Ober gereichten Speisekarte, las sie von oben bis unten durch, gab sie zurück und sagte mit glänzenden Äuglein: „Einverstanden, fangen wir an...“

Vernunft

Der Vater hält seinem Sohn seine Faulheit vor. „Als ich so alt war wie du“, rief er, „arbeitete ich zwölf Stunden am Tag.“

„Interessant“, meint der Sohn gelangweilt. „Und wann bist du zur Vernunft gekommen?“

Die Einzige

Sie schluchzte: „Glaubst du, ich weiß nicht, daß du gleichzeitig zwei Frauen zum Narren hältst?“

Er daraufhin: „Ich schwöre dir, du bist die Einzige!“

GENEALOGY

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

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

Violet Historical Society may be of interest to those who heard your Genealogy Editor's presentation at our annual meeting in Corpus Christi. If you would like more information or if you missed the Museum visit, you may write to the curators, David and Barbara Kircher at Rt. 2, Box 152 (Violet) Robstown TX 78380 or call (512) 387-2273; they are long-time GTHS members. The Violet Historical Society presents a GermanFest the second Sunday in February.

Westphalia Historical Society has been organized recently to preserve the community's heritage, to prevent demolition of the community's Little School and Convent, and possibly to renovate those buildings for a community museum. Members are preparing commemorative quilts, one for former students of the Little School and the other for historical supporters, and plans are underway to produce a videotaped history of the community. A new concern has arisen regarding the proposed route of the high-speed rail within 2,000 feet of the community's historic church and cemetery. Membership is open to anyone who is interested with no fees required, but "contributing" membership begins at \$10.00. Write to the Society at Rt. 2, Box 188, Rosebud TX 76570, or call the president, Doris Voltin at (817) 583-4768. Doris is also a long-time GTHS member.

Westphalian Heritage Society, Inc. is also a new organization to perpetuate the heritage of Westphalians, internationally, through the preservation and promotion of cultural, historic, genealogical and educational exchanges. Although it is headquartered in Westphalia, Missouri, it includes not only descendants of the towns named Westphalia in Missouri, Texas, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas and Michigan, but also descendants of all persons originating in Westphalia (Westfalen) Germany. Individual membership begins at \$10.00, and the organization is interested in hearing about your interests: towns or areas in Germany where your families originated; towns or areas in America where your Westphalian families settled; family name(s) of interest; books or publications available; tour and travel plans; and family research in progress. Write to Westphalian Heritage Society, Inc., P. O. Box 244, Westphalia MO 65085.

Bukovina Society of the Americas promotes recognition of the Bukovina German people and encourages historical research of their heritage. Bukovina was a sparsely populated crownland of the Austrian Empire in the late 1700s and early 1800s when the Hapsburgs recruited German-speaking people to settle there. Migrating to Bukovina were Lutherans from the Rhine-Palatinate and Württemberg in Germany and Catholics from the Bohemian Forest of Austria, now in present-day Czechoslovakia. Although a minority in a new country, they lived in ethnic German communities and preserved their language and customs. After nearly a hundred years, land became scarce, prompting migration to the new world. Some of the Bukovina Germans went to South America and Canada, while others settled in Kansas, New York, Colorado and Washington. Today, the Bukovina homeland no longer exists as a political entity. It has been absorbed by the Soviet Union in the north and by Romania in the south. The Bukovina Society of the Americas was organized in 1988, holds an annual convention, has published three books, and cooperates with other authors and publishers of Bukovina history. A computer project has begun to record the genealogies of members of the society, and an archive has been designated at the Center for Ethnic Studies at nearby Ft. Hays State University. Annual single memberships begin at \$10.00. You may receive a colorful brochure by writing to the Society at P. O. Box 81, Ellis KS 67637.

Lithuanians in Texas is now an official society. For more information on the Lithuanians in Texas Society, write to the president, Rasa Silenas, 228 W. Huisache, San Antonio TX 78212, or call her at (512) 735-9611. (From Texas State Genealogical Society Newsletter January 1991)

Lithuanian Pioneer Project is an ongoing national research project. Descendants of Lithuanians who arrived before World War I are answering a questionnaire on the immigration experience of their ancestors. To take part, write to the Lithuanian American Genealogical Newsletter, 6500 S. Pulaski Rd., Chicago IL 60629. (From St. Louis Genealogical Society News 'n' Notes July 1991)

Bits and Pieces and News (continued)

Ancestor Charts and Family Group Sheets with labels in the German language are available at 15 cents each from the German Interest Group, Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 16312, St. Paul MN 55116. Ask for an order form, as that group also offers other low cost helps such as a German pronunciation guide, and archives and research guides.

Sending money to Germany? Need a check or bank draft in German Marks? If you live in one of our larger cities, it may not be a problem to locate a bank with international currency services. But, if you live in a smaller town or rural area and occasionally need a check or draft in DM (or any other international currency) to order a publication or even to pay for genealogical services, it often presents a problem to convert U.S. currency. We have received a recommendation of the services of Ruesch International, which can be handled by telephone and mail by calling 1-800-424-2923. A foreign exchange consultant will quote an exchange rate by telephone and for a \$2.00 fee Ruesch International will prepare a draft in the foreign currency and mail it to you. They can also transfer U.S. dollars abroad for you by wire or by mail, but for a higher fee.

German Genealogical Digest Vol. VII, No. 2, for the second quarter of 1991 had articles on use of Dorfsippenbuecher and Ortssippenbuecher, on sources for research in Mecklenburg, and on Breslau parish jurisdictions as well as a list of surnames appearing in wills microfilmed from various localities in Sachsen (Preussen). An annual subscription of four issues is available for \$22.00 by writing to P. O. Box 700, Dept. 91, Pleasant Grove UT 84062.

Research in Former East Germany has not changed very much since unification a year ago. Although few major changes have occurred in the archives and libraries, it has been reported that archives in the former East Germany have become more "user friendly" and that librarians are endeavoring to fulfill all requests. Formerly, permission from the Interior Ministry was required before doing archival research in person, but that is no longer necessary. Some of the archives have changed names: the former Zentrales Staatsarchiv Merseburg is now called the Geheimes Staatsarchiv Merseburg, and Potsdam's regional archive, the former Staatsarchiv Potsdam, is now the Brandenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv. Maralyn A. Wellauer, who reported these items, also states that the information in her book, Family Research in the German Democratic Republic, is "still valuable" (in her own words). (From: Federation of Genealogical Societies' Forum, Summer 1991)

Going, going, gone--up, up, up Fees for records, what else! The National Archives has announced that the fee for copies of Military, Ship Passenger Arrival, and other records has gone up to \$10.00, while the fee for copies of specific Census records has gone up to \$6.00. You still use the same forms which may be requested from and submitted to: General Reference Branch (NNIR), National Archives and Records Administration, 7th and Pennsylvania Avenues NW, Washington DC 20408. As before, you submit the request on a specific form, and if a record is found you will be asked to pay the proper fee and then a copy of the record is returned to you.

Going, going, gone--up, up, up, in Texas, too Also increased are the fees for certified copies of birth and death certificates from the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics. The new fee for each certified copy of a birth record (or for a search thereof) is \$11.00, while the new fee for a certified copy of a death record (or a search thereof) is \$9.00. Note that these same fees apply for the conduct of each search of the files when a certificate of birth (or death) is not found or when a certified copy is not issued. The address for requesting such records is: Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1100 W. 49th St., Austin TX 78756.

Genealogy Section of Texas State Library will be closed 10 November 1991 through 10 January 1992 for asbestos abatement. During that time, all services will be discontinued and no public or staff access will be permitted to the Genealogy Department. All other services of the Library, including the Archives, will remain open for business as usual, except on national holidays. For more information, contact the Genealogy Department at (512) 463-5463. (From: Texas State Genealogical Society Newsletter October 1991)

Texas County Records have long been available through interlibrary loan without charge via the Local Records Division of the Texas State Library. Now, a guide is available listing the nearly

Bits and Pieces and News (continued)

7,000 rolls of microfilmed 19th and early 20th century Texas county records that are available through the Local Records Division. Although the records that have been microfilmed vary from county to county, these have generally been included: deeds, mortgages, marriages, probates, naturalizations, tax rolls, and court minutes and case papers. In some counties, birth and death records and school censuses have been filmed. The price for this guide is \$20.00 (includes postage) with \$1.60 additional for sales tax. Make checks payable to Texas State Library and order from Local Records Division, Texas State Library, P. O Box 12927, Austin TX 78711. (From: Texas State Genealogical Society's quarterly Stirpes December 1990)

Lee County, Texas, Cemeteries have been surveyed and two books are available. Volume I (\$18.10) includes all cemeteries or graves north of State Highway 21, while Volume II (26.95) includes all cemeteries or graves south of State Highway 21. If you order both volumes together, the price is \$43.50. All prices include tax and postage. Order from: Lee County Historical Commission, 282 S. Grimes, Giddings TX 78942.

Uvalde County Residents with German Surnames, 1855-1920 is the title of a 30-page document prepared by Thomas G. Schliesing, member of GTHS and of the Uvalde County Historical Commission. The document lists alphabetically Uvalde County residents with German surnames who were born, married, died, or listed on a U.S. Census between 1855 and 1920. The names were compiled from county marriage records, cemetery lists, and the U.S. Census for 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1910. Perhaps someday we can publish a list of the names, but in the meantime if members have an interest in German-surnamed residents of Uvalde County, they may write to Tom at P. O. Drawer 1453, Uvalde TX 78802.

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 or query 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.

If you wish to submit a longer article for publication, please be sure it is camera-ready. The manuscript specifications are: materials must be 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. Because of concerns as to the length of the Journal, we suggest that such articles be limited to two pages.

Erben Schuldt 1865 Sams Way, Beaumont TX 77706 has shared with us his booklet, History of Southern Carriage Works, Beaumont, Texas, 1900-1970. George Schuldt operated the Southern Carriage Works blacksmith shop for 68 years, including the years of the Spindletop oil boom. When he died in 1972, the family decided to donate the tools and equipment to the Spindletop Museum. When Gladys City was reconstructed in 1976 on the Lamar University campus, the entire blacksmith shop was moved there and housed in an appropriate structure. This booklet was prepared to provide visitors to Spindletop/Gladys City Boomtown Museum a brief history of the blacksmith shop. George Schuldt was born in 1877 in Grabow, Mecklenburg, and arrived at New York in 1887. He traveled to San Antonio and worked on a dairy farm for a few years, then in New Mexico driving freight wagons for the miners. He returned to San Antonio and worked in a blacksmith shop and then went to Beaumont in 1900, continuing his work as a blacksmith. Erben has traced the various locations of George's shops in the Beaumont area and provides a description of the varied work a blacksmith did in the early years of this century. We thank our member for providing us with a copy of this booklet.

Mary Anne Pickens 17483 Red Oak, Houston TX 77090 wants information on the artist, Louis Hoppe. She is not related to him, but he stayed with her family, the John Leyendecker family, in

From Our Members (continued)

Colorado County for some time in 1863. During that time, he painted three small water color pictures for the family, one of the family home and two floral bouquets. These three paintings are now in the collection of the San Antonio Museum of Art. Mr. Hoppe also was in Fayette County, as the Museum has another of his paintings, of the Julius Meyenberg farm in that area, painted about 1864. Mary Anne knows very little about Mr. Hoppe--if he was ever married, where he was buried, and if there are other pieces of his artwork in existence. She recently had correspondence with Herr Michael Koelges of the Stadtbibliothek Koblenz concerning a Louis Hoppe who was born in Berlin on 18 Sept 1811. This Hoppe left Koblenz in March 1852 bound for New York. He wrote a letter from New York in June 1852, but that is his only known correspondence back to Germany. Herr Koelges seeks information about this Louis Hoppe, who also was an artist. Could this be the same person as the Louis Hoppe who was in Colorado County in 1863? Mary Anne thinks so, but has no proof. Does anyone have any information that may help?

Margaret Hopkins Edwards 2013 Williamsburg Court, So. League City TX 77573 is looking for the name of the fourth child of Christoph Schultz. According to Geue's New Homes in a New Land Christ. Schultz, wife and four children, ages 12-21, from Reckenthien, Prussia, arrived at Galveston in 1852 aboard the ship "Miles." Margaret says this has been confirmed by a certified copy of the page from the Hamburg Emigration Office. She has information that the wife of Christoph Schultz was Elisabeth Freyer and that the family lived in Houston. Three of the Schultz children were named in an old history book she found in the Rosenberg Library, Galveston. The book, History of Texas, has biographies of prominent Houstonians and Galvestonians. In there, she found: Dorothea Schultz who married Carl Golbow, Elizabeth Schultz who married Peter Paul Floeck, and Louisa Schultz who married John Frederick Weiss. Who was the fourth Schultz child? Margaret hopes that a GTHS member/reader has researched this family or recognizes the names.

Beth Boettcher Box 384, East Bernard TX 77435 is looking for descendants of the daughters of R. Bruno and Helena Burow of Yorktown. Helen was the daughter of John A. and Johanna Kneipscheer of Weimar and was born 27 Aug 1846 in Prussia. She married R. Bruno Burow 19 Dec 1864 at Weimar, and they moved to Yorktown where they had six or seven daughters. The six known daughters were: Agnes, born 1869, who married a Mr. Nau from Hallettsville; Johanna (or Jane), born in 1872; Helen, born in 1876; Julia, born in 1874; Jane (?) who may have married a Mr. Neuhaus; and Olga. The name of the seventh daughter is unknown, if in fact there was a seventh daughter.

Joyce M. Theis 2530 Parkhaven, Plano TX 75075 is using the LDS (Mormon) microfilmed records to trace the Theis and Gros/Gross families of Hellenhahn, Schellenberg, and Rennerod in Hessen-Nassau. She has gone back as far as 1647 in the records, but finds it frustrating to keep family lines straight in one small town that had 54 births to various Gross couples in the 27 years between 1818 and 1845, with most of the children named Johann, Anna Elisabeth, Anna Maria, or Anna Catharina. To further the complications, she found that one Johannes Theis born in 1746 had a mother and mother-in-law both named Anna Elisabeth Gros. It turns out that in researching her husband's family, Joyce tied into the background of your Genealogy Editor's paternal family. Where would a genealogical researcher like to live? Joyce's home is across the street from the LDS Family History Center in Plano!

Marion Freeman 2163 Swift, Houston TX 77030 says she has apparently hit a desert in her research after an item published here earlier brought her some leads and success. She has had no further success discovering how or when her great grandmother, Elizabeth (Theis) Lübnitz Rohde/Rhode came to Frelsburg. It was probably in 1841, but perhaps earlier. Her first husband, Eduard Lübnitz, born in Nauemburg, Saxony, died 11 Nov 1841 at Frelsburg of "congestive fever" at age 33. Their daughter, Louisa, was born 29 October 1841, less than two weeks before Eduard's death. On 7 April 1842, Elizabeth was remarried to Adolph Rode or Rhode at the Lutheran Church, High Hill. Elizabeth and Adolph had one son and five daughters. Adolph died in October 1867, possibly of yellow fever. Marion is still looking for information as to when and where Elizabeth married her first husband, Eduard Lübnitz. Probably they were married in Texas, as she was from Saarland and he was from Saxony. When did they arrive in the U.S.? Could Lübnitz have been Wendish? Marion is searching for the answers to these and other questions.

From Our Members (continued)

Janelle K. Platt 3726 Rau Dr., Dickinson TX 77539 is searching for information on her maternal grandfather's family. Her great grandfather, Christian Krueger, and his wife, Anna Marie, sailed from Bremen in 1860 on the liner "Gaston." They landed at Galveston and went to Berlin in Washington County. Their son, William, and his wife, Friedericke Kerner, came at the same time. Another family name, Jaissle is mentioned, supposedly related to the Kerner family history. Janelle will appreciate help with any of these family names.

Terry G. Jordan Webb Professor of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX 78712-1098 announces the forthcoming publication in 1992 by Eakin Press, Austin, of the genealogy and register of descendants of Anton Willmann of Comal and Mason counties, his first wife, Theresia Knölle, and second wife, Christine Nies. The book will include some 5,000 descendants, mainly Texas residents. Entitled Hill Country Folk: The Willmann-Nies-Knölle Family in Germany and Texas, by Terry G. Jordan, J. D. Jordan and Lois Jordan Kooock, the book will be available for \$52.00 from J. D. Jordan, 111 W. Driftwood, Fredericksburg TX 78624.

Barbara Brod Bonin 2318 Willow Blvd., Pearland TX 77581 is working on the history of the John Brod family. John, his wife, Catherine, and seven children arrived at Galveston on 2 January 1844 aboard the "Jean Key de Teau," which departed from Antwerp, Belgium. The children included: Anna Maria, who married John Heiman; Jacob, who married Josephine Burtschell; Philip; Nicholas, who married Anna Marie Lamby or Lampe; John (Jr.) who married Barbara Josephine Meismer; and Anton. All were from Hirtschwiesen, Prussia. No records have been found in Texas on the wife Catherine or the son Peter, who was one year old upon arrival. Barbara wonders if Catherine returned to Germany with the young son Peter, or if both died en route to Colorado County. The latter is more likely, as John Brod remarried on 2 August 1845 to Elisabeth (Ketterman) Beimer, widow of Bernard Beimer, who died ca. 1842-43 in Colorado County. Barbara plans publication of a book on this pioneer Republic of Texas family. She also publishes the Brod and Bonin family newsletters and has begun preliminary plans for a Brod family reunion on 2 January 1994 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the family's arrival at Galveston. Other family surnames of interest to her include: Braden, Baumann, Dixon, Haude, Laux, Schmidt, Garvel, Morrow, Born, Dugas, Allen, Behne, and Plock.

Jon P. Czarowitz 4102 Chestnut, Temple TX 76502 reports his previous item in our GTGS Journal brought him positive results, as he heard from Lucille Mehrkam who had written a book on the Klepper-McAlpine families. Jon continues to look for descendants of two Kleppers: of Jacob Klepper, Sr., (14 April 1741-11 Aug 1828, Washington County TN); and his grandson, Andrew Jackson Klepper, Sr. (15 Jan 1815, Hawkins County TN-26 March 1891, Collin County TX). Andrew J. Klepper's father was named either Samuel or Frederick, and his wife was Nancy J. (maiden surname unknown). Nancy was born 13 Jan 1817 in either Tennessee or Virginia. She died in Collin County TX, date unknown. Some of the children of Andrew Jackson and Nancy J. Klepper were: Joseph C., born May 1842, died 1915, Collin Co.; Mary G., born 1844; Sarah, born 1846; John Bench, born October 1849, died 6 April 1939, Collin Co.; Martha, born 1854; and Daniel L., born April 1856. All were born in Missouri, except Joseph who was born in Tennessee. The surname might also be found as Clepper.

Jon also has contact with a Hempel in New York City who was from Poland. His father co-authored a book on the Hempel lines in Poland from Napoleon IV to today, with some U.S. connections. Although the book is in Polish, Jon believes it would be a valuable tool for researchers on Poland. Anyone interested can write to Jon for the addresses.

Edith Braune Beaird 2084 White Mines Rd., Abilene TX 79603 (note changed address) has worked on the family of John Dawson and Ophelia Jane (Perkins) Harrison. John came from North Carolina in the 1880s as a teenager and settled in Bell County, near Temple, where he farmed. His wife, Jane Perkins, was born in 1871 at Heidenheimer; they were married in 1892 at Oenaville. Recently, descendants met for their 46th annual "first Sunday in August visit." Originally, the reunion was held in the summer "after the crops were laid by." Of the twelve children of John and Jane Harrison, eight lived to maturity, including Fannie Harrison who married Arthur Christ Braune, a native of Geronimo TX and son of Fredrich Jacob Christian Braune who was born near Altenweddingen, Sachsen, Magdeburg, Germany.

Eddie Wolsch HCR 1, Box 91, Truscott TX 79260 is trying to find a copy of A Genealogical Guide

From Our Members (continued)

and Atlas of Silesia by Otto and Vera Kowallis, apparently published by Everton's in 1976, and evidently now out of print. Note Eddie's new address.

Barbara Suttle 4223 Dartmouth, Houston TX 77005 has submitted an article on the Buescher Family, found elsewhere in this issue. Since writing that story, Barbara has been encouraged by elderly relatives to pursue actively the research needed to answer the "big questions." She would like help from a member or from a professional genealogist to find out: the family's place of origin in Germany (at least one record indicates it was Oldenburg) and the nature of the relationship, if any, between Heinrich Buescher of Frelsburg and Henry Buescher of New Ulm (they think the families must be traced into Germany to find the relationship). Please see Barbara's story in this issue and help her if you can.

Charlene Nash Rt. 2, Box 30, Lampasas TX 76550 is also trying to locate the German town of her ancestors. She has a name, with various spellings, but is trying to find that town on a map. The immigration contract for Gerhard Röhig (*1811) clearly reads that he was from Rühreshof. His citizenship application states that he was a native of Prussia; family tradition places his origin in Westfalen (Westphalia). In the Geues' A New Land Beckoned, the place of origin is given as Ruhresberg, and in Pioneers in God's Hills, it is given as Ryhreshof. Your Genealogy Editor and others have looked for the location of Rühreshof (with greater weight given to the name as stated on the immigration contract than in the published sources), and looked for other places in Westfalen with similar-sounding names--but we have all come up lacking. If anyone can locate Rühreshof on a map, please let us all know!

Bill Lehmann 430 North Park, Guthrie OK 73044 is tracing the lineage of the Gustav Lehmann who came to Indianola from Germany about 1865. He found an application for naturalization filed by Carl Ludwig Gustav Lehmann filed 1 Sept 1859 in Calhoun County. He also found the "Gustoff Laman" family in the 1860 Census for Indianola, Calhoun County, with the wife's name given as Willemena and two sons, Paul, age 9, and Max, age 7. A daughter, Augusta, was born in 1862 and was enumerated with the family in the 1870 and 1880 Censuses. Bill does not know what happened to her, as no tradition of her existence was handed down in the family, although both Paul and Max named their daughters Augusta. He does know that Gustav Lehmann and family lived in Indianola at least until the second devastating storm in 1886. After that, they moved to Cuero, where members of the pioneer family are buried. Bill considers two possibilities: that Augusta perished in the 1886 storm at Indianola, or that she married and lost contact with the family. He would like to know of a source listing the names of those who died or were missing after the 1886 Indianola hurricane.

Bill is also looking for this Lehmann family's town of German origin. On Gustav's application for naturalization, he indicated he was a native of Landsberg, Kingdom of Prussia, and U.S. Census records give his place of birth as Prussia. Most modern maps show Landsberg am Lech, which is in Bavaria and not formerly in Prussia. Your Genealogy Editor found two additional towns named Landsberg: one in the former East Germany Bezirk of Halle, and one in present-day Hessen. Perhaps Gustav Lehmann was from one of these two places.

E. A. Riedel 14526 McNair, Houston TX 77015 is another member seeking assistance in locating an ancestral town in Germany. He wishes to find the town of Boeke, formerly in Hesse-Kassel. Can anyone help with this town?

FROM AUSTIN, TEXAS

Austin American Statesman,
Ellie Rucker Column, 7/17/90

Forms available for family tree

Q. We're having our family reunion this weekend and I'm looking for a printed form we could just fill in for a family tree. Do you know where I could get one of those? —
M.D.

A. Yes, and what a great idea.

You could conceivably get that family tree completed at one reunion and eliminate hours spent in genealogy libraries digging through one million papers.

Dave Schunck at State House Books, 1604 S. Congress has a form with an actual tree on it and places to write in the names!

He's open Thursday through Saturday only, but you can reach him by phone at 448-0700.

GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

At the request of several members, the previous issue added a column for "Origin in Germany" for the Genealogical Exchange. Because of the positive feedback on this additon, we are continuing the new format. The "origin" may be given as broadly or as specifically as known.

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Member: Dolores Kahlich Guenther, 405 E. Guadalupe, La Grange TX 78945 (409) 968-3834			
Guenther	Deutsch Jasnik, Moravia, Austria	Fayette	Catholic
Kahlich	Neudek & Bolten Moravia, Austria	Fayette	Catholic
Christ	Wagstadt, Moravia now, Bilovec, Czechoslovakia	Fayette/Lavaca	Catholic
Butschek	(same as Christ)	Fayette/Lavaca	Catholic
Wick	(same as Christ)	Fayette	Catholic
Member: Jacqueline Voltin Anderson, 7403 Barberton, Houston TX 77036 (713) 774-9359			
Kleypas/Kleipass	Esserden, Prussia	Falls	Catholic
May/Mai	Bingen Büdesheim, Hesse	Falls/Kleberg	Catholic
Wendel/Wendell	Neudorf, Hesse Darmstadt	Colorado	Catholic?
Pinders	Esserden, Prussia?	McLennan	Catholic
Member: Diana Kellerman Lay, 4705 Pinehurst Dr. So., Austin TX 78747 (512) 280-8516			
Kellerman	Bremen	Comal	Luth/Protestant
Kuehn/Kühn	?	Hays?	?
Schäfer/Schaefer	West Prussia	Comal	Luth/Protestant
Member: Stephen Vogelsang, P.O. Box 444, College Station TX 77841 (409) 279-6796			
Vogelsang	Oldenburg	Austin/Milam	Lutheran
Becker	Westphalia	Washington/Milam	Lutheran
Ahlemeier	Westphalia	Comal/Washington	Protestant
Kuhn	?	Fayette/Milam	Catholic
Beurger	?	Washington	?
Dresslor	?	Fayette	Catholic
Member: H. Charles Eckert, Rt. 5, Box 72, Brenham TX 77833 (409) 836-8666			
Surber		Kerr	Baptist
Reed		Bandera/Kendall	Disciples/Christian

Members' Genealogical Exchange (continued)

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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Member: Linda Mearse, 2841 Paso Del Robles, San Marcos TX 78666
(512) 396-6182

Benigus	Stuttgart, Württemberg	Harris	Lutheran
Koepke	Bromberg, Posen	Harris	Lutheran
Lenze	Prussia	Harris	Lutheran
Kiesling	Posen	N/A	?
Radler	Posen	N/A	?
Zindel	Kurhessen	N/A	?

Member: Roy Edwin Pfeiffer, 2106 Weberwood Dr., South Charleston WV 25303

Pfeiffer	Bavaria	Bastrop	Catholic
Deinhard	Bavaria	Bastrop/Harris/Travis	Catholic
Kellermeier	Bavaria	Bastrop & in West TX	Catholic
Herringen/Herring	Bavaria	Bastrop	Catholic
Wagner	Bavaria	?	Catholic
Fruth	Bavaria	Travis	Catholic
Hoppe	?	Williamson/Bastrop/Lee	?
Marth	Pommern, Prussia	Washington/Bosque/Falls	Lutheran/Evang
Muller/Miller	Perleberg, Brandenburg		

Member: Anita Adler, 3604 Falcon Dr., Fort Worth TX 76119 (817) 534-0120

Adler		Washington/Hill	Lutheran
Maass		Wash'n/Hill/Live Oak	Lutheran
Neumann		Washington	Lutheran
Strauch		Washington/Hill	Lutheran
Wittliff		Washington/Hill	Lutheran
Janke		Washington	Lutheran
Jaroszewski		Washington	Lutheran

Members: Lawrence M. Ricke, Sr., and Lucille Siegert Ricke, 1302 Overhill Dr. Houston TX 77018 (713) 681-4514

Maidhof	Haibach, W. Ger.	Grayson	Catholic
Busch	Rosebeck, Westfalen	Harris	Catholic
Hock	Haibach, W. Ger.	Harris/Grimes/Throckmorton	Catholic
Helfrich	Haibach, W. Ger.	Harris	Catholic
Winkler	Rosebeck, Westfalen	Grimes	Catholic
Hornback	Haibach, W. Ger.	Grayson	Catholic
Ganter	Mecklenburg Strelitz	Grayson	Catholic
Cline	Rosebeck, Westfalen	Harris	Catholic
Meridian	Kassel, Westfalen	Grimes	Catholic
Teith	Rosebeck, Westfalen	Throckmorton	Catholic
Zarski	Haibach, W. Ger.	Grimes	Catholic

NEW PROJECT IN NEW BRAUNFELS !!!

I am Everett Fey and I am currently working on a most interesting project with the Sophienburg Archives & Comal Co. Genealogy Society. I am putting together material for a book on the Founders of New Braunfels. I hope that this book might be ready for publishing at the 150th Anniversary of the founding of New Braunfels in 1995.

We are gathering material (events, maps, lists, etc.) of everything we can find about the period from July 1844 to July 1845. This is the time that the "first wave" of Germans founded and settled in New Braunfels. Along with history and other data documenting this period, we also hope to compile as complete a list of these original settlers as possible.

To date I have identified about 580 settlers (men, women and children) who had arrived in New Braunfels by July 31, 1845. Of these people, about 274 were "HEADS OF FAMILIES" or single men or women 17 years of age or over who would have qualified for a lot, etc.

It is with these latter 274 "HEADS OF FAMILIES" that we NEED HELP FROM YOU for this project. Part of the book will consist of biographies of these founders along with (if possible) their pictures. Another part of the book will contain genealogy charts showing the descendants of these persons to their great-grandchildren's generation.

Here is precisely what we request from you about any of the 274 "HEADS OF FAMILIES" listed on the next page:

- 1--From your family traditions and other data, could you furnish us information about him that we could compose into a two to three page biography? All data is welcome, however we must reserve the right to edit all final copy.
- 2--If a picture of him exists, could you give us a "laser copy" made on the new copy machines?
- 3--Could you furnish names of all children (& spouses), grandchildren (& spouses) and all great-grandchildren (no spouses)? Also please give dates of birth, marriage and death for all persons in this list.

This book will be a big help for today's genealogists to tie their families into those of the New Braunfels founders as well as to enkindle their pride and deepen their insight into their forefathers. Your help will be invaluable in assuring that this book will be a valuable, complete and definitive reference for New Braunfels German History. Credit for your help will, of course, be given.

Thank you so much for your assistance. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

Everett A. Fey
6516 Honey Hill
San Antonio, Texas 78229
(512) 681-6147

Blasius Albrecht	Friederich Heinrich Heitkamp	John Olfried Neusebach	Henriette Schlote
Johannes Arnold	Martin Helmlb	Dr. Emil Meyer	Edward Schmidt
Peter Arnold	Franz Hemmerle	Wilhelm Moeller	Leonhard Schmidt
Hermann Von Assel	Arnold von Donnersmark Henkel	Sebastian Hein Christ Moesgen	E. Schmitz
G. Baldus	Wilhelm Hentge	Germain Moritz	Jacob Schmitz
Jobann Baldus	Caspar Herber	Ad. (O.) Mouret	Johannes Schneider
Alexis Von Bauer	Justus Herber	F. E. Mueller	Heinrich Schoener
Jobann George Beckel	Heinrich Herbst	Jacob Mueller	Johann Valentin Schulenmeier
Carl Bellmer	Peter Hernani	Johann Georg Mueller	Johann Heinrich Schulze
Georg Benfer	Christian Hoff	Wm. Mueller	Thomas Schwab
Gustav Adolpb von Benner	Gustav V. Hoffmann	Friedrich (Carl) Muenzler	Herman Seele
Heinrich Bevenroth	Joseph Hoffmann	Daniel Murchison	Carl Heinrich Siebert
????? Bock	Georg Friedrich Holecamp	Ludwig Negedank	E. Siehn
A. Asmus Bockel	Johann Holzapfel	August Nette	N. Siering
P. Bodner	Wilhelm Holzmann	Ludwig Heinrich Nix	Sylvester Simon
Julius von Bose	Peter Horne	Adam Pelzer	Prince Carl Solas
Heinrich Wilhelm Anton Bolbner	Anna Horste	Gerlach Peter	Hermann Robert Sowersby
Viktor Bracht	George Humand	Joseph Peters	Christian Spangenberg
Heinrich Brasche	Heinrich Imhof	Johann Petri	Johann Startz
Chr. Brautigan	Peter Imhoff	A. Piper	Jacob Stilger
G. Brecher	Joseph Jacton	Adolph Poblmann	Carl Stock
Johann Jacob Brecher	Johann Michael Jahn	Carl rolme	Peter Stock
Marianne Brecher	Jacob Joehn	Ludwig (Louis) Pook	Christoph Syring
G. A. Breilipper	Joseph Jung	Johann Jacob Rahn	Johann Friedrich Tausch
Johann Heinrich Breilipper	Jacob Kaderli	Gerlach Reeb	Christian Thiel
Heinrich Christian Bremer	Johann L. Kaderli	Friedrich Wilhelm Reese	Georg Thielepape
Carl Brockhuisen	Christian Kaiser	Heinrich Theodor Reiche	Justus C. (G.) Thielepape
G. Brune	Johann George Kirchner	Elenora Reinarz	Carl W. Thomae
Freidrich Bruns	Jacob Klein	Johann Wilhelm Reinarz	August Friedrich Tolle
Katherina Burdorf	Joseph Klein	Fr. Reinbard	Christoph Tolle
Peter Burg	N. Klein	Georg Reinhard	George Friedrich Tolle
Johann Heinrich Burkhardt	Stephan Klein	Heinrich Reininger	George Ullrich
Daniel Busmann	Valentin Klein	Peter Reiss	Friedrich Uternoeblen
Oscar von Claren	Johann Andreas Koch	Dr. Wilhelm Remer	????? Verros
Richard von Cloudt	W. Koch	Gabriel Remmler	Julius Voelker
Jean J. von Coll	Theodore Koester	Julius Rennert	Louis Vogel Sr.
????? Diehl	????? Koser	Wilhelm Reuter	Adam Vogt
Valentin Dreiss	Wilhelm Kracke	Johann Rieck	Ludwig Vogt
????? Dreyer	Christina Kraemer	Anton Riedel	????? Walz
Andreas Eikel	Heinrich Kraft	Nikolaus Riedel	Adolph Von Wedemeyer
Carl Alexander Elmendorf	Lisette Kraft	Conrad Heinrich Roege	A. Wegl
Christiar Engel	Conrad Kraushaar	Heinrich Roser	August Jacob Weil
Ernst Ernst	Conrad Kreitz	Johann Ruck	Johann Jost Weil
Ludwig Cachand Ervendberg	Johann Mathias Kreitz	Alois Russer	Ph. Weil
Gustav van der Feeble	J. Kuehn	Christian Rust	Theodor Weil
Casper Feick	Theodor Wilhelm Kuehn	Friedrich Saalmueller	August Weinert
Margarethe Feick	Daniel Letsch	Gabriel Sacherer	Reinhold Weinert
Valentin Fey	Verdinand Jacob Lindbeiner	Johann Gottfried Salzinger	Johann Wengeroth
F. Johann Fischer	Edward von Lochhausen	Mathias Sander	George Wenzel
Gottlieb Fischer	Catherina Loeffler	Mathias Sanders	Ignatz Wenzel
Carl Fortemps	Christian Loeffler	Alexander Sartor	Joseph Wersdoerfer
George Fritze	Louise Loeffler	Carl Sartor	G. Wersdorfer
Ludwig Friedrich Fritze	Elisabeth Loos	Andreas Sauerborn	Eduard Wessel
"Madame" Gaesendorfer	Christoph Philip Luck	Philipp Heinrich Schaaf	Wilhelm Wetzel
Theodor Georg Ludwig Goldbeck	Philipp Luck	Katherine Elisabeth Schade	August Fr. Ludwig Wiedenfeld
Christian Hanz	Christoph (Christian) Luenzel	Carl Schaefer	Theodore Wiedenfeld
Herman Hardt	Christian Philipp Lux	Heinrich Schaefer	Wilhelm Wiedenfeld
Fr. Hartung	Johann Hubert Lux	Johann Carl Schaefer	Hermann Wilke
Heinrich Hartung	Johann Maerz	Philipp Schaefer	Louis Wilke
Johann Christian Hartung	Lisabeth Mangold	Philip Sebellentraeger	Jacob Winkler
Johann Zacharias Hartung	Franz Marbeinike	Heinrich Schelper	Friedrich von Wrede Jr.
Ludwig Hartung	Ludwig Martin	Carl Schertz	Friedrich von Wrede Sr.
Ludwig Hartwig	Carl Andreas Wattern	Johann (Jean) Schertz	Johann Adam Wuest
Eduard von Hartz	Andreas Weixner	Joseph Schertz	Wilhelm Ziegler
Johann Hassler	E. Mergel	Joseph Franciscus Scbertz	Nicholas Zink
J. Friedrich Heidemeyer	J. Mergel	Sebastian Schertz	Nicolaus Zuercher
Jacob Heim	Peter Mergel	Napoleon Schippach	Heinrich Zuschlag
Valentin Heinemann	Carl Conrad Hertz	Friedrich Schliebting	
Otto Heins	Phillip Heinrich Metz	Carl Schloesser	

IN SEARCH OF AN ELUSIVE ANCESTOR

Part 2

by George H. Zeiss

109 Seton Way

Santa Cruz, California

In the summer of 1988 the GTHS Newsletter published a brief account of my search for the identity of my great great grandmother. Known to me only as Henriette Graul, she was the wife of my great great grandfather, a Dr. Kling. The search also involved my great grandmother, Friederike Kling, who was born in New Orleans in 1836 to Henriette Graul and her then-husband, the aforementioned Dr. Kling, who died of yellow fever shortly before his daughter was born. Friederike's obituary in the Brenham Banner Press related much of this information as well as the fact that she and her mother moved from New Orleans to the Schoenau community of Austin County, Texas, about 1840.

Through the research of some distant cousins, Mildred Muery of Brenham (now deceased) and Antoinette and Mel Koch of Temple, I learned that Friederike had a half-sister whose name was given as Emilie Graul. Emilie was born in the German province of Hesse-Darmstadt, according to family records. This information clearly suggested that Friederike's mother, Henriette, had been married to someone named Graul and had a daughter by him before she met and married the man then known to me only as Dr. Kling.

The New Orleans Public Library helped greatly in the identification of this Dr. Kling by sending me an excerpt from a document entitled "Registre du Comite Medical de la Nouvelle Orleans, 1816-1845." This entry, dated "8 Avril 1835," when translated into English, listed a Frederick Kling, age 31, from Massenheim, Duchy of Nassau, graduate of Heidelberg University, as authorized to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Louisiana.

All very helpful, but I still knew nothing about the ancestry of Dr. Kling's wife, the former Henriette Graul. From my cousins in Brenham and Temple, who are also descended from Henriette Graul through her daughter Emilie Graul, I learned that Henriette and her young daughter, Friederike, had moved to Texas in the company of daughter Emilie and her new husband, Henry Schmidt, who had received a land grant in Austin County. Possibly to escape the ravages of yellow fever and certainly to occupy Henry Schmidt's land grant, all four--Emilie and her husband, Henry, plus Emilie's mother and half-sister, Friederike,--left New Orleans and moved to the Texas frontier in Austin County.

With the clues provided by the New Orleans Public Library, I was able to develop a good pedigree on my great great grandfather, whose full name was Friedrich Jakob Heinrich Kling, but nothing on his widow, Henriette. Two researchers, one in Salt Lake City and one in Germany, tried to trace the elusive Henriette but to no avail.

I had about concluded that my great great grandmother, Henriette Graul Kling, would forever remain a mystery when my young German researcher, Herr Helmut Schmahl, came to the rescue. He wrote during the spring of 1989 that he would be traveling in the U. S. during the summer and would spend some of his time doing research in the LDS Family History Library and would I like for him to search for Henriette, whom he had tried in vain to locate through records in Germany. I responded, "Yes, of course, and good luck."

The next thing I knew he had sent me a copy of an entry from the parish register of the Evangelische Stadtkirchengemeinde of Darmstadt recording the marriage on 27 June 1814 of "the virgin Marie Henriette Friederike Röhling, age 20," to Herr Konrad Jacob Graul, age 29, Granducal church minister and teacher at the First Boy School of Darmstadt. The groom was further identified as the son of Georg Daniel Graul, a church minister who died at

Elusive Ancestor, continued

Massenheim in the Principality of Epstein, and his still-living widow, Frau Katherine nee Schaefer from Dürkheim an der Hardt. The bride's parents, my great great great grandparents, were identified as Reverend Johannes Christoph Röhling, a "Ducal Nassauan Church Dean," and his first wife, Frau Barbara Vogelhuber, from Frankfort am Main.

After returning from his American travels, Herr Schmahl did further research on Henriette's father, the Reverend Röhling. In addition to being a church minister, he was also a naturalist of some note. He wrote an influential book on the botany of Germany, several publications on bee-keeping, and a satirical piece on the occasion of the coronation of Leopold as Emperor of the so-called Holy Roman Empire. The latter composition was published anonymously, probably to avoid incurring the displeasure of the Emperor.

With this information we can place Henriette Friederike Graul nee Röhling in Darmstadt as of July 1819 because that is where and when her first daughter, Katherine Franziske Emilie Graul, was born--the one referred to above only as Emilie. Thus far we have no record of Henriette during the years from 1819 to 1836, the year her second daughter, Friederike Kling, was born in New Orleans. At some point during that seventeen-year interval Henriette's first husband, the Reverend Konrad Jacob Graul, must have died. Also at some point during that same time period she must have met and married my ancestor, Dr. Friedrich Kling. Since both the Kling and Graul families lived in Massenheim, it is reasonable to suppose that Dr. Kling and the widowed Henriette met and possibly wed in that town, though we have not found any record of that marriage.

By 1836 Henriette had been twice widowed and left with two daughters in a city where yellow fever epidemics were frequent and deadly. It is no wonder that by 1840 we find her in Texas in the company of her older daughter and son-in-law. Henriette, her daughter Emilie, and Emilie's husband all remained in the Schoenau community of Austin County for the rest of their lives. The younger daughter, Friederike Kling, married a German immigrant who also lived in the Schoenau area. Friederike's husband, Adam Wangemann, had fought in the Mexican War, served two enlistments in the Confederate army, and prospered in both farming and business, as did Emilie's husband. After living in Austin County until about 1882, Adam and Friederike moved to Brenham and remained there until they died.

Earlier research had turned up an entry in a Massenheim parish register concerning Dr. Frederick Kling's baptism. This entry noted that one of his godfathers was "the student Jacob Graul, son of the former church minister Graul." It seems evident that this "student Jacob Graul" was the person who some years later married Henriette Röhling. We have no clear idea, however, where or when Henriette married her second husband, nor do we know when or why they emigrated to New Orleans. Such information may forever remain unknown to us.

Much about the identity of my elusive ancestor, Henriette Graul Kling nee Rohling, has been uncovered, thanks to the good work of a young German genealogist and the invaluable records in the Family History Library. If there is any moral to this story, it is that one should never give up in genealogical research. We must keep plugging away and our persistence may some day be rewarded.

More "Why Is It"s

Why is it...

...just as you are on the trail of an ancestor, it's time for the library to close?

...you spend an eternity looking for your grandmother's maiden name, and when you

find it your mother tells you she already knew that, but you never asked her?

from: The Sunny Side of Genealogy compiled by Fonda D. Baselt, published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore MD, 1988.

FROM THE COUNTY CALENDER OF GIFHORN-ISENHAGEN
 A BOOK FROM THE HOMELAND FOR THE YEAR 1937:
 "LOST IN TEXAS"

An edition to the family tree of the county, by Dr. Rick Mueller. *

1.	2.
I WEPT MANY TEARS	HOMELAND TODAY WE WILL LEAVE
BECAUSE I HAD TO LEAVE FROM HERE	TODAY FOR EVER
BUT MY DEAR FATHER HAS DECIDED	THEREFORE GOOD BY AND GOD BLESS
THAT WE WILL LEAVE OUR HOMELAND	YOU!

Heinrich Hoffman of Fallersleben---Texas song Nr. 3.

In the wars for liberty in Germany for the first time occurred a large national movement of heroism and sacrifice so that victory could be won from strange and foreign victors. For the first time the whole country had taken a part in a war personally, yes with enormous strength was this movement coming from the people. Doubtfully joined some of the aristocrats the calling, as the saying goes: "The king called and all came," here happened the opposite: "All called then the king finally came."

But at the end what heroism and sacrifice had fought for, what youth had dreamed of, a united free Germany with a strong and determined leader was shattered. Not even the old emperor's crown could be renewed, and the Vienna Congress left 38 German States to aristocrats to rule. The people, weakened by the burden of war and taxes, had no part in the economical rise which began in some parts.

This situation has to be remembered, to understand why so many Germans immigrated; the immigration started soon after the liberty wars as bad harvests and years of starvation and poverty helped the disappointment and increased into higher numbers in the next decades. The government did not object, viewing the immigration as a way to lesson the burden of the fatherland. Voices opposing it were sparingly.

In the year 1845 over 67,000 immigrants were counted, two years later the number climbed to 110,000. It stayed then a few years at 80,000 and then climbed to the largest number ever of 251,000 in 1854. Even in the later years of immigrations in 1866 and 1870 and in 1881 or in 1923 never was this number reached. Here is to remember that the population then in 1816 was barely 25 million, about one third and in 1850, about half of today.

Losing these millions it is no wonder that families in all counties are searching for relatives that disappeared from registers. Also in our county the above named years were fateful. Inquiring an old man in Fallersleben, he alone could name more than one dozen families that had left their families in 1880. FRICKE, two families LUETGE, AHRENBECK, SCHARF, ERNST BERTRAM, DISTEL, HOFFMANN, HEISE, GOETKE, WITTIG, SCHULZE, ZIMMERMANN, AHL. MOHRMANN and others. This repeats itself in every county. Sometimes they followed the calls of others that had crossed the ocean decades before. At that time in the 40's and 50's it was especially the young state of Texas that did draw the adventurous.

In front of me are about 100 letters from the family album in Ehrenkrook telling of the misery and fate of those immigrants. It was that voyage in October 1846, with 150 men and children under the leadership of Major BEHNE of Fallersleben. They were farmers and laborers and mountain people from Harz, that met in Braunschweig, and hoped for a better life in Texas. There was one LUETGE from Fallersleben, one HEINRICH MUELLER from Heiligendorf, one LOOK, SCHROEDER and BRANDT among them. Major BEHNE took over the leadership. He had taken part in the liberty wars, had fought in Spain and Italy, where he had been decorated and wounded, and though he had a nice pension he left to give his children a larger estate. His wife, born von der WENSE, and his 3 sons and one daughter followed him hopefully into the unknown future.

Lost in Texas, continued

Their life told in these letters, their trip to Bremen and Bremerhaven, their voyage in storm and bad weather (it lasted 10 weeks), their arrival on Christmas Day 1846 in Galveston, the disappointments and poverty, illness, wars, and their fate I would like to tell you all about, but time does forbid it now, but some of it I will tell you.

Before the voyage there were the laborers and business people in Bremen that took advantage of the immigrants. The voyage of course was only possible by sailboat, they either had to fight a storm or no wind at all, (the first German steamer to New York sailed in 1847, but 20 years later the sailboat was stilled used to Texas). Some ships never reached their destination, smashed in a storm or burned in a ship's fire. News never did reach the homeland. Often the boats were badly provisioned and the immigrants learned hunger aboard ship. Once a boat arrived with 29 dead in the new world, the rest were skeletons, hardly able to walk erect or earn a living. Of such incidents the "CHARLES FERDINAND" was saved, but the unexpected long voyage with many children aboard did bring a water shortage. Only a lock-maker of Fallersleben died. His body buried at sea.

Our immigrants were very careful not to go unprotected into the new world. They had bought into the Mainzer Adelsverein. This club had helped since 1844 the immigrants. They received for their money free passage and acres of land that the club had purchased from the Texas government and they went after a certain place--at least they believed they were. As soon as they reached their new homeland they realized that their farms, for which they carried titles, were located in Indian territory, Commanche and Apache. The land had never been surveyed and to take possession was unthinkable for years or decades to come. Texas was in war with Mexico, 1836 (sic). So there was nothing else left to do for a large number of immigrants except to hire out for labor. They met friends with similar or worse fates. Lucky were the ones that did not get ill with malaria. Many of the new arrivals joined the army as soldiers. So here it is explained why the connections with the homeland were severed, "LOST IN TEXAS". More than half stayed along the coast while they were looking for work, new transports from the old world arrived, and the numbers of homeless did rise and the malaria took its toll.

BEHNE'S family suffered from this plague. But they had taken enough money to buy new land near the then just starting city of Houston. WILHEINE from Jembke and VORHOLTE from Wolkenisdorf stayed in that vicinity, while others like LUETGE AND WILHELM TELGE went up river to escape the rich but feverish coast and woodland and settled in open prairie. The loneliness was worse, but the working conditions were easier. The prairie was easy burned down, while others near the coast had to clear their land to make a field to plow. The cutting of trees is hardly to compare with a small bush, these were giant trees. Burning was impossible as the settlement was already too populated. It was hard labor in tropical heat. Between 10:00 and 4:00 working conditions were impossible, only negroes could work in that heat. The ones with money could afford to buy slaves, they sold from 5 to 800 Dollars. Those would soon prosper, but our people were never slave keepers so they had to build everything with their own hands.

I must be silent about the letters telling of poverty and death and despair. Slowly they progressed. As soon as the land was cleared the rich tropical vegetation would take over again. Often hope for a good harvest was destroyed by animals that uprooted the fenced-in land, eating the sweet potatoes and corn. The harvest was twice a year. The needs of the people were simple. Coffee, cornbread, and bacon were their daily diets. Simple their homes, made of blocks and wood.

LUETGE says: "I swore to tell the truth, but some will say I am lying, but I am not. My house did cost me one dollar to build - for nails. And all the rich farmers tell me it is a good house. Eager workers can build one in fourteen days."

Lost in Texas, continued

LUETGE continues: "So it is not bad if you build one on the wrong property. Whenever the legal owner came, he bought the house - and you moved on. For all the land that was unfenced belonged to everyone. The herding of animals is very easy and pays well. There is no hay harvest. In the winter the animals go into the woods and in a colder winter than usual they lose some weight. But this does not happen often, for even a severe cold winter is no colder than our October. So at the end of a couple of years one can own a couple of hundred cows."

This and other reports may have sounded encouraging, especially if you silenced the other side, how very difficult it was to start from the beginning. A lot depended on the time and place and also on the person himself. For some lazy souls expected a paradise and were very disappointed. And since some wanted to follow like HAZELHORST and cousin AHRENBECK, LUETGE says: "Don't think it is easy, that you can live only from hunting and easy living, for here goes the same saying: 'who will plow his fields will harvest bread.' I don't want to depress anyone, but none persuade either. Texas is a marvelous land for the one who loves to work. For people of higher birth, who don't count on starting a business and are penniless, it is no place. Here are a great many people that are saying Germany is wonderful, I expected Texas to be different, I did not find what I was searching for. Texas is not to blame. They lack the joy to work." For our hard working people who truly deserved the name, Pioneers from Germany, success did not bypass them.

As BEHNE returned to Germany in 1848, both his sons had died of the climate, he left behind himself two beautiful farms, Behneville and Morse. What did happen to them? When CHARLOTTE BOLDT, born BEHNE, daughter of the Major returned to Texas for the second time after 20 years, she found through the constant flow of more immigrants everything changed and hardly recognizable. Houston a real town, the farms of her father divided, the graves of her dear ones, that the Major had planted with roses, could not be found. And to the lonely people on the open prairie new ones have settled near them, villages are being built, eager hands are stirring everywhere, in spite of war and fever taking their terrible toll.

From our earlier mentioned countrymen we hear nothing in those later letters of 1870. Are they all "LOST IN TEXAS?" I received a book from the German Texas newspaper of 1899 and what a surprise - in a description of the county (sic Harris?) we find beside some new names, our old friends close together. Even if it is not the fathers themselves, (only one SCHROEDER is still living in 1899) but it is their children. And they live in the village of Hillendahl. A new surprise that name. We recognize the name. How did it get there? The explanation is simple. LUDWIG and HEINRICH HILLEND AHL immigrated 1848-1850 a little later than BEHNE and LUETGE, are the founders of this village. The villages were simply named after the first settler. We also hear: in the year 1872 the LOOKS, MUELLER, LUETGE, SCHROEDER, AND GROESCHKE did found the Spring Branch Schuetzenverein, in which they followed German customs and language. KARL BEINHORN was president, F. TAPPENBECK editor, HEINRICH SCHAPER treasurer, and LUDWIG HILLEND AHL marshal. In the description of this place it says: HILLEND AHL has a respected name among its neighbors, the men in their long beards and their women are well liked.

Also other villages in that county have German names. VOLLMER, KLEIN, STUEBNER, BAURS. From the postoffice HILLEND AHL we can also show you a print of their stamp. In Brays Bayou we find the above named WILHELM TELGE again. He is president of the Schuetzen in 1884, secretary is AUGUST WARNECKE, who had settled in that country (sic) in 1846. To pick from the other German settlers the ones coming from our county is difficult, but ROOS, KNIGGE, TITTER, BOCKEL AND AHRENS could have originated here.

This is an example that these families stayed German until the turn of the century. While in other places they intermarried with other nations. So often there was nothing but the names of their fathers.

Lost in Texas, continued with Remarks

You can compare the names in the Congressional Medal of Honor, in which the American people are honoring their soldiers of WWI for their heroic deeds. It is certain that the fore-fathers of MOHRMANN, OSTERRIED, QUACKEN, MEYER, RATH, RUST, SACK, TUERKOPP, WITTE, GRUNDLACH, EHRHARDT, BOOS, GENREICH, BLUME, BLOMBERG, BISCHOFF, HUSTEDT, KAHLE AND KORTHS are being found in our county. End.

 This account of German immigration to Texas from the Gifhorn-Fallersleben-Isenhagen (county) registry by Dr. Rick Mueller was sent to Charlie Beinhorn by a member of the Look family. We have not determined where or how the Looks came into possession of it. Evidently this account was translated from the German. I typed it just as I received it, adding only quotation marks and a few commas. This is an excerpt from the book Lost in Texas. I would like to know more about this book and possibly see a copy.

According to the birth certificate of my father, Herbert John Beinhorn, he was born in 1897 in Hillendahl, Texas and in a recent taped interview with his first cousin, 97 year old Nora Bauer Knight, also a grandchild of Christian Beinhorn, we learned that the Hillendahl post office was in the Beinhorn home which bordered the MKT Railroad. Nora spent her summers in the late 1890s and early 1900s at her grandparents farm. The Hillendahl farm was a mile or so north of the Beinhorns and all that remains today is that family's private cemetery, surrounded by a huge hospital and many businesses.

My Aunt Hilda Bauer Pifer's parents, Hermann and Bertha Schoevel Bauer, had the post office in their home for that small community. The Klein settlement is still alive, in the north of Houston, mostly because of the Klein Independent School District. In fact the school has a German Fest every year in honor of the early German settlers in the area. Other communities named have been absorbed by Houston. Karl Beinhorn is unknown to me at this time.

Many of the names mentioned by Mueller are found in the records of the old St. Peter Church, Spring Branch, Texas. Also, some of the persons signing the "Book of Complaint" against the captain of the ship "J. W. Buddecke" must have settled in the Spring Branch area, as their names are also found in the St. Peter Church records. See GTHS Journal, Vol. XII, No. 1, Spring 1990, pages 46-50, for information on St. Peter's Church; and Vol. XIII, No. 1, Spring 1991, pages 56-58 for the story on the passengers of the "J. W. Buddecke."

From the records of St. Peter Church, I find these: HEINRICH HILLENDAHL, MARIA SCHMIDT, FRIEDRICH WITTE, F. TAPPENBECK, HEINRICH SCHAPER, FRIED. FRICKE, H. SCHODER, EMIL GROSCHKE, SOPHIE MEYER, CAROLINE BAUER, CATHARINA VOLMER, KATIE KONNECKE, AUGUST HILLENDAHL, FRIEDRICH HEINRICH JOHANN SPANUTH OF Hattorf, Hanover, DOROTHEA BARTELS born KOENNEKE, CARL STAATS of Wenden, Braunschweig, BERNHARD AHRENBECK of Fallersleben, CHR. AHRENBECK, JOHN SCHMIDT, WILHELM AHRENBECK, W. LAKENMACHER, HENRIETTE BEINHORN TENDLER AND CHRISTOPH WOHLT.

Compiled by: Herbert L. Beinhorn
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There is definitely a link between the passengers of the "J. W. Buddecke" signing the "Book of Complaint in 1853," the persons mentioned in the story "Lost in Texas" by Dr. Rick. Mueller, and the members of St. Peter Church, Spring Branch, Texas. Herbert L. Beinhorn compared the names of the "J. W. Buddecke" passengers as published in our Spring 1991 issue with the names published in Ethel Hander Geue's New Homes in a New Land; German Immigration to Texas, 1847-1861 and furnishes the following comparative lists. Remember that many names are possibly misspelled through different interpretations of handwriting and that some names may not be complete.

COMPARISON OF IMMIGRANTS' NAMES

From: Ethel Hander Geue's
"New Homes in a New Land"

From: Complaint List signed in 1853
 by passengers of the "J. W. BUDECKE"

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. ABEL, JOH. (5) Cerewick-Washington Co. | 1. JOHANN ABEL (signed 3 x,s) |
| 2. AHRENBECK, DANIEL, CHR. & MARIA-Houston | 2. D. AHRENBECK & C. AHRENBECK |
| 3. BEVERSDORF, LUDWIG (5) Seidel | 3. L. BEVERSDORF |
| 4. BEVERSDORF, MARTIN (6) " -Victoria Co. | 4. H. BEVERSDORF |
| 5. BOESCHE, DOROTHEA Hattorf | 5. DOROTHEA BÖSCHE |
| 6. DELLATER, DANIEL, CHRISTINE Meisenheim | 6. DANIEL DELATER |
| 7. DEUBNER, JOHANN (6) Creuzburg | 7. JOHANN DEUBNER |
| 8. DOEBLER, HENRIETTE Berlin | 8. HENRIETTE DÖBBLER |
| 9. DURST, GOTTLIEB Scharnhausen | 9. G. DURST |
| 10. x GERLOFF, GEO. & ADELHEID Ottersberg | 10. xx G. GENTNER |
| 11. GIMPEL, CHRISTIAN Ungefän-San Antonio | 11. CHRIST. (CHRISTIAN) GIMBEL |
| 12. HAESLER, JOH. P. Werenrode(Bevenrode) | 12. WILHELM HÄSELER |
| 13. HAHNZOG, HENRIETTE & JULIE Berlin | 13. Wittwe (Widow) HAHNZOG |
| 14. HESS, JOHANN (9) Tombach | 14. JOHANNES HESS |
| 15. HILLENTHAL, H. (5) Fallersl.-Harris Co. | 15. H. HILLENDAHL |
| 16. x HOFFMAN, ELIS. Ungefän (Ansefahr) | 16. xx ERNEST BARTELS |
| 17. KENNECKE, HEINRICH Fallersleben | 17. H. KENNEKE |
| 18. KLEIN, F. (5) Burg -Kerr County | 18. F. KLEINE |
| 19. x KOHLFAHR, MARIA Ungefän (Anzehahr) | 19. xx BRINKHOFF |
| 20. KRAUS, JOH. Ansefahr | 20. J. KRAUS |
| 21. x LAKENMACHER, DAN. & JOHANNE Hattorf | 21. xx FRIEDRICH KESSELHUTH |
| 22. LAKENMACHER, W. & WIFE (5) Fallersl. | 22. W. LAKENMACHER |
| 23. x LAKENMACHER, DORIS | 23. xx LUDWIG KRENSEL |
| 24. MARONDE, FRIED. (5) Cerewick(Cerekvic) | 24. FR. (FRIEDRICH) MARONDE |
| 25. x MARTIN, ANNA Ungefän (Ansefahr) | 25. xx LEESEMAN |
| 26. MEYER, HANS (4) Kleinensiehl | 26. JOHANNES MEYER |
| 27. MUELLER, WILH. (4) Schweidnitz | 27. WILHELM MÜLLER |
| 28. NICOLAI, CARL L. (4) Lobischau-Comal | 28. G. NICOLAY |
| 29. NIZZE, CHRISTIAN (9) Schweidnitz | 29. CHRISTIAN NITZE |
| 30. PAPE, CHRISTIAN Almke-Austin Co. | 30. G. PAPE |
| 31. PFAEHLER, LOUIS (4) Gaildorf | 31. LOUIS PFAEHLER & xx THEO. PFÄHLER |
| 32. PROEHL, ELIS. Oplop? | 32. ELISABETH PRÖHL |
| 33. REICHARD, WILHELM & FRIEDKE Krewitz | 33. WILH. REICHERT |
| 34. REINHORN, DORIS Oplop? | 34. HENRIETTE BEINHORN |
| 35. RISTAN, JULIUS & WILH. Cama (Canna) | 35. JULIUS RISTON & WILHELM RISTON |
| 36. ROESCH, CARL, HERMANN, AMALIE Gaildorf | 36. HERMANN RÖSCH & CARL RÖSCH |
| 37. RUMPF, WILH. (3) Orewitz (Orlowitz) | 37. W. RUMPF |
| 38. SCHLEIER, C. Ansefahr | 38. O. SCHLEYER |
| 39. SCHMIDT, J. C. (3) Ansefahr | 39. J. G. SCHMIDT |
| 40. x SCHMIDT, MARIA Ansefahr | 40. xx ANTON SMITT |
| 41. SCHRADER, THEODOR (9) Helmstedt | 41. H. SCHRAEDER |
| 42. SCHUETT, HEIN. Ottenwiesen | 42. HERIBERT SCHÜTT |
| 43. STAATS, HEINRICH Wenden | 43. L. STAATE |
| 44. STETTNER, HEIN. Triest, Austria | 44. HEINRICH STETTNER |
| 45. VOLBERT, MARCELLUS Ansefahr | 45. MARCELLUS BOLVERT |
| 46. WARNKE, FRIED. Königslutter | 46. WARNECKE |
| 47. WEHNER, GEORGE & ANNA Kleinensiehl | 47. GEORG WEHNER |
| 48. ZIEGLER, AUGUST Borgholzhausen-Lav. Co. | 48. A. ZIEGLER |
| | 49. xx HEINRICH RENNECKE |
| No. 10: Gerloff/Gentner may be same. The initials & length of name coincide. | 50. xx JACOB SÖHNLE |
| | 51. xx SPANNUTH (signed 3 x,s) |
| | 52. xx F. WOHLT |

x denotes "J. W. BUDECKE" passengers listed in Geue's book, but not signing the 1853 complaint.

xx are those signing complaint, but not on Geue's list.....Herbert L. Beinhorn

THE BUESCHER FAMILY

A Heinrich (Henry) Buescher died October 10, 1882, and is buried in the Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetary in Frelsburg (Colorado County). He was my great, great grandfather. Born on October 27, 1810, he is listed on the poll list for 1846 in Colorado County. I do not know how or where he arrived, however, the 1880 Census says he was from Oldenberg. A church record shows his wife was Anna Maria Wilhelmina Vogelsang. I have no further information on her. Heinrich bought 214 acres of land from Frederick Zimmerscheidt in 1848. It was located just south of Frelsburg. Their children were all born there: Francis (1846), Louise Fredrike (?), Henry August (1853), Edward Frederick (1854), and Anna Wilhelmine (1859).

Francis married Valentine Schott and Louise Fredrike married Walter August Bernhard Cornitius, both on May 17, 1866, in Frelsburg. Anna Wilhelmine married John Folkers in 1884. I am seeking information on these families. My great grandfather, Edward Frederick (Fritz), and his brother, Henry August, remained in Colorado County and raised their families there.

There was another Henry Buescher (Büscher) in New Ulm in Austin County. He first shows up on the 1860 Census with no wife and five children. I do not know his wife's name or what became of her. The children and their birthdates were: Henriette (1835, Hanover, Germany), Godfred (1837), Henry (1840), Minna (1844), Phillip (1845 or 47).

Henriette married Frederich August Wilhelm Kansteiner in 1856. Godfred married L. Anna Dohmann in 1861, Henry married Elenore Hildebrandt in 1862, Minna married Johann Severein in 1881, and Phillip supposedly died before 1866. (On the same day in 1862 when Henry married Elenore Hildebrandt, his father married Johanna H. Fokken (Folken) according to church records at Trinity Lutheran in Frelsburg). Henry, the father, died in 1863 in New Ulm. I don't know where he is buried and know nothing of the children and their families with the exception of Godfred. He ended up in Moulton in Lavaca County, and it was he and his sons who contributed towards the development of Smithville in Bastrop County. Part of the land in Buescher State Park was that owned by these Bueschers.

These two families used to visit each other up until sometime in the 1930's and have always claimed to be related but don't know in what way we are.

Edward Frederick (earlier mentioned) was married to Wilhelmine Margröthe Wiechmann. In addition to other brothers and sisters, she had two half-brothers and two half-sisters from her mother's first marriage. They were: Frederich Frerichs (B. 1844), Johanna Frerichs (B. 1846), Elisa Frerichs (B. 1848), Heinrich Frerichs (B. 1859). I do not know anything about the father except that his name was Frerichs and the children were supposedly born in Oldenberg. I also don't know what happened to Frederich or Elisa. At one point, most or all of the Wiechmann family moved away from Colorado County. I do not know what happened to the Frerichs children.

In Deed Records of Colorado County, I found a document dated October 2, 1895. ". . . that Anna Buescher (nee Anna Schobel and administratrix of the community estate of my deceased husband Andreas Burtschell and myself), joined by my husband Henry Buescher, of the County of Fayette . . ." I don't know who this Henry Buescher is. In 1927 Henry and Anna sold the same property to Albert and Katie Schobel. The land was located in Colorado and Fayette Counties. The documents were located in Colorado County.

I have a marriage certificate for Henry Buser and Geistino Moller (Miller) dated August 21, 1855 in Austin County. I also have a marriage certificate from Colorado Gounty dated April 19, 1886 for Henry Buescher and Josephina Schobel. I don't know who either of these are.

The Buescher Family, continued

Other names I am looking for are Teller, Sarrazin and Poth.

The Buescher name has been spelled several different ways in early records. Most of the information I currently have is from courthouse and church records. It is unfortunate our family did not keep any records. This research was begun from scratch several years ago. We have had three reunions thus far for the family we know about. I am in hopes that more can be found before our reunion in 1992. I am extremely interested in any information anyone may have that might help me make some sense of this.

Barbara Suttle
4223 Dartmouth
Houston, Texas 77005

GERMAN IMMIGRANTS TO ART, TEXAS

Heinrich Eduard Engelhard Hasse was five years old when his mother died and eleven years old when he emigrated with his father, Heinrich Carl Gottfried Hasse, stepmother and step-sister to Texas. He was born in Nienstedt, Hannover on March 23, 1834.

His stepmother died of cholera soon after they landed, and in 1851 his father married Sophia Behrens, a widow with four children. Mr. Behrens had been killed by Indians. They lived near Castell on the Llano River.

In 1858 he married Fredricka Bickenbach. Rika, as she was called, was born in the Prussian Rhine Province of Germany and emigrated with her parents to Texas at the age of 13. They lived in Fredericksburg one year, then in 1859 they moved to Flehweville, now known as Art, about 11 miles north-west of his father's house. The Bickenbachs lived about 15 miles south, in the Canaan community, south of the Llano River. Fort Mason was only seven miles to the west, which helped prevent Indian attacks.

Three families were already settled in Art before the Hasses arrived including the Ernst Jordans. Fredricka's sister, Lisette, was married to Ernst Jordan. Years later, in the 1880's, Heinrich helped Ernst re-establish contact with his relatives in Wehrstedt, Germany, a town only about seven miles east of Nienstedt.

The other two families in Art were the Henry Hoersters and the Henry Kothmanns. The Kothmanns came to Texas in 1845 aboard the same ship as young Heinrich Hasse's family- the B.Bohlen.

In 1860 the Hasses bought 200 acres of land from Henry and Elizabeth Hoerster, the Willow Creek forming the east boundard of their property. They first built a log cabin consisting of a story and a-half, a smoke house, and a feed house. The logs were hauled ten miles from above Willow Creek with a wagon and mules. In this first home the furnishings consisted of home-made bed, rawhide bottom chairs, and a spinning wheel. Cooking was done in a big fireplace. Their supplies came from Fredericksburg and this trip took at least two days by wagon.

Henry and Fredricka are listed as charter members of the Llano Circuit of the Methodist-Episcopal Church, South, organized in 1856.

In 1862 Heinrich joined the Confederate States Army, a rather unusual thing for the German emigrant to do. Heinrich was in Company C, Eighth Battalion of the Texas Cavalry.

Heinrich added to his holdings in 1876 by purchasing 1,000 acres of land near Castell from John Hoerster. In 1894 he purchased 634 acres from August Kothmann. In 1883 the Hasses had a rock-mason from Germany build a two-story house with rock which came from the place.

A son was born in 1866 and died in 1867. Three more sons were born, Henry in 1868, Daniel in 1871 and John in 1873. A daughter, Lizette, was born in 1876 and married Alvin Donop.

Fredricka died first in 1910. When he got old, Heinrich's hobby was raising asparagus. He took delight in walking to the neighbors in Art to deliver buckets of big, plump asparagus. He died in 1917. Both are buried at the Art cemetery, east.

Their son John inherited the Art property. Today it is owned by John's grandchildren, Laverne Lee and Charlene Nash.

By: Charlene Nash, Lampasas, Texas

LETTERS FROM EDUARD NEUHAUS TO GERMANY 1847 TO 1871

F.C. Neuhaus from Offelten, near Lübbecke Westfalia Germany, had several children. The first son coming to America was Eduard Neuhaus. He made his journey in the fall of 1846. On the ship he got acquainted with a German "von Kerhsenbroek". They formed a friendship and promised each other to watch for swindlers and in case of health problems if one of them should fall ill. They spoke about renting a farm first and later maybe buy one, either together or as at it may come. Both had been wise enough to look for people already on the ship, which they could use on such a farm and talked an elderly couple into coming with them in the direction of Columbus. Eduard Neuhaus had an address from a country fellow with the name Kayser [or Keiser, since he used both spellings], which should live in Columbus. In his letters he tells the parents about his travels, acquaintances with those people, the disappointments on the arrival, renting a farm, the mishaps in the beginnings and a description what he found around Columbus. In the first two letters he tells that he came to America with \$ 533 and what he spends his money on, just like giving an account to his parents.

Together with Kerhsenbroek he rented the farm on the Colorado river near Columbus, it was called the Kessler Bluff. Several German pioneers had been here near-by before him. In one of his letters he tells about the problems those pioneers had, death of some of them through carelessness and the good English neighbors he found here.

In the third letter he is very sincerely requesting for his brother Franz to follow him. However the parents are thinking about sending two brothers, Herrmann and Franz. Also he writes very much about this country that it is not much warmer than Germany, the mother nature is two months ahead in all. So the planting is done different, he writes that he is living for months under the sky, his dream about getting into sheep-farming and how his pigs are multiply=ing and also how some of the neighbors have made a fortune in just 10 years by only raising cattle.

The parents sending him more money and in 1848 Eduard bought a farm of 1150 acres in Oak Land, Lavacca County. 1849 his two brothers Herrmann and Franz are coming over. Later he splits with his brothers. Franz went into farming and Herrmann, after serious sickness, is trying his luck in tannery.

Eduard is getting more money, the parents thinking about sheep-farming, however Eduard is buying cattle. In all letters he is trying to get more people from Germany or other German people which came to this country, to come to him on the farm. Also the two younger brothers Carl and Fritz should learn a pro = fession in Germany which they could use over here.

Evidently he must have done good, because he is planing to go to Germany in 1852. In some of his letters he is getting carried away in his spirit and is writing from left to right and since he had more to write, he turns the page and writes over the written letter from bottom to the top. He is working on his house and promises to send home a plan and drawing of his house.

Eduard made a trip to Germany in summer of 1852. On the way to NY he took along his harvested cotton, because he wanted sell it himself. In Germany he married and he also brought back another girl. After his return from Germany, he ordered a sawing- and corn grinding-steam mill. He sells his old mill and buys another more modern corn-mill. He is planing on erecting a merchant store. His brother Fritz becomes soldier and later a cowboy. Eduard is sending money back home since he has a better income with the 2. corn-mill. Together with his wife Auguste he has 4 children, their ages had been in 1871: Carl 14 years, Oskar or Oscar 11, Agnes 8 and Victor 6.

They had a general mercantile store in Hackberry in 1871.

For a copy of the letters he writes to Germany, please write to:
Alfred Brueckner 960 Encino Drive, New Braunfels, Texas, 78132.

Christmas Showcase

San Antonio Conservation Society News

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Germany, 1944

(ISB: 4)

Ingrid Kokinda

The four Sundays preceding Christmas are celebrated in Germany with as much devotion as are Christmas Eve and the following two Christmas days. On Saturday before the first Advent Sunday, a wreath is made of fresh fir greens and decorated with red ribbons and four red candles. Sometimes the wreath is hung from the ceiling: more often from a red painted, wooden stand and placed on either the dining or coffee table. On this first Advent Sunday, the family gathers around the wreath, lights the first candle and, enjoying the first batch of home-made Christmas cookies with coffee or tea, will perhaps discuss the preparations for the upcoming Christmas. Maybe someone has already begun sewing, knitting, or crocheting a surprise for a dear one. These special handiworks are always kept a secret from the intended receiver and it often becomes quite a challenge not to have the special gift discovered.

For German children, Christmas preparations begin with the hanging of the Advent calendar on the first of December. The twenty-four doors of this calendar help children keep track of how many more days till Christmas Eve. Each little door

reveals a transparent picture often showing a symbol of the Christmas season. My birthday on December third assured me the certain honor of opening that particular door for my older brother was usually up before his two sisters and he always opened the doors first, then closed them again for our turns, but took the surprises away by informing us about the picture our transparency would show. A reminder from our mother helped us place a highly polished shoe under our bed on the evening of December fifth, so Saint Nikolas could fill it with apples and nuts during the night. My sister and I were always surprised that our older brother never received any switches from this nightly visitor. But we still had hopes that the Weihnachtsmann (Santa Claus) would surely bring some for our naughty brother.

The days and weeks did not pass by very fast for us, even though we helped with baking and decorating cookies. The Haus smelled deliciously of cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and other fine aromas. We filled tin after tin with freshly baked goods and our mother insisted that the Weihnachtsmann would be very pleased with such industrious little helpers. Oh! how the Weihnachtsmann stands out in my early memories: this huge person, clad in red and with a stern face,

deep, booming voice and sweeping gestures! Christmas Eve finally came and this meant that we were not allowed into the living room, that afternoon. Late in the afternoon we heard loud footsteps in the hallway and loud voices and my mother called us from our room. And there he stood: the Weihnachtsmann! He told us that he comes from far away and still had to visit many children and wanted to hear from us whether we had been good all year. We could hardly answer and, holding onto each other, we felt how much we all trembled. Then the Weihnachtsmann wanted to hear a poem recited or some other talent declared. But who would be first to do so? My brother pushed me forward and, well, what did I prepare for him, the Weihnachtsmann? Reluctantly I began, "Lieber, guter Weihnachtsmann! Schau mich nicht so boese an. Stecke Deine Rute ein. Ich will auch immer artig sein!" (Dear, good Santa Claus! Please do not look at me so sternly. Please put away your switches. I promise to always be well-behaved.) Fertig - finished - I still remember this big hand coming down on my head, flattening the pretty taffeta bow in my hair and patting my head in approval. He also told us that he brought us a surprise which we would find under the tree. Then we heard the ringing of a little bell from the living room. The Weihnachtsmann had left our Haus and had turned off the lights in the hallway. The sliding doors to the living room opened and my mother called to us, "Look what the Weihnachtsmann brought for you!" A tree! A beautiful Christmas tree, its many candles illuminating the dark room and causing the carved decorations and the tinsels to move ever so slightly. What a sight! We stood in awe and just looked and then we discovered our dolls dressed in new robes underneath the tree. My sister and I had been looking for our dolls for weeks without finding them and even our mother helped

us search. Our brothers old wooden wagon was there under the tree, newly painted in bright red and holding three pairs of knitted mittens as its cargo. We spotted three small plates with apples and cookies and walnuts and marzipan. While our Grandmother played "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" (Silent Night) on the piano, our family stood in front of the Christmas tree, quietly, reflecting on the wonder of this Holy Night. Children, too, learn to be patient on such an important evening once a year.

That night, we could hardly fall asleep, we were so excited and so happy to have our dolls back. What a nice time this "Froehliche Weihnachten" brings to us.

This year, my birthcountry, will, after forty-five years, again celebrate Christmas as a re-united Germany and I will play Johann Sebastian Bach's Christmas Oratorio and shout a loud "Froehliche Weihnachten" - Merry Christmas - across the distances this December 24th. And a very Merry Christmas to all of you, also.

Editor's note: Ingrid continues: (Eva, the memories I recounted are from way back, from December 1944. Three months later, in March 1945, we would flee our comfortable home, never to see it again. We were only able to take a few belongings. We children had to help carry food items and clothing, so there was no room for my dear doll. I remember hiding it way back in one of the closets, sobbing and telling her that I soon would return to pick her up. This, of course, never happened, for we fled from the advancing Russian Army and two weeks later were safely in the western part of Germany. Now we were poor refugee children and the following Christmas of 1945, we were invited by the Red Cross to a Christmas Party which was hosted by the American soldiers. That, dear Eva, is another memory treasured dearly.)

FROEHLICHE WEIHNACHTEN

My family's favorite cookie recipe:

WUNDERNUESSE
WONDERNUTS

2 egg whites
½ cup of sugar
1 pck. vanilla sugar
4 drops bitter almond
1¾ cups ground hazelnuts or pecans

Method: Preheat oven to 290°F. Line baking sheet with waxed

paper. Beat egg whites to soft peaks. Gradually add sugar, vanilla sugar and bitter almond, beating until very stiff. Fold in ground nuts. Shape into small balls. Place on prepared baking sheet. Press a cherry, a whole nut, or small chocolate chip in centre of cookie.

Bake on middle oven rack at 290°F for 20-25 minutes or until set and light golden in color. Cool slightly then remove the paper. Cool and store. Makes about 3 dozen.

OLD-TIME GERMAN CHRISTMAS DESCRIBED AT COOKING SCHOOL
German Recipes for Holiday Foods

from: San Antonio Express, December 17 and 21, 1932

Turning the hour-glass of memory back to scenes of her childhood days on King William Street, San Antonio, more than 50 years before, Mrs. Adolph Wagner was guest speaker at San Antonio Express-Evening News monthly cooking school Friday afternoon, December 16, 1932. The San Antonio Express reported on her talk in the December 16 and 21, 1932, editions, under the above headlines. The two articles are combined here, including her six recipes.

Mrs. Wagner (geb. Amanda Auguste Guenther) was a daughter of early pioneer, C. H. Guenther, founder of Pioneer Mills. Although she had "achieved a reputation as a leading spirit in civic and cultural enterprises during her long residence in San Antonio," Mrs. Wagner admitted that this was her "first public speech."

From Mrs. Wagner's talk, as reported in the December 17, 1932, article:

You all know that German people are home-loving; they love their gardens and flowers, and above all they love to celebrate and sing, in short to have a real good time! They will go to much trouble to celebrate on any possible occasion, be it a birthday, wedding anniversary, christening, or maybe just the end of a very busy day!

All and everyone look forward with the greatest anticipation and pleasure to a Merry Christmas! Both parents and children work up the Christmas Spirit with preparations that begin weeks, even months, before the 24th of December. All get busy making some lovely gift for each member of the family or dear friends. It is the sentiment attached to these gifts (such as dainty needlework), the time and personal touch and thought which is appreciated by all.

Mothers are busy from morning until night, trying to find the right thing for everyone; to make them happy. Shopping and sewing, and she must also get ready for Christmas baking, as some cakes and cookies, like honeycakes, lebkuchen, syrup and ginger snaps, and fruit cakes, improve with time. All over the world, where German people have settled, they have kept their custom of celebrating Christmas Eve, brightening their homes with the fresh green pine tree with burning candles and gay decorations; they also carried with them the old reliable cook book, in which we find recipes for especially marked "Christmas Cookies" or "Extra Nice for the Christmas Tree." You will find the same recipes for German Cakes and Cookies in Wisconsin or New York, or West Texas, where the Germans settled in this country almost 100 years ago. In 1908 I happened to be in New York City about the middle of December, visiting the home of a friend who was born on Fifth Avenue where the grandfather had made his home years ago, coming from Bavaria (Rothenburg), that quaint old town which is one of the show places of southern Germany.

On her dining table were Christmas cookies, freshly baked, that looked exactly like ours here at home: lovely, iced cinnamon bars, "Speculaci," "Weiss Lebkuchen," different kinds of anise cakes, nut cookies, Weiner Zollen, honey cakes, etc., surely a great surprise for me! Many of these cakes have ground nuts as one of the main ingredients. There are hazel and walnuts in the German forests. From Italy, across the Alps, they get the almonds, which are used for their delicious "Almond Torte." More than 100 years ago sugar was very scarce in Germany, so they used honey to sweeten their cakes: white flour also was used only by the rich people, and ground nuts would go well and needed only a little flour. All this with cinnamon and other spices made good cookies.

Now we Americans of German descent still make these cookies, but here we use our own pecans, which are best of all. When I was a child, we shelled pecans for at least a week every evening, the boys cracked the nuts, then helped to shell them. No pecan shelling machines then--but I still think of these lovely evenings. One of the children would read aloud while the others were busy. Sometimes Mother would join us and tell us (stories of her childhood in Germany and) Indian stories, real ones. The grandparents and my mother (Friedrich Pape, wife Katherine Voges, daughter Henrietta Dorothea) came from Hanover, Germany, to Fredericksburg in 1845-56, with the first families who founded the town of Fredericksburg. A few years later they lived on their farm near the Pedernales River four miles from town. Not far away there was an Indian camp and they were friendly Indians. The squaws would gather pecans and shell them. Mother said they could crack them so they all came out in halves, and they were put in little wooden kegs and sold to a merchant in Fredericksburg. I suppose they were the first people to sell shelled pecans.

At Christmas time it was the mother's pleasure to send bags and boxes of cakes, together with something more substantial to those dependent on the family; also to workmen, the sick, and

Old-Time German Christmas (continued)

poor people. Every family of good standing made it their duty to help those in want.

I remember one Christmas we had baked 14 different kinds of cakes and cookies. It took much time to cut and bake those hundreds of cakes, iced and sprinkled with colored sugar, hearts, stars, animals and fowls, and what a joy to give!

On Christmas morning, mixed with the scent of pine and cedar, there came from the kitchen the appetizing smell of spices, where yeast-rising coffee cake or cinnamon loaf, Hollen (Stollen?), Kraengel or Schuecken were baking. The Germans like these cakes with their breakfast and coffee. In the cook book it says: "Christmas Hollen (Stollen?) --shaped like a braided loaf, a bread filled with raisins, citron, nuts and spices"--we might call it nutbread. Germans never baked pie; the foundation for their delicious cherry, apple and fresh plum cakes was yeast-rising butter dough, like the coffee cake.

Christmas Eve, when the church bells were ringing, everyone thinking "Peace on Earth, Good-Will to Men," all the members of the household assembled in the hall, which is only dimly lighted, the children close to the door which opens to the living room. All are quiet, though excited, listening to some mysterious noises; you hear someone moving; of course it is father, who is lighting the candles on the Christmas tree. A whiff of burning cedar or pine comes through the key hole. Mother always put a branch of the cedar on the stove or on the coals in the fireplace so it will smell like Christmas! Then the silver bell would ring and the door would open. The small children led the procession, so they could see the beautiful tree in all its glory, which was standing either in the corner of the room, or if a small one, on the table. At the top branch was always a large bright star, with many lighted candles, bright ornaments, red apples, homemade sugar-iced cakes and gilded nuts and raisins from Spain. To the children it was awe-inspiring and mysterious.

When all were assembled in the room, father played the accompaniment on the piano and together we sang "Holy Night; Silent Night" in German, and "Oh Du Selige, Oh Du Frohliche Weihnachtszeit (sic)." The young children each had to recite a Christmas poem; then they were led to their places at the table, where a plate with sweets and fruit was ready for them, and each received his present from Santa Claus.

Then every member of the family and the servants received their gifts. Afterwards the children brought out their presents, some handwork of their own. Also the children exchanged little gift remembrances. Usually some of them had studied a piece of music for the occasion; others played a duet or trio, a song accompanied by violin and piano. All this was greatly appreciated by the parents. The children had to be rather quiet while the music was going on, but afterwards they found some instruments of their own, one blowing the trumpet, another beating the drum.

Mama dolls that tried to talk--oh such delight and joy! The noise grew louder and louder, until they all assembled in the dining room, where a simple supper was served, with a hot claret punch finishing the supper, with the toast, "Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!"

In Germany at this time of the year deep snow covers the good earth and, with satisfaction, you turn to the evergreen tree with the bright lights spreading warmth among the Happy Family and again we say "Peace on Earth, Good-Will to Men."

Also there was the custom and still is to this day, where boys go from house to house, singing Christmas carols on the streets. They are asked into the homes and treated to good things to eat.

The newspaper printed Mrs. Wagner's recipes for making Christmas Cookies and reported that at that time, "the old custom of presenting little baskets or boxes of delicious cookies has become very popular in the United States; no longer are these gifts confined to dependents but are given to one's friends and relatives. A gift of delicious cookies will be appreciated by almost anyone."

In the article, Martha Jane Heath noted that she "translated the 'pounds' of the old German recipes into the modern 'cups' now used and thus local women will be enabled to serve their families many of the delectable cookies which have been part of the Christmas celebration from time immemorial."

GERMAN CHRISTMAS COOKIES

Anise or Vanilla Cookies

Beat very light 3 eggs, then 1 1/2 cups of sugar with them for 13 minutes, add 2 cups

Old-Time German Christmas, Recipes (continued)

sifted flour, folding in carefully. Add one-half teaspoon Anisoil (Anise Oil) or 1 teaspoon vanilla. Drop by half teaspoonfuls in pans and let stand about 10 hours (but not overnight in a heated house as it makes them too dry). Bake slowly at about 315-320 degrees for 25 minutes.

Danzig Christmas Cookies

1 pound sifted flour (4 cups)	1/2 pound sugar (1 cup)
1/4 pound butter (1/2 cup)	4 eggs
1/2 teaspoon baking powder	Few drops flavoring

Mix well, let stand in cool place for an hour or more; roll out thin and cut with forms. Bake in moderate oven till a light yellow.

**Speculaci for Christmas Tree
(Or Tea Cakes)**

1 pound sifted flour (4 cups)	3 eggs
1/2 pound butter (1 cup)	2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon	Grated rind of 1/2 lemon
1 pound sugar (2 cups)	

Work the washed butter into the flour, either with a fork or your fingers, add grated lemon rind, and the whole eggs. Mix and work together with hands on the floured board. Let this dough rest for several hours or overnight. Roll out thin, cut with hearts, stars or any other shape. Place on tins, bake in moderate oven until dark yellow.

White Lebkuchen

1 pound sugar (2 cups)	4 eggs
2 cups pecans	1/4 teaspoon cloves
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg	

Enough flour to make the dough stiff enough to roll and cut

Bake a light brown (Note: this was the only instruction given in the newspaper.)

Ginger Snaps

2 cups sugar	1 egg
1 cup molasses	1 Tablespoon ginger
1 cup lard	1 cup hot water
1 teaspoon soda, dissolved in water	Flour

(Note: no mixing or baking instructions were given in the newspaper.)

Lebkuchen

6 egg whites	1 pound broken pecans
1 pound sugar (2 cups)	1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 pound citron cut thin	1/4 pound orange peel cut thin
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg	2 teaspoons baking powder
2 egg yolks	Flour to make rather stiff dough

Beat yolks and sugar to foam; add stiffly beaten egg white, spices and nuts; add enough flour mixed with baking powder to shape a roll. Cut off pieces with sharp knife, and bake in moderate oven till light brown.

Priest's Bread

4 egg yolks	1/2 pound broken nuts
1/2 pound sugar (1 cup)	1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 pound flour (2 cups)	Flavor with lemon
1 whole egg	

Beat egg and the yolks to a foam with the sugar; add nuts, flavoring and flour; flour your board and make a roll like a loaf. Cut off slices, place on greased tin. Bake in moderate oven, 325 degrees, for 20 or 25 minutes.

Contributed by Theresa Gold, San Antonio, based on
Newspaper articles furnished by John O. Leal, Bexar County Archivist.

THE THREE CHRISTMASSES OF BAVERIA

By Bert Thayer

From a Paper Written for Dr. Sheila Johnson,
Professor of German, U.T.-San Antonio

On Christmas eve in America, you can see the Christmas tree, the stockings for Santa, and hear "We Three Kings." Too bad it all comes at once, on one day. It would be nice if somewhere in the world Christmas was spread out. In the German state of Bavaria, Christmas is spread out, with three Christmas celebrations on three different days.

The season begins slowly; preparation for Christmas is called Advent. In most Bavarian homes an Advent wreath with four candles is set up on the coffee table or hung from the ceiling with ribbons. One candle is lit for each Sunday until Christmas Eve. Many children have Advent calendars. Every day in December, the children open a paper window that reveals a picture relating to Christmas. On Christmas Eve, the largest paper window opens to show the Nativity.

The Christmas markets are not at all like the shopping malls in America. Most of the Bavarian markets are located in what is usually the regular outdoor market of the town, where fresh fruits and vegetables are sold in season.

Simple wooden stands are set up. From these small stands, gifts and small handcrafted Christmas decorations are sold. These Christmas markets are world famous. The one in Nürnberg is the oldest and best known "Christkindlmarkt."

Lebkuchen (gingerbread) is a specialty of Nürnberg, and it is shipped throughout Germany and the rest of the world. Dolls made of prunes or stars and angels of straw may not sound like much, but they are among the most popular items at this Christmas market. The custom of using angel figures for the top of the tree began in Nürnberg, and these figures are still sold here.

Other Christmas markets are at Berchtesgaden, Regensburg, Augsburg, Munich, and Würzburg. Munich sets up its market across from the world famous clock tower (Glockenspiel). Augsburg has its Nativity scene at the base of the Alterto, the city's namesake, Caesar Augustus. This is because "...there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus...." (Luke 2:1)

Würzburg's Christmas market is located right near the streetcar line, which has a special car for St. Nick. Since St. Nick gets the Christmas season going in Bavaria, it is fitting he has his own streetcar.

Once religious, but now mostly secular, St. Nicholas Day on December 6th is the first of the three Christmases of Bavaria. St. Nick's picture is often behind the Advent calendar's window on this day. This white-bearded old man is different from Santa. Without elves or reindeer and wearing bishop's robes with either a miter or cowl, he arrives at each Bavarian home.

He is the patron saint of children. With his golden book, he can tell which children have been good and which have not. For the good children he has cookies and candy, but no toys. That would be seen as part of a secular commercialization. Those who have been bad will deal with Knecht Ruprecht, St. Nick's "helper." He carries a bundle of birch twigs to spank children who have misbehaved. Many a Bavarian child receives a bundle of twigs mixed with chocolate. The idea is that parents can dish out either, as needed later on. Those children who cannot stay up for St. Nick's visit can leave their shoes or boots on the windowsill or outside the front door. The "good" children wake up to find cookies and candies in their shoes, but no toys.

If you really miss the arrival of Santa in a parade, Bavaria will not disappoint. In Berchtesgaden, St. Nick and Knecht Ruprecht arrive in a long procession. People dressed as angels accompany St. Nick. Others dressed as devils go with Knecht Ruprecht. These devils, called Buttmandln, wear leather masks and have hay bound around them with leather harnesses, complete with cow bells. These haystack-like devils go around town grabbing those who misbehave.

The "second Christmas of Bavaria" begins on the night of December 24th, ending after St. Stephen's Day on December 26th. Christmas Eve is a religious holiday when families celebrate the birth of Jesus. In every Bavarian village,

Three Christmases of Bavaria (continued)

families are together at home before going to Midnight Mass.

Unlike in America, the Christmas tree has not been set up for weeks. Told that it is a gift from das Christkind, the Christ Child, the children first see it this night. The lady of the house rings a bell to let everyone know that the room with the tree is ready. Everyone then goes inside to look at the tree and open presents.

Most Bavarians still use candles on their Christmas trees. The fire hazard aside, candles on fir trees help with the feeling of what Germans call Gemütlichkeit. This nearly untranslatable word is like quaintness, togetherness, or enjoyment. As the family admires the tree, you get a feeling of why this season is called die Weihnachten (consecrated, or holy, nights). This mood is found not only in the homes. In order to "share" this day with their departed relatives, lighted candles and sometimes small Christmas trees are placed throughout Bavarian cemeteries.

Christmas Day is much quieter than in America. Only the immediate family gathers for a dinner of goose, not turkey. The holiday continues through the 26th when families visit with other relatives.

And that does not end the Christmas season. January 6th is the "third Christmas of Bavaria." On this religious holiday, Epiphany, the Bavarians celebrate the arrival of the Three Kings. In every Bavarian village and in several city parishes, three boys from the church choir dress up like the Three Kings. One carries a star on a pole and leads the others in "star singing." At each house in the village, these three "kings" stop and sing. For a small donation, they will write "C-M-B" and the year with chalk above the door. If these initials of the Three Kings, Caspar, Melchoir, and Balthasar, last for an entire year, it is said the family will have good luck.

The next time the Christmas season moves too quickly and you wish you could slow it down, remember Bavaria with its three different celebrations of St. Nicholas Day, Christmas, and Three Kings' Day.

The author of this article was in the U.S. Army, stationed six and a half years in Bavaria, including three Christmases in Augsburg and four in Würzburg. He has lived in a small village away from the U.S. Armed Forces Housing Area and has twice been in a Bavarian home on Christmas Eve.

The Week In Germany December 21, 1990 (ISB: 4)

Christmas Bazaar Seeks to Be Environmentally Friendly

The history of Munich's Christmas Bazaar, which offers ornaments, baked goods and handicrafts, reaches all the way to the fourteenth century, but its recycling policies are very modern. The Munich Tourist Bureau has called on the market organization to produce as little waste as possible. Thus, the 12,000 square meter market offers mead and hot wine punch in washable cups. Any plastic must be reusable.

More than 3 million visitors are expected this year, making the Munich Bazaar a serious competitor to the Nuremberg "Christkindl" Market, traditionally the largest in the Federal Republic.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The Roman festival of SATURN was held in December and the temples were decorated with greenery; the DRUIDS are associated with MISTLETOE, and the Saxons used HOLLY and IVY. These customs have been transferred to the Christian festival. The holly or holy-tree is called Christ's thorn in Germany and Scandinavia, from its use in church decorations and its putting forth its berries about Christmas time.

The decorated Christmas tree was in use among Romans and was introduced into England from Germany soon after Queen Victoria's marriage with Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in 1840. Santa Claus and his reindeer came to England at the same time.



The Stollen Story

Stollen, the powdered-sugar loaves that feature prominently on most German Christmas tables, began as a sweet thank-you to Bishop Heinrich von Naumburg in 1329. The Bishop granted his parish bakers the right to form guilds and asked in return that they "henceforth celebrate the birth of Christ by making two long wheat loaves, to be called stollen." The bishop decreed that the loaves must contain half a bushel of wheat, or about 30 pounds, according to today's measurements, which yielded a hefty loaf; the modern version ranges from one-half to two-and-one-half pounds and comes in nearly thirty varieties, including a dietetic version.

In past years, nearly 38,000 tons of stollen were consumed annually in the former Federal Republic; with the five new states, the bakers' guild expects the number to increase by about twenty-five percent. Figures are unavailable for the former German Democratic Republic, home of the queen of stollen, the Dresden stollen. Bakery-quality, as opposed to industrially produced, stollen has become increasingly popular. In 1980, 27,000 tons were produced industrially, 9,500 baked in individual bakeries; for 1990, the bakers' guild expects sales of industrially packaged stollen to drop to 18,000, with bakers' wares rising to 15,000. Despite its short October-through-January season, the sale of stollen is profitable: Germans spent DM 144 million on stollen in 1989.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Boerne Community School is offering an 8-week Class in Conversational German. For information contact Boerne Community School, P.O. Box 714, Boerne TX 78006.

Congregation carries on pageant tradition

■ When Helen Schoolcraft suggested that people at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bulverde do an outdoor Christmas pageant, she wasn't planning to start a tradition. But for the people in her congregation, the pageant has become a special holiday ministry they wouldn't think of forsaking.

The evening event on the church lawn features a number of "living scenes" from the Nativity story, complete with live animals and music. A path lit with hundreds of luminarias marks the way for cars to drive by the scenes while choirs sing carols of joy. Visitors are given cards with biblical references for each scene and information about the St. Paul congregation.

"We see it as outreach, touching people by telling the Christmas story in a special way," Schoolcraft says. "But it also provides lots of opportunity for fellowship for our members because everybody gets involved."

In addition to the 30 or so people who are players in the living scenes, there are many more who make costumes, dress the players, keep the candles lit, make cookies, and hand out flyers. Our "Tired and Retired" group of seniors is there from beginning to end to help set up the scenes, to keep hot drinks and cookies available, and to take care of children whose parents are busy."

Then there are the musicians who sing with the choir or in vocal and instrumental groups in the gazebo nearby. Sometimes choirs from neighboring churches or community groups come to help. And because December nights can be cold, musicians, players, and workers take turns coming inside to warm up.

(ISB: 6)

German Christmas Service

Hope Lutheran Church at 6414 N. Hampton Dr., Austin TX 78723, hosts an annual German Christmas worship service. Everyone is cordially invited to Hope Lutheran at the above address (across from Pearce Middle School). Contact the church office (512-926-8574) for more details.

-Frohe Weihnachten-

(ISB: 15)

L.A. GRANGE, TEXAS

German Style Christmas At Monument Hill

(ISB: 9)

A German style Christmas celebration will be held at Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historical Parks on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 1:30-4 p.m. The celebration will take place at the Kreische Home where docents dressed in 1860's period costumes host the event.

It is a special time of year at the park as the docent organization and park staff try to emphasize and illustrate Christmas as it was for the German immigrants in the mid 1800's with family, friends, food, singing and celebrating.

Decorations will adorn the exterior of the house plus three interior rooms on the second floor. Interior decorations and activities will include homemade refreshments served in the parlor, an old-fashioned Christmas tree and a family room where the Christmas story will be read in German.

For further information concerning the event, call the park headquarters at 409-968-5658.

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Mrs. Inge Schmidt
Ohkampring 12
2000 Hamburg 63
Federal Republic of Germany

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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.



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