

**GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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**Editor's/president's notes:**

Dona Reeves-Marquardt  
Rt. 2, Box 238A  
Buda, Texas 78610

Dear Dona,

As president of GTHS, and as a friend, it is a sad task for me to accept your resignation from the Society's Board. You are one of the founding members of GTHS and over the years served diligently and faithfully to bring this organization the recognition that it has today, in this country and in Germany. During my work on A Sojourn in Texas 1846-47: Alwin H. Sörgel's Texas Writings I had the privilege of getting to know you (and Lew) better. You were supportive, always enthusiastic and your criticism objective and constructive. It was a pleasure working with you. As the cowboy would say "You are a good one to cross the river with." Dona, good luck on your projects that you pushed aside to give your energy to the Society. Wherever you are, whatever you do you will be in our hearts. The doors of the Society are always open to you and to Lew. Come and visit awhile. Most of all let's stay in touch.

With warmest wishes,

W. M. Von-Maszewski

\*\*\*\*\*

The annual meeting in New Braunfels was a success. Helgard Suhr and her volunteers have our thanks for an excellent job. There was some grouching from late registrants who were turned back, but this action was precipitated by the city ordinance. The meeting place had reached maximum capacity. The other larger places in town had been booked for the same weekend far in advance of our own schedule. Attendance exceeded expectations. The sessions were well-attended from the beginning to the closing and the topics presented were diverse as well as interesting. Thank you, Helgard and your capable group of volunteers.

Plans are already under way for our 1993 meeting in San Angelo. Mark your calendar for September 10-12.

In conjunction with our recent annual meeting Frances Harrison needs to be mentioned. Frances is the GTHS convention liaison. Organizing the GTHS meeting in San Antonio a couple of years ago, she learned the task the hard way. After bringing that meeting off successfully Frances put to paper the do's and don't's encountered by a convention chairperson. This has become our "convention bible" and Frances is our GTHS consultant. Her efforts prevent many a headache and faux pas.

Great strides are made at the German Free School (GTHS Headquarters) in Austin. The trees were trimmed back to show the house and yard at their best. The garden committee has been hard at work to make the yard a showpiece complimenting the house. A watering system is in place in preparation for the flowers and bushes. The house, too, needs attention with preventative maintenance and compliance with city codes. Many thanks go to Anna Thompson, Helga von Schweinitz and Rodney Koenig who unselfishly as well as quietly devoted many hours (and still do!) to make the German Free School a reality for GTHS.

Due to the resignation from the Board of the Society's founding member Dona Reeves-Marquardt her position has been filled by Helga von Schweinitz. Helga is no newcomer; she is a member of GTHS and previously has been a board member. Over the past year or more she worked very hard and diligently in the interest of GTHS and the German Free School. Welcome back, Helga.

In reference to the Society's Journal a call goes out for a volunteer to become the "name index" editor. This is a once-a-year, but very essential job which requires the person to compile the name index for the spring issue. Don't be shy, step forward and help with your Journal!



## **LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK**

By Rodney C. Koenig

Gifts through your Will is an excellent way to leave your German mark and to donate to the German-Texan Heritage Society. Gifts to the German-Texan Heritage Society qualify for an estate tax charitable deduction and gifts during lifetime qualify for an income tax deduction. Bequests in your Will may be structured in a number of ways.

1. A specific bequest;
2. A residual bequest;
3. A contingent bequest to take effect if no immediate family member survives the donor;
4. A charitable trust for the benefit of the German-Texan Heritage Society.

A bequest as shown above will serve to reduce your taxable estate and lower your estate tax liability. There is no limitation on the size of the gift or on the charitable deduction. Several very important items should be stressed.

1. Your bequest should be made to German-Texan Heritage Society;
2. If you are giving specific property, a very specific description should be given such as a dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, all of your estate, a specific parcel of land, specific shares of stocks or bonds or specific personal property such as books, paintings, genealogical reference works or other similar items.
3. If you wish to direct your gift to a specific purpose, such as a scholarship, maintenance of the German Free School, to fund an academic chair or professorship or similar provision, you should specify that use.

An example of a typical bequest should read as follows: "*I give to the German-Texan Heritage Society the sum of \$25,000 for the use and benefit of the German-Texan Heritage Society.*" Additional language could be added to express your specific desires, such as "*for use in expanding the publications of the society*". Furthermore, after providing for all of your family members and other organizations as you wish, you may leave the residue of your estate to benefit the German-Texan Heritage Society. For example, Dr. Kelly Stevens not only left his home to the German-Texan Heritage Society but he left any residuary estate to the Society as well to help maintain the home that he so generously gave. Appropriate language in this regard would be "*I give the residue of my estate to the German-Texan Heritage Society.*"

Furthermore, a contingent bequest to the German-Texan Heritage Society provides that the Society will benefit only if a named beneficiary does not survive you. For example, a gift could be made to a spouse but if that spouse fails to survive, then a gift could be made to the German-Texan Heritage Society. Ways in which you can further your German-Texan heritage are only limited by your imagination. Should you desire help in this regard please contact the Gifts and Memorial Chairperson of the Society, Rodney C. Koenig, at (713) 651-5333.

# *Handbook and Registry* *of* *German-Texan Heritage, Volume II*

At the September 1991 German-Texan Heritage Society meeting in Corpus Christi, plans were announced to begin seeking materials to publish Volume II of the Registry. There is much more German-Texan heritage material out there waiting to be recorded.

The format for the next volume will follow that of Volume I. The categories remain the same, but the criteria are modified (see below). Material of the mid-1920s will be included as well as material with a history of less than one hundred years providing the subject had a proven impact on the community, on its culture or its heritage.

The example, the years of the 1920s denote a low point in the history of German-Texan culture and the German-American culture in general. This is the period of anti-German feelings which gained its momentum during World War I and carried over to the post-War years. During this time, many institutions disappeared, never to revive: German newspapers, social organizations, schools, even the use of the German language in public places. In many cases, the post-World War I years saw the topic of German culture forbidden for discussion at home and much German heritage expunged from memory.

As with our first volume, haste is the order of the day to capture the fading recollections. For further information, contact Patsy Hand, 417 Cottonwood St., Victoria, Texas 77904.

Please forward any and all information and materials to: German-Texan Heritage Society,  
P O Box 684171, Austin, TX 78768

## Categories:

- I. **Old Businesses** ----- Stores, banks, newspapers, mills, etc., founded before 1925 by German-Texans. Need not be under the original owner throughout its history.
- II. **Vereine** ----- Organizations founded before 1920, defunct or still active today, including agricultural, musical, literary, shooting clubs, etc., and/or their buildings.
- III. **Churches & Synagogues** ----- Congregations founded and/or buildings erected before 1925 by German-speaking people.
- IV. **Cemeteries** ----- Public, private and church cemeteries which primarily contain graves of German-Texans.
- V. **Schools** ----- Public, private and parochial schools founded before 1925 and/or their buildings.
- VI. **Farms & Ranches** ----- Homesteads of considerable size and/or significance developed before 1925 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 devoted to the 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,  
Monuments and Statues** ----- State of Texas historical markers, local plaques, monuments, statues, and National Register of Historic places and plaques pertaining to German-Texan heritage or history.





German-Texan Heritage Society / Capital Area Group

We have many new members and hope to see them at our monthly meetings and in between. - Thanks to the people who worked in the garden; ask for their names at the next meeting. The estate of Kelly Stevens is expected to be out of probate within days, and the entire contents of the house will belong to GTHS, from pots to pants to treasures of art. And now what!?! Big projects are ahead of us - One of the dogs passed away - The sprinkler system is installed in the garden and is waiting for something to sprinkle on. - Our Xmas good deed will be to decorate (with the German-Texan touch) the tree at the Ney Museum and possibly one at Northcross Mall; donations of hangable items are needed a.s.a.p. - Some members with special interest in genealogy would like to gang up for comfort and support; for more information call Charles Grabs, Jr., at 282-6720 - More news at our meetings:

Tuesday, 20 Oct., 92 - 7:30 pm - 507 E. 10th Street

From Hamburg to Texas in 1938 and other stories. Ambassador Herbert Spiro had to leave his native Germany as a teenager just before WWII and found a new home in San Antonio. In due time he earned among other things the Purple Heart, a Phi Beta Kappa key (really), an ambassadorship and the opportunity to teach a course at a German university on Texas politics.

Ambassador Spiro will take time out from his hectic campaign schedule to spend a non-political evening with us and reminisce in his charming way about his German-American and other experiences.

Tuesday, 17 Nov., 92 - 7:30 pm - 507 E. 10th Street

Bremerhaven and the New Emigration Museum. Dr. Ulrich Wagner, who is playing a major role in the development of that museum, is planning a special one-week trip to Austin with his talk (w/slides) to our group as the main event. Many immigrants left Germany through Bremerhaven, and a wealth of information might come to us from Dr. Wagner. The history of Bremerhaven itself is also interesting. Dr. Wagner's visit is a great honor to us.

If his trip is cancelled due to budget problems in Bremerhaven, we'll arrange for another program.

Saturday, 5 Dec. 92 - 6:30 pm - 507 E. 10th Street

't is the night before Nikolaustag, and St. Nick will bring candies to the good folks and switches to you bad guys (he would do that in the old country). It is our annual no-matter-what-the-weather-is-like-xmas-pot-luck-dinner-and-sing-along. Bring something nice to eat and an ornament to hang on our tree and consider it a gift to GTHS. Do you have a tree you can donate - dead or alive?

More requests: if you can't afford to donate a Xmas ornament, you might opt for a \$131 000.00 check (tax deductible) to buy the lot next to our building on 10th Street. (Price is "negotiable"). We need a parking lot. Maybe you know a person of that type of persuasion in our community. An upright piano in tunable condition would also be nice, and office furniture, a conference table for our future library,.....

Mit herzlichen Grüßen

*Helga von Schweinitz*  
441 - 2089

Generalkonsulat  
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland  
Consulate General  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Reference: RK 520.30/CZ-4r  
(When answering please quote)

Houston, Nov. 4, 1992

Mr. Rodney Koenig  
German Gulf Coast Association  
1301 McKinney, # 4100  
Houston, TX 77010

]

Re Claims to property and conversion of credit balance in the former GDR

Dear Mr. Koenig,

Please find enclosed a leaflet for your information. I would be grateful if it could be made public amount the German Community and your clubs.

Sincerely,



Anja Czarnotta  
Vice Consul

Generalkonsulat  
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland  
Consulate General  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Reference: RK 520.30/CZ-4r  
(When answering please quote)

Houston, November 4, 1992

**Public Announcement**

Re Claims to property and conversion of credit balances in the former GDR

- 1) Application for claims regarding re-assignments of real estate and other assets: **Deadline: December 31, 1992**
- 2) Termination of public sequestration of real estate in the former GDR on **December 31, 1992**
- 3) Application for claims regarding personal property in the former GDR: **Deadline: June 30, 1993**
- 4) Belated conversion of credit balances from Marks of the former GDR to DM: **Deadline prolonged til June 30, 1993**

To meet the deadline, the arrival at the competent authority in the Federal Republic of Germany is applicable (not at the German Embassy/Consulate Generals).

Information leaflets can be obtained by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany (address see below).

# Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor



1607 San Jacinto Blvd.

Austin, Texas 78701

November 1992

Dear friend,

The Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor will present their annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 16, 1992 at 2:30 pm in the Saengerrunde Hall at 1607 San Jacinto (next to Scholz Garten). The public is invited.

Old and new German carols will be sung by the Damenchor and the men's choir who will join the ladies in a mixed choir. This annual tradition also includes participation by the audience in singing well-known German tunes, ending with the all-time favorite "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht".

Throughout the years, this free concert has been enjoyed especially by the older generation. However, this year we are extending a special invitation to the young people. They are invited to refreshments and punch after the concert when they can meet the singers and the director Paula White.

We would appreciate your effort in encouraging your students to come and would appreciate your letting us know the approximate number in order to ensure sufficient provisions. Please contact Mrs. Lilly Torn at 926-8176 or Mrs. Amelia Mettke at 288-1994 by November 24.

We also would like for young ladies who are interested in upholding their German heritage and polishing their German language skills to join us. The rehearsals are on Monday evening at the Saengerrunde Hall at 7:00 (first Monday of each month) and 7:30 on all other Mondays and last until 8:30 to 9:00 pm. They will enjoy the direction of our vivacious Paula White and the "gemütliche" fellowship of the singers. For information call Mrs. Lilly Torn (926-8176). Students are exempt from the usual membership fees.

A "Sängerfest" will take place in Austin on May 16, 1993 at the Ben Hur Shrine Temple. Participating choirs come from Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. Rehearsals for this annual event will start in January. Each choir will perform a solo number and all choirs will perform in Damen-Massenchoirs, Men's Massen choir and a giant mixed Massenchoir. The public is invited to the free concert. Additional entertainment will be provided by the Round Top Brass Band. We hope that young people, male and female who trace their ancestry from Germany, will participate in this uplifting event.

Thank you for your attention to our request.

Very sincerely yours,

*Gera Hardeman, President*



CALENDAR NOTIFICATION

DATE: 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m., Sun. Oct. 4

(NOTE: An earlier notice from this office gave notice of an Oktoberfest on Oct. 3.; that event has been canceled by the Liederkranz.)

FORMAT: Each group performs one number for the enjoyment of all, then the ladies' mixed chorus, the men's mixed chorus and, at the finale, the combined mixed chorus of men and ladies perform. Food and drink is sold at the saengerfest.

TICKETS: Tickets are \$3 for adults; \$1 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be sold at the door or in advance by calling 512/945-5959. Seating is open.

LOCATION: Villita Assembly Hall

LIEDERKRANZ CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS:

The San Antonio Liederkranz was honored by a visit from the President of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker, at an earlier Centennial celebration--the Deutsch Texasisches-Saengerfest in May. The idea for von Weizsäcker's visit initiated in 1989 when the Liederkranz performed for the president at his Villa Hammerschmidt--the "German White House"--during their tour of Germany.

The final 1992 Centennial event for the San Antonio Liederkranz will be the Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 12 at McAllister Auditorium on the San Antonio College campus. A brass ensemble will accompany the choral group as it portrays the magic of Christmas through a program of German, English and Latin Christmas favorites. Tickets are \$6 in advance; \$7 at the door; \$4 for children 12 and under. Liederkranz wives and Associate members are free.

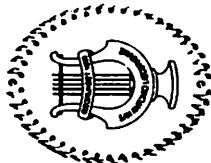
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Readers should call 512/945-5959.

We would appreciate it very much if you would let us know if you include this information in your publication so we can obtain a copy; you can leave a message for me at 512/945-5959 or call me collect at 512/496-6686. Again, do not hesitate to call me for additional information or photography needs.

Best regards,

*Jeanne Albrecht*

Jeanne Albrecht



San Antonio Liederkranz

Hundertjahrfeier - One Hundred Years

1892 - 1992

September 1, 1992

Dear Editor:

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President-1988

Paul D. Aschbacher  
President-1989

Please include the following information in your publication's calendar of events or entertainment section. If photographs, slides or additional information are needed, please call me at 512/496-6686.

EVENT: Gebirgs-Saengerfest -- a singing festival featuring choral presentations by the eight Gebirgs Saengerbund Texan-German singing societies in the Texas Hill Country area who alternatively sponsor the event: San Antonio Liederkranz, Salatrillo Liederkranz, Beethoven Maennerchor, Beethoven Damenchor and Hermann Soehne Gemischter Chor from San Antonio; Arion Maennerchor and Hermannsohn Gemischter Chor from Fredericksburg; and, Gesangverein Echo, Gemischter Chor Frohstinn and New Braunfels Maennl. chor from New Braunfels. The Austin Saengerunde, the Austin Saengerunde Damenchor and the Chorgemeinschaft also will participate.

The San Antonio Liederkranz is the host for the 1992 saengerfest; saengerfest chairman is Gary Covington.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION: The Liederkranz Sulz, a 126-year-old mixed choral organization from Sulz, Germany, will perform. The Liederkranz Sulz and the San Antonio Liederkranz are sister singing societies: the Sulz group housed the S.A. Liederkranz members when they visited Sulz during their tours of Germany in 1984 and 1989; the S.A. Liederkranz acted as hosts for the Sulz group in 1986 and will again this fall.

HOSTS: The 1992 Gebirgs-Saengerfest is sponsored by the San Antonio Liederkranz, a 100-year-old men's choral organization dedicated to the preservation of German culture in San Antonio and South Texas through music, song and cultural events. The choir was formed in 1892 as the choir for St. Joseph's Catholic Church and has since expanded into a singing society with members of all ethnic and religious backgrounds. The saengerfest is the fifth of six Centennial celebrations sponsored by the San Antonio Liederkranz in 1992.

East Texas Catholic (Diocese of Beaumont) Sept 25, 1993

## Retired Dallas auxiliary bishop dies at 93

MUENSTER (CNS) -- Retired Auxiliary Bishop Augustine Danglmayr of Dallas, one of the oldest U.S. bishops at age 93, died Sept. 18 at his home in Muenster.

Funeral services were held Sept. 21 in Dallas and Sept. 22 at his home parish of Sacred Heart in Muenster, northwest of Fort Worth.

Bishop Danglmayr, who served as auxiliary bishop to Dallas Bishop Joseph P. Lynch from 1942 to

1954, was buried next to his mother in Sacred Heart Parish Cemetery.

The bishop had marked his 70th anniversary as a priest June 2 with a Mass of thanksgiving and reception at Sacred Heart Church. On Oct. 7, he would have observed his 50th anniversary as a bishop.

Born Augustine Dangelmayr on Dec. 11, 1898, on a farm near Muenster, he later dropped the "e" from the spelling of his name.

He received his early education at the Winterfield School, a one-room country school in the pasture near his home. He later attended Sacred Heart School in Muenster, Subiaco Academy and Subiaco College in Subiaco, Ark., Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis and St. Mary's Seminary in La Porte.

Shortly after his ordination on June 10, 1922, Father Danglmayr was appointed assistant to the rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral. In 1923, he was made chancellor.

He served the diocese in numerous capacities and was appointed vicar general of the diocese in 1941.

Named a bishop in 1942, he served under Bishop Lynch. As the prelate's health declined, Bishop Danglmayr assumed almost all of the duties of the diocese.

In February 1954, he was appointed founding pastor of St. Monica Parish and served there until his retirement in 1962. He ministered at Muenster Memorial Hospital and area nursing homes until an accident in 1985 confined him to his home.

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

## Lindeman traced history of family

Milton Richard Lindeman worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone for 40 years.

He also served as first vice president of the San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society. Lindeman also belonged to the New Braunfels and Kendall County historical societies.

Lindeman died Sunday of heart failure at his home. He was 71.

"He was a wonderful, wonderful man," said his wife, Mary Jo Lindeman.

Born in San Antonio on Sept. 19, 1920, he graduated from Brackenridge High School.

Lindeman began working for Southwestern Bell when he was 19, digging holes for poles. He stayed with the company the rest of his professional life except for an 11-year hiatus during World War II.

### Joined Army in 1942

He joined the Army on Sept. 28, 1942, in San Antonio and was a technical instructor in wire communications.

He was awarded a Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal and a Good Conduct Medal while stationed at Fort Sill, Okla.

Lindeman married Berma C. Humbel in the early 1940s. She preceded him in death. He married Mary Jo Hagerman Kirk on June 11, 1988.

An avid genealogist for more than 20 years, Lindeman traced his family tree to the 16th cen-



Milton R. Lindeman worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone for 40 years.

tury. He learned that his family came from the same ancestry as Martin Luther's in the town of Eisleben, Germany.

As well as being a vice president of the genealogical society, Lindeman served the society by donating and rebinding books in the society's 9,000-volume library.

Additional survivors are several nieces and nephews.

Services were scheduled at 11 a.m. Wednesday at MacArthur Park Lutheran Church with the Rev. John Cooke officiating. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Park.

*San Antonio Express-News  
Fri Oct 9, 1992*

## Former German chief Brandt dies at age 78

Associated Press

BONN, Germany — Willy Brandt, the former West German chancellor who won the Nobel Peace Prize for seeking better East-West relations during the Cold War, has died, sources from his Social Democratic Party said Friday. He was 78.

Brandt died Thursday, the sources said. (Oct. 8, 1992)

Brandt, who served as chancellor from 1969 to 1974, was the archi-

tect of the detente policy known as Ostpolitik and won the 1971 Nobel Peace Prize.

He was mayor of Berlin in 1960 when Communist East Germany built the Berlin Wall, and he stood next to John F. Kennedy when the president made his famous "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech.

The cause of Brandt's death was not immediately known, but he had been suffering from intestinal cancer for more than a year and had undergone two operations.



# Berlin paying tribute to Dietrich

Scripps Howard Service

**BERLIN** — Berlin, the city that Marlene Dietrich fled in protest and which snubbed her in response, now is rehabilitating the diva with a series of stage tributes.

More than four months after her death, artists are ignoring nationalistic criticism of Berlin-born Dietrich and preparing a series of musical extravaganzas and plays highlighting her career.

On Saturday, actors and singers from Berlin's theater world will stage "My Name is Marlene Dietrich . . . Texts and Songs of a Berliner," under the artistic direction of Helmut Baumann. It will include readings of her memoirs plus songs, anecdotes and sketches from her time in Berlin and Holly-

wood. A similar homage scheduled to coincide with Dietrich's burial was canceled, ostensibly because there was no time to organize it.

In fact, the idea met only a lukewarm response from Dietrich's German contemporaries, many of whom think of her as a traitor to the fatherland, and from younger artists.

"This is our way of saying 'Sorry' to Marlene," said Annette Barner of the Deutsches Theater, which is holding the performance. "We want to show Marlene that she was loved in Berlin."

British director Terry Hands began auditions this week for a musical, "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" based on her life.

The tributes are unlikely to silence Dietrich's critics. Even after her death, she is condemned for donning a foreign uniform and fighting against Germany.



DIETRICH

"I felt responsibility for the war Hitler carried out," she once said. "I wanted to play my part in bringing the war to an end as soon as possible. That was my only wish."

During World War II she performed as many as four or five shows a day for Allied soldiers.

The modern controversy surrounding Dietrich has less to do with her than with people's attitudes toward being German.

"Marlene held a mirror up to the Germans and made them look at themselves. Many didn't like that," says German rock singer Ulla Meinecke.

Even during Berlin's heady days in 1960, when the city was heavily dependent on an Allied presence for survival, Dietrich's visit was marred by demonstrators holding up signs reading "Marlene Go Home" and "You Ratted on the Fatherland."

Poignantly, the man who ush-

ered her into the eerie chamber of West Berlin's town hall was none other than then-Mayor Willy Brandt, who also sought exile from the Nazis and incurred the wrath of many self-righteous Germans.

"Brandt is the example of how ridiculous this allegation is. In fact, Brandt and Dietrich both represent the better Germany," says Martin Loer of Berlin's Academy of Arts.

The moral dilemma of whether to stay and fight or go into exile has parallels with the present day. Scores of eastern German artists now are criticized for having, indirectly supported the Communists by not fleeing.

Dietrich surely would have had a biting response. Autonomy, and integrity were her hallmark when faced with authority or ill-placed moral indignation.

Almost every day, posies of fresh flowers are laid at her simple grave.

"There is a feeling of how touching and wonderful it is that she wanted to be buried here in Berlin," says Loer.

The flowers are as much a mark of respect as a protest at the voices that harp on about betrayal.

As one graveside visitor put it, "If anyone thinks because she is buried, she can't do anything, they are mistaken."

FREDERICKSBURG STANDARD-RADIO POST,

WED., AUGUST 15, 1990

## Ney Sculpture Marks Grave

For Local Pioneer Woman

Fredericksburg's oldest cemetery -- Der Friedhof (formerly called City Cemetery) -- contains the grave of a pioneer woman that is marked with the only tombstone ever carved by famed sculptress Elisabeth Ney.

The winged cherub with chin resting on gracefully folded arms is placed at the head of the grave of Elizabeth Emma Schnerr, nee Schneider, who was born Feb. 18, 1827, and died Oct. 26, 1903, and is said to be the last piece sculpted by the famed sculptress.

Upon Mrs. Schnerr's death, her husband was so grieved he searched for an appropriate marker. He ordered one, but did not like it and it was discarded. According to Esther Mueller's account in *Pioneers In God's Hills*, Elisabeth Ney, upon hearing his story, created the only tombstone she ever sculpted. He liked the little angel with its fine workmanship which he felt was just right for Emma's grave because, "she was always an angel to me."

Elisabet Ney was born in Germany Jan. 26, 1833, where she was way ahead of her time as a liberated woman who sought and gained admittance into the leading all-male art academy. She became famous and sculpted in marble some of the leading figures of her time in Europe, such as Schopenhauer, Garibaldi, Bismarck and King Ludwig II of Bavaria. She came to America in 1871 and to Texas in 1873. Here she sculpted in marble such men as Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin and other Texas heroes, as well as the orator William Jennings Bryan.

When she died in 1907, she left a legacy of mystery, romance and idealism, as well as evidence of her rich talent shown in the sculpture she created.





# Curiosity translates into career

By MICHELE MEYER

Houston Chronicle

Monday, Aug. 31, 1992

Nosiness got the better of Denise Heap — and she's better for it.

She studied German after her immigrant great-grandfather Martin Sahs died, leaving behind a diary and letters in his native tongue. No one in the family could read them.

"I was nosy; I wanted to know what they said," Heap recalls.

The then seventh-grader was hooked on German since reading one of Sahs' letters to his sister. The great-aunt burst into tears with gratitude after learning she had not been snubbed by a starving family she had helped during World War II.

"That's the power of languages: to be able to understand people better."

Heap, 37, now makes her living by translating documents so that local businesses can communicate with their home offices in other countries. She and her contracted translators work out of their homes deciphering legal, financial and technical documents for 60 clients in more than 20 languages.

What sets Translations Verbatim apart from many of the nearly 60 translating businesses in Houston is its range of languages. Her crew translates Arabic, Croatian, Turkish, Slovenian, Vietnamese, Czech, Danish, French, German, Hungarian, Romanian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Italian, Norwegian, Swedish, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

German is Translations Verbatim's mainstay, making up more than 60 percent of the business. More than 100 local companies have links to Germany, including Siemens AG, a high-tech telecommunications firm, and Mannesmann Pipe and Steel.

Heap decided to branch out on her own after having worked her way up over nine years from a three-day temporary to the secretary controller for a German-linked oil company here. "I decided I could do something safe — or something fun," she says.

Heap went for the fun but says she learned the hard way the importance of marketing, the challenges of being everything from the CEO to the janitor, and the expense of launching a business.

She admits that she wouldn't have started her own company if she had known how difficult it would be. "Fortunately, no one told me."

Nor did anyone mention how there's no rhyme or reason to translating, she says. "I'll get 10 jobs all in one day and then nothing for a week."

Documents can take up to a week to translate. She also writes a newsletter, takes care of the finances and drums up business through letters and phone calls.

Heap, who is fluent in German and English, hires translators she finds through computer bulletin boards and friends.

Her technical German translator is Austrian, a French translator is Lebanese, and both a Spanish and Russian translator are Americans. The Spanish translator was raised by her missionary parents in Bolivia, and the Russian one is married to a Russian she met while on an academic scholarship in his homeland.

Languages are only one of the translators' varied skills. One studies philosophy, while the others work full time in the fine arts, medicine, business and other fields.

Their varied backgrounds are essential. One day's challenge may be translating a legal document, the next, finding a new translator for a new language. If Heap could find someone who spoke Haitian Creole, she would be able to fill the order of an insurance company that hopes to market to Haitians in Miami.

Some assignments she rejects without hesitation, like one businessman's request that she claim that a translation said something in his best interest rather than the truth.

The most fascinating translations often are old letters people bring in from their ancestors. Heap has learned more about Hitler-occupied Germany from such letters than from history books. It was eerie, however, to realize how in the dark some writers were in the 1930s. "You think, 'That's not really what was going on,' but you can't tell them — they're dead," she says.

Sometimes the way a phrase is worded is as revealing as its message, says Susan Haroun, who translates Arabic and French for Heap. The native of Lebanon used to take her Arabic for granted, but now finds it amusing how the language uses a lot more words to say something than English.

People sometimes learn the hard way not to plow into an unknown foreign language, says Spanish translator Laura Wolf. "Words that sound similar but have completely different meanings can get confusing and embarrassing. For instance, instead of saying, 'We're going to ordain the minister,' they say, 'We're going to milk the minister.'"

The difference: The tilde ( ~ ) atop the "n" in the word *ordenar* changes ordain to milk.

Sometimes a little translation and a lot of patience go a long way. Once when Heap tried to reach the German-speaking lawyer who worked for a company in Slovenia, the Italian-speaking secretary was the only one in.

"I got out my Italian dictionary and we tried to communicate with my tiny, tiny bit of Italian and her tiny, tiny bit of English. You can communicate when you have to."

She may be improvising yet again with Slovenia: Her translator, a native of Croatia and a philosophy student, is moving to Norway.

Heap's secret weapon, besides tenacity and her arsenal of translators,

is her facsimile machine. It gurgles, hums and blinks all day long with orders and communication between translator and client. The machine sits in the back room of her tree-shaded home in Spring Valley.

One would never know from the outside of the white brick house that an international business is carried on within. The only clue inside are the international flags and mugs and the preponderance of German dictionaries. The home office behind her living room contains a wood-burning stove, pottery and a stuffed toy as well as a computer, a printer and business documents.

Heap admits a longing to abandon everything and move to Germany. She used to visit yearly.

"I fell in love with the simplicity of lifestyle," she said. "It's still the way people used to be like here 30 or 40 years ago. Not everybody has a TV or dishwasher, and it's not important. Things are not what defines the people."

## High School German Teachers Foster German-American Studies

During the SGAS Annual Symposium at Lawrence KS, Margaret Mills of Norwood Highwood High School in Ohio presented strategies and successes from efforts to introduce the German-American Studies into the middle and high school curricula. Conclusion: Success depends on community-wide involvement which will yield a harvest of strongly increased German language student enrollments. Contact Mills at 119063 Paul Meadows Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249 for a starter package.

## Charles Sealsfield Conference Planned — Call for Papers

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the death of the American novelist Charles Sealsfield, the Sealsfield Society has scheduled a conference for October 12-15, 1993 at the Schiller Museum in Marbach near Stuttgart. Its theme: "Amerika und Europa in der Biedermeierzeit. Interkulturelle Wirklichkeiten im Werk von Charles Sealsfield". Papers as well as names of guests that should be invited are solicited. Contact: Franz Schüppern, Charles Sealsfield-Gesellschaft, D-469 Herne 1, Grenzweg 34, Germany.

# Ingenhuett Store spans 125 years, and still humming

**G**REGORY KRAUTER is a member of the fifth generation of the German-American family who has operated the Ingenhuett Store in Comfort since it was established 125 years ago.

Gregory tells us on the telephone that the family believes the store is the oldest general store in continuous operation in Texas.

"That's what we tell people, and we haven't been challenged yet," he says.

Even knowing this fact in advance, we are still a bit surprised at some of the sights we encounter when we arrive at the store.

The first item to catch our eye is an old-fashioned kitchen-match holder advertising the name and telephone number of another store.

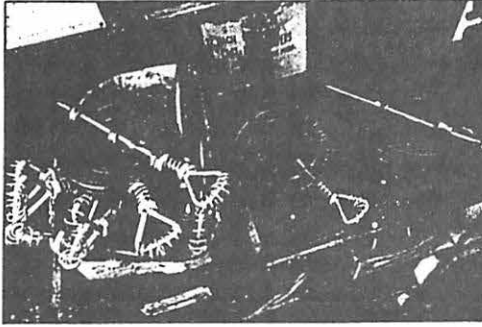
The telephone number was 76.

That's right. Two digits.

If that boggles your mind, as it does ours, consider the possibility that the people who called the store probably didn't have to punch 1 for hardware, 2 for canned goods, 3 for toiletries, or 4 to have the punch instructions repeated.

The telephone, in fact, even may have been answered by a real person.

So here we are — we've been inside the Ingenhuett Store only a minute or two, and the



*The Ingenhuett Store mixes history with present-day demand. Parts for wood-burning stoves share space with underwear, washtubs and combread pans.*



**Tommy West**

**SOUTH TEXAS SPIRIT**

contained a post office.

One of his sons, Paul Ingenhuett, took over the store in 1891. His only son, Peter C. Ingenhuett, took over in 1921. He directed the operation until 1955.

Today, the store is operated by Peter's daughter, Gladys, her husband, James Krauter, and their son, Gregory.

OK — that's a brief outline of the store's history. We wanted to get it out of the way, because we quickly discovered that this

place is a far cry from a museum. It is no stoic showplace for mercantile artifacts. No way.

This store is humming.

Gregory, the unofficial family historian, tells us when we arrive that it will be awhile before he can talk with us, because he has customers lined up, waiting for service.

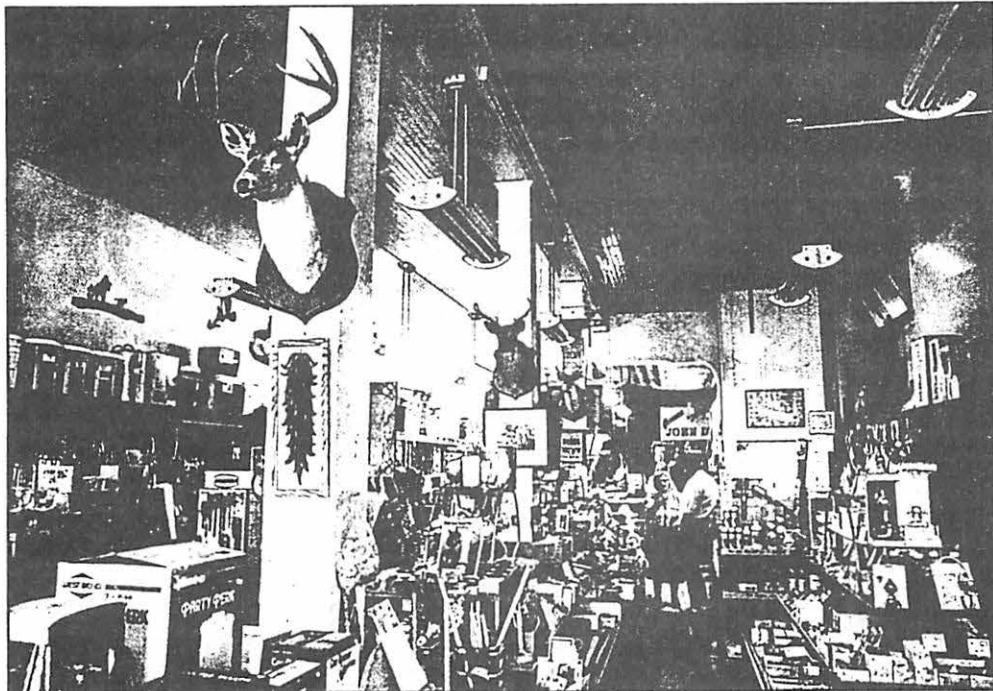
And so we begin to roam the aisles, and as we do, we notice that the inventory itself reflects

*Continued on next page*

pages of our notebook are still fresh and blank, and already we're pretty far back in time.

We know from the literature we've seen that the Ingenhuett Store was founded in 1867 and that Peter Joseph Ingenhuett assumed sole ownership the next year.

Over the next quarter of a century or so, Peter established a hotel, saloon, livery stable, opera house and cotton yard. He added a private banking operation to the store, which also



*Established 125 years ago, the Comfort store still is a thriving enterprise today.*

San Antonio Express-News Magazine ■ Sunday, August 14, 1992



a rich history and, at the same time, a modern, day-to-day demand.

For instance, the Fruit of the Loom underwear and the Hanes Gripper boxer shorts are displayed across an aisle from the No. 3 washtubs.

New Levi's are just across from washboards and coal buckets.

Trash and gasoline cans are near the parts for electrical fences and the medicine for foot rot and ringworm.

There are combread pans (muffins or sticks), sausage grinders, rolls of chain and screen, and parts — plus an operation manual — for De Laval cream separators and milk clarifiers.

Two 14-step wooden ladders, mounted on wheels, stand ready to provide access to items on shelves too high to otherwise reach.

One wall has hundreds of small cubicles for plow parts and combine parts and binder parts.

"Lots of them are empty now — they just hold dust. May I help you?"

We were so caught up in our exploration that we didn't see the woman approaching. It is Gladys.

Gladys tells us Gregory is still busy with customers. She offers to show and tell us what she can until Gregory is available.

"He's my historian," she says.

Gladys calls our attention to a display of John Deere tractor parts.

"Most people buy parts to restore old tractors, but a few get them for tractors they're still working with," she says. "They come in with their old part, or they know what they want, or they come in and browse."

As Gladys talks about tractor parts, she mentions specifically the Model H John Deere, one of the smaller models. She says her father bought her one about 50 years ago and that it's in a storage shed behind the store.

"He said, 'If you want to fly, you're gonna have to mow your own runway.'"

*Excuse us?*

Taken aback momentarily by Gladys' out-of-the-blue declaration, we ask her to please explain what in the blazes she's talking about — in almost a breath, we have gone from tractors to airplanes. Apparently.

Gladys explains.

"I got my pilot's license when I was 19 — I was the first native-born Hill Country woman to get a pilot's license — make sure you say 'native-born,'" she cautions.

"I always wanted to fly. When I was 7, my mother's first cousin, Harold Morgenstern from Massachusetts, came down here in his plane to visit his mother, and he gave me and my brother a ride. And that was it! I was hooked. I remember taking off — that was the best part. Back in 1929, it was."

Gladys leads us to a display case of old family photographs and points to one taken around 1941. She is standing beside an airplane.

"It's a Piper cruiser," she says. "My father bought it for me."

Of all things, Gladys wants to discuss a special starter her father bought her for the plane.

"You'd just wind it up 23 times and pow! (She makes a gesture like a quick right uppercut.) You're ready. You didn't have to worry about the propeller. Nowadays, you look at a pickup, and you know how everything's extra? That starter was extra. But it was the best thing on the plane."

Gladys tells us that one day she and her instructor were flying over the area and the instructor spotted a field not far from downtown Comfort that he thought would make a good landing strip.

"It was pretty close to some houses, but I could pow! (Another uppercut.) I could go right between them."

That was when Gladys got the tractor and mowed her runway.

"I'm not flying anymore," she tells us. "I'm 70 years old."

We ask her when she stopped flying.

"When I got married," she says. "I had my fun before that."

As we tour the store, Gladys tells us that the section containing the tractor parts and the bins and the tall ladders is the original structure, and that it included upstairs living quarters. The part with the checkout stand, the meat counter and most of the groceries was built in 1900. Years later, she says, a third section was added to the rear of the original structure. She's not sure when the third section was added.

"Gregory!" she shouts. But he's still busy with customers.

"He's my historian," Gladys tells us again.

Gladys finally decides the rear addition was built during the 1920s.

The store has so many old, intriguing items — things you just don't see much anymore — that we ask Gladys what, in her opinion, is the most unusual thing in the store.

"The elevator," she says.

That seems strange — we've been all through the store and — elevator? — we didn't see one.

"It's over here," she says, leading us into the original section, where she opens a door and reveals a small, square compartment.

"The elevator was part of the original building," Gladys says. "I'll tell you how we found that out."

She says her father was born in the upstairs living quarters and that, when he was about 9 years old, he got sick. A boyhood friend and his father came to visit.

"They brought a chicken to Papa," she says.

Years later, a question arose about the age and origin of the elevator, and the family contacted the father's boyhood friend.

"He said they rode up on the elevator — and that's how we know the elevator was here," she says.

Although the elevator operates by motor now, it didn't always.

"You had a real big pulley — it's still upstairs — and you just pulled yourself up, just like water out of a well," Gladys says.

Suddenly, Gladys takes off on another subject as we scramble to keep up in our notebook.

"Old Pancho Villa watered his horse out at the trough behind the house," Gladys says. "My grandmother sat on the balcony and saw him. He told her who he was, and she wrote it in her diary. How else would we know it? She wrote in her diary in German every day. She said he was the neatest man — he even wanted to pay for the water. They say Pancho Villa never came up this far north, but that's bull."

We start toward the front of the store, to check on Gregory, and Gladys laments that the old family

name is dying — at least in its affiliation with the store.

She says there are a couple of nephews with the Ingenhuett name but they are ranchers.

In a moment of mental blankness, or perhaps idiocy, we forget that Gregory's last name is Krauter, not Ingenhuett, and we ask if he is married.

"No," Gladys replies. "But he had a date the other night."

Well, we're glad we asked the question, dumb as it was, but we're not too sure how glad Gregory will be.

James has rounded the end of an aisle and joins us now. He makes a sweeping gesture, as if to encompass the entire store, and declares:

"You know what I like? No computers."

We not only write the statement in our notebook, we underline it.

Gladys takes over from there.

"When the electricity goes off, our doors still open. Our register keeps going. Everything keeps going, except the lights. But we have enough lights from the windows."

James tells us to ask Gladys about when her grandfather, Paul, ran the store.

"He counted as one of his customers Judge Roy Bean," James says.

Gladys says that, when Judge Bean hauled wool to San Antonio, he would stop at the store along the way.

Pancho Villa and Judge Roy Bean — pretty tall company. We ask Gladys if the store has had any other famous customers.

She says there was one more.

"One day I looked out the front door, and Gary DeLaune was down the street. I hollered, and he waved at me. He was doing a story on the museum. I recognized him — he looked young then."

Suddenly we feel a bit overwhelmed. When we arrived at the Ingenhuett Store, we halfway expected to find some solemn hallowed hall, with a lot of sections roped off, and a properly monotoned curator in bonnet and high button shoes.

But we found Gladys. And already her stories are spilling over the pages of our notebook. And we still haven't gotten to Gregory, the historian — Gladys reports that he's still waiting on customers.

It seems a good time to take a break. We tell Gladys we'd like to step outside and smoke a cigarette.

"You can smoke in here," she says. "We sell cigarettes. We're not hypocrites."

That does it. Cream separators. An old tractor that mowed a runway. Pancho Villa. An elevator that the riders themselves pulled up. The first native-born Hill Country woman to get a pilot's license. Judge Roy Bean. And now a place where you can smoke indoors.

It seems as if we've wandered into a time warp and, the fact is, we don't want to leave. But somewhere there's always a deadline, and an editor to enforce it.

We hate to leave without getting more history of the store from Gregory. But we figure that will be a good excuse to come back for another visit some day.

So we crush out our Old Gold filter, adjust our scarf and goggles, and continue to wind the starter . . . 19 . . . 20 . . . 21 . . .

H.S.  
 "Sie müssen das Trinken aufgeben", mahnt der Arzt. „Ihre Blutprobe hat sich verflüchtigt, bevor ich sie untersuchen konnte.“



## ARNING TELLS HER STORY

The following article appeared in a December 1968 edition of THE TAYLOR DAILY PRESS, TAYLOR, TEXAS, following an interview with Henrietta Remmert Arning while a resident of the S.P.J.S.T. Rest Home in Taylor. It is shared by Edmund and Irene Arning, Taylor, son and daughter-in-law of Henrietta Arning. The Taylor Daily Press has kindly consented to the reprint and Leonora Stoll Wolf, and husband, Carl F. Wolf, members of GTHS, share this article with the membership. This then, is the life story from Henrietta Remmert Arning who was born in Austin County, Texas. Henrietta Arning died in March 1973 at age 98.

I was born June 29, 1874 at Nelsonville, Austin County, which was a Czech-German settlement. My parents were Fritz Remmert and Sophie Brandt, both born in Germany, mother probably in Hanover. At age 14 Fritz Remmert left for England in search of livelihood and found a job at a large hotel, one of several youths, wheeling left-over food on four-wheel carts. This was the food left on trays by the hotel guests and the employed youths wheeled the food unto a certain street where the poor undernourished children were eagerly awaiting. The food disappeared quickly, not a morsel was left.

At about this same time Sophie Brandt was being apprenticed as a seamstress in Germany. She became quite adept at this and soon began making good money at sewing. She herself wore good clothes; I remember her in a lovely cape.

A few years after Fritz Remmert and Sophie Brandt married, Fritz decided there was no future for them in Germany. Father worked on a farm, the owner took all the profit and there was no chance to get ahead. In 1868, after the Civil War, they set sail for America with their two children, boys ages one and three years. All this was against mother's wish who did not want to leave friends and country for an uncertain future.

They were on a sailing vessel 3-1/2 months. It was a long, weary voyage especially for the two little ones. The grey days were endless and the monotony of the daily routine chafed the nerves of all passengers. The food on board ship was apportioned each morning for the entire day and ran heavily to dark bread which hunger drove them to eat.

Their passage money had been sent them by the Emshoff family who lived at Kenney in Washington County, a small community perhaps 7 miles southwest of Brenham. My father's older brother and sister had come to America earlier and both married into the Emshoff family; the older brother was in the Civil War and was shot through the arm, which however did not cripple him.

My parents became established quickly and commenced working off their indenture. They lived in a log cabin. All the cooking was done over an open fire and at the clay coated chimney oven. Hooks were fastened over the fireplace and on these hung the iron pots or dutch ovens. All the breads were baked in these iron pots set into hot coals.

My mother, who had a comparatively good life in Hanover, Germany as a seamstress, found the pioneering life in Texas uncompromising and longed to return. My father, however, loved America. He had it far better here where vast opportunities were presented to the enterprising. He rented land for a number of years from Mr. Emshoff.

In 1880 when I was 6 years old, Papa purchased a farm two miles north of Nelsonville, having accumulated enough to fulfill his cherished dream. The land was from a Mrs. Lord whose husband had died. One of the neighborhood families was giving her trouble, wanting the land for themselves. They went so far as to dash swiftly by her home on horseback shooting the while into the house; in the dining room door were several bullet holes as mute testimony.

After purchasing the land, Papa had trouble with the same man who was also allowing his cattle to roam over neighborhood crops. My father told the man to fix his fences but the man got angry at my father and soon returned to our place on horseback and pulled out a gun on my father. Through the window my

mother saw the drama, grabbed her own little pistol, rushed outside while at the same time stuffing in the gunpowder. Quickly the hammer and cap were in readiness and from the doorstep she spoke her ultimatum, "You shoot my husband and I shall surely kill you."

The farmers got together to build a one room school house, a box-like school which held a wood stove and not much else. They dug a well near by. The enrollment was about 25. We were taught in English having the German translation alongside. We had no trouble learning English since we had a lot of negro help and learned from them. Our mother also learned to speak English.

The teachers were a Mr. Ligowitz and later a Mr. Schram; students assisted with the younger children; John Arning, my classmate and who later became my husband, became a regular assistant.

We attended school in the winter months only and then until after all the field work had been done. Mother would throw shawls over our shoulders pinning these with safety pins; gave us our tin lunch pails and sent us on our way. The lunch pails were father's emptied tobacco buckets. Our lunches were good since many hogs were raised. Sausage and ham was in abundance and home made bread and butter were always alongside in the tins.

Our schooling was very limited. We learned to work early, hard work was all I ever knew. At age eleven we were yanked out of school in the spring to chop cotton and in the fall of the year we didn't start school until all the cotton was harvested.

Our mother hung flour sacks over our shoulders with an improvised shoulder strap and took us to the field with herself including the six and seven year olds. Mother took the middle row with a child on either side and taught the art of picking cotton. In the fall when the leaf worms ate the tender leaves of the top crop, the cotton bolls were exposed to full view enabling us to pick even by moonlight. No one believed in hiring help when not absolutely necessary even though labor was cheap. Both white and negro laborers were eager to work for board and sleep and a little bit.

Anglo-Americans owned all the land in this area when my parents arrived. Some held vast pasturelands. They had negroes doing all the work which they'd oversee on horseback. They did not cultivate any land. Cattle was 'their livelihood. After the Czech and German people began establishing the area, clearing the land, growing and cultivating crops, resentment welled as the vast pasturelands commenced dwindling and row cropping took a strong hold. Within a relatively short period the lands changed hands becoming the property of the newcomers.

My neighborhood friends were Agnes and Mollie Dooley. A Mrs. Colbert also a neighbor owned a large tract of land and visited back and forth with my mother. I recall once when she came my mother served her fresh yeast bread, butter and coffee. When my mother returned the visit she took her young son along. Mrs. Colbert asked her negro servant to bake a cake; my little brother ate piece after piece so mother reprimanded him and Mrs. Colbert said, "Oh, let him enjoy the cake; it isn't near as good as the fresh yeast bread and butter we ate at your home."

At Nelsonville the Czech people built a lodge hall and here we had gatherings and dances; we rode horseback side-saddle to the dances wearing long riding skirts. My older sister rode so well she could outride any boy. We had our biggest fun at their masquerade balls. This was about 1889 and I was 15 years old and to this day I remember distinctly the costume "day and night" worn by           

           Matejka...one side of costume was white, the other half black.            Matejka later married Richard Koepke who was a clerk at the Wolfe and Lewis Stores and who later became a dentist, establishing an office in Bartlett, Texas. My other very close Czech friends were the Esterak girls and Albina Schiller Matejka whose daughter married the Dr. Koepke.

At this time Nelsonville consisted of two stores, the Wolfe and the Lewis (which were later purchased by Mr. Matejka), a blacksmith shop and a saloon. The two doctors at Nelsonville were Dr. Thomas and Dr. McGregor.

I married John Arning when I was 21, he was 23. We lived on my father's farm for six years and by that time my brothers who were three and six years younger than I were ready to work on their own so my husband and I moved in 1901 to Williamson County at the offer of Mr. Arning's uncle to rent us a farm. The place was 6 miles east of Taylor. Here we lived for 6 years and by that time in 1907 had accumulated enough to purchase our own farm. This was an 86 acre farm at Thrall and the going price was \$90.00 an acre from a Mr. Darlington, a large land owner. There was no house at all on the place, not even a well had been dug. Friends in the neighborhood offered us the use of their labor house until our own house would be raised. We had earlier searched for land at Kennedy in Rusk County but water was hard to find.

Mr. Arning priced lumber in Taylor, found it too high so he went to East Texas where he made a deal with Mr. Atkinson, owner of a lumber mill. Mr. Atkinson agreed to ship the lumber to Thrall and leave the box car there at a siding for as long as it was needed. Then Mr. Arning found a contractor to supervise the building, all our neighbors at Thrall came to help raise the house, the barn, the smokehouse, mule pen, hog shed, chicken house and a long shed for implements. The board walk was laid to the water well which had been dug earlier. The garden and the yard were enclosed with palings; a wooden trough at the water well carried water to the cattle in the pens.

Our neighbors were Priesmeyers, Werchans, Summers. They did not weary of the work and did all that muddy winter's work without any charge. Despite the rain, the work progressed, two rooms, dining room kitchen and pantry gradually evolved. The labor house in which we were living that winter was 2 or 3 miles distant and here with the big help of my mother-in-law ( note added: this was the Wilhelmine Bosse Arning, wife of Christina H. Arning) we prepared food for the men. We cleaned fryers, hens and turkeys...we baked either turkey, ham or hens daily as we did the bread; there were sausages, potatoes, and vegetables....it was a very busy kitchen. We had a negro boy hired to drive two teams across those muddy field roads to carry the prepared food to the carpentering men. Later one of the men said "I never ate as much turkey and ham as that winter."

The oil boom in Thrall was on at the time of our purchase, and cotton which had been 5 cents and 6 cents a pound rose to 10 cents a pound. We made good money that first year on our farm and bought our first ice box.

Our son Otto was born ten years after our marriage. Our second son was born ten years later...our first child had died.

Mr. Arning was a good worker and he also liked to trade. I too worked hard, I could work well right alongside of my husband, but we enjoyed every bit of it. I sometimes think back on how hard we worked, but we didn't work as hard as my mother.

Within eleven years an agent offered to trade with us on a larger farm; by this time we had our farm paid up and were lending out money. We purchased the offered 119 acres paying \$200. an acre difference. Cotton was now bringing an all-time high of 40 cents a pound so we had no trouble paying it out. Also with the oil boom in Thrall bringing in so many men into the Thrall-Taylor area we had a ready market for any produce such as butter, cream, eggs, chickens and vegetables. This farm was very foul with the wire grass, it had been rented out to a family which was not industrious and who allowed the obnoxious weeds to get out of hand. That family owned only two teams and one wagon and soon as the sun began bearing down they could be counted on to be seen lying or sitting upon their cotton sacks.

Once when my parents came from Nelsonville to visit us my father inquired, "John, how do you stand on your buy?" I beat my husband with the quick, happy reply "Papa, we don't owe anything on this farm anymore." We later invested into a farm at Jonah which we rented out but it brought little rent in turn so we sold it.

We hold family reunions at Brenham. I'm always the oldest one at this. My older sister lived to be 87. Mr. John Arning lived to be 89; he died in 1961 having been born in 1872.

A log cabin which earlier housed the slaves stood near the kitchen. Within this cabin were housed the spinning wheels. Beyond the kitchen there was a sort of shed which housed a huge hand hewn trough chiseled out of a solid tree trunk. Papa made good use of it for salting down the meat, bacon and ham. The milk house stood next to the kitchen and near by was the deep well, some 40 feet deep, from which we drew cold, sparkling water. In the milk house was another huge hand hewn trough. This one was cut out of a huge block of stone about the size of a twin bed and perhaps 27 or 30 inches deep with a stopper at the bottom. Into this trough we carried the fresh cold water into which mother then set pans of milk, butter, cream, buttermilk and perhaps fresh meats. It was our job to pull the stopper and refill with fresh water. That rock trough was still there when my parents retired and moved to Brenham. The wooden trough Papa gave to his younger brother. This was the Lord's place.

Note added by Leonora Stoll Wolf. Henrietta Remmert Arning was the daughter of Fritz Remmert and Sophie Brandt. Fritz Remmert and Sophie Brandt Remmert were charter members of St. Jacobi Gemeinde (now St. James Lutheran Church at New Wehdem, Texas). The following information is found in the ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH NEW WEHDEM 1869-1969 CENTENNIEL PUBLICATION: "In the summer of 1869 services were held in the homes of F. W. Meyer, Christian Ringener and Wm. Remmert by Pastor Lieb from Salem. On Nov. 7, 1869, the congregation was organized with 15 charter members with the aid of Pastor Lieb. The following are charter members:.....Wm. Remmert....Fritz Meiske.....Fritz Remmert. These few members, each representing a family, showed faith and courage and immediately thought in terms of their own church, parsonage and school." ( Underlining of Fritz Remmert name by Leonora S. Wolf).

★

*Lieber ein Haar in der Suppe als Suppe im Haar. H-S*

★

H-S.

Ein Franzose, ein Deutscher  
und ein Schotte haben jeder  
eine Fliege im Weinglas.  
Der Franzose schüttet den  
Wein weg. Der Deutsche nimmt  
die Fliege heraus und trinkt.  
Der Schotte hält die Fliege  
hoch, lässt sie über dem Wein-  
glas zappeln und sagt: "Spuckst  
du wohl aus!"



# Comfort inn tangles with hotel chain over use of name

By Leslie Hicks  
Express-News Business Writer

**COMFORT** — A 112-year-old South Texas bed and breakfast is wrangling with a U.S. hotel giant over the six-room property's name.

The Comfort Common, 45 miles northwest of San Antonio, has been challenged by Choice Hotels International Inc. over its use of a name to which the larger company claims a trademark.

Choice Hotels of Silver Spring, Md., operates seven hotel chains in 29 nations, including Comfort Inns, suites and resorts. Of those, there are 38 in Texas bearing the "Comfort" name.

In a letter dated July 31, the company accused the Comfort Common of "unfair competition, trademark and service mark infringement."

**'Cease and desist'**

And it demanded that business partners James Lord and Bobby Dent, who bought the historic property 11 months ago, "cease and desist" using Comfort Common "or any other name similar to Comfort in connection with hotel or motel services."

When Lord got the letter, he was stunned. After all, when the partners leased the former Ingenhuet-Faust Hotel in April 1991 with plans to buy, its name had been Comfort Common since 1985, records with the Texas Historical Commission in Austin showed.

That same year, the commission affixed one of its coveted historical markers to the stone-and-wood structure at 818 High St.

"This is one of the most absurd situations I have ever been involved in," Lord said.

To Choice Hotels officials, it is a matter of law and not a matter for discussion. They cited negotiations with — and deference to — the Comfort Common's owners.

Choice Hotels' written position, however, said Lord and Dent "have adopted a name that directly incorporates Choice's name ... which Comfort Inn tangles with hotel chain over use of name has come to symbolize the finest hotel and motel services available."

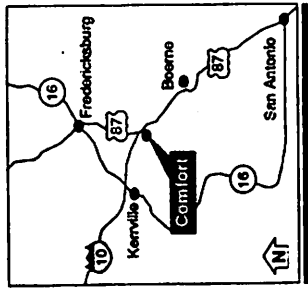
Choice Hotels added: "It appears that your choice of a name may have been an intentional attempt to palm off on Choice's good-will."

The company then threatened to file a lawsuit, seeking:

- An injunction from the use of the name Comfort Common.
- Damages equal to three times the operation's gross revenues.
- Punitive damages.
- Compensation for Choice Hotels' legal fees.

Those are fighting words in this community of about 1,150 people, which boasts a "True to the Union" Civil War monument.

Lord's and Dent's defense is that the Comfort Common didn't "re-



EXPRESS-NEWS GRAPHIC

cently" get its moniker as the latter claims. Also, 34 businesses in Comfort use the town's name.

Those include the school and the Comfort Motor Inn Inc., which was incorporated in November 1980, according to the Texas Secretary of State's Office in Austin.

Comfort Motor Inn officials were unavailable for comment Tuesday.

Officials with Choice Hotels declined to say if they have approached other area businesses with similar trademark concerns.

"Are they going to go after everybody else?" Dent asked.

Choice Hotels is a privately held company owned by Manor Care Inc., whose stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. In addition to its Comfort chain, it operates Quality Inns and resorts; Clarion hotels, suites and resorts; Sleep Inns, Friendship Inns, Econo Lodge and Rodeway Inns.

"I really believe that people have a right to trademarks. And if we were in San Antonio or Tulsa and I named myself Comfort-something, I believe Choice Hotels would have a justifiable concern," Lord said. "But we're in Comfort. This is Comfort, Texas."

Since "Comfort" is both the adjective of choice for Choice Hotels and a geographic destination, some residents are troubled by the debate. After all, Comfort Common is part of the town's tourism industry.

According to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, "Comfort Inns" was registered Jan. 24, 1984. And the word "Comfort" was registered Jan. 31, 1989.

The town of Comfort, which isn't an incorporated city, was founded in 1854.

Gregory Krauter, 42, co-operator of the family-owned Ingenhuet Store on High Street, first found Choice Hotels' letter humorous. Then he became angry because, he said, of the principles involved.

"This is indicative of some of the things that are wrong in our society — how anxious people are to sue each other, file a lawsuit or threaten a lawsuit," said Krauter, whose great-great grandfather built the hotel now called Comfort Common.

Krauter, who noted that Comfort was founded by Germans who wanted economic, political and religious freedom, said Lord's and Dent's willingness to question Choice Hotels' stand is "consistent with what Comfort is — fiercely independent and willing to stand up for what they believe in."

Although Lord and Dent didn't name their property, its name now has value, they said.

"Sure, the name has value. We have a lot of repeat customers and referrals," Lord said.

For their part, officials at Choice Hotels said the company

believes it can resolve the matter amicably. At issue, said the chain's lawyer Jeffrey Weingrow, is simply the matter of "use" vs. "misuse" of a registered trademark.

"Quite frankly, I think we'll be able to resolve (this) on an amicable basis, and we make every attempt to do that in all cases," he said, adding that franchisees reportedly are not aware of the trademark violation.

## MAX BICKLER HOUSE

901 West 16th Street

Date Built: 1911

Original Architect: Hugo Kuehne

Owners: Pamela and Michael Ward

Use: Residence

Category: Preservation

Restoration Consultant: Gregory Free and Associates

Contractors: Mike Sandidge, Stan Enfield and Mike Ward

This unusually well-crafted house is an architectural hybrid featuring elements of Craftsman Bungalow and Colonial Revival styles. The sitting porch with decorative rafter tails, stucco gables, modified English bond brickwork, shed dormers and decorative wood trim are classic features of the Craftsman style. The twin copper porch lamps were custom-made locally for the house when it was built.

The distinctive interior features of the house remain intact, including built-in cabinetry, plate rails, transomed central ventilation hallway and decorative mantels in the living and dining rooms. An unusual side of Austin's history is chronicled on the underside of the home's stairway. Bickler penciled a diary of unusual and climatic events — from spring floods to World War II to the death of a family pet — on stairs leading to the basement.

Max Herrmann and Mary Hilliard Bickler built the house at a cost of \$3,675. Bickler, the son of noted Texas educator Jacob Bickler, was a member of a prominent early Austin family of German descent. Bickler served for many years as a clerk at the Texas Supreme Court and was a friend of Texas' top officials for nearly six decades. Bickler's papers are part of the Bickler Collection at the Austin History Center.

The current owners purchased the house realizing, in spite of its numerous problems and deteriorating condition, that the house was sound and had great potential. Following the original blueprints and specifications provided by the family from Bickler's papers, they began the extensive restoration process.

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## ANCIENT HISTORY OF GERMANY

by Konrad Götting

(This article is the first installment of a series on the ancient history of Germany.)

The term German was introduced to history by Julius Caesar, who rather casually adapted it from a self-descriptive word used by Celtic tribes he had encountered west of the Rhine during his campaigns.

The Rhine River then formed approximately the boundary between Roman provinces in the northwest of Europe and the regions to the east that had not been incorporated into the empire, and were inhabited by a constantly varying number of tribes. Some of these were Celtic, Baltic and Finnish. The Germanic, or Teutonic, tribes proper are believed to have settled first to the southwest of what is now the Baltic Sea. Later they pushed northward, spreading over the Scandinavian area, or were in turn driven southwestward by stronger tribes migrating from the east. There was little cultural unity, since each tribe had its own gods and pattern of social organisation, but there were some common characteristics. Chiefs were selected by reason of their personal bravery.

Agriculture was the principal pursuit, and fields were tilled with the plow. Houses resembled the log cabins of pioneer days in America. Skilled craftsmen were found in the smithies and the potteries. Traders dealt with the Romans in a variety of produce, notably furs, amber, and women's hair.

Warriors fought with swords, protecting themselves with shields but wearing no helmets. During the battle many of the warriors used to undress and to fight naked.

Tacitus' study of the Germans, published in A.D. 98, divides them into three groups: the Ingaevones of the northwest, the Herminones of the interior and the Istaevones of the Rhine. These names are not fitted by Tacitus into his description of individual tribes and clearly derive from an earlier period during which Germans had hardly penetrated across the Elbe; they prepare for the distinction, only slightly blurred by tribal migrations, between western and eastern Germans, a distinction of great importance in their subsequent relations with Rome.

In Tacitus' time the most important tribes along the Rhine were the Frisii and the Batavi at its mouth, the Teucteri between the Ruhr and the Lahn and the Mattiaci opposite Coblenz. Behind them were the Chauci on the coast between the Ems and the Elbe, the Cherusci (Arminius' tribe) around Minden, the Chatti in Hesse-Cassel and the Hermunduri of Franconia, who were taken into the empire, as were the Mattiaci and some of the Chatti, in the course of the new conquests. East of the Chauci along the Elbe were the Langoberdi and on the middle Elbe the Suebi.

Most of these names disappeared, to be replaced by greater political units: the Saxons, the Franks and the Alamanni. This development is supposed to have been the result of deforestation, as the uninhabited wastes with which the tribes in Caesar's time had surrounded themselves for security and prestige were won for agriculture.

These confederacies were becoming a menace to Rome in the 3rd century: in 276 Franks and Almanni overran the whole of Gaul; and about this time the "limes" was finally abandoned. Attacks on Britain by the Saxons then began in earnest and the "Litus Saxonicum" may even commemorate their settlements as well as the defense against them.

Diocletian (284-305) and his successors Constantine (306-337), Julian and Valentinian (364-375) encouraged campaigns and fortification, and a frontier along the Rhine was maintained, though Julian had to agree to a treaty allowing the Franks to settle in much of modern Flanders. The Bastarnae in the Carpathians, known to Polybius in the 3rd century B.C. were the advance guard of a migration of Germans to the lands between the Elbe and the Vistula that took place about the beginning of the Christian era. By the time of Tacitus the lands immediately across the middle Danube were occupied by the Marcomanni and the Quadi, both scattered fragments of western Germans from the empire of Marbodius.

Tacitus' knowledge of the tribes behind these is dim, the Burgundians and the Gotones (the later Goths) can already be distinguished along the Warta and the Vistula. The Marcomanni and the Quadi gave trouble to Rome under Domitian (89 and 92) and Nerva (97). In 166 they took advantage of a plague and a Persian war to burst the frontier, penetrated into Italy itself and were only pacified by Marcus Aurelius after a series of exhausting campaigns lasting until his death (180). Commodus (180-192) entered into treaty with them and fortified the Danube yet more intensively.

These tribes continued to be dangerous neighbours to the Empire, but their place as its principal assailants was taken in the sector by the Goths, who reached the Black Sea early in the 3rd century and attacked the Danube frontier in 238. A succession of emperors failed to

check their forays, which extended over Greece and Asia Minor until Claudius II, surnamed Gothicus, defeated them in 296.

Until the time of Augustus Caesar the Romans contented themselves with defending the Rhine boundary against tribal incursions. From that time, however, the danger steadily increased and a great effort was made to create a buffer territory.

Under the leadership of Nero Claudius Drusus the Netherlands was conquered and annexed (12 B.C.) and a military expedition was sent across the Weser River in the direction of the Elbe. After the death of Dursus the Roman command was assumed by Tiberius, who placed a strong garrison in the newly conquered region and was aided by a fleet that reached the area of what is now Hamburg. The Roman objective, which was to make the Elbe River the boundary, was not attained largely because of unrest and armed uprisings elsewhere in the empire. When the campaign was resumed under the leadership of Quintilius Varus, the Romans suffered a disastrous defeat. Three legions were ambushed and annihilated in the Teutoburg forest by a Germanic union under the command of Arminius, chief of the Cherusci, A.D. 9. Only sanguinary discord among the tribal chiefs prevented a heavy counteroffensive that might have carried well beyond the Rhine.

Later the Romans made sporadic attempts to regain a foothold to the east, but A.D. 81 the Emperor Domitian abandoned the struggles and began construction of the "limes," a form of Maginot Line that extended from Hönningen on the Rhine to the vicinity of Regensburg on the Danube, taking advantage of the intermediate terrain. This wall consisted of a palisade in front of which ran a ditch some 20 feet wide. Watchtowers were erected at frequent intervals. This fortification enabled the Romans to maintain peace for 150 years, although it was upon occasion an uneasy one. As a result, the Celtic or Germanic tribes that were settled west of the Rhine or south of the limes partook of the advantages of Roman culture. The garrison towers became thriving cities -- Cologne, Frier, Mainz, Bonn, Worms, Speyer, Straßbourg and Angsburg. Indeed, virtually all the urban centers of present-day southern Germany have their origins in this era.

\*  
Lieber 'ne Biene im Bett als 'ne Mücke im Schlaf-  
zimmer. H.S.  
\*

Page 14 Tuesday, October 6, 1992 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

## German-American Day Will Be Observed Oct. 6

German-Americans in cities and small communities throughout the U.S. will observe Oct. 6 as German American Day with a variety of celebrations. Oct. 6 commemorates that date in 1683 when a group of thirteen Mennonite families emigrated from the city of Krefeld, Germany, to found Germantown, Pennsylvania. They came to the U.S. in search of religious freedom. Since then more than seven million German immigrants have entered the United States in search of personal freedom, social justice, fortune, and happiness.

A large number of political refugees came to the U.S. following the crushing of the 1848 revolution in Germany. Prior to World War II approximately 200,000 Germans left their homeland and came to the U.S. These immigrants included scientists, artists, musicians, writers, philosophers, doctors, actors, and architects. Following World War II tens of thousands more sought an op-

portunity for a new beginning in the U.S. Today there are more than sixty million Americans of German descent with nearly every state having some German element.

Even if the individual dreams were not always realized, many Americans of German descent nonetheless contributed significantly to the development of American culture, technology, society, and economic structures. Some have gone down in history as presidents, cabinet members, generals, or business tycoons; as Nobel prize winners, painters, writers, scientists, musicians, actors, athletes, or labor union leaders. Nameless craftsmen and teachers, farmers and factory workers, clergymen and businessmen have also played a part in influencing and helping to shape American life.

A large number of German immigrants came to Texas beginning in the middle of the nineteenth century. They were fleeing overpopulation,

land shortages, and rural economic depression. Those who came in the 1830's usually came by way of New York or New Orleans. Later, in the 1840's and 1850's, they came directly to Texas from German and other European ports.

The first German settlements in Texas were on the post oak prairies and bottom lands between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers in present Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington counties. The earliest were established in the 1830's and early 1840's. In the mid 1840's the German Emigration Company founded the towns of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg in the hill country west of Austin and San Antonio. Settlements were also founded in an area south of the Guadalupe River in Dewitt, Goliad, and Victoria counties, centering around Yorktown and strung along the immigrant road from Indianola to New Braunfels. In addition, the cities of Galveston, Houston, and San Antonio also had large German populations. From these centers groups of immigrants moved northward and westward into central and west Texas.

The Texas Germans established communities, schools, churches, and businesses of all kinds. They founded

the social and civic organizations important in German-American life: athletic clubs, hunting associations, singing groups, and bands - many of which are still alive. Just as the German-Americans have made significant contributions to the national scene, they have also influenced Texas politics, business, culture, and education. Evidences of the German influence can still be seen in the names of the communities, the use of Texan families and organizations promoting the German language, culture, history, and music further pride in the German-Texan heritage of perhaps a fifth of the state's population.



# C

## Changes evident in unified Germany

By Jack McGuire San Antonio, Texas  
Special to the Express-News

BERLIN — "Die Mauer." I instructed the cab driver in phonetic Berlitz German. "Die Mauer." I repeated, "at Checkpoint Charlie." "You Americans," he responded in perfect English. "The first thing you want to see is the wall. Berlin has better things to see than that ugly Wall."

It was a Saturday morning nearly five years ago, as vivid in my memory as if it happened yesterday.

When we arrived, I turned up the collar on my Burberry's trench coat and, affecting my coolest James Bond manner, approached the American MPs. After an amiable chat with the GIs, with my false bravado adequately fortified, I strolled past the sign that proclaimed in English, Russian, French and German, "You Are Leaving the American Sector."

I swallowed hard against the lump in my throat and entered the row of prefabricated sheds that comprised Checkpoint Charlie. Inside the labyrinth of narrow, dimly lit corridors, I joined the long line of people trudging through an endless series of passport and visa checks, interrogations and paper shuffling. I shrugged off an underlying sense of danger, dismissing it as nothing more than an overactive imagination fueled by too many Cold War novels. Yet the intimidation, neatly wrapped in red tape, was all too real.

### Grim faces

I came upon a hapless young American. Clustered about him was a group of equally youthful East German border guards in their pale green uniforms with gold braid. Apparently, the American had lost his wallet. He had his passport, but was unable to produce the necessary 25 marks to be converted from West to East Germany currency as the requisite "entrance fee."

"But you've got to let me through," he pleaded tearfully. "I've come all this way to meet my brother." The grim-faced soldiers were unrelenting. "He's an officer in the American Army," he added; to no avail.

I offered a loan to the young man, and after a further round of questions and incriminations, he was allowed to proceed.

On a recent return visit to Berlin, as I casually strolled across Checkpoint Charlie, I was struck by the incredible contrast. Only an invisible line of demarcation remained, with few remainders of its historical past.

On the spot where American and Soviet tanks stared down one another gun's barrels in a menacing confrontation at the height of the Cold War, gaudy souvenir stands have been erected. Manned by young Turks, they display an assortment of Soviet artifacts — military uniforms, caps and emblems, and even copies of the Red Army soldier's field manual.

Most of the dreaded wall has been hacked into tiny pieces shaped like miniature arrowheads and packaged in small Ziploc bags. It's all that remains of the monstrous obstruction that, when addressing a huge throng of Berliners at the nearby Brandenburg Gate, John F. Kennedy referred to as "the most obvious demonstration of the failure of the Communist system."

The collapse of the Wall, like the opening of a giant sluice gate, has resulted in a flood of visitors to the newly proclaimed capital of unified Germany. Most of the visitors come from eastern Germany and head for the Kurfurstendamm, a boulevard of dreams for the west's long-deprived eastern cousins.

### Shops stocked

The shops along the famous street (known affectionately as the Ku'damm) are well stocked with every type of merchandise imaginable, and the bright lights and crowded cafes attract the eager visitors like moths to a porch light. With shopping the chief lure, KaDeWe, the Continent's largest and most luxurious department store, located just off the Ku'damm, is jampacked. Soon it will be joined by another famous European retailer, when Galeries Lafayette of Paris opens a branch, where else but on French Street.

In what was East Berlin, the most obvious evidence of the changes brought about by unification can be seen in the colorful displays of fruit and vegetable stands and flower stalls that have sprung up across the city like toadstools after a spring rain, dotting the landscape with vivid splashes of color against the drab, grey background.

In the coffee shops and beer halls along the Unter den Linden, arguments on the merits of Utopian Socialism and the writings of Frederick Engels have given way to the urgent question: "What's a joint venture?"

An even more obvious sign of the times is the debate that rages over the fate of countless statues of Marx, Lenin and Engels. Judging by recent events in the former Soviet Union, it's more than a certainty they'll come crashing down. Meanwhile, 130 streets and squares in the east section of Berlin are in the process of undergoing a name change.

Venturing deeper into eastern Germany from Berlin, the Russian presence is still obvious. Although the hammer and sickle that once adorned public buildings has been removed, convoys of military vehicles bearing the red star still crisscross the autobahn, and Russian soldiers walking along the byways and in the small towns and villages are pervasive.

In western Germany it's no longer a novelty to spot someone driving along in a Mercedes talking into a cellular phone. In the east, only 10 percent of the population own a telephone of any kind. As for cars, it used to take citizens living behind the Iron Curtain 10 years to get a locally built Wartburg or Trabant. Today, it's possible to get a Fiat, Renault or even a Volvo in 10 hours. But most people can't afford one.

### Trip to Potsdam

An excursion into what was the GDR (German Democratic Republic or East Germany) often starts with a day trip from Berlin to nearby Potsdam. A sightseeing van with guide costs 60 deutsche mark (\$35) roundtrip for the six-hour deal, just about enough time to take in the most important sights.

The most famous is Sans Souci Park, a square-mile oasis dominated by an 18th-century palace built for Frederick the Great as his summer retreat. Other ornate structures strung out along garden walks include the Neues (new) Palace and the Chinese Teahouse.

Schloss Cecilienhof, constructed during World War I in the style of an English Tudor home, was the site of the Potsdam Conference at the end of World War II. The original rooms were occupied by wartime Allied leaders, Stalin, Churchill and Truman, and include a large circular table, built in Moscow, where the Aug. 2, 1945, agreement was actually signed.

In every town visited in eastern Germany, each with a different guide, the same phrase is repeated over and over again: "Heavily damaged during the war." In the case of Dresden, it would be more accurate to say, "blasted to bits."

Dresden resident Hannelore Klepzig, 11 years old at the time of the Allied air raid of Feb. 13, 1945, recalls the tragic event. Awakened by what sounded like distant thunder, she found her mother peering out the window. "Come quickly and look, lieblich," she said to her daughter. "Dresden is burning to-night."

### Fire storm

The raid, reported to have been carried out on the direct orders of Churchill in revenge for Nazi bomber and rocket attacks on London and Coventry, gets scant mention in the British wartime prime minister's memoirs, "Triumph and Tragedy." The only reference to the devastating raid is this: "Throughout January and February, our bombers continued to attack, and we made a heavy raid in the latter month on Dresden."

The "heavy raid" rained phosphorus bombs down on Dresden with such fury it created a raging fire storm. Kurt Vonnegut described it in his novel, "Slaughterhouse-Five": "Dresden was one big flame. The one flame ate everything organic, everything that would burn."

So complete was the destruction, it took six years from the time the war ended just to remove the rubble. Even today, although it is almost completely rebuilt, Dresden still bears the scars from the horri-



fyng ordeal that leveled the city and snuffed out the lives of 35,000 men, women and children.

One of Europe's prime cultural centers before the war, Dresden is slowly regaining some of its former glory. A city of museums, monuments, cathedrals and ancient architecture, its famed Semper Opera House was finally reopened in 1985.

But Dresden's most prized treasure is Zwinger, an impressive complex of baroque galleries, museums and pavilions constructed of gray sandstone between 1709 and 1732, and enhanced by an overwhelming array of statuary, ugly gargoyles, plump cherubs, tritons and nymphs.

Although most American tourists associate Dresden with the world-famous china that bears its name, the product is actually manufactured in nearby Meissen. A workshop, with artisans demonstrating the step-by-step creation of the familiar blue-and-white porcelain, is featured, along with a museum and sales shop. I bought the least expensive item I could find, a small dish for 75DM (about \$43). A tea service I admired (but only briefly) was priced at 2,568DM (more than \$1,500).

**Few tourists**

Leipzig, the second largest city in the east, is hardly overrun with tourists. More people seem to be trying to get out, than in. But it's worth a visit, if only to get a glimpse of what life must have been like, locked in the frozen embrace of the Cold War for 40 years.

Formerly a historic cultural center, Leipzig has been intimately associated with such famous historical figures as Bach, Schiller, Goethe, Liszt, Schumann and Wagner. But if a renaissance is in the works, it will have to wait. With a half century of problems to sort out, Leipzig, still dealing with a squalid past, has put the future on hold.

At St. Thomas Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach served as choirmaster for the last 25 years of his life, organ concerts of his work are still performed regularly.

I was particularly intrigued by the newly opened Stasi Museum. Here, official papers, paraphernalia, exhibits and photo displays illustrate the reign of terror of the dreaded East German secret service and the legion of informers who worked with them.

A more fascinating, albeit grotesque sight, not listed in any guidebook, is located not too far out of town.

What at first appears to be a lunar wasteland is a great, gaping, manmade crater; a lignite strip mining site, extending as far as the

eye can see. The soft brown coal first extracted here in 1937 was converted to chemical and petrol products to drive Hitler's Nazi war machine. The legacy of der Fuhrer's war years is still used today in many homes and factories in eastern Germany, with a byproduct that's spewed out as a noxious yellow smoke that poisons the atmosphere.

How to plug this environmental catastrophe, no one knows.

Meanwhile, the mining continues, a stop-gap expediency in the cash-strapped economy of the one-time Germany Democratic Republic.

Where does it all end?

According to one local government official, "East Germany is a generation away from catching up with the West." Even as he spoke, my eyes fixed upon a poster advertising a bungee-jumping event.

Bungee-jumping? In Leipzig?

Can mobile phones, Big Macs and MTV be far behind?

**IF YOU GO:** For more information see your travel agent or write the German National Tourist Office 122 E. 42nd St., 52nd Floor, New York, N.Y., 10168-0072; (212) 661-7200.

*Jack McGuire is a Chicago-area based travel writer/broadcaster.*

Jeder Hofen findet seinen Deckel.  
Every pot has its lid.

Jeder ist seines Glückes Schmied.  
Every man is the architect of his own fortune.

Jeder ist sich selbst der Nächste.  
Charity belngs at home.

Jeder macht's wie er's versteht.  
Everyone acts according to his understanding of it.

Jeder Tag hat seine Plage.  
Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof.

Jedes Tierchen hat sein Pläsierchen.  
Every man to his taste.

Jeder Vogel singt wie ihm der Schnabel gewachsen ist.  
Every bird is known by its song.

Jeder Vorteil gilt.  
All's fair in love and war.

Jedes Ding währt seine Zeit.  
Every dog has his day.

Jugend hat keine Tugend.  
Boys will be boys.  
You can't put an old head on young shoulders.

Jung gefreit hat neimand gereut.  
Happy the wooing that's not long in doing.

Submitted by Leonora Wolf, New Braunfels

**Silesia's saintly duchess** T.G.

**Children's Story Hour**  
Janaan Manternach  
© Catholic News Service

Eight hundred years ago a remarkable woman lived in the land of Silesia. Her name was Hedwig. She was duchess of Silesia.

Silesia is a beautiful region of Eastern Europe. The Oder River flows gently through its broad valleys framed by high mountains. Silesia today reaches into Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Silesia was just as beautiful when Hedwig was born in 1174. Her father was a count, a man of power and wealth. Her parents arranged an excellent education for her at nearby Kitzingen. In those days, few girls had a chance to go to school.

Her parents also arranged her marriage. Young people back then were not free to marry whomever they wished. Hedwig was 12 when she married a young nobleman 18 years old named Henry. His father was duke of Silesia.

Hedwig and Henry shared similar values and tried to live good, Christian lives. Hedwig soon gave birth to the first of their seven children.

In 1202 Henry's father died and he became duke of Silesia. Hedwig, now

a duchess, took an active part in the government.

She showed much wisdom and courage. People admired her as much for her goodness as for her political skills.

Hedwig and Henry cared about the well-being of those they governed. They founded hospitals. They also set up new monasteries and restored old ones as centers of Christian life and education.

Hedwig was responsible for building the first monastery for women in Silesia. She also brought in members of the Franciscan and Dominican religious orders to nurture the Catholic faith of the people.

Unfortunately, two of the couple's children — Henry and Conrad — brought much sorrow to them, going to war against each other over part of the territory of Silesia. It was a violent age. Wars, especially over power and land, were common.

Duke Henry had to go to war in 1229 because of a land dispute. Henry won the war, but his enemies captured him by surprise while he was praying in a church.

Hedwig came to his rescue. She impressed Henry's enemies so much that her peace offers were accepted and her husband was released.

Henry and Hedwig governed

Silesia until he died in 1238.

After his death, Hedwig decided to move into the monastery for women which she had urged Henry to build years earlier.

Hedwig lived at the monastery, but did not become a nun. She used her wealth and possessions to help needy people. Her kindness to all, together with her gentle strength and prayerful life, attracted people of all kinds to her.

Many who knew Hedwig considered her a saint long before she died in 1243. Pope Clement IV canonized her in 1267.



Oct 16, 1990

East Texas Catholic (Be all must Die war)

## FOLLOWING A 125 YEAR OLD MURDER

by  
Tom Call

Not too long ago I read "The Cypress and Other Writings of a German Pioneer in Texas" by Hermann Seele. For those of you who are not history buffs, Hermann was the first school teacher in New Braunfels and a prominent member of the First Protestant Church and the city of New Braunfels throughout his life. Fortunately for us he also wrote some interesting short stories about the life and times of early German pioneers. Two of the short stories especially peeked my interest. The first was about a wedding between Friederike Moeschen and Carl Riebeling in 1854. The second was about the murder of Christoph Moeschen, Friederike's father the following year.

It seems that Carl, Friederike and Johanna Moeschen, the wife of Christoph had conspired to kill him with an axe or similar instrument, then tried to get him buried without any suspicion of murder. It didn't work and the trio got 9 years in the state pen. The murder weapon was never found but then in that day it apparently wasn't important. Well, for some reason this story peeked my imagination and on October 1, 1989, I decided to follow up and see if I could find out exactly where these people lived.

In Seele's story about the wedding he had told of his stroll to the Moeschen homestead. He described the house as being on the Comal Creek about one half mile north of town. My first step was to visit the Comal County Clerk's office. Charlotte Boyd one of our Society members works there and was, as usual, extremely helpful. Unfortunately, Comal County was not established until after Christoph Moeschen had been deeded the land by Prince Carl Solms-Braunfels. Records, if any, would be in the Bexar County Clerks office in San Antonio. As I was leaving, trying to decide what to do next, I hit on the idea that since Christoph was dead maybe probate court records would have some information on the subject. Bonanza!

Within the next two hours I read 16 separate entries pertaining to Christoph Moeschen's estate which, by the way was spelled in the German spelling as Moesgen. The entries were dated from September 24, 1855 when Valentine Sipple was named administrator for the estate to November 29, 1856 when the last of the estate was sold and Sipple was discharged. In the interim were inventories of personal items to be sold and personal items belonging to Carl, Friederike and Johanna which were not to be part of the estate. Most importantly to me were the lot numbers of two acre lots, the farm lot where the murder took place and a second one across the Comal from it. Acre lots were the lots, of approximately 10 acres that Prince Carl had offered the first settlers of New Braunfels, along with a town lot of approximately one half acre. Sipple requested and received permission of the court to sell acre lot #24 to Friedrich Voges for \$176.00

Earlier Sipple had petitioned the court for permission to sell some of Johanna's personal property and to lease the homestead, acre lot # 156 to help pay debts of the Estate. Johanna's lawyer, Judge M.A. Dooley interceded on her behalf and the petition was turned down. However, I now had the lot number of the property so finding it on the ground would be easy. Wrong! The records in the County Court Clerks office were not organized that way. We could find no records pertaining to lot # 156. I was stymied, but decided I would have to go

to Bexar County to see what they had. At that point Charlotte suggested that I visit the Comal County Title Co., the oldest title company in New Braunfels. I talked to Carol Goe there and she was able to not only show me their large wall map which included the property but copies of the deeds where Johanna had sold the property to M.A. Dooley on February 20, 1856 and he in turn sold it to Joseph Locke a couple of months later. It turns out that the lot is still farm land although it is in the middle of town.

Now I knew where the property was, all I had to do was find out who the current owner was so I could obtain permission to look around. There is a house on the farm and, although it appears to be farther off the road than the piece of property I am interested in, the access road crosses the property. I visited the farm, passing some formidable "POSTED" and NO TRESPASSING" signs to nervously knock on the back door. There were cars in the carport and garage so I expected to find someone home. No one answered. I tried a side door and finally the front door. Music came from inside but no one came to the door. Not wishing to be shot or even shot at I retreated to my car and with much fanfare wrote a note explaining what I looking for. I put enough in about the murder, I thought, to interest the reader. Again I approached the front door and attached the note to the screen. Well, if the reader of the note was interested, he or she is waiting for the rest to come out in paper back because I have heard nothing from them.

Since I received no response my next move was to find out who owned the property, whereupon I proceeded back to the County Clerk's Office. Wrong again!, try the County Assessor's Office. When I arrived at the Assessor's office a very pleasant lady approached and I explained that I was looking for the owner of a piece of property. She asked if I had a legal and I being very "quicker" thought she wanted some court order authorizing me to obtain the information. After I went through my lengthy explanation of what I was doing she smiled and said "I can't find the property in question without a legal description of it." She suggested that I visit the Comal County Appraisers office where I could pin-point the property in question on the map and they could give me the legal description of it. Then I could bring it back to her and she could find the owner. Feeling a little sheepish after my show of intellect and expertise in legal matters I was glad to retreat for even a little while.

My visit to the Comal County Appraisal District Office went much better. Not only did I ask the right questions but the lady showed me the maps, I selected the property and she was able to tell me who the owners were. I didn't have to go back to the Tax Office. I immediately visited the owners place of business whereupon I went through the story of the murder again. He was unaware of the events and was interested to hear the story. I left him a copy of the map I had roughly copied from the Comal County Title Co.'s wall and was given permission to walk around the property. A few days later I did just that.

I visited the plot and found an old shed about 30 feet by 20 feet adjoining a one room house. The design and construction of the buildings indicated they were much later vintage than I was interested in so I continued to look. It is hard to imagine how primitive an area in the center of town can be. I frightened a deer as I approached the old buildings and there are sighs of all kinds of wildlife. With all of the old lumber, dead logs etc. laying



around it is an ideal place for snakes and the thickets of thorny trees make it tough to look for snakes while not getting the shirt ripped off of your back or worse. I looked around for awhile and found a burned out building, also probably late 1800's, and several areas where limestone had been laid as a porch or walkway. Perhaps even some foundation blocks. Feeling pretty good about this find and running out of nerve I decided to quit for the day at least.

I mentioned earlier that the property had been purchased from M.A. Dooley by Joseph Locke. I had met a Mr. Otto Locke when I first came to New Braunfels and visited his nursery for supplies. He had told me at that at one time his family had owned almost all the property along the Comal Creek from the springs to the rock quarry and operated one of the largest nurseries in Texas. I decided to visit Mr. Locke and inquire if he knew anything about the property. Did he!, the property was the Locke homestead and Otto had been born there. He had heard that a murder had taken place on the creek there but was unfamiliar with the details. He told me that his brother who had maintained a nursery on that site had built a shed and a one room office. More importantly, closer to the creek and in an area where I have not looked the Lockes had about five buildings including a large home. That is almost sure to have obliterated the Moeschon homestead ruins as it appears to have been built on the same spot. When winter sets in and the snakes are all snug in their holes I plan to go there and look a little closer.

I next visited the District Court Clerk's Office to see if there was any information on the murder. I once again told my story to a very interested Virginia Terry. She was able to find the journal entry summarizing the indictment of the three and subsequently their trial. With the help of Mark Mault who retrieved the case file from the attic I was able to read the 125 year old testimony. I had heard that Seele was more novelist than historian so was glad to confirm the facts were essentially as he had stated them. I copied three receipts from the State Penitentiary to Sheriff Ulrick for the prisoners and am going to try to find out what happened to them. For me the research is most interesting and fun as you meet such friendly and helpful people along the way. I'll get back to you later with more details.

1. Seele, Hermann, The Cypress and other Writings of a German Pioneer in Texas, Translated by Edward C. Breitenkamp, University of Texas Press, Austin and London, 1979

<p>DEUTSCHE SCHRIFT <i>Handwritten Schrift</i>  Expert Translation or Transcription  of  Handwritten German Documents</p> <p>Alfred Brueckner</p> <p>960 Encino Drive New Braunfels, 78132  Phone 625-5206</p> <p>Rate: by the job.</p>
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# The Gruene Scene

## Whimsy, water power historic hamlet

**S**OME SMALL settlements grow up over the decades, over the centuries, and become sprawling, robust cities — home of skyscrapers, intertwining expressways, mass transit systems, with all the pleasures and problems that attend the congregation of a million or more inhabitants.

Some settlements reach a certain point in their growth and seem to stagnate. And some don't make it at all. They wither and rot and die.

Then there is Gruene, Texas, just across the Guadalupe River and a few stone skips north of New Braunfels. Gruene doesn't seem to fit into any normal pattern.

The historic little town — which now is a part of New Braunfels — has probably started more than a few people out for a leisurely Sunday drive.

The trip north on Interstate 35 is fairly routine, offering the expected sights and experiences of highway travel, and the short trek north along Farm Road 306 holds no real surprises.

But then comes a left turn at the first red light, and the negotiation of one or two gentle curves, and suddenly it seems as if the journey not only has led to another place, but to another time.

**W**elcome to Gruene — a town that came awfully close to death, but wouldn't die.

We made the short trip recently to this historic assortment of restaurants, antique stores, specialty shops, and businesses re-

lated to recreation along the Guadalupe River, which slices through the back part of town.

Our first stop was at the office of Mary Jane Nalley, who was one of the people who pitched in to save the town almost two decades ago.

We thought we would brush up on the history of Gruene — it's pronounced like the color green — before we set out to explore the town.

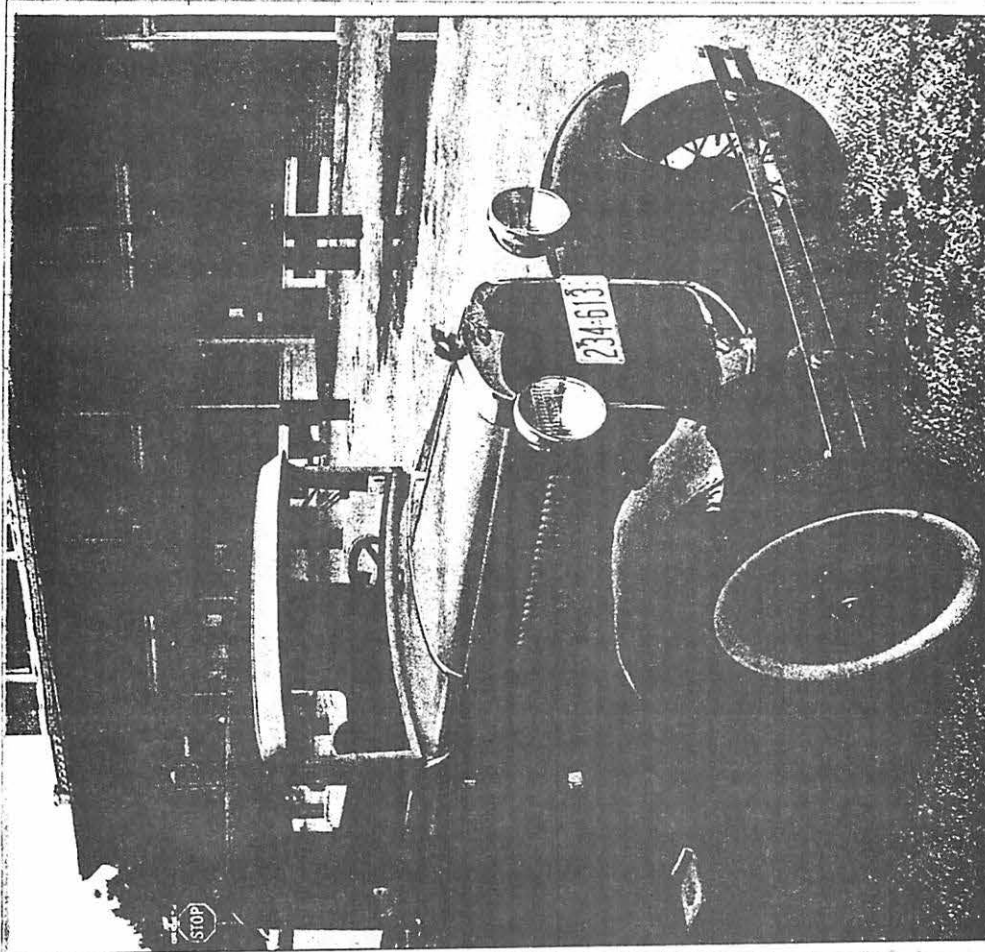
Mary Jane and Pat Molak, a friend and business partner who was also instrumental in the Gruene campaign, own some of the businesses, some of the buildings and much of the land in the old town.

It is early in the morning when we arrive, and we find a parking place in the shade of a tree.

The story of Gruene has been told often by newspapers and magazines, and bits and pieces of the story can be found on historic plaques and markers scattered throughout the area.

But our first question to Mary Jane concerns something we have not read before. We have heard that sometimes wealthy people come to Gruene by helicopter, just to dine at the Grist Mill Restaurant overlooking the river and perhaps to browse through some of the shops.

Mary Jane knows the story. She says the helicopters would land in a grassy area across the street from Gruene Hall, pro-



*Gruene once was close to death, but has found new life as a historic assortment of restaurants, antique stores, specialty shops and businesses related to recreation along the Guadalupe River.*

claimed to be the oldest dance hall in Texas.

But Mary Jane says there have been no helicopter visitors in the past five years or so — she thinks the economy may have convinced the people to select a less expensive means of travel, or to grab a bite a bit closer to home.

She tells us there is some irony about

where the helicopters landed. It is the same general area where farmers parked their wagons and buggies when they brought their families to Gruene a hundred or more years ago.

The town was founded in the early 1870s by H.D. Gruene, the son of German immigrants, who built Gruene Hall, a residence, a



**Tommy West**

**SOUTH TEXAS SPIRIT**



general store and a cotton gin. The gin was powered by the waters of the Guadalupe. Farmers, who tended cotton crops on land owned by H.D. Gruene, would come to town for supplies and a little fun, arriving on Friday afternoon and remaining until Sunday afternoon, Mary Jane says.

On Saturday nights, small children were bedded down in side rooms of the dance hall, where they slept away as the older folks partied and danced.

"They would actually dance all night," Mary Jane tells us. "They would have coffee on the stove in a big wash barrel. On Sunday, they would go to church. They would take a nap on Sunday afternoon, and then they would go back home."

Gruene was alive, and seemed quite well, in those early days. And it remained healthy well into the next century.

H.D. Gruene died in 1920. When the boll weevil arrived a few years later to ravage the crops, followed quickly by the Great Depression, it seemed the town was doomed.

And, indeed, Gruene began to die. Homes and businesses were abandoned, and one bad thing led to another, until Gruene was a virtual ghost town. About all that was left — left alive, that is — was Gruene Hall. The crowds and the dancing pretty much vanished, but a thirsty person could still get a beer.

"We haven't found any evidence that it ever closed," Mary Jane tells us.

Then, in the early 1970s, what remained of the town faced perhaps its most serious threat of extinction. Developers from Austin purchased the town and adjoining property, with plans to construct a subdivision. The plans included condominiums overlooking the river,

where the Grist Mill and the old water tower now stand. But other forces also came into play.

Architect Chip Kaufman was doing research on the old buildings of Gruene for the Texas Historical Commission.

Businessman Bill Gallagher was looking for a place to make Texas wines. Stockbroker Pat Molak was looking for an old tavern to buy.

Kaufman convinced the developers to modify their plans — to spare the remaining old structures from demolition, and instead recruit people to establish new businesses in the buildings.

Gallagher selected one of the old buildings as the site for his winery. And he told Molak about Gruene Hall.

Then Molak and Mary Jane Nalley, his girlfriend at the time, came to Gruene.

It was the mid-1970s — just about a hundred years after H.D. Gruene came to town.

And the old town was beginning to show signs of life. Again.

Others joined the effort — when the water tower was facing demolition, some regular customers from Gruene Hall joined in the battle with Pat and Mary Jane to raise money and save it.

Mary Jane and Pat acquired 20 acres of the town site and rebuilt the town "a piece at a time."

"It was an involvement," she says.

Today, Mary Jane calls the town "a historic, outdoor mall" whose 25 or so businesses are visited by as many as 250,000 people a year.

Mary Jane says she and Pat, corporate partners now, try to keep the old buildings close to their original condition, and they try to recruit tenants to operate the businesses who plan to stay awhile. Another goal is to maintain a proper mix of businesses — not having too many T-shirt shops, for instance, she says.

Our chat with Mary Jane ends, and we realize that we have covered more than a hundred years of history in an hour and a half. But an hour and a half is an hour and a half, and we need a cup of coffee.

Mary Jane says they don't keep coffee in the office, because no one drinks it. She recommends the Gruene General Store, just across the street.

We set out to get some coffee and explore this lively old town.

The Gruene General Store is like a lot of other businesses in this town. Posted on the front of the building and on the walls inside are signs and slogans and advertisements from the past.

Some of the messages seem to be authentic, some seem to be simply humorous, and some are probably both.

One sign on the front of the store states: "No beggars or peddlers allowed." Another warns: "Spitting on sidewalk prohibited."

We suspect that someone invented the message on another sign, just for laughs.

"Children must be supervised; yuppies must behave," it states.

Inside the store, posted alongside other panels of information behind the counter, we see a sign that brings back memories: "Coffee — 5¢."

The sign recalls the days when not only coffee was less expensive, but also gasoline, bread and milk, ground beef, beer and cigarettes.

A woman behind the counter gets our coffee, we take a sip, and we are still thinking about the long-gone, good old days when the woman says:

"That will be a nickel."

The coffee sign behind the counter is real.

As we leave the store to continue our exploration, we're a little confused now about which signs are serious and which ones are not. Just to be safe, we make sure not to spit on the sidewalk, although we probably wouldn't have, anyway.

It turns out that our visit to Gruene coincides with the monthly Market Trail Days arts and crafts show, and just up the street we encounter a cluster of booths offering any number of interesting creations.

A booth featuring hand-carved replicas of storefronts from old-timey towns catches our eye. The artist, Phyllis Whipple of New Braunfels, has stepped away for a minute, and we are greeted by her brother, Ray, who happens to be the owner of Cactus Jack's Antiques in Gruene.

We talk for a while, and Ray tells some stories about his late father, Ray Sr., who was a San Antonio commercial artist. Ray says his father painted the picture of the sleek, slender dog that races along on the side of Greyhound buses.

As we're leaving, Ray tells us that when we get down to the bridge over the Guadalupe, to look for the grooves that the wheels of a wagon left in the concrete.

He believes that, years and years ago, the wagon swerved into freshly poured concrete when something frightened the horse that was pulling it.

We leave the Market Trail booths to continue our expedition. Inside one of the buildings, we stop to read one of the official-looking plaques, and we learn it is part history and part humor:

"On March 2, 1836, Texas declared her independence from Mexico. Wild Comanches roamed the plains, Rangers protected frontier settlements, and this building was not here yet."

Our route takes us toward the river — past the Grist Mill, whose

three dining levels and observation area are housed in part of H.D. Gruene's old cotton gin; past the old metal water tower, which stands as a silent sentry over the restaurant and the town; down the winding, sloping road until we reach the old bridge, whose surface is a scant few feet above the level of the rushing green water.

Rafters and tubers are hurtling down the river — shouting, squealing, splashing — by the dozens, by the hundreds — in every conceivable color of shorts and swimsuits and T-shirts. Some of the T-shirts have messages of their own. Some of the messages you probably would not want your grandmother to read.

There is no pretense of history or tradition here, and yet a thought comes to mind. We had talked earlier of people who once came to this town in buggies and wagons, and in helicopters, and who now come in assorted makes and models of cars and pickups and vans. How transportation has changed, we had noted earlier, and yet these people clutching onto tubes and rafts are powered by a source of energy as old as any.

We take a moment to find the wagon-wheel grooves that Ray mentioned before we start back up the hill.

The return trip takes us closer to Gruene Hall, where farmers and their families — except for the young ones — once danced all night, and where today some of the top names in country music regularly appear.



NEW ULM ENTERPRISE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1992

# Historical Marker Dedicated Saturday

It turned out, Gordon says, that people seem to like the idea of walking on the old, original floor. He explains why.

"Think about it a minute — just imagine the hundreds of thousands of people who have walked on that floor — the problems they had, the things that were on their minds, the decisions they faced in their lives."

We admit we hadn't thought about these things, but after hearing Gordon's explanation, in the growing darkness, with the lights of the town businesses glowing in every direction, it all seems to be just another part of history.

The coffee — we remember the 5-cent coffee — and we tell him how surprised we were.

"We were going to give it away at first," he tells us. "But we got to thinking. You can get free coffee lots of places. But if you get a cup of coffee for a nickel, you have something to talk about."

It's time to leave, and we're already thinking about coming back for another visit.

It may be awhile. But we're pretty sure of one thing.

This old town will still be here. ■

Singer Clay Blaker's bus has arrived, and the line of people waiting to enter the old dance hall — the oldest in Texas, they say — has grown much longer in just a short time.

Darkness is creeping over the town when Gordon Hughes approaches us and asks why we are taking photographs of the general store. We decide that is a fair question when he tells us he owns the store.

Gordon has some stories of his own. He tells us that the building that houses the general store originally was on the other side of the street, where the Gruene Antique Co., a brick building, now stands.

Workers moved the old wooden structure to its present location using logs and a team of mules.

When they got the building across the street, they had a problem, Gordon says.

"They couldn't turn it around, so they took the front off, moved it around and put it on the back."

The sidewalks are crowded now with people heading for the dance hall and the restaurant and other destinations, so we step off to one side as Gordon continues his stories about the store.

"It's funny, but the thing we thought would give us the most trouble is one of the things that generates the most comments from customers," he says.

He is talking about the floor.

"Didn't you notice how it gives, and sort of squeaks, when you walk on it? And there were holes in it at first. I suppose you saw how we patched them."

We had seen some old license plates nailed to the floor, but we thought they were just for show.

A Texas Historical Marker dedication was held on August 15 at the Allan Kibler property on Track Road near New Ulm. The subject of the marker was "Mary Theresa Juergens" - her kidnapping and life.

Miss Dawn Kibler, a student of Vanderbilt University, wrote the marker application with assistance in the detailed research from her father, Allan. Various local sources and descendants were credited with helpful information in researching this subject. The actual kidnapping of Mrs. Juergens (described in the marker) occurred on the Kibler property some distance from the location of the new marker.

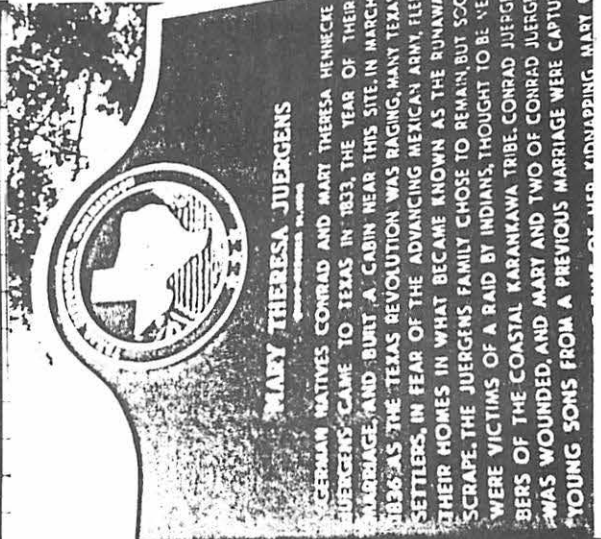
A brief message from County Historical Commission Chairperson, Ann Lindemann, was followed by the marker unveiling by Dawn and Allan Kibler. Miss Kibler addressed the group and read the following text of the inscription: "MARY THERESA JUERGENS (1809 - October 31, 1891) German natives Conrad and Mary Theresa Hennecke Juergens came to Texas in 1833, the year of their marriage, and built a cabin near this site. In March 1836 as the Texas Revolution was raging, many Texas settlers, in fear of the

advancing Mexican Army, fled their homes in what became known as the Runaway Scrape. The Juergens Family chose to remain, but soon were victims of a raid by Indians, thought to be members of the coastal Karankawa Tribe. Conrad Juergens was wounded, and Mary and two of Conrad Juergens' young sons from a previous marriage were captured.

"Pregnant at the time of her kidnapping, Mary gave birth to a girl, Jane Margaret, while in captivity. Months later, mother and daughter were ransomed at Coffee's Trading Post on the Red River, suggesting they were traded by the Karankawas to a nomadic tribe. The Juergens' sons were not rescued. Mary and Jane returned to Conrad, but he died within two years.

"After a brief second marriage to George Grimes, Mary married Samuel Redgate in 1843. They moved to Dayton, Ohio, where Mary died in 1891. Redgate and Jane Margaret returned to Texas and settled in Parker County, where in 1936 the State of Texas erected a monument at their graves to honor them and Mary."

More details and interesting facts of this subject were provided at the dedication by Allan Kibler. Invited guests toured the restored Kibler House (ca. 1915). Interesting information regarding the Kibler Texana Collection was shared. Following the marker unveiling, a barbecue dinner was served.





San Antonio Texas  
Recorder-Times—Thursday,  
May 21, 1992

## Students become teachers

Sometimes the best way to learn is to teach.

Students from Roosevelt High School recently learned that lesson when they traveled to Krueger Middle School. They visited the younger students to give them a taste of the German language.

On May 5, German students from Roosevelt began taking turns teaching beginning German to students enrolled in an exploratory language course at Krueger. The emphasis is on spoken German.

Teacher Moira Sparks introduced her Krueger students to Spanish, French and Latin earlier in the semester.

Sparks admitted German was her weak point, and she sought some assistance. She received all the assistance she needed.

During May, Carolyn Gisler lent three to six of her Roosevelt German students to Sparks each day. The students give one full period of instruction to the exploratory class, using visual aids they've assembled and created themselves.

The Roosevelt pioneers of the first four days were Level 2 students Alison Campbell, Erica Estrada, Marcella Molett and Angela Strickler; Level 3 student Cassie Steitle; and Level 1 student Jennifer Davis.

A total of 15 Rough Riders volunteered for the program, which continues through the end of the school year.

"Response on all sides has been highly enthusiastic: the (Roosevelt) participants are thrilled to realize how much genuine knowledge they have accumulated to share; the Krueger students are delighted over the contact with high school teenagers; and Mrs. Sparks finds it extremely valuable to be able to give her full attention to monitoring and recording the daily achievements of her pupils while the senior high students are conducting the class," said Mark Scheffler, Roosevelt's principal.

"This is definitely a winning situation for everyone involved."

Sparks and Gisler are discussing plans to continue the program in the coming years.

## Witches may lure tourists to town

Deutsche Presse-Agentur

PENZLIN, Germany — Around the year 1700 Elisabeth Daubers was, according to legend, the last witch to be tortured and burned to death in a fortress in this small east German town.

The place where she was kept is one of Europe's last remaining fully intact witches cellars. Manacles on the wall for the neck, body, hands and feet bear grim testimony to what she must have endured at the hands of her torturers.

But now the population of Penzlin has great hopes of capitalizing on its past by luring tourists to the area.

"After a downturn for two years in a row a growing number of people come here. And, that is mainly because of the witches cellar," says Claus Ludwig, head of the fortress museum.

The 16th-century fortress is being fully renovated, but is still open to visitors. Work is under way to restore the garden complex. Fruit trees are being planted, a pond is being redug and the ceramic and backing oven are being rebuilt.

San Antonio Express-News  
Sunday, August 16, 1992 3L

## Historical text translated

By JOE DODSON  
Reporter

Local author and historian W.M. Von-Maszewski knows the history of Texas is a tapestry, the interweaving of colorful lives and stories.

Von-Maszewski, manager of the Fort Bend County Library's Local History and Genealogy Department, recently published *A Sojourn in Texas, 1846-47: Alwin H. Sorgel's Texas Writings*. A German national, Von-Maszewski Sorgel traveled through Texas in the mid-1800s, reporting on the *Adelsverein*, the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas.



Von-Maszewski

"Sorgel comes over as an idealist

and he becomes disenchanted with the society as soon as he arrives in Galveston," Von-Maszewski says.

Sorgel wrote a series of critical reports about the *Adelsverein* which were published in the German newspaper, *Der Harold*. Von-Maszewski translated the reports from the original German and published them in both languages in honor of the society's sesquicentennial anniversary. The German-Texas Heritage Society underwrote the project.

Von-Maszewski says the *Adelsverein* convinced about 8,000 Germans to immigrate to Texas, mostly educated people with little or no experience in farming and with distorted expectations about Texas's development and culture.

"(Sorgel) criticized the society for failing to follow up. They set up this scheme and more or less set the boat adrift," he says. "Quite a few people died in Galveston... (Immigrants) spent eight or 12 weeks on a

boat — the water was spoiled and the food was bad — and they just died like flies. This was what they criticized, the lack of follow up not the system."

He says both the original German and the English translation are included because of today's acute interest in the lives of immigrants and ancestors on both sides of the Atlantic. Twenty years ago, he says, European scholars traced the immigrant journey from village to port and American scholars from landing to homestead. Today, he says a more comprehensive study breaks through the "salt-water curtain."

The shift has resulted in greater cooperation and understanding between scholars of both countries, he says, and a fuller understanding of the history involved.

Copies available at \$21.50 (includes shipping) from GTHS office, Austin, TX.

Fort Bend Advocate & Thursday, September 17, 1992 • Page 1

## DAIRY OF AD, GIESECKE - 1846

The Sophienburg Museum and Archives received a request in July from Mr. Clarence Noster to have a diary of a 17 year old emigrant (his great grandfather) by the name of AD, Giesecke translated. Eugene C. Mornhinweg did the translation, completing it on September 9, 1989. It is very lengthy and sometimes repetitious but provides significant insight into the problems and joys of the colonists of the "Society for the Protection of German Emigrants to Texas." Due to its length we will only excerpt some of the more enlightening parts of it. Mr. Noster has graciously given us permission to do this. A complete copy of the translation is located in the Sophienburg Archives and of course the original and the original translation is in the care of Mr. Noster

### AD Giesecke 1846

Saturday, October 10th, 1846 on the Weser, across from the Breman Harbor.

Twenty three days have passed since we left Clausthal. Tuesday, September 17th was the day on which, at an early morning hour, we started our great journey and in a tolerable cheerful opinion with hope for a better future than the old life style.

At six o'clock we were in Vienenburg and after morning we were in Hannover. From here we rented a bus which was to transport us to Breman. The wagon was very crowded for our rather large company but we were in good spirits and the desire soon to be in Breman helped us to withstand the trip. The night passed and of Friday afternoon, September 18th at 1:30 o'clock we arrived in Breman. Upon our arrival we immediately discovered what plotting and scheming inhabitants Breman has. Our driver took us to the Hotel Baltimore. When my father and others told him that we did not want to get out here, he unhitched the horses without further consideration and then said he had no further responsibility towards us. We had, however, rented the bus and we were certain that we had the right to demand to be taken on to our destination.

Father, Edward, and Albert therefore, went to the police who said however that they had the right to refuse us further service. When the police left, the drivers became very insolent, removed all our possessions from the bus, asked us to leave the bus and threatened to move the horses, bus and passengers into the stable. These atrocities were witnessed by the inn keeper and other people who were present and these supported the driver. Since we knew that we had been cheated we had ourselves transported to the inn Rose in which we wanted to register. We talked to the inn keeper and were told that two rooms and mid-day meals would cost 8 grossen in coins per day. We were forced to sleep two persons per bed and were served mediocre food and our inn keeper was a plotting, scheming, bad man as it seems all inn keepers in Breman are. At first we did not recognize this but we three soon learned better.



My father and the other men started at once to discuss the manner in which we were treated with the General Agents Dr. Hill, Mr. Luedering and company, etc., and this took much of their time. We young people, the first few days, had much diversion as we walked about the town, but the rest of the time we were in Bremen we were very bored. From day to day we hoped finally to be able to leave Bremen.

Sunday, September 20th, the driver came with our luggage which was unloaded on Monday in the Inn of Braunschweiger Court. The Inn Keeper will charge 4 grossen for each chest per 7 days as warehousing money which will bring in much money as more than 100 chests were unloaded. Of Course we had no alternative and were therefore obligated to accept his charges.

Now one day passed after another in continuing sameness and the desire grew to go to Bremen Harbor and to go from there onto the ocean. We did not know however, on which ship we were to leave as the Flavius, a New York based ship, which we were assigned to had not returned from England where it was to unload cargo. Day after day we were appeased and informed if it did not arrive, we would be assigned to another ship. Finally we were advised by Counsel Brauer concerning the Flavius. He had the cargo list and the ship was commandeered by the Mexicans. We were now assigned to another ship, the Charles Ferdinand, a Brig with 2 masts and 125 ton.

The adults had many transactions to perform and were very busy as the days passed. The progress of these is not well known to me and I can not write about them all, but know that they were extremely occupied. Adolph was very sick for several days during our stay in Bremen but has now recovered.

The day for departure from Bremen was finally set for Monday September 28th. Before our departure we suffered additional vile actions from the likes of Bremen Inn Keepers. The Inn Keeper at Braunschweiger Court, who had our chests in his warehouse, demanded, when delivering them to the loading dock, 2 grossen for each chest for the delivery costs. As this was very much, father bargained with another Inn Keeper to make the complete transport for less. This Inn Keeper did not know of the other price. The Keeper, with great malice slapped him on the shoulder and said, "Yes, I will drive your chests, not for 8 grossen each but for only 2 grossen." No further talk would help. The miserable person insisted the deal had been made and demanded six coin grossen for each chest. This included storage costs. He would then drive our belongings. If we did not wish to pay 6 grossen, he would lock his storage house, and on the next day early in the morning drive into the country and leave our belongings in the shed and on the next day, early in the morning, drive into the country and leave our belongings in the shed.

Consideration was given to break open his shed and remove the belongings. Time was expensive and we could not count on the equally bad police to quickly help us, so we made the decision to inquire of the other Inn Keeper, the 6 grossen bargain, what compensation he would require if we cancelled the agreement. He wanted to be proper and asked that the start only 1/2 thaler for a

hired day laborer. If we did not make other kinds of demands on him, which would cost him extra, this would be all our costs.

He received the first half thaler and was to send us the day laborer who was to help us and receive the second half thaler. This man came and we recognized him as the most honest man that we had met in Bremen. He said he could have enough work for less and suggested we ask the lead Inn keeper in Braunschweig Court for compensation. He then requested only 7 thaler for the hauling.

As his bill was paid on the following day it was noticed that the cross chain had been stolen from our wagon even though each wagon had a charged 1 thaler for these. Our bad Inn Keeper, an unequal rogue, who did not have enough room in his house to store our things, did not want to be responsible and said we had not paid him enough. These are the Bremer Inn Keepers. I could relate much, much more. The above is enough to understand their vile character.

All these experiences made our stay in Bremen, among such miserable people, very odious and we all wished to leave this area where everyone strived only for money and earnings.

On Tuesday our belongings were loaded onto a small boat after they had been assessed by a representative of the shippers and the extra freight charges had been paid. It was now too late and we were forced to spend another night in the hated Bremen. Several and I, slept the night on the boat.

#### THE FIRST NIGHT ON THE WATER

At morning we found the small boat too heavily loaded and it had sunk to the bottom and all labor to refloat it was of no avail. We had to unload a portion and place it on another boat. For this we had to pay an additional 7 1/2 thaler as the half of a transport payment of a full load to the Bremen Harbor even though it was about 1/3rd of a full load. These are the requirements of the association to move freight from Bremen to Bremen Harbor.

To load the chests onto the boat costs 3 grossen per chest. Finally, near 2 o'clock in the afternoon our boat was afloat and we took off from Bremen. Happy, genuinely happy to turn our backs to this city. We breathed more freely as we left after spending 14 days in this highly unpleasant, inhospitable commercial city and were on our little boat on the Weser. It was Wednesday, September 30th in the afternoon.

From the 6th day after the 18th of September, the day on which we were to arrive in Bremen, we received free board and lodging, namely 12 grossen (4 thaler) per day. We were promised much but received little. We received half board and lodging. And this was received after long discussions and difficulties from the agent.

We were healthy and happy when we arrived in Bremen but, unfortunately we were not all healthy when we left. The small, good natured Anna suddenly became ill on last Sunday, September 27th. She became very ill and we noticed with fright that she suffered with dysentery.

Our trip to Bremer harbor was very quick and uneventful. We luckily sailed past many small boats that were grounded on the sand until about half way across. We hit a sand bar and were there until a wave refloated our boat and after we spent the

second night on the same small boat we arrived in Bremen Harbor on Thursday, October 1 about mid day. The trip from Bremen to the Harbor had taken about 19 hours.

Since Hill and Ludering had provided board and lodging only on the ship, we were forced to spend the day on the small boat and sleep there under terrible conditions. On the next day, Friday October 2, in the morning, the lovely Anna became very ill and went into convulsions. They, however, soon stopped. As we still had several days to pass in idleness, before the ship was to depart, we wanted to take the child to an Inn for comfort. Now we were unfortunate to learn in Bremen Harbor, more about the the atrocity of people. Yes, at Stadt Baltimore, where we sought refuge for the child, all requests, all remonstrances, went for naught. The owners would not rent us a room. Several in our group, who had rooms in this house agreed and requested permission to leave the room and have the child and its parents move in. But this also did not help. The inhuman persons did not want a sick child in their house. After a long search an Inn hostess was found who agreed to give a room for the sick child. We thanked God for that. The lovely child was very ill that day and a bit better the next day and appears to be recovering.

The illness was relieved, the fever had subsided and we all had hopes but did not realize how soon she would be taken away. Yesterday night, the 9th of October at 11:30 o'clock the angel of death quietly came. A true angel, so serene and so radiantly lay the blessed Anna. Everyone whom she loved, wanted to have been able to take her along to Texas. The lovely child. She who wanted to be with everyone in Texas will never reach there and for from there the real God decided to take her to Him. She died on October 9, 1846 on the ship Charles Ferdinand in the middle of the river Weser, across from Bremer Harbor.

Today, October 10th, about 7 o'clock in the morning, her body clad in clothes worn while ill and a white sheet placed about her head, was brought to Bremer Harbor by her father. Three sailors and a helmsman rowed her in a sloop to Bremer Harbor. Her body was placed in a woolen blanket and a sail cloth. In Bremer Harbor she now lies in a mortuary from which, next Tuesday, October 13th she will be taken to Bremerlehe (a small town near Bremer Harbor) for burial.

### Im Affekt H.S

Richter: „Sie haben bei Ihrer Verhaftung einen falschen Namen angegeben?“

Angeklagter: „Verzeihen Sie, Herr Staatsanwalt, aber wenn ich in Wut gerate, kenne ich mich selbst nicht mehr.“

H.S.  
Der Polizeibeamte zum Autofahrer: „Würden Sie sich einem Alkoholttest unterziehen? —  
„Aber sicher doch. In welcher Kneipe fangen wir an?“



**SOCIETY FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES  
SGAS NEWS**

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Cincinnati, Ohio  
July 13, 1993  
RELEASE ON RECEIPT

**THE 1990 CENSUS AND GERMAN-AMERICANS**

Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President of the Society for German-American Studies, has analyzed the results of the 1990 U.S. Census as it relates to the German-American element. His analysis is attached.

The Society for German-American Studies had requested of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, that all German heritage groups appear in a single tally in the 1990 census. This is done for other groups, for example, the term Hispanics is used in the 1990 census to tally Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, Chinese from Jamaica, German-Brazilians, etc. The Bureau of the Census refused to do this for the German element, without any explanation as to why this element was to be treated differently than other groups. The 1990 U.S. Census tallies separately the Germans, the Pennsylvania Germans, the Austrians, etc. Dr. Tolzmann's tally provides the desired analysis.

**The 1990 Census and German-Americans:**

The first results of the 1990 U.S. Census have appeared, and indicate that the total U.S. population is: 248,709,873. The five major groups and their percentages of the total population is as follows:

1. German 57,985,595 (23.3%)
2. Irish 38,739,548 (15.6%)
3. English 32,665,779 (13.1%)
4. Italian 14,714,939 (5.9%)
5. Polish 9,366,108 (3.8%)

As the author has pointed out in numerous articles, the German category does not include Germans from other German-speaking states and regions of Europe and the Americas. Hence, to the German statistic the following can be added:

1. Alsatian 16,465
2. Austrian 870,531
3. Luxemburger 49,061
4. Swiss-German 700,000 (this is 70% of the total Swiss statistic)
5. German-Russian 10,153
6. Pennsylvania German 305,841

These six additional German ethnic groups total 1,952,051. The total combination then of all the seven German ethnic categories is:

German category	57,985,595
Other categories	1,952,051
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,937,646</b>

The results clearly indicate that German-Americans constitute a full one-fourth of the population. German-Americans may with justification take pride in the fact that they are without question the major ethnic group in America, just as they can rightfully be proud of their long history, dating back to the arrival of the first Germans in America at Jamestown, Virginia in 1608.

# Site of trade-pact ceremony already steeped in history

By Laura Lambeth  
Express-News Business Writer

Century-old, sprawling oak trees bend and twist over the private courtyard and gardens, providing shade to guests who mingle outside the two buildings of Plaza San Antonio Conference Center on South Alamo Street.

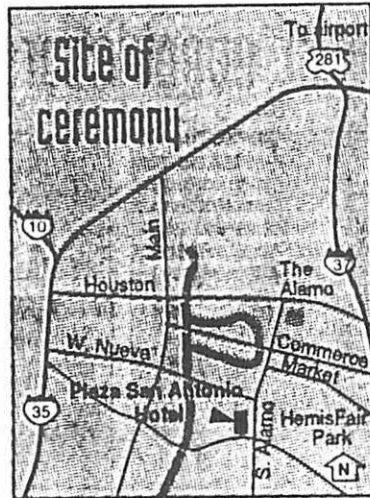
Children of German settlers once gathered there to attend classes in what was known as the German-English School.

Wednesday, the center will be the site for the initialing of the North American Free Trade Agreement. President Bush, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and Canadian Prime Minister will participate in the ceremony.

Founded in 1858 by a group of community leaders of German descent, the school was set up with a curriculum devoid of religious teaching, giving equal emphasis to the German and English languages. Classes first met in rented quarters on Commerce Street as the Casino Association, a prestigious German social club, started raising funds to build a school.

John H. Kampman, a local builder trained as an architect in his native Germany, was awarded the building contract Nov. 7, 1859, and three days later a grand celebration was held to lay the building's cornerstone.

The building was dedicated to



EXPRESS-NEWS GRAPHIC

the famed German poet Schiller, according to records from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library.

In March 1860, the school's tall, wooden doors opened to the children. About 10 years later, a second two-story building was erected.

An example of mid-century design in San Antonio, the main building is rectangular with coarse limestone-rubble walls and a metal-clad gable roof extending over a six-bay front gallery supported by wooden posts.

A second building in the complex located across the courtyard is used as the hotel's "back-of-the-house" service facilities. A small

cottage that once served as the professor's residence no longer exists on the premises.

The downstairs rooms in the main schoolhouse will be used for some of the social functions during Wednesday's ceremonies, said Marsha Hendler, regional director of marketing for Plaza San Antonio Hotel.

In 1903, the German-English School fell victim to the rise of the public school system and was deeded to the San Antonio School District. The property served as Brackenridge Grammar School until 1923 and Page Middle School from 1923-1927. From 1927 to 1948, the premises were San Antonio Junior College.

In 1953, the Conservation Society persuaded the city to buy the property, and in 1966 the buildings served as headquarters for HemisFair. The buildings were restored in time for the 1968 World's Fair.

The 252-room hotel complex was built in 1979, patterned after Las Mananitas, a garden hotel in Cuernavaca, Mexico. For many years, it was called Four Seasons Hotel.

Ten years later, the buildings and grounds were restored to the hotel's Plaza San Antonio Conference Center.

The downtown luxury hotel has been owned by Metric Realty, of Foster City, Calif., since 1983.

## Vienna perfect 'add-on' city when you design special trip to Europe

By Lesli Hicks  
Express-News Staff Writer

VIENNA — Travelers can be plunked into Austria's cultural heart in about an hour from Amsterdam if they choose Vienna as part of KLM's "Europe by Design."

Vienna is one of 10 European "add-on" cities in the program.

By nightfall, the hordes of fur-covered or blue-jeaned opera fans head to the Staatsoper, the internationally known opera house that travel plans should include.

By day consider touring the homes of some of the world's great overachievers.

The home of Sigmund Freud, the grandfather of psychoanalysis, is a streetcar ride away from the city's central square.

The home of composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is even closer and, fittingly, not far from the state opera house.

For those with richer tastes is Schoenbrunn Palace, the family home of the Hapsburg dynasty until 1918, now a museum for some of the world's most famous portraits and representations of royalty's domestic life.

For travelers who can afford a luxurious home-away-from-home, there's the Hotel Bristol. Opened in 1894, the hotel guestbook has included the names of modern-day monarchs.

Of course, the hotel has attracted a surlier bunch. In World War II, many U.S. press corps members met there, according to accounts of that time by Life magazine reporters.

Decorated in its original furnishings, Hotel Bristol's room rates naturally vary depending on the strength of the dollar and is considered out-of-reach to budget conscious travelers.

The most expensive room in spring flirted with a fee of \$850 nightly. The least expensive hovered slightly above \$300 — within range for those who save for sensory-rich travel.

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DEUTSCHES HISTORISCHES INSTITUT  
GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

September 23, 1992

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September 23, 1992

An die  
German-Texan Heritage Society  
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Mein Name ist Dr. Ulrike Skorsetz. Ich arbeite als Research Fellow am Deutschen Historischen Institut in Washington. Zunächst möchte ich mich für die schnelle Übersendung des Buches "Texas in 1848" bedanken. Ich arbeite zur Zeit über die Auswanderung aus Thüringen in die USA während der zweiten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhunderts. Da auch thüringischer Fürsten Mitglieder des Adelsvereines waren, kann man davon ausgehen, daß auch Einwanderer aus dieser Gegend nach Texas kamen. Mein Ziel ist es, eine möglichst große Gruppe von Einwanderern auf ihrem Weg in die neue Heimat zu verfolgen und ihre Integration in die neue Gesellschaft zu untersuchen. Dazu ist es notwendig, herauszufinden, wofür Gruppen thüringischer Auswanderer gegangen sind, wo sie sich angesiedelt haben, womit sie ihren Lebensunterhalt verdient haben. Darüber hinaus interessieren mich alle Fragen der Akkulturation wie Sprache (Dialekt), traditionelle Handwerke, Kulturvereine etc. Können Sie mir bei der Beantwortung dieser Fragen helfen, bzw. Wege dorthin empfehlen? Da ich erst kurze Zeit im Lande bin, fehlen mir noch die richtigen Ansätze.  
Entschuldigen Sie, daß ich in deutscher Sprache schreibe, aber mein Englisch ist nicht sehr gut. Sollte dies jedoch ein Problem sein, kann ich in Englisch schreiben. Sie können auf jeden Fall in der Ihnen genehmeren Sprache antworten. Für jede Antwort von Ihnen wäre ich sehr dankbar.  
Mit freundlichen Grüßen



My name is Dr. Ulrike Skorsetz. I am a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. First I want to thank you for mailing a copy of Texas in 1848. At present I am researching the emigration from the province of Thuringia, Germany, to the U.S.A. in the second half of the 19th century. Since noblemen from Thuringia were Adelsverein members, it would stand to reason that people from that region emigrated to Texas. My goal is to trace a large body of emigrants on their journey to their new home and look at their assimilation into the new society. To accomplish this it is necessary to establish which way Thuringian emigrants went, where they settled and how they made their livelihood. I am also interested in the acculturation, such as language (dialect), traditional handicrafts, social clubs, etc. Can you help me with these questions or direct me to the appropriate sources? Because I arrived in this country a short time ago, I have not had the opportunity to familiarize myself with the resources.

Excuse my German but I feel that my English is inadequate. Should language be a problem, I will correspond in English. Answer in the language you are more comfortable in. I appreciate any help that is offered.

Sincerely,

Ulrike Skorsetz.



STATE LINES

# Requiem for a culture

By Fredericka Richter-DeBerry

I am 6 years old, sitting on my grandfather's knee, and he is singing a song about *mein Schatz*. He hugs me and calls me his *Schatz*. I don't really know what it means, but I know that he loves me, and so it must mean something nice.

Then the test begins. "Name the presidents of the United States, in order," he says.

"George Washington, somebody-Adams, uh, Abraham Lincoln, and Roosevelt," I declare, triumphantly.

"*Nein, nein, mein Schatz*," he replies. "You have completed kindergarten and now you are in first grade. How is it that you do not know such important things? You are an American, you must know these things!"

I feel so bad. I want to please him by reciting the things he thinks I should know. I try distractions. How is the cotton? Will there be an early bale this year? How are your eyes today, *Grosspapa*? Are your "cad-wrecks" better? He ignores my questions, mumbles in German, and hugs me once again. It is OK, he reassures me. The teacher will help me learn what is important. It is a good school, and it is good that I can go to school, and not have to work in the fields.

I wander off to the kitchen, where my grandmother is preparing the noon meal. Beef with rich, greasy gravy, boiled potatoes, cucumbers (*Deutschstyle*), fresh-baked bread and fruit dumplings. The aroma of the old kitchen with its wood stove is irresistible.

My *Grossmutter* is old, and she is tired. Day by day, the many years of hard work are beginning to take *Grosspapa* and her away from me. My coming to the kitchen is a good excuse for her to sit down and take me on her lap. Decades later I can close my eyes and relive the experience — the comfort of her bosom and the soft, sweet smell of talcum powder. The beef, potatoes, and everything else can wait. We had something more important to do. I needed comforting and she was my comforter. But there was something more that I wanted. I wanted to know German, and

I wanted to know about Germans and Germany. But it was the wrong time. German, a language. German, Kraut, Nazi, Jerry. Bad names. But, we weren't bad. Nobody in my extended family was bad. But the silence was heavy, my confusion acute.

I am on the floor in front of the big tall radio in the living room. My parents listen intently as they digest the war bulletins.

My older brother, barely 18, is out there fighting somewhere. My father is too old to fight, so he spends hours with papers and meetings. He is an air raid warden and takes the job seriously. We learn of mustard and other gases, how to identify them and what to do if they are detected. Later, when I am in bed, I hear my parents talking. They are speaking in German, and I don't under-

stand. I am in college. Courses in German are offered. Who needs them? I will take French. French is a romantic language, and the French are beautiful and romantic people. German is guttural, and who knows what the people are like? I don't know any Germans, do I? No, I don't think so, only some people long ago who used to be German.

I am married and have a lovely Anglo-Saxon surname. Before long there are children, three beautiful Anglo-Saxon children. My life is good, very American, very non-cultural. My father is old and ill. He might not live too much longer. Wait, wait, I think; there are things I need to know. Questions seem to come from a place between my head and my heart. How did they get there? Have they been there all along? I am surprised. I thought they were all gone a

beer, cigarettes and pastries. They talk in German while one of the younger people translates. Yes, they know the family; would we like to go visit them?

Them? Them? I barely have time to digest the information before we are standing on the same land my great-great-grandfather cultivated. I am meeting kinsmen I didn't even know existed. Before long, I have in my possession letters that my ancestors wrote to Germany from the Land of Freedom. A legacy, a heritage. Family jewels more precious than any other. I dig, I have translations done, I chart, I plot. Soon there is heritage, a cultural background, roots and pride.

The wall is down, and my husband and I are back in Germany. We meet with my mother's family descendants. They have photos and documentation. We spend the day talking, laughing, and comparing notes. There is no option. On our next trip we must come back and visit with the old ones before they are gone. There is not time during this trip, and the next morning we press on.

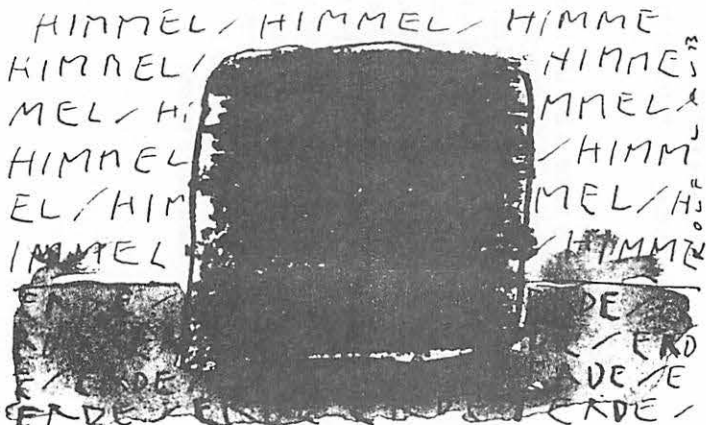
This time we drive into the East with some apprehension. It is so soon, and we are not sure what to expect. In time we become comfortable with the roads, and eventually we find the village where *Grosspapa* was born, up near the Baltic Sea. It is bleak, drab and very poor. Not all is as colorful and fresh as the West, but we see signs of progress here and there. The people we encounter are warm, hospitable and helpful. We find the church, a beautiful old structure reeking of history. The pastor spends several hours explaining parts of the church and giving a history of the area. I stand there, where so many of my ancestors were baptized, confirmed, married and eulogized, and I am in tune with my heritage.

I say that I have chills. The pastor, misunderstanding, explains that the church was built in the 1100s and that the old stones make it very cool. I reword my feelings. He nods with an air of understanding and says that, since the wall came down, he, too, feels chills from time to time.

Later, I stand in the country cemetery in Fort Bend County. *Grosspapa*, born Heinrich in Germany, died Henry in Texas. *Grossmama*, christened Fredericka, died Anna. My mother was named Luisa, but she will leave this world as Louise. The assimilation never seems to end. Is there a requiem for a culture?

Their time is over and they are gone. But something important of theirs lives within me: German. A language. A label. A culture. A heritage. A thing that is an integral part of my being.

Fredericka Richter-DeBerry is a free-lance writer and works at the Clear Lake High School library.



stand. Years later I know that they spoke in German so I would not know of their fears and apprehensions. They did not want me to know German and be labeled as such. It was a secret society, and I had no hope of ever belonging.

I am in high school and it is course-selection time. German as a foreign language? It is not offered. Nobody tells me, but as I grow older I learn that the wounds had not yet healed. The open sores from World War II were still festering, even though the fighting was over. Once again the opportunity to learn a little of my heritage is denied me.

Too soon my grandparents are gone and the extended family has assimilated to the extent that the German heritage is barely distinguishable. I have been cheated out of a legacy, but with my teen-age wisdom I am not even cognizant of the fact. I want to be "red, white, blue, and true." I want a name like Jane Jones, or Pat Patterson. Please, Lord, just let me blend in and leave this thing behind.

long time ago. Too soon my father is gone, and with him answers to my many questions.

The process begins. I have much work to do. Work that should have started years ago. German, German, find out all you can. But so many are gone now, and the search for answers is a lonely one. Little by little I begin to learn. A thread here, a line over there. A family tree begins to grow, and with it, a heritage long ignored and forgotten.

The Berlin Wall is still intact during my first trip to Germany, thereby limiting my search for roots. I find myself in a village in the West. My father's family came from here. It is small, fresh-looking and orderly. It looks like Brenham. No wonder the ancestors settled in Washington and Austin counties.

My husband and I ask, in broken German, about the family name. Yes, we are told, there are people here who know the name. We will take you to them. Suddenly, we are in the home of some townspeople, friendly and gracious hosts. They offer schnapps and



# Germany's past, refugees' present

When West Germany was formed in 1949, the country's leaders wrote a liberal political asylum law into the constitution as a form of atonement for Nazi atrocities.

Now, in reaction to the law that has allowed 500,000 refugees into Germany this year, the ghost of Nazism has risen.

Neo-Nazis have rioted against refugees in Rostock and other German cities. The riots have plunged Germans into soul-searching about the country's past and about tightening immigration laws.

With all the huge problems arising out of reunification two years ago, Germany has remained generous, hospitable and open.

It spends far more than any other European country on foreign aid, as witness its efforts in starving Somalia. Compared with the half-million refugees in Germany, Britain and France reluctantly accepted only a few thousand each.

Officials say that 1,100 refugees arrived every day from January through July. There are 360,000 unprocessed applications for asylum.

Meanwhile, Germany is providing free meals, lodging and spending money of up to \$360 a month for a head of family and lesser amounts for other family members. The costs run into the billions.

The worst anti-refugee riots have taken place in the former East Germany, still struggling to overcome devastating decades of Communist rule. Eastern Germans are recognizing that it may take a generation to reach the western standard of living.

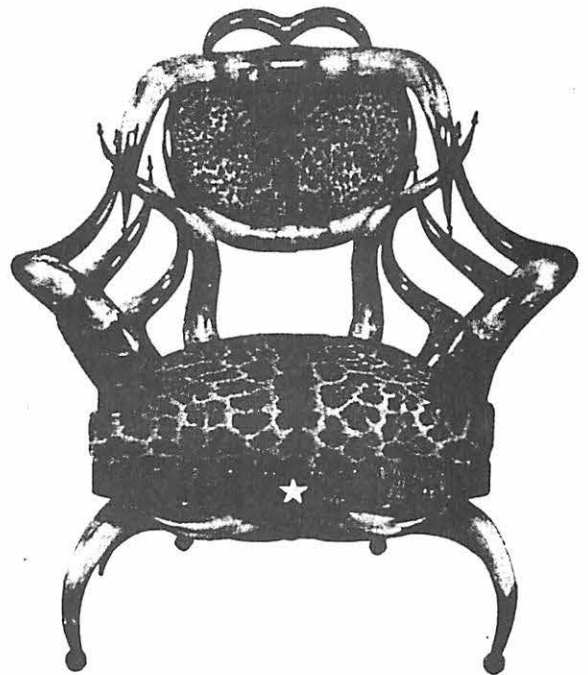
Some of them are taking out their frustration on the refugees from two dozen different countries. Cultural clashes are evident not only with Germans, but also with other immigrants.

Politicians of all parties are predicting that immigration laws will be tightened. It also is likely that the government will try harder to improve eastern Germany's economy.

As alarming as the refugee-bashing neo-Nazis are, they should not be seen as a resurrection of Nazism. Germany has laid that part of its past to rest.

TEXAS MONTHLY 28 SEPTEMBER 1992

AROUND THE STATE



**HORN APLENTY** Around 1880, Wenzel Friedrich and other Texas cabinetmakers began creating home furnishings from Longhorn horns. At a new show at San Antonio's Witte Museum devoted to objets d'horn, patrons will see a chair upholstered in jaguar and a sideboard that belonged to Empress Carlota of Mexico. September 26-January 10. \$4. 3801 Broadway (512-829-7262).

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, Monday, September 28, 1992

## At breakfast, a 'praktisch' way to deal with trash

By **Theresa Waldrop**  
Los Angeles Times Service

It's breakfast time at a pleasant little inn just off the road from Germany's high-speed thoroughfare, the Autobahn. The table is set with plates, silver, glasses and baskets of breads and jam.

In the middle of the table sits an unfamiliar object — a large, round plastic container adorned with a floral pattern. It's empty. We look at it and wonder: Can it be a flower vase, or perhaps a flask to keep the coffee warm?

A couple at a nearby table

solves the puzzle. They tell us that we put the breakfast scrap in the container, so that the table is kept neat and clean. "Praktisch, nicht?" the wife says contentedly.

It is practical because quite a bit of scrap piles up at the inn's breakfast table. Bread, cheese, sausage, marmalade, butter, cream, tea bags and sugar — everything is tucked into its own little package. The container is soon filled.

Simply throwing waste in the trash bucket isn't good enough anymore. Luckily for government officials, who have just passed the world's

most stringent recycling law, Germans are quick to recognize this. For years citizens have trundled used paper and glass to containers located in every community. Shoppers take bags back to stores. Opinion polls show that 75 percent of Germans believe environmental problems are the most important issue for society.

The German devotion to recycling is evident in the little town of Vaterstetten, outside Munich. At 9:30 a.m. there is already a long line outside the local recycling station. When the gates open, people spread

over the area, depositing bags and packages in various containers, cases and barrels.

"Stop there! That's absolutely wrong!" shouts a guard to an old woman. She had just emptied her entire bag, which included plastic trash, in the same bin.

"This is not the way to do it," the guard says and shows the woman where the different material belongs.

"I have dumped my trash here for four years, but this thing with plastic, this I have never learned," the woman sighs.

Hugo Bruno Wetzel - New Braunfels Merchant  
by  
*Lottie Nebergall Miller (Granddaughter)*

Hugo Bruno Wetzel came to New Braunfels at age 10 with his parents, Christian Friedrich Wetzel and his wife Johanna, in 1846. They came via Galveston on the "Margaretha", landing there on October 26. There were six children including Hugo.

The 1860 census shows Hugo Bruno to be 23 years old and an apprentice to Charles Floege, a merchant. Hugo later owned his own general merchandise store on the corner of West San Antonio and South Hill streets. The location was next to the railroad tracks. The building was a two story wooden structure with a porch type roof overhanging the sidewalk. Two large paned glass windows with wooden shutters flanked the front double doors. At the side of the building away from Hill Street, stair steps led to the second floor. There were three windows on the front of that floor.

The International and Great Northern railroad came to town in 1880. In fact it came right down Hill Street splitting it in two. Taking advantage of the railroad coming so close to his store Mr. Wetzel crated and shipped eggs to St. Louis, MO. Two of his daughters gathered the eggs by horse and buggy from farmers in the surrounding country side. This turned out to be a profitable venture.

Among his merchandise he had bolts of cloth, including gingham in small black and white check. This was very popular especially for women's aprons. It was also more colorfast in washing than other materials such as percales. He also carried bolts of damask for tablecloths, "White" foot-pedal sewing machines, dinnerware, kitchenware and of course groceries.

School was located about a block and a half from the store. When classes were dismissed for the day his children would run into their father's store to get some juicy apples from the barrel. They would then rush next door to the home of Hermann Seele, the first teacher in New Braunfels, where they would place their apples on a shelf of his unique cast iron stove. When the apples were warmed thoroughly the children would sit on the floor, munch on their apples and listen to Mr. Seele tell them stories.

Directly across the railroad tracks from the Wetzel home, on the wide part of the divided Hill Street, stood a livery stable. Among the services was the hire of surreys and buggies. Groups of young adults, as well as families, used these for transport to Landa's Pasture (as Landa Park was called in those days) for picnics along the banks of the clear bubbling Comal or for rides into the country to visit relatives or friends.

When not busy, Mr. Wetzel would often sit in front of his store relaxing in his storekeeper's chair. (very similar to a Captain's chair). He was not the only one who liked the shade of the store. It was the habit of the Mexicans of that time to while away the time leaning in a crouching position against the walls of the building. One such person was "Lange Louise" (tall Louise) who almost became a fixture at the store, because she



spent so much time crouching there, rolling and smoking cigarettes. Lange Louise was a customer of the Wetzel store as were many other Mexicans, who lived in small houses along the west side of Hill Street. Mr. Wetzel spoke their language fluently.

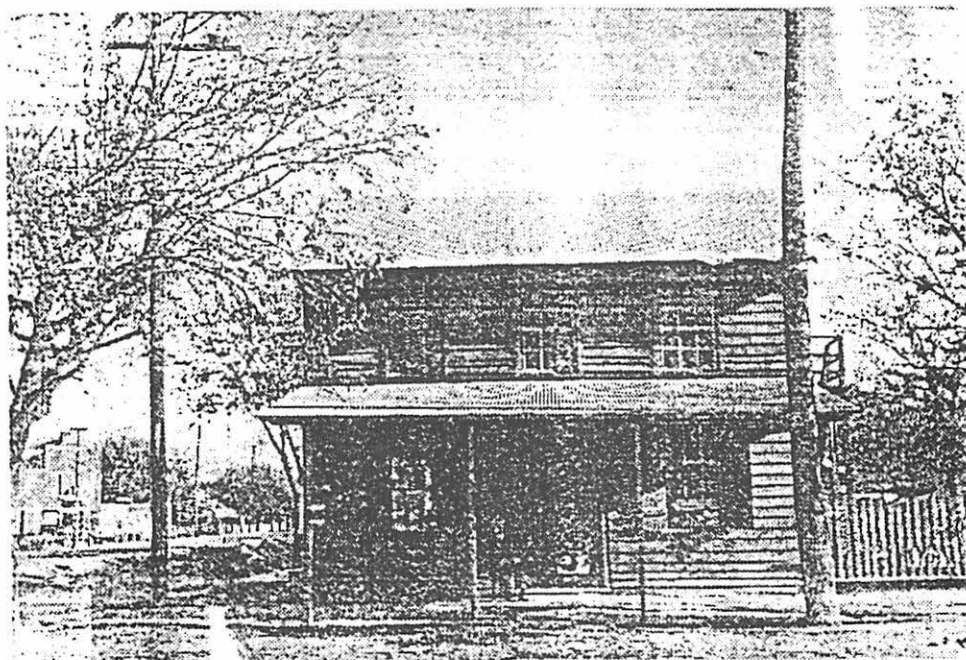
Mr. Wetzel, his wife Bertha (nee Penshorn) and their eight children lived in a small white clapboard house immediately behind the store. Mrs. Wetzel died November 17, 1880. That was the same year the railroad came through. In fact relatives told the story that her funeral took place on the very same day the first train pulled through town beside the old store and family home.

When Mr. Wetzel decided to retire he sold his business, house and grounds and purchased a house just down the street where he, two of his unmarried daughters and a son lived. The front part of the house is Fachwerk covered with boards painted white. Living quarters originally were in two rooms on the ground floor and the kitchen and eating area were in the basement. Mrs. Alfred (Dittlinger) Liebscher tells that her parents lived there at one time also. The present structure contains a living room and bedroom in the old part, a bedroom, bath, dining room and a kitchen have been added at the back.

In his declining years Mr. Wetzel insisted on dressing up by adding a coat and hat to his usual attire, and being taken to the front porch. He would sit by the porch railing by the sidewalk shaking hands and visiting with passers-by, most of them former customers.

Hugo Bruno Wetzel was born May 9, 1836 and died August 3, 1913. He is buried in Comal Cemetery, New Braunfels, TX.

14 November 1989. tjc



## Schloss Etiquette for Texans

by Ron and Roberta Nelson

After following the directions our friend Henry had scribbled on a cocktail napkin, we found ourselves face-to-face with the outer-wall of a small castle in a remote part of southern Germany. The castle was exactly as described and just what we needed, an out-of-the-way place, not frequented by tourists. Being half way through our usual European travel itinerary of trying to cram four-months travel into four weeks we needed a couple of days to unwind. We had no idea that what lay in store for us inside this 14th Century castle was far from the relaxation anticipated.

After parking in the cobblestone-paved courtyard we began looking for the entrance. Schloss Furstenek was about three stories tall and constructed of large gray stones. The only access to the castle appeared to be stairway that jutted out from and formed part of the castle wall. We unpacked the car and carried our luggage up 30 steps which ended abruptly on a small landing. A large door was on the left; a sheer wall about 15 feet high was straight ahead. Later in the day we learned that atop this wall was a picturesque little patio. Though the patio's original purpose was probably the location to pour boiling tar on hostile intruders, now it contained tables and chairs and was a superb location for enjoying an afternoon glass of German wine.

The castle door was ominous. Shaped like an arch, it was at least 12 feet tall and 6 feet wide and constructed from solid timber about 10 inches wide and 6 inches thick. The timbers were standing on end and fastened together with steel straps. With a little imagination one could identify the marks in the door as gouges made by spears, axes, and various other 14th Century implements of war. A twist of the eight-inch long, wrought-iron handle and a strong shove opened the door and we were inside.

The small room that served as a lobby was not well lighted. To the right were the stairs that led up to the patio. We rang the bell which was located on a small table at the foot of the stairs. Suddenly, from around a corner came Erica, the proprietress and head cook. Her cheerful smile and colorful attire were in marked contrast to the dark surroundings. Henry must have described us to her because her greeting was as if we were life-long friends.

After we signed the guest register Erica gave us a quick tour of the castle and then took us to our room, which was up another flight of stairs. Our room was located in a corner of the castle and the large windows looked out in two directions. From one window we could see a lush green forest and from the other, miles of rolling grassy-country side, bisected by a winding river. The forested route we had driven to the castle gave no indication of the magnificent view, especially from this room. We spent the rest of the day exploring the castle grounds and walking along the river. After wine on the patio we went inside for dinner and enjoyed one of the best dining experiences of our trip.

While we were waiting for dessert, a gentlemen got up from his table and came over to introduce himself. He held out his hand and said in English, flavored with a heavy German accent, "My name is Wilhelm Schmidt, and you must be the Nelsons?" We were speechless. Here in a small castle in an out-of-the-way part of Germany, a complete stranger calls us by name. Wilhelm could see the startled look on our faces. He explained that he had recently met our mutual friend, Henry Thornton, who had told him we would be at the castle for two days. Wilhelm then motioned for his wife, who spoke no English, to join him at our table. He invited us to their home for the remainder of the evening. We instantly realized this was indeed a great honor and accepted his invitation. He suggested that when we finished our dessert we



meet in the parking lot and follow them to their home, about 10 KM from the castle. He and his wife then left the dining room. When Erica brought the desserts the Schmidts were nowhere to be seen. The significance of this little incident was not apparent until much later.

The evening at the Schmidts was memorable. We are always amazed at how complete strangers, even of different cultures, can find common ground and enjoy each other's company. It was after 1:00 a.m. when we finally thanked our hosts for a great evening and made our way back to the castle, having no idea that the evening was far from over. After we parked the car and were making our way across the cobblestones to the stairway leading to the front door we became a little suspicious; the castle and courtyard were completely dark. This darkness was accentuated by not even a hint of moonlight.

By the time we arrived at the foot of the stairs our eyes had grown accustomed to the dark, enough at least to allow us to negotiate the 30 stairs with no problem. At the top of the stairs we found the huge wooden door in the same position as on our first trip up the stairs: closed. However, this time turning the handle and shoving the huge door didn't produce the same results; the door didn't budge. It took several other attempts before we would admit that we were locked out. We tried the room key in the lock but to no avail. We knew that banging on the six-inch solid timber door wouldn't do anything but produce sore hands, but we did it anyway; we were right. It now occurred to us that an outlying Castle-Hotel in Germany did not operate in the same way as a Holiday Inn on a major U.S. Interstate. There is no walk-in trade at 1:00 a.m. and, hence, no need for a 24-hour desk clerk. The last person to go to bed turns out the lights and locks the door. Our lack of proper castle etiquette, not telling Erica we were going out for the evening, meant we were most likely going to sleep in the car.

As we turned to go downstairs we heard a noise coming from the balcony above us. It appeared to be someone singing softly. We listened carefully and heard "Rule Britannia, Britannia Rules the Waves" cutting through the clear night sky. What an incredible piece of luck! The only other foreign guest at the castle was an English salesman we had met earlier in the afternoon on that very same patio where he was now trying to communicate with the Queen. If we could only get his attention, maybe he could go downstairs and open the door. We hollered a couple of times and the singing stopped. Several more shouts of "Down Here" brought our potential savior to the wall that surrounded the patio. A head appeared and a voice said in very slurred English, "What ya want?" By the sound of his voice he had stayed on the patio throughout the evening and continued to enjoy the fine German wine.

It seemed like forever but we finally got through his mental haze that we were locked out and needed him to go downstairs to unlock the door. With a "Be ther'na jiffy" he disappeared. About five seconds had elapsed when we heard a loud crash and abundant profanity. The stuporous Englishman was apparently having a wrestling match with a patio table and the table was winning. We whispered to one another, "We've asked this guy to negotiate a flight of stairs in his inebriated condition. Certainly we won't be liable for the consequences!"

We waited in silence for what seemed an eternity and finally we heard a noise on the other side of the door. At last, we thought, we can get this nonsense over with and get to bed. There was a discernible jingling of keys on the other side of the door but nothing was happening. "Unlock the door," we yelled. "I can't get the key in the lock," was his garbled response. Obviously his physical dexterity was coming to grips with the alcohol level of his blood stream. Several more minutes of key jingling and profanity were climaxed with a loud thud followed by total silence. We just shrugged our shoulders and started down the stairs on our way back to the car, assuming our only hope of a good night's sleep had collapsed on the wrong side of the locked castle door. We wondered just how close the key had come to the lock,



by how many fractions of an inch we were going to miss sleeping in a bed. But we also thought we were quite fortunate, given the Englishman's condition, that something other than hot tar had not come over the patio wall.

Fortunately, our VW had fold-down front seats which, while not as comfortable as a bed, were better than trying to sleep on the ground. At this point we welcomed any place to lie down. We had just arrived back at our car when we saw the head-lights of another vehicle approaching the passageway through the castle wall. The driver parked a short distance from us. When he got out we recognized him as the castle grounds-keeper whom we had met during the day on our exploration of the castle. Again we were fortunate in that his English was better than our German.

He was startled at seeing us approaching his car. Before he could ask us what we were doing outside the castle at this time of night we said, "We're locked out. Do you have a key?" "You're what?" he replied. "Locked out," we repeated. As we walked toward the stairs he told us that he lived in the grounds-keeper's cottage and didn't have a key to the front door. We further divulged our encounter with the Englishman.

When we arrived at the top of the stairs the grounds-keeper began hitting the solid wooden door with both hands and screaming, "Erica, Erica, wake up." He kept this up for several minutes but soon realized, as we did earlier, this was getting nowhere. Suddenly he said, "I've got an idea; don't go away." As if there were anywhere to go! In about five minutes we heard something being dragged across the cobblestone courtyard. Moments later the ground's keeper emerged at the bottom of the stairs with an extension ladder. We went down the stairs and helped him bring the ladder to the landing. We raised the ladder to the vertical position and pulled the rope to raise the extension portion. Once the ladder was in position, he said he would hold it secure while we climbed up to the patio. He told us to go on and go to bed; he would put the ladder back.

While ascending the ladder we wondered how many times had warriors tried to storm this same castle wall in exactly this fashion. Although we were entering the castle under somewhat peaceful conditions, once on the patio we did notice the winner of the most recent conflict lying on its side. We uprighted the table and made our way to our room.

Safely inside we realized this evening was an adventure we would always remember. However, in the future we could not be assured of as orderly an outcome, so we made an immediate entry into our notebook of proper Schloss etiquette: "When leaving a German castle for an evening of merriment, make sure you have a way back in, preferably not by ladder.

#### Query on *Zavala County Sentinel*

Frances Ott Allen, member, Society for German-American Studies, is trying to research the World War II internment camp, which was located in Crystal City, Texas. It was mentioned in a lengthy article by Walter Jacobs, which was published in the SGAS Newsletter. She is especially trying to locate a library which has copies of the newspaper *Zavala County Sentinel* dated 1940 to 1950. The newspaper was published in Crystal City, Texas. Any other information would also be most welcome. Address: Frances Ott Allen, 10025 Arborwood Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45251.

# German princess operates Garden of Living Butterflies

New York Times Service

Just outside the town of Koblenz, Germany, is an indoor garden where hundreds of butterflies — some with wingspans of nearly eight inches — flutter amid orchids and other tropical plants.

Princess Gabriela zu Sayn-Wittgenstein-Sayn opened the Garden of Living Butterflies five years ago in two glass conservatories on the castle grounds of her family's ancestral home in Bendorf-Sayn.

The butterflies, some bred on the grounds, most imported weekly from breeders in South America, the Philippines and other points around the globe, are an extraordinary collection of delicate creatures with life spans of only three days to a month at most.

There are 40 to 50 species and 500 to 600 butterflies in the garden at any given time. In the space of

*San Antonio Express - News  
Sun. Oct 4, 1992*

the season there are about 200 species altogether. An official said the butterflies were chosen mostly for their beauty and that there are no really rare species.

The conservatories are open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from April 1 to Nov. 1 (in October to 5 p.m.). Admission is about \$4.50, and \$3 for children. The town of Bendorf-Sayn is 10 minutes by car or taxi from Koblenz.

## Die Bremer Stadtmusikanten

Es war einmal ein alter Esel, dem war nicht wohl, und so ging er auch nicht auf's Eis tanzen, sondern stellte sich am Frankfurter Kreuz als Anhalter an die Autobahn, denn er wollte nach Bremen zum Fernsehen und dort als Musiker auftreten.

Wie er so anhielt und anhielt, kam ein Hund herangehechelt, der war ganz verzweifelt, denn keine Leute hatten ihn an der Autobahn ausgesetzt, als sie in Urlaub gefahren waren. Der Esel erzählte dem Hund von seinen Plänen und sie beschlossen es als Duett zu versuchen. Bald aber kam auch noch eine Katze und jammerte, man habe sie aus dem Fenster geworfen, weil in der neuen Wohnung ihrer Herrschaft das Halten von Haustieren verboten sei.

„Sehr gut“, sagte der Esel, „als Katze verstiebst du was von Musik, also bilden wir ein Trio.“ Die Katze war's zufrieden und wenig später kam auch noch ein Hahn herbeistolz, der auf seinem Bauernhof überflüssig geworden war, weil der Bauer alle Hühner in Legebatterien gepfercht hatte und es für den Hahn nichts mehr zu tun gab und auch keinen Mist mehr, auf dem er hätte krähen können. „Sehr schön“, sagte der Esel, „jetzt haben wir auch noch eine Oberstimme und geben ein richtiges Quartett ab.“ So zogen sie zu Fuß los, und als es Nacht wurde, kamen sie an eine prächtige Villa, in der einige sehr wohlhabend aussehende Herren saßen und es sich bei Essen und Trinken wohl sein ließen.

Wie die vier Tiere das sahen, kriegten sie großen Hunger und beschlossen, mit Gewalt an der Mahlzeit teilzunehmen. „Dabei können wir auch gleich unsere musikalische Show ausprobieren“, sagte der Esel.

Submitted by Herbart Bilbartz, Medina, Texas

*San Antonio Express - News  
Sun. Oct 11, 1992*

## Texas public school language class enrollments

Spanish has been the dominant foreign language that public school students have studied, based on numbers provided by the Texas Education Agency. Below is the number of students enrolled in foreign languages since the 1986-87 academic year for high schools (grades 9-12) and the total for elementary students (kindergarten through 6th grade). Some students take more than one foreign language.

High schools	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90	90-91
French	63,674	57,513	55,899	56,733	57,367
German	14,336	13,830	14,090	13,944	15,232
Latin	14,967	14,020	13,432	14,369	15,731
Spanish	220,704	203,404	214,219	228,079	247,902
Other Languages	1,808	1,779	1,659	2,020	2,084
Exploratory Courses	6,786	6,207	5,639	5,805	6,583
Totals	322,275	296,753	304,938	320,985	344,899
Elementary schools					
Spanish	31,966	28,318	21,185	22,100	19,295
Statewide student enrollment totals	3,209,515	3,236,867	3,271,509	3,316,785	3,379,014

Der Hund sprang auf seinen Rücken, die Katze hüpfte auf den Hund und der Hahn flog zuletzt der Katze auf den Kopf. Dann gab der Esel den Einsatz und alle vier fingen sie zu musizieren an, daß die große Glasscheibe der Terrassentür von selbst in tausend Stücke zersprang. So drangen sie in die Villa ein und machten einen ohrenbetäubenden Lärm, zu dem der Esel mit seinen Hufen — hum, hum, hum — den Takt schlug.

Die Herren in der Villa aber ergriffen nicht etwa die Flucht, sondern blieben wie gebannt sitzen, bis den Musikanten die Luft ausging, und dann klatschten sie begeistert in die Hände. Es handelte sich nämlich um lauter Musikverleger und Schallplattenproduzenten, die gerade verzweifelt nach einem Sound suchten, mit dem sich im nächsten halben Jahr das größte Geschäft machen ließe. Nun hatten sie ihn endlich gefunden und flugs schlossen sie mit den vier einen Vertrag, legten die ersten Termine für Konzerte, Tourneen und Schallplattenaufnahmen fest, und so wurden Esel, Hund, Katze und Hahn als „The Animals“ erfolgreiche und überall gern gesehene Musikanten, denen schließlich auch ihr größter Wunschtraum erfüllt wurde: in Bremen im Fernsehen aufzutreten. So lebten sie zusammen in Saas in Braas, hatten viele Fan-Clubs und Croopics, tapezierten ihr Heim mit Goldenen Schallplatten, und wenn sie nicht gestorben sind, dann rocken sie noch heute.

*Klaus Peter Schreier*

„Die Blasmusik“ Offizielles Organ des Bundes Deutscher Blasmusikverbände, e.V. Freiburg, November 1991



Oct 8, 1992

San Antonio Express-News

LIFESTYLE/ARTS

# German photographer's exhibit focuses on Mexican folkways

By Dan R. Goddard  
Express-News Arts Writer

Hugo Brehme, a German, became known as the "father of Mexican landscape photography," but the exhibit of 30 of his sepia photographs at the San Antonio Museum of Art focuses on folkways from the period of Porfirio Diaz through the Mexican Revolution.

Drawn from the permanent collection, "Aperture on Mexico: The Photographs of Hugo Brehme 1910-1925" goes on display Saturday at the museum and will continue through Jan. 3.

Taken in and around Mexico City during the first two decades of the 20th century, Brehme's photographs mimic the style of genre-painters during the period, recording the traditional dress, customs, festivals, celebrations and arts and crafts. Taken mostly in rural villages and outdoor markets, the photographs have a painterly quality.

For example, "Ultimo Recuerdo" shows a mother and grandmother holding the body of a dead child dressed as St. Michael in a small crown and cape. The women believed the child would go directly to heaven and become an "angelito." The same pose can be found repeated in folk paintings from the period.

Born in Germany in 1884, Brehme emigrated to Mexico before the start of the Mexican Revolution in 1910. He bought the studio and equipment of a Swedish photographer, Emilio Lange, and began recording the country's architecture, indigenous groups and



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS

Hugo Brehme is known as the 'father of Mexican landscape photography.' This photo titled 'Musicos Campesinos' is among the 30 photographs on display at the San Antonio Museum of Art.

daily life. Many of his landscapes were published in the book "Mexican Pintoresco" (Berlin, 1923).

But curator Marion Oettinger selected photographs for this exhibit that reflected the folk culture. Images include a group of women working on embroidery, an outdoor dance, a sombrero shop and people in ornate costumes standing near thatch huts. Other photographs capture a group of charros showing off their fancy cowboy outfits on the city square.

An 1840 "crowned nun" painting by Guadalajara artist Feliz Zarate

is also on display in the museum's Great Hall as the object of the month. Known as "Monjas Coronadas," it is a portrait of a young woman about to enter the Dominican order — represented by the image of Saint Dominic that hangs around her neck. Her crown, laced with flowers, contains images of the Virgin of the Immaculate Conception.

"Aperture on Mexico: The Photographs of Hugo Brehme" runs through Jan. 3 at the San Antonio Museum of Art, 200 W. Jones Ave., 978-8100.

## Der Schein trügt H-5

Die alte Konsistorialrätin besichtigte ein Feldlazarett. Am Bett eines Verwundeten mit Kopfverband fragte sie:  
„Ach, Sie sind wohl am Kopf verwundet?“  
Landser: „Nee, ich hab' einen Bauchschuß; mir ist nur der Verband raufgerutscht.“

## Beweis H-5

„Glaubst du an die Seelenwanderung, Heinrich?“  
„Gewiß, Erwin, ich bin überzeugt, daß ich früher ein Esel gewesen bin!“  
„Warum gerade ein Esel?“  
„Weil ich dir hundert Mark gepumpt habe.“



The following article was submitted by Leola Tiedt. Everyone in GTHS knows Leola, those who don't, should. In her note she gives this explanation:

Dear Von,

You are the next Journal editor, aren't you?

I don't know if you consider this article appropriate. So many members know me and some may wonder if there is a "Mister Tiedt." ... He is 84 and we have been married 61 years.

Yours truly,  
Leola

#### AN ADVENTURE ON THE BACK PORCH

The dictionary defines Adventure as an unusual or exciting experience. When you reach the age of 84, the meaning of unusual and exciting experience, has a different connotation. Your eye-sight in one eye is gone, because in your youth, you had looked at an eclipse of the sun through a broken window pane, blackened with the soot of the wash kettle in the backyard. The other eye has had a cataract removed and a lens implanted. This poor vision makes many things such as driving a car or going on trips of adventure.

You have tried out three sets of hearing-aids and after a period of time, they become so bothersome that they are discarded, so poor hearing is added to poor eyesight.

The legs become weaker, and walking with a cane as your companion is a reality. So what do you do? You sit and sit and sit.

When you live in a small town and have a back porch, you are lucky. There is so much to watch, and it's perfectly safe on the porch to do so.

The longer you sit and watch the more you begin to see and really observe.

There are the lizards. You watch and see that they change colors as they scramble on the red-brick wall or up the green banister. When they notice another lizard, they stop and suddenly, a beautiful redish bubble appears on the underside of the throat. This is supposed to be his sex-appeal!

You hear an unusual sound and you watch the area from which it comes you notice a small toad that is sitting in a wet-spot of the flower bed. You are told that they are almost extinct.

The squirrels, whose nest is in the oak tree across the street, get braver and braver. They cross the street dodging the

page 2

cars, or they cross using the TV cables or the utility lines. They scramble up the pecan trees and "fly" from tree to tree.

There are so many pecan trees in the neighborhood that they have little trouble finding nuts to hide in the ground for future use or take up the tree to their nest.

Soon the animals become a challenge and you want to become a part of their adventure. You start throwing out nuts and then making the distance shorter and shorter. Soon the squirrels gain confidence and will come and get them near your chair.

It takes patience but you have plenty of that now. Gradually, you will get them to take one out of your hand. What a thrill of accomplishment.

Soon you have three squirrels that will come and get the nuts from your hand held out at the side of the chair. You begin to notice that there is a difference in the squirrels that, at first, looked alike.

One, whose tail is beautiful and bushy along its entire length, takes the nut and turns and turns it, and soon takes it and digs it into the ground. When you give her a cracked nut, she sits and eats it. Later observation shows she has a B-B pellet embedded in her side under her skin. She must also have been hit in the jaw. She is now fed only shelled pecans.

Another would first sit in the flower pot that holds the Ponderosa Pine, before she jumps onto a bench and then the knee.

The third has an unusual gap about three inches from the tip of the tail. This one climbs up the walking cane to the knee.

You have heard of a "pecking" order among chickens and birds. There is such an order among the three. They respect the right of the one who is already in the area.

page 3

A hunter feels a thrill when he bags his game. When that first squirrel jumps on the knee and takes the nut, the thrill is just as great. Later they would occasionally sit and eat before jumping off.

Another diversion is watching the butcher-bird. A couple of these birds have used a well-bucket that stood on a shelf in the garage for a nesting place three times. They built one nest on top of the other instead of using the first nest three times. The birds were noticed as they flew in and out, but never really observed.

The bucket was needed for a different purpose, so the birds used a hat (the kind that is used to decorate a clay flowerpot) that is in a child's lawn chair, that hangs on a nail near the ceiling on this back porch.

A butcher-bird is a small sparrow - like bird with a narrow white stripe above and below each eye on its brown body. They are capable of walking up a vertical wall and are very stealthy in their movements.

They are called "butcher" because they will catch their prey and stick them on the points of barb-wire, thorns, and they were observed to put small bugs on the exposed ends of a discarded screen-door that stood abandoned near the porch.

The hat was on the chair with the open end facing the ceiling. First both birds were busy bringing in the leaves, grass, etc. for the nest, which is very compact and durable.

Then this activity ceases and the birds take turns in sitting in the nest on the eggs. Always one would sit on the limb of the pecan tree and "talk" to the other before changing places.

page 4

You knew that the eggs had hatched when the father and mother took turns in bringing food. This is the time when it was noticed that sometimes they make that short flight to the discarded screen door.

When the birds were ready for their flying lesson was also very interesting. The father sits in the pecan tree and talks and talks. His tone changes and you feel that he is threatening them to get out, but he gets no result.

Then it is noticed that both birds - in turn - would bring food and sit on the arms of the chair, but, did not give the babies any. What a fuss these make! The second day of this unusual behavior, one bird hopped on the arm of the chair and made his solo flight. Then another and another until five have appeared. The father then supervises them on a "family flight" to a roof-top.

The couple has been seen several times since with bugs in their beaks. They must be storing away food for the next brood.

The hat and the chair will be waiting for them.

Who says that getting old and sitting on the back porch is boring?



SAN ANGELO STANDARD-TIMES—Sunday, March 24, 1991—4B

# Small town does big tourist trade

By DAVID GOODMAN  
The Associated Press

FRANKENMUTH, Mich. — There's really not much to see or do in Frankenmuth, in the way of natural scenery or outdoor recreation. "We don't have a lake shore, we don't have a sea shore, we don't have any mountains, we don't have any ski lifts," concedes City Manager Charles Graham. "There's nothing here to attract people other than the man-made things."

Yet by dint of shrewd self-promotion, this city of 4,382 in eastern Michigan has transformed itself from a quiet farm community into "Michigan's little Bavaria," one of the state's top tourist attractions.

In a year when recession and war are depressing the tourist industry, business is booming in Frankenmuth. Stores are expanding and record business is predicted for 1991.

"We're very convenient for a family to take a getaway weekend," says Annette Rummel, director of the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce. "It's an easy day trip that is very economical."

Sales are expected to rise 5 percent to 15 percent this year, she says.

Building on its heritage as an ethnic-German enclave, the community whose name means "courage of the Frankomians" has created an ambiance that now draws more than 2 million visitors a year.

They drive the 86 miles north from Detroit, or come from even farther afield, to eat one of the "world-famous chicken dinners" at Zehnders restaurant or the Bavarian Inn, tour the Frankenmuth Brewery or visit the many food and craft shops.

The community's German heritage dates from its establishment as a Lutheran mission to the Chippewa Indians in 1845. But its



AP Newsfeature

Wayne Bronner, whose father, Wally, founded Bronner's Christmas store, is doubling photographed in the store. Billing itself as the world's largest Christmas store, it is doubling its 25,000-square-foot area in Frankenmuth, Mich., this year.

development as a tourist spot began just a few decades ago.

In 1959, Bavarian Inn owner William "Tiny" Zehnder was looking for a way to mark the expansion of his restaurant and decided to hold a festival, Rummel says.

That June event has been held annually since and is expected to draw more than 100,000 visitors June 8-18.

Seeing the success of the festival, business people decided to build on the Bavarian theme as a way to attract more visitors, Rummel says. "Everyone was German anyway," she says. "It was a How German is Frankenmuth? natural."

"If you look in the phone book

here, 60 to 70 percent are German last names," says Graham, who calls himself a relative newcomer after 11½ years in town.

In fact, German was a common spoken language in Frankenmuth until World War II, says Stu Lauterbach, curator of the Frankenmuth Historical Museum.

"Around '45, people stopped talking as much German in public, probably because of the war," he says. Lauterbach attributes the long survival of the ethnic-German enclave to the early establishment of a saw mill and grain mill which, combined with the Lutheran church, gave it economic and spiritual self-sufficiency.

The social cohesiveness paid off in the late 1950s and '60s, when merchants set out to promote the town as a travel stop.

"It's a community that really works together," says Wayne Bronner, whose father, Wally, founded Bronner's Christmas Wonderland in 1945. Billing itself as the world's largest Christmas store, Bronner's is doubling its 25,000-square-foot floor space this year.

The store, which began as an offshoot of his dad's sign-painting business, now employs 350 people and carries 57,000 handicrafts and other gift items for its 2 million year-round customers.

## 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.



## Favorites Recipes:

### MacArthur High School staff

Mary El-Beheri,  
German teacher

*This is my favorite German meal. When I make it for a potluck, all that's left is the juice.*



**Frau's Weisskohl mit Bratwurst**

- 6-8 bratwurst
- 2 lb. white cabbage, shredded
- 2 tart apples, sliced in small wedges
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 whole cloves
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 2/3 cup cooking wine
- 2 tbl. potato flakes mixed in
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 tbl. honey
- 1 tbl. vegetable oil
- 2 med. yellow onions, sliced in small wedges

Put cabbage, apples, bay leaf, salt, pepper, cloves, wine, honey

and potato flake mixture in a mixing bowl. Mix well. Let sit covered an hour. Brown the bratwurst, either whole or sliced lengthwise, in oil or in wine. Other types of sausage may be used. Sauté onions in vegetable oil in a 4- to 5-quart casserole. As soon as the onions are tender, pour in the cabbage/apple mixture. Mix well. Put a lid on the casserole and let it simmer until the cabbage is tender. More wine may be added if cabbage is not tender before liquid is gone. As soon as the cabbage is tender, add the bratwurst and mix it in. Frau's Weisskohl mit Bratwurst tastes better after it remains covered overnight in the refrigerator. Warm it in an electric skillet or microwave. It is especially tasty with buttered boiled new potatoes. Serves 4-6.

fliers warn that products marked with a green dot, a new designation used by manufacturers that purports to signify environmentally-friendly products, are not necessarily truly environmentally-friendly and that consumers should be wary of such claims.

When buying plastic toys, consumers should make sure that they are not made with soft polyvinylchloride (PVC), which is dangerous to the health, according to the groups. They ask that parents stay away from battery and storage-battery powered playthings, even wooden toys should be checked to make sure they're not from the endangered rainforest and that their decorations are non-toxic. Rather than throwing away outgrown toys, the groups suggest donating them to community organizations.

Wrapping gifts poses a special problem; the environmentalists concede that Christmas wouldn't be the same without the packaging and say that "we don't want to rob anyone of the joy of unwrapping gifts." But they point out that multiple wrappings are not necessary and that metallic paper or paper containing plastic glitter should be avoided, since both the production of such paper and the waste are environmentally damaging. Paper may also be used more than once, they point out.

Finally, the environmentalists have not forgotten the centerpiece of Christmas decor: the tree. Rather than covering it with chemical spray-on snow and glitter, which "bring pollutants right into the living room," the groups suggest that "apples, nuts, and cookies as decorations make a tree especially attractive."

#### Nuremberg Christmas Market Requires Its Vendors to Reuse Dishes

Shopping for gifts and ornaments at Christmas markets, people often stop for a snack -- and create mountains of trash. This year, however, the food and mulled wine vendors at the Nuremberg (Bavaria) Christmas Market, traditionally the largest in Germany, will use washable dishes and cups. Some 500,000 cups have been ordered by the market office; marketgoers will pay a small deposit, which will be returned to them when they return the cup. The cups will be washed in a giant "wash station" at the edge of the market.

#### JOYS OF THE SEASON

##### Beamte by Candlelight: Survey Shows Civil Servants Most Eager for Office Christmas Parties

Beamte, a special group of public servants that includes, among others, many employees of ministries, teachers, police officers and postal employees, and comprises some two million of the five million public service employees in Germany, seem to have a special penchant for office parties. According to a survey by the Wickert Institute for market research and public opinion in Illereichen (Bavaria), Beamte lead among occupational groups who look forward to an office Christmas party. Skilled blue-collar workers showed the least enthusiasm; in fact, two-thirds stated that they were opposed to such celebrations.

The study noted East-West differences as well: some 87 percent of the employed persons in the five new states wanted a holiday party, while only sixty-five percent of their western counterparts felt similarly. Even men and women had different expectations: women showed much more interest in a seasonal fest than their male colleagues.

##### Lower Saxony Wants Christmas Without Waste

The state government of Lower Saxony has made a DM 450,000 (about U.S. \$265,000) investment in an environmentally-sound Christmas: they have printed some 100,000 postcards and 50,000 fliers containing tips for an "ecologically-sound celebration." Television spots, newspaper advertisements, and information stands in 27 cities throughout the state will bolster the campaign; eight environmental groups and consumer initiatives are taking part.

Speaking in the state capital of Hannover recently, state environmental minister Monika Griefahn, formerly of Greenpeace, said that "every year the garbage cans overflow during the Christmas season." She blamed impulse purchases, short-lived gifts, and overpackaging for the overabundance of waste. The suggestions for more environmentally-friendly gift-giving include a gift certificate for a dinner or cultural event, or an "environment pass" for the bus and streetcar as alternatives to traditional presents. Additionally, the

## Atlantische Brücke

by Lisa Kahn



Wir wollen die goldne Brücke bauen

Das Kinderlied  
vorgesungen vorgespielt  
und neue Verse Märchen  
in einer alten-Weit-Sprache  
ersonnen  
die klingt den Enkeln  
nicht spanisch denn das  
erkennen sie sondern eher  
türkisch oder aramäisch

brav lernen sie die Folge  
der komischen Laute wenn  
sie drüben zu Besuch oder hier  
von eifrigen Lehrerinnen die  
wenig Sprachgefühl doch grosse  
Portionen Enthusiasmus mit  
sich schleppen

so gehen wir zusammen  
lauschend sprechend  
Schritt für Schritt  
Flug um Flug  
durch Raum und Zeit  
verlieren je sieben Stunden  
ostwärts empfangen sie dankbar  
zurück westwärts leben  
hin und her und her und hin  
bleiben Brückenbauer  
lebenslang

Death Valley

In Rot getauchte  
ewige Windmuster  
künden von Liebe Feuer Blut  
sind Erinnerungen  
weisen auf Zukünftiges

schwarz gähnt der  
Schlund hinter dem Kamm  
hüte dich denn wie leicht  
mag der Sand unterfuss  
hangwärts gleiten

jegliche Spur verwischend  
dass du einmal hier ...



Zu Brahms Erster

Als mir das Alphorn  
sang das Alphorn  
verschloss sich der  
Klang tief im Gehäuse

zeichnete ihn für Clara  
auf mit Grüssen auf der  
Geburtstagskarte

Jahr um Jahr  
blieb mir das  
Bild des Rigi  
irisverwahrt und

Im Herzen der schöne  
Ton des Alphorns  
des Alphorns

### From Reviews:

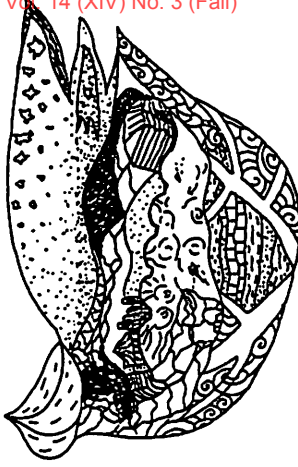
"Again I am full of admiration for Kahn's poetry."  
- Guy Stern, Detroit

"Her poetry expresses anger with the indulgent  
and complacent. She writes with an urgency  
and vibrance about life, the beauty of nature  
and the vastness of the West ... her books are  
about life, death, time and the mountains." - Kit  
Mintzler, *Denver Post*

"Lisa Kahn is one of the best known  
contemporary writers in the US who publish in  
German ... the poems combine simplicity of  
style with a haunting directness ... Kahn gives  
expression to a positive philosophy of life and to  
a precious insight: the value of language, of  
words. They are praised as aids to break down  
barriers and build bridges, forgive, even  
overcome death. A poet with so much to say  
deserves to be heard." - Solveig Olsen, *The  
South Central Bulletin of the MLA*

"Kahn has fine tuned her poetic voice and  
extended the range of her repertoire of topics:  
she is sensitive to the vibrations of places, to the  
histories that lie buried in cemeteries, to the  
voice of music, to the harmonies of ancient  
myths ... The road a poet walks is not paved - it  
is gullied, stony, dusty, and it winds along hills  
and dales, though darkness and through light.  
The poet must walk that road. Kahn's poetry is  
a record of the walk she is taking." - A. Leslie  
Willson, *Dimension*

"Characteristics of Kahn's austere poetry  
include syntactical enjambments, few verbs,  
sparse punctuation, and spiraling narratives  
that either fling the reader into space after the  
last largest loop or wind the reader ever more  
tightly until impact with the ground." - Glen Lich,  
*South Central Review*



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# 'Beauty From the Beast' is Witte's horn of plenty

By Dan R. Goddard  
Express-News Arts Writer

In San Antonio in the 1880s, German immigrant Wenzel Friedrich became famous for his horn furniture — made popular by the romance of the American West and collected by world leaders such as Kaiser William I, Bismarck, the president of France and even Queen Victoria.

An 8-foot-tall hat rack in the shape of a horseshoe that earned Friedrich a gold medal at the New Orleans World Industrial and Cotton Exposition is part of "Beauty From the Beast: Re-Discovering Horn" at the Witte Museum through Jan. 10.

Curator Cecilia Steinfeldt, probably the foremost authority on Texas furniture, has for the first time put together an exhibit of the Witte's extensive horn collection, including many pieces of Friedrich's furniture as well as many other everyday horn products, including drinking horns, powder horns, combs, horn-rimmed spectacles, snuff boxes and eating utensils.

Empress Carlotta of Mexico once owned a horn dresser set on display, featuring bizarre mythological animals designed to hold candles and a floral centerpiece. There's also a child's rocking chair made by Charles Puppe of San Antonio.

## Many imitators

Many craftsmen tried to mimic Friedrich's style, but he is generally credited with "inventing" American horn furniture. At age 26, he migrated from his native Bohemia and landed at the Texas port of Indianola in 1853. Settling in San Antonio, he established himself as a cabinetmaker and married his childhood sweetheart, Agnes Urbaneck. They lived at 211 E. Crockett St. and raised seven children.

Popularized in pulp novels and by Wild West shows, the exploration and settlement of the American West fueled a craving for frontier memorabilia by Eastern and European collectors in the late 1800s. Friedrich decided to take advantage of the fad by making horn furniture modeled after the fine stag furniture being produced in Europe at the time. Friedrich made sure his furniture was well-designed, aesthetically pleasing and expertly crafted, claiming his work was "unsurpassed by any similar line in America."

## Longhorn supply

He mainly used the horns of longhorn cattle, gathered from San Antonio stockyards or later, Mexican ranches. The tips were secured with acorn finials, decorative knobs designed to protect clothing, and the horns were cleaned and polished to a high gloss.

By a process of heating, boiling, drying and bending, Friedrich could mold the horns into desired shapes. One of his major innovations was the development of a horn veneer — made by separating the horn into thin layers and using it as decorative trim or for tabletops. He used exotic animal hides such as lynx as upholstery and marked each piece with his trademark, a Texas star carved from ivory. He sold his work for \$65 to \$250 — a fraction of what today's collectors pay.

Friedrich won gold medals at expositions around the country and sold his furniture around the world. But after the turn of the century, horn products lost their popularity as the era of plastic began. Horn furniture practically disappeared, except as a novelty. Steinfeldt said she knows of only one remaining horn furniture factory in Mexico.

However, riding a fashion wave based on natural, wildlife designs, horn furniture has been making a comeback lately with interior decorators.

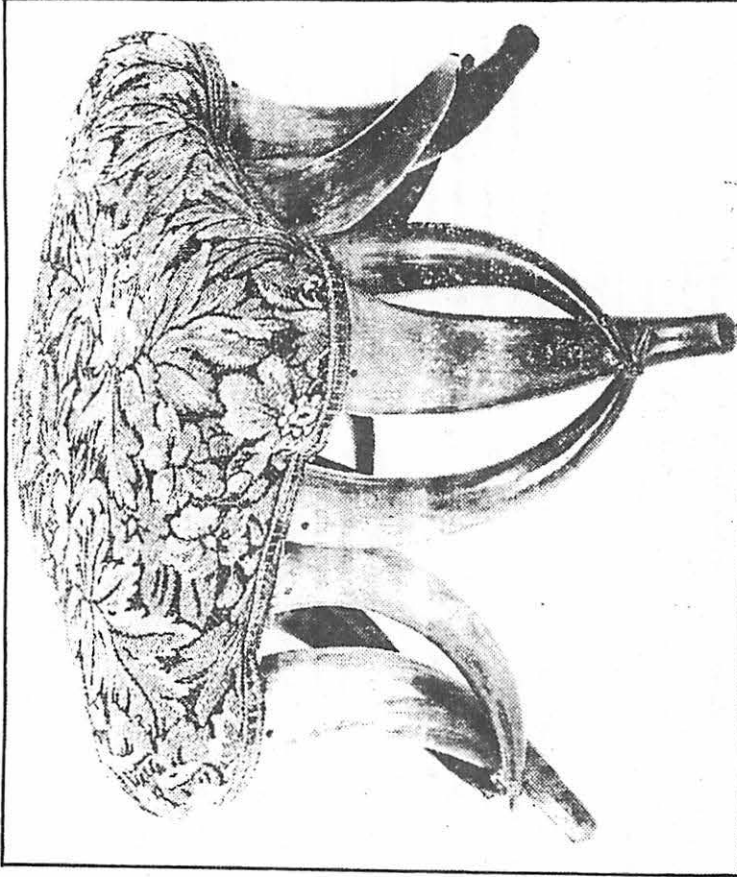


PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS

The maker of this horn footstool, dating from about 1905, is unknown. Covered with a flower fabric upholstery, the stool stands 11 inches in height.

Besides Friedrich's furniture, Steinfeldt has put together a wide array of horn products to show the variety and flexibility of the material. Before glass was widely available, peeled horny sheaths could be made transparent enough to use for "lanthorns" (lanterns) and window panes. With painted designs, horn could be used as a less expensive substitute for other materials, such as tortoise shell.

Tips of horn were used for buttons, jewelry, needlework tools and other small items. Horn is moisture-proof, so it was used for snuff boxes, tobacco holders and powder horns. It is supposed to give "a cool smoke" and was often used for pipe stems. Shoe horns and hair combs were perhaps the most common horn products.

"Long Horn Connections," a one-act

gallery theater performance about an assistant in Friedrich's studio, will be presented at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Fridays, 1 and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 10. San Antonio actresses Pam Slocum and Melissa Marlowe will alternate the role of Lizzie Cockrell, who works for Friedrich boiling and cleaning horns for his many furniture projects. The play was written by Ida Stevens.

"Beauty From the Beast" will travel to the McAllen International Museum, the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History and the Fort Bend County Museum. The exhibit is made possible by grants from Clifton Bolner, Bolner's Fiesta Products and Lynwood Farms.

"Beauty From the Beast: Re-Discovering Horn" runs through Jan. 10 at the Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway, 978-8100.



# Wrought iron forged immigrants place among Texas artisans

The Times—Thursday, September 10, 1992—3

## Graphic photos compliment work

In 1926 with \$25 in his pocket, Erich Reisel emigrated from Germany to the United States. Lucky for Texas, he settled in Kerrville, and over the past half century he has embellished ranches throughout the Hill Country with his handsome chandeliers, including one that incorporated antlers long before that was in vogue.

Author Candace Leslie's introductory biography notes that in 1929, Reisel assisted in the creation of the spectacular Aztec theater chandelier. He soon left San Antonio's Voss Metal Company and established his own ironworks in Kerrville, where he still plies his trade.

Art photographer Diane Hopkins Hughes does credit to Reisel's soaring work with a section of stunning black-and-white photographs, ranging from the fence and gate at the Paul Ingenhuett house in Comfort to a medieval-looking fire screen at the Kerrville ranch of former San Antonian G. L. Rowsey.

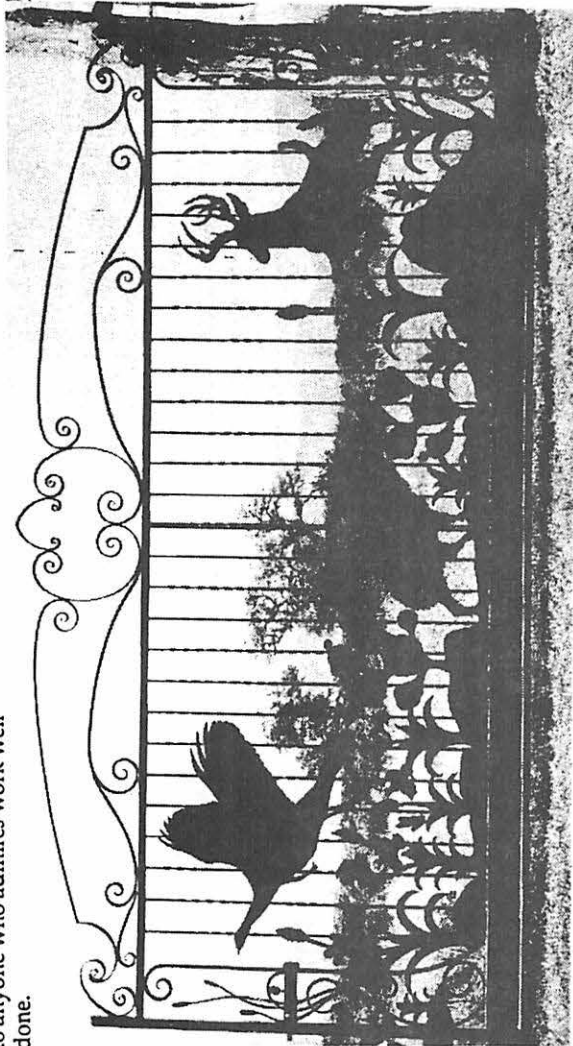
For the photography, the iron craft it portrays and the life story of one of Texas' living treasures, "From Forge to Anvil" should have a broad appeal



**Mary Fisher**  
Texas Books

ironworks.

From Forge and Anvil: Erich Reisel, Hill Country Iron Worker (Insite, 86 pp., \$29.95 hd.) traces his life and professional achievement beginning at the Moor Ranch, where he created original gates, fire screens, sconces, balconies, railings, lamps and



Wrought iron ranch gate in Utopia in "From Forge and Anvil: Erich Reisel, Hill Country Iron Worker."

SAN ANTONIO LIGHT

### BUSINESS

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 1992/103

# Meet the Beetles: Fab 'bug' still gets rave reviews

By JANET DUNCAN  
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — The venerable Volkswagen Beetle, which virtually has disappeared from the highways of Europe and the United States, is alive and well and living in Mexico. Volkswagen's Mexican subsidiary boasts the only plant still producing the tiny, hump-shaped car, which once attracted a cultlike following in the United States and Europe.

And with sales rising, production being boosted, the demand for the Beetle is still fierce and very strong, "Martin Jo-

sephi Wellmann, president of Volkswagen de Mexico SA de CV, said in an interview. "If you go to a dealer he will tell you you have to wait."

The company plans to produce about 95,000 of the cars this year, up from 85,000 in 1991. In 1993 it will turn out 100,000 Beetles.

A brief stroll on Mexico City's streets, or those of any Mexican city, does much to explain why the car has grabbed 20 percent of the market here.

The Beetle, with a sticker price of \$5,500, seems made to order for the capital's narrow streets and crowded driving conditions and for

"It's durable, it's reliable and very popular and by far the cheapest car," Wellmann said.

With a note of regret, he said Mexican road conditions today are comparable to those of Germany in the 1930s, when the car was designed.

The Volkswagen, or "people's car," originally was shunned in the postwar United States because of the car company's history as an arm of Germany's Nazi party.

But a 1989 advertising campaign that gave the car its lasting nickname boosted the popularity of the Beetle, which for years afterward was the leading U.S. automobile

import and even formed the basis for Herbie, star of the "Love Bug" movies.

Rising competition nearly forced Volkswagen AG out of business and doomed the humble vehicle to obscurity as the company focused on sportier, more contemporary cars such as the Rabbit.

While the Beetle is seldom seen in the United States anymore, Volkswagen de Mexico exports the car to South America, chiefly to Venezuela and Chile. That market could be plumbed further except for production constraints.

"The problem is that we do not

have enough production capacity with the Beetle because we never thought of having this kind of demand for the car," Wellmann said.

The Beetle has not been sold in the United States for years because it fails to meet emission standards.

But that is changing.

Wellmann said 1993 models will have a fuel-injection engine and a regulated catalytic converter, making it once again eligible for sale in the United States, although the company has no plans to ship the cars north of the border.



that reason dominates the local cab fleet.



## German Chronicle in the History of the Ohio Valley and its Capital City Cincinnati in Particular

by Emil Klauprecht

Translated by Dale V. Lally, Jr.

Edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann

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The original version of this book was published in 1864 by Emil Klauprecht, who came to the United States in the 1830s at age 17 with the German liberal refugees known as the Dressiger ("Thirtyers"). After working as a farm laborer in Paducah, Kentucky, he moved to Cincinnati where he settled in the German district known as Over-the-Rhine. With his partner, Adolph Menzel, he established one of the first lithographic firms in the west. Besides printing pictures for the German-American home, they started printing a weekly journal, *Fliegende Blätter*, in 1846. It consisted of Klauprecht's literary writings and essays about historical topics, especially the German element of the Ohio Valley. It also contained high quality socio-political criticism on contemporary issues. Klauprecht went on to become editor of the daily *Wing* newspaper, *Der Deutsche Republikaner*, and became recognized as a political leader in Cincinnati and throughout the Ohio Valley. Due to his extensive knowledge and experience, he was appointed by President Lincoln to serve as U.S. Consul in Stuttgart. His interest in the history of the German influence in the Ohio Valley led to the printing of this book.

This comprehensive volume is packed with information about the Ohio Valley area, which played such an important part in the development of our nation. The beginning covers La Salle's exploration in 1682, the rise of the French sovereignty, and the formation of the Iroquois Confederation. Those were difficult days: as the French and Indians fought each other for territory, the English sought hardy German settlers to force out the French and populate the lands that they hoped to control. Indian massacres and Missionary massacres spun in bloody cycles of revenge. Jesuit "Black Robes", petty traders, frontiersmen such as Daniel Boone, farmers, merchants, speculators, German Indians, witches and more point quite a colorful picture of our past.

In a more civilized vein, several "firsts" are mentioned: the first church and school in Cincinnati; first mayor of Cincinnati (David Ziegler); first sheriff, jail, and execution; first Catholic Church and first Synagogue; first white child born in Ohio (Johanna Maria Heckewelder, April 16, 1781, in Salem); first German congregation, and first German newspaper.

This book is filled with names, dates, places, events, and battles. Some of the chapters include Cincinnati in 1800, the founding of Vévey, the founding of Dayton, the Earthquake of 1811, the War of 1812, Columbus and the German pioneers, steam navigation, German settlers of Pittsburgh, German pioneers, the beginning of the Revolutionary War in Ohio, German citizens of Cincinnati from 1790-1830, and the development and expansion of German culture in the Ohio Valley.

Most of Klauprecht's original sources were newspapers and city directories, all of which are included in the periodicals and publications index. There are three other indexes: names, place names/organizations, and a recently added publications/dissertations index. Though originally intended for German audiences and filled with a wealth of German information, people of all backgrounds will undoubtedly find this fascinating to read. 164, 1992, 272 pp., 8.5x11, indexes, paper \$36.00 #1557



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GOURMET COOKBOOK

10—Thursday, March 26, 1992—Recorder-Times

# Artist's success has upside, downside

By MARY M. FISHER  
Features Editor

About the only time artist Brad Braune feels uncomfortable about living in a church is when he's making his morning coffee.

"Especially if I'm in my underwear I feel real funny because I feel like there are people looking at me," he says, a smile playing across a boyish face stamped with West-Texas-sky blue eyes.

Seated on a sofa covered with his cactus-design fabric in the center of the cross-shaped former Mistletoe Mexican Church of the Nazarene, just off the St. Mary's strip, the 1992 Art League Artist of the Year is discussing a career that could be the envy of any artist.

In his twenties he saw his work showcased with that of four established artists on Houston billboards. About the same time, he created a poster of a longhorn with a balloon for the Folklife Festival that became an icon. Now, the 40-year-old can name his price for commissioned pieces.

"I've been real fortunate in that my work's been real marketable, real saleable," says Braune, who is widely known for dreamy watercolor images of cows, chickens, cactus and cowboys. "That is the good and the bad news."

"The good news is my work is very marketable, very saleable," he continues affably. "The bad news is my work is very marketable, very saleable because it has a broad appeal which in art circles is considered not on the cutting edge."

Glancing about bare wooden walls displaying the work of such contemporary local artists as Ray Chavez, Lisa Mellinger and Steven Sellars, he notes, "When the Blue Star doesn't even know I'm alive it does bother me. They never paid any attention to me until they decided to do an exhibition where there was a sale benefiting the Blue Star. I gave them a painting and it sold for \$7,500 and they got the commission."

Ironically, the widely acclaimed artist says he has also had rejection from the other end of the art spectrum.



MARY M. FISHER

Artist Brad Braune displays one of his show-quality chickens at the entrance to his hen house.

"Somebody else who actually turned me down was the Western Art Show at the rodeo," says Braune, who had submitted a Texas landscape with cows. "They said it was not western enough."

Save for those anomalies, however, he has seen his work reach an ever-widening audience, having been shown in more than 50 exhibitions across the state, sold to nearly two dozen corporate and museum collections, and awarded numerous prizes.

He has also seen it sell to "at least two thousand" individuals who have collected his originals, not to mention thousands of others who have purchased his posters.

finished at 3:00."

Though art has been his "passion" since childhood, the Abilene-born descendant of German pioneers was initially concerned about the practicality of such a profession.

"Art was really what I wanted to do, but by the time I was in high school somehow I got the impression art was not a practical career choice," he explains. "My dad felt that I needed to apply it so that's why I chose architecture."

After graduating from high school in Hico, Braune earned a degree in architecture at Texas Tech University and in 1974 took a job with the San Antonio Development Agency.

For four years, he did conceptual drawings for SADA, then for two architectural firms. On the side, he painted the West Texas scenes he had grown up with on the family ranch.

"Then I decided I just wanted to paint," he recalls. "By that time I was already making enough on my artwork that I knew I could survive."

At first, he sold his watercolors for \$5 apiece at the Starving Artists Show here. Then he began traveling to street fairs. Little by little the prices increased.

"Now they're up there," he says diffidently, glancing toward a 3-by-4-foot oil portrait of a shirtless young man holding a white chicken, sitting on an easel at the back of the church. "That painting is already sold and it's \$7,500."

Never a nine-to-five type painter, Braune says he sometimes goes without painting for as long as a month or two, then paints for several days to get ready for a show or fulfill a commission.

"I could make a fortune if I painted every day but I get bored," he says. "I have a very short attention span."

Thus, at his home studio he alternates between painting, cooking, tending his chickens, gardening and dealing with an alternative healing group.

"Several years ago the gay community was dealing with AIDS and

there was a lot of fear and panic and a group of my friends got together," he says of the genesis of the group that meets weekly at his place, now expanded to include sufferers of a variety of chronic and terminal illnesses. "About half are dealing with disease or illness and the other half is just involved in helping, being supportive."

A member of the Alamo Poultry Club, Braune began acquiring chickens so as to have live models. "Over the last year I've gotten really specialized," he says, citing some show quality speckled Sussex chickens already in his coop and some pedigreed white leghorns on the way.

For the meals he enjoys cooking for friends, often featuring pasta and a baked tomato topping he developed, he is apt to add produce from his well-tended backyard garden.

"I really love living and working in the same space. A lot of times I'll cook and paint at the same time," says Braune, who was beckoned back in 1986 to San Antonio from New York, where he lived for six years, in large part because of his unusual property here.

"The whole time I was in New York, I had this place and I decided I had to either sell it or come back," he explains.

Touring his 1,800 square foot unpartitioned space, he apologizes for the clutter in the main sanctuary, where he paints. One end of the cross that intersects it is used as an office, the other a dining area with a serape-covered table. Two former Sunday school classrooms in the back serve as bedrooms.

But the most eye-catching aspect of the arrangement is the elevated kitchen — accented with neon art and chickens in a variety of media — where once stood an altar.

"The kitchen on the altar just happened out of necessity. It was really the only place to put it because it was easy to put plumbing under it," he says almost apologetically of the spot that sometimes leaves him "with an uncomfortable feeling come morning coffee time."



**Middle High German Speakers Discovered in Hungary**

Helmut Ottenjann, historian and director of the museum village in Cloppenburg (Lower Saxony), said on Monday (December 17) that he had discovered a small group of persons of German ancestry in the city of Nagybozsöny, Hungary, 80 kilometers north of Budapest, who speak a variation of Middle High German. The state government of Lower Saxony and the Göttingen Institute for Scientific Film had commissioned Ottenjann to act as consultant to a research project on Hungarian Germans.

According to his findings, Nagybozsöny was settled in the twelfth century by people from Thuringia and the Harz mountains. Their German, incomprehensible to modern speakers, remained alive until the Second World War, when Hungary outlawed its instruction. Only 1,050 of the inhabitants, all of them elderly, speak it today, Ottenjann said.

**Sonnig**

Ein Ehepaar stand in Campen auf Sylt vor dem Gemälde eines einheimischen Malers, der in einem kleinen Kunstgewerbeladen eine Privatausstellung seiner Werke arrangiert hatte.

„Hübsch, die Dünen bei Sonnenuntergang“, meinte er.

„Bei Sonnenaufgang willst du wohl sagen“, sagte sie.

„Nein, bei Sonnenuntergang“, beharrte der Mann.

„Nein, bei Sonnenaufgang“, beharrte sie.

Da mischte sich der Inhaber des Geschäftes ins Gespräch. „Dünen bei Sonnenuntergang sind es“, meinte er. „Bis Mittag schläft der Maler nämlich immer seinen Rausch aus.“

**Germany Seeks Permanent U.N. Council Seat**

By PAUL LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 23 — Germany told the United Nations General Assembly for the first time today that it would like a permanent seat on the Security Council and promised to revise its Constitution so that German soldiers could take part in United Nations military operations.

The German statement, made by Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel in an address to the Assembly, was widely viewed as a sign that two years after reunification Germany is ready to take a role in world political affairs commensurate with its economic strength.

Mr. Kinkel made clear that Germany was still unwilling to go on the offensive in seeking a permanent seat on the 15-nation Council, the body charged with preserving world peace, saying, "We will not take the initiative in this respect."

But he noted that a debate on enlarging the Security Council was under way and that "if a change in the Council's composition is actually considered we, too, shall seek a permanent seat."

Mr. Kinkel's comments came one day after the Japanese Foreign Minister, Michio Watanabe, dropped a broad hint, as he did in his speech last year, that Japan also believes its economic

importance merits permanent Security Council membership by 1995, when the United Nations celebrates its 50th anniversary.

In the past, the United States has supported the principle of Council membership for Japan and, since reunification in October 1990, for Germany as well. But it has also quietly discouraged both countries from pressing openly for permanent membership, fearing that any attempt to amend the United Nations Charter risks unleashing pressures for more far-reaching organizational changes. Now that Ger-

Continued on Page A4, Column 4

*New York Times Sept 24, 1992*

Continued From Page A1

many and Japan are becoming more explicit about their wishes, Washington may have to decide whether to come out publicly in favor of or against their membership.

**Five Permanent Members**

At present, permanent membership is confined to the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China, the five World War II victors, who also have a veto on decisions. The 10 rotating members of the Council serve two-year terms.

Many countries consider that this no longer reflects the realities of the modern era. Pressure to expand or change the membership is growing among the poor populous countries in the United Nations and popular sentiment to join the Council is also thought to be building in Japan and Germany.

Mr. Kinkel said today that the "efficiency and credibility" of the Council were important if it was to serve as an effective guardian of international peace. German officials say that the pressures will force the United Nations to reconsider the Council's membership in the next few years and that Germany will seek permanent a seat then.

Changes in the Council's membership are almost certain to be accompanied with complications and disputes. Many third world countries resent the privileged position of the present Permanent Five, as they are called, and want greater representation for the world's populous poorer nations.

This week Brazil's Foreign Minister threw his weight behind what has come to be called the Brazilian plan, under which Germany and Japan would get permanent seats but without a veto, along with such countries as Brazil, India, Egypt and Nigeria.

But the addition of five or six more permanent members would bring pres-

sure for more rotating seats as well, raising the Council's membership to 25 or so, which some diplomats fear would make decisions harder to reach.

German officials say the Government decided that the time was right to press more openly for permanent Council membership because of a feeling that Britain and France would never agree to an alternative plan under which they would merge their national seats into a single permanent seat representing the European Community as a whole.

The German Foreign Minister also sought to deal with one of the major arguments against giving Germany permanent Security Council membership today — the Government's contention that a constitutional ban against sending German soldiers outside the NATO area prevents it from taking part in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Mr. Kinkel said the ruling coalition of Christian Democrats and Free Democrats was committed "to make our armed forces available to the United Nations, with the approval of Parliament, for peacekeeping and peacemaking assignments." German officials said this phrase was meant to include both classic peacekeeping operations and military enforcement action against aggressors authorized by the Security Council.

"As a reunited and sovereign country we must assume all the rights and obligations of a member of the United Nations to avoid any discrepancy between our verbal commitment to peace and human rights and our active involvement in their defense," Mr. Kinkel said.

**In Supporting Roles**

In fact, German armed forces have played supporting roles in several United Nations peacekeeping operations recently in what German officials here say is a calculated policy of preparing German public opinion for a larger role.

A German army field hospital is now deployed in Cambodia, for instance, and United Nations arms inspectors travel around Iraq in German military helicopters flown by uniformed German pilots and maintained by a German ground staff.

Not all German legal experts agree that the Constitution bars Germany from taking part in United Nations peacekeeping operations. But the Government wants Parliament to approve a constitutional amendment giving it an unambiguous right to send forces abroad on United Nations business. However, it has been unable to assemble the necessary majority so far because of deep-seated objections by the left wing of the opposition Social Democrats.

**Salvadoran Notes Advances**

President Alfredo Cristiani of El Salvador told the General Assembly today that the agreement last year ending his country's long and bitter civil war was moving ahead as planned and that the demobilization of the rebel forces would be completed by the Oct. 31 target date.

Mr. Cristiani also received the report of an independent three-man commission inquiring into human rights abuses and corruption together with its recommendations, which he must comply with within 60 days. He refused to disclose details of the recommendations and said they would be dealt with confidentially.

At a news conference later, Mr. Cristiani said the cost of returning El Salvador to normalcy after 12 years of fighting would be \$1.8 billion, including land redistribution, establishing a new civil police force and repairing the country's damaged infrastructure.

The Presidents of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of Croatia signed a new friendship agreement today under which they will coordinate their defense efforts against the Serbian authorities in Belgrade.

## ***The German Draft Revolt in Colorado, Austin, and Fayette Counties***

prepared by Bill Stein  
as an address to the German-Texan Heritage Society  
and delivered September 13, 1992

For the German and Austrian settlers in northern Colorado County, and their countrymen in Austin and Fayette Counties, the Civil War was a most unwelcome intrusion, on their lives and on their ideals. These families, known colloquially as Dutchmen, had only recently departed their monarchic home states for a new life in the New World. Though they may have been attracted by economic opportunity, most were filled with romantic notions about democracy and the will of the people. What then were they to do when, despite their own very heavy balloting against the proposition, on February 23, 1861, in a statewide referendum, the citizens of Texas voted to secede from the United States and seek admission to the Confederacy? Should they take up arms against the United States in defense of their newer country, a country that was founded to a large extent so that practices that were reprehensible to them could be perpetuated? Or should they reject the will of the people as expressed in the democratic process and resist conscription into the army?

Many Germans eventually chose to join the Confederate Army. For example, in Colorado County, Germans formed a company of infantry under Captain Hermann Emil Mathias Jordt and in Fayette County, a company of artillery under Captain Edmund Kreuzbauer. Still, some of these German Confederates, including future state representative Johann Friedrich Leyendecker, served rather reluctantly. According to family sources, Leyendecker spent a good bit of his time in the military thinking of ways to get out altogether. At least one of his schemes was ingenious, if transparent. In 1864, he wrote to General John Bankhead Magruder to ask for a furlough, as well as a rifle, ammunition, and the assistance of a friend, so he could go home to invent exploding bullets.

Many other Germans had experiences similar to those of Frank Albert Laake during the war. Laake had been in America for only a few years and in Colorado County for just a few months when the question of secession came up for a vote. A Unionist and, by trade, a freighter, he avoided the draft by signing on to haul cotton to Mexico. On one trip, his caravan was attacked by bandits. One of his companions was killed and he himself was hit in the head with a metal object. The wound left a scar that remained bald for the rest of his life. But eventually Laake's service as a freighter was not enough for the Confederacy and he was conscripted in Columbus. Given leave to take his wagon and team home, he did so, then fled into Mexico. He left Mexico shortly afterward for New Orleans, and enlisted in a U. S. Army infantry unit. He served until June 1, 1866, after which he returned to his home in Texas.

Others found more creative ways to avoid the draft. Michael Krenek of Frelsburg picked his cotton and conducted his public affairs wearing a dress and a bonnet. One man approached his physician, Hermann Nagel, a Unionist and abolitionist, and proposed an elaborate plan to fake an illness, his death, and a funeral, making sure that the coffin was large enough to afford him an ample supply of air until he could be safely unearthed. Nagel countered with a less risky plan. Since the man was tall and already quite thin, the physician suggested simply that he go on a rather extreme diet in the expectation that he would then fail his physical. Unhappily for both patient and doctor, the man's examination was postponed for some time. Still he persisted with his starvation diet. When the day of the physical finally arrived, he was too weak to walk. Nagel laid him in the bed of a wagon and, concerned that he would not survive the trip, followed on horseback. At the Austin County courthouse in Bellville, confident of the success of their plan, and no doubt looking forward to a big dinner, Nagel and another man carried him to the second story, laid him on the floor in front of the examining physician, and were appalled to hear him pronounced fit enough to herd army cattle.



Innumerable other men fled into the thickets, destined to emerge only after the cessation of hostilities. They often formed gangs for their mutual protection, and subsisted largely through the aid of an underground network of sympathetic women and older men, among them the respected and sagacious Dr. Nagel. Nagel finally, in November 1863, concerned about his continued well being and the possibility that his unusually tall 14 year old son, Karl, might soon be conscripted, secretly fled to Mexico with his son and a group of other men.

The underground network, however, continued to function, sheltering not just resisters, but also deserters and escaped prisoners of war. In the last year of the war, when Aaron Sutton, a Union soldier imprisoned in Texas, escaped his captors, he was aided by Germans in Fayette and Colorado Counties. Some Germans chose a bolder, more overt method of resistance. On November 28, 1862, A. J. Bell, the Confederate Army's enrolling officer in Austin County, notified his superior, Major J. P. Flewelling, that a number of local people were balking at being conscripted. He went on to state that the rebels, most of whom were German, had held a number of very well attended meetings, many of which were secret, at which they resolved to resist the draft. According to his information, at the most recent meeting they had decided to petition the governor, stating that they would not submit to the draft law until and unless they were armed and clothed and provisions made for their families. Bell requested that a force be sent to compel the rebels to enroll on government terms. A week later, on December 4, Flewelling sent the report to General Magruder and volunteered to lead a force to ensure compliance. Two days later, Magruder, evidently believing the reports to be alarmist, ordered Flewelling to conscript first those who were most resistant and to have them shipped to regiments outside the state, but to do so in a manner which would not stir up a rebellion. Whatever measures Flewelling took were ineffective, for, after a draft was held just before Christmas, the spirit of rebellion increased. Many of the drafted men refused to be sworn in and the officer in charge of doing so was assaulted and driven from the area. Another man, a friend of the enrolling officer, was mobbed and beaten as well.

Thereafter, the anti-conscription meetings increased in frequency. On December 30, a number of armed men were seen travelling through Frelsburg, on their way to Shelby for a meeting the next day. About 600 people, including delegates from Colorado, Austin, Lavaca, Fayette, and Washington Counties, reportedly attended the meeting, and resolved to resist the draft by force of arms if necessary. The following day, a group of German draft resisters met at the home of a man who had been drafted and organized themselves into a military unit with the express purpose of resisting conscription. In early January, more reports of the draft resisters began reaching the high command. One claimed that more than 1000 Germans were gathering at Frelsburg, planning to resist the draft and free the slaves. Another stated that the Germans were openly rebellious.

On January 4, 1863, in a meeting at Biegel Settlement, calmer elements among the resisters adopted a long declaration which revealed their concerns. On January 8, they presented it to Brigadier General William G. Webb, who was headquartered at La Grange. It read:

The measures taken by the Government to protect this State against invasion are so far-reaching and serious in their consequences that they fill our minds with dread and apprehension.

The past has already taught us how regardlessly the Government and the county authorities have treated the families of those who have taken the field. We have been told that they would be cared for, and what up to this time has been done? They were furnished with small sums of paper money, which is almost worthless, and which has been refused by men for whose sake this war and its calamities were originated.

Last year we made tolerably good crops; the prospect for the next is not very encouraging, and we cannot look forward with

indifference upon starvation, which we apprehend for our wives and children.

Although it has been said that we will not be needed for more than three months, the time for planting will then be over and our children may go begging, for the small pay which we are to receive for our services is insufficient to purchase bread for our families and pay for it. We and our families are almost destitute of clothing, and have no means of getting enough to protect us even imperfectly against the cold, from which cause sickness and epidemics result, as has been experienced in the Army, where more men have fallen victims of disease than by the sword of the enemy.

Last autumn we applied to procure cloth from the penitentiary, but up to this time we have not been able to obtain any, whereas negro-holders, whom we could name, can get such things and fetch them home. For these reasons we sympathize with all the unfortunate who have to provide for their own maintenance, and hope that our authorities will look upon us as men and not as chattels. With what spirit and what courage can we so situated fight, and that, moreover, for principles so far removed from us?

Besides the duty of defending one's country there is a higher and more sacred one — the duty of maintaining the families. What benefit is there in preserving the country while the families and inhabitants of the same, nay, even the Army, are bound to perish in misery and starvation?

In view of the foregoing we take the liberty hereby jointly to declare that unless the Army and we obtain a guarantee that our families will be protected, not only against misery and starvation, but also against vexations from itinerant bands, we shall not be able to answer the call, and the consequences must be attributed to those who caused them.

Furthermore, we decline taking the army oath (as prescribed) to the Confederate States, as we know of no law which compels Texas troops, who are designed for this State, to take the same.

It is the unanimous wish of those assembled in this meeting to apply to Brig. Gen. W. G. Webb to use all of his influence to the effect that the men now drafted for militia service be permitted to stay at home until they have finished planting.

By authorization and in the name of about one hundred and twenty citizens.

Webb claimed the document itself provided enough evidence of sedition to send the ringleaders to prison for more than two years. On the day that Webb received the declaration, martial law was authorized in Colorado, Fayette, and Austin Counties, and Texas Governor Francis R. Lubbock arrived in La Grange to assess and deal with the revolt. He remained for two days, receiving the ringleaders and listening to their complaints.

Meanwhile, Magruder was ordering Colonel Peter Hardeman, commander of the 500-strong Arizona Brigade, which was camped at Columbus, to move against the resisters. On January 11, Hardeman's adjutant reported that 25 men under Major George T. Madison had been sent to La Grange and 25 under Lieutenant R. H. Stone to Bellville, and that Hardeman himself had taken 50 men to arrest the ringleaders and disarm the disloyal citizens. Within a week, the insurrection was over.

Since the actions for which they had been arrested occurred before the declaration of martial law, the men who were arrested were turned over to the civil authorities in Austin and Fayette Counties. In Fayette County, much to the chagrin of the army, the men were immediately released.

Complaints had also been made that the soldiers who had made the arrests had committed depredations on citizens. An early February report to Magruder stated that



the arrests were evidently made with considerable cruelty to the prisoners and to women and children. The army sent out investigators, and they returned with a report that exonerated all the soldiers and implicated civilian guides. One woman, who had been cut by a bayonet and hit with a rifle butt, stated that both blows were accidental and were more her fault than that of the soldiers. It is known that there were a number of courts martial in Columbus shortly thereafter. It has not yet been discovered whether or not they had anything to do with the German draft revolt.

Note: The German Declaration of January 4, 1862 can be found in *Official Records*, Series I, Volume XV, p. 921,

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## State's encyclopedia hit by budget cutbacks

By BOB TUTT  
Houston Chronicle

Financial woes are forcing the Texas State Historical Association to slash funds for an ambitious update of the state's encyclopedia, *The Handbook of Texas*.

Thus, the project's annual budget will drop to \$350,000 from \$550,000 in the fiscal year starting Sept. 1, eliminating the jobs of 10 of 25 staffers.

Managing Editor Doug Barnett said the cutbacks should not keep the projected six-volume, 6,000-page work from being published as planned in the fall of 1995.

About \$3 million has been spent on the project since its inception 10 years ago, he said. Funds have come through contributions from members of the historical association and the public, grants from charitable agencies and aid from such institutions as the University of Texas at Austin and Texas

A&M University.

With the Texas economy ailing, Barnett said, "the last couple of years have been pretty lean, fund-raisingwise. It's hard for a reference work to compete for dollars when there are so many other needs in the state."

But, he said, "the good news is that the National Endowment for the Humanities has just notified us that it's awarding a three-year, \$350,000 challenge grant" for the project.

Tapping these funds will require the historical association to find contributors to match the grant dollar for dollar.

Some critics contend the project has become overly ambitious, but association president Alwyn Barr disagrees.

"As happens sometimes with these projects, it grew a little bit as we went along and realized we needed to cover some additional

areas, but it's been a sound project," said Barr, a Texas Tech University historian. "Funding actually has been fairly good, although it's fluctuated from year to year as the economy fluctuated."

The first two volumes of the existing handbook were published in 1952, followed by a supplementary volume in 1976. Originally, the revised version was to contain entries on about 26,000 topics, Barnett said, but the cutbacks might reduce this to about 24,000 topics.

"We have gradually escalated the size of the staff and the budget throughout the 10 years of the project," he said, "and the past two years, we have made a substantial effort to get as much of the writing and editing done as possible."

**'It's hard for a reference work to compete for dollars when there are so many other needs in the state.'**

Managing Editor Doug Barnett

So far, 20,000 entries have been submitted; 16,000 have been edited. About 2,000 volunteers, ranging from academic scholars to history buffs, are doing the bulk of the writing.

The handbook staff at UT is preparing articles on selected topics and checking the accuracy of entries received. Barnett said the staff reductions include five of 10 writers, three of eight part-time researchers and two of seven editors.

Most of the writers and researchers are graduate students looking to make "the transition from graduate school to full-time careers" in teaching and other fields, he said.

Plans for the new handbook call for inclusion of about 50 extended essays on facets of Texas' history and development.

"I'm just not going to allow the possibility that they are not going to be done," Barnett said. "In one way or another, they definitely will all be in."

Barnett noted that the historical association has moved to create a permanent core staff for the handbook to continue work in anticipation of future updates.

See HANDBOOK on Page 5D.

## GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

## BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

National Genealogical Society's annual Conference in the States for 1993 will be held 2-5 June in Baltimore, Maryland. The theme is "A Chesapeake Homecoming" and attendees will have research opportunities in the Baltimore area as well as in Washington DC. To get on the mail list to receive a conference program and registration brochure when available in January 1993, send your name and address to: 1993 NGS Conference in the States, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington VA 22207-2399. The 1994 NGS Conference in the States will be held in Houston, 1-4 June 1994, hosted by Clayton Library Friends. That conference's theme will be "Exploring a Nation of Immigrants, Houston Style."

The Gillespian is the brand-new publication of Fredericksburg Genealogical Society. The premier issue in June 1992 included information on the origins and organization of the FGS and its research library (located at 411 E. Main St., in the Ressmann-Boos House) as well as the first installment of a list of library holdings. Several articles deal with the founding of Fredericksburg, including a two-page spread of photographs of 24 members of the Society of the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas and a list of the 95 citizens who signed the 17 January 1847 petition urging Meusebach not to resign. Also in this first issue are the first installments of indexes of St. Mary's Cemetery and Gillespie County marriage records, 1850-1870. Although it is not clear how frequently The Gillespian will be published, it is a worthy endeavor coming out of Fredericksburg. Address of the FGS is P. O. Box 164, Fredericksburg TX 78624.

German-American Genealogy, a publication of Immigrant Genealogical Society, had several significant articles in the Fall 1992 issue, including a six-page history of Rheinland-Pfalz ("The Palatinate"). Other topics covered include the Social Security Death Index, Seventh Day Baptists in the U.S., Czechoslovakian research, guide to Polish Records, immigrants' experiences, and municipal archives in Amsterdam. IGS members receive this helpful journal once or twice a year in addition to the monthly Newsletter. Single copies of German-American Genealogy are \$5.00, while individual memberships are \$15.00 per year. The IGS also offers a wide range of research services to members. Write to IGS at P. O.Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369.

"Up and Down the Winding Stairs: Two Days at the Danish National Archives" is the title of an article in the March-April 1992 issue of Ancestry. Although it deals with the two authors' experiences as amateur genealogists in Copenhagen, their experiences and advice could apply to German genealogical research as well. They were on a group tour of Scandinavia with three days in Copenhagen. The article tells how they prepared to make good use of that limited time. Their advice includes: 1) Do your homework before you go; do not rely on memory but take copies of all relevant data with you; 2) Set specific goals for your research project and write down your "wish list"; 3) Remember that fatigue and unfamiliarity with the location and language will at least double the time you will need to locate data; 4) Do not expect state-of-the-art equipment as machines may be antiquated and research facilities may be understaffed; 5) Ask specific questions--instead of "I want everything you have on my family, any time, any where" ask, "Do you have any baptismal records from 1814 for Holmen's Church?" 6) Make yourself a promise before you go: even if you do not find



Bits and Pieces and News, continued

a single piece of new information, you have fulfilled the best part of your dream by visiting the ancestral homeland.

Texas State Library has published an updated "Circulating Genealogy Duplicates List" superseding the 1985 edition. This 92-page booklet is a list of the duplicate materials held by the State Library and thus available through interlibrary loan. Although copies of the list are not available to individuals, they are available to libraries, archives, genealogical societies and historical groups. Check to see if your local library or organization has a copy. If not, such institutions may request a copy from Genealogy Collection, Texas State library, P. O. Box 12927, Austin TX 78711.

Southwestern Historical Quarterly back issues from 1897 to 1984 are available to members of Texas State Historical Association free of charge except for cost of postage. For members, the cost of postage and handling is \$2.00 for the first issue and \$.75 for additional issues; for non members, the costs are \$3.00 and \$1.00, respectively. This offer includes all issues between October 1897 and April 1984 that are in stock except for a few "special theme" issues. For further information and a list of the specific issues available, see TSHA's newsletter "Riding Line" for Fall 1992, write to TSHA at 2/306 Richardson Hall, University Station, Austin TX 78712, or call (512) 471-1525. (from: TSHA newsletter "Riding Line," Fall 1992)

1890 Census for Travis County was, of course, destroyed in the fire that wiped out nearly all the manuscript schedules of the Federal Census taken in 1890. The 1890 Census for 1890 has been reconstructed primarily from the 1890 Travis County tax list, supplemented by the 1880 and 1900 censuses, the special 1890 schedules of Union veterans and widows, cemetery records, and other sources. In two volumes, the 418-page work has over 21,000 names and includes an every-name index. To order, send \$57.95 plus \$2.50 postage; Texas residents add \$4.68 tax. Order from: Blackstone Publishing Co., Dept 1A, 1507 Cochise Dr., Arlington TX 76012-4321.

Possible Genealogy Stamp The New England Historic Genealogical Society is encouraging support for a postal stamp highlighting genealogy as part of the Society's 150th anniversary celebration in 1995. Interested persons may write; Citizens' Stamp Advisory Comm., U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza S.W., Washington DC 20260-6753. (from: St. Louis (MO) Genealogical Society's newsletter "News 'N' Notes" October 1992)

Federation of Genealogical Societies publishes a quarterly, Forum. For the past four years, the publisher Ancestry has supported and subsidized this publication. However with the end of Ancestry's contract, the FGS is now offering subscriptions to individuals and two free copies to each member organization. Beginning in 1993, the annual subscription will be \$15.00, but there are two discount possibilities: 1) members of a FGS-affiliated society and include that society's name on their application will receive a 40% discount (\$9.00 per year), or 2) persons who do not belong to an affiliated society but who subscribe prior to 15 January 1993 will be charter subscribers and will pay \$12.00 per year. To subscribe, or for further information on how your local organization can become an affiliated member of FGS, write to: Federation of Genealogical Societies, P. O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City UT 84110-3385. The 1994 FGS conference will be in St. Louis MO, 5-7 August, co-hosted by the Missouri State Genealogical Association. (from: FGS Forum, Fall 1992) Your GTHS Genealogy Editor attended the 1992 FGS conference in Phoenix in late August and found it

Bits and Pieces and News, continued  
quite worthwhile!

If you have an interest in Swiss ancestry, you can obtain a two-page article, "Family Research for Americans of Swiss Descent," from the Embassy of Switzerland, 2900 Cathedral Ave N.W., Washington DC 20007. (from: Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter, Nov. 1992)

Back to your roots is the theme of a group of German residents who specialize in genealogical and sociohistorical research. The three are Margit Göttert and Knut Noack in Mainz and Doris Kunz in Berlin. They offer such services as preparing ancestral charts; searching for lost relatives; providing social histories and either written or visual documents; collecting original documents and illustrated material (tombstone inscriptions, maps, postcards, etc.); documenting family history by photo or video; and arranging for travel in Germany. This is a new business, and we have no information on the rates charged. For further information, contact their U.S. representative; Damien Marcotte, P. O. Box 7529, Santa Cruz CA 95061, (408) 457-0542. This is not considered a recommendation, but if you use this service, please report to us the results.

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#### 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" 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.

Although every effort is made to publish reliable and historical resource material, the GTHS Genealogy Editor does not accept responsibility for errors in fact or judgement in the materials submitted by members for publication. This holds also for spelling of names of persons and of places in Germany; unless a family or place name falls within the previous personal research experience of the Genealogy Editor, the spelling is used as submitted by the member.

Gwenn R. Koenig, Rt. 1, Box 57, Castalia IA 52133 is looking for a missing Koenig ancestor. He was Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Koenig/König, born 22 Feb. 1822 near Herford, Westfalen in Germany. He married Charlotte Louise Pottkamp in 1841 and they had two known children, Johann Friedrich, born 6 Dec. 1841, and Friedrich Wilhelm, born 19 Aug. 1845. Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Koenig may have used the name Wilhelm; his son, Friedrich Wilhelm went by Wilhelm. The son, Wilhelm, is Gwenn's ancestor. He married Henriette Charlotte Louise Johann-Meier. Their first child was born in 1870 in Germany, and the second child was born in 1872 in America. The brother of her ancestor, Johann Friedrich, stayed in Germany and married three times with children by each wife. Contacts with descendants of the



From Our Members, continued

family that remained in Germany have shown that they know nothing of the missing ancestor. The family legend is that Friedrich Wilhelm may have gone to America, landing in Texas, but was never heard from again. Does anyone know of the fate of this Koenig?

Gwenn also offers to do research for anyone needing information in northeast Iowa, especially in Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette and Winneshiek counties.

Because of her interest in locating missing Koenig ancestors and living relatives, Gwenn has teamed up with Charles Koenig of Mount Carmel, Illinois, to produce the König/Koenig Newsletter. This bimonthly publication should be of interest to anyone researching Koenig families or wanting to contact other Koenig descendants. The annual fee of \$6.00 should be sent to Charles Koenig, 426 E. 8th St., Mt. Carmel IL 62863.

Patricia (Angerstein) Patterson-Williams, P. O. Box 1714, Corpus Christi TX 78403 has traced all four of her grandparents back to Germany: Angerstein, Scheller, Ernst, and Dolgrer. She has learned that the London Art Museum was founded with an art collection purchased from an Angerstein family, but she has not made the connection yet. She has located pictures of that Angerstein's children in her family's collection, so she feels there is a connection. Additional information on Patricia's ancestors is found in the "Genealogical Exchange" section.

Dick Stewart, 313 Chalet Dr., Millersville MD 21108 is interested in pursuing several lines of research. The first involves verifying the location in 1910 of his great grandfather, Hermann Timm, as well as the parents of his wife, Minna, if they were still living at that time. Dick found both families in the 1900 Census in Mills County, Texas, with Hermann, his wife, eight children (four born in Pommern, and four born in Texas), and his wife's parents (Wilhelm and Wilhelmina Radke/Radeke) all in the same household. Dick has not yet found this family in the 1910 Census, although he has an envelope addressed in 1910 to Hermann with a Mills County address. He is also looking for Hermann's place of residence in Pommern, possibly in Schivelbein, Reitz, or Guntershagen. His father was a miller and his wife's father owned a bakery. Hermann and family arrived in New York in November 1888 on the ship "Amalfi." Dick wants to research the 12 years between arrival and 1900, his first record of them. He also wants to follow up on the later whereabouts of Auguste Pachklep/Packlep. Apparently she traveled with the Timm family from Pommern/Guntershagen on the same ship, but Dick does not know what happened to her. Finally, he would like to know more about the Radeke family as they were in Texas prior to the arrival of Hermann and Minna. Dick thinks that Timm might ultimately be a Swedish family or name and that Radeke might be Lithuanian. Dick is a professional researcher who uses the facilities of the National Archives, the Daughters of the American Revolution library, the LDS Family History Center in Annapolis, the Peabody Library in Baltimore, the local county genealogical society's resources, the federal Bureau of Land Management, and the Library of Congress. His business name is Stewart Consultants International, and his business address is Box 8721, Baltimore MD 21240, telephone or FAX: (410) 987-2057.

Michael Mattern, 1315 W. Forest, Houston TX 77043 wants to know if there are any present-day descendants of Carl Andreas Mattern and Andreas Mattern, who were listed among the founders of New Braunfels in our Journal, Vol. XIII, No. 3, Fall 1991. Michael's own grandfather, Jacob Mattern, was born in Dertingen on 17 Sept. 1872. He came to Texas just prior to 1900 and settled first in San Antonio. A baker by trade, within a

From Our Members, continued

few years he had bought a bakery in Columbus and moved there with his wife.

They had seven children; the only living child is Michael's uncle, Edward, who by coincidence currently lives in New Braunfels. Carl would appreciate hearing from anyone who has information on the descendants of Carl Andreas and/or Andreas Mattern. He also submits his family names for the "Genealogical Exchange" part of this section.

Robert Laue, 2431 Steeplechase Rd., Gallatin TN 37066 is a new member of GTHS. He placed a query on his ancestral research in the Newsletter of the German Genealogical Society of America. He is searching the family of William Laue, who emigrated in 1846 from Radagast to New Braunfels and Boerne. He is also interested in Karl Dienger, who came from the Hausen-Baden area, but he does not know when. The third person of interest is Christoph Boerner from Bodenwerder who immigrated to Kendall County in 1855. Another research line is that of Bertha Richter. She came from Zellerfeld in 1846 and settled in San Antonio in 1850.

Cheryl Niemeier, RR 2, Box 2350, Meridian TX 76665-9615 is researching the Niemeier, Richter, Schroder, Helm, and Haferkamp families of Germany and Texas. Heinrich Wilhelm Karl Niemeier, called Carl or Charlie in the U.S., was born in 1859 in Wehdem, Westfalen, Germany, the son of Carl Heinrich Niemeier and Wilhelmine Louise Charlotte Rennegarbe. In 1880 he married Henrietta Charlotte Louise Nagel, the daughter of Carl Friedrich Nagel and Charlotte Wilhelmine Boerninghausen. Their first four children were born between 1881 and 1887 in Wehdem. The family arrived in New York in 1892 and traveled to Texas, landing at Galveston. By 19 Nov. 1892 they were at Brenham, for their son, Charles Heinrich (Charlie) was born there. Their next four children were born between 1895 and 1902 in Coryell County. Cheryl also sent information on Carl Richter, born in 1854 in Wehdem, Westfalen, the son of Fred Richter. His mother was a Pieper, but her first name is unknown. He immigrated to Texas in 1874 and in 1880 he and Wilhelmina (Minnie) Rolfig Niemeier were married in either New Wehdem or Brenham, Texas. She was born in 1859 in Westfalen, Germany, but her parents names are unknown. She immigrated to Texas in 1876 with her son William Niemeier from her first marriage. Carl and Minnie had nine children, all born in Texas between 1881 and 1904. Cheryl is also interested in Heinrich Fritz Schroder, born in 1848 in Wehdem, Westfalen. The names of his parents are unknown, but he married Louise Schlingman around 1870 in Westfalen. She was born in 1848 in Westfalen. Their first two sons were born in Germany; they emigrated about 1875-84 and their third and fourth sons were born in Texas in 1884 and 1893. Another family of interest is that of Ludwig and Wilhelmina Helm, who immigrated to Texas in the early 1870s. He was born in 1842 in Prussia, but the names of his and Wilhelmina's parents are unknown. Their first child was born in 1868-69 in Prussia; the next three children were born in Texas between 1871 and 1879 or 1880. Cheryl is also interested in the family of Heinrich (Henry) William David Haferkamp and his wife, Margarthe Agnes Gaskamp. Both were born in Germany, Henry in 1838 and Margarthe in 1830. The exact birthplaces and names of their parents are unknown, as is the date of their marriage. They had three children born between 1866 and 1871 in Germany before they came to Texas about 1873. Anyone recognizing these names, please contact Cheryl.

Dr. Ulla K. Schmid, Museum Schopfheim, Wallstr. 10, W-7860 Schopfheim, Germany wrote us a nice letter to ask of anyone knows anything about Walter Friedrich August Werner. He was born in Karlsruhe, Germany, in 1831, and his real name was Walter F. A. von Roggenbach, but Dr. Schmid is convinced



From Our Members, continued

he changed his name and lived in the U.S. as Mr. Werner. He immigrated to Texas in 1853 (not before June) and died in St. Louis, Missouri, in Feb. 1869. Dr. Schmid is searching for biographical information on him, especially on his life in the U.S. and would like to know if he ever married and if he had any descendants. Walter F. A. Werner (alias Roggenbach) was a member of an important noble family from Schopfheim, and the city museum has a large collection on this Roggenbach family. Anyone finding either of these names recorded anywhere, please contact Dr. Schmid.

Here is one clue: a Walter F. A. Werner was named as the godfather of Hermann Roggenbach (born 26 Jan. 1856) when Hermann was baptized on 30 April 1856 in New Braunfels.

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**GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE**

At the request of several members, we have added a column for "Origin in Germany" for the Genealogical Exchange. Because of the positive feedback on this addition, we are continuing this format. The "Origin" may be given as broadly or as specifically as known. Place and family names are given as spelled by the contributors.

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Joyce Eichmann, 153 Sky Country, New Braunfels TX 78132 tel. (210) 629-9831

Niemann	Kratze	Comal	Lutheran
Kramer/Kraemer	?	Williamson	Lutheran
Lehmann/Loehmann	Timmern	Comal	Lutheran
Wiedner	Buehen	Comal	Lutheran
Heidemann	?	Austin	?
Guentzel	?	Austin	?
Boenig	Dohnsen	Guadalupe	Lutheran

MEMBER: Michael A. Mattern, 1315 W. Forest, Houston TX 77043

Mattern	Dertingen, Baden	Bexar/Colorado	Lutheran
Hoffmann	Ruppershausen, Westfalen	Bexar	Lutheran
Zuelecke	Briesbach	Bexar (?)	Lutheran
Michaelis	Pereberg, Brandenburg	Austin	Lutheran
Litzmann	Pritzwalk, Brandenburg	Colorado	Lutheran
Glaeser	Obersaide, Saxony	Austin	Lutheran
Johse	Schwerin, Mecklenburg	Colorado	Lutheran
Sens	Buetzow, Mecklenburg	Austin/Colorado	Lutheran

MEMBER: Dick Stewart, Box 8721, Baltimore MD 21240, tel: (410) 987-2057

Timm	Pommern	Mills/Tom Green	Lutheran ?
Radeke/Radke	?	Mills/Tom Green	Lutheran ?
Pachlep/Packlep	Pommern	?	?

Members' Genealogical Exchange

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Texas County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Kay Herbst Day, 25934 Goldfinch Trail, San Antonio TX 78255

Herbst		Comal/Kendall	
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MEMBER: Betty K. Edgar, 901 Cuthbert, Midland TX 79701 tel. (915) 682-3810

Knust	Geseke, Westfalen	Bosque	Catholic/Evangelical
Wenzel	Durwo, Poland	Bosque	Evangelical
Zuehlke	Poland	Bosque	Evangelical
Draeger	Poland	Bosque	Evangelical

MEMBER: Jesse L. Vaughan, 7014 Sycamore, Galveston TX 77551 tel. (409) 763-6551, ext. 357

Budde	Mackenbruch, Lippe	Harris	Lutheran
Goedecke	Duderstadt, Hanover	Galveston/Harris	Lutheran
Goldback	Kgr. Sachsen	Harris	Lutheran
Holzwarth/ Holzworth	Oberndorf & Neckarmes, Württemberg	Galveston/Harris	Lutheran
Wuensche/ Wunsche	Gerstdorf, Kgr Sachsen	Harris	Lutheran

MEMBER: Patricia Patterson-Williams, p. O. Box 1714, Corpus Christi TX 78403 tel: (210) 992-3383

Angerstein	Heimgestadt, Braunschweig	Victoria	Lutheran
Becker	Behne, Prussia	Goliad/Victoria	Lutheran
Scheller/Schiller	Langfeld, Saxony	Goliad/Austin/Vic	Lutheran
Findelisen	Eastern Germmay	Austin	?
Fuhrmann	Isinger Pyritz	DeWitt/Victoria	Lutheran
Dolgner/Dollgener	Isinger Pyritz	DeWitt/Victoria	Lutheran
Ernst/Ackermann	Blondelsheim, Alsac	Victoria	Cath/Luth
Hirschhauser	Odfillen, Nassau	Victoria	Lutheran
Schaefer	Geissmar, Prussia	Victoria	Lutheran

MEMBER: Mary Elizabeth Joeris Roberts, 4751 Boyd Ave., Groves TX 77619

Joeris	Heinsberg-Laffeld, Rhineland	Bexar	Catholic
Schiffers	Heinsberg or Laffeld, Rhl.	Bexar	Catholic
Busch	Heinsberg or Laffeld, Rhl.		Catholic
Walther	Saxony	Callahan	Catholic
Fertl	Munich, Bavaria		Catholic

MEMBER: Cheryl Niemeyer, Rt. 2, Box 2350, Meridian TX 76665

Gaskamp	?	Coryell	Lutheran
Haferkamp	?	Washington/Coryell	Lutheran
Helm	Prussia	Wash'n/Coryell/Jones	Lutheran
Nagel	Westfalen	Coryell	Lutheran
Niemeyer	Wehdem, Westfalen	Wash'n/McLennan/Coryell	Lutheran
Richter	Wehdem, Westfalen	Washington/Coryell	Lutheran
Schlingman/Schlingue	Westfalen	Coryell	Lutheran
Schroder/Schraeder	Westfalen	Washington/Coryell	Lutheran



Members' Genealogical Exchange

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Iris T. Schumann, 1079 Fredericksburg Rd., New Braunfels TX 78130  
tel: (210) 625-5656, 629-1900

Timmermann	Braunschweig		Protestant
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MEMBER: Corinne Staacke, 527 Country Lane, San Antonio TX 78209 tel. (210) 824-6019

Staacke	Einbeck, Hanover	Bexar	?
Sartor	Langren, Schwalbach	Comal/Bexar	?
Diefenbach	Langren, Schwalbach	Comal	?
Lassner	Stuttgart	Bexar	?
Nagel	Essen	Bexar	?
Metzger	Switzerland	Dallas	Presbyterian
Thofern	Prussia	Dallas & in MO	Presbyterian

MEMBER: Vernon L. Helmke, 209 Henderson St., San Antonio TX 78209 tel. (210) 826-7265

Helmke	Kirchlinteln	Guadalupe	Protestant
Leesch	Stralsund	Bexar	Protestant
Kabelmacher	Richtenburg	Comal	Protestant
Wellman	Schleswig	Guadalupe	Protestant
Krause	Ermethis	Comal/Kendalia	Protestant
Ackermann	Ermethis	Comal/Kendalia	Protestant
Erben	Horcheim	Comal	Catholic
Zunker	Wurzig	Comal	Protestant
Kapitzcke	Baumbarten	Comal	Protestant
Wetz	Offenbach	Comal	Protestant
Tode	Richtenburg	Bexar	Protestant

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**FAMILY REUNIONS**

**WILLRICH FAMILY REUNION**

The sixth Willrich Family Reunion will be held Friday through Sunday, April 23-25, 1993, in the La Grange area with the main headquarters at the VFW Hall near the Fairgrounds.

Since 1983, some 200 descendants of Georg Carl Willrich have met in La Grange for this reunion. The immigrant ancestor brought his family to Texas from Hanover in 1846.

The family feels it may be more fortunate than some others since members can actually gather in front of the original home place to pose for group pictures. The family's first home in America, Mt. Eliza, was constructed on "the Bluff" about four miles south of La Grange. Completed in 1847, it was of true German "Fachwerk" with a cedar-lined basement and walls of heavy cedar timbers filled with stone and masonry. The home was purchased in the early 1980s and carefully dismantled to be reconstructed, piece by piece, at a new location some five miles up the road. It is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schenck of Houston, who allow the family the use of the beautiful old homestead.

Reunion activities include: Friday, general meeting and visiting in the evening; Saturday, lunch and picture taking at Mt. Eliza, supper at the VFW Hall with a "fun night of activities"; Sunday, memorial services at Monument Hill on the Bluff.

Information sent to GTHS by Mrs. Betty Dring Coffey, Willrich Family Reunion.

**FAMILY REUNIONS, continued****60th PFLUGER FAMILY REUNION PLANNED**

by

Julia Mellenbruch (a Pfluger descendent)

All Henry Pfluger, Sr. descendents are invited to mark their calendars for July 4, 1994 to attend the 60th annual Pfluger Reunion at Pfluger Hall in Pflugerville, Texas. A barbecue lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

The first Pfluger Reunion was held on July 12, 1934 in Pflugerville in the F. H. Pfluger grove, now known as Pfluger Park. Charley Pfluger, the only surviving child of Henry Pfluger, Sr. attended with 414 other family members. It was at his request that this reunion be held. He had moved west with his family in the 1880's and had settled near Eden, Texas. At 81, he was eager to have another visit with his numerous relatives. The reunion was such an enjoyable occasion that it became an annual tradition.

On July 4, 1992 there were 240 in attendance, having come from Massachusetts to California. Henry J. Bohls (97) of Pflugerville, a third generation Pfluger, was the oldest member present. Jim Pfluger, an Austin architect, served as chairman. Plans were formulated and a committee, representing each of the ten original descendents was appointed to make the 60th reunion a very special event.

The 1992-93 committee includes Jim Pfluger, president; Arthur Charles Pfluger (Georgetown), vice president; Jean Pfluger Kelly (Houston), secretary; Helen Knebel Nelson (Austin), treasurer; Gloria Kuempel (Pflugerville), historian; Jean Pfluger (New Braunfels), Pfluger Family News editor. Dr. Werner Pfluger (Austin) and Erwin Pfluger (Coupland) will continue to serve on the Pfluger Hall Board of Directors with representatives of the Pflugerville Volunteer Fire Department. Susan Pfluger Moellenberg (Box 515, Pflugerville, Tx 78660) receives donations for memorials and honorariums for Pfluger Hall. Efforts are being made to retire the debt on the building before the 1994 celebration.

The Pfluger family arrived in Travis County in 1850 from Altenhasungen, Hessen, Germany and settled a few miles east of Austin. The two oldest sons, Conrad and George, had come a year earlier and were greeted by their Uncle John Liese, who had served in the Texas Revolution, for which he received a bounty grant of 960 acres of land in the Richland Community east of the present town of Pflugerville. In 1853 John Liese sold this tract to Henry Pfluger, Sr. and the family built a home there. Henry Pfluger Sr. and a few other members of his family are buried in a cemetery which is located on this land.

In 1893 a post office was established four miles west of the Pfluger homestead in a store owned by Louis Bohls, a grandson, who was named the first postmaster. Louis gave it the name of Pflugerville.



**FAMILY REUNIONS, continued**Pfluger Family Reunion, continued

When the "Katy" Railroad plotted its route through the area, George Pfluger, a son, donated land for the right-of-way and the town of Pflugerville was established in 1904. In the early years all of the amenities of a small town were present, including a mercantile store, bank, blacksmith shop, cotton gin, cotton oil mill, meat market, soda water factory, lumber yard, drug store, hardware store, ice plant, public school, churches and even a hotel, which is said to have been quite elegant for its day.. It was customary for traveling salesmen, known as "drummers," to take lodging here. Unfortunately, a kerosene lamp ignited a lace curtain and the building was destroyed. A number of other small businesses did thrive, including a telephone company.

A social club, "Schützen und Kegel Verein," had been organized in 1891 and a building had been erected in 1900 to house the bowling alley. The stated objectives of the club were to (1) further social entertainment, (2) give neighborly assistance, and (3) uphold the German culture. Many May Fetes and other community affairs were held here. When the club disbanded, the land was donated to the Pflugerville Volunteer Fire Department. As a memorial to Henry Pfluger, Sr. the members of the Pfluger Family began a fund-raising drive in 1981 and Pfluger Hall was erected and dedicated on July 4, 1986 on the site of the old club building. It was donated to the Pflugerville Volunteer Fire Department to serve the Pflugerville Community, with the exception of July 4 when it is reserved each year for the annual Pfluger reunion.

The Pflugers have been diligent in keeping genealogical records. The first history of the Pfluger Family was published in 1934 by two granddaughters, Lucia and Helena Pfluger. The last was printed in 1985, with a 20-page supplementary update in 1992. Four intervening editions were organized and edited by Jean Kuempel Acklin (Round Rock). A new edition is planned for the 60th Anniversary. As more members of the family travel to the old homestead in Germany and also bring documents and letters from their attics, the next edition should include more family anecdotes, as well as a complete genealogical account.

The earlier members of the family followed traditional occupations, such as farming, ranching, real estate and mercantile pursuits. As the years passed they have also entered into a wide variety of professions from medicine and church-related to banking, engineering, teaching, research, and computer science, with law and politics having played a very minor role. However, Edmund Kuempel (Seguin), a fourth-generation descendent, has served honorably for a number of terms in the Texas Legislature.

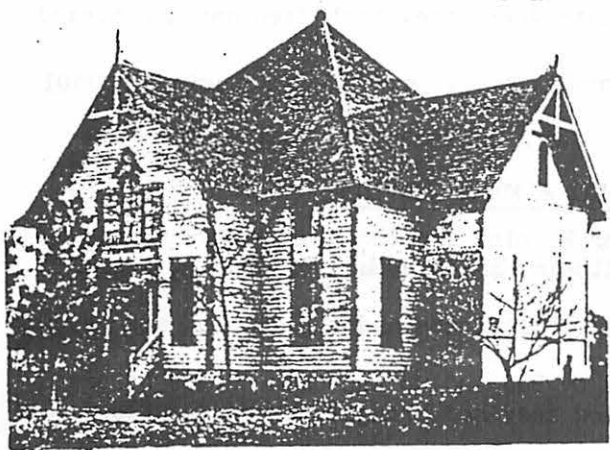
Wherever they live Pfluger descendents are active in their community, serving on church boards, school boards, service organizations and city councils, as well as being involved in volunteer projects. Many have donated generously to the community, such as Leon and Gladys Pfluger who donated the land for the original Pfluger Park in

Pfluger Family Reunion, continued

Pflugerville. This had been the site of the reunions until Pfluger Hall was built.

In 1991 Henry Pfluger Sr.'s name was inscribed on the Immigrant Wall of Honor, on Ellis Island, New York, along with the names of 200,000 other immigrants to the United States.

"T" shirts bearing the logo "Pfluger Family Reunion" may be seen on school and college campuses and as sports attire across the country. Pfluger descendents wear them with pride.x



SCHÜTZEN HALLE

JOSEPH PREISS REUNION

Descendants of Joseph Preiss gathered recently for their first family reunion at Trinity Luther Hall in Victoria, Texas with Gladys Arnold, Lillie Mae Duran, Garland and Carolyn Kolle, Woody and Tom Preiss and Roxy and Wade Boyd hosting. Everyone enjoyed a covered dish lunch, Reminiscing and Viewing albums of old family pictures.

A number of family members were recognized, including Willie Gebbert 88, the oldest man descendant; Ida Preiss 84, the oldest woman descendant; Heather Garrett 3 weeks, daughter of Ted and Kathy Hornstein Garrett and Christopher Slavik 6 weeks, son of Allen and Karol Faltysek Slavik the youngest; Clarence and Minnie Preiss 63 years, couple married the longest; Dean and Lucile Schindler Cary 3 months, couple most recent married; John and Margaret Beckman traveling the furthest from Seattle, Washington along with Robert and Valerie Preiss from Arlington, Virginia and Sue Williams from Weimar, California.

Approximately 131 family members attended with the Alois Preiss family having the greatest representation of 63.

Gladys Arnold was given special thanks for her splendid work on the Preiss Family History Book and good luck on her continuing research in Germany.

It was decided to have a reunion every two years with the next one being on August 6, 1994 with Roleen Riedel Diamond and her committee hosting with location being confirmed later.

Joseph Preiss came to Texas in 1854 at the age of 22. He married Anna Marie Dittmeyer Hofbauer on September 12, 1856 in St. Marys Catholic Church, Victoria, Texas. They lived for awhile in Victoria working as a Water Carrier. In 1866 Joseph bought land in the Mission Valley area where they reared their seven children by farming and raising cattle. They continued living here until they died and are both buried in the Noll Cemetery on FM 237, Victoria County, Texas.

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



**FAMILY REUNIONS, continued****KEIL-DOHMANN FAMILY REUNION**

Seventy-seven descendants attended the second reunion of the Ernestine Michling Keil-Dohmann family held at the country home of Don and Margaret Vogt in Victoria, Texas.

Hosting the reunion were Rosie and Albert Rothlisberger and the families of Don and Margaret Vogt, Herman and Madeline Vogt, Mildred and Donald Farek and David Vogt. The invocation was given by Don Vogt.

Prizes were awarded to Dustin White, the youngest person present; Alvena Wernli, the oldest person present; T.C. and Evelyn Kolle, married the longest; George and Kathy White, most recently married; Herman and Madeline Vogt of Los Alamos, N.M., for traveling the longest distance; and the Anna Keil Weber family for having the most family members in attendance at 51.

The next reunion is scheduled for June 26, 1993 in Gonzales with Hattie and Allen Wehlmann, daughter and son-in-law of Regina Albrecht Urban, hosting.

Ernestine Michling married Frederick Keil in Germany, presumably around the Charlottenburg area in about 1863. They came to Texas on December 1, 1869 landing at Galveston, Texas and ventured overland to the Industry-New Ulm area in Austin County, Texas. Sometime in 1874 Frederick died and Ernestine married August Dohmann. Ernestine and August eventually settled first in Goliad County and then in Victoria County where they both died and are buried in the Coletoville Cemetery, Victoria County, Texas.

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

**SIEGERT-BECKMANN, GARLING, SCHULTZ & KULOW REUNION**

The fourth annual Homecoming, Picnic, Gathering or Reunion for the Siegert-Beckmann, Garling, Schultz & Kulow family members was held at Milheim Harmonie Hall on Sunday, Aug. 2, 1992 from 10 AM to 4 PM.

The theme was carried out in red and white checked tablecloths and a plant on each group of tables.

After a greeting and a song, "Amazing Grace", led by Bud and Jo Ann Cain. Grace before the meal was offered and all enjoyed the particular food they had brought. There was also a dessert table with LaVerne Siegert in charge.

A puppet show entertained the children present with the "Story Of Peter Rabbit". Cast included grandchildren of Lucille (Siegert) and Lawrence Ricke. Many goodies and prizes were distributed to the children between scenes.

Prizes were awarded by Lucille Siegert Ricke and Dorothy Siegert Storenski to the oldest man, Noryeal Yendry; oldest lady, Elizabeth Kulow; married longest, Leona and Wilbur Heldberg; most children, Idell and Harold Siegert; youngest child, Trey Besetzny; second youngest, Chris Norwood; newlywads, Elsie Siegert Townsend and Hubby; high school student with all A's, Maudie New; middle school student with all A's, Sarah Arnold; traveled the farthest, Mary Norwood and family, from Alabama; door prize, Dora Palm, a filled picnic basket. Many other prizes were won by members as donated by members.

A final surprize consisted of the table plant on each table, won by white tag under his or her chair.

We now have a new volunteer on the committee. She is Joy Dell Siegert Miller of Mauriceville, Texas, daughter of Elsie Siegert Townsend and Frank Siegert, deceased. Thank You, Joy Dell.

Also thanks to all who brought pictures for viewing. Moving the tables was a job and the committee thanks all who helped in any way.

Quite a few of our members are ill, hospitalized or residents of nursing homes this year. In particular as far as we know, they are, Erna Kulow, Dorothy Siegert Bilbo, Emilie Siegert, Leona Siegert Hairston, Louise Beckmann Himly, and Callie Siegert Necker. Remembered were husband of Ruth Ann Necker Villeneuve and husband of Sheryl Necker Skweres, both deceased.

We had some new faces in attendance this year. Thank you for coming and do be members of our group.

Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Bolton, caretakers of the hall, for all the kindnesses extended to the committee.

After a prayer, led by Bud Cain, for a safe trip home, the reunion was ended for 1992 by Earl J. Siegert, Chairman.

Submitted by Lucille Siegert Ricke

The Clifton Record, WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1992, PAGE 4B

## Knust Reunion Held July 11

**WOMACK** — On Saturday, July 11, descendants of Jo and Otilie Knust met for their fourth family reunion in the Educational Building of Zion United Church of Christ in the Womack Community.

Before lunch, family members viewed a display of pictures that dated to early in this century. Many memories were said to have been revived and enjoyed.

One item of special interest was a small china bowl. Grandpa Knust had eaten his last meal from the dish, and it had been cherished for many years by Grandma Knust, until her death.

A "Jo Knust Family News" sheet was distributed with up-to-date information concerning births, marriages, and deaths, since the last meeting in 1990. Also included, was a tribute to "Little Grandmother Knust," (who was less than five tall) written by Orpha Kuretsch Jacobsen, a granddaughter.

The Rev. B.I. Dahl, Jr. acted as program director. All joined in singing *Happy Birthday* for those having birthdays in July. (Arne Dittrick, Alfred Kettler, George Arnold, Jr., and Rosalie Aars) Following the table prayer a catered lunch was served.

After lunch the picture taking session began, first family groups and then, a real family picture with all of the 54 members present posing together.

The oldest member present was Regina Knust Kuretsch of New Braunfels, she is the only living person of Jo and Otilie Knust. The youngest present was Ashley Marie Jacobsen, two and one-half months of Universal City, daughter of Richard and Darlene Jacobsen, a great-granddaughter of Regina Knust Kuretsch.

The guest list revealed two out-of-state guests, Alfred Kettler of Grand Junction, Colo. and Jenifer Dahl of Uncaville, Conn.

Others that registered were Rosa Knudson and Betty Edgar, Midland; Ralph and Edna Kettler, Rowena; Herbert Kettler, Virginia Kettler, Bill and Virginia Kettler, Bryan; Loyd and Yvonne Wiederaenders, Flower Mound; and Clyde and John Knust,

Houston; Stephanie K. Berbench, Woodlands; Reinhold Knust, Waco; and Gordon Arnold, Plano.

Also attending were Christy Rueter, Ft. Worth; David Rueter, Arlington; Sylvia Strey, Cibolo; Louis and Orpha Jacobsen, Selma; Darlene and Christina, Christopher, and Ashley Jacobsen, Arthur and Toni, Kennet Jacobsen, San Antonio; and Arno Dittrich, Guberta Potter and George Jr., Dorothy Wilson, Valley Mills.

Also, Ruth Arnold, Gary Arnold, George Arnold, Jr., Breana, and Trey, Pernell and Rosalie Aars, David and Elizabeth Dahl, Joe and Lydia Knust, Lauri Aars, Andrew, and Eric, and Loren Meissner, all of Clifton.

Betty K. Edgar  
901 Cuthbert  
Midland, Texas 79701

This year's reunion was planned in conjunction with the Sunday, Oct. 11, celebration of the 144th anniversary of St. Peter's United Church. The Beinhorns were members of this church community beginning in 1854, and the churchbooks have been a rich source for family history research. Christian Beinhorn supervised the construction of the "neu Kirche" that was dedicated in 1864. Although the historic church itself is not regularly used, it is in excellent condition and was open for visitors to inspect the craftsmanship of bygone days, as was the church cemetery, the final resting place for several generations of Beinhorns. About 25-30 Beinhorn family members stayed over for the celebration with began with a morning church service followed by a shared noon meal.

Information sent by Herbert Beinhorn, Rt. 1, Box 100, Moscow TX 75960

## 1992 BEINHORN REUNION & 144TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH

October 10 and 11, 1992, marked a weekend of activities for the Beinhorn Family. On Saturday, Oct. 19, some 90 relatives held their reunion at the Fellowship Hall of St. Peter's United Church in the Spring Branch area of Houston. The family reunion originally began as an informal get-together at Herbert and Linda Beinhorn's place, but it has snowballed to include other branches of the family. Since there is no formal organization, there are no business meetings, etc. Emphasis is placed on sociability, with a covered dish dinner, informal outdoor games, and a display of old photographs, scrapbooks, and other mementoes.



**Hardship and Promise: Historical Record of the Joseph Henneke and Anna Maria Middeke Family of Entrup, Westphalia, Prussia, and Colorado County, Texas** is a follow up to the book of a similar name noted in our Journal, Spring 1992 issue, page 55, which was a follow up to a 1983 work on the same family--all by GTHS member Arliss Treybig. She includes a great deal of information on the ancestral hometown and records from Germany obtained via LDS microfilm. The book includes maps, photographs, charts, and documents in addition to historical stories. The descendants are carried only into the second Texas-born generation. Even in this, the third version of this family's history, the compiler admits that the information is yet incomplete, so we can look forward to yet another future edition.

**Hill Country Folk: The Willmann-Nies-Knölle Family in Germany and Texas**, text by Terry G. Jordan; family register by J. D. Jordan and Lois Jordan Koock; published 1992 by Nortex Press, Austin TX. Hardcover, 239 pages. \$30.00 plus \$2.50 p & h from Terry G. Jordan, 6305 Augusta National Drive, Austin TX 78746 or J. D. Jordan, 111 W. Driftwood, Fredericksburg TX 78624. This is the long-awaited story of Anton Willmann and his first wife, Theresia Knölle, who emigrated in 1852 from Nieder-Schlesien (Lower Silesia) to the New Braunfels area. After Theresia's untimely death in 1854, Anton remarried to Christine Nies, who had emigrated from Weilburg or Kirschhofen in Nassau only seven months prior. Anton had a total of 22 children by his two wives, although not all survived to adulthood. In 1883, the family moved to Mason County. The family history is interwoven with community and church history and is amplified with information gleaned from various sources. An early chapter describes a trip to the ancestral villages in search of information. Throughout are high quality maps and photographs. This family began to collect its history in 1936. Dan Fischer first published The Willmanns in America some 40 years ago, with various supplements published over the years. Approximately one-third of the book is the history narrative, followed by a "partial register" of the descendants of the immigrants with names and dates given in an outline style. The index is primarily a surname index, with only a few given names, but it is a "selected index" extending only to the grandchildren of Anton Willmann and surnames of related families. This is a model of family history publications. We are grateful that GTHS member and Willmann descendant John H. Kothmann of Dallas has donated a copy to our GTHS library.

**The Descendants of Johann Andreas Heinrich Voigt (1792-1847)** was edited by Jonathan Riba of Arlington TX and compiled by Vivian Schwab Zipp of New Braunfels, Lillian Schluze Schneider of San Antonio, Oscar Schneider of San Antonio, and Evelyn Bolton Kneupper of San Antonio. Although the title indicates this book is about the descendants of Johann Andreas Heinrich Voigt (Chapter 1), it is actually about the descendants of his son, Johann Wilhelm Heinrich Voigt (1825-1889) (Chapter 2), the only one of Johann Andreas Heinrich's four children to come to the U. S. Johann Wilhelm and Sophie Zuckenfordt had seven children with separate chapters devoted to four of them: Henriette and Alexander Schwab (Chapter 3), Wilhelmina and Joseph Johann Schertz, Jr. (Chapter 13), Johann Michael Heinrich Voigt (Chapter 14), and Marie and Johann Joseph Schneider (Chapter 15). The other nine chapters (4 through 12) cover the 12 children of the daughter Henriette Schwab. The book has three types of pages, 85 numbered pages listing the 1,607 descendants with nine pages of full name index, interspersed with brief stories of the persons heading each chapter, and sections of photographs, 110 of them in all. The opening section covers the history of New Braunfels and the German immigration movement. It is interesting that this Voigt family initially settled in the same vicinity as the Willmann family covered in the book noted above. We thank GTHS member and co-compiler Lillian Schneider for her donation of this book.

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 SPECIAL OFFER: You may have a 10-page handout on German Genealogical Research (bibliography, maps, German script and print, German-English word list) by sending a self-addressed envelope and \$1.00 to your GTHS Genealogy Editor. No need to put a stamp on the envelope, but do send a #10 (business-sized) envelope.

We also have handouts from Immigrant Genealogy Society, describing services the IGS offers, such as searches of German telephone books, U.S. immigration indexes, and other resources from Germany. For this one, send a 29-cent SASE.

If you would like both handouts, send a 29-cent SASE plus \$1.00.

Request from: Theresa G. Gold, GTHS Genealogy Editor, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213

**BEINHORN FAMILY: Searching the German Church**

As early as 1845-1846 many thousands of Protestant emigrants from the region of North Germany once known as the Kingdom of Hannover, now the State of Niedersachsen, boarded sailing ships for Texas. My ancestors made the long tiresome trip to Texas in 1853, but the records from their "new" church in Spring Branch, Harris County, Texas are rather sketchy in regards to establishing the exact relationship of the various early family members that made that perilous voyage. Perhaps their "old" church in Germany could shed more light, but I was unaware of how to contact them.

An ad in a German genealogical magazine (page 123, GTHS JOURNAL, Vol. XIV, No. 2, Summer, 1992) brought a response from genealogist Reinhold Jerke. Further correspondence with Herr Jerke resulted in the addresses of two church parishes that had jurisdiction over the areas where my ancestors were supposed to have lived. The Beinhorn family of Osloss records should be in the Fallersleben church and the Tandler family of Heiligendorf records should be in the Heiligendorf-Wolfsburg church. Inquiries were sent to each of the churches along with 3 International Reply Coupons (I. R. C.s are available at most U. S. Post Offices) and a \$10.00 cash donation. After a 6-8 month wait, which I find is normal for this type contact, I received replies from both churches.

Although the information from Heiligendorf was of little help in establishing our Tandler line, the news from the Fallersleben church was most encouraging. Through their birth records it was ascertained that "our" Jacob Beinhorn was a son of "our" Dietrich Beinhorn and that Dietrich was a son of Henning Jacob Beinhorn. Henning Jacob, according to land census records made available to us by Herr Jerke, settled in Osloss in the 1740s. My Great-grandfather Christian Beinhorn's obituary in the Spring Branch St. Peter Church records listed his birthplace as Osloss (page 59, GTHS JOURNAL, Vol. XIV, No. 1, Spring, 1992), but no birth record was found at the Fallersleben church for him. We have records that go back to the 1740s but still are unable to prove that Christian was the son of Dietrich and brother of Jacob and Heinrich. I would like to believe he was, but Christian could have been a nephew and a first cousin.

Another letter was sent to the church at Fallersleben requesting a check of their Confirmation records for a listing of Christian and other family members. Evidently the church had sent all the information they had in regards to our family and passed the inquiry on to a Reverend Pauer, a former pastor of the church in the town of Jembke. Jembke is located several miles north of Osloss and possibly the Jembke church could have been used by the family, but Reverend Pauer found nothing in the Jembke church book concerning the Beinhorn family. He did, however, send a list of addresses of a few of the many Evangelical Lutheran churches in that area of North Germany. Remember if you write a German church and expect an answer, be sure to include several I. R. C.s and perhaps a small cash donation. Don't expect an answer for at least 6-8 months, possibly longer.

I do correspond in German, but I try to use the simplest words that I can and try not to offend the recipient in any misuse of words. I also make use of the Oxford Duden German Dictionary. I would think though, that most of the churches would have someone that could translate English. These churches have many requests from Texas and are ready to help.

Submitted by: Herbert L. Beinhorn, Moscow, Texas

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 Is your family having a reunion in the summer of 1993? Send your announcement to reach your GTHS Genealogy Editor by Feb. 5, 1993, to have it published in the Spring, 1993, issue of our GTHS Journal.



Your Genealogy Editor has a number of books on how to do German genealogical research, some of them new acquisitions. Although for years we have recommended the book(s) by Jensen, we decided to review all the books at our fingertips to share our evaluations with you. They are arranged in order of our recommendation. There are a few other such books available, but either your Genealogy Editor does not yet have them or does not know about them and therefore does not have them. The evaluations and opinions expressed here are solely those of your Genealogy Editor. Prices given may be approximations and do not include postage and handling (usually \$2.50 per book) nor tax (if applicable).

A Genealogical Handbook of German Research, two volumes, by Larry O. Jensen, \$14.50 each, Jensen Publications, P. O. Box 441, Pleasant Grove UT 84062. The following review is of Volume I (revised 1980) only, as the author said in late August that he is currently revising Volume II.

Contents: (Vol. I) historical background of Germany, emigration, determining place of origin (three chapters), surnames and naming practices, German handwriting and terminology (three chapters), finding records (three chapters), index. 205 pages, 8.5" x 11", spiral bound.

Strengths: Determining place of origin, use of gazetteers (Meyer's and Müller's), uses of L.D.S. sources (gives the film numbers!), easy to follow step-by-step, examples of documents, maps, index.

Weaknesses: Not much emphasis on eastern Germany (former DDR), only three form letters, only one address list (genealogical organizations). Bibliography has no items for Texas. Not updated to reflect the 1990 unification of Germany.

Note: Vol. 2 (203 pages) is an expansion of topics covered in Vol. I, actually transcripts of the author's lectures, with over 290 illustrations and examples (Vol. I has 48), although some illustrations are too small or of such poor quality as to be illegible. Vol. II also introduces chapters on research in large cities and Jewish and nonconformist research. As above, Vol. II is currently undergoing revision.

German Genealogical Research (1992) by George K. Schweitzer, Ph.D., Sc.D.; about \$18.00, available from author, 407 Regent Court, Knoxville TN 37923.

Contents: Extensive chapters (with maps) on history of Germany and of German immigration to the U.S., both with reading lists. Chapter 3 (50 pages) on "Bridging the Atlantic" is a comprehensive review of sources for German genealogical research, followed by another 50-page chapter on records in Germany and a 30-page chapter on German record repositories. The final chapter, on the German language, includes handwriting samples and word lists of German genealogical terms. 250 pages, 6" x 9", softbound.

Strengths: 20 pages of addresses of German archives--state, regional (including former German provinces now in Poland and France), city/town, district/county (Kreisarchive), special, and church archives. Many letters in German and English for different purposes and to different contacts in Germany. Throughout, chapter titles are given in English and German, and subchapter titles are in English, German, in old German print and script, such as

1. Introduction	1. Einleitung
1. Einleitung	1. Einleitung

The book is up-to-date in reflecting changes after the 1990 unification. The author pulls together many types of information from many sources and puts it all in one book, the only one to cover this many sources and recommendations in one book. This has been highly recommended by other reviewers, and justly so.

Weaknesses: A great deal of information is covered so the pages are tightly crammed, especially where addresses are given. There is NO INDEX! but the Table of Contents names the chapters and subchapters and as an outline of the text. The author mentions sources that have been filmed by L.D.S., but does not include the film numbers as Jensen does.

Review of "How-To" Publications, continued

German Family Research Made Simple (1992) by J. Konrad, about \$11.00, Summit Publications, P. O. Box 222, Marietta OH 44262.

Contents: The fifth revision of a work originally published in 1974; it grew from 32 pages in 1974 to 103 pages in 1977, and is now 108 pages. Seven chapters; begins with German immigration to the U.S. and then a 10-page history of Germany with several good maps and a brief description of Germany today. A chapter on doing preparatory research in the U.S. (including how to complete an ancestor chart and family group sheet), use of standard U.S. resources (federal and county), locating the town of origin in Germany, contacting sources in Germany, a short German word list, using L.D.S. resources, dealing with professional researchers, current political jurisdictions of former independent states. The last 40 pages concentrate on the individual present-day Länder, including a brief political history, helpful books, addresses of archives and genealogical societies, if any, in each area. Appended to this is a smaller section with information on other areas now in Russia, France, and Poland that had large numbers of German emigrants. 108 pages, 8.5" x 11", softcover.

Strengths: Flow chart of procedures for locating ancestors' origin in Germany and accompanying five-page explanation. Sample letter with first paragraph in German explaining that the writer can read German, "aber ich schreibe es sehr schlecht" so the rest of the letter will be in English. Use of German postal codes, how to find the right town and then how to address an envelope. The section on the areas of emigrants' origin is outstanding--gives all the information in one place that usually has to be sifted out from a longer treatment.

Weaknesses: Any book that claims that the topic is "made easy" is immediately suspect. An 108-page book cannot cover everything, so there are many resources not covered. NO INDEX! so it may be hard to find what you're looking for or to know what gems are hidden.

In Search of Your German Roots (1991) by Angus Baxter, \$10.95, from Genealogical Publishing Co., 1001 Calvert St., Baltimore MD 21202.

Contents: This is a revision of the author's 1987 book by the same name, but this is termed the "United Germany Edition." It has: starting the research from family sources; very brief background history of Germany; longest chapter (about 40 pages) on records in Germany, describing different types of records available in some places and includes addresses for some repositories. 108 pages, 6" x 9", softbound.

Strengths: Jewish and Lutheran records, including German Lutherans in Memel and Ostpreussen, Germans in Canada, Mormon records, lists of census taken in Germany (very few before 1871--and states that "many" have been microfilmed, but does not say which ones or give the film numbers). Lots of information but not as comprehensive and well organized as Jensen or Schweitzer.

Weaknesses: Author's own ancestors came from England so he uses many examples from his experiences with British research that may or may not be relevant to German research. Informal writing style; includes non-pertinent anecdotes. Full addresses given only for state archives (Staatarchiv) and genealogical societies (with updates postal codes), but for city archives (Stadtarchive) there is just a list of cities (with an abbreviation for the Länder) without any postal codes--same goes for locations of church and family archives. No illustrations; only one map, present-day unified Germany. The bibliography emphasizes U.S. colonial-era immigrants and includes no Texas items at all. Index is cursory.

Note: Publisher has furnished a copy to GTHS.

Genealogical Research Guide to Germany (1988) by Margaret Krug Palen, \$9.00, Heritage Books, Inc., 1540 Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie MD 20716.

Contents: Very brief history of Germany and of German immigrants to U.S. Much more lengthy treatment of everyday family life of 1860-80 in her own ancestors' particular area of Hessen, including a detailed description of the clothing. Preparatory research in the

Review of "How-To" Publications, continued

U.S.; naming problems; finding the immigrant ancestor; traveling to Germany to research (making reservations, what to pack); doing research in Germany; interpreting handwriting; writing family history. 69 pages, 5.5" x 8", softbound.

Strengths: Much information on author's own experiences that might assist others who have ancestors from those same villages in Hessen. Half of the four-page chapter on writing the family history asks the common-sense questions that need answers before embarking on a publication--although the author recommends using the pronouns "I" and "we" to increase reader interest; this is not the preferred writing style for family history narratives. Maps, illustrations, one-page index.

Weaknesses: This is more like a report on the author's own research and travel experiences; it is not broad enough to be a research guide to all of Germany. The very brief address list of four items pertains only to the areas of her own research. Some of the narrative is irrelevant and thus unnecessary, such as the irreverent essay on the difficulties of the German language. Not updated to reflect changes after the 1990 unification, so the two pages on travel difficulties in the former East Germany are not pertinent now.

Note: Publisher has furnished a copy to GTHS.

Finding Your German Ancestors (1990/91) by Dr. Ronald M. Smelser, \$4.00, Ancestry, Inc., P. O. Box 476, Salt Lake City UT 84110.

Contents: The author says he proposes to introduce the reader to opportunities and problems of finding genealogical sources in Germany. He gives a brief interpretative overview of German history following a theme of three traditions, imperial, national and regional/local; different types of records created at different levels; factors leading to emigration; brief review of five types of records (church, civil, guild, emigration, census). Lists of addresses for: Evangelical church archives, Catholic diocesan archives, state archives (Staatsarchive) and genealogical societies in former West Germany; Lutheran and Catholic church archives and state archives in former East Germany. Maps and sample documents (but are not translated or explained very well). 33 pages, 5.5" x 8.5", softcover, stapled.

Strengths: Historical sections are written from a current-day social history perspective. Weaknesses: The author assumes the reader has conducted extensive U.S. research and has identified the immigrant ancestors and their place of origin in Germany. Only 13 pages of narrative with eight pages of addresses. Address list are arranged to place the postal code and town before the street address--not the proper current usage. NO INDEX! but the table of contents and a list of illustrations guide the reader to the contents. The contents are not updated to reflect the 1990 unification, but the preface acknowledges that the text was written in early 1990 and that needed changes will be incorporated into the next edition. The author assumes that mail will be forwarded from the obsolete addresses that are given.

The Beginners Guide to German Genealogical Research (1988) by Frederick H. Barth, A.G., and Kenneth F. Thomsen, MBA, about \$5.00, Thomsen's Genealogical Center, P. O. Box 588, Bountiful UT 84010.

Contents: Getting started, L.D.S. resources, L.D.S. research papers (which may be out of print), description of contents of German church records and lists of Lutheran and Catholic church archives in West Germany. List/breakdown and map of German political entities, 1871-1918, and 1945-[1990]; lists of German and Latin terms; German alphabet. 34 pages, 8.5" x 11", spiral bound.

Strengths: Recommends Jensen's Genealogical Handbook of German Research. Easy to read, clear typeface and layout. Good word lists in German and Latin of genealogical terms, but in German only for occupations. Section on Gothic alphabet includes samples of several different ways of writing the upper- and lower-case letters in an "older" and "newer" style, but without any explanation of the meaning of older and newer.

Weaknesses: Very cursory treatment of the topic; for example, the authors mention Meyer's gazetteer but only to recommend that the researcher "get familiar with this important research tool." The authors use several pages to present materials that could be



Review of "How-To-" Publications, continued

compressed into one or two. Explanations and narratives are sparse. There is not much attention the former DDR, and there is no update to reflect the 1990 unification.

Tracing Your German Roots (1978, minor revision in 1986) by Maralyn A. Wellauer, about \$8.50 from the author, 3239 N. 58th St., Milwaukee WI 53216.

Contents: A total of 85 "chapters" or topics, many of them a single page in length. Some of the topics are: Hessians, Pennsylvania "Dutch," libraries, heraldry, periodicals and newspapers, cemeteries and tombstones, using maps, addresses of archives and genealogical societies, current postal rates (which are no longer current), wordlists, maps. 88 pages, 8.5" x 11", spiral bound.

Strengths: The section on the Hamburg Passenger Lists includes a list of all L.S.D. film numbers and the dates each roll of film covers. The section on library search includes how to use a card catalogue. The list of the 1871 German states shows the political jurisdiction prior to 1990's unification. Many documents and examples reproduced large enough to read.

Weaknesses: Lack of organization, use of several different styles of type, amateurish drawings and headlines, inconsistencies in layouts--all give an impression of a hodge-podge scrapbook of assorted items thrown together to make a "book." Several of the forms are obsolete, as is some of the information.

How To Find My German Ancestors and Relatives (second edition, 1985) by Dr. Heinz F. Friedrichs, about \$1.50, published by Degener & Co., P. O. Box 1340, W-8530 Neustadt (Aisch), Germany. Was available from Ancestry, Inc., but does not appear on current list.

Contents: Nine pages of narrative incorporating origins of German records into a political and religious history of Germany. A two-page map of Germany. Lists of German state archives (Staatarchive) for both former East and West Germany with addresses and postal codes, town archives (Stadtarchive) in the former West Germany (no addresses or postal codes, just names of towns that have archives), and genealogical societies in the former East and West Germany. 16 pages, 6" x 8.25", softcover, stapled.

Strengths: An interestingly-written narrative, includes attention to the Jewish communities.

Weaknesses: Little or no information on "how to find" anyone or anything; map not annotated as to period(s) covered nor explanation of different types of border markings. Lack of addresses and postal codes for town archives.

Handy Tips To Your Genealogical Research in Germany, no author, no publisher, no date given, but currently available, \$2.95, Everton Publishers, Inc., P. O. Box 368, Logan UT 84321.

Contents: This is basically a bibliography of 22 sources, followed by a map of Germany (1871-1918), of Hessen (present day), of the former West Germany (1945-1990), and of the former East Germany (1945-1990). The brief narrative asks questions and refers to items in the bibliography for the answers. 14 pages, 5.5" x 8.5", softcover, stapled.

Strengths: Reasonable price; small size. This is one of a series of "handy tips" booklets available through Everton's.

Weaknesses: Does not contain much real information (one page has only one sentence); the examples illustrated in the questions do not begin to cover all the issues related to German genealogical research; emphasis is on publications available through Everton's; some bibliographical items give the author's name and address but not the name of his publication--the text infers that you should write to the author.

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Founded in 1978, the German-Texan Heritage Society is a non-profit organization devoted to building pride in the heritage of the German-speaking settlers who brought an important cultural ingredient to Texas. The Society is united in its effort to disseminate information about archives, research projects, cultural events, folklore, publications, and meetings related to German-Texan topics.

The Society seeks members from the general public . . . descendants of all German-speaking peoples, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

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## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ISSUE	DEADLINE	ARRIVAL
SPRING	FEB. 10	APRIL 1
SUMMER	JUNE 10	AUG. 1
FALL	OCT. 10	DEC. 1

(Ideally, this allows for one week to assemble, four weeks to print, one week to prepare for mailing, and the time for the U.S. Mail.)

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September 10, 11, 12  
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Angelo State University  
915-944-1927

1994  
September 8, 9, 10  
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Kenn Knopp (contact person)

1995  
September 7, 8, 9  
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Victoria, Tx. 77904  
512-575-0049

1996  
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