

**GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME XVI NUMBER 2 SUMMER 1994

Inside Front Cover: Board; Officers; Committees; Editorial Board

ABOUT GTHS 94 - GTHS Annual Meeting in Fredericksburg, Texas  
 98 - GTHS Members, Donors; German Free School Guild  
 100 - Thonhoff appointed Judge; reunions; members write  
 102 - Bilingual Poetry Reading (Lisa Kahn)  
 104 - Renaissance Man (Arthur von Rosenberg)  
 105 - Boerne, Texas  
 106 - Miss Clara Moehring of Comfort, Texas  
 107 - Comments from Corrigan (Beinhorn meeting)  
 108 - Charles Kalteyer  
 110 - Roman Herzog, Germany's new Federal President  
 111 - Creating with Clay (Nancy Pawel)

PEOPLE 112 - German-Sorbin Theater; Popular Names  
 for Newborns in Germany  
 113 - Terry Jordan to Discuss German Culture and Texas  
 114 - German Heritage Park; German Free School  
 115 - A Joyous Occasion (Judge Julius Schutze)  
 118 - Texas Folklife Festival; Multi-Ethnic Folklife Mass;  
 Abendkonzerte in Boerne

EVENTS 119 - San Antonio-built Krueger-Atlas engines  
 120 - The Adelsverein and Peine, Germany  
 123 - Carl Adolf Douai  
 124 - Germans in the American Civil War  
 126 - The German-American Legacy  
 130 - Hate Loosening its Grip in Germany; German Internees during WW II  
 131 - Foundation Plans Museum Expansion; Turner Societies Collection  
 132 - First Lutheran Church, Gonzales, Texas  
 133 - New Bern Church, Texas  
 134 - Volunteers Search for Grave Markers  
 136 - Germanic Matriculation Registers  
 139 - BOOKS: Louisiana's German Heritage, Cincinnati's German Heritage;  
New Braunfels: The First Founders; The Brewer's Star; Recent  
 Publications (SGAS)

HISTORY & RESEARCH 143 - Baron Münchhausen in Bodenwerder, Germany  
 144 - The Knight's Wrath (Götz von Berlichingen); Heinrich Böll's First  
 First Novel; Mozart Fest  
 145 - Wetmore has Couple on Road to Change  
 146 - Gutenberg Bibles Displayed in New York  
 147 - Fredericksburg, Texas : Symbols of Maibaum; A Look Back  
 150 - Sophienburg Museum, New Braunfels, Texas  
 151 - Schloss Braunfels, Germany  
 153 - Student Clubs in Germany

CULTURE & TRAVEL 155 - Bits & Pieces and News  
 159 - News about Genealogical Conferences & Workshops  
 160 - From Our Members  
 166 - GTHS' Members Genealogical Exchange  
 168 - Family Reunions  
 169 - Special Helps  
 170 - Genealogical Topics in 1993  
 173 - Pioneer Methodist Ministers of Fredericksburg  
 174 - Some of My German Ancestors  
 175 - Friedrich Gustav & Auguste (Fiebiger) Seydler  
 176 - Albert & Sophia (Peters) Heersen  
 177 - Johann Peter Sames  
 179 - Roesners in Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas  
 180 - Fort Bend Library Full of History  
 181 - Looking Back at Past; Typing in German  
 182 - Lucille Goll, History in Goll, Seidman Families  
 183 - Eastern German Street names; You Have to Be There; Finding the  
 Ancestor's Place of Birth in Germany

GENEALOGY 184 - GTHS Membership Application  
 186 - GTHS Publications Order List

END OF THE ISSUE ITEMS Inside Back Cover: Publications Schedule; Annual Meetings; Helpful Addresses

**News Article Sources**

Initials on articles denote the contributors to this issue. In a few cases no name was with the article, so if you were left out, don't take it personally, please!!

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## **German-Texan Heritage Society**

507 East 10th Street • PO Box 684171 • Austin, Texas 78768-4171 • (512) 482-0927

### **German-Texans Meet in Fredericksburg**

The German-Texan Heritage Society will hold its 1994 annual meeting September 9, 10 and 11 at the Sunday House Convention Center & Old Munich Restaurant in Fredericksburg. The convention committees, guided by Kenn Knopp, have been working hard to make this convention an enjoyable, informative occasion. A \$35.00 registration fee (until August 15) includes Friday night refreshments, a Saturday night dinner and admission to all convention exhibits and presentations. Friday night activities will take place at the Peanut Factory Dance Pavilion.

Convention highlights will include a presentation on tracing your family tree in Europe and lectures on German artists of the Hill Country (Lungkwitz & Petri), the German Free School of Austin, Charles Nimitz and the Nimitz Hotel, Fredericksburg historical vignettes and more.

Reasonable room rates ranging from \$55 to \$77 plus 13% tax have been negotiated with the Best Western Sunday House Inn. A list of other accommodations will be sent upon request. Interested participants are urged to write or call for program and registration material: Teresa Chavez, GTHS, PO Box 684171, Austin, TX 78768 or call (512) 482-0927.

### **Society Seeks Historical Family Documents**

The German-Texan Heritage Society is in the process of furnishing a library in its new headquarters, the German Free School building, built in 1857 and declared an Austin Historical Landmark in 1976.

The building was a gift by the late artist, Kelly H. Stevens, who wanted to have it used as a cultural center by this German group. The Society, with the help of a generous donor and the members of the German Free School Guild, has now completed the first stage of the cultural center, the German heritage library. Named for one of its charter members and donors, the late Charles G. Trenckmann, the library will house books on German-Texan history and heritage. Items sought to complete the collection are historical documents from old German families throughout the state. For appropriate donations call Teresa Schwausch Chavez at (512) 482-0927.

## **GTHS 1994 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM**

Friday, Saturday, Sunday September 9, 10, 11, 1994  
Sunday House Convention Center & Old Munich Restaurant  
515 E. Main Street, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

The registration fee includes admission to convention programs, exhibits and the Friday & Saturday night activities.

**Exhibitors:** \$25 per table. If the exhibitor plans to attend the convention activities, the convention fee must be paid as well. (GTGS members get 1 table at no charge.) In case of cancellation, there will be a \$15 service charge. Contact Christine Weiss to make exhibit arrangements (210-997-9696; 515 E. Main St.; Fredericksburg, TX 78624).

### **FRIDAY**

4-6 pm: Registration at Sunday House Convention Center and Old Munich Restaurant & view Exhibits & Sales.

6 pm: Evening "Meet & Greet" German Spassfest (at the Peanut Factory Pavilion, 207 E. Park St.)

### **SATURDAY**

8:00-9:00 am: Walk-in Registration.

9:00 am-4:00 pm: View exhibits.

9:00-9:25 am: Opening Remarks and Introductions.

9:25-9:45 am: "Gillespie County Historical Society: Past, Present, Future" (Doris Eckert, President, Gillespie Co. Historical Society).

9:45-10:00 am: 15 Minute Break

10:00-10:30 am: "Frontier Hospitality—Charles Nimitz & the Origins of the Nimitz Hotel" (Bruce Smith, Superintendent, Nimitz Historical Center).

10:30-11:00 am: "The German Free School in Austin" (Helga von Schweinitz, GTGS Board Member).

11:00-11:30 am: The Unique Beginnings of the Methodist Church in Fredericksburg" (Dr. Wilburn Crenwelge, President, Genealogical Society of Fredericksburg).

11:30-Noon: "Fredericksburg Historical Vignettes from 1946 Centennial" (John H. Kothmann, Deutscher Verein Friedrichsburg).

12:00-1:30 pm: Lunch (on your own).

1:30-2:30 pm: GTGS General Business Meeting (W. M. Von-Maszewski, GTGS President).

2:30-3:00 pm: "German Artists of the Hill Country—Hermann Lungkwitz & Richard Petri" (Marjorie von Rosenberg, Author).

3:00-3:20 pm: "Tracing Your Family Tree in Europe" (Theresa Gold, Genealogist and GTGS Board Member).

3:30-4:00 pm: "The Klingelhoefer Haus and the Tatsch Haus" (Karen Haschke).

5:30-6:30 pm: Social Hour and Cash Bar.

6:30 pm-?: Banquet (includes meal and entertainment).

### **SUNDAY**

8:00-10:00 am: Church Service (on your own). A list of local early church services which will include German hymns, prayers and preaching, as well as, English or bilingual will be provided.

10:00-10:30 am: "German Author Carl May & the Irish Connection" (Dr. Meredith McClain, Texas Tech University, Lubbock).

10:30-11:00 am: "Die Kuenstler von Friedrichsburg" (Mark Wieser).

11:00-11:30 am: "New Findings—Ferdinand Roemer, the Founder of Texas Geology" (Professor Volker W. Gobel, Stephen F. Austin States University, Nacogdoches).

11:30-12:00 pm: Closing Remarks & Adjournment.

(Each 20-minute presentation will be followed by a brief question and answer period in order to provide adequate "set-up" time for the next speaker.)

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**Best Western Sunday House Inn**  
501 East Main Street  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
Phone/210-997-4484  
FAX/210-997-5607



Other available hotels:

- Save Inn Motel** (210) 997-6568: 514 W. Main St.  
Prices range from \$41.50 to \$95.00
- Deluxe Inn** (210) 997-4381: 901 E. Main St.  
Prices range from \$46.00 to \$80.00
- Miller's Court** (210) 997-2244: 900 E. Main St.  
Prices range from \$38.00 to \$70.00
- Peach Tree Inn** (210) 997-2117: 401 S. Washington (Hwy 87 South)  
Prices range from \$39.82 to \$50.00
- Econo Lodge** (210) 997-3437 or 1-800-446-6900: 810 S. Adams St. (Hwy 16 South)  
Prices range from \$42.00 to \$54.00
- Sunset Inn** (210) 997-9581 or 1-800-880-9581: 900 S. Adams St. (Hwy 16 South)  
Prices range from \$37.00 to \$55.00
- Comfort Inn** (210) 997-9811: 908 S. Adams St. (Hwy 16 South)  
Prices range from \$48.00 to \$54.00/for more than two people add \$5/person
- Frederick Motel** (210) 997-6050: 1308 E. Main (Hwy 290 East)  
Prices range from \$39.64 to \$50.96
- Dietzel Motel** (210) 997-3330: Junction Hwy 87 North & Hwy 290 West  
Prices range from \$35.00 to 48.00
- Country Inn Motel** (210) 997-2185: Harper Rd., Rt. 2 Box 98/Hwy 290 West  
Prices range from \$40.00 to \$45.00
- Frontier Inn** (210) 997-4389: Harper Rd. (Hwy 290 West)  
Prices range from \$39.95 to \$64.95

The following are a few **Bed and Breakfast** lodgings found in Fredericksburg  
Prices generally range from \$60.00 to \$125.00 per night. For a more complete list, call the Convention & Visitor Bureau for a visitor's guide (210) 997-6523.

- Baron's Green B & B (210) 997-9398: 110 E. Creek St.
- Bluebonnet B & B (210) 997-1818: 312 E. Travis St.
- Country Cottage Inn B & B (210) 997-8549: 504 E. Main St.
- Das College Haus B & B (210) 997-7194: 106 W. College St.
- Franklin Cottage B & B 1-800-880-3828: 402 W. Main
- Haus Wilhelmina B & B (210) 997-3997: 409 Cora St./German speaking host
- Herb Farm B & B 1-800-259-4372: 402 Whitney
- Magnolia House B & B (210) 997-0306: 101 E. Hackberry
- Main Street B & B (210) 997-0153: 337 E. Main

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

In response to numerous requests from members, GTHS will publish a Membership Directory in the December (1994) *Journal*. This directory will provide a convenient means for German-Texans to contact one another and will include the names, addresses and phone numbers of our 1994 members. Please write to the office if you do not want your name to appear in our directory.

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FROM FEBRUARY TO JUNE 1994

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DEDEKE, EDWARD R NEW BRAUNFELS TX  
ENGELHARDT, JR, DR/MRS H T HOUSTON TX  
FISCHER, DELRAY E CORPUS CHRISTI TX  
FUELBERG, CURTIS AUSTIN TX  
GOERTZ, REV MSGR ALOIS J LA VERNIA TX  
GUNTHERS RESTAURANT AUSTIN TX  
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ROBINSON, ELSIE ZWAHR SAN ANTONIO TX  
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### **GTHS Member Bob Thonhoff Named Karnes County Judge**

GTHS member Robert Thonhoff has been named County Judge of Karnes County, just as the county prepares to celebrate the centennial of the county courthouse. A noted historian and author, he is a vice president as well as a Fellow of the Texas State Historical Association. Now retired, and living in Karnes City, he was previously principal and teacher at Fashing. In his role as Professor Katzenjammer, he continues as a stage manager at the Texas Folklife Festival each August and as emcee for the Boerne Village Band.

His article, "In Fashing ist das Leben schön und süß," appeared in our GTHS Journal Fall 1989 issue, page 194. In our previous issue, Spring 1994, page 20, is an article, with a photo, about the award Bob Thonhoff received from the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of his efforts in building bridges of friendship between Germany and the U.S.A.

(Submitted by Theresa Gold)

### **50th Noak Reunion**

The descendants of Peter and Johanna Mitzscherling Noack met for their 50th reunion on Sunday, March 20, 1994, at the Round Top Rifle Association Hall. "Celebrating Our Heritage" was the theme for this special gathering. There were 167 adults and children in attendance from the Central Texas area.

A catered meal was enjoyed at noon. A special cake, decorated with a family tree, an immigrant sailing ship depicting arrival of the family at Galveston, Texas, on January 30, 1871, was served at the end of the noon meal.

A display of pictures, wedding and/or confirmation church records from Germany, a bulletin board of news articles about family members, books, and photograph albums of past reunions were available to learn more of the family lineage. A booklet was available for purchase that contained information about the PETER NOACK FAMILY in Germany. The booklet has pictures of the churches in Germany and information of the villages of Gröditz, Liebstadt, Goepperdorf and Struppen, the places family members were married, birth places, had lived before emigrating to America. Descendant lists and ancestral charts were also available to acquaint everyone with the past and present.

The Paul and Hulda Hinze Noak family will host the 1995 reunion.

Dorothy Noak Rothermel  
Carmine, Texas

### **Diebel reunion**

The descendants of Wilhelm and Pauline Bertha Haun Diebel held their annual reunion recently.

Reunion events included games and a covered dish dinner served at the Ander Lutheran Church parish hall.

Twenty-seven members attended.

The event was hosted by the Elmo and Edwina Wendel Hoff family.

(From: Victoria Advocate, May 8, 1994)

### **Members write...**

Thank you for printing the article about my interest in contacting descendants of the various Lutheran pastors I had written to you about ... had results already! GTHS members really do help each other in the respective projects.

Leonora S. Wolf  
New Braunfels, Texas

About the meaning "Black Dutch" one members quotes "the people called themselves 'Black Dutch' although they were of German origin. People of Dutch Fork area of South Carolina, being mostly emigrants of Southern Germany, had black eyes and black hair."

In regard to the rules for playing "Mühle," members Mrs. Albert Helpert and Ursel Kennedy provided the answer:

The game of "Mühle" (mill) requires two players, a board, nine white and nine black checkers.

A throw of a dice determines who will take the white checkers and start the game. Each player, in turn, places a checker on a mark where at least two lines meet. The purpose of the game is, by clever placement of the checkers, to limit the opponent's opportunities, i.e., to occupy such marks that allow to set up two or three "Mühle." A "Mühle" consists of three checkers on a horizontal or vertical line. As soon as a player establishes a "Mühle," he can remove any of his opponent's checkers, other than from his "Mühle."

With all checkers placed, the players, in turn, begin to move forward, backward or sideways to the next mark on the board. If by opening one "Mühle" a second one is created, this is called "Zwickmühle" (trick mill).

When a player has only three checkers left, he can jump to any unoccupied mark. With only two checkers, he no longer can build a "Mühle" and the game is over. The game comes to an end also when a player's checkers are blocked and he no longer can move.

### Members write (continued) ...

In the Spring 1994 issue of the Journal an item was carried about Germans in early Virginia. The following letter exchange is reprinted solely for the sake of information.

"...Your Spring 1994 issue carries a letter from Grover G. Heiman, Jr. about Germans in early Virginia. He quotes an 1897 book by John Fiske. While I have not heard before of a 1608 German colony, I do have information on the Germans that Gov. Spotswood brought to Virginia, and some of the information that Mr. Heiman gave is incorrect.

The first German colony that Governor Spotswood brought consisted of 12 families (42 individuals), which is shown in an order by the Virginia Council passed April 28, 1714. They had just arrived in Virginia. The names of these families are: Jacob Holtzclaw; John Kemper; John Joseph Martin; Herman Fischback; John Henry Hoffman; Joseph Coons; John Fischback; Jacob Rector; Melchior Brumback; Tillman Weaver; and Peter Hitt. They were contracted to come to Virginia to develop an iron mine in that area. They brought their own pastor, the Rev. Henry Haeger, and organized the first congregation of the German Reformed church in the U. S. They brought their own schoolmaster, Jacob Holtzclaw, of whom I am a tenth generation descendant. All of these colonists came from the Siegen-Nassau (now Westphalia) area, a mining area. Germanna, where they settled, was in Essex County at that time.

A second colony of Germans came in 1717, entirely different from the first. Their original destination was Pennsylvania, but they settled in the Germanna area instead. A third colony arrived in 1719. These two groups were mostly Lutherans and came from different areas of Germany. Some were from Alsace. While these colonists seem to have remained there, the original group chose to relocate around 1720 or 1721 to what is now Fauquier County on a tract of 1805 acres, which was to be divided between the 12 families. The settlement was called Germantown.

Information about the colony comes from Germanna Record No. 7, "Outpost of Adventure 1714-1956," by John W. Wayland, first published by the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., in 1957, the year Virginia celebrated its 350th anniversary of the beginning of English colonization at Jamestown. Wayland notes that the first English colonists in the Germanna area came around 1724. A bibliography is provided, and sources are identified throughout the book.

Mrs. Billie Bilhartz, Medina, Texas

"...My letter to the editor that appeared in the Spring issue of the Journal was in response to a blurb that stated there was some controversy about the first German/Germans to arrive in the U. S. That prompted my letter noting that a group of eight German and Polish glassmakers, came to the Jamestown settlement in 1608. This date was also cited by a correspondent in a 1993 issue of the Journal.

As I am sure you know, Jamestown was the first English speaking settlement to survive. I certainly didn't intend to imply that the eight Germans and Poles formed a separate colony and thus challenge the claim of the Pennsylvania town that says it was the first German colony in what is now the U. S. I thought I had been very careful to not fall into that no-win situation, but apparently I didn't. And I certainly don't know, nor have I tried to find out, if a person from a German-speaking nation was in any of the pre-Jamestown Spanish colonies such as St. Augustine in Florida or those in New Mexico.

Regarding the establishment of Germanna, I bow to your extensive research, but maybe we are both right. The book by Fiske states that Gov. Spotswood urged immigration by German-speaking people, ostensibly to establish iron furnaces and wineries. Germanna was the first such colony. Fiske doesn't mention Germanna again until writing about a 1716 expedition led by Spotswood to find a pass through the Blue Ridge Mountains to the fertile valley called the Shenandoah to the west. On this expedition, the good governor and his cadre of cavaliers brought along a supply of "red and white Rapidan wines" made from native grapes.

Assuming the 1714 German colony was located on the Rapidan River, it is conceivable that this first German colony did indeed turn its hand to wine production because, according to your research the second group of German colonists did not arrive until 1717. While there are no wineries today in the immediate Germanna Ford area, Virginia has a thriving wine industry with many vineyards planted with European rootstock.

I hope this clarifies the matter to your satisfaction. And no, I don't take offense at your questioning the accuracy of the Fiske books, however, his footnotes indicate that he relies extensively on the Virginia Archives. This of course doesn't tell us how much literary license he took in the way of assumptions. On the other hand, the same can be said of your sources.

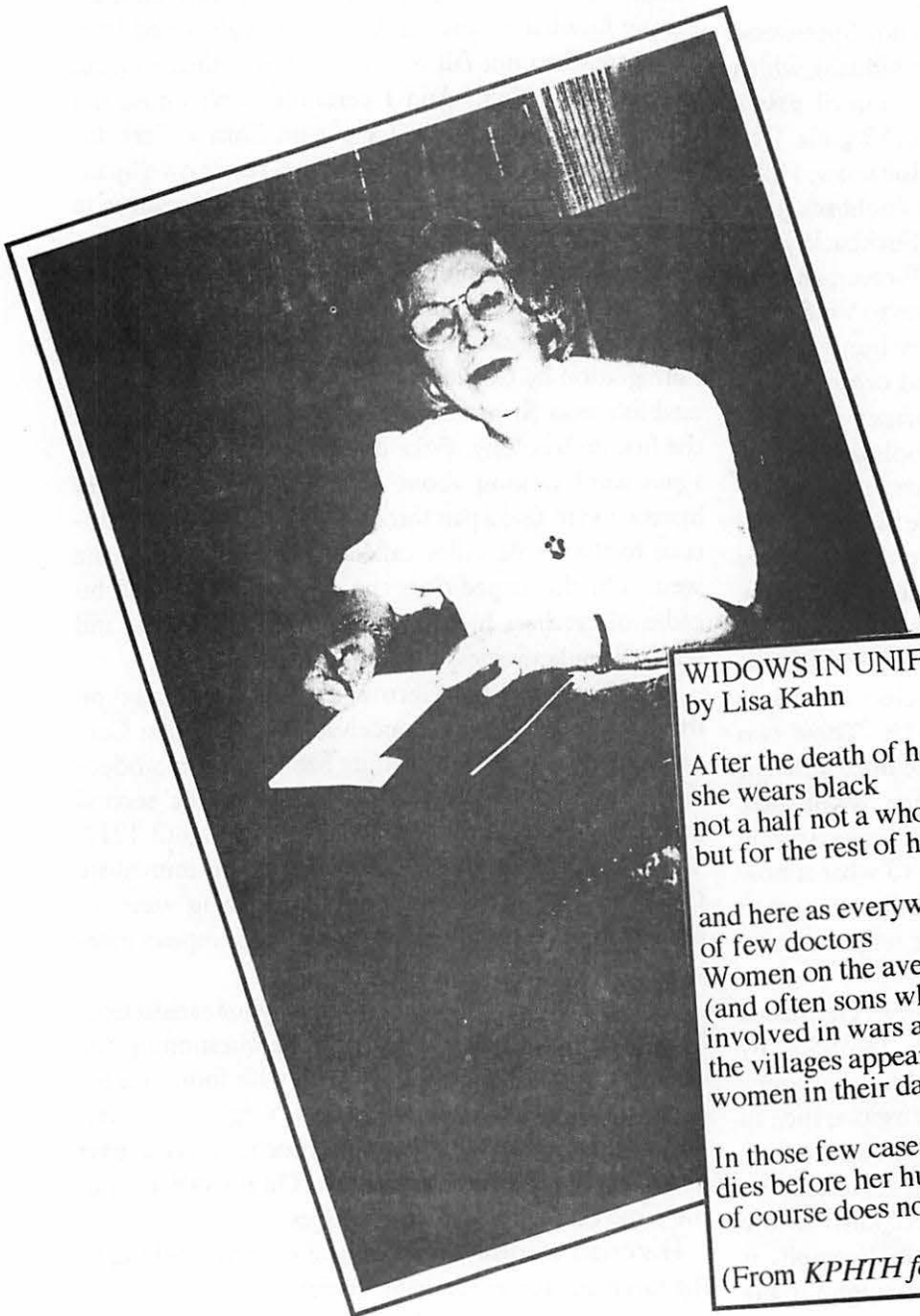
Historical accuracy is one of the reasons I belong to the German-Texan Heritage Society.

Grover George Heiman, Jr.  
Fairfax, Virginia

## BILINGUAL POETRY READING

The German Free School Guild hosted a bilingual poetry reading of the works of acclaimed German-Texan poet Lisa Kahn this past April. The Sunday-afternoon event started with a performance by area high school students from the Austin Chamber Music Center. Kristi Haverlah (flute), Amy Patalik (oboe), Stephanie Tomlinson (clarinet), Jennifer Kondoff (bassoon) and Joe Bright (horn) entertained the small crowd of more than 30 with two movements from Beethoven's *Opus 71*, the "Cypress Mill Waltz" by Eddie Goethe, "The German-Texan Song" and "Gaudeamus Igitur."

Ms. Lisa Kahn then read numerous poems, first in English followed by German, from her lifetime of published works including selections from *KPHTH fertile and full of grace* and *Tor und Tür*. Her dual-language presentation and animated style kept the audience entertained for over an hour. A brief question and answer period followed the reading. Afterwards, refreshments were served while members and guests had the opportunity to visit with Ms. Kahn and purchase signed copies of her books.



### WIDOWS IN UNIFORM by Lisa Kahn

After the death of her husband her father her son  
she wears black  
not a half not a whole year long  
but for the rest of her life

and here as everywhere else in areas  
of few doctors  
Women on the average outlive their husbands  
(and often sons who are  
involved in wars and fights in foreign land)  
the villages appear populated by  
women in their dark uniforms

In those few cases where the woman  
dies before her husband he  
of course does not wear black!

(From *KPHTH fertile and full of grace*)

Mellen Poetry Press

# TODAY I COMMANDED THE WIND HEUTE BEFAHL ICH DEM WIND

BY LISA KAHN  
A BILINGUAL (ENGLISH/GERMAN) LITERAL VOLUME

*Eng Lit - German  
Having frogs  
which makes it easy  
for readers who  
do not speak German at all  
I don't know German at all*

Today I commanded the wind  
to look for your spirit  
sweep over the fields I shouted  
comb the seas I ordered  
until you find her  
don't you dare return  
without a breath from her  
I threatened  
now I wait  
and wait  
and wait  
and

You say adieu to me  
in the hisping of cedars and oaks  
in the singsong of little pebbles  
which sleep in the sunshine  
in the songs of fish moths  
and lizards  
morning  
and evening  
especially at night

In the morning  
sunlight floods  
into my room

with it you come  
and wave at me

now everything turns light  
my unborn children  
smile at me

I shall live  
through this day



"My twelfth collection of poetry and the third one to be published by Mellen Poetry Press is dedicated to my mother whom I lost three years ago. There are no easy solutions to cope with the death of a loved one. We stumble through a long dark passage of mourning until we are able to accept our loss. After tears and denial, anger, self-pity, nightmares and hard work, I found my balance only by reading and writing poetry. Perhaps, some of the poems in this volume will help you, the reader, to grapple with your loss, to overcome your sorrow, to go on with life." - LK

Lisa Kahn, a native of Berlin, is professor of German and resides in Houston and Round Top, Texas. She is one of the editors of TRANS-LIT, a bi-annual literary magazine published by the Society for Contemporary American Literature in German. She has published three anthologies, a prose volume, and ten poetry volumes. Mellen Poetry Press has published the English version of her poems on Crete, *KPHTH, Fertile and Full of Grace* (1992), and her last German poetry book, *Allantische Brucke* (1992). She received the Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1990.

*Praise for Lisa Kahn's poetry.*

for *KPHTH*: "Kahn maintains an effective tension between the enduring power of elemental forces represented by ancient Crete on the one hand and contemporary reality on the other. . . the illusion of the grandeur of Crete's mythological past is shattered. . . the collection as a whole is defiantly optimistic." - Jerry Glenn, World Literature Today, The University of Oklahoma

for *Allantische Brucke*: "Kahn confronts the reader with the choice between closeness and vastness, confinement and expanse. In some of the poems she builds truly visionary bridges between layers of opposites: roses and peonies, yucca and bluebonnets, Alabama-Cushetta Indians and Northgerman farmers. A very private book which moves the reader, yet a cosmopolitan book." - Robert Erdmann, *der literat*, Frankfurt, Germany

Pre-Publication Order Form for Today I Commanded the Wind (\$9.95) by Lisa Kahn  
ISBN: 0-7734-0019-2  
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# RENAISSANCE MAN<sup>TG</sup> AT CPS

By **MELANIE YOUNG** and **TOM WALKER**

*"Give every man thy ear but few thy voice ... Neither a borrower nor a lender be ... To thine own self be true ... Thou canst not then be false to any man."*

*These quotations from Polonius' speech to his son in Hamlet are not quite what one expects to hear tripping across the tongue of a public utility company's chief.*

**B**ut the lines come easily to Arthur von Rosenberg, general manager of City Public Service, who recites Shakespeare with the laid-back drawl of Dennis Weaver.

"My father loved poetry and was always quoting Shakespeare. He had the Polonius speech memorized," says von Rosenberg, who had the famous words framed for all four of his children. "My dad had a Shakespeare quote for every occasion."

Besides quoting the great Bard, von Rosenberg has painted Texas landscapes and carved duck decoys out of wood; he collects American cut glass and Indian arrowheads; he cherishes his collection of quilts handed down from his parents; and he

hopes someday to write a book based on his German-immigrant ancestors' experiences in early Texas.

Not surprisingly, he's an avid reader, devouring such historical works as the diaries of Lewis and Clark along with Honore de Balzac, Charles Dickens, Larry McMurtry and an occasional John Grisham thriller.

On the other hand, since this petroleum engineer with a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin signed on at CPS 35 years ago, he has overseen construction of a \$444 million coal-fired power plant and expansion of a natural gas pipeline, negotiated favorable fuel prices and helped design the utility's first computer network and an automated mapping system for the Bexar County service area.

"I meant it to be temporary, but liked it so much I never left," von Rosenberg says of his job at CPS.

And since he took over as general manager in 1988, says von Rosenberg, "there have been no rate increases. ... We have the lowest combined gas and electric bills of any Texas city, and they rank in the lowest 20 percent among major U.S. cities."

Von Rosenberg also attended St. Mary's University law school, but insists he never intended to practice law. Instead, he says, he took "courses in contracts, partnership and property as background for my job at CPS."

With his wide range of interests and abilities, von Rosenberg might be called a Renaissance man or, in

more contemporary parlance, a person who has harmoniously developed both "sides" of his brain: the left being the scientific, fact-finding, logic-oriented half, and the right the intuitive, imaginative, creative side.

Yet, this happy balance did not happen overnight.

In fact, says von Rosenberg, "When I was in college, I wrote a paper supporting a specialized education rather than a liberal education. ... When I was young, I was a pragmatic engineer who didn't see any need for the liberal arts."

As he got older, however, his outlook began to change.

"I learned to respect the past. It started with reading the letters of my great-grandfather, Carl Wilhelm (von Rosenberg), who was a teacher at the Royal Institute for Architects and Engineers in Prussia."

Carl Wilhelm, he explained, was one of the German intellectuals and "freethinkers"

who wanted democracy in Germany.

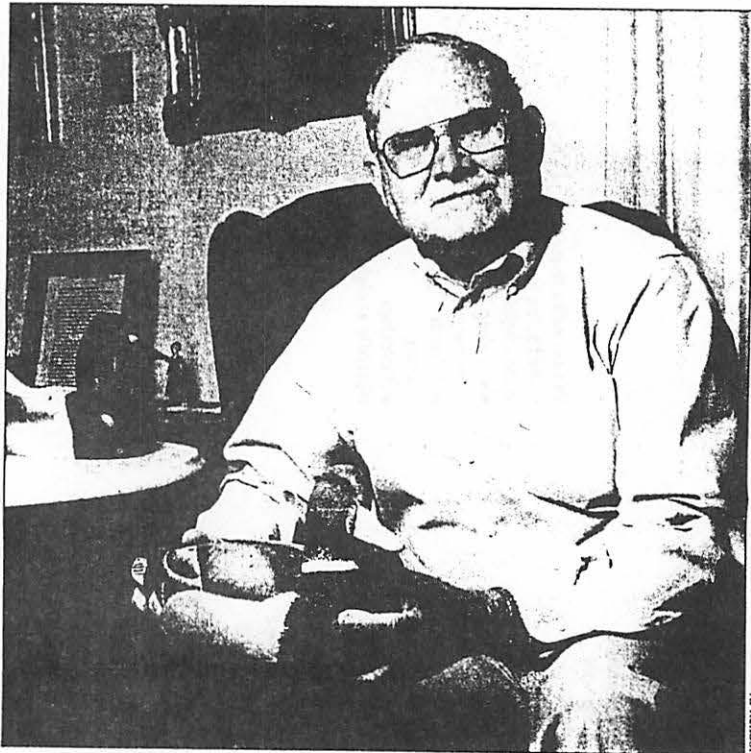
"They thought they'd get the vote if they helped defeat Napoleon," he says. But things didn't turn out that way, so around 1848 Carl Wilhelm decided to strike out for Texas.

When he told his father, Baron Peter Carl Wilhelm Johann von Rosenberg, who had served in the Prussian Cavalry and helped defeat Napoleon at Waterloo, the response, von Rosenberg claims, was "Why? Texas is two horses and two cows. But if you must go there, we'll all go."

According to von Rosenberg, some people considered Carl Wilhelm aristocratic and stuffy, but he did have his flashes of dry wit. In a letter about their trip up the Brazos River, for example, Carl Wilhelm describes the early Texas capital of San Felipe as "one of those towns you're still looking for when you're in the middle of it."

The family settled in the German immigrant plantations founded by Prince Solms southeast of San Antonio near La Grange, and the original home of von Rosenberg's great-great-grandfather still can be seen in the Round Top museum area.

By 1857, Carl Wilhelm was head of the Texas Land Department. When the Civil War broke out, he served as an engineering officer under Gen. Jeb Magruder, making topographical maps — an apti-



Al Rendón

*The many interests of Arthur von Rosenberg, general manager of CPS, include carving and painting decoys and reading Shakespeare.*



tude that would resurface in his great-grandson at CPS.

After the war, a Confederate veteran land grant was the beginning of the family ranch near Crystal City, which von Rosenberg enjoys today.

While there, he loves to do manual chores as well as fish and hunt for birds and artifacts.

"When I'm out at the ranch I've got my head down looking for arrowheads," he says. "I collect arrowheads, spearheads, stone knife blades and scrapers hunters used to remove the hides from animals. They date from 4000 B.C. to 1000 A.D."

Von Rosenberg's fascination with American Indian artifacts and history springs from his mother, too.

Born Jenny Crook 92 years ago and now living in Austin, his mother is "kin to the General Crook who captured Geronimo and fought Sitting Bull," says her son.

Von Rosenberg cites his mother's influence for his appreciation for art, his interest in cut glass made in the Niagara area around the turn of the century and his appreciation for her art — quilting.

She began making quilts when she retired from teaching school.

"I never thought of Mother as an artist until she started turning out all those quilts," says von Rosenberg, who has about 25 quilts, handed down from both sides of his family, in such traditional patterns as the wedding ring, Dresden plate and log cabin motifs.

Quilts weren't the only objects passed down through his family. When they emigrated from Germany, Carl Wilhelm brought an old scroll tracing their ancestors back to 1500. They had lived in Sweden and Estonia, had an estate in Lithuania and served as knights in Prussia during the 1600s.

Yet, in spite of the noble blood coursing through his veins, von Rosenberg seems as down to earth

as his Hill Country upbringing in Lockhart and Austin.

"Actually, I'm a redneck in some ways," he says with a laugh. "I enjoy both country and classical music. My wife and I like going to the country dances." He and his wife, Frances, have been married 20 years.

Von Rosenberg also admits that his colleagues at CPS may consider him and his wide assortment of hobbies a little unusual.

"We have a lot of smart people with a lot of varied interests there," he says, "but they always seem surprised that I quote Shakespeare, read Balzac's 'Human Comedy' and sing German Christmas carols."

He sings, too?  
"Oh, yes," von Rosenberg answers. "Singing is another hobby I can't find time for anymore. The CPS job keeps me busy."

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS IMAGES, MARCH 27, 1994

# Boerne FC

## Best of past, present

Wednesday, May 4, 1994

By John Tackett  
Sun Staff Writer

Boerne, settled by German colonists during the 1840s and 1850s as a farming community, is 22 miles northwest of San Antonio on IH-10 and U.S. 87.

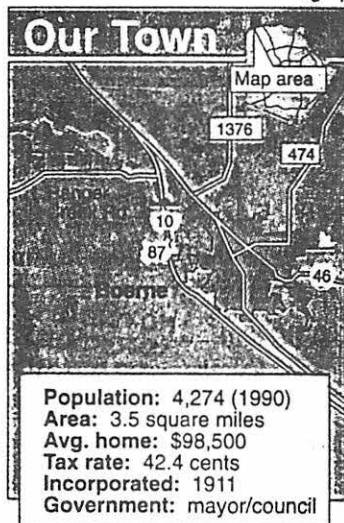
Over the years of maintaining that agricultural ambiance, it has grown into a Hill Country town with a different kind of crop — tourism.

And the yield is very good, according to city leaders. The city's attractiveness draws plenty wanting to settle down too.

Mayor Patrick R. Heath said, "We hope to continue to grow carefully, preserving our heritage and small town atmosphere, but we will grow."

The city of Boerne and the Boerne Chamber of Commerce started the Main Street Project to preserve and develop historic downtown.

One of the first touches of charm was erecting large burgundy street signs throughout the



city's historical district, bearing the name "Hauptstrasse," the German translation for Main Street.

Gift shops, antique dealers and restaurants sprang up in the vacant downtown locations and older

firms began sprucing up for new customers from other areas of the state.

The town is now a favorite destination for many people who also visit Kerrville, Comfort, Fredericksburg and other Hill Country spots.

Christopher Turk, director of planning and community service for the city, is one of the new professionals attracted to the city.

"When I came here 10 years ago, they rolled the sidewalks up at 5 o'clock," he said. "Now its hard to find a parking place."

The city and General Telephone and Electric are engaged in a cooperative effort to remove clutter of overhead power and communications lines.

Old sidewalks are being replaced with wider ones the length of Main Street, edged with pavers for a look of continuity.

Plans are underway for a riverwalk, extending from the Main Street bridge along the banks of Cibolo Creek to Main Plaza where a 1,018-seat open-air amphitheater is.

Main Plaza has been the focal point for festivals for years. The gazebo in the center is frequently the site of concerts by bands, such as the Boerne Village Band, which,

thanks to occasional new members, has performed at the plaza for 134 years.

Berges Fest, Boerne's all-time great German celebration is traditionally held on Father's Day weekend.

Main Plaza is surrounded by historic structures. To the north is the Joseph Dienger building, which is now the Boerne Public Library, and Ye Kendall Inn, both National Historic Landmarks.

The city's first fire house is on the west side and to the south is the historic Carstanjen building.

Paul W. Kirtley, executive director of the chamber, runs a highly active and well oiled chamber office at One Main Plaza under the motto, "The Best of Yesterday and Today."

To remind the public of its roots, the Agriculture Heritage Center opened a display of old farm equipment at the entrance to Boerne City Park on Texas 46 East.

Cibolo Creek winds through the park, which provides a pool, soccer fields, ball diamonds and a reclaimed marsh area.

Residents and visitors also can enjoy the Cibolo Wilderness Trail, which shows off a broad cross-section of animal and plant life found in the Hill Country.

The Mystery of the Missing Photographer

or

"Whatever happened to Miss Clara Moehring?"

Miss Clara Moehring's life in Comfort, Texas, between the mid-1890s and 1920, when she moved away, reads like a Nancy Drew mystery. Her final resting place is unknown. Did she marry? Did she have a child? Did she die in childbirth or soon after? Why can't people remember her husband's name?

Her parents, Hermann and Clara, were photographers, who operated studios in Boerne, Kerville and Comfort. Three of the five Moehring family members were listed as professional photographers in the 1910 U.S. Census: Hermann, the father, Clara, the wife, Clara, the daughter.

Mr. Moehring died August 24, 1908. Mrs. Moehring, with her two sons, Carl and Hermann, moved to Austin or Georgetown sometime after 1910. There is a family photograph dated 1912, in postcard format, showing the Moehring family in a horse and buggy by the Comfort Hotel, just north of the Comfort Park. Did Mrs. Moehring and her two sons come back to visit their daughter and sister? Was the photo made before they left?

Miss Clara continued to reside in Comfort and support herself as a photographer. Beautiful, as seen in her portraits, and talented, Miss Clara conducted a thriving photography business. She also worked for a short while as an amateur detective.

The railroad company had been sued by a passenger charging that she was crippled in a train accident. The lawsuit alleged the woman would never walk normally again. The insurance company suspected they were being fleeced but paid off. The accident victim was traced to Comfort, Texas, where she'd taken up residence in a local hotel.

The woman, as was the custom of the time, had retired to the country to recuperate from her "traumatic accident." Clean country air, peace and quiet were just what the doctor ordered. The insurance company hired Miss Moehring to follow this individual suspected of fraud.

Miss Clara established the suspect's routine and soon after noticed the woman went daily into the countryside. Miss Clara kept a close eye on the suspect and sure enough, one fine day, she saw the woman climbing into a tree. She snapped a candid photo of the suspect, catching the con artist in the act, and proved the case for the insurance company.

In June 1920, Miss Clara placed a notice in The Comfort News, informing her clientele and friends that she was leaving Comfort to get married. Two friends remembered the wedding. More or less. One was her attendant. The other a guest. Neither friend could remember the husband's name. Perhaps it was Powell. They were not sure. They thought that the newlyweds planned to move to a town south of San Antonio. They were not sure. News eventually trickled back. Clara died, either in childbirth or from complications resulting from childbirth. Maybe it was the baby that died and Clara survived. The story grows more hazy.

Mrs. Esther Wiedenfeld, Comfort historian, conducted the first research on the Moehring family. Facts were not easily ascertained. Some mix-ups occurred due to the two women using the same name for their professional work. It was not until later that a differentiation was uncovered. Mrs. and Miss were the two designations, BUT they did not appear every time. Sometimes the photographs were embossed simply, Clara Moehring....Mother? Daughter?

Clara Moehring was born in Texas, perhaps San Antonio, in 1894. She is listed as a pupil on the class register of the Comfort Independent School District Archive Records, at the turn of the century.

Next, a niece of Miss Moehring's was located, BUT her father, Carl Moehring, never spoke of his family. The niece does remember hearing her mother once refer to Carl's "sister", around 1950. In a photo album inherited from her family, the niece and a friend, found a photo of Clara Moehring seated in a wagon with an older man and several children of varying ages, in front of the La Vernia, Texas, Railroad Depot. There was no notation identifying the year or the people.

Can anyone direct me to a Moehring descendant? Has anyone seen a Moehring name on a headstone in a Texas cemetery other than in Comfort, Texas? Can you suggest where I should continue to search?

Residents of La Vernia are searching records and memories for a trace of this family. The Bureau of Vital Statistics in Austin has no records under the name of Clara Moehring or Clara M. Powell. I want to wrap up this mystery in order to include Miss Clara Moehring in my forthcoming book, Comfort Women in Comfort History. I'd appreciate any suggestions or recommendations you might have.

Original notes and research from Esther Boerner Wiedenfeld. Further research by Anne Stewart. 834 North Creek Road. Comfort, Texas 78013. 1-210-995-2607.

Comfort residents Anne and Mike Stewart have written "Comfort Women in Comfort History," which profiles three dozen women with significant roles in the community.

Included are Gladys Ingenhuett Krauter, the first Texas-German Hill Country female pilot; Clara Moehring, a professional photographer in the early 1900s; Margarita Enriques, who served as a WAC during World War II; as well as

artists, writers, library founders and business leaders. The Stewarts used interviews and public records for their book, which is available for \$12 at Ingenhuett's Store in Comfort, or by mail from 834 North Creek Road, Comfort, 78013.

From: SQW ANTONIO EXP. NEWS APC, 24, 1994.

# Zero's Comments from Corrigan

By: W.O. (Zero) Leroy

Leroy Beinhorn from Moscow (Texas, that is) was born in Houston. He purchased 95 acres of Polk County land near Moscow after WWII. He and Linda (Cosby) married in 1954 in Houston. Before they married, Linda visited the Moscow place and said, according to Leroy, "I wouldn't live here for love or money."

Leroy said, "But here she sits," and quickly added, "Linda has been good for me and I hope I've been good for her."

Leroy worked in the Lufkin Post Office for 20 years, retiring 8 years ago. He said, "I really enjoyed it. I worked at just about every job there. Now I'm really enjoying every minute of my retirement here in Polk County."



**BEINHORN MEETING** -- Standing outside the salorium of the home of Heinrich Beinhorn in Germany are Helga, Claudia, Walter, Linda & Leroy from Moscow, Margarete and Heinrich. The younger is the granddaughter of Heinrich. (See *Comments from Corrigan*.)

Leroy and Linda sold 73 acres of their land and all of their cows and bought a travel trailer. Now they travel a lot.

They have two children. Their daughter Billie is married to Leroy Smith. They have two boys and live in Lufkin. Their son Edward and wife Rhonda, Houston, have a son and daughter.

Leroy's mother and sister live near the Beinhorns.

Leroy said, "Polk County is a good place to live. We have a lot of good friends. I don't gripe about anything."

He enjoys "piddling around, woodworking, and whatever needs to be done," he said.

Leroy is very proud of the impressive gazebo and walkways of old bricks he has built 'single handed' at his home. He said, "We have reunions, wedding showers and have had a wedding there. We thoroughly enjoy it."

Linda Cosby discovered America in Electra, Texas. She had five brothers and four sisters. Her parents are Lloyd A. Cosby and Flora Lee (Randolph) Cosby, originally from the Sulphur Springs area. They moved to Houston in 1942 where her father worked in the shipyards and she sort of grew up there, holding several different jobs.

After moving to Moscow, she worked at the former Corrigan Hospital, then at the Polk County Memorial Hospital, then for the Corrigan Insurance Agency. She stopped outside work "To become a permanent housewife and mother," she said.

She also wrote a column for this newspaper, concentrating on Moscow area activities.

Linda emphasized that the Moscow First Baptist Church "Is very important to us. Leroy is the Sunday School Superintendent. I'm the church clerk and Sunday School Secretary."

Several years ago Leroy did a bit of personal genealogical research work and wound up with the name of Walter Beinhorn in Bielefeld, Germany. They started a letter exchange and although they have failed to find a common line in their ancestry, the Moscow Beinhorns received a serious invitation to visit the Walter Beinhorns in Germany.

In Germany, Walter arranged a work vacation and insisted that Leroy and Linda come for a month's visit. They flew from Houston to Frankfurt, then to Dusseldorf where they were met by Walter and his daughter, Claudia. A 2-hour fast drive on the no-speed-limit Autobahn brought them to the neat and spacious home with a beautiful yard of Walter and Helga Beinhorn.

The Moscow Beinhorns speak limited German but managed to communicate well with their new friends. Linda said, "Walter, Claudia and Helga Beinhorn could not have been any nicer to us. If anyone ever tells you that the German people are cold and indifferent, it just isn't true. We found them to be very warm, and they are so pleased that we are studying their language and making an attempt to speak it. We understood each other without a lot of trouble, but there was a lot of smiling and hand waving."

They visited numerous other places and people, including a cousin.

*The Leroy Beinhorn mentioned above is the Herbert L. Beinhorn that has contributed articles to "The Journal".*



# Stadtbibliothek Koblenz



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Koblenz  
7.3.1994

Sehr geehrter Herr Kalteyer,

die in Koblenz erscheinende Rhein-Zeitung hat über die Auswanderkartei unseres Archivs einen Artikel veröffentlicht, in dem das von Ihnen freundlicherweise überlassene Porträt Ihres Vorfahren Wilhelm Julius Kalteyer abgebildet ist (s. Kopie). Wir hoffen, Ihnen mit der Übersendung des Artikels eine kleine Freude bereiten zu können.

Abschließend hätten wir noch eine kleine Bitte. Wäre es Ihnen möglich, eine Kopie des Artikels an Frau Renate van Stone und das Ehepaar McClain zu übermitteln?

Für Ihre Bemühungen möchten wir uns herzlich bedanken.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Im Auftrag:

  
(Kleber)

Anlage

Stadtsarchive bauen computerunterstützte Auswandererkartei aus - Rund 700 Einzelschicksale wurden bereits aufgezeichnet

# Sie machten ihr Glück in der „Neuen Welt“

Bürger fördern Forschungsarbeit - Große Fortschritte gemacht

ALTSTADT. Voller Zweifel und Hoffnungen nutzten sie ihre Chance: Über das Schicksal derjenigen, die im vergangenen Jahrhundert unsere Stadt verließen, um in unbekanntem Gefilden ihr Glück zu machen, gibt es nur spärliche Nachrichten. Die Mitarbeiter des Stadtsarchivs haben sich vorgenommen, Licht ins Dunkel zu bringen.

Die Zeiten, in denen etablierte Historiker beim Stichwort „Auswandererforschung“ die Nase rümpften, sind noch nicht lange vorbei. Hatte man doch in den 30er Jahren versucht, „deutsches Blut“ in allen Teilen der Erde aufzuspüren. Nach dem Krieg beschäftigten sich nur noch diejenigen mit dem Thema, die die Geschichte ihrer eigenen Familie ergründen wollten.

Das Jubiläum „300 Jahre deutsche Auswanderung in die USA“ (1983) und die Feiern zum 200-jährigen Bestehen der Vereinigten Staaten (1976) brachten die Wende. Im ganzen Bundesgebiet erschienen Schriften zum Thema, am Mittelrhein und in Koblenz geschah jedoch lange nichts. Erst der zweite Band der „Koblenzer Beiträge zur Geschichte und Kultur“ füllte die klaffende Lücke.

Doch damit nicht genug. Im Stadtarchiv hat man mit dem Aufbau ei-



Der Apotheker Julius Kalteyer.

ner computergestützten Auswandererkartei begonnen. Sie enthält inzwischen annähernd 700 Namen und wichtige biographische Daten. Eigentreue und Hinweise von Familienforschern erfordern fast täglich aktuelle Ergänzungen. Die Archive sind deswegen für jeden Hinweis auf Personen dankbar, die im letzten Jahrhundert aus Koblenz und den heutigen „Stadtteilen“ auswanderten.

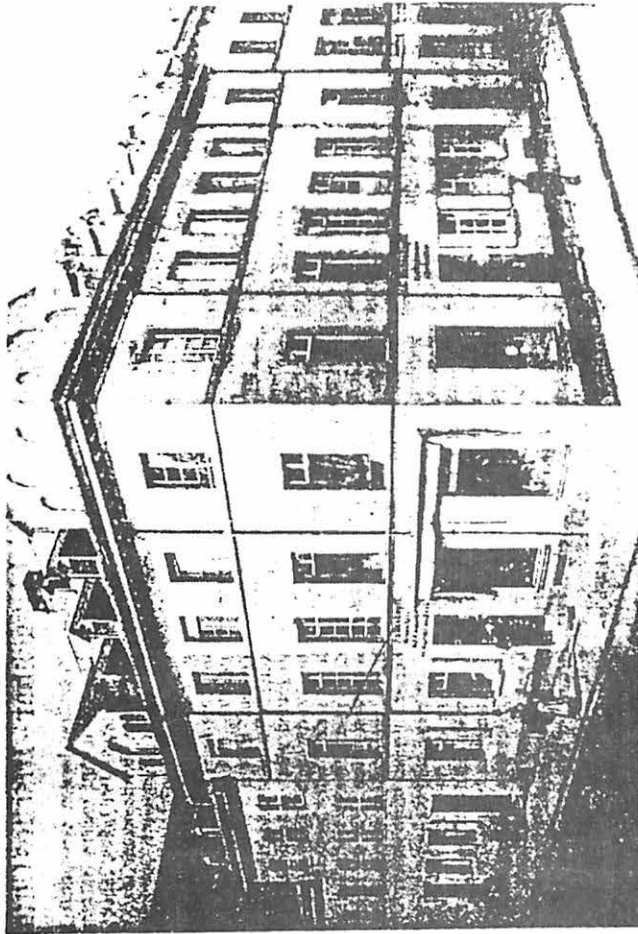
Warum verließen besonders zwei-

schon 1846 und 1860 sowie in den 1880er Jahren Tausende ihre Heimat? Die Antwort auf diese Frage hat vor allem wirtschaftliche Hintergründe: Bis weit ins 19. Jahrhundert hinein hatten sich die wirtschaftlichen Verhältnisse und die allgemeinen Lebensbedingungen nicht wesentlich von denen des Mittelalters unterschieden: Deutschland und Österreich waren Agrarstaaten, die ihren Bedarf an landwirtschaftlichen Produkten und Rohstoffen selbst deckten.

## Viele waren arbeitslos

Die technologischen Umwälzungen der zweiten Jahrhunderthälfte veränderten alles. Entscheidende Fortschritte in der Landwirtschaft machten viele arbeitslos. In der Hoffnung auf ein besseres Leben wanderten die Menschen ohne Perspektiven in die Städte ab. Aber auch dort machten die wenigsten ihr Glück. Die einzige Hoffnung in dieser ausweglosen Situation war für Tausende, in die sagenumwobene „Neue Welt“ mit ihren unbegrenzten Möglichkeiten auszuwandern.

Auf den ersten Blick gingen die großen Auswanderungswellen an Koblenz beinahe spurlos vorbei. Während in Eifel, Hunsrück und Westerwald ganze Dörfer auswanderten, lebte in der Stadt an Rhein und Mosel nur eine Minderheit, die



Das Geschäft des Hoflieferanten für Uhren und Manometer Johann Carl Rahsskopf lag an der Ecke Viktorienstraße 2/Altthörlort.

ihre Heil in Übersee oder in England suchte.

Für das Stadtarchiv trägt die Partnerschaft Koblenz-Austin erste Früchte. Charles F. Kalteyer, in der Öhrbrache tätig und bekannt mit Joseph McClain, der 1992 am Stadttheater die Verdi-Oper „La Traviata“ inszeniert hatte, informierte die Experten über einen Koblenzer Vorfahren, den Apotheker Wilhelm Julius Kalteyer, 1879 nach St. Antonio in Texas ausgewandert war.

Eine andere Szene aus dem Archivaltag: Im Jubiläumsjahr 1992 erschien die Familie Schwarzzeberg aus Etsch/Kallifornien in der Alten Burg und informierte die über-raschten Archivare mit Informationen über die Koblenzer Uhrmacher Rahsskopf. Unter Johann Carl Rahsskopf (1806-1886) hatte das Familienunternehmen an der Ecke Viktorienstraße 2/Altthörlort besonderen Erfolg und durfte unter der Bezeichnung „königlicher Hofliefer-

ant“ Uhren und Manometer herstellen. Trotz der guten Perspektiven packte zwei Söhne das Fernweh. Einer von ihnen, Carl, war besonders erfolgreich. Der Uhrmacher gründete in San Francisco ein eigenes Unternehmen. Er starb in seiner Wahlheimat am 28. Oktober 1921. Hinweise auf Koblenzer Auswanderer nimmt Hans-Peter Kieber im Stadtarchiv (Telefon 0266/1292643) entgegen.

Reinhard Kaufmann

Fotos: Stadtarchiv/Repro: Godehard Juraschek

## Federal Convention Elects Roman Herzog As Germany's Seventh Federal President

TG.

Roman Herzog, the president of the Federal Constitutional Court, was elected Monday (May 23) to succeed Richard von Weizsäcker as the president of the Federal Republic of Germany. Herzog, the joint candidate of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union, won the presidency in the third round of balloting in the Federal Convention.

Under German electoral law, a presidential candidate needs to win an absolute majority; if, however, no candidate is able to achieve that majority in two rounds of voting, a plurality will suffice in the third (cf. TWIG 5/20/94, p.1). A first round victory by any of the five candidates — in addition to Herzog, they were Johannes Rau for the SPD, Hildegard Hamm-Brücher for the FDP, Jens Reich as an independent candidate and a last minute entrant, Hans Hirzel for the rightwing *Republikaner* — was, from the outset, unlikely. None of the major-party candidates could muster the 663 votes needed for a majority among the 1,324 delegates to the Federal Convention (CDU/CSU 619; SPD 502; FDP 111).

In the first vote, Herzog received 604 of 1,319 votes cast; Rau, his principal opponent, received 505, while Hamm-Brücher won 132 votes, and Jens Reich, 62. Hirzel garnered 12 votes. After the results were tallied, Reich withdrew his candidacy.

In the second round, Rau's share of the vote jumped to 559 votes, while Herzog's increased to 622. Both Hamm-Brücher (126) and Hirzel (11) lost votes. Hamm-Brücher declined to stand in the third round and opened the way for the FDP delegates to decide the race between Herzog and Rau.

With 69 votes from the FDP ranks, Herzog secured a majority in the third round. Of the 1,319 valid votes cast, he received 696, Rau 605, and Hirzel 11. Although a substantial number of FDP delegates (40) voted for Rau in the third round, both Chancellor Helmut Kohl (CDU) and Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel (FDP) greeted the final election result as evidence of the durability of the governing coalition (CDU/CSU/FDP).

Addressing the Federal Convention after his election, Herzog proclaimed his intention to be the president of all Germans and to promote Germany's virtues. "I want to represent Germany over the next five years as this Germany really is: peace-loving, freedom-loving, productive, a country that at least attempts to achieve justice, a country willing to show solidarity, tolerance, open-mindedness - and what seems to me to be nearly the most important thing - a relaxed attitude."

The Social Democrats soon registered their disappointment with

both the outcome of the vote and Herzog's first speech as president-elect. The CDU and FDP, charged the national SPD chairperson, Prime Minister Rudolf Scharping of Rhineland-Palatinate, displayed more interest in preserving their hold on power than in advancing the interests of the nation. Rau, according to Scharping and other leading Social Democrats, was the more qualified candidate and the candidate most likely to have won in a popular election. Scharping also took Herzog to task for not having addressed the problem of rightwing radicalism in his speech to the Federal Convention.

Among Herzog's first public statements following Monday's election was a call for a "frontal assault" on rightwing radicalism by the forces of the law. More generally, he cautioned against misuse of concepts like national pride and argued that Germany, in light of its past, must strive harder than other nations to assure that totalitarian rule can never again take hold. ■



Roman Herzog,  
Germany's new  
federal president.

From: "Images" Sunday Magazine of San Antonio Express-News, April 10, 1994. Contributed by Theresa Gold.  
 NOTE: Nancy Pawel is the wife of Thomas Pawel, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany. They reside in San Antonio.

# CREATING WITH CLAY

By **MELANIE YOUNG**

*When you stop to think about it, there's a kind of poetic symmetry in a biochemist being drawn to work with clay. For while atoms, electrons and quarks are the scientific building blocks of the universe, clay represents the stuff of life in myth and literature, the elemental earth from which man was created.*



*When artist and biochemist Nancy Pawel started a ceramics program at Incarnate Word, the craft was a relatively new art form. Since then, her own work and the popularity of the craft have flourished. In addition to the pots she creates, Pawel is known for her ceramic castles.*

San Antonians who know Nancy Pawel for her fanciful ceramic castles might be surprised to learn that she started out as a biochemist at Randolph AFB's School of Aviation Medicine after graduating from Wellesley College and moving here with her husband in the 1950s. And you might say it was life that led her to clay.

"After our first child was born, I had to quit — back then there were no part-time jobs or maternity leave at Randolph," she says.

Yet Pawel wanted to do something creative, so she signed up for a ceramics class at the San Antonio Art Institute.

"People were experimenting then with local clay," she says. "They had these ancient potting wheels, and there were no books on ceramics, so the class was mostly talking." Occasionally, a famous potter like Bernard Leach would stop by to give demonstrations.

The craft not only fascinated her, it also fit in with her growing family of three daughters.

"Clay was something I could do with my small children," she says. "It worked in a mother-child situation."

Plus the scientific side of ceramics — glazes and kilns — didn't intimidate her.

"I wasn't afraid of the chemistry, and I knew that a kiln was a couple of big Bunsen burners," the biochemist says, adding, "People were terrified of kilns, and their idea of ceramics back then was painting plaster of Paris."

Then, in 1968, after Pawel gave a talk on ceramics at Incarnate Word College, the chairman of the art department, Bill Reily, asked her to start a ceramics program.

"When I began teaching, there was very little literature on ceramics — it was relatively new as a seriously regarded art form and degree pursuit," she says. Today, the students in the "pot shop" include many non-arts majors.

"Nobody takes ceramics because they have to," she says. "It's great for people who will teach art or teach, period."

Like the ceramics program, Pawel's own work has flourished,

A. RENKON

as a tour of Sol del Rio Gallery reveals. In response to a question about her flower-dappled majolica-style bowls, Pawel explains that Italian majolica was inspired by the Oriental porcelain brought to Europe by Marco Polo and traders. So highly valued was this blue-and-white "china" that an 11th century Saxon king traded soldiers for some Ming jars.

"China was also used as ballast in ships," says Pawel the teacher.

Meanwhile, the range and variety of Pawel the artist are as impressive as her knowledge. "I have a low threshold of boredom, so I keep trying different things," she says with a sparkle in her eyes.

She points out some contemporary-looking bowls splashed with abstract designs. The random golden patterns were made by sprinkling on oak ashes from a local restaurant, she explains, confessing, "Of course, I sent a student over to get them!"

Also contemporary in style is her "Endangered Species" series — based on the coats of leopards, cheetahs and other animals — and a group bearing black-and-white geometric patterns highlighted with metallic copper. Reminiscent of bold African designs, this last group recently appeared in a ceramics show at Trinity University.

By contrast, pots and platters glazed with celadon, a pale green, appeal with their delicacy, particularly the thin porcelain "lettuce pots," which suggest ruffled vegetable forms.

Thrown ware is combined with hand-built details in her Southwestern "cactus pots," their rims and sides bristling with three-dimensional, flowering nopal cacti.

"It's a challenge to see how much you can get on before the clay is too dry to work with," Pawel says of the clay prickly-pear pads.

Next come the ever-popular castles, one of which was commissioned as a gift for Mexico's President Salinas de Gortari. Pawel turns out a blizzard of these every year for a Christmas show at the gallery — and, like snowflakes, no two are alike.

Not all Pawel's creativity has gone into fashioning pots, however. Among Pawel's large-scale commissions are a wall of carved relief tiles at St. Mary's Hall, a large cross in the lobby of St. Luke's Hospital and a "Maya" Christ crowned with a pre-Columbian headdress at Air Force Chapel No. 2 at Kelly AFB. Pawel also will craft a tile wall for the Children's Museum, scheduled to open at 305 E. Houston St. later this year.

"Clay comes into our lives whether we know it or not," she says. "Just think, the space shuttle has ceramic porcelain tile on the outside. Clay is everywhere."

Pawel thinks for a minute. "Look at a lot of history," she adds. "What do we have but the pot shards?"

## German-Sorbian Theater May Darken, A Victim of Overly Successful Assimilation

For many cultural institutions in eastern Germany, unification has meant an end to ample government subsidies. For the German-Sorbian Theater in Bautzen (Saxony), money woes, while serious, are hardly the most pressing problem at hand. Although some 100,000 Sorbs, a Slavic people long resident in what is now eastern Saxony and Brandenburg, still speak the Sorbian language, it is slowly disappearing from everyday use, especially among young people (cf. TWIG 1/14/94, p.7). As young Sorbs increasingly become assimilated within the mainstream of German cultural life, the Bautzen theater finds itself hard-pressed to recruit a new generation of Sorbian actors, playwrights, and directors. "If something doesn't happen here soon," said one older member of the company recently, "we'll be playing our next premiere in a retirement home."

"If we do not succeed in training a new generation of actors in the next five years," Michael Grosse, the head of the theater, said recently, "the basis for the theater and for bi-cultural theater will be gone." The theater is now preparing to start a "Sorbian Drama Studio"; it will offer training to a handful of students

and apprentices in conjunction with the School for Music and Theater in Leipzig. They will participate in producing plays in both German and Sorbian. ■

## Language Society Announces Most Popular Names for Newborns in 1993

The Society for the German Language (*Gesellschaft für deutsche Sprache*), ever-vigilant monitor of Germany's linguistic habits, released its annual list of the most popular names for newborn children last Friday (February 18) at its headquarters in Wiesbaden (Hessen). From its survey of vital statistics offices (*Standesämter*) around the country, the society determined that the names parents in western Germany most commonly bestowed upon girls last year were Julia, Lisa, Katharina, Anna/Anne, Sarah, Maria, Laura, Franziska, Vanessa, and Jessica. For boys, western parents preferred Daniel, Alexander, Tobias, Christian, Kevin, Maximilian, Michael, Patrick, Philipp, and Dennis. Parents in eastern Germany were enamored of many of the same names. Most popular for girls in the

new federal states were the names Lisa, Maria, Anne/Anna, Franziska, Julia, Sarah, Stefanie, Sophie, Laura, and Jennifer, and for boys Philipp, Sebastian, Florian, Kevin, Christian, Martin, Paul, Felix, Tom, and Tobias. The list of favorite names in 1993 does not differ much from the 1992 list, which was led by Lisa, Julia, Philipp, and Alexander.

German parents do not have an absolutely free choice of names for their children. Officials in offices of vital statistics may reject a name selected for a child if it does not make clear the child's gender or if it is deemed to endanger "the well-being of the child." If registry officials refuse a particular name, the parents can try their luck with a judicial appeal, but are frequently unsuccessful (cf. TWIG 2/26/93, p.7). ■



# NEWS

HS



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JORDAN  
060394

## UT professor to discuss German culture and Texas at Texas Lutheran College

SEGUIN -- A lecture entitled "German Cultural Imprint in Central Texas" will be presented by Dr. Terry G. Jordan of Austin on Oct. 26 at Texas Lutheran College.

Jordan is Walter Prescott Webb Professor of History and Ideas in the department of geography at The University of Texas at Austin. His lecture will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Ayers Recital Hall and is free and open to the public. The recital hall is located in the Schuech Fine Arts Center.

His lecture will focus on the German element in Central Texas, discussing when people settled in the area and the extent to which their culture remains distinctive.

A reception will be held immediately following the lecture in the Annetta Kraushaar Gallery.

A sixth-generation Texan of German and southern Anglo-American descent, Jordan is a specialist in the cultural geography of his native state, Anglo-America at large, and Europe. He is particularly interested in the transferral of traditional European culture to North America. His research topics have ranged from ethnic mapping to folk-architecture, burial customs, land-survey patterns, generic place-names, agricultural practices, forest colonization, and livestock ranching.

He joined the University of Texas faculty in 1982. From 1969-82, he was professor and chairman of geography at the University of North Texas, and was assistant professor of geography at Arizona State University from 1965-69.

Jordan is a Fellow of the American Geographical Society and the Texas State Historical Association. He has served as president of the Association of American Geographers and is a member of several editorial boards.

A Phi Beta Kappa and Woodrow Wilson Fellow, he is listed in Who's Who in America and has been honored by the San Antonio Conservation Society and the Association of American Geographers.

His lecture is co-sponsored by the Centennial Lecture Series and the departments of sociology and social work, history and geography, and economics and political science at Texas Lutheran.

-30-

CONTACT PERSON: John Edward Dellis, APR, (210) 372-8028.



TG.  
News from  
GERMAN  
HERITAGE  
PARK  
San Antonio

Things are happening quietly and behind the scenes for German Heritage Park.

The help of generous donations and grants assures the financing for the restoration and improvement of the six historic structures located on the west end of HemisFair Park. By Fall 1994, contracts will be let for the leasing of the first building, the Schultze Hardware Store/Warehouse, as a café-haus.

In the meantime, a campaign is underway for memberships to support the operations of German Heritage Park.

The Sunday afternoon Concerts-in-the-Park will resume in September and October, tentatively set for Sept. 25 and Oct 23. O Tannenbaum German Christmas Market will take place again this year, on Nov. 26 and 27.

And, look for German Heritage Park's exhibit table at our GTHS Annual Meeting, Sept. 9-11, in Fredericksburg.

Interest in preserving the German heritage of San Antonio and Texas remains high!

To confirm dates or events or for further information, call the GHP office at (210) 696-5372.

### GERMAN FREE SCHOOL NEWS...

The **Silent Auction**, which was held May 15, 1994, was a big success. Over 120 people raised funds to help restore the German Free School building. The latest auction total was over \$5,000.00. Currently, the items that still remain can be purchased for the minimum bid price (call or write the GTHS office if you're interested).

Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany, **Dr. Klaus Aurisch**, recently paid a visit to the German Free School. Dr. Aurisch, along with his wife and two daughters, toured our building and stayed for refreshments with GTHS board member **Helga von Schweinitz**.

Don't forget to take a **tour** of the German Free School building if your travels bring you to Austin this summer. We are open for guided tours on Thursday afternoons from 1-4 p. m. (except holidays). Please contact the office for information, group tours and handicapped access.

Look for the German Free School Guild table at the Fredericksburg Annual Meeting in September. We will be selling GTHS/Guild **mugs** and German ABC **coloring books** along with **raffle tickets** to help raise restoration dollars for our state headquarters. Your support is needed and appreciated!

September 30, 1994, is the cut-off date to become a **Founding Member** of the German Free School Guild. All founding members will have their names listed on a plaque which will be permanently displayed in the German Free School. See this issue for an application.

(The German Free School Guild is a service organization of the German-Texan Heritage Society: 507 East 10th Street, PO Box 684171, Austin, Texas 78768-4171, 512-482-0927).

## A JOYOUS OCCASION

Judge Julius Schutze and Wife Celebrate  
their Silver Wedding

(As appeared in)  
The Austin Daily Dispatch  
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 1888  
4:30 P.M.

It is not given to many to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of their married life, and to fewer still the opportunity afforded of commemorating such an event in the delightful manner in which Judge and Mrs. Schutze honored their silver wedding last night. A quarter of a century is a long period in the chequered span of human existence, and where lives flow on in unclouded joy, like musical brooks meandering to the sea, it is meet that we should make some special note of the flight of time, and welcome with gratitude and exultation such memorable epochs that is here recorded. Twenty-five years ago on yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Schutze plighted their troth and spoke the word which made them one, and last night the edifying spectacle of renewing their vows was solemnized with the same affectionate fervor and happiness which first united them together in the departed but unforgotten days of "love's young dream." Since then they have seen and passed through many changes--changes which all must share--but the sacred image of their early attachment remains beautiful to the last and "the song that gladdened their morning is sweeter at eve." No wonder, then, that they hailed the anniversary of their silver wedding last evening with pleasant anticipation--no marvel that they prepared to make it as joyous for their friends as it was happy for themselves. And grandly did they succeed. Nothing that could add to its success was omitted--nothing that could impart to it a social charm was forgotten. The old family residence on East Tenth street never before looked so bright--the grounds, with their numerous lights, never seemed so picturesque. The scene within was peculiarly fascinating, every apartment being brilliantly illuminated, and every embellishment and ornamentation exhibiting the tender touch of woman's taste, the cultured and artistic finish of fair hands. The front parlor was strewn with various articles of costly silverware, the anniversary offerings of admiring friends, and here (at 8:30 o'clock, p.m. ) Judge and Mrs. Schutze received the compliments of their visitors and guests on the auspicious occasion which called them together. On entering the apartment, arm in arm, they were greeted by the Very Rev. P.J. Hurth, President of St. Edward's College, who delivered an eloquent and appropriate speech of congratulation, after which the company branched into those conversational reminiscences which never fail to interest and entertain social and friendly gatherings. About ten o'clock the guests filed into the spacious dining room, where a grand banquet was prepared for them, and among those who partook of the sumptuous feast were the following: Judge Julius Schutze and wife with their daughters, Julia, Henrietta, Alvina, and Clara, and their sons, Ed, Albert, Hugo, Julius, Adolf, and Nono; Edward Schutze, Sr. with his son and daughter, Henry Sidonia; Adolph Schutze, Sr., and sons, Arthur, and Herman Schutze. The other guests inclusive-- Very Rev. P. J. Hurth, President of St. Edward's College; Carl Arndt, of Baltimore ( a member of Thomas W. Keene's theatrical troupe); Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Buaas, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wilke, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Luck, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Bastian, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bernhard, Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Langerman, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Besserer, Mr. and Mrs. Max Maas, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jacoby, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lueshaw, Mr. and Mrs. August Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Neff, Mr. and Mrs. E. Berends, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Von Boeckman, Mr. and Mrs. J. Otto Buaas, Miss Laura Maas, Miss Alma Bastian, Miss Emma Wolf, Miss Maud Coggeshall, Mrs. August Siemmering and Mrs. L. Viogtlander of San Antonio, Mrs. H. Goggeshall and Mrs. Hartenstein, and Messrs. H. Bastian, George B. Assmann, T. F. Knuehman, George Langmuth, Otto Raatz, Ernst Frischmuith, Henry Kluge, Louis Maas, Otto Reufschlaeger, Hugo Wolf, Gus Wolf, Hilmar Guenther, Charles Hartenstein, P. H. Tansley, Q. W. Parmer, Willie Maas and others.

The banquet was acknowledged to be, and unquestionably was, one of the best ever set before any company in Austin, while the wines were shipped from New York specially for the occasion. When the good things bountifully provided had been done ample justice to, Judge Schutze rose and read a number of telegrams congratulatory of the happy event they were celebrating. One of them was from Leipsic, Germany; another from San Antonio, another from

116

El Paso, another from Dallas, Another from Milwaukee, another from New Braunfels, and another from St. Louis. The latter was from the brother of Mrs. Schutze, who--finding it impossible to come to Austin--had determined to give a banquet to his friends in St. Louis in honor of the event, and at the moment the telegram was read (11 o'clock, p.m.) would drink the health of the silver wedding beneficiaries, and asked that they in turn would similarly remember him and his friends.

The toast was honored in accordance with his wishes, the guests rising while drank to the health of their St. Louis well wishers.

Several other toasts were then drank, after which, and amid a storm of applause and clinking of glasses, Judge Schutze formally announced the engagement of his son, Mr. Ed. Schutze to Miss Emma Wolf. At his request the happy couple rose, which was the signal for another burst of applause.

Mr. Carl Arndt and others next gave some stirring recitations, the German singing societies rendered several exquisite vocal selections, and it was three o'clock this morning before the joyous gathering broke up. Thus with mirth and music, feast and song, the silver wedding of Editor Judge Schutze, editor of the Vorwaerts, was grandly celebrated last night.

Jo Peebles Adams  
(Granddaughter of Judge and Mrs.  
Julius Schutze)

"A New Joyous Occasion"  
by  
Jo Adams Peebles

It was homecoming for the Schutze clan Sunday, June 26, 1994, held at the restored old German Free School, 507 East 10th Street, in Austin, Texas, the former residence of the school's first teacher, Julius Schutze, and present headquarters of the German-Texan Heritage Society.

This was a special commemorative celebration of "A Joyous Occasion"--the 25th wedding anniversary of Judge Julius and Mrs. Julie Schutze that not only included their kinfolk, but some of his brother's, Louis and Edward's as well. It has been over twelve years since they all gathered for the one hundred birthday of Alvina Schutze Bayer, the Judge's second daughter, at her nursing home in Austin.

Beginning at 10:30 A.M., a buffet breakfast was served in the living-dining area of the house. A lovely banquet size tablecloth that belonged to Clara Schutze Peebles, the Judge's youngest daughter, purchased by her husband on a trip to China in 1937, was used on the formal banquet table.

Next to the punch bowl were the same two hollow-stem champagne glasses that Julius and Julie used to toast their twenty-five years of married life. At the opposite end of the table there was a large square cake decorated with white icing and silver bells, an exact copy of the original 25th anniversary invitation.

The 25th anniversary picture of the Judge's family leaned against a desk top in the corner of the room. Other pictures that hung in the parlor when the family occupied the house were placed on the mantle. One, a pencil and wash on paper, portrait of Mrs. Louise Schutze with her daughter, Emily and son, Julius, sketched by the well known German-Texas artist, Carl Iwonski, in 1864 in San Antonio, Texas. Other mementos of the Judge's family included a silver cream pitcher, sugar bowl with tray and silver spoon holder and were used with the coffee service at the party.

When Kelly Stevens restored the old school and home in 1954, the Schutze family would not have dared to dream that he would return it in 1991 into the hands of the German-Texans (a breed all its own). After having five different owners since Mrs. Julie Schutze sold it in 1904, it has now come full-circle, just where it began in 1857 when German settlers built it.

The Schutze clan really enjoyed the celebration of their decedents, and admired the beauty of the old school and home plus the lovely grounds. They were certainly cognizant of the many volunteer hours devoted by members of the German-Texas Heritage Society that has given this old home a "new" life.

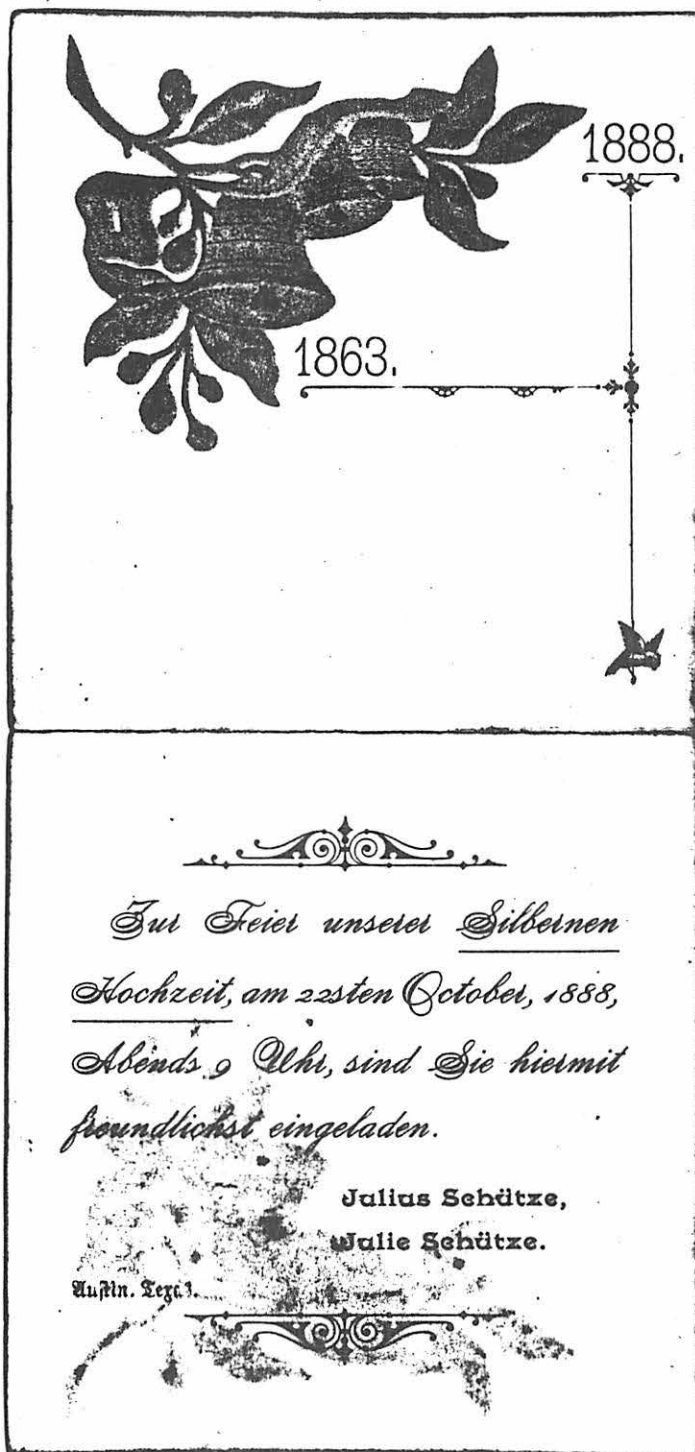
### Schutze Reunion

The Judge Julius Schutze kinfolks and some of his brothers, Louis and Edward, had a reunion they will not soon forget. They started gathering at the A. C. Schutze, Jr. home, our host, at 11:00 A. M., Saturday, June 25, 1994, bringing pictures and albums of their family members. A catered barbeque lunch was served, and afterward door prizes were awarded to the Judge's oldest granddaughter, Margaret Schutze Sharp, and the youngest member, two-week-old Ryan Schutze. Some members came from as far away as California, Georgia and Colorado.

Walter Schutze gave a talk about the life of Judge Julius Schutze, his grandfather. Anita Schmedes Killen made color-coded genealogy charts for all family members. Jo Peebles Adams, the Judge's youngest granddaughter, read to the group, "A Joyous Occasion," an article that appeared in the Austin Daily Dispatch, October 23, 1888, celebrating the 25th wedding anniversary of Judge Julius and Mrs. Julie Schutze.

Thelma Cade-Perdue from San Antonio, a granddaughter of Louis Schutze, who was murdered in Fredericksburg, Texas, during the Civil War, brought three scrapbooks that tell the story of all the Schutze's immigration from Germany to Texas, and of their struggles in this new land. She has also drawn a family tree, 18 by 24 inches, that she will soon complete, and take orders from interested family members.

Jo Peebles Adams



A copy of the original 25th wedding anniversary invitation of Judge Julius and Mrs. Julie Schutze

Jo Peebles Adams



**TEXAS FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL**

Dates for the 1994 Texas Folklife Festival are Thursday through Sunday, August 4-7. This is a one-of-a-kind festival of Texas and ethnic folklife--food, drink, singing, dancing, and arts and crafts. All the sights, sounds, smells, and flavors will be there again on the grounds of the Institute of Texan Cultures. For information, write to the Texas Folklife Festival, University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio, 801 S. Bowie, San Antonio TX 78205-3296, or call (210) 558-2224 (note new phone number).

TG.

**MULTI-ETHNIC FOLKLIFE MASS**

On the Sunday of the Texas Folklife Festival, the Texas Catholic Conference on Community Ethnic Affairs presents a multi-ethnic folklife Mass. This year, it will be on Sunday, August 7, at 9:00 a.m., at Arneson River Theater in downtown San Antonio. The colorful liturgical worship service includes flags, costumes, languages, and music of some 29 Texas ethnic groups, including our German-Texans. This year's Folklife Mass is presented with the cooperation of Catholic Life Insurance, itself a German-Texan institution founded in 1901 as the insurance branch ("Sterbekasse der Deutschen Kathliken von Texas") of the Deutsch Romisch Katholischen Staatsverband für Texas. For information call (210) 655-4830.



**ABENDKONZERTE IN BOERNE**

The series of summer evening concerts presented by the Boerne Village Band continues with concerts scheduled for Tuesday evenings, July 5 and 19 and August 2, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. These concerts are held on Main Plaza in Boerne and are free of charge.

The Boerne Village Band has performed traditional German band music since 1860, making it the oldest German band in the world outside Germany. The band has received many proclamations, recognitions and awards for "keeping alive German music as part of our heritage."

For the past 21 years, the band has been under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Herbst, a veterinarian, who first played trumpet with the band at age 11. On Aug. 4, 1994, the band will depart for a 12-day concert tour of Germany with performances planned in Braunfels, Weilburg, Munich, towns in the Frankfurt and Black Forest region, and Tirolia, Austria. On Sunday, Sept. 18, 1994, the Boerne Village Band will celebrate its 134th anniversary!

For further information, call (210) 249-8000.

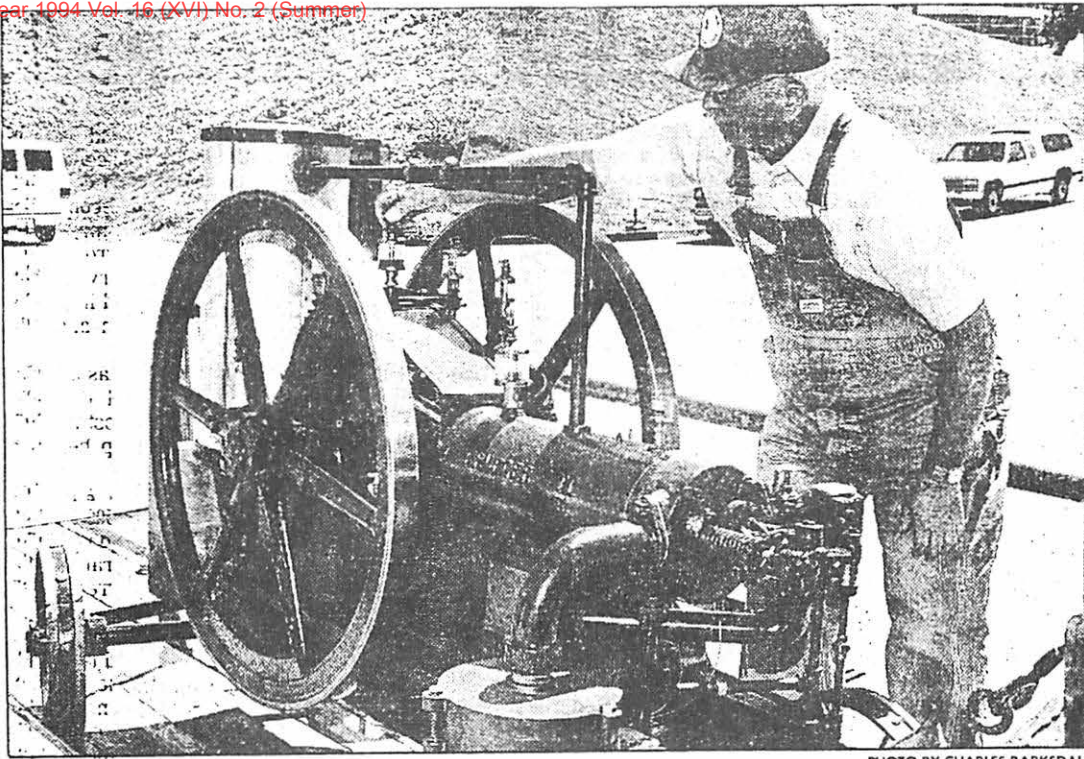


PHOTO BY CHARLES BARKSDALE

O.B. Maloy of Austin inspects his antique gasoline-powered Krueger-Atlas engine that was made in San Antonio more than 80 years ago.

## S.A.-built Krueger-Atlas engines helped power America in 1900s

The Krueger-Atlas engine wasn't built to power an automobile — or, for that matter, a tractor.

But during a significant period in America's agricultural history — the time after steam but before electricity had spread to most rural areas — the gasoline-powered Krueger-Atlas and other engines like it powered a variety of stationary farm and ranch machinery, from water pumps to feed grinders.

With a single cylinder, plus a hit-or-miss ignition system that intentionally let twin iron flywheels spin freely between firings, its sound was more of a pop than a purr.

It also was rather heavy: The biggest, a 35-horsepower model, weighed five tons and had flywheels almost six feet in diameter, according to collector O.B. Maloy of Austin, who owns three Krueger-Atlases.



Joe Fohn

Cattle Clatter

The engine also has a close historical tie to San Antonio. From the early 1900s until sometime after World War I, it was manufactured by San Antonio Machine & Supply, also known as SAMSCO. Today, the Krueger-Atlas has become something of a collector's item.

In fact, Maloy and other collectors next weekend are expected to gather about 30 of the engines, or nearly half those known to survive, at an antique farm equipment exhibit at Burton, between Austin and Brenham.

I heard about the Krueger-Atlas from Roy Childers, a Texas A&M University engineer who helped restore a 12-horsepower model that was used by A&M's agricultural engineering department from 1915 until the 1950s.

Childers also was involved in the restoration of the Burton Farmers' Gin, whose 80th anniversary — and whose designation as a National Mechanical Engineering Landmark — are to be celebrated at the exhibition Saturday and Sunday.

According to Childers and Maloy, the Krueger-Atlas began as simply the Atlas engine, built in Indianapolis. Shortly after the turn of the century, San Antonio equipment dealer Max Krueger bought out that company and moved the manufacturing operation to San Antonio.

Between 1910 and about 1918, an estimated 800 of the engines were

produced. The engines used a battery-powered igniter instead of a spark plug, and a spinning-weight governor that held the exhaust valve open until the flywheel slowed enough to cause the cylinder to fire again.

With no load on the engine, a 4-horse model that Maloy brought to San Antonio last week fired only about once every three or four seconds.

The old engine started easily when Maloy turned the flywheel, and it ran steadily and smoothly. However, Maloy kept an oil can handy to fill each of about four glass vials that feed various lubricated bronze bearings. These engines did require some attention.

That's one of the reasons why, when electricity came along, "These went by the wayside," Maloy noted.

Sure, there was reason for a switch to electric motors on the farm; and, in other industries, to diesel locomotives, jet airplanes and cars with microchips under the hood.

Still, it's good to see history rescued from the wayside now and then, and brought back to spinning, popping life.

From *San Antonio Express-News*, Sunday, April 10, 1994, contributed by Theresa Gold, San Antonio, Texas.

**Contributor's Note:** Max Krueger, founder of San Antonio Machine and Supply Co., wrote his memoirs, originally published as *Pioneer Life in Texas* in a 1930 limited edition. A new edition, edited by Marilyn McAdams Sibley, was published under the title *Second Fatherland: The Life and Fortunes of a German Immigrant* in 1976 by Texas A&M University Press. This most interesting account of a German immigrant is highly recommended reading.

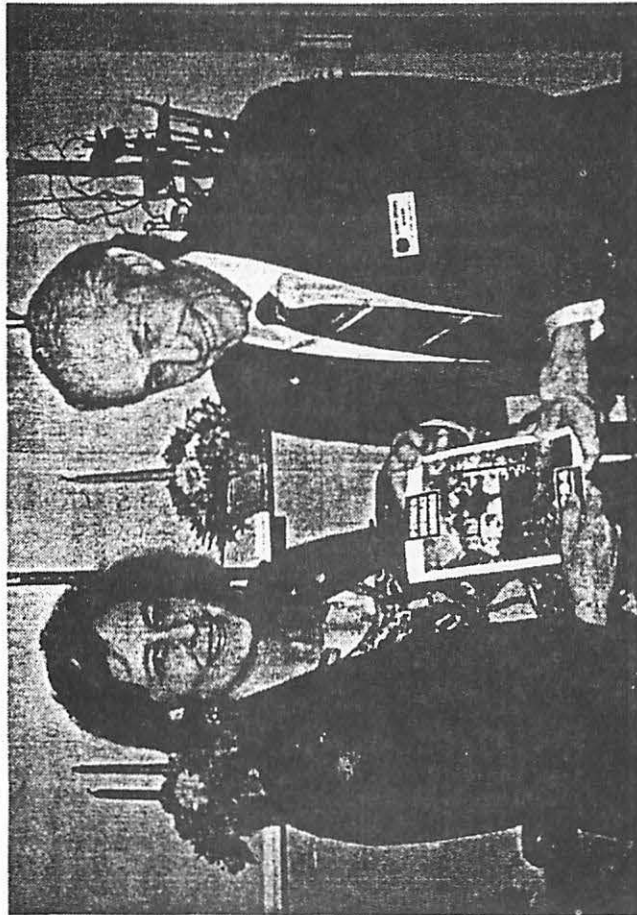
*San Antonio Express-News* agricultural columnist Joe Fohn is a brother to GTHS board member Gerald Fohn.

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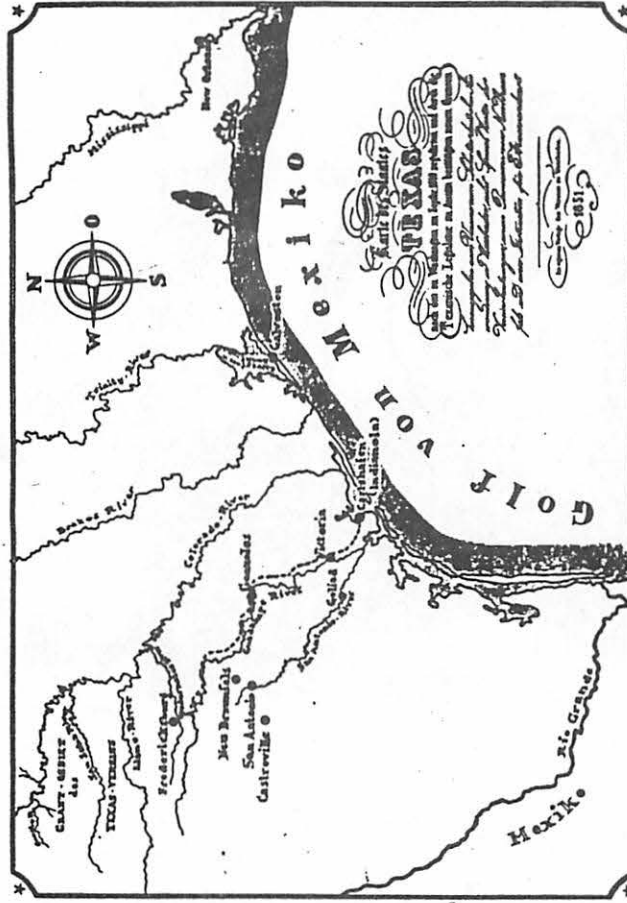
# Lokales

SONNABEND, 26. FEBRUAR 1994

PEINER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG



Die New Braunfeiser sind an Wissenswerten über die Heimat ihrer Vorfahren lebhaft interessiert. So freuen sich Helgard Suhr vom Vorstand der Deutsch-Texanischen Gesellschaft und Bürgermeister Rudy Seidel über den Peiner Heimatkalender.



Vom Adelsverein 1851 verbreitete Texas-Karte. Viele aus dem Peiner Raum stammende Auswanderer landeten in Carlshafen (Indianola) und zogen mit Planwagen ins Landesinnere nach Neu Braunfels.

Auf verschlungenen Wegen wurden die Passagierlisten der Texas-Auswanderer immer umfangreicher

## Peiner Schuhmacher blieben nicht bei ihren Leisten: Viele suchten in New Braunfels neues Lebensglück



VON THEO GENSCHICH

Die Einwohner von New Braunfels in Texas bereiten sich auf die 150-Jahr-Feier ihrer Stadt vor. Sie soll 1995 groß gefeiert werden. Hilfesuchend wandten sie sich an das Hildesheimer Roemer-Museum, um Näheres über Ferdinand Roemer herauszufinden. Dieser gilt als „Vater der texanischen Geologie“, war ein Bruder des Museumsgründers Hermann Roemer und steht in engem Zusammenhang mit der Geschichte der deutschen Auswanderer nach Texas Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts. An deren Erforschung hat der „Förderverein Deutsches Auswanderer-Museum“ in Bremerhaven maßgeblichen Anteil.

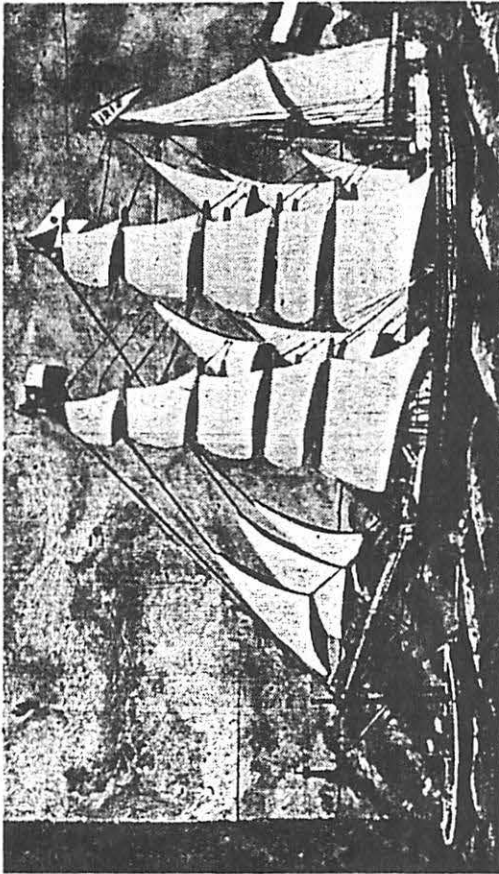
Dr. Helga Stein, wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin des Museums, reiste vergangenes Jahr nach Texas, um für eine Ausstellung über Ferdinand Roemer Kontakt aufzunehmen. Dabei stellte sie fest, daß zahlreiche der Ersteinwohner von Neu Braunfels aus Peine und Umgebung stammten. Entsprechende Angaben fand sie in den Schiffslisten der Jahre 1844 bis 1847 sowie im Kirchenbuch von Friedrichsburg. Es lag nahe, die Angaben von Peine aus zu vervollständigen, und Stein gewann den Verfasser dieses Beitrages als Mitarbeiter. – So verschlungen sind oft die Wege der Heimatforschung.

### Fürstlicher Schutzverein

Vom Marburger Staatsarchiv und dem Archiv der dortigen Universität kam der Hinweis auf die Fürst zu Solms-Braunfelsche Rentkammer. Deren Namensgeber gehörte zu jenen deutschen Fürsten, Prinzen und Grafen, die Anfang der 40er Jahre des 19. Jahrhunderts den „Verein zum Schutz deutscher Einwanderer in Texas“ gründeten (siehe Kasten).

In der Begründung hieß es: „Angesichts der deutschen Überbevölkerung und der daraus resultierenden Verarmung namentlich der unteren Bevölkerungsschichten, haben wir uns entschlossen, durch ein großzügiges Auswanderungsprogramm die Lebensbedingungen der Menschen zu erleichtern.“

Doch ganz so edel waren die Beweggründe offenbar nicht. In seinem Buch über die sogenannten Solms-Papiere schreibt Kurt Klotzbach: „Dieses stimmte nur zu einem Teil. Hauptsächlich war bei den Initiatoren der Kolonisationsgedanke vorherrschend. Was ihnen vorschwebte,



Mit Schiffen wie der Bark „Iris“, so bestätigt das Staatsarchiv Bremen, führen die Peiner Auswanderer nach Texas. Dieses Schiff war 1856 vom Stapel gelaufen.

war ein deutsches Gemeinwesen von staatsähnlichem Charakter, das sie in Texas errichten wollten.“

Wie weit auch Peiner dazu herangezogen wurden, ergab sich aus regionalen Listen deutscher Auswanderer und Dokumenten zur Geschichte von New Braunfels, die Helgard Suhr (Deutsch-amerikanischer Club Braunfels) zur Verfügung stellte. Käthe Knop vom evangelischen Kirchenbuchamt Peine ergänzte die Daten der texanischen Schiffslisten, und so wurde das Bild von den Texas-Auswanderern aus Peine immer konturreicher.

Weitere aufschlußreiche Quellen stellte Michael Utecht, Leiter des Peiner Stadtarchivs, zur Verfügung, darunter Dokumente der königlichen Landdrosterei aus den Jahren 1844 bis 1846 und 1855 bis 1857.

Die Landdrosterei ließ das Amt Peine wissen, die Verhältnisse in den Vereinigten Staaten seien nicht so rosig, wie oft angenommen würde. Gegenwärtig herrsche eine große Teuerung der Lebensmittel, überhaupt seien wenig Verdienstmöglichkeiten vorhanden.

Wörtlich heißt es in dem Schreiben von 1855: „Wir weisen daher die Obrigkeit unseres Verwaltungsbezirkes hiermit an, sich der Einsendung von Anträgen auf Gewährung von Beihilfen zu solchen Übersiedlungen einstweilen zu enthalten.“ Von 1832 bis 1835 wanderten jährlich 11 000 Deutsche aus, in den Jahren von

mit acht Personen ausgereist, auch seine Frau und drei Söhne starben 1846 in Texas.

Aufgeführt sind ferner Peiner namens Thielen, Rode und Brandis, Robhändler Ludwig Schaubode mit fünf Personen und Schafmeister Christian Welge mit sechs Personen. Sie alle waren Passagiere der „Hercules“, die in Bremen am 23. August 1845 auslief und am 23. November in Texas festmachte.

Auch aus den umliegenden Ortschaften suchten Einwohner ihr Glück in der Neuen Welt. Darunter aus Gadenstedt Georg Andreas Pape und Frau Ilse Marie Katharina mit vier Kindern. Die Liste enthält ferner die Gadenstedter Familien Helling, Nehwig, Dettmer, Bankhausen, Hellingner und Hesse, zwei weitere Familien Pape sowie die Witwe Ahrens mit ihren Töchtern Caroline und Sofia. Andreas Möllring, seine Frau Gesine, geb. Feldmann, und drei Kinder zogen weiter nach Grillespie.

Aus Groß Lafferde wanderten Burgdorts (mehrere Familien), Cramers, Crammes und Cramms am 30. September 1846 nach Amerika aus, wo sie mit der „Orient“ am 31. Dezember zusammen mit weiteren 84 Passagieren landeten.

### Weiter nach Grillespie

Conrad Cramme, Ehefrau Therese, geb. Lüddecke, und die drei Töchter Minna, Dorothea und Katharina waren am 2. Oktober 1846 mit der „Flavius“ in See gestochen und erreichten ihre neue Heimat am 9. Dezember, wo sie sich in Bexar Country niederließen. Aus Stedterdorf wanderten Friedrich Könemann, Frau und drei Kinder am 27. September 1845 aus. Sie gingen „drüben“ am 29. Dezember an Land, um nach Grillespie weiterzuziehen. Der Stedterdorfer Henning Könemann besitz noch heute Briefe seiner amerikanischen Verwandten aus jenen Jahren.

Von vier weiteren Stedterdorfer Auswanderern berichtet die Chronik, so von Christian Köther, der mit der „Neptun“ 1845 ausreiste und ins Comal Country zog. Ins Austin Country verschlug es den unvertehrten Heinrich Sonnenberg, der mit der „Franziska“ reiste. Friedrich Butte und Frau Sophie waren mit ihren kleinen Kindern Louis und Wilhelmine Passagiere der „Neptun“, und August Heinrich Winkel, der mit der „Hercules“ aufbrach, starb schon bald nach der Ankunft und hinterließ Frau und vier Kinder einem höchst ungewissen Schicksal.



1833 zählte beispielsweise die hiesige Schuhmachergilde 200 erwerbstätige Schuhmacher. Sie mußten auf die Märkte der benachbarten Städte ausweichen, um ihre Produkte abzusetzen. Verständig, daß 1843 eine ganze Reihe dieser Handwerker nach Texas auswanderten. Das Stadtarchiv besitzt eine Liste, in der folgende Auswanderer festgehalten sind:

Schuhmacher Ludwig Winkel mit sechs Personen. Das Familienoberhaupt starb auf der Überfahrt. Schuhmacher Johann Bengener, der schon am 17. Januar 1846 in Indianola starb, einer Stadt, die sich aus dem vom Prinzen Solms gegründeten „Carlshafen“ entwickelte. Bengener war

54

# Texas-Auswanderer, die aus dem Raum Peine stammten

In New Braunfels ermittelte die Mitarbeiterin des Hildesheimer Roemer-Museums, Dr. Helga Stein, zahlreiche Einwanderer aus dem Raum Peine. Die hier erstmals veröffentlichte Auflistung ist Nebenergebnis ihrer Vorarbeiten zu einer Ausstellung, durch die vor allem Ferdinand Roemer geehrt werden soll. Als Stationen der Präsentation sind vorgesehen in Texas die Städte Austin und San Antonio, ferner Breslau und Hildesheim.

**Klein Isede:** Heinrich Metzging (41 Jahre alt) mit Frau Dorothea, geb. Pape und Kindern 1845 mit „Everhard“, reisten weiter ins Comal Country. Metzging starb am 14. Juli 1851. Friedrich Metzging (25), unverheiratet, reiste mit der „Everhard“, siedelte im Comal Country.

**Adenstedt:** Heinrich Wesche und Frau Dorothea mit Kindern Friedrich, Karl, Sophie und Caroline 1845. Abreise mit der „Bohlen“ am 9. Oktober 1845, Ankunft mit 188 Passagieren am 22. Dezember 1845.

**Hohenhameln:** Wilhelm Funk und

Louise, geb. Fricke. Abreise 5. April 1846, Ankunft in Calveston am 25. Juni 1846. An Bord: 65 Auswanderer.

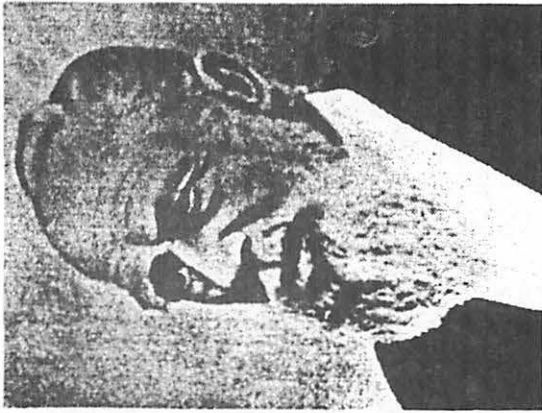
**Klein Lafferde:** Conrad Plünnecke mit Frau, Charles Plünnecke mit Frau, Hermann Plünnecke (18). Mit den Kindern der Familie waren es 10 Personen, die mit der „Apollo“ im November 1845 von Bremen aus in See stachen und am 20. Januar 1846 in Calvestone landeten, von wo sie ins Grillespie Country zogen. Heinrich Walter mit Frau (geb. Balm) und Sohn Friedrich am 27. Februar 1845 mit „Everhard“ trafen am 9. Dezember in Texas ein, siedelten im Colorado-Country. August Walter muß laut Passagierliste auf der Überfahrt gestorben sein und eine 21jährige Frau zurückgelassen haben.

**Soffmar:** Christian Pape (24) mit dem Schiff „Gerhard Hermann“ am 13. November 1845 ab Bremen, Ankunft in Calvestone am 10. Januar 1846 mit insgesamt 153 Passagieren. Reiste weiter ins Comal-Country.

54



Indianerüberfall auf einen Planwagen. Zeitgenössische Darstellung des Deutschen Charles Wimar aus: Kurt Klotzbach, „Wagenspur nach Westen“.



Prinz Carl zu Solms-Braunfels, Generalbevollmächtigter des Adelsvereins (links), und sein Nachfolger, Baron Otfried von Meusebach, der sich später John O. Meusebach nannte. Fotos (5): Archiv Gensrich

## Start kostete 120 Dollar

Der 1842 gegründete sogenannte Adelsverein ernannte den 32-jährigen Prinzen Carl zu Solms-Braunfels zum Generalbevollmächtigten, ihm zur Seite stand der Franzose Alexander Bourgeois d'Orvanne. Der Kolonisationsforscher Kurt Klotzbach („Die Solms-Papiere“) nimmt an, daß dessen Adelsittel gefälscht war. Beide begaben sich am 13. Mai 1844 auf die Reise und kamen am 1. Juli in Texas an. Sie hatten es eilig, denn Anfang Dezember sollten die ersten 150 Siedler eintreffen.

Der Verein hatte den Auswanderern folgendes Angebot unterbreitet: Jeder ledige Mann über 17 Jahren mußte eine einmalige Summe von 120 Dollar (Familien: 240 Dollar) als Kostenbeteiligung zahlen.

Dafür wurden den Texasfahrern verprochen: Freie Überfahrt bis zum jeweiligen Platz der Ansiedlung, Übergabe eines fertigen Blockhauses, 160 Acre (1 Acre = etwa 0,5 Hektar) für Einzelsiedler, 320 Acre für Familien, ferner Überlassung von Vieh und Ackergerät zu billigen Preisen, Bau von Kirchen, Schulen, Apotheken und Krankenhaus. Dafür sollten die Siedler innerhalb von drei

Jahren je 15 Acre Land urbar machen. Über die Zahlung der 120 beziehungsweise 240 Dollar, die an den Verein geleistet werden mußten, wurde ein Schuldschein ausgestellt, der später eingelöst werden sollte.

Erst wenn der Auswanderer einen Einwanderervertrag erhalten hatte, konnte ihm ein Platz auf einem Schiff zugewiesen werden.

Drüben in Texas war manches nicht so, wie es sich die Deutschen vorgestellt hatten. Auf dem Weg ins Inland wurden die Siedler von Indianern und Marodeuren drangsaliert, und auch die Vereinsführung war nicht in Ordnung. Als 1845 Baron Otfried von Meusebach in Texas eintraf und Solms ablöste, stellte er erhebliche Mißwirtschaft fest. Ihm gelang es, die Not der Landsleute zu mildern, 1847 wurde der Verein aufgelöst.

Meusebach hatte 729 Land-Zertifikate über 324 160 Acre an Kolonisten ausgeben. Insgesamt waren den deutschen Einwanderern 1,7 Millionen Acre Land bewilligt worden. Als Nachfolgeorganisation des Adelsvereins wurde die Deutsches Auswanderer-Gesellschaft gegründet.

# Douai showed revolutionary spirit

"Dr. Carl Adolf Douai was one of the finest minds the German Revolution of 1848 directed to this country . . . in Texas he continued his profession of teaching . . . after he left Texas, his radical stand on the slavery question compelling him to seek safety in the North, Douai opened the first kindergarten in the United States at Boston.

"In his position as editor, both of the *San Antonio Deutsche Zeitung*, and later as editor of the *New Yorker Volkszeitung*, Douai found ample opportunity for expression of his many worthy ideals."

Selma M. Rammick, "A Survey of German Literature in Texas," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, October 1929

"This autobiography (by Dr. Carl Adolf Douai) has been gathering dust since 1884 . . . it was not until 1957, when I paid a visit to New Braunfels, that I summoned up enough courage to undertake the exacting translation (from German to English).

"At that time I contacted Mr. Oscar Haas, Treasurer of Comal County, Texas, who showed me the sites of Douai's first living quarters and school, furnished me with a copy of the original deed of property, and engendered the enthusiasm to undertake the translation."

From the foreword to the unpublished autobiography of Dr. Carl Adolf Douai, revolutionary of 1848, Texas pioneer, introducer of the kindergarten, educator, author, editor, 1819-1888, translation by Richard H. Douai Boerker, Douai's grandson

Once again, I am indebted to Martha Utterback of the Alamo library, this time for discovering an unpublished, largely forgotten 187-page typewritten autobiography of Dr. Carl Albert Douai. She found it at the Center for American History, formerly the Barker History Center, at the University of Texas at Austin.



**Maury Maverick**

I plan to give the manuscript to Dr. Alan Kownslar of the history department at Trinity University, in the hope he will encourage some bright student to do a thesis on Douai and later a popular book with a university press.

Texans of German descent, because of the Civil War and World War I, suffered persecution. By World War II, when Adm. Chester Nimitz, Gen. Walter Krueger and Sgt. Fred Schmidt did their thing, it began to get better, but in the old days it was bad.

Many of the German immigrants, up in the Hill Country, were intellectuals who knew how to play violins, debate and read poetry, but did not understand much about the soil. The Mormons taught them how to plant crops. In any event, they were vulnerable. Opposed to slavery, they were kicked around, with some of the kicking coming from the Mavericks.

One looks for forgiveness from past family sins where one can, and so I am proud of the fact that my great uncle, U.S. Rep. James Slaydon, stood by the Hill Country "Germans" before World War I and was wiped out for it by Woodrow Wilson. Slaydon and his wife, the former Ellen Maury of Charlottesville, Va., so loved the Hill Country and the people there that they arranged for their tombstones to be Fredericksburg granite in rough rock form.

## Autobiography

The first paragraph of the autobiography reads, "I am the oldest son of a penmanship teacher in the

public school for girls in Altenburg, Duchy of Saxony, Carl Eduard Douai, and his wife Eleanora, and was born in Altenburg on the 28th day of February 1819, and baptized in the Protestant brother church in the same village."

While studying to be a teacher, he had a few bloody fencing duels, then, upon graduating, went off to Russia for some five years, where he learned to speak fluent Russian in the city of Riga, a port city on the Baltic Sea.

Upon returning to Germany he became involved in the German Revolution of 1848 by urging that the soldiers of the crown become "republicanized." He was taken before a Joe McCarthy court of those times. He writes with delight about the "bloody uprisings in Vienna and Berlin because the humiliated monarchs had made their democratic promises only as a pretense."

## New Braunfels

In the foreword, Douai writes: "So he came to Texas where he intended to farm and bring up his growing family. He soon fell in love with the lush prairies . . . on the 150 mile journey from the Gulf to New Braunfels in 1852 he had to struggle with runaway horses . . . and cholera. He established the first school in New Braunfels and contributed much to the cultural life of that town and San Antonio."

"In San Antonio," the grandson explains, "he published the *San Antonio Zeitung* for more than three years for the benefit of the thousands of German settlers . . . (but) he soon got into a fight against slavery . . . we must understand why slavery was such a hard thing for Douai to take. He had lived for five years in Baltic provinces amid the Russian form of 'slavery.' In Germany he was imprisoned for advocating the American brand of democracy."

## Seguin

After Douai landed on the Texas coast, something happened to him in Seguin while on the last leg of his trip to New Braunfels. About Seguin he writes, "I found very few German inhabitants. It was a slave-holding community, unfriendly to Germans . . . all bonds of honesty, morality, and humanity were dissolved."

After a few years in New Braunfels, Douai moved to San Antonio where, "There was formed the Order of Know Nothings (which) vied with the Democrats in defending slavery and intimidating the Germans . . . I suggested that the Germans in the suburb of the Alamo should show themselves armed."

## New York City

"In 1856 my situation (in San Antonio) and that of my newspaper became unbearable to the point of starvation," Douai complained. It was then that he decided to go north, where, in New York, he was befriended by Frederick Law Olmstead, a founder of landscape architecture and a co-designer of Central Park. (Olmstead met Douai in New Braunfels and later wrote a book with delightful comments about the schoolchildren of New Braunfels.)

From New York, Douai moved to Boston where he taught school and gave private violin lessons. In what he called the "Epilogue" of his autobiography, he complains of a "stupefying ecclesiastical system, and a society created by capitalism."

His concluding sentence reads, "I was never anything different than I was in the germ, from the time of my first self-determination as a child."

*Maury Maverick, a retired civil liberties lawyer, is a former Texas legislator and a former university instructor in political science.*

To leave a message for him, call ExpressLine at 554-0500 and punch 4422. Area Code: 210

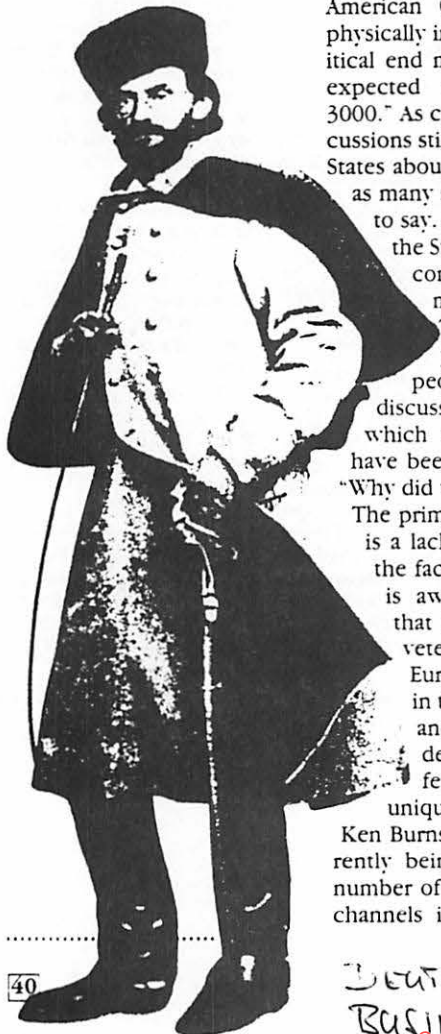
San Antonio Express-News, Sunday, April 24, 1994. Sent by Theresa Gold, San Antonio.

**GERMANS IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: REVOLUTIONARIES AND LABORERS FOUGHT FOR "A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM"**

By Christian Goldenboog

VM.

Carl Schurz (1829–1906) rebelled against the feudal order in Germany, was imprisoned and escaped to the "New World". In the American Civil War he fought on the Union side. In 1869 he was elected to the U.S. Senate for the State of Missouri. From 1877 to 1881 Carl Schurz served as Secretary of the Interior.



A total of 434,626 Germans emigrated to America between 1841 and 1850. A decade later the figure had risen to 951,667. They came in pursuit of happiness, adventure and wealth. Or they came simply to get away from the extreme mendacity of the old system (Benjamin Franklin). Others were looking for "elbow room, space to move around in", as Friedrich Gerstäcker defined the motives of German emigrants in his book "To America". But then they were involved in the bloodiest conflict ever experienced on the American continent: Some 360,000 Union soldiers were killed between 1861 and 1865. The overall death toll was more than 600,000, equivalent to 2% of the population at the time. Converted to today's values the monetary losses suffered amounted to an estimated 3 trillion dollars. War is the father of many things, including the endless discussions that have taken place about the war. As Thomas Beer said, "The American Civil War ceased physically in 1865 and its political end may be reasonably expected about the year 3000." As controversial as discussions still are in the United States about the Civil War or, as many southerners prefer to say, the "War between the States", they tend to come as a surprise to most Europeans. The latter are a bit puzzled as to why people should still be discussing questions which should long since have been decided such as "Why did the North fight?" The primary reason for this is a lack of knowledge of the facts. Who in Europe is aware, for instance, that the last Civil War veteran died in 1959? Europeans, caught up in their own tragedies and wars, have not developed sufficient feeling for the uniqueness of this war. Ken Burns' PBS series is currently being broadcast by a number of regional television channels in Germany. How-

ever, hardly any of the standard historical works on the Civil War have been translated into German. We will probably have to wait forever until Gary Wills' "Lincoln at Gettysburg: The Words That Remade America" finds a publisher in Germany. Shelby Foote's three-volume work "The Civil War" is virtually unknown in Germany. This is unfortunate, since it wasn't just native Americans who fought in the battles of Manassas, Shiloh or Cold Harbor, slaughtering each other with a mutual hatred no one would have considered possible. The number of Germans involved is astounding. Needless to say it is not possible to determine the exact percentage of ethnic German soldiers involved, among other things since ethnic German Union soldiers were not organized in large units. In 1869 the United States Sanitary Commission compiled statistics in which soldiers were divided up into the leading ethnic groups: Native Americans in the Union army (1,523,267), Germans (176,817), Irish (144,221), English (45,508). Other sources speak of 216,000 German soldiers on the Union side and mention entire units made up of Germans: eleven regiments from New York, three from Ohio, two from Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, as well as one German regiment each from Indiana and Illinois. Seeing German soldiers in American battles was nothing unusual. The "Hessians", the 30,000 German soldiers leased to England as mercenaries, fought in the War of Independence in the years between 1775 and 1783. Later, during the Mexican War, Germans accounted for the largest number of non-native volunteers. Germans from Cincinnati made up the entire First Regiment. German-born August V. Kautz played a leading role in the First Iowa Regiment at the age of 18. Later, in the Civil War, Kautz led daring cavalry attacks by Union forces in Virginia, advanced to the rank of Major General and became one of the best known mili-

tary leaders in North America. Another famous German officer was Peter Joseph Osterhaus, born in Koblenz in 1823, who began as a volunteer and also advanced to the rank of Major General. Osterhaus was referred to by his enemies as "the American Bayard", fearless and unflinching. He died in Duisburg in 1917. Germany made a cultural contribution to the Confederate cause. The words of the patriotic song "Maryland, My Maryland" are sung to the melody of the traditional German Christmas song "O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum". In a book published in 1911 entitled "The Germans in the American Civil War" Wilhelm Kaufmann maintains that "the Germans fought only on the Union side". However, this view is more wishful thinking than reality. It is doubtless influenced by the simplistic historical picture drawn by the German historian von Holst, who was popular at the east coast universities after the war. According to von Holst, the "good guys" were all on the Union side and the Confederates were the "bad guys". Carl Gustav Schleicher from Darmstadt and Heros von Broke, a former Prussian cavalry officer, fought on the Confederate side. Another German, Karl Gustav Memminger from Vaihingen, served as Secretary of the Treasury in the Confederate States of America under President Jefferson Davis. Memminger's record is not particularly memorable, however. This was probably not so much his fault as it was the result of the circumstances he was forced to work in. The South had greatly overestimated the strength of its economy and, as such, the role of cotton as the main source of income. Memminger did what so many finance ministers after him have done in difficult times, he simply printed more money. When the price of wax candles was affected by inflation the demoralized population in the South commented sarcastically: "Well, Mr. Memminger, have we begun fighting by candle light?". An event in German

history had a strong influence on the Civil War, i.e. the Liberal Revolution of 1848, or more precisely, the fact that this revolution failed. In a study entitled "The Germans in America" Theodore Huebner analyzed the situation at the time as follows: "Hundreds of thousands of Germans had migrated to the United States, but no group made such an impact on the American scene as a few thousand Forty-Eighters".

On May 18, 1848 the first German National Assembly of freely elected representatives met at St. Paul's Church in Frankfurt. However, as these parliamentarians discussed the constitution of a united Germany reactionary forces in Austria, Bavaria and Prussia began making preparations for their return to power. The cause of parliamentary democracy was lost when Friedrich Wilhelm IV was restored to power as King of Prussia. The Prussian Army saw to it that feudal order was restored in Saxony, the Palatinate, Baden and elsewhere in southern Germany. According to Gordon A. Craig: "In 1850 the fires of revolution had burned down and the victories of March 1848 seemed like a distant, unreal memory." The fires of democracy were extinguished. Thousands who had trouble identifying with their homeland began looking for new roads to travel and frontiers to cross. People tired of Germany became enthusiastic immigrants in America.

Up until 1848 most German immigrants in America had been laborers, farmers and craftsmen. This situation changed radically when the Forty-Eighters came. Teachers, lawyers, artists, musicians, journalists, politicians and other educated persons set out to make their fortune in the New World. Huebner: "It is no wonder, then that they were able to create a sort of intellectual renaissance among the German-American element."

This renaissance was not popular everywhere. Germans who had already lived in America for a longer period

of time, who had been influenced by hard work, a frontier mentality and pragmatism, people who prayed a lot, ate corn and pumpkin, and earned their dollars as lamp cleaners or glass blowers, didn't like the newcomers very much. Two groups formed quite rapidly. The older immigrants, known as the "greys" made fun of the newcomers, referring to them as the "greens", i.e., greenhorn Europeans who were only good at speech-making, criticizing American institutions, and showing off their knowledge. In brief, the greys considered the greens "European beer politicians", people who had failed and



"I was determined to find the best in everything American."  
Carl Schurz on America.

lost contact with the "spirit of the times", which wasn't particularly welcome in America anyway.

Carl Schurz was one of these "beer politicians". Born on March 2, 1829 southwest of Cologne, Schurz was an active member of the democratic fraternity movement while a student at the University of Bonn. In 1849 he was a volunteer among the Liberal rebels in Baden. When the rebels were surrounded by Prussian army units Schurz managed to escape. In a daring maneuver he made it out of the besieged city of Rastatt by crawling through the sewage system. An even more daring feat gained him fame in Germany. In 1850 he freed his former professor of literature and his-

tory at the University of Bonn, Gottfried Kinkel, also a Forty-Eighter, from Spandau Prison. Soon after that he saw his face on a wanted poster and asked himself: "Where do I go from here?" At the age of 23 he landed in America.

In 1918 the socialist historian Franz Mehring referred to him as a "bourgeois hero". That goes without saying. By then Schurz was a very Americanized German immigrant. He was certainly one of the most successful and most popular. On first hearing Schurz speak in public Abraham Lincoln was greatly impressed by his rhetorical talent. He praised him saying: "You're a colossal fellow. Now I understand your reputation." On March 4, 1969, two days after his fortieth birthday, Schurz was elected Senator of Missouri. Later, from 1877 to 1881, he served as Secretary of the Interior under President Hayes. Schurz was a dedicated public servant. As he put it: "I was determined to find the best in everything American." He was to find out rapidly how hopes can be shattered in the face of reality and that the hope that in the New World things would be new - i.e. better and different - was an illusion. However, his enthusiasm remained.

In his autobiography Henry Adams paradigmatically formulated the intellectual spirit of the times: "Chaos often creates life where order creates habit. The Civil War created life, the army courage." This also applied to Schurz, who served on the front from the spring of 1862 until February 1864, most of the time as a general. In the confusion of the war situation, somewhere in a camp in Alabama, Schurz wrote to his friend Theodore Petrasch on October 3, 1863: "What a tremendous problem and what a mighty cause! I am happy to live in this country at this time. In comparison with the splendid goal, what are our little sufferings and our individual sacrifices? Slavery is being driven out of its last citadel: the insulted dignity of human nature has been avenged. The people of the

New World are taking an immeasurable step forward in its cleansing and ennobling." The extent to which these "little sufferings" were to influence his further life is shown by an episode in the campaign for election as senator. Doubts had been expressed as to Schurz's courage in the war. When his opponent, Charles D. Drake, referred to the Germans in Missouri as ignoramuses who could neither speak nor understand English, who were only interested in German newspapers, in brief people who were not patriotic enough for the American Senate, Schurz counter-attacked with the question: "Who saved Missouri for the Union and lost their lives on blood-soaked battlefields?"

The morally outraged crowds roared back: "The Germans!" At least 500 German officers fought on the Union side. August von Willich was referred to as "Marshall Forwards". In his autobiography General Lew Wallace describes von Willich during the battle of Shiloh. Looking through field glasses Wallace spotted the enemy lying along the edge of a wooded area. As a Union regiment approached the Confederates opened fire and pulled back into the woods. The Union officer in charge wheeled his horse around and, with his back to the enemy, addressed his men. Wallace noted: "The effect was magical. The colonel returned to his post in the rear, and the regiment steadied as if on parade, advancing in the face of the fire pouring upon them and actually entered the wood."

For many, the war was to become the key event in their lives, not just for the soldiers involved, but also for wives, families and children. It not only created life where order created habit. It also created suffering and death. There were more than just a few European-born Americans in Gettysburg when Abraham Lincoln gave his famous address. According to Ken Burns, Lincoln was probably saying more than he knew when he proclaimed: "The war was about a new birth of freedom."



by Don Heinrich  
Tolzmann

What began as a trickle of German emigration to America—a few settlers in Virginia in 1608, a handful of Mennonite families in Pennsylvania in 1683—gradually swelled into a tide over the next three centuries as more than seven million individuals from Germany and the German-speaking regions of Europe ventured across the ocean to the New World.

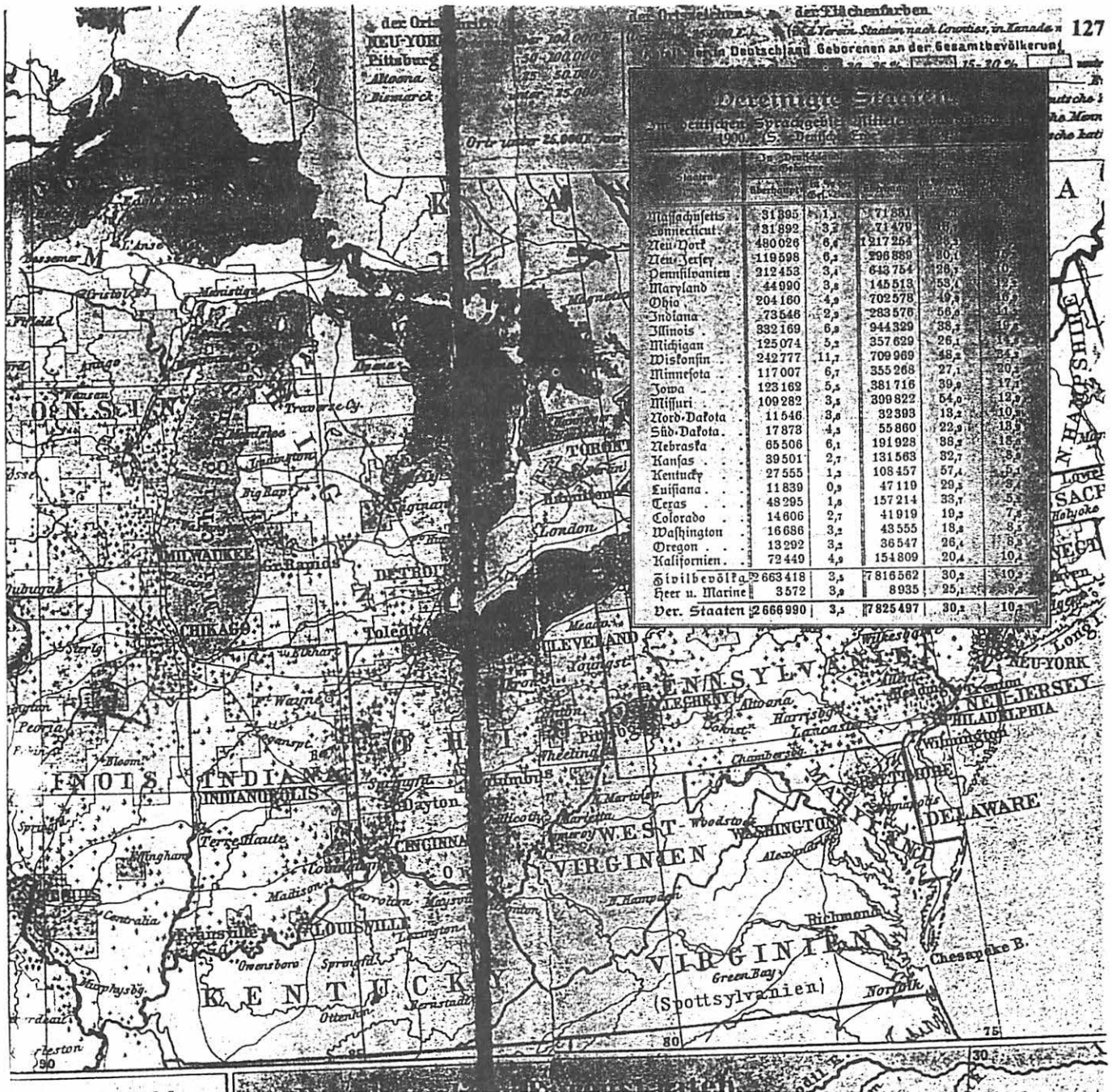
Today, German-Americans can be found in every nook and cranny of the United States, and, according to the 1990 census, more than 50 million Americans—almost one-fourth of the population—claim to be part German.

To honor the achievements, contributions, and history of this country's largest ethnic group, German-American Day was established by presidential proclamation in 1987. Celebrated annually on October 6, this day sets aside a special time to ex-

plore the hardships, successes, traditions, and heritage of the German-American legacy.

#### COMING TO AMERICA

German immigrants journeyed across the Atlantic for a wide variety of reasons. Some were forced from their homelands because of religious or political persecution, others were driven away by crop failures or war, and a great many were



simply lured by the promise of a better life. Regardless of their motivations for coming to America, immigrants needed solid information to prepare for life in a new land. Although letters served as a primary source of knowledge about America, many people turned to emigrant guidebooks, or *Auswanderer-Ratgeber*, for additional facts on subjects that ranged from weights and measures to climate and soil quality.

At least 300 guidebooks were pub-

lished, a few of which were scandalous deceptions, including one that duped naive readers with schemes for discovering gold in the uncharted regions of the New World. One of the most reliable emigrant guidebooks was published in 1851 by F.W. Bogen, a Boston minister. Bogen doled out travel tips, helpful addresses, and sage advice, much of which became part and parcel of the German-American *Weltanschauung*, or philosophy of life. In his book, Bogen advised immigrants,

"Let us be temperate, industrious, and frugal...let us build up in our hearts a temple, wherein the rational farseeing spirit of American liberty may live and flourish, and thus we may become good, happy, and free American citizens."

The majority of German immigrants arriving in America deliberately moved to areas where friends and relatives had already settled, places where the familiar faces and customs would help ease the adjustment to life in a strange country.

The letters and reports sent back home from immigrants established many links between the Old and New Worlds, and encouraged even more family members and neighbors to migrate to the same area. This pattern of "chain migration" led to the development of entire German communities such as the Swiss-German town of New Glarus, Wisconsin, known for its Swiss architecture, cheese, and annual Wilhelm Tell festival, or Oldenburg, Indiana, which resembles a northern German village, right down to the street signs in German. Today, German-American communities retain traces of their founders' homelands through customs, dialects, and place names. Contacts between these New and Old World communities still exist, often in the form of sister-city relationships.

Many U.S. cities also share a common bond due to the chain migration that continued within America. Milwaukee, for example, was the first home of a large number of Pomeranians who later settled in German Lake, Minnesota. Cincinnati is historically intertwined with the towns of New Ulm, Minnesota and Guttenberg, Iowa, where the architecture clearly reveals the influence of Cincinnati styles. The German Settlement Society of Philadelphia founded Hermann, Missouri, a town still renowned for its German influenced architecture and fine wine.

#### HOME AWAY FROM HOME

In the early nineteenth century, ambitious chain migration efforts were undertaken to establish German-American populated states in Wisconsin, Missouri, and Texas. While there was some success in concentrating a large number of German immigrants in these areas, the lack of support from a unified nation-state abroad kept the dream of a "New Germany" from materializing.

More successful at preserving the language and culture were the many German-founded communities or city districts that flourished into thriving centers of agriculture, trade, and industry. These "little Germanies" became the hubs of German-American social, business, and political life. Stores stocked German books and specialty foods, theaters staged the plays of Goethe and Schiller, and clubhouses thronged with rifle, athletic, and choral societies. People were

kept abreast of local issues through publicly posted German language newspapers, and beer halls became popular gathering spots for games, celebrations, and community meetings.

Almost every city had its little Germany, some being more influential than others. Milwaukee's large and unified German community, for instance, not only enjoyed firmly established economic and cultural roots, but carried political clout in the city government as well. In Cincinnati, German immigration peaked in the late 1800s, setting the stage for a political presence that lasted well into this century. Even as early as 1870, Cincinnati's government practically declared the city bilingual by establishing German classes in public schools and spending 80 percent of the library budget on German books.

Despite German immigrants' efforts to recreate aspects of their homeland, little Germanies were not isolated islands untainted by the outside world. Occasionally, other groups viewed these German enclaves with disfavor, and even Benjamin Franklin, fearing that the English-founded Pennsylvania would be overrun by foreigners, disdainfully asked, "Why should the Palatine Boors be suffered...[to] establish their language and customs to the exclusion of ours?" Eventually, American ideals and manners did permeate German communities, gradually weakening their political and social influence, but not destroying the wealth of German-American societies, schools, traditions, and celebrations that had taken root.

#### THE ANTI-GERMAN SENTIMENT

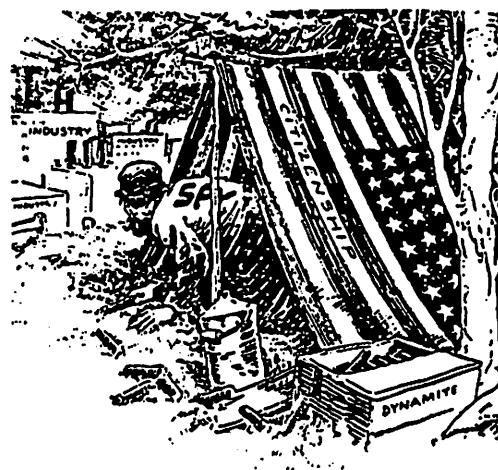
In spite of their many contributions to the building of this nation, including innovations in technology, agriculture, education, and the arts, which gave us such everyday staples as the Linotype machine, Kindergarten, the Brooklyn Bridge, Steinway pianos, and blue jeans, German-Americans became the targets of an anti-German hysteria during the era of the world wars.

Almost every state and community had a "Security League," "Citizen's Patriotic League," or

some type of volunteer vigilante group that attacked anything German in their area. Increasingly, all things German were eliminated or shunned—street names were altered, books were burned, theaters were closed, and the German language was banned by state councils from schools, churches, telephone conversations, and semipublic spaces. Overly zealous patriots smeared the homes of German speakers with yellow paint, or forced German-Americans to kiss the flag on their knees to prove their loyalty to America. In an attempt to avoid persecution, many German-American businesses, societies, and individuals anglicized their names. Overall, more than 6,000 German-Americans who had not yet received their citizenship papers were interned for the duration of World War I.

Reaching a fever pitch, this anti-German hysteria occasionally led to mob violence and even murder. The first well-known case of a lynching of a German-American took place on April 5, 1918 in Collinsville, Illinois, where Robert Prager was strung up by a mob solely on the basis of his ethnicity. President Wilson's failure to respond immediately and condemn this violent act only served to encourage further prejudice, resulting in additional boycotts of German-American businesses and press.

German-Americans continued to suffer ethnic intimidation and harassment during World War II, when an estimated 15,000 were interned in concentration camps. Even after the war, ethnic slurs



HIS SHELTER

German-American citizens were accused of bomb plots, intrigues, and conspiracies.

ART: BRADLEY IN CHICAGO DAILY NEWS



prevailed as the media and large segments of the American public continued to label German-Americans as "Krauts" or "Nazis." Not surprisingly, German-Americans opted for a "submerged ethnicity," limiting the celebration of their heritage to the closed spaces of family, church, and cultural organizations, many of which were screened by the FBI. From 1941 to 1951, there were almost no festivities held and to avoid public abuse, people would only cautiously identify themselves as Americans of German descent.

#### A REVIVAL OF ETHNIC PRIDE

In the 1950s, the glacial attitude toward German-Americans began to thaw as Germany emerged as a powerful NATO ally. Encouraged by the fading of war-engendered animosities, German-American organizations again celebrated their ethnic heritage by reviving traditional festivals, which, apart from raising funds and showcasing customs, built bridges between cultures. While the increasingly popular *Oktoberfest* and other celebrations of food, drink, and song may have played into *Gemütlichkeit* stereotypes, these were exactly the kinds of positive images needed to contrast with the negative ones that lingered after the wars.

An additional boost to ethnic identification came in the '60s with the increased national interest in "roots," which helped to generate the widespread acceptance and recognition of ethnicity as a permanent and vital factor in American life. In the wake of this new trend, the Society for German-American Studies was formed in 1968, establishing the areas of German-American history, literature, and culture as legitimate academic fields.

The celebration of the American Bicentennial further revealed the role that German-Americans had played in the building of the nation. Apart from Baron von Steuben, who had trained American troops during the American Revolution and is honored every year with a parade in New York City, entire regiments of German-Americans had fought in the Revolution, and George Washington's private guard, the Independent Troop of the Horse, had been an all-German unit.

In 1980, the U.S. census statistically established German-Americans as the largest ethnic group in America. Soon after, the 1983 German-American Ter-

centennial commemorated the founding of the first permanent German settlement at Germantown, Pennsylvania, rejuvenating older German-American organizations and inspiring new ones. The Tercentennial centered around October 6, the date on which Germantown was founded in 1683, and the traditional day that German Day was celebrated before the world wars.

Energized by these two key events, German-American societies, churches, and publications launched a national campaign to declare October 6 as an annual "German-American Day." This resolution became law on October 2, 1987, when President Ronald Reagan signed the proclamation in a special Rose Garden ceremony, symbolically restoring the place of German-Americans in the American mosaic.

#### GERMAN-AMERICAN TODAY

Today, Americans of German descent reside in every state of the Union. In rural areas, German-Americans still live and work on the same land that their families settled during the nineteenth century. In fact, many farms have been passed down from generation to generation since Colonial times, revealing the high value of land ownership in German-American families. The majority of urban-dwelling German-Americans, however, left behind decaying inner cities and moved to the suburbs during the postwar era. As a result, urban German communities are no longer geographically defined by neighborhoods as in the past century, but are now based

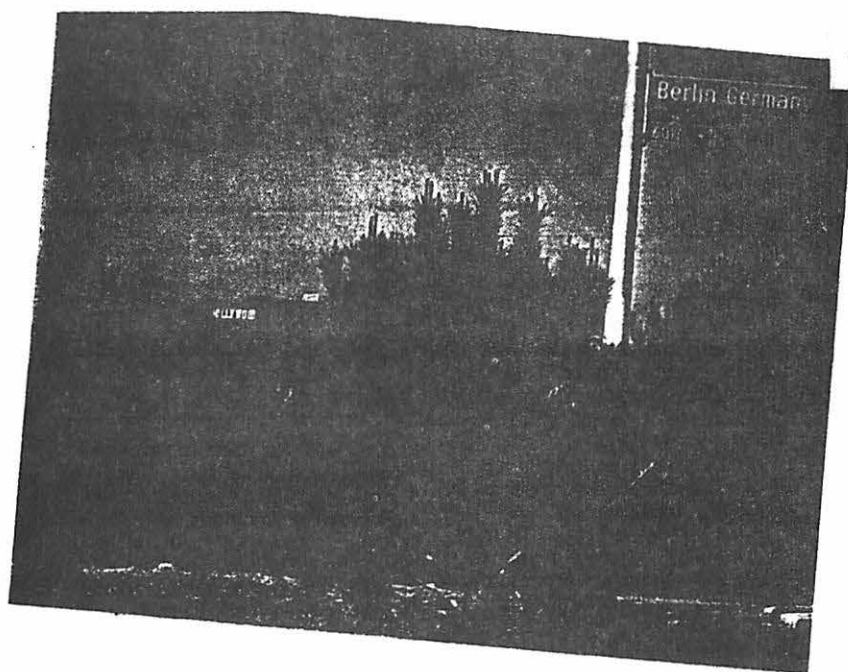
around cultural organizations.

The re-emergence of pride in German-American heritage has taken place in modest steps over the span of many years. Heritage societies continue to blossom across the United States and new interests in German history and language instruction have taken root, as have efforts to address the injustices of the past. On April 5, 1992, the first annual Prager Memorial Day was held in remembrance for all those who suffered under the anti-German hysteria of the world wars.

All of the events and activities since the 1960s signify a coming together of German-Americans, and are best symbolized by German-American Day. Paying tribute to the German heritage and the multifaceted relationship between Germany and America, this day honors the achievements of the millions of German-speaking immigrants and their descendants, who continue to explore and express what it means to be German-American today. ☐

*Don Heinrich Tolzmann is the director of the German-American Studies Program at the University of Cincinnati. Additional information was supplied by David S. Germroth and Debra Venzke.*

Recommended reading: *The German-Americans: An Ethnic Experience*. By Willi Paul Adams. 47 pp. \$4.50. (Max Kade German-American Center, IUPUI, 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Tel.: (812) 988-2866.)



# Hate loosening its grip on Germany

Hate is a dangerous and insidious disease, but it is not an incurable one.

That is the encouraging message now coming from Germany. A growing number of young one-time neo-Nazi thugs there are deserting the movement that preaches hate and violence against all "auslanders" who fall short of the mythic Aryan ideal.

Ingo Hasselbach has become an eloquent national symbol of recovery from this disease.

Born in former East Germany, he rebelled as a teen-age punk against the Communist regime. After it fell and Germany reunited, he helped found a neo-Nazi group that called itself National Alternative.

The German federal government banned the group in 1991 because it called for the re-establishment of a fascist regime.

The following year, a neo-Nazi firebomb killed three Turks — a woman and two young girls — in the town of Moelln. It was, sadly, only one of many brutal anti-foreigner attacks that increasingly have plagued Germany since reunification.

"For me, Moelln was a turning point," Hasselbach said. "Everything in me rebelled."

He no longer could stomach his movement's indiscriminate use of violence against other people — fellow human beings — only because their skins were darker and they spoke different languages.

After a time of intense private soul-searching, Hasselbach publicly repudiated his former move-



**Joe Patrick Bean**

ment and its supporters. His book, "The Reckoning: A Neo-Nazi Drops Out," has become a national best-seller in Germany.

Other "dropouts from the neo-Nazi scene are two bands that once played songs demonizing foreigners," the New York Times reported. "One, Bohse Onkelz, now distributes anti-fascist leaflets at its concerts. Another, Storkraft, has begun recording songs urging tolerance and social peace."

That message is badly needed — all the more so because not all of the hate plaguing Germany comes from the extremist fringe.

"There are a lot of 'normal' people in the right-wing scene," a young neo-Nazi told the Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune.

"Numerous Germans, other Europeans and Americans are nervous about the potential of a right-wing movement that carries overtones of Hitler and the Nazis, that becomes more visible as the German economy flounders, that targets foreigners as scapegoats, that already has made disturbing electoral gains," the Star Tribune reported.

Economic problems certainly exacerbate the kind of hate that is

infecting Germany now. Ultrationalism, ethnic pride, even religious intolerance (Christian vs. Muslim) also aid the disease's spread.

This kind of hate is not confined to Germany. Neo-fascist movements exist throughout Europe. And, unfortunately, the United States remains a fertile breeding ground for extremist groups that preach racism and violence against "sub-human mongrels."

"Man's greatest dignity, his most essential and peculiar power, the most intimate secret of his humanity," the American Trappist monk Thomas Merton once noted, "is the capacity to love."

Regardless of its proximate cause or target, hate in any form kills that capacity and, with it, all that is essentially and peculiarly human. Some whom the disease infects finally realize that, as Hasselbach did in Germany.

He has paid a price for denouncing the violent cause he once helped lead. His former friends in the neo-Nazi movement now regard him as a traitor. They have attacked several of his relatives and sent a mail bomb to his mother.

A cure is sometimes almost as painful as the disease it eradicates. But Hasselbach can live with that pain. It eventually will subside, unlike the hate that once drove him.

Had he not been cured, that disease would have consumed and finally destroyed him — but not before he hurt too many fellow human beings along the way.

San Antonio Express-News, March 24, 1994.  
Contributed by Theresa Gold, San Antonio.

Many of us are not aware that during World War II a number of persons of German ancestry, even those who were American citizens, were interned as well as the Japanese whose allegiance was suspect.

Professor Stephen Fox wishes to interview persons of German ancestry who were detained, relocated, excluded or interned during WWII. If you know any individual who had such an experience, please write him at Dept. of History, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California 95521 or call him at (207) 839-1919.

(Submitted by Florence Joyner, information extracted from an item in the Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter of Burbank Ca.)

# Foundation banking on the sale of coins to help fund planned museum expansion

San Antonio Express-News, April 11, 1994. Contributed by Theresa Gold, San Antonio.

by J. Michael Parker  
Express-News Staff Writer

The Admiral Nimitz Foundation in Fredericksburg hopes to raise \$2.5 million from the sale of 500,000 commemorative half-dollars, marking the 50th anniversary of the Japanese surrender ending World War II, to partially finance an extensive museum expansion.

Retired Navy Rear Adm. Charles Grojean, executive director of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation that operates the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, will spend this week in Washington working on the project.

Grojean said U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, introduced a bill authorizing the U.S. Mint to produce and sell the coins for \$15 each, with one-third of the proceeds going toward the museum's planned \$6 million expansion.



GROJEAN

The museum will celebrate the anniversary with the opening of a new gallery named for former President George Bush, a WWII Navy pilot from the light aircraft carrier USS San Jacinto.

Bush was shot down by the Japanese and rescued by the USS Finback submarine Sept. 2, 1944, exactly a year before Japan formally surrendered.

There is also plans for a "Hall of Presidents" to be built, highlighting the activities of U.S. presidents who served in WWII.

Groundbreaking for the facilities is scheduled for May 21.

The coins, to be minted only during 1995, will depict the peace-accords signing ceremony on the front and the American eagle on the back.

The coins will be marketed as soon as the law is passed by Congress.

"Anybody who wants one will have to order it because these will be very rare and very inexpensive

by the standards of most commemorative coins, and they'll sell quickly," Grojean said.

The coin sales will be one of several ways the museum foundation plans to raise funds, but could be the most natural one.

"Sept. 2, 1945, is probably the most important single date of this century," Grojean said. "The signing of the peace accords aboard the USS Missouri didn't just end World War II. It closed out the old order.

"It marked the beginning of the modern Japanese nation we know today. It laid the foundation for the Cold War period and all the social, cultural and moral changes we've seen in the past half-century.

"If any single event in this century deserves to be commemorated, this is it. And it's appropriate that a museum named for Admiral Nimitz, who signed the peace accords on behalf of the United States, be the beneficiary of the sale of these coins."

Already Smith has rounded up about 25 co-sponsors for the bill.

Grojean said in next year's commemoration ceremonies, the museum foundation will emphasize the peace that began Sept. 2, 1945, rather than the surrender of the Japanese.

"It's a day to celebrate peace, not to beat our chests and brag that we won," he said. "We're including Japanese representatives in the ceremony."

The new facilities are being designed by architect Alan Tanaguchi of Austin, former dean of the University of Texas at Austin's School of Architecture.

Grojean said he and Dr. Rodney Taylor, the foundation's director of development, have traveled nationwide soliciting financial support from major businesses for the expansion project.

Taylor successfully raised funds to build the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Fla.

The Special Collections and Archives at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis is conducting a research project to locate, inventory, and preserve the historical records of Turner Societies in the United States. This project has been funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Turner Societies were organized by German immigrants as athletic, social, and cultural organizations which flourished in most cities with a significant German population from the mid-nineteenth century through the first decades of the twentieth century. Today, there are still about 80 societies left. Besides their functions within the German communities, they also played an important role in reform movements, such as abolitionism in the 1850s, and other political issues, such as prohibition, Sabbath-Day laws, and American neutrality during World War I. Turners also participated in the introduction of physical education to public schools.

Although Turner societies had important functions in the German-American communities, research on

American Turners has been fairly difficult since information on them is scattered or inaccessible. The purpose of this project is to locate published and unpublished records of Turner Societies, to aid in the preservation of historical material, and to prepare a research guide to Turner historical records.

The American Turners are involved in this 18-month project which is well on its way. Surveys to Turner societies, archives, and historical societies will be sent out shortly.

Anybody who has any Turner records or can help to locate them, or knows someone who should be contacted is encouraged to contact the project staff: Either Eric Pumroy, Project Director, or Katja Rampelmann, Project Archivist, Special Collections and Archives, IUPUI Libraries, 755 W. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Telephone: (317) 274-0464

AMBASSADOR/BOTSCHAFTLER (DEC. '93)

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, GONZALES, CELEBRATED 90th ANNIVERSARY  
A Brief History

A group of Lutheran people who had moved into the Gonzales Community gathered on May 26, 1904 on the second floor of the old Brenner Drug Store (later known as Kotzebue Drug Store) to organize a Lutheran congregation. This was the beginning of the Lutheran church in Gonzales. They decided that the name of the congregation shall be "Freie Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische Gemeinde".

On July 17, 1904, the German Methodist Church was rented for worship at a rental fee of \$25.00 a year. Rev. Wilhelm Dziejwas was the pastor and he came from Shiner. Pastor Dziejwas passed away in 1919. Rev. R. A. Schmidt was called in December, 1920 and he began his pastoral duties January 1, 1921.

February 13, 1921, a meeting was held with the main business being that Christ Lutheran Church of Monthalia and First Lutheran Church of Gonzales become one parish, to be served by one pastor, and that the living quarters were also to be discussed.

On July 7, 1921, a special meeting was called for the purpose of considering the purchase of the Nettie Willand school house on North Avenue. On July 17, 1921, the City of Gonzales offered the congregation one half square of land and the building for \$1000. The offer was accepted and a down payment was made. The building was ready for worship services on August 11, 1921.

November 21, 1924, at a meeting of the congregation it was voted that First Lutheran and Christ Lutheran join together and build a parsonage. The name of the Gonzales congregation was changed to First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Because of the drought, the building of the parsonage was postponed.

On December 12, 1930, Pastor Schmidt received a call to serve another congregation and First Lutheran was without a shepherd for their flock until it was voted to send a call to Rev. Walter Wolf. However, due to the depression, the call was not sent out until the Fall, and Rev. Wolf began his pastorate in November 1931. It was a hard go, but the people and pastor had enough faith to keep going.

During the pastorate of Rev. Walter Wolf, a new church building was erected, mostly with donated materials and labor by the congregation members. On July 7, 1942, the new church building was dedicated.

In October 1944 Rev. Walter Wolf accepted a call he received from Welcome, Texas and Rev. W. Loeske was installed February 25, 1945. On August 19, 1945, Christ Lutheran of Monthalia membership was transferred to First Lutheran and the Monthalia congregation was disbanded. Pastor Loeske served Gonzales Lutherans from 1945 until 1959. Other pastors who served were Rev. L. G. Hannemann, 1960 - 1963; Rev. C. Zwetzig, 1963-1966; Rev. Allen Collins, 1966-1975; Rev. Walter Lentz, 1976-1986; and Rev. Stephen Clark, 1987 to the present time.

On May 1, 1994, First Evangelical Lutheran Church observed its 90th anniversary of founding with a morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. with Bishop Henry Schulte guest minister. A barbecue chicken dinner was served at noon and at 2 p.m. a Service of Praise and Thanksgiving was held when greetings from former pastors and special guests were heard. A reception followed the afternoon services.

Compiled by Carl & Leonora Wolf from Historical Data  
by Velma Marek, Archivist for First Lutheran Church, Gonzales, Texas

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# New Bern church site to get marker

By ALMA LEE HOLMAN  
Staff Writer

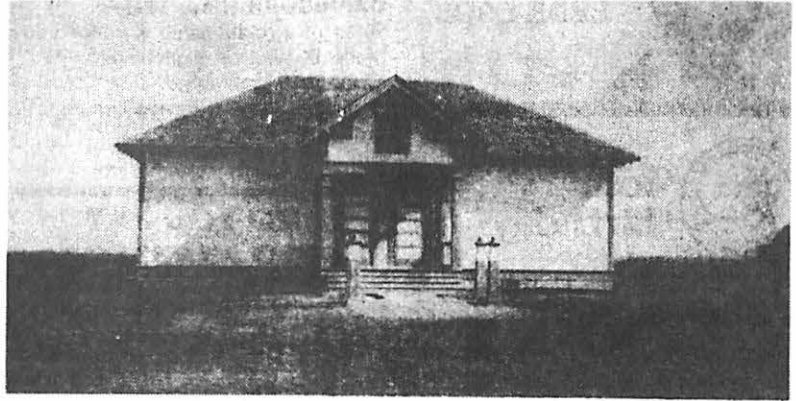
Buildings come and go, but memories last for generations.

Memories of the old New Bern Lutheran Church will be revived on Sunday, April 17, 1994. At 3 p.m. on that day descendants of the original members of that church will gather to dedicate an historical marker, honoring their forebears and the ethics which they passed to the present generation.

The marker is to be placed on the grounds of the original church and school, just off FM 414, a spot now used as a pasture.

Small groups of early settlers in Williamson County found transportation both inconvenient, and very slow. Instead of having to drive their carriages or wagons several miles just to get to church, they preferred to build more churches. Such was the thinking of the early New Bern area settlers. In 1892, St. John Lutheran church of New Bern was organized.

A building, to be used as a church and as a school, was erected by Herman Schoner and Ludwig Fuessel. When the Rev.



THE OLD SCHOOL building also once sat at the marker site.

F. Ernst accepted a call to be the minister of the church, a parsonage was built across the county road that ran by the church. For a few years, a small cemetery was also on the land where the parsonage was located. In later years, the cemetery was located next to the church building, according to members

of this generation of former New Bern residents.

As population increased, and as travel became easier, the St. John members decided to join with members of St. James Lutheran Church located in the Wuthrich Hill area. In 1947 the

Please see CHURCH, Back page

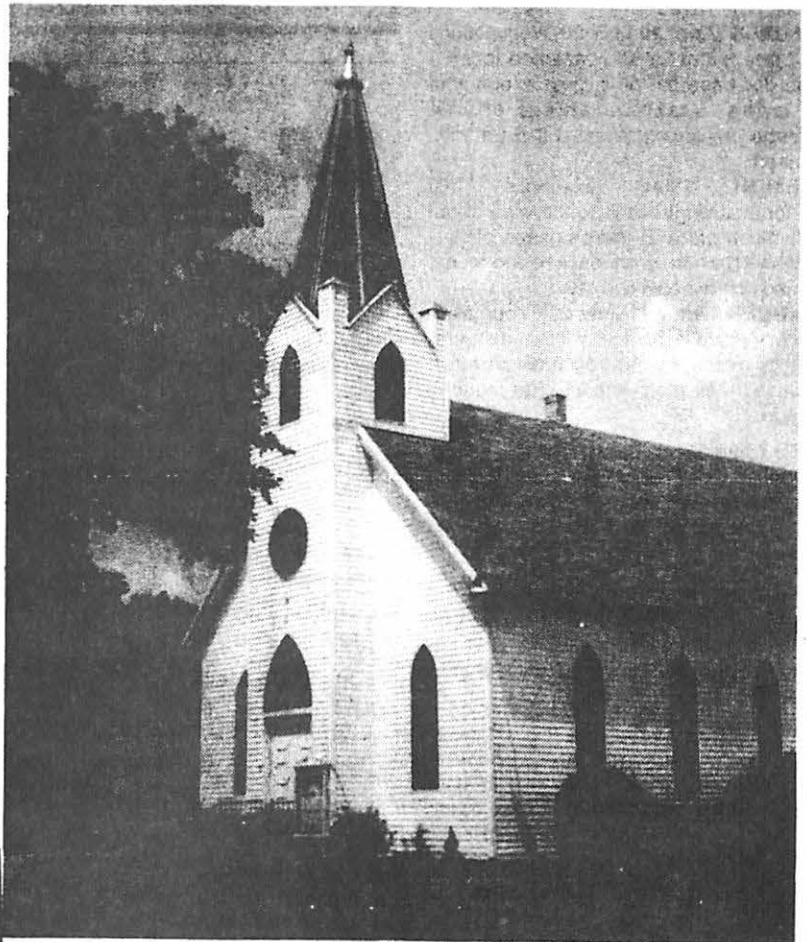
## Church from page 1

combined membership of the two congregations chose Prince of Peace as the name of the resulting church. Even the building from New Bern was moved to the Wuthrich Hill location in 1949.

But old associations kept alive the memory of the church where their parents and grandparents worshiped.

The April 17 ceremonies serve to honor that memory, and family members and friends are invited to attend the service at the original location of the church.

Cecil Remmert will welcome the worshipers and Helen Stauffer will tell the history of the group and its current standing. The Rev. Mariola Berquist, pastor, will preach and lead the worship.



THE CHURCH BUILDING was moved to what is now the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at Wuthrich Hill.

## LOCAL &amp; STATE

# Volunteers search for grave markers

## Historic cemetery holds remains of Civil War soldier

BY DOUGLAS FREELANDER  
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

① Samuel Timothy Lewis ran away from home to fight in the Civil War. He armed Confederate gunboats. He battled Yankee raiders. He guarded federal prisoners at Andersonville. He escaped being wounded.

Lewis, who settled in Houston in the early 1900s, died in February 1923 and was buried in Washington Cemetery, one of the city's oldest graveyards. He is one of the vast army of unknown soldiers who deserve recognition — who deserve at the least a marker at their graves.

But he may never receive that distinction because his grave has yet to be found.

Lewis is not alone. His small plot is among nearly 2,000 whose original markers no longer exist or are underground. Some of the graves may not be marked at all. But the names of the dead buried there are recorded in the cemetery's books.

The 106-year-old cemetery at 2911 Washington presents a monumental challenge that is being accepted by a group of volunteers who periodically search for markers.

The organized searches started last summer and take place twice a year. Thus far, 321 graves have been identified.

The search is confined to the small, Strangers' Rest area, where all the unidentified plots are situated. The cemetery covers 21 acres and contains nearly 7,000 graves.

"We literally go around with metal probes and jab them in the ground every two inches," said Bernice Mistrot, secretary-treasurer of the Washington Cemetery Historic Trust.

③ uncovered in the area where Lewis is supposed to be buried are way out of sequence.

"He's here somewhere," Marek said. "But even as we uncover the other ones, it's rewarding."

Lewis, born in Columbus, Ga., joined the war effort as a naval machinist, arming Confederate gunboats. In March and April 1865, as a private under Col. Tom Moore, he fought against Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson's raiders as they captured cities in Alabama and Georgia. He also was assigned special duty guarding Union prisoners at Andersonville.

As with Lewis' vanished grave, if visitors find themselves on green grass, they are most likely standing over coffins. With the exception of some family plots, the cemetery is full.

What was once a small green field turned out to be a special section set aside for dead babies. These touching markers nestled relatively

“The grave of baby Ethel Smiley, who only lived a week, is marked. A year ago, she was just green grass.”

— Bernice Mistrot

close to each other were recently unearthed by Mistrot's volunteers.

Mistrot walked over and stood on a patch of grass that covers the coffin of J.I. Butts — as his name is recorded.

"It's right here, more or less," she said. "I could be standing on Mr. Julian Irving Butts."

Butts, who was born in England, was a tugboat engineer who shipped out of Galveston. He was 46 when he died in 1892 of complications from asthma.

His whereabouts were re-

This cemetery was founded in 1887 as the Deutsche Gesellschaft Cemetery. All records were kept in German until 1903. The name was changed to Washington Cemetery in 1918.

② "We literally go around with metal probes and jab them in the ground every two inches," said Bernice Mistrot, secretary-treasurer of the Washington Cemetery Historic Trust.

"Sometimes we find only a pot shard. Some numbers are missing or chipped off. We found one marker that was blank. We don't know who's buried there. We'll never know."

In addition, fallen headstones have been moved to other parts of the cemetery for various reasons.

Other headaches: Some headstones bear names that are different from cemetery records, and some markers were numbered sequentially but planted yards away from rows they should have been set in.

At the request of Patricia Marek of Austin, Mistrot is trying to find Lewis, a Confederate veteran who died 70 years ago at the age of 77.

Marek, Lewis' great-granddaughter, wants to mark his grave with an official veteran's marker.

Marek, 58, who first joined the search last fall, spent a recent Saturday unearthing markers, but none of them were engraved with Lewis' recorded number, 688. The difficulty is that all the markers

④ Butts, who was born in England, was a tugboat engineer who shipped out of Galveston. He was 46 when he died in 1892 of complications from asthma.

His whereabouts were requested recently by his 70-year-old granddaughter, Edith Buescher of Houston. Buescher has visited the plot and plans to place a headstone on the grave.

"What they're doing is really a fine, fine thing," she said.

Mistrot said Butts' gravesite is the first discovery that resulted from an inquiry.

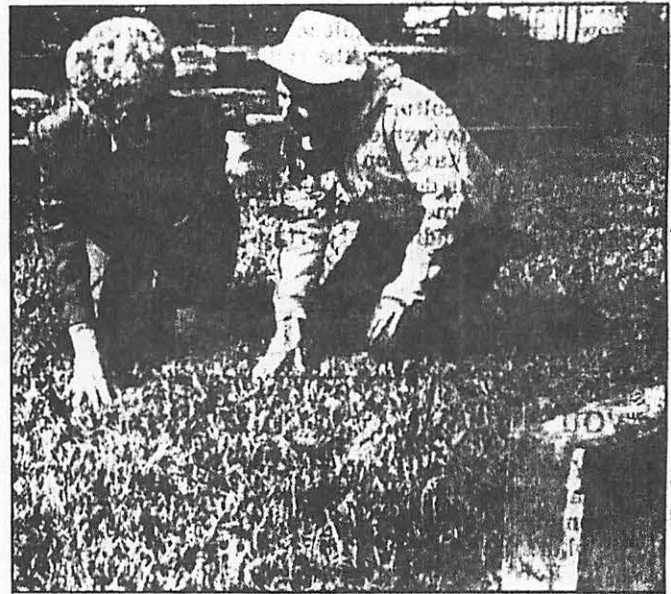
Then Mistrot strolled over to the restored plot of a baby who died in December 1919.

"The grave of baby Ethel Smiley, who only lived a week, is marked," she said, emphasizing the word. "A year ago, she was just green grass."

When a grave is identified, the cemetery obtains a death certificate bearing the correct name. Then a small plastic nameplate is affixed to the marker.

Mistrot has no idea how long the search will continue. She speculated it could be finished in a year with at least 10 people working every weekend.

She welcomes donations and materials for the project and invited anyone wishing to join her work force to call 591-6282 or 531-1956.



King Chou Wong/The Houston Post  
Edith Buescher, left, and Bernice Mistrot visit the grave of Julian Irving Butts, Buescher's grandfather. The grave was located during a recent search of Washington Cemetery.

North Texas/Midline/North Park

# This Weekend

Houston Chronicle  
Saturday,  
Nov. 13, 1993  
Zone S4

## Scouts help mark history in cemetery

By ROY DURRENBERGER  
ThisWeekend Correspondent

Six members of Brownie Girl Scout Troop 10435 learned a bit of history recently, while they were helping identify and mark some grave sites in the 106-year-old Washington Cemetery at 2911 Washington Ave.

The volunteer work was part of the troop's community service work conducted on Oct. 23, the date unofficially known as "Make a Difference Day," a concerted community-driven effort in many neighborhoods throughout the nation.

Coordinated by the Washington Cemetery Historic Trust group, a volunteer corps of six Brownie scouts and 23 adult volunteers kicked off what members of the cemetery trust group hope is an ongoing volunteer-driven effort to eventually identify and mark about 7,000 grave sites in the Washington Cemetery.

The volunteers concentrated on identifying marking and moving up markers in a section known as "Strangers' Rest," that contains about

See GRAVES on Page 3.

## Graves

Continued from Page 1.

2,000 grave sites. About 5,000 people are buried in the family section of the cemetery.

In order to find some of the graves in the "Strangers' Rest" section, the girls had to probe across approximately 1.2 acres at the back of the cemetery.

The twelve grave sites were identified but the girls had to find out where they were," said Bernice Mistrot, secretary/treasurer, Washington Cemetery Historic Trust group. "It was like a treasure hunt for the girls. Once they located a grave site, the girls cleared the ground and grass away from it and brushed dirt off the markers."

After the girls found the grave sites, they attached plastic identification tags to concrete markers designating the sites. Some of the markers were buried as deep as eight inches.

"The girls put names and dates on the 12 graves that have been un-

marked since about 1920," said Mistrot.

In addition to finding and marking the 12 grave sites that had been identified, the girls unearthed three markers that had not been identified, scrubbed some markers to brighten them up and did some gravestone rubbings. The rubbings entailed placing thin paper over the grave stones and then rubbing the paper with the side of a crayon to copy the writing from the tombstones on the paper.

"The cemetery historian talked with the girls about the people who were buried in the cemetery," said Donna Davis, service project leader, Brownie Scout Troop No. 10435. "The girls were so excited about searching for grave sites that they didn't want to stop looking for them."

The historian concentrated on explaining to the girls that many infants who are buried in the cemetery died because medical advances that people take for granted now were yet to be discovered then.

Documented burials in the cemetery, which was founded by German

immigrants in 1887, include 105 Confederate veterans, 11 Union veterans and veterans from all of the United States' conflicts from the Civil War through Vietnam.

"I liked going around hunting for different graves," said Niki Davis, one of the Brownie Scout volunteers. "It made me feel good to help. I also learned about how the people who were buried in the cemetery died and what their lives were like."

The Washington Cemetery Historic Trust group plans to sponsor more weekend grave site searches and identification sessions. When a grave site that has been identified is unearthed, the markers are cast in cement to prevent them from sinking in the ground.

To date, more than 25 percent of the grave sites in the "Strangers' Rest" section have been identified and "virtually all" of the sites in the family section have been identified and located, said Mistrot.

For further information about the Washington Cemetery or to find out when volunteers will be helping identify grave sites next, call 591-2362.

JH

# Germanic matriculation registers

Universität, Gymnasium, and Technischen Hochschule

Matrikeln, a progress report, February 1993

By JOHN D. MOVIVS

*This report covers Germanic material extracted from an ongoing research project to locate and list copies of all European matriculation registers in America. The archive location and call numbers are also being tabulated as a finding aid. Publication of a monograph is planned at a future date.*

Germanic genealogy is based upon civil records and church books (Kirchenbüchen) as primary sources of vital data. Yet most civil records in Germany date back only to the 1800s. Church books are seldom found before 1700, especially in Pomerania, as more than 3,000 churches and their records were burned as fighting raged throughout Pomerania during the Thirty Years War (1618-1648). For example, although the 20-page church history of Kirch-Baggendorf, dated 1540 A.D., has survived, the oldest church book there dates from 1700 A.D.

But matriculation registers (*Matrikeln*) for Germanic universities have survived the ravages of war, fire, and the passage of time. Matriculation registers are entrance logs of students in schools of higher education. Some date to the late 14th or early 15th century. The oldest found so far is a two and one-half century record of German students at Bologna University, starting in 1289 A.D.

Matriculation registers are unusual and important secondary sources for late medieval, reformation, and renaissance era genealogy. Their existence is not well known to genealogists. They can identify persons entering colleges of law, medicine or theology. They can also be used in transliteration research for some surnames.

Finding these book sets is not always easy. My first challenge was to determine if a set of matriculation registers is available. Some were reprinted during the last century by Kraus Reprints Division of Kraus Thomson Nendeln and others. The next step was to locate a set at an American library and to arrange to borrow the full set of volumes through interlibrary loan, or to visit a library that holds these records. Incomplete or non-indexed sets do exist. Such sets complicated my research task. They, as well as the complete sets, need to be translated from Latin.

The search began more than a year ago at UC Davis' Peter J. Shields Library with the

discovery of matriculation registers from Greifswald and Rostock, the two oldest universities in northern Europe. Several generations of my ancestors were law professors at Greifswald. They also lived at Stargard and other Pomeranian cities of the Hanseatic League (*Hansastädte*), including Stettin and Stralsund.

Matriculation registers proved my ancestors were much more mobile than I had imagined. For example, as early as 1550, Thomas MEVIUS of Stargard spent a year at Bologna University in Italy, probably teaching law. Avoiding the Thirty Years War at home, David MEVIUS of Greifswald was a law student at Leiden University in the Netherlands in 1633. In 1733, Dominic MEVIUS of Parma, Italy (then controlled by Austria), was attending Frankfurt an der Oder University, east of Berlin.

## Matriculation register contents

Each matriculation register lists students by entrance date (day, month, year) in chronological order, giving this information: surname, village of origin (and the birthplace if different), province, country (if the student was a foreigner), and notes concerning students' entry status and tuition payments. The register also lists the faculty and sometimes summarizes events of the academic year. On the accompanying Table I, the birth year is estimated by the "rule of 17" — subtraction of 17 from the matriculation year for a 17-year-old student. This was the normal age at which students began their academic lives.

It is not uncommon to find a pauper accepted *gratis* on the recommendation of his pastor or patron, attesting to the fact that ability to pay tuition was not always an ironclad prerequisite for university entrance. Students from poor families were accepted under certain conditions.

## Indexes

Reflecting Germanic thoroughness, extensive double and triple indexes (see the three kinds of indexes listed below) often rival the chronological register in size. Put together, the first five volumes from Rostock University's matriculation register are five inches thick. Volumes 6 and 7 (titled "registers"; that is, indexes) are three and one-half inches thick altogether.

♦ *Personnenregister*: Here students are listed with village name and sometimes with registration number or matriculation year. Alphabetizing can vary between the standard A to Z method and a



Germanic concept that combines phonetically equivalent letters (B and P; C and K; I, J, and Y; and W and V are examples).

♦*Ortsregister*: The place name is given in both Latin and German, from which the latinized village and province name can be decoded. Ex-

amples of Latin place names include, Cauenensis = Cauen/Kaunas (Lithuania); Leontinus Marchias = Löwenberg, Mark (Brandenburg); Polonus = Poland; Sedinensis = Stettin; Zanea Pomeranus = Zanow/Sanow Pomerania.

**Table I: Germanic Matrikel Registers in the United States**

(As of 31 Dec 1992)

Universität Code	Library Location (See Table II)
A = Altdorf Universität (1575-1809) <sup>m</sup> ; (1623-1807).....	[O;DD]
Ba = Deutsche Studenten @ Università di Bologna (1289-1562).....	[A]
Bb = Bistums Bamberg (1400-1556).....	[F;H;DD]
Bg = Bamberg Akademie und Universität (1648-1803).....	[E;DD]
Br = Collegium Carolinum und der Technischen Hochschule Carolo-Wilhelmina zu Braunschweig (1745-1900).....	[H]
Cg = Gymnasium Casimirianum Academicum zu Coberg (1606-1803).....	[A;DD]
Di = Dillingen Universität (1551-1802) <sup>m</sup> ; (1551-1645).....	[DD-no index]
Df = Freiherrliche v. Fletcherschen Seminars zu Dresden (1825-1925).....	[DD-no index]
Dn = Gymnasium zum Heiligen Kreuz, Dresden (1639-1848).....	[C;F;DD]
Du = Universität Duisburg (1652-1818).....	[DD]
Eb = Gymnasiums zu Elhing (1598-1786).....	[DD]
EI = Elsassische Studenten in Heidelberg und Bologna.....	[DD]
Er = Erfurter Universität (1390-1636)..... Protestantisch Theol. (1631-1648) <sup>m</sup>	[A;DD-no index]
✓ Fo = Frankfurt an der Oder Universität (1506-1545) <sup>m</sup> ; (1546-1811)..... (1649-1811).....	[DD-no index] [A]
Fr = Universität Freiburg im Breisgau (1457-1806).....	[H]
Fs = Konviktooren des Papsdlichen Seminars in Fulda (1584-1773).....	[DD]
✓ Gl = Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen (1608-1945).....[U]; (1608-1957)..... (1608-1707).....	[U]; [DD-no index]
Gö = G.-August-Universität zu Göttingen (1737-1837).....[C;F;DD]; (1838-1900).....	[C]
Gr = Greifswald Universität (1456-1700).....	[A;DD]
Hg = Ruperts-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (1386-1916).....	[O]
HI = Universität Helmstedt (1575-1809).....[C;H]; (1685-1810).....	[DD]
Hn = Herborn Universität (1584-1653) <sup>m</sup> ; (1654-1817).....	[DD]
Hr = Polytechnischen Schule/Technischen Hochschule zu Hannover (1831-1911).....	[C]
It = Ingolstadt Universität (1472-1872).....	[DD]
J = Friedrich-Schiller-Universität zu Jena (1548-1764).....	[K;DD]
Kg = Albertus-Universität zu Königsberg (1544-1829).....[A]; (1829-1945) <sup>m</sup>	
KI = Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (1655-1865).....	[C;D;DD]
Kn = Universität zu Köln (1388-1797).....[C;E;H]; (1389-1745).....	[DD]
Ko = Königlichen Friedrichs-Kollegiums zu Königsberg (1698-1898).....	[DD]
Kz = Universität Konstanz (? - ?).....	[O]
Li = Karl-Marx-Universität Leipzig (1409-1559).....[E;DD];(1559-1664;1709-1809).....	[DD]
Lu = Ritterakademie zu Luneburg (1656-1850).....	[C;H;DD]
Ma = Phillips-Universität Marburg (1527-1652).....[DD]; (1653-1830) <sup>m</sup> (1527-1910 - Lehrers = teachers).....	[DD]
Mg = Universität Gießen und Marburg (1605-1774).....	[DD]
Me = Hochstifts Merseburg (1469-1558).....	[F]
Mw = Wilhelmsgymnasiums in München (1561-1859).....	[DD]
Ot = Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gymnasiums in Osterode Ostprussia (1877-1945).....	[DD]
Pa = Universität Paderborn (1614-1844).....	[DD]
RJ = Rinteln Universität (1619-1809).....	[DD]
✓ Ro = Wilhelm-Pieck-Universität Rostock (1419-1831).....	[A;E;DD]
Sa = Salzburg Universität (1623-1639) <sup>m</sup> ; (1639-1810).....	[U]
Sg = Herzog-Wolfgang-Gymnasium zu Speyer (1631-1811).....	[C;H]
Sp = Gymnase Protestant Strasbourg (1621-1732).....[DD]; (1737-1880).....	[DD]
Sr = Strassburg Universität (1621-1793).....[A;DD]; (1872-1918) <sup>m</sup>	
Tü = Universität Tübingen (1477-1877).....[O]; (1600-1817).....	[DD]
Wd = Gymnasium Windsheim (1678-1887).....	[C;J;DD]
Wh = Martin-Luther Universität zu Halle-Wittenberg (1502-1814).....	[U;V]
Wt = Academie Vitebergensis [Wittenberg] (1502-1602).....[DD]; (1660-1710) <sup>m</sup>	
Wü = Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (1582-1831).....	[C;H;DD-no index]

♦ **Sachregister:** This is a useful subject index. Here I learned that Thomas Balthasar MEVIUS, a Greifswald University student, was killed in a duel with a Rostock University student on 04 December 1685.

**Current status of the research**

Germanic matriculation registers for at least 49 universities and gymnasiums are known to exist in the United States. (See Table 1.) Matriculation registers for another 46 universities elsewhere in Europe have also been found in America. So far more than 83 citations of my surname are found at 11 German universities through 1869. In the 16th century, at least 11 students with my surname entered 5 universities.

Table III illustrates matriculation register information available and one way of reporting such findings. By the end of the Thirty Years War, 38 students with the MOVIVS surname are recorded as having entered 6 universities. During the 17th century, 63 entered 9 universities.

**Archival Sources**

One task of this project is to tabulate the location of all United States libraries known to hold copies of matriculation registers. A next step for me will be to tabulate, as a finding aid, library call numbers, which can vary from one library to another.

**United States locations**

There are at least 12 locations of matriculation registers in the United States. The largest

collection of Germanic sets (39) are at the Family History Library at Salt Lake City, but 6 of these have no indexes. The University of California library system has 37 Germanic matriculation register sets, with 16 at UC Berkeley, 9 at UC Davis, and 8 at UCLA. Stanford University has 4 sets. (See Table II.) More will certainly be found as the search continues.

**Table II: U.S. Libraries with Matrikel Registers**

Library Code	U.S. Library Name and Acronym (Total Holdings Listed by Library)	
[A]	UC Davis Main (Shields) Library [UCD], Davis CA	(9)
[C]	UC Berkeley Main Library [UCB], Berkeley CA	(11)
[D]	UC Berkeley Bancroft Library [UCBB], Berkeley CA	(1)
[E]	UC Berkeley Law Library [UCBL], Berkeley CA	(4)
[F]	UC Northern Reg. Library Facility [NRLF] Richmond CA	(4)
[H]	UCLA Research Library [URL], LA CA	(8)
[J]	UC Southern Regional Library Facility [SRLF], LA CA	(1)
[K]	UC Irvine Library [UCI], Irvine CA	(1)
[O]	Stanford University Green Library [SG], Stanford CA	(4)
[U]	Harvard U. Widener Library [HW], Cambridge MA	(3)
[V]	Harvard U. Andover Theology Library [HA], Andover MA	(1)
[DD]	Family History Library [FHL], Salt Lake City UT	(39)
[86]	Not yet found in U.S., search in progress.	

**Access to matriculation registers and indexes**

Most sets at United States university libraries (except those at UC Berkeley Law Library) are available through interlibrary loan at public libraries. Many sets at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City have been microfilmed and are thus available through all Family History Centers.

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**Table III Selected 16th Century Matrikel Listings  
From 83 Listings of MAEVIUS, MEVIUS, MOEVIUS, and MOVIVS as of 23 Dec 1992**

Entrance Date	Name	Estimated Birth year	Village, province	Universität Code (Table I)
29 Apr 1555	Joachimus Maeivus (b 1538?)		Stercardensis - Stargard, Pomerania (Vol. 1, 302b, line 8)	Wv.
1560	Thomas Movius (b 1543?)		Stargardiensis - Stargard, Pomerania (Vol. 32, pg 163b, lines 29-30) - medicine or law?	Fo.
16 Jul 1560	Thomas Maeivus (b 1529?)		I.U.D., professor of law at Greifswald U. (Vol. 52, pg 260, lines 34-35)	Gr.
17 Nov 1562	Joachim Meivus (b 1545?)		Lic jur. Wappen m. Lehenart, Frankfurt	Ro.
1566	Georgius Movius (b 1551?)		Stargardius (Vol. 52, pg 290a, lines 22-23) - Stargard, Pomerania - theology or law?	Gr.

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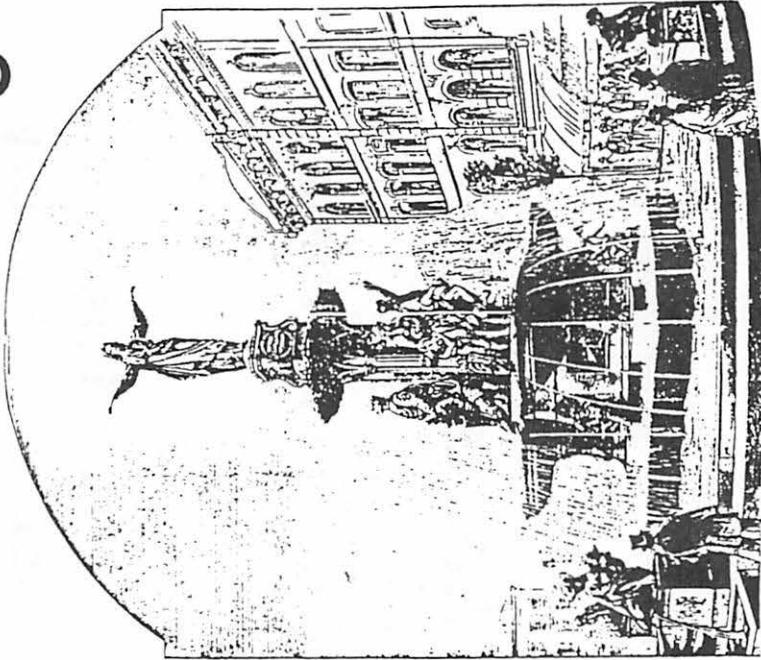
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## THE AUTHOR -- THE BOOK

Everett Anthony Fey was born in Solms, Texas July 14, 1936 in his grandparent's home. He attended school at Saints Peter & Paul in New Braunfels and graduated in 1950. He entered St. John's Seminary in San Antonio, continued his education at Assumption Seminary and was ordained a priest in May 1962. In 1970 Mr. Fey married Josephine Sosa. They have two daughters, Christina Marie and Janice Angela. The idea for the book began over five years ago. Mr. Fey, having just completed a book on the Fey genealogy had amassed a vast amount of information on descendants of the founders of New Braunfels. Much of it did not directly relate to his genealogy although it was exceedingly interesting to him.

He thought it would be a worthwhile effort to expand the material into a book about the founders of New Braunfels. As time passed he mentioned his desires to others in the Sophienburg Museum & Archives and the Comal County Genealogy Society. He quickly began receiving support in the amount of thousands of manhours. After several years of searching & compiling, Mr. Fey settled on limiting his work to the founders who arrived in New Braunfels as part of the "Prince Carl of Solms Braunfels Era". Carl left New Braunfels on May 15, 1845. Mr. Fey decided that July 31, 1845 should be the cut-off, as a lull in arrivals came at that time. Therefore the book was named "New Braunfels: The First Founders". To be sure, there were many more founders who came under the auspice of the "Society for the protection of German Emigrants in Texas" but the line had to be drawn in the interest of a reasonable sized book or in this case set of books. The result is a beautifully written two volume set of books documenting the trip to and building of New Braunfels by the first 502 "souls" and their descendants through three subsequent generations.

SH

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## Recent Publications

Royden K. Loewen, *Family, Church and Market. A Mennonite Community in the Old and the New Worlds, 1850-1930* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1993), Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island series, 370 pp. ISBN 0-252-01980-6, hard- or paper back, \$42.50/\$17.95 (Footnotes, bibliography, index, 5 maps, 15 photos.) About the 900 Mennonites who trekked from the Molotschna and Chortiza colonies which before 1941 clustered roughly around the west of Zaporozhye, then called Alexandrovsk [Chortiza] in the Province of Ekaterinoslav in the North, and northeast of Melitopol — northwest of Berdiansk in the Province of Taurida in the South [Molotschna], both named after the rivers in that area, and both north of the Crimean Peninsula. The book focuses on the "Kleine Gemeinde," a small congregation who departed specifically the Borosenko Colony [straight west of Chortiza] representing 1/15th of the roughly 15,000 Mennonite Russian immigrants to North America during the 1870s, for Steinbach [Manitoba] and Jansen [Nebraska]. Re-settlers from Molotschna, the K.G. Congregation in 1861 acquired lands from Count Borso when Russia freed the serfs in 1861, rendering many a nobleman incapable of farming his lands and thus willing to dispose of it to enterprising German settlers in the region. Also shows how the immigrants devised strategies to maintain their social and cultural structures in a changing society of the New World. A very well-developed microstudy of an immigrant group. Must reading for students of the Russian-German experience.

Lothar Bredella, ed., *Mediating a Foreign Culture: The United States and Germany. Studies in Intercultural Understanding* (Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 1991). 167 pp. in English, ISBN 3-8233-4356-4. Revised papers that were presented at a conference on "The Role of Media in German-American Relations" at Gießen in late 1989. Touches on rhetoric, stereotypes, anti-Americanism, irreverent soap opera images, American film mania for World War II, and how it reflects America's own self-image and myth. A salient question: Can a rattle snake help but poison those it bites? Can a World War II German possibly

be a human being? The American way — always the right way? Worthwhile topics about American mass culture with reference to Germany and the Germans.

Bruce Levine, "The Migration of Ideology and the Contested Meaning of Freedom: German-Americans in the Mid-Nineteenth Century," and Hartmut Keil, "Continuity and Change in the Transfer of Ideologies" (Washington D.C. German Historical Institute, 1992) *Occasional Paper No. 7*. Perceptive analysis of the German 48er ideology about American *liberty*: The right of each man to do as one pleases? Or the right for some men to do as they please with other men and their labor? In the end, it may well have been that slavery and its abolition were the crucial issues that forced German immigrants to participate in American politics and in turn to integrate into American society, being genuinely accepted as citizens, despite their enormous numbers which potentially might have led to continued xenophobic rejection of the Germans.

## Recent Dissertations in the German-American Studies Field

Sylvia Dawn Aruffo, "An Ethnolinguistic Analysis of Certain Conflicting Assumptions in Negotiations for Technology Transfer Between Germany and the United States," 2 vols. Northwestern University, 1992, 427 pp. Language, linguistics, business administration, management, anthropology, culture. *DAI* Dec. 1992, p. 1885.

Fred M. Schied, "Towards a Reconceptualization of the Historical Foundations of Adult Education: the Contributions of Radical German-Americans to Workers' Education (Socialism)," Northern Illinois University, 1991, 246 pp. Education, adult and continuing; education, history. *DAI* Feb. 1992, p. 2791

Mark Louis Kleinman, "Approaching Opposition: Henry A. Wallace, Reinhold Niebuhr and the Emergence of American Liberal Internationalism," University of California, Los Angeles, 1991, 472 pp. History, United States, modern. *DAI* Mar. 1992, p. 3404.

Susanne Mosteller Rolland, "From the Rhine to the Catawba: A Study of Eighteenth Century Germanic Migration and Adaptation (Immigration)," Emory University, 1991, 493 pp. History, United States, American Studies, Sociology, Ethnic and Racial Studies. *DAI* June 1992, p. 4451.

Thomas Fuchs, "Henry Villard: A Citizen of Two Worlds," University of Oregon, 1991, 488 pp. United States history, biography. German-born lawyer and builder of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which was ceremoniously completed in 1883. *DAI* Mar. 1992, p. 3402.

Susan Bacilek Cannariato, "Recursive Time in the Works of Louis Erdrich," University of Houston, 1991, 127 pp. Literature, American. *DAI* Summer 1992, p. 217.

Suzanne Gail Snyder, "The 'Maennerchor' Tradition in the United States: A Historical Analysis of its Contribution to American Musical Culture," University of Iowa, 1991, 591 pp. Music; history, United States; sociology, ethnic and racial studies. *DAI* June 1992, p. 4142.

Karen Erika Donfried, "The Political Economy of Alliance: Issue Linkage in the West German-American Relationship," Fletcher School of Law and

Diplomacy (Tufts University) 1991, 452 pp. Political Science, International Law and Relations; History, European. *DAI* Oct. 1991, p. 1508.

Peter Frank Freeouf, "Religion and Dialect: Catholic and Lutheran Dialects in the German of Dubois County, Indiana (Roman Catholic)," Indiana University, 1990, 380 pp. Language, Linguistics. *DAI* Nov. 1990, p. 1595.

Russel Duane Van Wyk, "German-American Relations in the Aftermath of the Great War: Diplomacy, Law, and the Mixed Claims Commission, 1922-1939 (World War I)," University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1989, 424 pp. History, European. *DAI* Apr. 1990, p.3337.

Stephen Douglas Engle, "Yankee Dutchman: A Biography of Franz Sigel (German)," Florida State University, 1989, 360 pp. History, United States; History, European; Biography. *DAI* Sept. 1989, p. 779.

Brent Orlyn Peterson, "Popular Narratives and the Constitution of Ethnic Identity: Literature and Community in 'Die Abendschule,'" University of Minnesota, 1989, pp 297. Literature, Germanic *DAI* Nov. 1989, p. 1317.

Miles David Samson, "German-American Dialogues and the Modern Movement Before the 'Design Migration,'" Harvard University, 1988, 688 pp. Architecture; American Studies; History, Modern. *DAI* Aug. 1989, p. 278.

Robert Wayne McDaniel, "Muenster, Texas: A Centennial History," University of North Texas, 1988, 144 pp. History, United States. *MAI* Summer 1989, p. 206.

Thomas Reimer, "Ethnicity in Albany, New York, 1888-1908," State University of New York at Albany, 1988, 139 pp. History, United States; Sociology, Ethnic and Racial Studies. *MAI* Spring 1991, p. 43.

Thomas Joseph Ferraro, "Ethnic Passages: The Mobility Narratives of Yezierska, Miller, Puzo, and Kingston," Yale University, 1988, pp. 307. Literature, American; Sociology, Ethnic and Racial Studies. *DAI* May 1990, p. 3587.

Theodorus Franciscus Verheyen, "Foreign Policy Culture: Germany and the United States in Historical and Comparative Perspective," University of California, Berkeley, 1988, 457 pp. Political Science, International Law and Relations. *DAI* May 1989, p. 3500.

Paul J. Zbiek, "Ethnicity, Assimilation and Community Development in a Rural Society: Eastern Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, 1815-1870," Kent State University, 1987, 284 pp. History, United States. *DAI* Mar. 1988, p. 2437.

Susan Canedy Clark, "America's Nazis: The German American Bund," Texas A&M University, 1987, 217 pp. History, United States. *DAI* June 1988, p. 3182.

Janet Marilyn Manson, "Unrestricted Submarine Warfare. The Change in U.S. Policy, and German-American Relations, 1939-1941 (United States)," 1987, 323 pp. History, United States. *DAI* Feb. 1988, p. 2149.

### Society for German-American Studies Newsletter

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# German-American Reading: *The Brewer's Star*

by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann

MHC

THE AMBASSADOR, SPRING 1994

*The Brewer's Star* by Paula Weber is an excellent new novel about the German-Americans of San Antonio, Texas. Although not an historical work, it is a novel set within the framework of German-American history. Moreover, it "weaves together the lives of fictional characters against a backdrop of city, state, and national historical events and places."

The novel, although in English, includes a liberal sprinkling of German in two variants, High German and Bayrisch, the latter of which reflects the Bavarian origins

of the author. The novel deals with a Bavarian beer brewer, Richard Kaempff, "a strong-willed, self-made millionaire determined to make his mark on America," and his wife, Charlotte, "a beautiful self-centered soprano unwilling to fit into the staid, conventional mold of wealthy society matron."

Paula Weber's novel takes place in the time period from the 1880s through the early 1900s, and follows the life of this German-American couple against the Texan panorama of the San Antonio German community. The book is deserving of a

wide reading audience - how many novels are there which deal with German-American life? Not only are there few, they are extremely rare. If the book is not available at your local library, ask the librarian if a copy could be ordered. Also, order one for yourself, so that the next time you sit down to read a novel, it will be a German-American one.

*The Brewer's Star* is available from: Bavarian Books, 1435 Church Hill Place, Reston, VA 22094-1232. Telephone: 703-904-0677 Price: \$18.95

## Auch Bodenwerder erinnert gern an Baron Münchhausen

LM

CALIFORNIA STAAT-ZEITUNG, 23 APR. 1994

**E**rritt auf einer Kanonenkugel, fing einen Bären mittels Honig und Wagendeichsel, ließ sich von ein paar Enten, aufgeleitet an einer Hundeleine, nach Hause fliegen — wer kennt ihn nicht, jenen kalt- und blaublütigen Abenteurer, den keine noch so heikle Situation in Verlegenheit bringen konnte.

Fast 250 Jahre sind sie alt, die Geschichten des Freiherrn Hyronymus von Münchhausen, und immer noch machen seine unglaublichen Erzählungen die Runde. Sie hatten ihm schon zu Lebzeiten den Namen „Lügenbaron“ eingetragen, was er mit großem Unwillen zur Kenntnis nahm. Dabei hatte das, was er zum Besten gab, zunächst den Zweck, Aufschneidern das Maul zu stopfen. Er erzählte, nachdem ein Angeber seine Story beendet hatte, eine „Begebenheit“, die so ungeheuerlich war, daß Münchhausen die Lacher, die verstanden, was er damit bezwecken wollte, auf seine Seite brachte. Die auf diese Weise Bloßgestellten mögen sich mit hochroten Köpfen verdrückt haben. Möglicherweise entdeckte der Baron bei solchen Gelegenheiten seine Fabulierkunst.

Auf seinem eher bescheiden zu nennenden Gut in Bodenwerder an der Weser war er mit der Bewirtschaftung seiner Ländereien voll- und beschäftigt. War allerdings auch täglich konfrontiert mit der

kleinstädtischen Enge und deren Beschränktheit. Und das ihm, dem weltgewandten Edelmann, der in russischen Diensten als Offizier unter Prinz Anton Ulrich von Braunschweig wider das türkische Heer focht. Als er dann als Rittmeister und wegen seiner Tapferkeit hochdekoriert den Abschied nahm, waren militärische Abenteuer wie auch andere für ihn vorbei.

Vielleicht war das für den mal gerade 30jährigen auch der Grund, einiges Erlebte in seiner Wiedergabe zu überhöhen, zu überziehen, — ja, zu Fabeln werden zu lassen, die zu keiner Zeit von keinem geglaubt wurden. Die aber Heiterkeit auslösten und Bewunderung. Dies vor allem für die Phantasie des Erzählers, der nicht müde wurde, immer wieder neue Begebenheiten preiszugeben.

Das tat Münchhausen stets nur in trautem Freundeskreis. Dann nämlich, wenn er seine fulminante Meerschampfeife in Brand gesetzt hatte und ein Glas dampfenden Punsch vor ihm stand. Pastor Cludius, der zu dieser Herrenrunde gehörte, schrieb darüber, daß der Baron seine Erzählungen „cavellierement, mit militärischem Nachdruck, aber mit der leichten Laune des Weltmannes zum Besten gegeben“ habe, „als Sachen, die sich schon von selbst verstehen“.

Dabei wurde von ihm nicht eine einzige Zeile niedergeschrieben. Nach neuesten Erkenntnissen war

es ein gewisser Rudolph Erich Raspe, ein deutscher Gelehrter, der in England lebte. Er übersetzte die „Münchhausiaden“ in die Sprache seiner Wahlheimat, wo sie bald zu Bestsellern wurden. Ob sich Raspe, der wegen einiger Unregelmäßigkeiten im Dienste des Landgrafen von Hessen auf die britische Insel floh, selbst unter den Zuhörern im Grottenhäuschen befand, oder ob er sie durch Dritte erfuhr, ist nicht sicher. Sicher aber ist, daß den Baron dieses Plagiat geärgert hat.

Im Münchhausenschen Herrenhaus in Bodenwerder wird die Erinnerung an den geistreichen Erfinder haarsträubender Geschichten wachgehalten. Der Museumsführer weiß alles über den einstigen Bewohner dieses Gemäuers. Besonders gern zeigt er den Besuchern die legendäre Pistole. Mit ihr habe der Fabulierer das Halfter seines Gauls durchschossen, als dieser hilflos an einem Kirchturm baumelte. Als er dann zu Boden geplumpst war, schwang sich der Schütze behend in dessen Sattel und ritt fröhlich davon, als sei nichts gewesen. Eine andere berittene Szene hat der Bildhauer Bruno Schmitz im Park vor dem Haus in Bronze nachgestellt. Sie zeigt den Rittmeister auf einem halben Pferd, das säuft und säuft ... Erlögen und gelögen ist auch diese Geschichte, Pardon! es wurde nur fabuliert —.

# The Knight's Wrath UM

DEUTSCHE WELT - USA JAN/FEB 1994

Götz von Berlichingen was surely a man with a fighting spirit, but he is remembered not so much for his heroic deeds.

Rather, Götz became (in)famous for his bawdy speech, and especially for one particularly wrathful statement: "Tell thine captain I ever have due respect for his Majesty the Emperor. But he, tell him, he can kiss my . . ." This, according to Goethe, was the reply Götz gave to a messenger sent by the imperial forces, who were besieging his castle and demanding his surrender.

So the famous quote goes back to Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. When, at the age of twenty-two, the great poet read the memoirs of Götz, he was fascinated by the story of one of the most noble of German knights, and it took him a mere six weeks to write his piece about the "Knight with the Iron Hand." The play opened in Berlin in 1774.

The scene is said to have played in Jagsthausen chateau near Heilbronn, where Götz was born in the year 1480 (day and month are unknown). Goethe's play has been reenacted annually at Jagsthausen for the past forty years. The poet wrote that Goetz von Berlichingen died at the age of 45, but though he took part in countless battles he actually lived to be eighty plus. Probably Götz did go to school, but he hardly developed a penchant for reading and writing. He loved horseman-

ship and wanted to become a man of action.

Already in his youth Götz participated in military campaigns, though not as a mercenary: von Berlichingen was always his emperor's loyal servant. During the 1504 siege of Landshut he was seriously injured: his right hand was torn off by a cannon ball. His fighting days seemed numbered, but Götz was not one to accept setbacks. A blacksmith fashioned an iron hand which the knight himself had designed.

Berlichingen, called "the Knight of the Iron Hand" ever after, could go off to do battle again. And the times offered ample opportunity. The Knight of Jagsthausen was highly respected at the royal court, but because he regarded his personal freedom as his highest good, he often came in conflict with authority. Despite his high position he fought on the side of the revolutionaries during the Peasants' Wars of 1524-25. For a time, and only reluctantly, he even became the leader of the rebellion, but was unable to gain control over the unruly mob.

Twice he was interned, and later placed under house arrest, being forbidden to leave the chateau at Hornberg which he had bought in 1517. More out of boredom than conviction he began to write his

memoirs, the ones which later inspired Goethe to write the Berlichingen play. Charles V released the knight and enlisted him in his army to fight against the Turks in 1542 and the French in 1544.

Götz died on 25 July 1562 at Hornsberg chateau by the Neckar River and was laid to rest in the cloister of Schöntal Abbey. Thus he was 82 years old, quite a ripe age in those days, especially for such an old warhorse.

Memories of Götz von Berlichingen are preserved in several places. For one, his birthplace, the Götzenburg in Jagsthausen near Heilbronn. The museum there has the original iron hand on display, and Goethe's play is performed in the castle courtyard throughout the summer months. There's also Hornberg castle on the Neckar, the ruins of the place where he spent many years of his life and where he died. And finally Schöntal Abbey in the Jagst valley, where one may see Götz's gravestone.

## Typescript of Heinrich Böll's First Novel To Be Sold at Auction UM

The original typescript of the unpublished first novel of writer Heinrich Böll, titled *Kreuz ohne Liebe* (Cross Without Love) is to be sold at auction in Berlin. Böll, the author of *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum* and *Group Portrait with Lady* and the winner of the 1972 Nobel Prize for literature, wrote the novel in 1946/47 but was unable to find a publisher for it. The existence of the manuscript was known in the German publishing world, but the executors of the Böll estate, who decide all questions of publications, had not released the work for sale. The executors include Böll's widow, Annemarie Böll, his sons René and Vincent, his nephew Victor and literary critic Heinrich Vormweg.

The 204-page manuscript of *Kreuz ohne Liebe*, adorned with many handwritten revisions, was typed either by Böll himself or his wife Annemarie and was submitted as an entry in a writing contest. The work, which tells the story of a builder and his family in Cologne during the prewar and war (World War II) years, was returned to the young author with the comment that although he showed some talent, it had not yet matured. At this, Böll gave the manuscript to his old school and army friend Ernst Adolf Kunz; it is his widow who is offering it at auction.

DEUTSCHE WELT - USA

JAN/FEB 1994

## Mostly Mozart Fest may be undone in 1995

■ New York

It could be curtains for the popular Mostly Mozart Festival after this summer, so far as Lincoln Center is concerned. Plans for the summer of 1995 were "up in the air," a spokeswoman for Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts said last week.

The New York Times reported the New York Philharmonic may take over some dates at Avery Fisher Hall from the festival in 1995 and may displace it entirely by 1996. Mostly Mozart is scheduled for its 28th season July 5-Aug. 20.

Lincoln Center spokeswoman Angela Duryea said the matter was under discussion. The Times said the motivation for the discussions was partly economic — the Philharmonic contract requires its musicians be paid year-round, even if no performances are scheduled, and the orchestra has no summer home.

San Antonio Express-News, May 8, 1994.  
Contributed by Theresa Gold, San Antonio.



## WETMORE HAS COUPLE ON ROAD TO CHANGE

By Jerry Needham, San Antonio Express-News, May 30, 1994

145

Hertha and Alvin Krueger have seen progress pass them by and almost run them down since they moved into a country home in northeastern Bexar County 49 years ago.

Road construction soon will claim half of the couple's front yard--including a pecan tree that was good-sized when they moved into a 21-year-old frame house on Wetmore Road in 1945.

The Wetmore General Store next door, which served as the hub of this older community for decades and housed its post office, was turned into a bar, then shut down last year.

The nearest entertainment, a nine-pin bowling alley next to the store, also closed to make way for a trendy shopping center built in turn-of-the-century style.

Called Downtown Wetmore, the center was built in 1985 and houses about 15 businesses.

"I don't know what this is going to be when they build it up," Hertha, 87, said recently as she prepared lunch for Alvin, 91. "I don't know whether it's progress or whether it's a headache. This used to be a gravel road, and we ate a lot of dust."

Two-lane Wetmore Road was paved years ago. Now it's being widened to five lanes to make life easier for people hustling to and from San Antonio and the Hill Country.

Construction, scheduled to start within a month, will lop off half the Kruegers' sidewalk and has forced them to move their fence back to near the front porch.

"Everything was different when we moved here," Hertha recalled.

"We could sit on the porch and watch the deer play over there," she said, motioning to a hill-studded vista across the road.

A rambling residential subdivision has replaced the forests that once covered the hills, and the deer have fled to more rustic regions.

The Kruegers made do with an outhouse until 1955 and received

their first air conditioner as a gift last September.

They still get their water from a well, refusing to tap into the huge water main the city recently dug underground at the front of their yard.

Alvin doesn't hear too well anymore, so he doesn't often talk to strangers. He greetsly wanders the neighborhood, checking out the changes to his old haunts.

Up until the 1950s--when Alvin still worked for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad--the train carried passengers and stopped at a depot across the street when people wanted on or off.

Whether the train stopped or not, the mail came and went, the mailbag hooked onto a pole by a rider in the passing train.

Hertha, born in the country between Sattler and New Braunfels, clerked in a Sommers Drug Store before taking a job in an Alamo Heights school cafeteria.

For a while, until the early 1970s, the couple ran the store next door, gaining most of their business from a popular butcher shop in the rear of the building. It specialized in making and selling venison sausage.

"When the city took over the area, they made us stop that," Hertha said.

The Wetmore area was annexed by San Antonio about 1970.

The Kruegers, both of German heritage, have two sons and 10 grandchildren living in the area.

"I can still speak German, but there's nobody in the family to speak it to," Hertha said.

The Kruegers dread the additional noise and traffic that will come with the new roadway, but they don't plan to move.

Typed and submitted by Theresa Gold.

[See also story on Bracken and Wetmore, GTHS Journal Summer 1993, page 116.]

# Gutenberg printed Bibles now displayed in New York

By ALEC D.B. McCABE  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The German goldsmith who sparked the most important cultural movement in mankind's history may have been quite the inventor, but he wasn't much of a businessman.

Just one year after Johann Gensfleisch — Gutenberg, for short — had successfully produced history's first printed book, an indulgence of 16 pages dated Oct. 22, 1454, he was also bankrupt. Twenty years of experimentation had exhausted the patience of his numerous creditors.

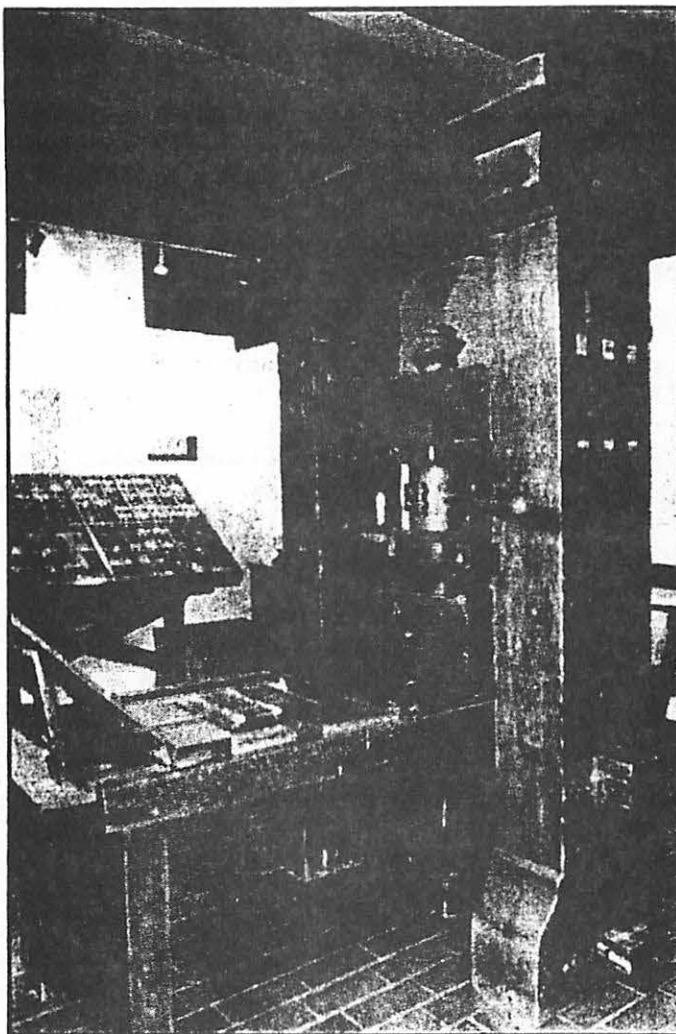
"He used his own money and as much of other people's money as he could get," says H. George Fletcher, curator of printed books and bindings at the Pierpont Morgan Library in midtown Manhattan.

"It was a mania, a life's work," Fletcher says. "I wouldn't have liked to go out drinking with him."

No matter. The man whose lifetime obsession produced the world's first printing press in the German city of Mainz lives on in "Gutenberg and the Genesis of Printing," a spectacular Morgan library exhibition that showcases a full-scale, working replica of his press, three original Gutenberg Bibles and a host of other printed works from the infancy of the printed page.

Visitors can watch as a modern-day-pressman (or presswoman) sets a page of type, using facsimiles of the movable typefaces that Gutenberg invented, calling upon his skills as a goldsmith to carve reverse images of about 270 different characters, including abbreviations, upper- and lower-case letters and ligatures — two joined letters, such as ff, ll and oe — that scribes used when they copied manuscripts.

Workers would then apply oil-based ink, another Gutenberg invention that proved far more durable than water-based ink used by scribes, using a saturated



AP Photo

A full-scale working reconstruction of Gutenberg's press is on display at The Pierpont Morgan Library in New York City.

leather blotter. These days, the blotter is actually a modern roller.

Then a piece of paper is clipped to a padded blotter, flung atop the inked type and shoved under the press. Printing itself comes via a gigantic lever that screws a massive weight atop the embryonic page. It's not easy.

"There's no user-friendly, labor-saving device on this,"

Fletcher explains.

The completed page is then hung on ropes to dry, rather like a clothesline. One contemporary woodcut hung on a nearby wall depicts a printing room whose walls are liberally festooned with drying pages.

Tucked into display cases that flank the mammoth press are the library's three Guten-

berg Bibles, the world's largest single group. Two are printed on paper, the third on a type of stretched leather known as vellum.

All three still sparkle, some 500 years after their creation. But they don't come cheap.

Of the original print run of 180 Bibles, 37 complete paper versions, as well as 11 complete vellum versions, the latter of which are valued at upward of \$25 million, still survive in various collections throughout the world, Fletcher says. A good paper version would fetch between \$5 million and \$7.5 million, while a single leaf from a paper Gutenberg Bible carries a price tag of between \$15,000 and \$22,500.

Also on display at the library are a series of other "firsts" that show the explosion of interest in the printed page that followed Gutenberg's experimentation — in fact, more than 250 presses were up and running by the end of the 15th century.

They include the first book published in English, John Lydgate's 1436 "The hors, the shepe and the ghoos," from England's first publisher, William Caxton of Westminster, an early version of Sir Thomas Malory's "Le Morte Darthur" (sic), dated 1485, plus rare copies of first books printed in France, Italy, Spain and the first complete printed copy of the Hebrew Bible.

Gutenberg, forced by court order to relinquish all his printing materials and equipment to his principal backer, is said to have continued printing on his own.

But there's not hard proof, besides a notation that Gutenberg was awarded a pension in 1465 by the archbishop of Mainz. He died three years later, and was buried in a church that was demolished in the early 1800s.

• • •  
The Pierpont Morgan Library, at 29 E. 36th St. in New York City, is open from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. from Tuesday through Friday; 10:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturdays; and noon through 6 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens.

## **THE MEANING OF THE SYMBOLS ON THE FREDERICKSBURG MAIBAUM**

The bottom symbols portray the March 2, 1847, peace negotiations between Comanche Indian tribes and the German pioneers. A group of settlers, led by John O. Meusebach, traveled north, deep into Indian territory, and met with fifteen to twenty Comanche chiefs. The agreement they reached allowed the Fredericksburg colonists to develop their settlement in peace.

The cowboy and dancers on the second level portray the settlers working and celebrating.

The third level represents the grapes and peaches which have contributed so abundantly to the local economy.

The next level shows the importance of hunting deer, turkey and other wild game in the development of the colony as well as its importance in the area's present day economy.

Also playing a major role in Fredericksburg's past and present are cattle, sheep and goats which find plentiful grazing in the area.

The ship and oxcart on the next level portray the transportation of the pioneers in arriving at this colony. Most came by ship from Germany to Indianola, a port on Matagorda Bay, and then by oxcart overland to Fredericksburg.

The settlers established a unique community in Fredericksburg as symbolized by the Sunday houses which dot the city and the historic Nimitz Hotel which serves today as the key element of the Admiral Nimitz Museum State Historical Park.

Two of the community's most recognized features today are the replica of the Vereins Kirche, the first church, and the cross atop Cross Mountain. These symbolize the devotion of the early settlers to the Christian faith.

The twelve tree branches at the top of the Maibaum are modeled after the burr oak, a species that is notable for its stately height and durable, useful wood. The trunk and branches are wrought iron and the leaves are copper with a natural patina.

The Fredericksburg Maibaum was contributed to the community by the Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance, a local organization devoted to fostering the arts in this area. The Alliance annually produces the OKTOBERFEST, a family festival, on the first weekend in October.

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# A Look Back....

**Editor's Note:** With this issue of *Our Town* begins a series recapping the history of Fredericksburg.

The series originally appeared in the *Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post* on June 11, 1986, as part of a special section called *A Look Back: Fredericksburg 140/Texas 150* to commemorate the state's sesquicentennial celebration and the 140th anniversary of Fredericksburg's founding.

During the next few weeks, this series will highlight some of the events that affected and shaped the history of Fredericksburg. The series is meant to give perspective to events in this city's past and is not intended as a definitive history.

*A Look Back* was originally compiled by retired *Standard-Radio Post* staff member Elise Kowert who has also authored two books: *Old Homes and Buildings of Fredericksburg* and *Historic Homes In And Around Fredericksburg*.

## 1840

The site of present-day Austin, which had been selected as the capital of Texas by the Capital Commission in 1839, is officially confirmed by the Texas Congress in 1840 and named in honor of Stephen F. Austin.

## 1841

In the fall of 1841, from the summit of Enchanted Rock, Ranger Capt. John D. Hays, while surrounded by Comanche Indians who cut him off from his ranging company (surveyors), repulsed the whole band and inflicted upon them such heavy losses that they fled.

## 1842

April 20 - Fourteen German princes (the Adelsverein) assemble at Biebrich on the Rhine and sign documents organizing a society to purchase land in the "free state of Texas". Later the purpose of the association is changed to be "the protection of German immigrants in Texas" and it is known as the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas.

## 1843

Political "feelers" in Washington and in Texas by leaders gain

strength on the issue of negotiations for annexation to the United States.

## 1844

July 1 - Prince Solms-Braunfels lands in Galveston.

Indianola, at first known as Indian Point, is founded by Count Solms-Braunfels. It is here that many German immigrants land who are bound for New Braunfels and Fredericksburg.

Sept. 2 - Anson Jones is elected as the last president of the Republic of Texas.

## 1845

March 21 - New Braunfels is founded.

April - John O. Meusebach arrives in Galveston to take up his duties as successor to Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels, first commissioner general for the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas.

Late in November, German immigrants begin arriving in Texas in great numbers, giving concern to Meusebach who feels he needs to find a suitable location for a new settlement on the way from New Braunfels to the Fisher-Miller Grant. He leaves New Braunfels, traveling northwest to the confluence of two streams (now known as Town Creek and Barons Creek), and he chooses that as the future site of Fredericksburg.

In mid-December, a group of 36 men are sent out at the direction of Meusebach from New Braunfels under the leadership of L. Bene to chart and open a wagon route to the site selected for Fredericksburg.

Dec. 29 - Texas is legally annexed to the United States, when the U.S. Congress accepts the Texas state constitution and Texas becomes the 28th state in the union.

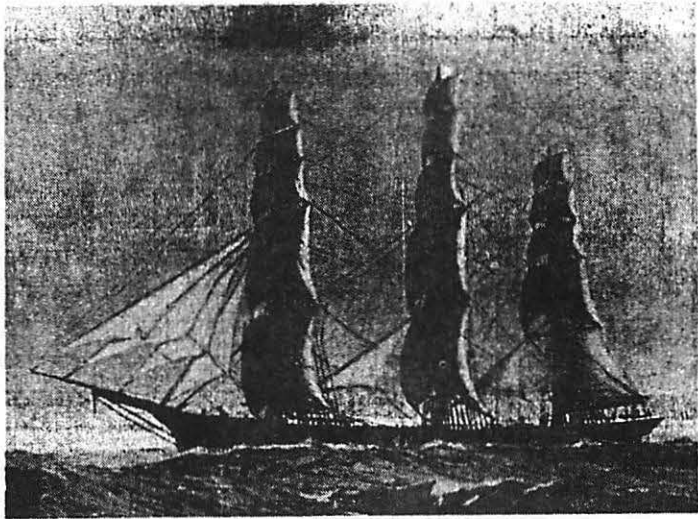
Baylor University is founded at Independence (in 1886 in Waco).

The population of Texas is estimated at the time of annexation to be between 125,000 and 150,000.

## 1846

Fredericksburg is founded this year!

Jan. 1 - The party of 36 men sent out by Meusebach from New Braunfels to survey the site selected for the colony of Fredericksburg reaches its destination.



**THIS PAINTING** by Paul Schumann copied from an old photograph shows the Hamburg ship "Herschel" bound from Germany for Indianola on the Texas Gulf Coast. Ships and barques like this one brought colonists to Texas from Germany.

They are equipped with wagons, tools, provisions and weapons, and in the party are three capable surveyors, Messrs. Bene, Groz and Murcheson. They erect a temporary shelter and build a log house below the corner of E. Main and S. Washington Sts. (south of the present-day Chevron station). They arrive back in New Braunfels in the middle of February.

April 23 - The first wagon train of colonists leaves New Braunfels for Fredericksburg.

May 8 - The first colonists arrive in Fredericksburg, a place described as having two deep flowing streams, tall grass and an abundance of oak trees to use in building homes.

May 11 - The U.S. declares war on Mexico after the slaughter at Palo Alto near Brownsville on May 8 and at Resaca de la Palma on May 9.

June 10 (or 12) - The second wagon train of colonists leaves New Braunfels for Fredericksburg.

Some sources state that during the summer of 1846, "a number of large wagon trains of immigrants arrived at the new settlement" (Fredericksburg).

J. Pinkney Henderson is elected as the first governor of Texas, serving from Feb. 19, 1846, to Dec. 21, 1847.

## 1847

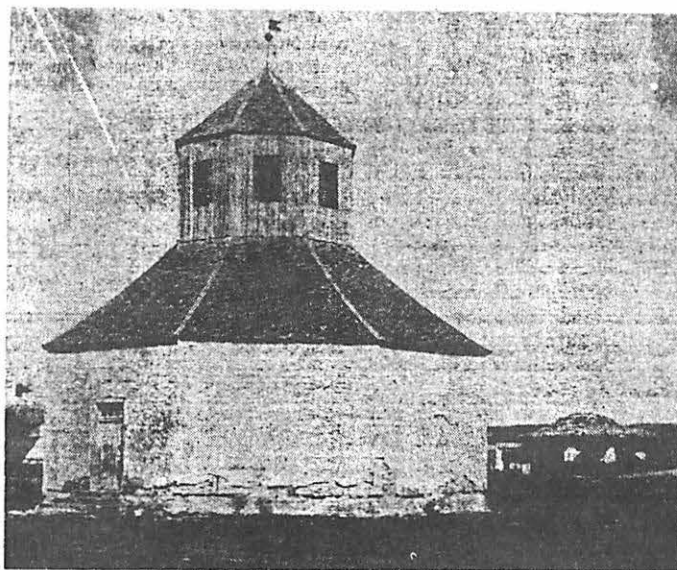
Jan. 22 - A group of men leaves Fredericksburg to negotiate a treaty with the Indians.

Mar. 1-2 - Meusebach concludes the peace treaty with the Indians, and the next day they begin their return trip to Fredericksburg, arriving here Mar. 6.

(The first Easter Fires on the hills surrounding Fredericksburg were actually fires built by the Indians who were keeping a vigil over the colony while the men were gone on their peace treaty mission. A resourceful mother, in attempting to calm her children who were fearful of the Indians' fires on the hills, remembers the fires on the hills in the springtime in her native Germany, so she tells them that they are ones built by the Easter rabbit to dye his eggs. The building of Easter Fires on the hills around Fredericksburg continues as a custom today.)

May 9 - The dedication of the original Vereins Kirche takes place with the Indians who took part in treaty negotiations here as special guests.

Forty Mormon families (about 200 persons) under the leadership of Elder Lyman Wight arrive in Gillespie County to establish their colony, Zodiac, on the Pedernales River in the present-day Rocky



WITH CROSS MOUNTAIN visible in the right background, the original Vereins Kirche once stood in the center of what is today Main Street before its demolition in 1897. Its replica, constructed in 1935, stands a few yards away in the middle of Market Square.

Hill community. They built a grist mill, water-powered saw and a wood-turning lathe on the Pedernales, and engage in farming, raising principally corn.

A wagon road is opened from Austin to Fredericksburg.

In 1847, what is now Gillespie County was part of Precinct 10 of Bexar County. Later this year, citizens petition the Legislature to create a new county.

By the middle of 1847, Fredericksburg has 15 stores, and the population is 966.

Dec. 21 - G.T. Wood takes oath of office as governor of Texas and serves until Dec. 21, 1849.

## 1848

Feb. 2 - The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is signed, and Mexico relinquishes its claim to Texas, including the area below the Nueces River. That part of the present U.S. west of Texas and the Louisiana Purchase and south of Oregon was ceded to the U.S. which paid Mexico \$15,000,000 for that territory.

Feb. 23 - Gillespie County is created from parts of Bexar and Travis Counties and named after Capt. Robert A. Gillespie, who died in Monterrey, Mexico, while serving with U.S. forces in this country's war with Mexico.

June 5 - Gillespie's first county election is held.

November - U.S. government troops arrive here, and on Dec. 5, Fort Martin Scott is officially founded east of Fredericksburg.

The cholera epidemic breaks out here, lasting into 1849.

Peter Walter builds the house that later becomes the chapel of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church.

## 1849

Father George Menzel, Bohemian priest, erects a more substantial cross on Cross Mountain to replace the one that was there when Fredericksburg was settled. That was one erected by early Spanish missionaries.

The Fredericksburg congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is organized by Rev. Eduard Schneider.

One source states this is a "dark year" for Texas farmers. A heavy frost April 16 kills vegetation, and the drouth prevents replanting.

Gillespie County has real and personal property valued at \$25,278, and there are 263 voting citizens.

Dec. 21 - Peter H. Bell takes oath as governor of Texas and serves until Nov. 23, 1853.

## 1850

March 2 - The Saengerbund of Texas is founded.

July 1 - The burning of John Hunter's store is a double loss. He was the county clerk at the time and kept all the records in his store. The burning is an act of revenge following Hunter's eviction from his store and his fatal stabbing of a drunken Fort Martin Scott soldier. The slain man's comrades return to the store the following evening to seek revenge. Hunter, who has been forewarned,

has fled to a friend's place, so the soldiers set fire to the store and burn it, preventing citizens from salvaging any of its contents, including the county records.

July 15 - After the fire destroys Hunter's store and all the county records stored there, the first records indicate that the first commissioners court meeting is held on this date with Wm. Keidel as chief justice, and Friedrich Kiehne, Peter Schandua and Peter Bickel as commissioners. Wm. Mogford serves as deputy county clerk in the absence of John M. Hunter, who later returns to Fredericksburg and holds that post for a number of years.

Sept. 14 - Lyman Wight, an elder of the Mormon colony, becomes chief justice and presides over his first session.

Friedrich Kiehne builds Fredericksburg's first two-story home out of limestone quarried from the base of Cross Mountain (405 E. Main St.)

Friedrich Kiehne builds Fredericksburg's first two-story home (405 E. Main St.) out of limestone quarried from the base of Cross Mountain.

The sawmill of Lyman Wight and company (the Mormons) produces lumber valued at \$4,250 and the gristmill, corn meal valued at \$600.

There are 253 voting citizens, and the total real and personal property assessed is valued at \$42,097. Property of Gillespians includes five Negroes, 86 horses and 788 cattle.

## 1851

Fort Mason is established northwest of here.

Carl Hilmar Guenther, a German immigrant, buys land and builds his first mill on Liveoak Creek. Several years later, he moves his operations to San Antonio, continuing the local mill for a

short period of time after moving. His business in San Antonio in time becomes known as Pioneer Flour Mills and is still in existence in the Alamo city.

John O. Meusebach becomes a Texas state senator. He is also appointed commissioner for the colony of the German Emigration Co. by the governor to distribute head-right grants to colonists of the GEC.

Engelbert Krauskopf buys a town lot in Fredericksburg where he finds a business that is still in the Krauskopf family.

## 1852

July 14 - Hermann Lungkwitz and Richard Petri, two German painters, and Herman's brother, Adolph, buy 320 acres of land on the Pedernales River southeast of Fredericksburg. They came here this year by a circuitous route with other members of their family and settled down on their farm. Adolph is a silversmith and tinsmith who makes his home in town, but Hermann and Richard continue to paint Texas scenes and people. (Both are recognized now as some of Texas' outstanding pioneer painters and books have been published.)

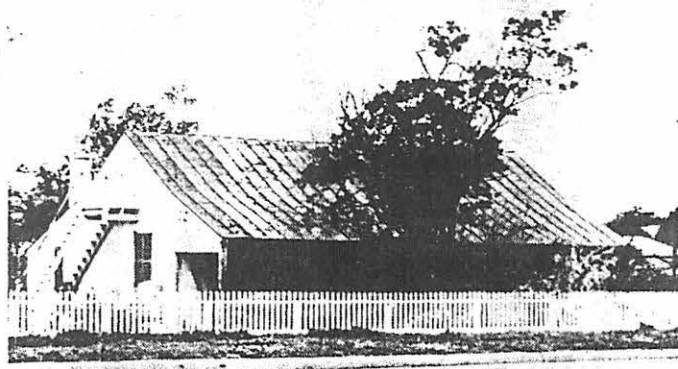
In July, the commissioners court votes to build Fredericksburg's first "prison".

Sept. 8 - Thomas C. Doss is appointed to be Fredericksburg's second postmaster.

Zion Lutheran Church has its beginning when its members withdraw from common worship with other Lutherans in the Vereins Kirche. By the next year, they buy their present building site.

The physical boundary size of

Gillespie County is reduced in size and remains there until 1858 when it reaches its present size.



THE OLDEST HOUSE in Fredericksburg was built in 1847 by J.J. Klingelhoef and today is located at the corner of West Main and South Acorn streets.

## SOPHIENBURG MUSEUM AWARD TOP HONORS BY STATE MUSEUM GROUP

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By Jennifer Rompel  
Staff Writer

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The Sophienburg Museum and Archives were awarded top honors recently from the Texas Association of Museums.

The Sophienburg was presented with a Gold Citation of the Mitchell A. Wilder Publication Design Awards.

The Award recognizes achievement in graphic design and media production and encourages quality public presentations.

The Sophienburg was presented the award for its book *New Braunfels, Comal County, Texas: A Pictorial History*.

Only 24 museums across the state were presented with gold certificates.

Named in honor of Mitchell A. Wilder, founding director of the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth and an early advocate of excellence in museum publication, the Wilder Design Competition drew entries from museums throughout the state of Texas.

The entries came from Museums of all disciplines, sizes and locations.

The materials ranged from posters, brochures, newsletters and invitations to public service announcements and video.

The Sophienburg presented the book for the award. Museum Director Clyde

Blackman said the award recognizes the efforts of those involved with the book.

The editor of the book is Roger Nuhn. Rosemarie Leissner Gregory and Myra Lee Adams Goff wrote the narrative and John Moler was the photographer.

The awards luncheon was held during the TAM Annual Meeting and Trustee's Conference in Houston.

The book was published last year. Blackman said the Archives has over one million photos and decided to do pictorial history.

"We wanted to do pictorial history. A written history had previously been done. Nothing had been published since 1958. We also wanted to generate a publications fund so we can print other things," he said.

There are 1,500 copies of the book available for sale. More than 1,000 book have already been sold. The cost of the book is \$37.66 for a cloth-bound copy and \$100 for a leather-bound copy.

Blackman said the Sophienburg is currently collaborating with the Comal County Genealogy Society to publish another book before the New Braunfels Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1995.

The Sophienburg Museum is located at 401 West Coll St. The Archives are located at 200 North Seguin.

# Schloss Braunfels

## Hessian castle has Texas connection

by Juan Melendez Jr.  
KA correspondent

"How can one grow so old," asked the distinguished visitor, "without seeing Braunfels?"

The speaker was the German Imperial Crown Prince, later Kaiser Friedrich III, on his first visit in 1887, but the reaction could be that of anyone catching his first glimpse of Schloss Braunfels.

Approaching from the west, a visitor is instantly struck by the sheer presence of the many-towered castle. Standing guard on the highest hill in the area, girded about by its massive walls, it dominates that part of the Lahn Valley.

Braunfels lies only about an hour away from Giessen or Frankfurt, but is not a popular destination for American visitors, despite its connection to a small city in the United States.

First mentioned in documents in 1246, by which time it was already a substantial fortress, Schloss Braunfels grew over the years. It owes its present state of beautiful preservation to a 19th-century reconstruction, and to the very good fortune of being in the hands of its original owner, the princely house of Solms-Braunfels.

### The Texas connection

In the first half of the 19th century, the youngest son of the family, Prince Carl, led a group of immigrants from all over Germany to America. On March 21, 1844, they founded the town New Braunfels, Texas, north of San Antonio.

Many older citizens still speak German, and many signs of German culture abound, although New Braunfels native Cindy Shuffield said the Texas locals pronounce the name of their town Brawn-fulls, not Braun-fells, as the Germans do.

New Braunfels still boasts a German restaurant and deli, and visitors come from all over (including Germany) for its annual Wurst Festival.

### Tours of the castle

Parking is difficult in town, but there are two indicated areas near the walls for visitor's parking.

The castle is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. October through March; and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through September. Group tours are possible at other times by prearrangement at 06442-5002.

Guided tours are available on the hour, and there must be at least six people for a tour to begin. The tour is in German, but an inexpensive English-language brochure is on sale.

The full tour costs DM 5 for adults, DM 3 for children and students. A short tour costs 1 DM less. This short tour does hit most of the highlights: the inner courtyard, Cannon Terrace, main tower, Knights' Hall and Hunters' Hall.

An unguided visit to the castle museum costs DM 3 for adults, DM 2 for children and students.

### Getting there

Braunfels is west-southwest of Giessen and easily reached via autobahn. If you're coming from the direction of Frankfurt and you prefer the scenic route, take B-456, turn right at the road marked by the sign announcing the Wildpark. The castle will be straight ahead and there is a convenient pull-off on the right for taking photographs.

### Staying there

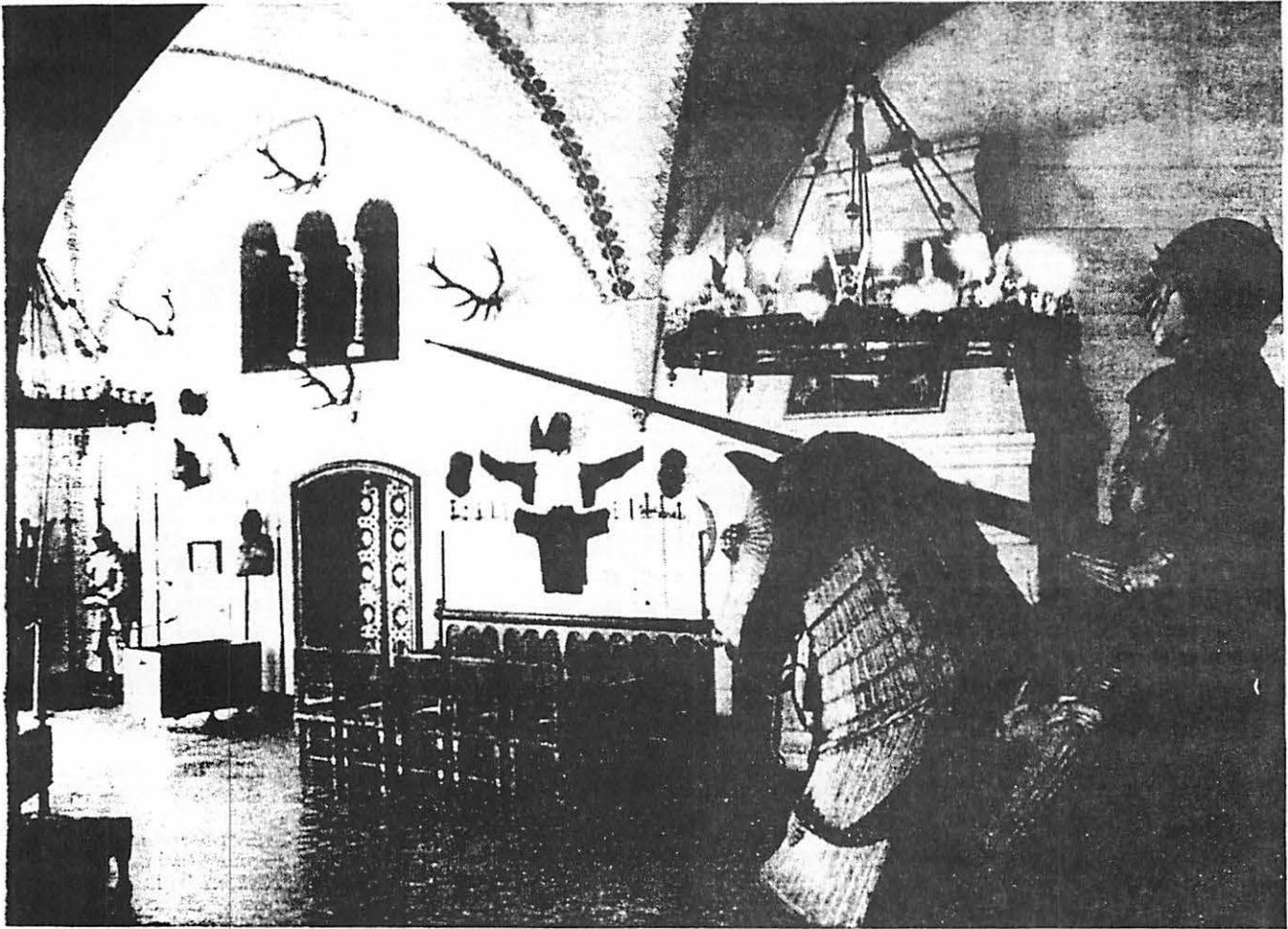
If it's a bit far for a daytrip, or if you'd like to stay and explore the area, accommodations are possible at the castle's gasthaus or other local establishments.

► Schloss Braunfels – Call 06442-5002 or 6244 to ask about rooms.

► Camping – The Romantik Park Braunfels campground is on B-49 just before you drive up the hill to enter town. It's open year-round and allows dogs. Call 06442-4366 to make reservations.

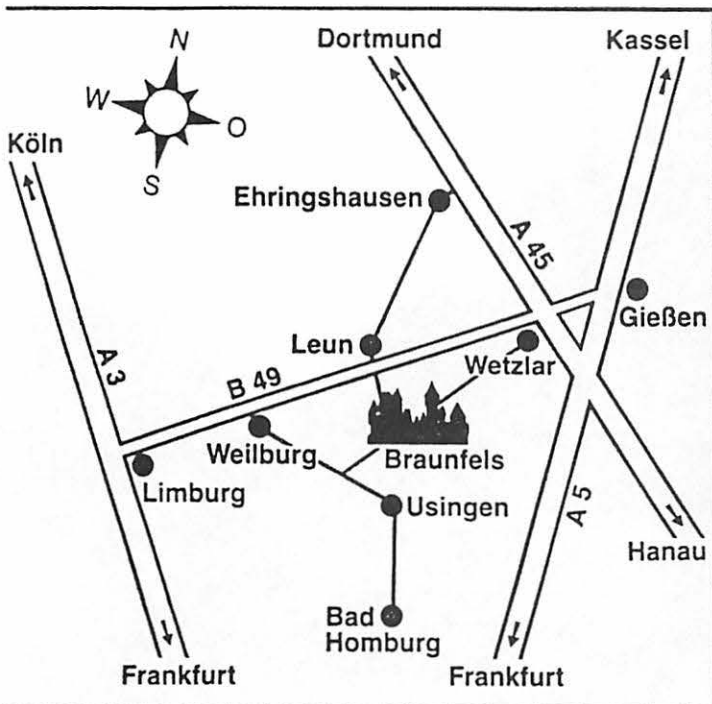


The castle's looming tower dominates the valley as in the Middle Ages, a result of the romantic reconstruction period of the 19th Century.



Photos by Juan R. Melendez Jr

Arms and armor collected down through the centuries fill the Rittersaal, or Knights' Hall.



The town well, the centerpiece of the Marktplatz, dates from 1572.





**Monument to the first student society in front of the university in Jena**

Ever since universities have existed in Europe, there have been student clubs in all European countries. But, nowhere else is the history of these societies as colorful and as controversial as in Germany. After the first university was founded in the 14th century, countrymen groups were formed. Students from the same areas joined together for practical reasons, be it a common dialect or language or often the fact that many princes provided their students with scholarships or housing. These countrymen groups existed until the 18th century and weren't always liked by the authorities since they often acted quite rudely. This was the reason why most free cities of the Holy Roman Empire didn't tolerate universities within their city walls.

With the arrival of the Enlightenment and the French Revolution, whose ideals of freedom, equality and brotherliness found instant approval among the students, the universities began to change. The ideas of free instruction and freedom of association sparked the students to seek new modes of living and socializ-

## Student Clubs in Germany



**Silhouettes of duelling society members: Scherer (later Archbishop of Munich-Freising), Otto von Bismarck (later Chancellor of the German Reich) and Wilhelm Liebknecht (later Social Democratic leader in the Reichstag around the turn of the century).** VM. DEUTSCHE WELT-U.S.A. JAN/FEB

ing. For example, in 1786 in Frankfurt an der Oder the first duelling corps was formed. The corps wasn't interested in politics, but wanted to create a circle of friends to last a lifetime. They thought that the social rank of an academic required carrying weapons and protecting a code of honor by duelling with cutting or stabbing weapons if someone had been offended. Names like Saxonia, Franconia, etc. reveal their origins in the countrymen's clubs.

Clubs altered the students relationship to society and politics much more than the duelling corps. They were the shoots of a developing national consciousness which first emerged under Napoleonic rule. In 1810, when the budding idea of student clubs first took shape, they consciously opposed the corps with its cosmopolitan tendencies and political abstinence. Only in 1815 after the Wars of Independence were the founders of the student clubs able to realize their goal. The first student club took its colors - at first only black and red - from the black uniforms (black was the cheapest cloth back then) and the red cuffs of the "Lützow Free Corps". The founding was a big success. So as to involve other universities, the "Wartburgfest" (Wartburg festival) was organized in October 1817. This date fell on the 300th anniversary of the Reformation and the 3rd anniversary of the Battle of the Nations at Leipzig, which ended Napoleonic rule. Students from all German universities except the

Catholic universities were invited, although some Catholic students also attended. In general, the festival was praised. However, an unplanned demonstration on the following day, especially by students from Berlin, against unpopular writers and the ruling powers brought their opponents into the arena. Their mistrust was increased by the 35 principles which were simultaneously agreed on by the student club. This could be called the first German party platform, which called for political and economic unity of Germany, a constitutional monarchy, equality under the law, public court hearings, freedom of speech and the press as well as abolishing the secret police, privileges and serfdom. The essentials of this would later become the platform of the national-liberal party.

Barely two years later, the Austrian chancellor Metternich succeeded in getting the princes of Germany to agree on banning student clubs in Carlsbad. Any supporter was not allowed to hold public office. Secretly, the fraternities continued to exist, but now two groups existed. One wanted to achieve German unity by peaceful means and the other tended to believe in theories of mystical conspiracies and a republican state. It was only in 1830 that several German states loosened their ban on student clubs. During this time when old forms of rule were being reestablished, the students, especially student clubs, became caught up in the

freedom fights of the Poles and the Greeks. The Polish laced skirt became the ceremonial garb of the student clubs and is still worn today on special occasions.

In 1832, student clubs and city burghers cooperated to organize the "Hambacher Fest" (Hambach festival), the cause of much excitement in southwest Germany. Although it seemed similar to the Wartburg festival of 1817, with its calls for unity of the fatherland and its demands for freedom of speech and the press, the speeches in Hambach were directed toward understanding among peoples and expressed the desire for freedom and democracy in all of Europe. At the Hambach festival, the black, red and gold was first carried as a unifying German flag.

The more radical factions of the student clubs thought that the time for revolution had come and attempted to rob the safe of the German Alliance in Frankfurt in the spring of 1833. Pursuit of student clubs intensified. 1,800 persons were accused, of whom 1,200 belonged to student fraternities. 39 were sentenced to death (later changed to life or 30 years imprisonment) and 165 received long prison sentences. Hundreds fled the country, either for a length of time or forever. The German Fraternity, forbidden and having lost many of its best people, wasn't able to recover for a long while. Students became interested in other clubs. First, there were the Protoclubs, who were less suspect to the authorities since their members didn't bear colorful sashes, thereby calling attention to themselves. The less politically-involved duelling corps also were able to increase their membership.

In 1848, student fraternities and other related political student clubs once again lead the revolution. Their faction was so strong even in the Paulskirche parliament that it was hardly surprising that this body required all German vehicles to fly the black, red and gold colored flag. However, when the revolution ended, the student clubs suffered another decline and were only able to reestablish a German general association in 1902. When agreement came about among the princes under the leadership of Bismarck, the duelling corps student, one of the demands of the fraternities was fulfilled in 1871 and others were fulfilled one at a time after that.

The National Liberal Party, whose political ideas were close to those of the fraternities, was Bismarck's closest ally

in the Reichstag (the legislative assembly). The student duelling societies were at the top of the social scale, corresponding to the Zeitgeist of the times, even with their exaggerated show of luxury and innumerable fencing bouts, which although officially forbidden were still openly fought. Bismarck, as a former member of a student duelling society, and later Emperor Wilhelm II spoke out against such exaggerated behavior. He and his son as well as the leader of the Social Democrats, Wilhelm Liebknecht, were members of student duelling societies.

It is a widespread error that the student duelling societies were largely reserved for the nobility. In 1899, only 8 percent of the members of student duelling societies were from families of nobility. Another mistake that was even to appear on questionnaires from the American military government in 1945 concerning Nazi associations was the assumption that the student duelling societies were all anti-Semitic. Also anti-Semitism was widespread among students and student clubs refused to admit Jewish students even after World War I, the duelling corps rejected a similar proposal in 1877. There were a number of Jewish student duelling societies that were established after 1880, but were abolished after 1933. Other Jewish student clubs, among those the Zionists, existed as well, but they had hardly any contact with each other.

Up until the end of World War I, especially Catholic fraternities grew rapidly. Bismarck's fight against the Catholic church had led to a larger consensus among the Catholics and to their stronger presence at the universities. They were able to further increase their influence after World War I and again after World War II.

After World War I, the student clubs, with their rather Republican tradition, were able to attract a much stronger following than the student duelling societies, who generally weren't able to keep up with the times. Already at the end of the 1920s the student societies ended up in fights with the Nazis, whose "Studentenbund" (student association) was able to greatly increase its membership during the depression. Because of a fight between the Catholic CV and the Nazi party, Hitler publicly addressed the clubs only one time, in

1931. He said that he was for the "Waffenstudententum" (students carrying weapons), even if the student clubs were to remove their members from the Nazi Party. But, after Hitler took power in 1933, the student clubs came to a quick demise. In 1935, the students had to decide between a student society or the Nazi student association. After October 1935, all student societies were abolished or were dissolved of their own accord. The ban on duelling was only lifted in 1933, but was reintroduced again in 1937 and vigorously defended. Property and other assets belonging to the clubs were confiscated.

In 1945, the Allies banned all student societies and especially the wearing of colored sashes. The first federal president also spoke out against such displays. When the first treaty with the young federal republic was signed, the ban by the Allies was abolished, but the clubs weren't able to achieve public recognition again until 1961. In 1954, the Social Democrats had spoken out against membership in student societies as incompatible with party membership. It was only in 1967 that this ban was relaxed. In the meantime, a number of prominent Social Democrats have emerged from the student clubs. Still, student clubs of all kinds, including the numerous non-duelling ones, don't have much influence at the universities. Overcrowding of universities and a general unwillingness of students to get organized in any way have forced many student fraternities to start worrying about retaining sufficient active members. Only in the very recent past has more interest in the traditional student societies become noticeable.

# Genealogy

155

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

## BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

GTHS Annual Meeting in Fredericksburg, 9-11 Sept. 1994, will include a short program on genealogy. It is scheduled on Saturday from 3:00 to 3:20 p.m. Because the program is limited to 20 minutes, we plan to concentrate on only one topic, tentatively planned as an introduction to the use of German gazetteers, such as the Meyers and Müllers. However, if you are planning to attend the meeting and if you have a specific question or a suggested topic, please contact your GTHS Genealogy Editor, at the address above, no later than two weeks prior to the meeting, and we will try to accommodate your suggestions.

New Braunfels: The First Founders, the two-volume work of over 1,000 pages will be ready on 1 Dec. 1994, in time for the city's 150th anniversary. Author Everett A. Fey, a GTHS member, has furnished several articles to our GTHS Journal to keep us apprised of the progress of the research. The first volume, 648 pages, uses many primary resources to cover the Verein's foundation and activities, the emigrants' ships, the Texas organization of the Verein, the trek inland from the Texas coast, a day-by-day diary of events of the first year on the trail and in camp, several lists of the first founders, lists of recipients of town lots and acre lots, twelve letters from the founders, financial reports, maps, and biographical sketches of the "first founders." Volume II, 424 pages, gives descendants of the first founders through their great-grandchildren and is indexed. The two volumes will not be sold separately.

Pre-publication orders are now being accepted for the "regular" edition as well as for a "special" edition. Only 1,000 copies of the regular edition and 150 copies of the special edition will be printed. The special edition copies will be numbered and autographed with a parchment dedication page. Before 1 Dec. 1994, the price for the regular edition is \$65.00 plus \$5.04 sales tax, and for the special edition, the price is \$80.00 plus \$6.20 sales tax. After 1 Dec. 1994, the regular edition price is \$75.00 plus \$5.81 sales tax. The special edition is available only as a pre-publication order. Shipping and handling charge for all editions is \$6.50. You may order by mail by making your check payable to: Comal County Genealogy Society, and sending it to: Sophienburg Museum and Archives, 401 W. Coll, New Braunfels TX 78130.

(from: announcement from Sophienburg Museum and Archives)

German Genealogical Society of America has changed mailing address. The GGSA wants us to send mail to the street address of the Library rather than to the post office box. Thus, the preferred address is: 2125 Wright Ave., Suite C-9, La Verne CA 91750.

(from: GGSA Bulletin, March 1994)

German Genealogical Digest is ten years old! In commemoration and as a service to subscribers, libraries, researchers, etc., the first issue of 1994 consists of a complete subject and locality index to the 36 issues of the first nine years. This 32-page issue should be in every genealogical library section as

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

a reference tool. (Your GTHS Genealogy Editor has all back issues.) This issue, and all back issues, may be ordered from German Genealogical Digest, P. O. Box 700, Dept. 94, Pleasant Grove UT 84062. The price is \$7.50 for one issue, but when ordering four or more, the price is \$6.00 each. Shipping and handling fee is \$.75 per issue. Subscription rate is \$22.00 for one year (four issues).

(from: German Genealogical Digest, first issue, 1994)

Immigrant Genealogical Society will have a dues increase beginning in 1995. Current annual dues are \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. Beginning 1 Jan. 1995, annual dues will be \$20, regular; \$25, family; \$30, contributing; \$35, foreign; \$50, supporting, and \$100 sustaining. However, members may pay for 1995 before the end of 1994. The address is: P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510.

(from: IGS Newsletter, June 1994)

West German Telephone Books are now available on CDs. The Immigrant Genealogical Society has acquired a set of three CDs which include for the first time the millions of new telephones installed in the former East Germany--as well as all telephones for the western states up to February 1994. The disks contain 30 million individual telephone subscribers and 2 million businesses or organizations. For a fee of \$7.00, IGS volunteers will search for a surname or count the number of times a surname appears--and send a German-English letter for your use. Because the searches have specifications, request an order form from IGS (enclose a long SASE). See item above for the address.

(from: flyer included with IGS Newsletter, June 1994)

Emigrants from Gottschee are the focus of a new association for the preservation, education, and family histories of persons from this German linguistic island, now located in Slovenia. It works in cooperation with the Relief Society of New York and the Exile Colony in Austria. For information, write to Kate Loschke Pruen-te, 21534 American River Dr., Sonora CA 95370 or call (209) 536-0574.

(from: IGS Newsletter, May 1994)

Zentralstelle Leipzig The Central Bureau for Genealogy in Leipzig, established in 1910, was the only genealogical organization allowed to continue in East Germany under the Communists. West German genealogists formed a new society in Friedrichsdorf under the same name after the wall went up. The Deutsche Zentralstelle für Genealogie in Leipzig has a new address, no longer receiving mail at Georgi-Dimitroff-Platz. In the future, use this address: Zentralstelle für Genealogie, Käthe-Kollwitz-Strasse 82, D-04109 Leipzig, Germany. The telephone number is (341) 401-1113. You may correspond in English.

(from: IGS Newsletter, March 1994)

Marburg Archive personnel are developing a computerized list of every citizen filing a request to emigrate. For a \$20 fee, they will search the list and send a printout of everyone with a particular surname. Payment must be made in advance. Send your

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

157

request to: Dr. Inge Auerbach, Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Postfach 540, D-35017 Marburg, Germany.  
(from: IGS Newsletter, May 1994)

Out-of-print U.S. maps may be ordered from the U.S. Geological Survey through its Earth Science Information Center. You can receive catalogs and information for ordering reproductions of out-of-print maps as well as a 12-page booklet, "Maps Can Help You Trace Your Family Tree." Call 1-800-USA-MAPS between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time.  
(from: IGS Newsletter, May 1994)

Schaumburg-Lippe Records on microfilm are being acquired by the Immigrant Genealogical Society to add to that group's extensive library collection. If your ancestors came from this area, you certainly should inquire as to which specific parish and vital records are available. Write: IGS, P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369.  
(from: IGS Newsletter, May 1994, and previous issues)

German American Genealogy, a periodical of the Immigrant Genealogical Society (in addition to the monthly "Newsletter"), had several articles in the Spring 1994 issue of interest to our members. A five-page article on genealogical records in Southwest Germany (Baden, Württemberg, and Alsace-Lorraine) includes a list of addresses for repositories in these three areas. Other articles deal with researching passenger ships, using a computer, writing your life story, and using mass mailing (200 letters to Germans!) as well as articles about immigrants' travel across the U.S. via canals and about the mysterious Melungeons--plus a list of surnames appearing in the January - June 1992 issues of Familienkundliche Nachrichten (FANA), a booklet of queries included with nearly all genealogical journals published in Germany. Perhaps you can find someone in Germany (or elsewhere) who is researching the same name as you are. IGS members receive this periodical, but others may purchase it for \$5.00 a copy. The address is: IGS, P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369.  
(from: German American Genealogy, Spring 1994)

Dutch Family Heritage Society continues to collect data for its New Netherlands database. Also wanted for the database are data on more recent Dutch immigrants. Persons contributing data will also be listed in the database so that researchers can contact each other. Contributors are asked to include their notes, especially those listing sources for the information. To submit data via GEDCOM file or for further information, contact: Dutch Family Heritage Society, 2463 Ledgewood Dr. West Jordan UT 84084.  
(from: Odom Library's Family Tree, Oct.-Nov. 1993)

Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEHS) is now accepting individual memberships with dues of \$15.00 per year. Send dues to: Azra Puzic Jojie, FEEHS Treasurer, 4896 S. Highland Cir., #8, Salt Lake City UT 84117. The president is noted author Charles M. Hall, who may be reached at P. O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City UT 84121.  
(from: FEEHS information sent to GTHS office)

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

158

Stirpes, the quarterly publication of the Texas State Genealogical Society had an article, "Timothy Goeke: His Life & His Ancestors," in the March 1994 issue. In this story, written in 1991 when he was age 16, Timothy begins with a detailed autobiography and then narrates the history of some of his ancestors--all either German, Alsatian, or Wendish (mistakenly equated to "Serbs"). A compressed Ahnentafel chart reaches back to number 499, but with gaps in many of the lines. Some lines give dates and locations into the late 1700s in different parts of Germany, indicating a great deal of document research. Texas counties of his ancestors' residence include Medina, Lee, Colorado, Fayette, Coryell, Williamson, Washington, and Galveston.  
(from: March 1994 issue of Stirpes)

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society has moved into a new library facility! From a small beginning with 20 founders and three books, SAG&HS has grown to over 700 members and almost 10,000 books, about 550 rolls of microfilm, plus eight CDs for the computer. For information, write to SAG&HS, P. O. Box 17461, San Antonio TX 78217-0461, or call the library at (210) 342-5242 during hours of operation: Mondays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., or Sundays, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
(from: flyer distributed at opening of new SAG&HS Library)

1890 Records of Tom Green County, Texas is a compilation of tax records, rolls of unrendered property, index to probate records, marriage records, railroad and business records, and Civil War (Union) veterans and widows names, all gathered to substitute for the unavailable 1890 U.S. Census. The 161-page book has a every-name index and sells for \$15.00, which includes postage, handling, and sales tax. Order from San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 3453, San Angelo TX 76902.  
(from: Stalkin' Kin, San Angelo G&HS, May 1994)

Families of Kimble County, Volume I, was published in 1986 by the Kimble County Historical Commission, but it had no surname index. Now, a 30-page index with some 2,700 surnames is available for \$3.00 through the San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, P. O. Box 3453, San Angelo TX 76902. For information on the book Families of Kimble County, contact the Kimble County Historical Commission, P. O. Box 271, Junction TX 76849.  
(from: Stalkin' Kin, San Angelo G&HS, May 1994)

Williamson County, Texas: Its History and Its People was published in 1985 and sold originally for \$47.95. The Williamson County Genealogical Society is offering a clearance sale of the remaining copies for \$35.00 (plus \$3.00 postage) as long as they last. This book will not be reprinted. Make your check to Williamson County Genealogical Society and send to the Society at P. O. Box 585, Round Rock TX 78680-0585.  
(from The Chisholm Trail, WCGS, Winter 1994 [sic] issue)

Indian Wars and Pioneers of Texas, 1822-1874, by John Henry Brown, was first published in 1880 and reprinted in 1978 and is now available again in a second reprinting. With 1,152 pages and

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

159

209 steel engraving, and a new, full-name index, this book covers not only the Indian Wars and Indian fighters, but also has biographical sketches of over 536 individuals and their family histories, with the names of over 6,500 other individuals. Often cited, this is a "must" for your genealogical or your personal library. It is now available for \$65.00, plus \$3.00 shipping, from Southern Historical Press, Inc., P. O. Box 1267, Greenville SC 29602-1267. This publisher also offers three other Texas-interest books, some new and others reprints: Memorial and Genealogical Record of Southwest Texas (1884, rpt. 1978); Abstracts of Early East Texas Newspapers, 1839-1856 (new, 1994); War of 1812 Veterans in Texas, Revised (1979, reprinted with additions and revisions).

(from: flyer from Southern Historical Press)

German Life is a new magazine published in English. The July 1994 issue carried an article, "Roots, Records, and Relatives: A Primer on German Genealogy." Included in the premier issue was a questionnaire about readers' specific interests regarding German life, culture, travel, and current events. This bimonthly publication is available for \$19.95 per year by writing to: German Life, Subscription Dept. P. O. Box 609, Grantsville MD 21536-0609, or by calling 1-800-314-6843.

(from: German Life, July 1994)

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#### NEWS ABOUT GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Austin Genealogical Society, August 6, 1994, will present lectures by Dr. John Philip Colletta on naturalization records, military pension and bounty land records, understanding repositories (libraries, archives and public records offices), and material in the library of Congress for genealogists. For information telephone Josephine Ross at (512) 459-6121.  
(from: notice from Karen Green, Frontier Press, Galveston)

1994 Heritage Seminar will feature Germany/Eastern Europe as the topic, 4-11 September 1994. Other topics include North American Research (2-9 October), both in Salt Lake City. Professional genealogists will speak in morning classroom sessions, and each afternoon, attendees can conduct their own research at the L.D.S. Family History Library under the tutelage of professional genealogists. For information, write to Heritage Consulting and Services, P. O. Box 4152, Salt Lake City UT 84110, telephone (801) 565-8046 or FAX (801) 359-9355.

German Genealogical Digest Research Seminar, 9-15 Sept. 1994, in Salt Lake City. Held at the Howard Johnson Hotel next to the Family History Center, this seminar includes instruction, consultation, and assistance by Larry O. Jensen and Laraine K. Ferguson on a number of topics vital to German genealogical researchers. For information, write to German Genealogical Digest Seminars, 245 North Vine, No. 106, Salt Lake City UT 84103.

"Climbing Your Family Tree Can Be Fun" workshops sponsored by Everton's, publishers of Genealogical Helper, travel around the

GTGS Genealogy Section, continued

country. Scheduled for later in 1994 are these in Texas:  
10 September 1994, Stephens County Genealogical Society, contact Tom B. Ward, 200 Ridge Road, Breckenridge TX 76424, (817) 559-2723.

13 September 1994, Garland Genealogical Society, contact Jane Power, 2118 Wall St., Garland TX 75041, (214) 864-1710.  
(from: Genealogical Helper, Jan.-Feb. 1994)

Federation of Genealogical Societies' Conference, 12-15 October 1994, in Richmond VA. Information is available from Federation of Genealogical Societies, P. O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City UT 84110-3385, or call Karen Maurer Green at (409) 740-0138. The 1995 FGS Conference will be held in Seattle WA, 20-23 September 1995.

(from: FGS Forum, Winter 1993)

Houston Genealogical Forum, 29 October 1994, presents Desmond Walls Allen lecturing on 20th century research, public domain land records, and picking up the problem line. For information, contact Glenn Sewell, 64 Chestnut Ridge, New Caney TX 77357-2830 or call Karen Green (409) 225-2642.

(from: notice from Karen Green, Frontier Press, Galveston)

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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 8.5" by 11" white paper. 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 GTGS 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.

Geneva Eggemeyer Kahlich 6110 Stage Coach Trail, San Angelo TX 76901-4910, formerly known as Geneva Tetley, reports she is now known again as Geneva Kahlich, using the surname of her first husband.

Edwin L. Boehringer, 1369 N. Hampton 318, De Soto TX 75115 sends this as his new address, and his telephone number is (214) 223-6171. He is an "Armorist," and a report of his activities appeared in our GTGS Journal, Fall 1993 issue.



GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

161

Mrs. Raymond (Betty) Bostick 6914 Scotsdale Dr., San Antonio TX 78209-4275 is seeking information on the Ayndt and Hemminger families before 1630. She also needs information on John Adam Vielsack/Fillsack. He married Agnes Hemminger on 12 Jan. 1712 in Ersingen, Germany. John Adam's father was Daniel Vielsack. Another request is for information on Hans Conrad Jester. He married Catharina Mutschelbacher on 21 Jan. 1635 in Ersingen, Germany. Hans Conrad's father was John Conrad Jester, a soldier. This family settled in Ersingen between 1643 and 1653. She also seeks information on Heinrich Kepner who married Maria Barbara Fuchs on 28 July 1784 in Eppingem, Germany. Heinrich's father was Immanuel Kepner. Betty is looking for Texas or other U.S. descendants of these families and will reimburse postage after hearing from anyone from these families.

Angeline Sedlmeyer Rt 2 Box 292, Shiner TX 77984-9688 reports how pleased she is with the work done by a researcher in the Czech Republic. She engaged the services of Jiří Osanec, based upon the recommendation of GTHS member Lou Bradshaw in the Spring 1992 issue of our GTHS Journal. Mr. Osanec and his wife are both historians, researchers and teachers. The sample furnished to your Genealogy Editor includes explanations of the historical background of the places where the ancestors lived plus contemporary photographs. He researches in Moravia and Silesia and writes report-letters in English. Because of the devaluation of the Czech currency, his rates are extremely reasonable (example: \$7.00 US per hour for research). For a copy of the page outlining the services he offers and the 1994 fee schedule, send an SASE to Angeline. Or, write directly to Jiří Osanec, I. P. Pavlova 26, 779 00 Olomouc, Czech Republic, Europe.

As a result of this research, Angeline has additional information on the family background of her great-grandmother, Josefa Schröer/Schraer. She was from the former Hertswigswalde, Silesia (now Doboszowice, Poland). Josefa's sister, Maria Francisca, first married Joseph Schüche who died less than seven years after their marriage. A son, their firstborn, died a few days after his father, as he smothered while playing in a pile of cotton. Maria Francisca was thus left with two small daughters, Ottilia and Anna, and pregnant with a third, Caroline. About two months before Caroline's birth, Maria Francisca remarried to Joseph Untermeyer. Several of these children married members of the Hoelscher and Buxkemper families. Ottilia later married Joseph Buxkemper; Anna married Anton B. Hoelscher. Of their half-siblings, Joseph Untermeyer, Jr., married Mary Buxkemper, and Minnie Untermeyer married Henry Hoelscher. Angeline has also received background research on her Mayer/Meyer/Meier family from Moravia, on her Repper line from Moravia, and on her Neumann line from Moschwits, Silesia (now Muskowice, Poland). She also notes that she has a few records on the Stock family.

Herbert Beinhorn Rt 1 Box 100, Moscow TX 75960-9702 and his wife, Linda, have returned from an extended visit in Germany with two Beinhorn families, contacts he has made in connection with his family research. The Heinrich Beinhorns of Osloß are genuinely related and helped with the family history. The old family home burned in the 1880s, so the "new" Bauerhof is "only" about 110 years old. Herbert and Linda's hosts, the Walter Beinhorns of

Bielefeld, live in a modern suburban house, about 20 years old. Although the Walter Beinhorns are not actually related (at least not yet!), Herbert reports that they were gracious hosts. All of these speak no English or only limited English, but since Herbert and Linda have studied German recently, communication was not a problem. Herbert says that the trip was "all I ever could have wished for!"

Walter D. Kamphoefner Department of History, Texas A&M University, College Station TX 77843-4236 is seeking information on the Simon and D'Albini families of Kendall County and San Antonio. Ferdinand Simon, born in (Hesse?) Darmstadt around 1826, lived in Leon Springs before the Civil War, survived the Nueces Massacre, and was imprisoned in San Antonio for the remainder of the War. Several of his letters written from prison to his wife, Carolina, in Comfort have turned up among collectors of Confederate stamps. Does anyone have information on Ferdinand and/or Carolina's whereabouts after the War? Or, dates of death for them (probably before 1880)? Or, more of their letters? Their daughter, Minna or Anna, married Dr. William D'Albini of Prussia in 1878 and lived in the Block Creek area near Comfort; a grandson, Gus D'Albini (1880-1951), was with the San Antonio Machine and Supply Company.

Margaret Snavely Jones Rt 2 Box 10-L-7, Medical Lake WA 99022-9608 has two pleas. One concerns Bessie Mae Fairbarn Deitsch Eskew. She was an avid collector of family history, but little is known about her personal life. She was married on 4 Feb. 1947 in San Antonio to Harry Austin Deitsch, son of Charles Jackson Deitsch and Ida Lulla Biddle. Harry died on 2 May 1949 at Kerrville. Bessie married a second time to Foy Dall Eskew on 23 May 1966 in Titusville, Crawford County, Penn. Foy Dall Eskew was born on 21 Jan. 1902 at Cottonwood, Texas, in Callahan County. His first wife was Minnie Warner Fairbarn, Bessie Mae's younger sister. Minnie died on 11 Feb 1966 at Kerrville. Foy died on 12 Dec. 1972 near Kerrville; and Bessie Mae died on 2 Nov 1988 at Center Point, in Kerr County. Bessie Mae was born in New York and was a nurse, but where did she receive her training? Why was she in San Antonio in 1947? Was there a connection with World War II and the military hospitals in San Antonio? Why did she leave Texas for Pennsylvania, and then return to Texas? Margaret is looking for newspaper accounts of the second marriage and of the deaths of Foy Dall Eskew and of Bessie Mae Eskew. Can anyone help her?

Margaret's second problem concerns a family that emigrated in 1866. Henrietta, her parents, and possibly a sister, left a German port in 1866 bound for Texas. The husband and father died during the voyage and was buried at sea. Family stories reveal that the ship was unable to land at a Texas port "because the ports were closed to German shipping." So the family had to land in Mexico and journey overland to Texas. Once in Texas, the family "had to" change its name from Weckener to Bokar. Margaret is looking for documentation to verify this family story. Which port in Mexico is the likely port of arrival? Where would they have crossed from Mexico to Texas? Why was the name changed? (GTHS Genealogy Editor's note: We know of no instance where Texas ports were closed specifically to German ships; however from time

to time Texas ports were closed to all ships during times of epidemics. But, from our brief examination of published sources, we find no such epidemic mentioned for 1866. Also, it is generally accepted that no records were kept of persons crossing into the U.S. across the Mexican borders until well into the 20th century.)

Helen Abel Habel 900 Capps St., Marlin TX 76661 has been collecting information for several years and has just recently begun putting the data into the Family Reunion computer program. She sends queries on two families and would like to find a person with whom she might continue the search for earlier ancestors. The first query concerns Andreas Abel, born about 1804, who married Amalia Kutter(?), born 2 Feb. 1823. They came to America in 1874 from Bromberg, Prussia (now, Bydgoszcz, Poland) with three of their eight children. These three children were: Gustav, born 23 July 1860; Wilhelm, born 31 Oct. 1863; and Albertina (or Albertine), born in October of 1867. The family settled in Washington County and later moved to a farm near Riesel in McLennan County where they lived until their deaths. Andreas died on 11 Nov. 1883, and Amalia died in 1901. They may have been members of Zion Lutheran Church, at Zionsville. Helen would like to know if Andreas had any brothers or sisters in Texas or elsewhere in the U.S., and what happened to the other five children of Andreas and Amalia.

The second person of interest to Helen is Augusta (or Auguste) Amalia Locke, born 5 Oct. 1872, who came to America in 1885 from Schocken, Provinz Posen. Her father was W. O. Locke, and her mother was Anna Christine Hibbe. Augusta settled in Washington County, near Gay Hill, and married Wilhelm Herman Abel on 3 July 1891, at Trinity Lutheran Church at Riesel in McLennan County. Helen would like to hear from anyone with information on these people.

Helen also sent along two very interesting entries from the burial records of her great-grandparents found at the St. Paul Evangelical and Reformed Church, now the St. Paul United Church of Christ, in Marlin. One is for Heinrich Wm. Martin Lemke, who died in 1930. This record gives his date of birth, 16 Nov. 1852, and place of birth, Bleckede, Hannover, Deutschland, in addition to the date of death and the location (section, lot, grave numbers) of his burial. The earlier record is for his wife, Magdalene Lemke, geb. Karsten, who died in 1920. This record gives, in addition to the date of death and place of burial, the date and place of her birth (given more specifically as Bleckede an den Elbe, Hannover), and also the date of her marriage to Heinrich Lemke (which was prior to their emigration), plus the year of their emigration, as well as the names of her seven children (with a mark by the name of the one that predeceased her).

(GTHS Genealogy Editor's note: This is an excellent example of why we must seek out each and every record of our ancestors. If this family was seeking the name of the ancestral hometown in Germany, they certainly found it--and more--in this one source. Note also that much more information is included in the wife's record from 1920 than in the husband's record from 1930: look for both records!)

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

Thelma Sprecher 1222 24th Ave. North, Texas City TX 77590 is doing research on her great-great-grandfather, Ernest (Ernst) Raven. According to the L.D.S. International Genealogical Index (IGI), he was born 23 Aug. 1804 in the province of Hannover, and married Johanne Frederiche Augusta Mentzel on 7 Feb 1830 in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. They had four children born in Saxe-Coburg between 1831 and 1837. They immigrated to the U.S. in 1838, but Thelma has not been able to determine the port of departure from Germany nor the port of arrival in America. Her records place them in Burleson County in 1844 (note that this was during the Republic of Texas era and that Burleson County was created 24 March 1846 and was organized on 13 July 1846). Ernest Raven was listed in the Burleson County tax records for 1846 and is listed several times in the book Founders and Patriots of the Republic of Texas. This book states that he was a colonist of Burleson County, a citizen, and that he came to Texas in 1844 and received Certificate #17 for a grant of land. The Ravens had two more children in Texas, born in 1847 and in 1850 in Burleson County. Thelma would appreciate additional suggestions as to research on their departure from Germany and their arrival in Texas.

Joan Griggs 6215 Oak Bay Dr., Houston TX 77091 is looking for information on the family of Johann Gerhard Renken. According to Ethel Hander Geue's New Homes in a New Land: German Immigration to Texas 1847-1861, a Gerd Renken came to Texas in 1849 at the age of 37, making his birth year about 1812. However, if this is the same as Johann Gerhard Renken, he possibly would have returned to Germany, as the family which came to Texas later, in 1873, included children born after 1849. The wife's name was Talke Margarete Gefike; she was born 7 Dec. 1819. A hand-printed fleur-de-lis expressing their devotion for each other is dated 9 May 1844, which could possibly be their marriage date. A picture of the family, possibly taken in Germany, shows four sons (no names known) and three daughters, Meta (Mrs. Christian Diers), Anna Helene (Mrs. August Tredemeyer), and Anna (Mrs. Dehorde). Other documents which place the time of immigration as 1873 include an authorized copy of Anna Helene's baptism record of November 1857, from Schweiburg, Germany, dated 27 May 1873, and John Gerhard Renken's application for naturalization. This record gives his age as 35 and states that he arrived at the Port of New Orleans on 22 Oct. 1873. In Fayette County, on 6 Sept. 1875, John Gerard Renken was granted Guardianship of Meta and Maria Renken. The next documentation is the 1880 Census, Fayette County, which lists Gerhard Renken, age 26, and Meta, his mother, age 60. Death records from Fayette County show that Margarethe Renken was born 7 Dec. 1819, died 30 May 1909, and was buried in Trinity Hill Lutheran Cemetery. Any information which helps to fill in the missing years, as well as the missing names, will be greatly appreciated.

Joe Ed Lamb Rt 4 Box 3949, Trinity Tx 75862 is looking for information on four persons. The first is Henry Julius Bauerlein, born in 1833 in Bavaria. He lived in Medina, Bandera County. His wife was Dorothea Catherine Kuehne, born 16 April 1835 in Germany. They were married 8 May 1854. Their two sons were: Louis Otto, born 6 June 1855; and Charles Frank, born 23 Feb. 1856.

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

165

The second person of interest is Edgar Eugene Oborski, born in 1826 and died on 27 Mar 1874. He lived at Castroville and Medina, Texas, and was possibly at one time the Medina County Tax Assessor and Collector (although the current publication, The History of Medina County, does not list his name as a holder of that office). Oborski was the second husband of Dorothea Catherine Kuehne Bauerlein.

The third individual is John Philip (Casper) Byerly, who was born in Germany and died in Pomaria, South Carolina. His family moved to Texas around 1855 and may have had a Mexican land grant. His first wife was Catherine, and his second wife was Mary Easter, born in Fairfield County, South Carolina.

The fourth person is Harm H. Faesler, who was born in Aurich, Ost Friesland, Germany, on 8 May 1803, and who married Franke Gerdes.

John Hancock Box 1021, Ann Arbor MI 48106-1021 has inquiries about Hancock families who lived in Texas. He is interested in Rachel Frances (Fanny) Biles, born about 1861, possibly in Hays County. On 3 May 1877, in San Marcos, she married William Allen (Will) Hancock, who had been born 7 March 1855 at Bastrop. Fanny and her daughter, Jenny (born about 1879, Hays County) died in a ranch house fire about 1883 in Hays County. Where is Rachel Frances Biles Hancock buried? She was the daughter of William and Barbary (?) Biles. Who are her siblings, if any? William Allen (Will) Hancock was married three times. His second wife was Willie May V. Thompson, whom he married 25 Jan. 1884 in San Marcos. They had two sons, John Ballard Hancock and David Holiday Hancock, and Willie May died 22 May 1887, also in Hays County. Will Hancock then married a third time, on 17 June 1889, to Sarah Elizabeth Burkett. She was born 25 April 1856 at Lavaca, Texas, the daughter of Nathaniel Boone Burkett and Catherine Bunting. From this marriage there were three children: Bessie Lee (married W. H. Roberts), James Wallace, and Zenith Boone Hancock. John reports that the Burkett family has a German heritage connection.

Another query concerning Texas residents centers on Susan A. McQuiston, born in 1846 in Paris, Texas. Her first husband was W. L. Carpenter, born about 1854 in Illinois. Their three children were: Mattie Kate, Thomas, and Wheeler G. Carpenter. W. L. Carpenter died about 1877 in Hays County, and Susan remarried to William L. Hancock. He had been born in 1839 in Bastrop County and died in 1916 in Travis County. Their children were William L. Hancock, Jr. and Walter Hancock, possibly twins, born about 1873; Myrtle Hancock, born about 1878; and another female child born about 1880. Susan died 10 May 1931 at Manchaca in Travis County, and is buried in the Live Oak/McQuiston Cemetery at Manchaca. John's questions are these: When and where were Susan A. McQuiston and W. L. Carpenter married? When, where, and how did W. L. Carpenter die? Who is the mother of the William L. Hancock children born prior to 1877? When and where were Susan A. McQuiston Carpenter and William A. Hancock married? John has family group sheets on these families that furnish more details as to dates, etc. Can a GTHS member who resides in this area look for records to answer some of these questions?

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

Bill Griesenbeck 1117 Marcia Ave., Point Pleasant Beach NJ 08742 is following the trail of his great-grandfather, Louis Griesenbeck. He was the son of Carl Griesenbeck, a prominent businessman and leader of the German community in San Antonio. Carl was one of the founders of the German-English School, served as its president for 16 years, and was also a founder of the Casino Association. Carl was married twice: by his first wife, Wilhelmine Caroline Kottman, he had five children: Louis (Bill's ancestor), Arthur, Eugene (died as a child), Charles, and Louise Isabelle (Mrs. Jacob Pfeil). By his second wife, Wilhelmina Augusta Boeckel, he had five children: Hugo, Bertha (Mrs. Thomas Morgan Watlington), Emmy (Mrs. Fred Scudder, then Mrs. H. B. Adams, Jr.), Baldwin, and Eugene. Louis studied pharmacy and worked in New York between 1874-76, then returned to San Antonio, where he worked in F. Kalteyer's Drug Store. In 1885, he obtained a Diploma from the Casino de Monterrey in Mexico. Around 1890, he left Texas for New Jersey, where he established his family. Bill, from the New Jersey branch of the family, is trying to learn more about the family's origins in Texas and in Germany.

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**GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE**

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the Journal. It gives readers the names, areas, and other facts "at a glance." Note: Please send all three types of information: origin in Germany, Texas County settled, and religion; if any item is unknown, enter a "?". The "origin in Germany" may be given as broadly or as specifically as known. Place and family names are published as furnished by the contributors.

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Helen Abel Habel, 900 Capps St., Marlin TX 76661 (817) 883-2790 (home) or (817) 883-2271 (work)

Abel	Bromberg, Prussia (now: Bydghoszcz, Poland)	Washington	Lutheran
Locke	Schocken	Washington	Evang. Luth.
Quandt	?	Fayette	Evang. Luth.
Lemke	Bleckede an den Elbe, Hannover	Fayette	Evang. Luth

MEMBER: Edwin Rudolph Jordan, Jr., 1112 W. 7th St., Austin TX 78703 (512) 472-2931

Jordan	Lammspringe, Hannover	Gillespie	Lutheran
Pletz	Breitscheid Amt Herborn	Gillespie	Lutheran
Pfeister	to TX from USA?	Gillespie	Lutheran
Burg	Lammspringe, Hannover	Gillespie	Lutheran
Koch	Breitscheid Amt Herborn	Gillespie	Lutheran

GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

167

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
MEMBER: Lauren Ann Kattner, 1492 Hamlet St., Columbus OH 43201-2211 (614) 421-2051			
Biegel	Moselle-et-Muerthe	Fayette	?
Conrad	?	Austin	?
Durst	Oldenburg	Nacogdoches	Protestant
Erdmann/Earthman	?	Fayette	Protestant
Fordtran	Westphalia	Austin/Fayette	Protestant
Rueg	?	Nacogdoches	?
Sterne	Rhineland	Nacogdoches	Jewish

Gen. Ed.'s note: You will recognize some of these names as those of well-known persons in Texas history.

MEMBER: Elizabeth A. Green, 18 Farrell St., Houston TX 77022 (713) 694-4176

Rival/Revel/Reval	Bavaria	Harris	?
Schindler	Moravia (Austria)	Lavaca	Catholic
Roemisch	(Germany)	Guadalupe	?
Stach	(Germany)	Lavaca	Catholic?
Junger/Juenger	(Austria)	Gonzales/Ft. Bend	Catholic

MEMBER: Betty Janak Sinclair, Rt 5 Box 636, Alvin TX 77511 (713) 585-9871

Koebelen	?	Fayette	Catholic
Schmidt	?	Fayette	?

MEMBER: Alma Meyer Zeissel, Rt 3 Box 259AA, Bastrop TX 78602 (512) 360-3873

Zeissel	Creussen, Oberfranken	Knox & Shelby TN	Luth/Cath
Hanke	Bernhau?, Moravia	Milam/Coleman	Catholic
Gerick	Kronland?, Moravia	Milam	Catholic
Meyer	Kunewald, Moravia (now: Kunin, Czech Republic)	DeWitt/Wichita	Catholic
Oehler	Domstadt1, Moravia (now: Domasov N B Brystic, Czech Republic)	DeWitt/Wichita	Catholic
Schatz	Bavaria	Knox & Shelby TN	Catholic

MEMBER: Robert Roesner, 24814 Saddlespur, Katy TX 77494 (713) 392-6958

Rössner/Roesner	Reckendorf*	Ft Bend & in MI	Catholic
Gabael	Hesse-Darmstadt	Ft Bend	Lutheran
Ordern/Orthner	Bavaria	in MI only	Lutheran
Nass	?	in MI only	Catholic
Wahl	Reckendorf*	in MI	Catholic

\*Reckendorf is NNW of Bamberg between Baunach and Ebern

**168** GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
MEMBER: Jo Ann Moore, 2115 Kenwood Ave., Austin TX 78704 (512) 444-4044			
Shane/Schoen	Prussia	Bexar/Uvalde	?
Bader	Alsace-Lorraine	Medina	Catholic
Braun	?	Medina	?

MEMBER: Joe Ed Lamb, Rt 4 Box 3949, Trinity TX 75862

Byerly		Jasper	
Bauerlein		Medina/Bexar	
Oborski		Medina	

MEMBER: Mary Meyer, 3463 E. Southcross #38, San Antonio TX 78223 (210) 337-6254

Meyer/Geltmeyer(?)	?	Lavaca/Wilson	Lutheran
Budewig	?	Fayette/Lavaca	Lutheran
Buda/Budee	?	Goliad	?

MEMBER: D. A. Salm, Rt 9 Box 69, Victoria TX 77901

Haschke	Frankenstien, Silesia	Fayette	Lutheran?
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MEMBER: Anni Balhaus, Robert-Koch-Str. 36, D-65520 Bad Camberg, Germany

Meurer	Wuerges, Amt Idstein, Nassau*	Comal	Catholic
Pauli	Wuerges, Amt Idstein, Nassau*	Comal	Catholic
Eichhorn	Wuerges, Amt Idstein, Nassau*	?	Catholic
Munsch	Rothenbach, Westerwald	?	Catholic

\*(Hessen)

Anni Balhaus also has information on the first names of the heads of these emigrant families and on the composition of the families.

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**FAMILY REUNIONS**

To have news of your family reunion appear in the Journal, send the item to your Genealogy Editor, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213

John and Anna Rausch Family annual reunion, 18 September 1994.  
 Note change in location: at the old schoolhouse in Waring rather than at the previous location, the Grapetown Schützen Verein in Gillespie County. For information: Dick Magers, P.O. Box 1543, Boerne TX 78006, (210) 249-3344.



GTHS Genealogy Section, continued

169

Heinrich and Mena Magers Family biennial reunion, 16 October 1994, at the Kendall County Fairgrounds. By vote of the family, this year the Goldbeck Company will return to take a photograph. Over 400 persons are needed in the picture to equal the number in the July 1921 photo. For information: Dick Magers, P. O. Box 1543, Boerne TX 78006, (210) 249-3344.

Bielss Family reunion, Sunday, 23 October 1994, at the community center, Walburg, Texas. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m., with a meal at noon and a business meeting in the afternoon. Each family is asked to bring a picnic lunch with tea, coffee, etc., furnished. To help with reunion expenses, each family is also asked to bring an item for the auction. Relatives are urged to bring old photographs for others to enjoy. In addition, they are asked to bring information for updating the family tree book. Invited are all the descendants of the William, Ernest, Henry, and August Bielss families. Charles Bielss of Bartlett and LeRoy Biels of Killeen are in charge of the reunion. For information: Odessa Blumberg, 418 Breckenridge, Corpus Christi TX 78408, (512) 882-1510.

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## SPECIAL HELPS

Several of our GTHS members have offered to help other members by "doing research in archives, libraries, etc." These persons listed that assistance on their membership or renewal forms. If any other member would like to offer to help, please let your GTHS Genealogy Editor know.

Evelyn Lange Braden, P. O. Box 214, Floresville TX 78114 (210) 393-2320 offers do research in the Floresville (Wilson County) courthouse if someone needs it.

Others offering help include:

JoAnn Moore, 2115 Kenwood Ave., Austin TX 78704 (512) 444-4044

Matthew M. Perdue, 11500 Braesview #4803, San Antonio TX 78213 (210) 492-7128

Helen A. Habel, 900 Capps St., Marlin TX 76661 (817) 883-2790, home, and (817) 883-2271, work

Wilma Mai, HC 1 Box 360, Sharon Springs KS 67758 (Wallace County) (913) 852-4455

Elizabeth A. Green, 18 Farrell St., Houston TX 77022 (713) 694-4176

Evangeline Loessin Whorton, 20 Colony Park, Galveston TX 77551 (409) 744-7431

GENEALOGICAL TOPIC INDEX FOR 1993

Members/readers have recently called it to our attention that the annual topic index for the GTHS Journal does not include an index of topics covered in the Genealogy Section. Thus, we have prepared the following index of topics included in the three issues for 1993. This index does not cover the family research reported in "From Our Members" nor "GTHS Members' Genealogical Exchange" as the surnames in those sections are indexed in the annual surname index.

Issue #1: pages 56-74; #2: pages 137-152; #3: pages 227-239

1920 Federal Population Census (publication) 61  
 1993 Updated Addresses to German Repositories  
 (book) 227  
 A Handi Guide to Planning a Family Reunion  
 (booklet) 234  
 Across the Atlantic and Beyond (book review) 148  
 Across the Atlantic and Beyond...German and Swiss  
 to America 62  
 Address Book for Germanic Genealogy 62, 227  
 Ahnentafel (publication) 61  
 Alsace-Lorraine emigrants 59  
 American Schlesweig-Holstein Society 58  
 Ancestral Biographies, D.R.T. 229  
 Angermiller Family Reunion 239  
 APG Quarterly (publication) 140, 228  
 Archives  
     Augsburg 57  
     Bavarian 57  
     German 152  
     National 61  
     Prussian 152  
     Schwaben 57  
     Southern Methodist University, Dallas 137  
     Texas State Archives 228  
     Texas Wesleyan University, Fort Worth 58  
     Travis Park Methodist Church, San Antonio  
         58  
 Archivist of the United States 139  
 Arnswalde emigrants 58  
 Association of Professional Genealogists 140, 228  
 Atlas of Germany 141  
 Augsburg archives 57  
 Austria, telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 Baden emigrants 59  
 Bautzen research visit 140  
 Bavaria emigrants 59  
 Bavarian State Archives 57  
 Birthdays, celebrating 152  
 Black Dutch, Who are the 57  
 Book reviews 69, 147, 148, 236

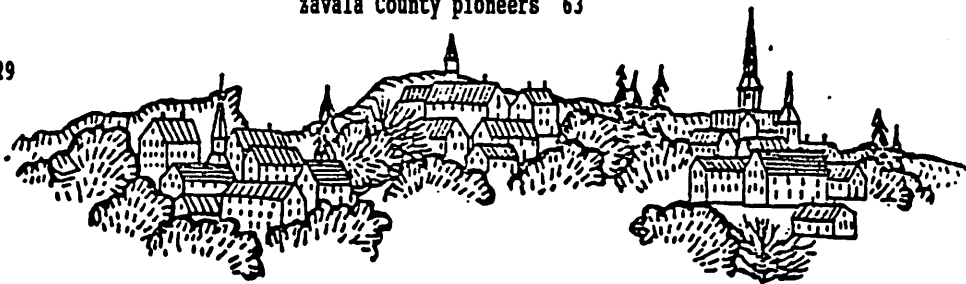
Books for German research 141  
 Braunschweig emigrants 57  
 Brazoria County cemeteries 62  
 Bremen departures 229  
 Bridwell Library (S.M.U.) 137  
 Caldwell County Census 141  
 Caldwell County, Genealogical and Historical  
 Society of 59, 141  
 Cartography, history of 61  
 Cayce Family Reunion 233  
 Cemeteries  
     Brazoria County 62  
     Hamilton County 228  
     Helme Family Cemetery 234  
     Nueces County 62  
     St. Mary's, Fredericksburg 140  
 Cemetery Data of Nueces County, Texas 62  
 Census, 1860, 1870, Caldwell County 141  
 Census, 1870, Gillespie County 139  
 Census, 1910, Dawson County 63  
 Census, 1920, publication 61  
 Center for...History of Cartography 61  
 Citizenship papers found 143  
 Climbing Your Family Tree Can Be Fun 60, 140, 230  
 Comal County Genealogy Society 141  
 Computers 228  
 Cottbus emigrants 58  
 Dallas County marriages (book) 63  
 Daughters of the Republic of Texas 229  
 Dawson County 1910 Census, Index 63  
 East Brandenburg emigrants 58  
 East Elbian emigrants 57  
 Eastern Westphalia 139  
 Edwards County pioneers 63  
 Engbrock Family Reunion 68, 145  
 European Microfilm at L.D.S. Library 138  
 Familienkundliche Nachrichten (FANA) 140  
 Family Associations Organization and Management  
 (handbook) 61  
 Family Reunion Handbook: A Guide... (book) 234  
 Family reunion organization (handbooks) 61

**Genealogical Topics for 1993, continued**

- Family Reunions 68, 69, 145, 233, 234, 239  
 Family visit to Germany 74  
 Federation of Genealogical Societies 139  
 Federation of Genealogical Societies (conference)  
     60  
 Finn Family (article) 72  
 First Germans in America...New York (book) 62  
 Five Steps to Genealogy Publishing (book) 228  
 Fraktur 62  
 France, telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 Frankfurt-Oder emigrants 57, 58  
 Fredericksburg Genealogical Society 139  
 Friedbeberg emigrants 58  
 Fronteras (publication) 61  
 Fruedbeberg emigrants 58  
 G.G.S.A. 59  
 Galveston arrivals 73, 145, 237  
 Geldmacher, William, Legacy of (article) 235  
 Genealogical Abstracts...German Reformed Church 62  
 Genealogical Institute of Texas 60  
 Genealogical lecture 59  
 Genealogical Research Directory (book) 228  
 Genealogies of Texas Families...Pioneer Settlers,  
     62  
 Genealogist's Guide to Fraktur 62  
 Genealogy & preservation supplies 56  
 Genealogy at GTHS annual meeting 227  
 Genealogy Pox 152  
 Genealogy Unlimited, Inc. 141  
 Genealogy, a poem 70  
 Genealogy, derivation of the word 70  
 German American Genealogy (publication) 140  
 German Americans in the American Revolution (book)  
     62  
 German Assistant (computer program) 63  
 German concentration camp records 58  
 German emigrants 62, 145, 148  
 German Genealogical Research (book) 59  
 German Genealogical Society of America 59  
 German Genealogy Day (seminar) 140  
 German genealogy research handouts 56, 137  
 German Immigrant in America: P.W. Bogen's Guidebook  
     62  
 German Immigrants: Bremen to New York (book) 229  
 German Interest Group of Minnesota Genealogy  
     Society 56  
 German Language Translation Software 63  
 German Language Video Center 63  
 German Methodist records 58, 137  
 German Pioneer Life: A Social History 62  
 German Pioneer Life: A Social History (book review)  
     236  
 German postal codes 56, 137  
 German research helps 59  
 German research visit 140  
 German Surnames in America 58  
 German telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 German-Americans in World War II 228  
 German-English Genealogical Dictionary 62  
 German/American Family Records in the Fraktur  
     Tradition 62  
 Germanic Emigrants Register 59, 138  
 Germanic Genealogy Society 56  
 Gillespie, The (publication) 139  
 GTHS Annual Meeting, genealogy 227  
 Hamburg emigrants 57  
 Hamilton County Genealogical Society 228  
 Hanover (Province) 57  
 Hanover emigrants 59  
 Helke Family Cemetery 234  
 Heritage Books, Inc. 62  
 Heritage Quest 56  
 Historical maps 59  
 Hoelscher-Buxkemper Family Reunion 69, 145  
 How to Host a Family Reunion (brochure) 61  
 How to Plan a Family Reunion (booklet) 234  
 Huffman, Hoffman, Hoofman, Hofman, Hoffmann  
     (newsletter) 63  
 Immigrant and Passenger Arrivals (publication) 61  
 Immigrant Genealogical Society 59, 63, 138, 140,  
     227  
 Immigrants 237  
 Index to the Runge Chronicles: A German Saga of  
     Success 141  
 Indianola arrivals 56  
 International Genealogical Index (IGI) 140  
 International Reply Coupons (IRC) 227  
 International Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy  
     60  
 Italy, telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 Jewish genealogical research 58, 60, 61  
 Kendall County 139  
 Kendall County, Genealogical Society 139  
 Keys to the Past (publication) 139  
 Kinney County pioneers 63  
 Kreuzberg School, students 139  
 L.D.S. 140  
 L.D.S. Family History Centers in U.S.A. 138  
 L.D.S. Family History Library (Salt Lake City) 138  
 L.D.S. Family History Service Centers in Europe  
     138  
 Landsberg emigrants 58  
 Launeberg emigrants 57  
 Legacy of William Geldmacher (article) 235

Genealogical Topics for 1993, continued

- Letters to Germany 227  
 Lineage Society Applications 140  
 Lower Saxony emigrants 227  
 Luther, Martin, pamphlets, Bible 137  
 Luxembourg, telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 Map, early Fredericksburg 139  
 Maps 59, 61, 139, 141  
 Maps of Germany, Europe 141  
 Marriage Records  
     Dallas County 63  
     Gillespie County 140  
 Maverick County pioneers 63  
 Mecklenburg-Strelitz emigrants 57  
 Medina County pioneers 63  
 Microfilmed records 61  
 Microtac Software 63  
 Name changes 58  
 National Archives 139  
 National Archives publications 61  
 National Genealogical Society (conference) 60, 61,  
     229  
 National Institute on Genealogical Research 60  
 New York arrivals 229  
 Niedersachsen-Oldenburg 227  
 Niedersachsen emigrants 57  
 Nueces County cemeteries 62  
 Ohio Valley Biographical Index 26  
 Oldenburg emigrants 57, 59  
 Palatines to America (conference) 60  
 Pape, Henry and Hanne, Family Story (review) 147  
 Passenger list publication 61  
 Passenger list research 145  
 Passenger List Research (article) 73  
 Passenger list research help 59  
 Passenger lists 229, 237  
 Pomerania emigrants 57, 59  
 Posen emigrants 59  
 Potsdam emigrants 57  
 Preparing Manuscripts for Offset Printing (article)  
     140, 228  
 Preservation Emporium 56  
 Prussia emigrants 59  
 Prussian State Archives 152  
 Publishing family histories 140, 228, 229  
 Real County pioneers 63  
 Records found at Garage Sale 143  
 Regensburg emigrants 145  
 Research Center, Lower Saxons in USA 57  
 Research helps  
     Eastern Westphalia 139  
     German genealogy 59  
     historical maps 59  
     library 150  
     passenger lists 59  
 Rheinland-Pfalz research 140  
 Runge Chronicles 141  
 San Antonio Conservation Society Library 150  
 Saxony emigrants 59  
 Schaumburg emigrants 57  
 Schaumburg-Lippe emigrants 57  
 Schneider Family (article) 71  
 Schwaben, province archives 57  
 Schweitzer, Dr. George K., lecturer 59  
 Seeker, Heinrich, Family (article) 149  
 Soldin emigrants 58  
 Sophienburg Archives 141  
 Stammbaum (publication) 61  
 Stettin emigrants 57  
 Striedel Family Reunion 239  
 Switzerland emigrants 62, 148  
 Switzerland, telephone books on CD-ROM 59  
 Texas Methodist Archives 58, 137  
 Texas pioneer settlers 62  
 Texas Seaport Museum (review) 237  
 Texas State Archives 228  
 Tombstone Inscriptions...Cemeteries of Brazoria  
     County 62  
 Tours  
     Eastern States 58  
     Schleswig-Holstein 58  
 U.S. lost towns & name changes 56  
 Uvalde County pioneers 63  
 Vanderstay Family (article) 151  
 Visiting the ancestral home 70  
 Weigand Family Reunion 239  
 West Brandenburg emigrants 57  
 Westphalia emigrants 59, 149  
 Westphalia, Eastern 139  
 Weynand, Hubert, Der Bütgenbacher und/and The Texan  
     (review 69  
 Wieland Family Reunion 239  
 World War II internments 228  
 Württemberg emigrants 59  
 Zavala County pioneers 63



## PIONEER METHODIST MINISTERS OF FREDERICKSBURG

At the Annual Meeting in Fredericksburg I will be presenting a very brief program concerning the founding of the Methodist Church in Fredericksburg. I would like for this to be a very interactive program from which I will be able to gain information from the membership as much as they may learn a few points about our congregation. The Fredericksburg United Methodist Church will celebrate its sesquicentennial year in 1999. It is my hope at that time to have completed a family genealogy for each of the ministers who have served the congregation and for each of the founding families of the congregation. I hope to have a table or space available during the convention where I can have the material I have about these families available to discuss with anyone attending the event. I would certainly appreciate anyone having information to "drop by" and visit with me.

It would be wonderful if I could list all of the ministers we have had and the families I will be working on, but I think it is "too much to ask" at this time. However, I would much appreciate your listing those ministers who are definitely in the German Methodist tradition. I am going to list those ministers and will underline the ones with which I am having a significant amount of difficulty gathering information. If anyone has information about these men, I would certainly appreciate their letting me know about them at the convention. I will be glad to contact members at a later time -- but would also be delighted to have any information anyone might bring along.

EDUARD SCHNEIDER (SNYDER) 1849-51, C. A. GROTE 1851-55, JOHN C. KOPP (SR ?) 1855-57, HENRY BAUER 1857-59, F. VORDENBAUMEN 1859-61, JOHN F. BRUNOW 1861, CONRAD PLUENNEKE 1861-65, F. MUMME 1865-68, JACOB KERN 1872-75, F. M. HENSCHER 1875-76, H. HAAS 1876, G. BÜCHSCHACHER 1876-78, W. A. KNOLLE 1878-81, JOHN A. SCHARPER 1881-82, GERD GERDES 1883-84, DANIEL SCHRIMPF 1884-86, AUGUST SCHEURICH 1886-89, ERNEST FRENZEL 1889-93. JACOB BADER 1893-95, HENRY JORDAN 1895-97, A. E. RECTOR 1899-1902, C. A. LEHMBERG 1902-05, ROBERT MOERNER 1905-08, J. C. WINKEL 1908-10, O. W. BENOLD 1910-11, W. D. WIEMERS 1911-14, A. R. VETTER 1914-21, RICHARD GAMMENTHALER 1929-35, M. P. BURTON 1936-38, W. M. RADER 1939-40, I. O. DONALDSON 1940-42, ANTON ULLRICH 1871-75, JACOB OTT 1875-78, C. URBANTHKE 1879, GEORG KOCH 1879-81, OTTO RIEBE 1881-84, E. C. DRAEGER 1885-87, J. W. PFAEFFLE 1887-91, H. HOMBURG 1892, G. SCHULZE 1893-97, H. PAPE 1898-1901, GEORGE SCHRIEBER 1901-06, A. HILD 1906, J. HIERHOLZER 1907-10, G. H. HOUY 1911-16, J. A. TRAEGER 1916-19, JOHN KLEINKNECHT 1919-21, C. F. BOHMFALK 1926-28, G. C. BRANNIES 1929-35, B. E. BREIHAN 1936-30, O. F. KATTNER 1940-43, PAUL AL WEISS 1944-45, E. F. FLUCK 1946-50.

The founding families were John Durst, Henry Kneese, Melchoir Bauer, Jacob Treibs, Frederick Ellebracht, Ernst Houy, Frederick Winkel, Henry Stiehl, Henry Braterich, Hermann Fischer, Christoph Feuge. I would be delighted to visit with any members of these families -- or other early Methodist families.

**Wiltbur E. Crenwelge, M.D., 710 E. Main, Fredericksburg TX 78624**

### SOME OF MY GERMAN ANCESTORS

By Carl C. Wright

1607 Meadow Lane, Lockhart, Texas 78644

On my mother's side of the family, Henry Whittenburg (1700-1767) was born in Germany, and his grandson, Joseph, came to America in 1783. He lived in Green County, East Tennessee.

His son, Andrew, born in 1790, was the first of the family to have birth in America. He moved from East Tennessee to Talladega County, Alabama, in 1832 with his wife, Anna Long (1798-1865). Andrew worked in an iron foundry until 1852.

That year, the Whittenburgs ended their manufacture of wagons, farm implements, and harness. The families, packed in thirteen wagons and chained together in single file, reached Bell County, Texas, in December 1852. After building a home in Williamson County, where Florence is now located, Andrew and his sons and sons-in-law went to Austin and bought 250 acres of land for \$1.50 an acre.

Joseph Long Whittenburg married Lovinia Hoyle and settled near Round Rock. They reared four children: Sarah Caroline (Miller), Martha Emmealine (Jackson), Margarette Angelina (Fleager), George Lafayette.

Joshua Whittenburg, the eighth of twelve children born to Andres and Anna, became a teacher and married his former student, Sallie Ridout. They lived on Plum Creek in Caldwell County. He was also a farmer, astronomer, horticulturist, psychologist, and a student of Greek and Latin. The History of the First Methodist Church, Lockhart, Texas, 1855-1953 shows that he was the Lockhart Circuit rider in 1857. Further service included his being deacon and elder at Chappell Hill, Washington County.

Lovinia Foster Whittenburg, Andrew's eldest daughter, married William Martin ("Marty") Hasty in Alabama. She was my mother's grandmother. William, born in Franklin County, Tennessee, to Benjamin and Mary (Warren) Hasty, came to Texas in 1852 with the large wagon train including the Whittenburgs.

William and Lovinia had eleven children before her death in 1859. In 1864, William married Minnie Gore, a widow with two children, M. E. and Jonathan.

Augustus Parmer Hasty, the eighth of William and Lovinia's eleven children, was born June 10, 1848. He married Serena Parker on June 9, 1870, and had six children. My mother, Lucy Pearl, was six years old when Serena died. Augustus had five children by his second wife. He died September 28, 1934.

Lavina Ann, the ninth child of William Martin and Lovinia, was born August 4, 1850, and married Robert A. McCray on November 3, 1872. They moved to Bellingham, Washington, where Robert raised apples. He became a Methodist missionary to China near the end of the century.

Most of the research for this paper was made by Carroll Wright, 4543 Diamondhead, San Antonio, Texas 78218.

## FRIEDRICH GUSTAV & AUGUSTE (FIEBIGER) SEYDLER

by

Darlene Graf Quiring  
911 Holly Hill Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77478

Friedrich Gustav Seydler, the third child of Carl Gottlieb and Erdmute Christiana Friederika (Holhlfeld) Seydler, was born in Bautzen, Saxony, Germany, on February 21, 1806. He married Auguste Fiebiger in Bautzen. Auguste was born August 6, 1810, also in Bautzen.

Friedrich Gustav's father, Carl Gottlieb, was born in Bautzen on February 6, 1772; his mother, Erdmute Holhlfeld, was born in Bautzen on July 16, 1778. They married on June 21, 1801, also in Bautzen. Carl was a master mason. The children of Carl and Erdmute Seydler were Karl Edward, Edward Wilhelm, Friedrich Gustav, Christiana Friederika, Elenora Emilia, Ernestine Juliana, Ernestine Amalia, Juliana Wilhelmina, Robert Adolph, Caroline Amalia, Friedrich August Herman, and Carl Wilhelm.

At age 61, Carl Seydler died on January 3, 1834; his wife, Erdmute, died fourteen years later on October 16, 1852, at age 74.

The Friedrich Gustav Seydlers were the first Seydlers to immigrate to America. On December 15, 1849, the ship Hamburg-Knollen arrived in the Port of Galveston. Among its passengers were Friedrich Gustav Jr. (age 18), Anna (age 15), Friedrich Hermann (age 5), and Herman Rudolph (age 3). Also arriving were two of Friedrich Gustav's brothers, Friedrich A. Herman (age 26) and Carl Wilhelm (age 24).

The second group of Seydlers arrived from Bremen to the Port of Galveston in December 1850. Those arriving were the sons of Friedrich Gustav and Auguste Seydler, Hermann Julius (age 18) and E. Frederick (age 13). Ernestine Amalia (age 36), Friedrich Gustav's unmarried sister, arrived on the ship Franklin at Galveston on September 1, 1853.

The Seydlers were the first Wends to immigrate to America. After his arrival, Friedrich Gustav wrote to the newspaper Serbske Nowiny in Bautzen. The Seydler family in Bautzen was highly respected and well-educated. Later Wendish immigrants sought out the Seydlers and benefited from their advice and assistance. The Seydler family, however, did not join the Wendish settlement.

The Seydlers originally settled in the New Ulm area of Austin County, Texas, where they farmed. Friedrich Gustav, and his brothers Friedrich A. Herman and Carl Wilhelm were masons. It is believed that they, at least temporarily, worked in Houston to earn money for later land purchases.

The Seydlers were among the first pioneer settlers of High Hill, Fayette County, Texas, where they moved during 1854. Friedrich Gustav Seydler owned extensive acreage in the Anderson League on the Navidad Stream, the Whitehurst League, and the Counsel League.

Friedrich Gustav Seydler (Sr.) was granted American citizenship on March 25, 1856. During the Civil War he and his son, Friedrich Hermann, worked on the farm and operated a gin and mill. They ground flour from corn and wheat for the Fayette County area. They hauled cotton to Mexico in giant wagons pulled by eight oxen. In Mexico they traded cotton to the Union in exchange for supplies.

At age 63, Friedrich Gustav (Sr.) died at his home in High Hill on November 30, 1869. His wife, Auguste, died twenty-one years later, at

22

age 80, on November 20, 1890. Their bodies rest at Old High Hill Cemetery near Schulenburg, Texas.

The children of Friedrich Gustav and Auguste (Fiebiger) Seydler were Friedrich Gustav Jr., Hermann Julius, Anna (Mrs. Henry Ebeling), E. Frederick, Carl Adolph, Gustave Adolph, Carl Robert, Friedrich Hermann, and Hermann Rudolph.

This article is submitted by Darlene Graf Quiring, great great granddaughter of Friedrich Gustav and Auguste (Fiebiger) Seydler.

### ALBERT & SOPHIA (PETERS) HEERSSEN

by

Darlene Graf Quiring  
911 Holly Hill Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77478

Albert and Sophia (Peters) Heerssen were born in Germany. Sophia (Peters) Heerssen was born April 4, 1838; the date of Albert Heerssen's birth is unknown at this time.

Hermine, their youngest daughter, was the first of the family to immigrate. She and a girlfriend, Elisa Buesing, arrived in America in 1887. Gerhardt Heerssen, their youngest son, was a farmer who immigrated from the Port of Bremen on April 8, 1894, and arrived in the Port of New York on the Vessel Aller. It is believed that his mother, Sophia Heerssen, immigrated in 1894 with her son.

At age 62, Albert Heerssen, a farmer from Eckwarden, Germany, immigrated to the Port of Galveston on the S.S. Crefeld in February 1899. The oldest son, Friedrich, and his wife Amalia, and their six children immigrated to the United States from Germany. Their ship, the S.S. Hanover landed at the Port of Galveston on March 27, 1906. The oldest daughter, Lena, remained in Germany with her husband and family.

Albert and Sophia Heerssen first settled on the Golden Rod Prairie, Jackson County, Texas.

The Heerssen family had many misfortunes. Albert died in a horse and buggy accident near Edna, Texas. The exact date of his death is unknown. Friedrich's wife, Amalia, died in 1906. Only a few months after arriving in America, Friedrich was a widower with six children. Then in 1908, Gerhardt's wife, Wilhelmina, died during the birth of their seventh child, which also died.

On December 18, 1923, Sophia Heerssen died in Lavaca County. Her body rests at Shiner City Cemetery, Shiner, Texas.

The children of Albert and Sophia (Peters) Heerssen were Lena (Mrs. Albert Horstmann), Hermine (Mrs. Reinhold Oeltjen), Friedrich, and Gerhardt Albert.

This article is submitted by Darlene Graf Quiring, great great granddaughter of Albert and Sophia (Peters) Heerssen.



## JOHANN PETER SAMES

Johann Peter Sames was born 3 October 1807, in Werdorf, Hessen, Germany and was married to Maria Christine Dorlas on 3 August 1834, in Dillheim, Hessen, Germany. She was born 29 April 1811, in Katzenfurt, Hessen, Germany.<sup>1</sup>

Records from the Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas, show that on 22 September 1845, Peter Sames signed a contract with the German Emigration Company at the Consulate of the Republic of Texas for the port of Bremen to emigrate to Texas. A copy of the ship's list from the Texas State Archives shows that he and his family arrived in the Republic of Texas at the port of Galveston on the ship Neptune on 2 December 1845. The family members in addition to his wife were the children: Louis, Johannette [my great grandmother], Louise, John, and Frederick.

Research of the Solms-Braunfels Archives at the Barker Texas History Center shows that they were detained at Galveston until the summer of 1846 perhaps due to a shortage of carts because of the Mexican War. The records of the First Protestant Church of New Braunfels, Texas, show that one child, [Johann] Peter Sames, aged five, died on 8 August 1846 and his mother, Maria Christine, died on 28 August 1846, and are buried on the left bank of the Guadalupe River across from New Braunfels. A copy of family bible records<sup>2</sup> show that Peter had drowned in the Guadalupe River and that his mother died almost three weeks later in childbirth; and that they were "shipwrecked and lost all their money, jewels and linens".

Peter Sames was then left with four children when he arrived in New Braunfels, only to lose his two remaining sons in the epidemic which caused the deaths of approximately 373.<sup>3</sup> Ludwig [Louis] died on 4 October 1846 and Friedrich died on 9 October 1846.

Family tradition says that he took his surviving daughters, Johannette and Louise, to San Antonio to live with family friends, Herman Dietrich Stumberg and wife, Dorothea Elizabeth nee Heiner. The Stumbergs were managing a boarding house near the Alamo owned by William Menger who later built the Menger Hotel. The girls remained with the Stumbergs until their marriages.

According to County Clerk records of Comal County, on 11 February 1847, Peter Sames married Lisette Deupler [Teufel?]. In the church records she is

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<sup>1</sup>German research was done by Marjorie (Mickey) Darden Hogan, San Antonio, Texas, now deceased.

<sup>2</sup>Ref. footnote 1.

<sup>3</sup>Haas, Oscar, *History of New Braunfels and Comal County, Texas, 1844-1946*. Austin: Hart Graphics, Inc., Third Printing, 1983.

listed as the widow Schmidt. The witnesses were: Meckel and Fröhlich. It is possible that she was the widow of Heinrich Schmidt who died shortly after arriving in New Braunfels as a result of the trip since there was a Heinrich Schmidt, wife Lisette, and children Theodor, Frederike and Adolphus, who came over on the same ship as the Sames family. However, on the 1850 census records, Peter is shown alone with his daughter Louise. The last record that we have been able to find is a tax record for 1852 showing that he was still living in New Braunfels and that he had paid his poll tax.

My great grandmother, Johannette, first married John Martin Woerner on 13 November 1854 in San Antonio, Texas, and they had four children: Caroline Wilhelmina, William Carl Friedrich, August and Emil Heinrich. My grandmother, Caroline, was born 23 October 1855 and married Herman August Frick, Sr. in San Antonio on 11 December 1875. Herman was born 1 February 1843 in Holstein, Denmark, the son of Annie Sophie Sievers and Claus Frick who emigrated to Texas through Eagle Pass, Texas in 1857 apparently while working for the Groos Brothers. Around 1861, the Fricks homesteaded a farm in Helotes until 1903 when the family moved to San Antonio.

The eighth child of Caroline and Herman Frick was my mother, Laura Josephine Rose Frick, born on 29 April 1893 and married on 23 June 1920 in San Antonio, Texas, to Anton John Hardt<sup>4</sup> born 10 December 1892. According to her, John Martin Woerner died of cholera while serving in the Civil War. However, no date of death is shown in his Confederate records from the 3rd Texas Infantry Regiment in which he served. Some family papers state that he died in San Antonio and was buried in a mass grave. After his death Johannette married Raymond Betzer and they had four daughters: Louise Katherine, Theresa, Elise Wilhelmina "Lizzie", and Rosina Caroline.

Louise Sames, Johannette's younger sister, married Andreas Lingsweiler, a musician from Baden, Germany, on 30 November 1854 in San Antonio. Before their marriage, Andreas enlisted for five years in the Eighth Infantry of the United States Army on 14 April 1849 in New York City. He was sent to Ringgold Barracks, a border cavalry post at Rio Grande City in Starr County, Texas to fight in the Mexican War. By 1850, he was stationed in San Antonio where he remained after his enlistment was over and was one of the first members of the old Volunteer Fire Department formed in 1854.<sup>5</sup> He, too, served in the Civil War.

Any information regarding Peter Sames and his second wife, John Martin Woerner, or the Frick family would be appreciated. I am willing to share additional information I have on these families and to pay for expenses incurred in any copying of information in your possession. There is a family with the surname Sames in Cuero, Texas, but they have said they are not related.

Ruth Hardt Koehler, 4500 Hyridge Drive, Austin, TX 78759-8054. Phone: 512-345-4409.

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<sup>4</sup>Koehler, Ruth Hardt and William Milton, *Henry Christian Hardt, A Genealogy, 1639-1992*, Austin: Aus-Tex Printing, 1992.

<sup>5</sup>Ref. footnote 1.

## ROESNER's in Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas

179

Nicholas ROESNER	Anna Margaretha WAHL	Conrad GABEL	Margaret ORTNER/ORDNER
b.3Nov 1836	b.20Jun1836	b. ?	b. ?
w.Reckendorf	w.Reckendorf	w.Hesse-Darmstadt	w.Bavaria
d.15Mar1884	d.20Aug1896	d.13Jan1906	d.11Aug1917
w.Bridgeport,Mi	w.Bridgeport,Mi	w.Bridgeport,Mi	w.Bridgeport,Mi
m.10Feb1863		m.1Jun1865	
w.Reckendorf,Bavaria,Ger.		w.Buffalo,Erie Co.,NY	
	John William ROESNER		Kathryn (Kate) GABEL
	b.10June1866		b.29Oct1874
	w.Reckendorf		w.Saginaw,Saginaw Co.,Mi
	d.3Nov1932		d.21Mar1941
	w.Katy, Fort Bend Co.,Tx		w.Katy, Fort Bend Co.,Tx
	m.13Nov1893		
	w.Saginaw,Saginaw Co.,Mi.		
	6 children in Michigan		
	Moved to Katy, Texas in 1908		
	3 more children in Texas		

The ROESNER's (Rössner) and WAHL's were from Reckendorf, Bavaria, Germany, NNW of Bamberg between Baunach and Ebern. They were Roman Catholic. Nicholas, Anna Margaretha (Wahl) and their only surviving child John (my grandfather) arrived in New York 3Mar1870 on the Holsatia from Hamburg. They made good time in America, they were on the 1870 Census in Saginaw County, Michigan on 15July1870. They had one son, George in Saginaw. The cemetery for the Assumption B.V.M. Catholic Church in their Bridgeport Township was carved from Nicholas's property the same year he died. The cemetery was first called Cyprus Grove Cemetery.

According to family legend, and census answers, CONRAD GABEL was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany around 15July1836. He may have immigrated around 1862. According to the 1865 Buffalo City Census he married MARGARET ORTNER 1June1865. She may have been born 23Mar1843 in Bavaria. They had two children in Buffalo and by the census date of 20July1870 had moved to Saginaw, Michigan. My grandmother, Kathryn (Kate) was one of the other eight children born in Michigan. They attended Lutheran Church in Bridgeport Township. Conrad and Margaret Gabel are buried in the Pinegrove Lutheran cemetery there.

JOHN ROESNER and KATE GABEL were neighbors in Bridgeport, they married 13Nov1893. They had six children and in 1908 moved to Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas. My father, GEORGE EARL ROESNER was the first of three children born in Texas.

Great Uncle GEORGE, wife MAGGIE (NASS) and most of their children came to Katy by train around 1910 to check it out. Legend has it that they stayed about six months but could not stand the mosquitos, so they returned home to Michigan. The family did not show on the 1910 Census of Texas or Michigan, maybe on the train at the time of census.

George died 3Apr1920 and was first buried in the Assumption B.V.M Cemetery. His wife Maggie said she did want to be buried in the "country", so when she died 8May1946, she was buried next to her husband George who was moved to Calvary Catholic cemetery in downtown Saginaw near his parents Nicholas and Anna Margaretha.

John and Kate's oldest daughter to survive infancy, ALMA was a nurse. The other daughter MARGARET still lives in San Francisco, California. All boys had careers in agriculture like their ancestors.

My father GEORGE EARL ROESNER got his Masters Degree in Poultry Science from The A & M College of Texas in just four years. He married BETTY JOCHETZ in her hometown of Eagle Lake, Colorado County, Texas. His first job was Ag-teacher in Riesel, Texas, then moved to Houston as a feed salesman. Me, my brother Raymond then two sisters Patricia and Mary were born in Houston. Finally my father found his nitch as a radio farm announcer and later added TV where he once served as the president of the National Association of Television and Radio Farm Directors.

I have been doing genealogy over three years. I need help with CONRAD GABEL and MARGARET ORTNER in Buffalo, NY and behind. All of my mothers family seem to be from Moravia, which has a few brick walls also.

Robert H. Roesner  
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## Fort Bend library full of history

**F**OR quite a long time I have had the George Memorial Library on my list of places to visit. I am pleased to say I finally made it and the trip was very rewarding.

The George Memorial Library is in a massive building located at 1001 Golfview in Richmond. The Genealogical and Local History Department, headed by W.M. Maszewski, is on the second floor. It is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. It is also open 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. The hours may change during the summer, however. The telephone number is 341-2608.

The main concentration of the collection is on Texas and the southeastern United States. Census records for most southern states are complete into the 1900s. Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee are complete through 1920.



**Mic Barnette**

Your Family Tree

There are also a number of published census indexes. There is a set of the American State Papers Public Land Claims, a number of surname family history books, foreign passenger lists, and many books on states in the eastern United States.

There is a large collection of books and microfilm concerning the Civil War. The library has a lot of Civil War books including *The Official Records Of the War of the Rebellion*. It has the entire alphabetical index of Confederate Civil War

soldiers, service records of Texas Confederate soldiers and lists of Confederate prisoners of war in prison camps in the north.

The library is a Texas Regional Historical Records Depository. As such, it has some of the original and microfilm records of most all county level records such as deeds, marriages, school records, tax records, etc., for the counties of Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Waller and Wharton.

Some Fort Bend County collections include a Fort Bend cemetery database, Fort Bend County obituaries from about 1911, some local church records, county newspapers, college and local high school annuals and city directories.

The library also has some important national and worldwide finding aids on CD-ROM. It has the Social Security Death Index, Family Search, International Genealogical Index and Family History Library Catalogue.



## Museum Burokrat

## Lucille Goll collects history of Goll, Seideman families

Lucille Goll, the great-granddaughter of Jacob Goll, the founder of Hermann Sons in Texas, is researching the history of the Goll family as well as her maternal grandfather, Jacob Seideman. Both men were large landowners in early San Antonio and Bexar County.

Brother Goll, who is buried with his wife Barbara in the Wetmore Cemetery, carried the title of Duke of Baden, Germany, when he immigrated to the United States in 1851. He applied for U.S. citizenship on March 10, 1851, and it was granted on July 15, 1851.

In addition to the more than 1,000 acres Brother Goll owned on Nacogdoches Road in San Antonio, he also farmed 165 acres in Medina County near Hondo. His other land holdings were at Mason and Pine Streets.

One of the lasting testimonials to Brother Goll's generosity is the Little Church at La Villita, which sits on land donated by the Sons of Hermann founder. He was a charter member of Bracken United Methodist Church.

Brother Seideman, who is buried in the Hermann Sons Cemetery on East Commerce Street in San Antonio, built the first store in Wetmore and owned property near the Crockett Hotel and the Alamo. He also owned the Devil's Backbone Mountains, Sister Goll said.

Sister Goll grew up on a farm on Nacogdoches Road, which her mother's father (Brother Seideman) gave to Martin and Martha Seideman Goll. Growing up on a farm, Sister Goll participated in all rural farm activities including cattle drives. She attended Salado Valley School.

After graduation, she was employed in a domestic capacity by Jack Cones, who was the official photographer of San Antonio society. After he moved his studio from the Gunter Hotel to Broadway, Sister Goll went to work in his studio.

In 1941, Sister Goll married Edward Cole, who was in the military. During his off-duty hours, he organized Fritz's German Band.

Interestingly, Sister Goll reared her three daughters on the same property on Stahl Road in Wetmore where her father was born. The land had been homesteaded by Frank Goll, the son of Jacob Goll, in the late 1880s.

In 1979, Sister Goll moved to Devine and worked with a government human resources program at the Medina County Courthouse in Hondo. She also joined a Medina County handicapped organization in which she is still active.

Some two years ago, she moved to Kirby and resumed her active participation in Hermann Sons activities through Kirby Lodge No. 305. She is the mother of three aforementioned daughters, the grandmother of six and the great-grandmother of one.

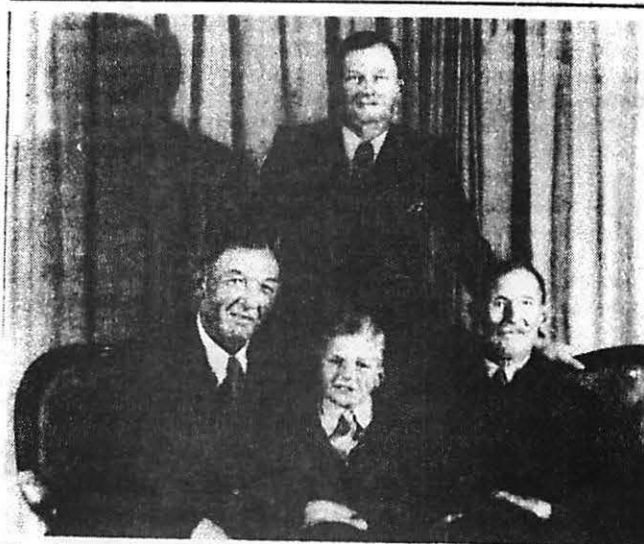
If anyone has any information that would assist Sister Goll in putting together the history of the Goll and Seideman families, she would appreciate a telephone call at 210/661-7416.

- Curator

Hermann Sons News MAY 1994



Lucille Goll, the great-granddaughter of Jacob Goll is collecting history on the family of the founder of Hermann Sons.



The descendants of Sons of Hermann founder Jacob Goll included, Louis Goll, standing, a great-grandson, and seated, from left, Martin Goll, a grandson; Otto James Goll, a great-grandson; and Frank Goll, a son.

## Eastern German Street Names to Disappear from the Unified Capital; A Part of German History is 'Corrected'

No sooner had the Berlin Wall opened in late 1989 than local authorities throughout the German Democratic Republic began removing the outward expressions of the political culture fostered by the Socialist Unity Party (SED). Some monuments to Lenin and other communist worthies disappeared, Karl-Marx-Stadt became Chemnitz (Saxony) once more, and many of the

streets named for heroes of the international proletarian revolution and the anti-fascist struggle reverted to their pre-war names. To date, some 70 streets in eastern Berlin have been renamed, but only in sections outside the historic center of the city. With the Bundestag and much of the federal government scheduled to move to Berlin by the end of the decade, city officials faced the dif-

ficult question of how far to go in expunging the lingering remnants of the GDR in preparing for the city's future role as Germany's capital.

To help decide the fate of 17 streets with "burdensome" names from the SED era, the Transportation Senator (minister) in the city government appointed an independent commission of local dignitaries and historians. The commission, instructed "to correct the historical one-sidedness and falsifications of the SED," recently made public its recommendations. Outright rejection of many of the GDR street names is tempered by the commission's willingness to compromise on others. Clara Zetkin, a communist member of the Reichstag during the Weimar Republic and a devoted follower of Lenin, will lose the street named in her honor if the commission's proposals are adopted, but Karl Liebknecht, spiritual godfather of the German Communist Party, will still have part of a street dedicated to his memory. The most prominent stretch of what is now Karl-Liebknecht-Straße will be renamed in honor of the architect and city planner responsible for the design of much of the neo-classical center of Berlin, Karl Friedrich Schinkel (1781-1841). For the commission's proposals to be enacted, district authorities must give their approval. The Berlin Senate, the legislature of the city-state, must vote on the changes as well. ■

*The Week in Germany—March 25, 1994*

### YOU HAVE TO BE THERE

There is no substitute for being "on the spot" to do your own research. While visiting a relative in the distant city (Galveston) where my parents were born, I asked directions to the cemetery where my father's emigrant grandparents were known to be. I was told there was no information to be gained beyond birth and death dates, which we already had. But we went. And there I literally stumbled over an unknown ancestral line that, after years of research, is still producing records. As I stepped back to photograph the gravestone, I tripped on a fallen one; that stone was marked FALKENHAGEN, my great-grandmother's given name, unknown until then, and her husband's grave. Nearby were the SCHNEIDERS, and the grave of an older man, which said, "born in Oldentrup, Minden..."

I searched the church records of Oldentrup, Westfalen, found the birth record of the elder Schneider, his marriage and children, and found the birth of my great-grandmother buried in Galveston. So follow your instincts when someone tells you, "I know that's all you can learn from this source." [Hank Z Jones calls this 'serendipity' - Ed.] [Clare T. CHILDERS, #3018, 13 Leisureville Cir., Woodland, CA 95695]

GGSA Newsletter May/June 1994

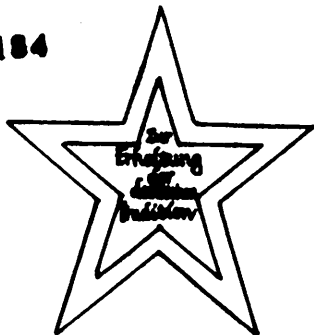
### FINDING THE ANCESTOR'S PLACE OF BIRTH IN GERMANY

In order to conduct genealogical research in German documents, you must first know the exact town or village where your immigrant ancestor was born. This part of the research must be done in the U.S.A. using standard genealogical resources. Some types of records are better than others in pinpointing this exact place of birth. For example, we know that U.S. Census records show only the state or country of birth, not the exact town.

Try to find these records that might show where he or she was born.

Naturalization Records, particularly the Declaration of Intention; Passports, if they returned to the old country; death certificate; birth certificate for a child; church records (confirmation, death/burial, marriage, baptism of a child); obituaries (especially in German-language or church-related newspapers); U.S. military records; organization's records (lodge, insurance, etc., also these groups' newspapers); passenger arrival records.

And, of course, family personal papers, such as the family Bible, letters, diaries--and papers the family brought with them, such as passports and church documents. If your family does not have these papers, try to locate any and all other descendants of this same immigrant--these papers may be in the possession of a very distant relative.



FOUNDED 1978

# German-Texan Heritage Society

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  - Showing visitors historical sites in my town/city/area.
  - Doing research in archives, libraries, etc.
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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 people, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

A JOURNAL is published three times a year (50-75 pages). It is sent to all members. The JOURNAL features a genealogical section which includes hints about research in German-speaking countries, Texas, and the United States; brief family histories submitted by members, and a genealogy exchange column. Other sections of the JOURNAL include reprints of articles from other publications, announcements about activities and events, a book review column, an annual index, and original essays about various topics related to German-Texana.

An ANNUAL MEETING is held the second weekend in September in various German heritage areas of Texas. The program emphasizes the German-Texan heritage and includes talks, slide shows, show-and-tell sessions, and discussions by researchers, preservationists, folklorists, authors, members who have a story to tell and guest experts in specific fields; informal social events; plays and music; and tours of historical sites in the host city.

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1. The reprint of *ROEMER'S TEXAS* (temporarily out-of-print).
2. Sponsorship of the reprint of *THE CABIN BOOK (DAS KAJUTENBUCH)*, by Charles Sealsfield.
3. The reprint of Rudolph Biesele's *THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861*.
4. *THE HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE*.
5. The reprint of Victor Bracht's *TEXAS IN 1848*, translated by Charles Frank Schmidt.
6. The dual-language edition of Alwin H. Sörgel's Texas writings, *A SOJOURN IN TEXAS, 1846-47*, translated and edited by W. M. Von-Maszewski.

For more information or price lists for books and back issues contact:

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## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Arrival</u>
Spring	February 10	April 1
Summer	June 10	August 1
Fall	October 10	December 1

Ideally, this allows for one week to assemble, four weeks to print, one week to prepare for mailing and time for the U. S. Mail.

## POLICY STATEMENT

No materials sent for the *Journal* will be returned to the sender.

All materials must include a source, date and contributor's name. The issue Editor is not responsible for errors in spelling, typos or misinformation.

All articles and manuscripts must be typed single spaced, on 8.5 by 11 inch white paper with a .25 to .5 inch margin on all edges.

The issue Editor or the elected GTHS Board has the right and responsibility to refuse materials that may not be in accordance with German-Texan Heritage Society bylaws.

Deadlines will be followed as closely as is possible for volunteers.

## WHERE TO SEND ITEMS....

German-Texan Heritage Society  
P. O. Box 684171  
Austin, TX 78768-4171

Send announcements, articles, genealogical inquiries, conferences, meeting and reunion dates, news or other German heritage events and any other interesting information.

Subscription and membership inquiries.

Correspondence, contributions and manuscripts for publication. All translated manuscripts must be accompanied by the German original.

## ADDRESSES OF GTHS INTEREST

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909 Fannin, Suite 3750  
Houston, TX 77010  
(713) 658-8230

**German Information Center**  
950 Third Avenue, 24th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 888-9840

**Goethe Institute Houston**  
3120 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110  
Houston, TX 77098-4614  
(713) 528-2787

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(202) 298-4000

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Kenn Knopp  
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Fredericksburg, TX 78624-4213  
(210) 997-7273

1995  
September 7, 8, 9  
VICTORIA  
Patsy Hand  
417 Cottonwood St.  
Victoria, TX 77904  
(512) 575-0049

1996  
September 5, 6, 7  
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