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THE JOURNAL OF
THE GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
VOLUME XXXVII - NUMBER 2, SUMMER 2015

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Vielen Dank to these contributors

Rodney Koenig - Houston
Mary Whigham, Old Washington
John Luedecke, Colorado Spgs., CO
Dan Bode, Dayton

Ray Dittmar, Houston
Esther Strange, Kerrville
Jean Warneke, Smithville
James Johnson,

Inquiry: Location of Verein storehouses

I am writing about the early wave of German settlers who began arriving in Texas in 1844. I cannot find where the storehouses for the emigrant supplies were located. I have read Prince Carl's reports in which he mentions the storehouses/warehouses, but he does not say where they are located. Apparently he intended to build a wharf and a warehouse at Carlshafen, but I find no indication that either one was actually built. In the translation of Carl Blumberg's 1845 diary, "Forward to the Past!" he mentions the supplies being delivered by ox wagon to Carlshafen, even detailing how much each person received, but he does not say where the supplies originated. If someone can help me, I would very much appreciate it. Myra *Myra Hargrave McIlvain*, mcilvain.myra@gmail.com, 512/502-5417

TSGS 2015 Family History Conference

TSGS is excited to announce its 2015 Family History Conference will be Oct 30—Nov 1, 2015 in Austin, Texas, and everyone is invited! This three day event will include wonderful research opportunities, insightful family history sessions for all skill levels, and a full exhibit hall.

Austin's rich historical and genealogical resources promise all TSGS 2015 Conference attendees will have a memorable learning experience allowing them to explore their family history.

Visit the [TSGS website](#) and keep an eye out in your email inbox in the coming weeks and months for more information about the speakers' call for presentation proposals, sponsorship opportunities, hotel information, keynote speaker announcement, exhibitor opportunities, volunteer opportunities, and registration. We can't wait to meet you in Austin in the fall!

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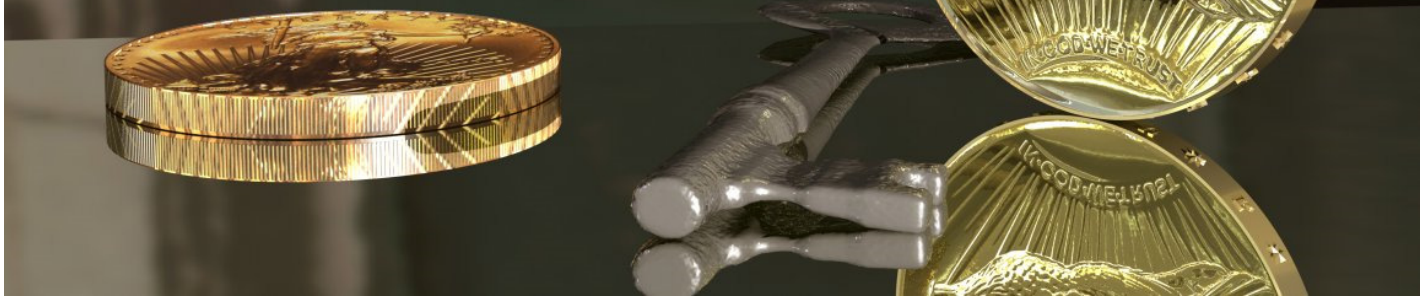
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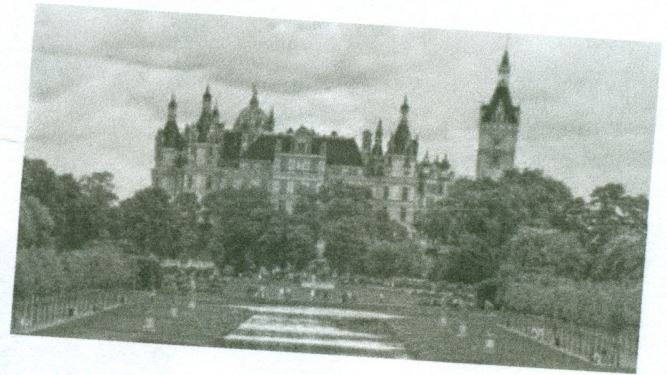
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President's Notes

Your GTHS Executive Board and Board of Directors have been planning and working a number of issues important to the society. Some of these are routine annual events and others are non-routine matters which have possible long term consequences and benefits.

First, planning is near completion for the 2015 annual meeting which will be in Austin, Texas. Be sure to save the date in your schedule, September 4 and 5, 2015. The theme for this year's meeting is German Cultural Values in Education. We are planning many exciting topics including formal presentations, entertainment, and tours of several local attractions. Some of the tours and events will provide you with access to unique places so be sure to check out our formal program.

Second, we have also been working many hours dealing with issues being created by the development of neighboring property which used to have a single level residence on it just south of the German Free School. This property was purchased from its owner by a developer who is placing a 10 story hotel on it, with approximately four levels of parking below ground. Issues we are involved with include access changes to our alley side of the building, the protection of the large Heritage Oak tree on our property adjacent to the alleyway from the deep excavation for the hotel, and the relocation of some utility's and exterior lighting poles impacted by the construction.

We have also begun exploring the opportunity of establishing an agreement with a German Restaurant owner interested in renting the lower apartment level of the German Free School and garden areas for a small German food service establishment. If we were to come to some agreement the revenue from this type of project would provide a revenue stream which would help support the GTHS mission, programs, facility maintenance, and staff salaries.

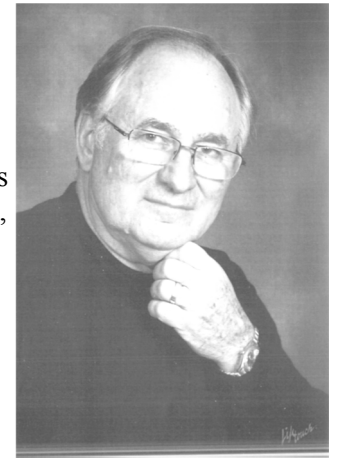
I look forward to seeing you at this year's convention. In the meantime, don't forget to tell your German friends about GTHS and invite them join and come to the annual meeting. We all need to actively promote our German Heritage and traditions.....

Michael Krause, President, German Texan Heritage Society



LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK

By Rodney C. Koenig (past President of GTHS)



Each year about the first weekend of May, the Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund holds its state-wide Saengerfest. This year (May 2 and 3) it was hosted by Houston Liederkrantz, which having been founded on January 15, 1925, was also in its 90th Year of existence. Member Choirs of the Deutsch-Texanischer Saengerbund are Beethoven Maennerchor (1867), Dallas Frohsinn Gesangverein (1877), Austin Saengerrunde (1879), Houston Saengerbund Maennerchor (1883), San Antonio Liederkrantz (1892), Houston Liederkrantz (1925), Beethoven Damenchor (1932), New Braunfels Gemischter Chor Harmonie (1937), Houston Saengerbund Damenchor (1938), Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor (1959), and Germania Chor mit dem Beethoven (1995). Guest choirs which participated included the Houston Deutsche Samstagschule Ensemble and the Chorgemeinschaft Texas. As is usual, the program offered a greeting from the President of the Host Club, Irene Pflingsten of Houston Liederkrantz, and from the state President, Claus Heide. The national anthems of the US and Germany were sung, along with the Schottischer Bardenchor honoring the deceased singers during the year just past. A parade of the Flags of each club was part of the pageantry as well as greetings from the German Consulate. Each choir thereafter offered a solo piece. The Maenner Massenchor, the Damen Massenchor and the Gemischter Massenchor all sang. The various German Singing Clubs around the state are all older than the Symphonies of the Cities in which they sing. Liederkrantz had a fine dinner and dance with the Charlie Prause Orchestra on Saturday evening at the Liederkrantz Hall. Over the weekend, I was pleased to have sung with the Shanty Chor, with the Houston Saengerbund and with the Houston Liederkrantz. My wife Mary Koenig sang with both the Houston Liederkrantz and with the Houston Saengerbund Damenchor. We can say that all of the Singing Clubs have left their German Mark!

The Festival Souvenir Program was delightfully organized by Irene Pflingsten and Margaret Stenborg, with ads representing a number of German related entities as diverse as GTHS, TGS, Festival Hill at Round Top which advertised its German Concerts, Bach Society Houston, Luck & Loessin Collection Trust supporting the Fayette Heritage Library, the Texas German Dialect Project at University of Texas, the University of Houston Library Saengerbund Collection, DeutscheSamstagschule in Houston, Houston Brass Band, Shanty Chor, Micklitz family, Thornton Triplets, Modlich family, Pflingsten family, Horst Britsche and Margaret Stenborg, many books and services, and Houston Leipzig Sister City Association among many others.

How will you leave your German Mark? Will you sing with one of the Choirs, will you play Skat with a German Card Group, or will you write about your German life experiences? The Liederkrantz Saengerfest Program had ads for Renate Meiners book, "Same Moon, Same Stars," for Mel Rosenbaum's book, "Scissortails at Dawn, Bullbats at Dusk", for J T Koenig's book, "Fayette County" and for Bing Kallus's book, "Centaur's Champion". All of these authors are leaving their mark with their writings. Will you make a gift to provide a scholarship for a young (or old) German Student, as the Houston Saengerbund has done at Rice University in their "Houston Saengerbund Study Abroad Undergraduate Fellowship"? Consider doing a will which leaves all or a part of your estate to further German culture, song or literature or one of the Singing Clubs. Name a German charity as beneficiary of a life insurance policy or an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) plan. If you desire help in any of the above, please call Rodney Koenig at 713-651-5333 or email me at Rodney.Koenig@NortonRoseFulbright.com. You may also call any officer or board member of GTHS.

Genealogy Inquiries: Liz Hicks, Genealogy Editor

If you have information that will assist with the following queries, please respond to the submitter at the address given.

Do **YOU** have a genealogy question? Send it to Liz Hicks, Genealogy Editor, e-mail: erootrot@usa.net or 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030. We reserve the right to edit queries. Queries are printed as space permits at no charge.



Heidecker/Heideke – Steinkopt

Kathy King e-mail: bernardriverrat@sbcglobal.net is researching Carl William Heidecker (Carl Wilhelm Heidecker) and wife, Johanna Steinkopt who immigrated from Hamburg on the s/s *Gellert* arriving New York 12 July 1882. They were listed on the passenger list as living in Strussfurt, Germany upon boarding ship. Johanna may have died aboard ship, but we have no documentation of that. All of Carl and Johanna's children were born in Germany. One family member has stated Carl was born in Eisleben, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. This has proved to be incorrect. Carl's death certificate states he was born 25 April 1839, and died 26 Dec. 1909 Houston, Harris Co., TX. He is buried in the Washington Cemetery. Carl and family, minus Johanna, were in New Iberia, LA where he worked in the salt mine before coming to Houston. Carl married a total of 3 times. We would like to know place of birth for Carl and Johanna, and date and place of marriage.

Reply: There is no Strussfurt, Germany. Possibly, it is Strassfurt, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. Since you mentioned Carl was a salt miner, Stassfurt may be correct as has large salt deposits, salt mining. To verify family information you will need to either order Stassfurt parish records, or write to the parish (Lutheran/Evangelical or Catholic) for birth, marriage, confirmation, and death records. Use www.familysearch.org to see what records have been microfilmed. On the familysearch webpage click search, look for catalog on the pull down menu. Click Catalog. In search box type Germany, Stassfurt, click search. Select church books/kirchenbücher for records in your time frame of interest. Do not forget to check for Church records in Louisiana and Houston. Check Civil Registration in Germany as well.

I did a surname locator for Heidecker and Heidecke to see where the name is found in The 1830-1880 time frame. Aschersleben seems to have quite a few. This is not far from Stassfurt. Please know the place listed on the Hamburg Passenger Lists was the answer to the question: "What was your last place of residence". Also, try civil registration records for your Heidecke/Heidecker and Steinkopt.

Hofstetter – Sutor – Schulke - Von Rosenberg

Fred M. Hofstetter, 1715 Geary Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597, e-mail: fmhofstetter@netscape.net would like to know if the Joseph A. Hofstetter (1848-1899) who married Louise Sutor (1846-1909), daughter of Freidrich William and Emilie Henrietta Schulke Sutor in Austin Travis County, is the same Joseph Hofstetter found later in Eagle Pass, Maverick Co., TX. The Austin Joseph A. Hofstetter was a druggist, and the Eagle Pass Joseph Hofstetter was a County Clerk. Both appear to be the same age. The Austin Joseph is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, TX. No burial for a Joseph Hofstetter in Maverick County, TX has been found.

Reply: Two different people with same name or one person in two places? The Joseph A. Hofstetter who married Louise Sutor is not on the Travis Co., TX tax lists the same time the Joseph Hofstetter is listed on the tax rolls in Maverick Co. A check of the Grantor and Grantee Index for Maverick Co. shows a power of attorney from Joseph Hofstetter to H. Von Rosenberg. If this is Louise Sutor Hofstetter's sister, Helene Walleska Jenetta Sutor (1860-1955) who married Carl Wilhelm Von Rosenberg, then I vote for it being the same Joseph Hofstetter in both Travis and Maverick. My suggestion-read the deeds involved in both counties. Sometimes you have to branch out and use other relatives and even associates to determine which person is which with people of the same name. I might add, your Joseph Hofstetter appeared to be in "hot water" according to 1886 newspaper accounts, and may be why he left Maverick Co. and returned to Austin, Travis Co.

Cornitis – Parsons

Lynn Sewell e-mail: lbsewell@frontiernet.net seeks marriage date for Gertrude Cornitis born 18 Aug. 1879 Washington County, TX and Ernest Pilger Parsons born 27 Oct. 1875. They are listed on the 1920 census of Houston, Harris County, and both died in Houston.

Reply: Some Harris County marriages are digitized and viewable online at www.familysearch.org. They married 5 March 1902 in Harris Co., TX (reference: LDS film #1378366).

Kappmeyer – Meyer

Chris Kappmeyer e-mail: chris@brokernet.com, phone (512) 426-1937. Looking for proof ancestors Johann Conrad Kappmeyer and Wilhelmina Meyer were Citizens of the Republic of Texas. They are credited as being one of the 202 people that founded New Braunfels in the 1840's. I would like to find a passenger list for them.

Reply: I did not find a passenger list for Johann or Conrad Kappmeyer. The earliest tax lists on which Conrad appears is the 1848 in Comal Co. Please know Comal Co. was created in 1846 from Bexar, Gonzales and Travis counties. He may be on an earlier tax list in one of those counties. A Conrad Kapmeyer filed his Declaration of Intent in Comal County 22 Nov. 1848, Vol. A, page 105, age 32 at date of preceeding. I checked Everett A. Fey's *New Braunfels: The First Founders* and did not find a Kapmeyer/Kap(p)meier listed among first founders. However, Johann Conrad Kappmeyer purchased lot #210 for \$90.00 as a "later immigrant". There is a published marriage record for Wilhelmine Meyer to Johann Conrad Kappmeyer Dated 18 Oct. 1846. I suggest you obtain a copy of the original marriage record from the Comal County Clerk to verify date. See if the Oct. 1846 date will work for SRT membership.

Graf – Rudloff

M. C. Forister e-mail: mcforister@netzero.net My g.g. grandparents were Ignaz Graf born circa 1818 and died before 1880, and Anna Maria Bayss Graf vorn ca. 1818 and died 26 Sept. 26, 1881 in Sulldorf, Germany. Their granddaughter, Albertine Marie Rudloff died 25 Feb. 1881 also in Sullforf. I would like to add photos of their tombstones to my genealogy. I have been unable to find the cemetery.

Reply: Good luck finding your ancestors in a cemetery in Germany. Please read the WIKI about German Cemeteries on https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Germany_Cemeteries I did a google search, and found contact for Sulldorf cemeteries and funeral home at http://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=funeralservices&find_loc=S%C3%BClidorf%2C+Hamburg#_find_desc&Start=O&l=p:DE-HH:Hamburg::S

Wolf – Schuetze - Waechter

Tammy Harvey, 12302 Burlywood Trail, Austin, TX 78750, e-mail: tammy.k.harvey@gmail.com Is researching August and Anna Wolf of Austin, Travis County, TX. August was born 1830, died 1913; and Anna was born 1835, died 1903. Both are buried in historic Oakwood Cemetery in Austin. August was a Trustee of the German Free School, a carpenter by profession, and member of Protection Hook and Ladder Company #3 (Austin Fire Department). The Wolf's house was across the street from Scholz's Beer Garden.

Reply: There is an Aug. Wolf from Ringleben or Frankenhausen to Bastrop Co.; came on the s/s Elisa & Charlotte, 1846 to Galveston according to *A New Land Beckoned German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847* by Geue. If you find the original passenger list on microfilm, you should be able to verify the place-Ringleben or Frankenhausen. Be sure to check the 1850 census to see if the Bastrop County, TX August Wolf isn't a different Aug. Wolf. Be sure to check with the Austin History Center on Guadalupe, as they have photos of some old Austin homes. The AHC also has family files, Austin City Directories and much more.

August Wolf and Anna Wolf's children: George P. Wolf 1863-1891; Gustav Wolf 1866 - ; Hugo G. Wolf 1867-; Emma Wolf 1869-1948 married Edward Schuetze 1864-1947; William Wolf 1871-1952 married a Flora M.?; and Max G. Wolf 1875-1949. There appears to have been a daughter, Anna E. Wolf (born 1865) who married Alfred H. Waechter. Her obituary appeared in the *Austin Statesman* newspaper 16 May, 1949:

: Inquiry: Location of Verein storehouses

I am writing about the early wave of German settlers who began arriving in Texas in 1844. I cannot find where the storehouses

Helga's Corner

Ruf mich doch mal an!

Ruf rhymes with the English spoof. *Er ruft* means he calls or he is calling. We ask: "Who is calling?" when we want to know who is calling us on the phone (*Wer ruft denn an?*) As with most frequently used words, *rufen* has many meanings and uses.

Common words like *rufen* have countless prefixes, suffixes, word combinations, nuances and meanings. *Ruf mich doch mal an* was once an advertising slogan for a phone company and might now have something suggesting texting. (*Kannst du mir texten?*)

Der Anrufbeantworter is the answering machine which records an *Anruf* and plays a message. I love it when I have to call many people with a short bit of information. Texting messes everything up, at least for me.

There is *der Beruf* (profession,), *der gute Ruf* (good reputation), *das Berufungsgericht* (appeals court), *der Nachruf* (obituary), *der Aufruf* (proclamation) ...the list is too long for this publication.

Past tense of *er ruft* is *er rief*. I bought a plate in an antique shop in Texas which shows a youthful, happy soldier, a drummer, and the words: *DER KOENIG RIEF UND ALLE ALLE KAMEN 1813 – 1913*. I wonder, what the Koenig - in 1913 it was the Kaiser - *rief*, to make even my *Opa* (father of 5) march off to war in 1914.

Berufen, die Berufung, reminds me of Otto Hofmann, a Texas native with excellent command of German, who was known world-wide for his skill and knowledge concerning pipe organs. He was in his eighties when he was interviewed and filmed for a documentary. He called me while the film crew was packing up: "Helga, ich habe endlich entdeckt, zu was ich berufen bin: Ich bin dazu berufen, ein Schauspieler zu sein." He had just discovered that his calling was to be an actor. He passed away a year or two later, keeping his claim to fame and his *guten Ruf als Organist und Orgel Spezialist*.



Book Review

The Farmers' Game by Dr. David Vaught

Member Dr. Kamphoefner alerted me to this book in that one chapter tells of the love/playing of the game in Rural Texas.

Although—contrary to legend—Abner Doubleday did not invent baseball in a cow pasture in upstate New York, many fans enjoy the game for its nostalgic qualities. Dr. Vaught challenges the notion that the only history that is baseball history is that which concerns itself with only major league baseball.

Through a series of essay vignettes from stickball games played in the streets of Brooklyn to the playing fields of Texas and Minnesota and rural communities of California, Dr. Vaught sees the history of the game and the rural United States as related and mutually revealing.

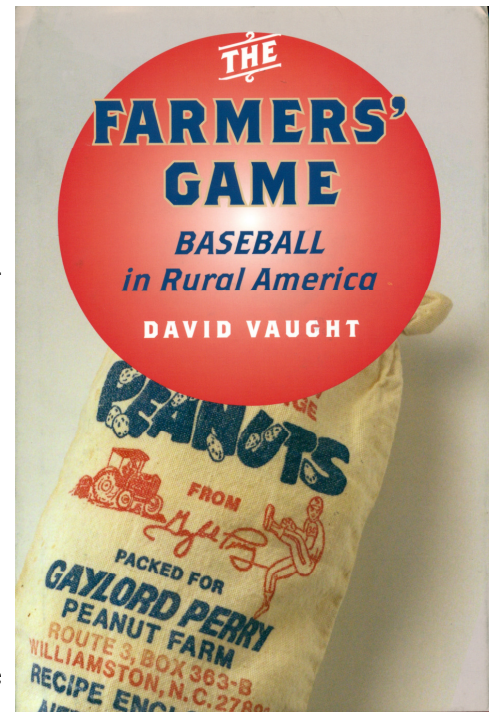
Of particular interest to our membership, Chapter Three focuses on the playing of baseball by Czech and German immigrants in rural Texas.

At the 15th anniversary of the founding of the SPJST in Fayetteville in 1911, one event—the key feature of the afternoon program” was “a double header of baseball that was pulled off at the park between Fayetteville and Round Top. Led by pitchers Denis Kurtz and Ed Tydlacka, the all-Czech locals beat the all-German visitors 3 to 1 in the first game and played them to a 6 to 6 tie in the second.”

“This ‘baseball craze,’ as the *LaGrange Journal* called it in 1909 was all the more remarkable given that the vast majority of players and fans were small-scale cotton farmers.”

The story is that baseball came to Texas as early as 1867, brought by none other than Abner Doubleday who “organized the first game of baseball in the Lone Star State in Galveston on February 22, 1867, in celebration of George Washington’s birthday” as recreation for “his soldiers.” While Abner was in Texas in 1867 as sub-assistant commissioner of the Freedmen’s Bureau for Galveston County, and baseball clubs began to form around this time, there is not a “snippet of hard evidence” to substantiate this story. A contemporary newspaper did quote that the first baseball game to be played in Fayette County took place on March 23, 1877 with the Schulenburgers losing to the Columbus Coloradoes, 33 to 20! Brenham’s Maifest organized a baseball match between the Saxons of Brenham and the Cochattes of Bellville in 1884 to raise funds which proved such “a grand success” that baseball became a fixture of the Brenham Maifest for years to come.

Dr. David Vaught is department head and professor of history at Texas A&M University. A great read with excellent research, I found it available on Amazon.com for \$17 plus shipping.

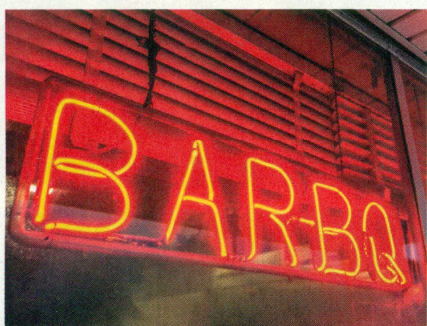


The La Grange Boll Weevils, ca. 1910.
Fayette Heritage Museum and Archives, La Grange, Texas.

Community Events

Texas Co-op Power, March 2015, Story and photos by Wyatt McSpadden

PRAUSE MEAT MARKET



BARBECUE TRADITIONS

In the summer of 1995, when I was in the early stages of my long love affair with the Texas barbecue scene, I lucked into an assignment to photograph small-town barbecue joints throughout Central Texas. The locations on my shot list included Llano, Lockhart, Taylor, Smithville and La Grange. My destination in La Grange was Prause Meat Market, situated on the historic courthouse square. As I walked through the door, I was surprised to see a place unlike any of the other spots I'd visited.

Prause was then and is now primarily a meat market. Prussian-born Arnold Prause (pronounced PROW-zee) established the family's first butcher shop in 1904 on the north side of the square. The Prauses' business eventually outgrew the original location, and they moved it south in 1953 to the current space. The market is owned and operated for now by fourth-generation members of the Prause family. What I saw in Prause on that first visit nearly 20 years ago took me back to my youth in Amarillo, working in the family grocery store, Central Grocery, the heart of which was our meat market. Prause's beautiful glass-fronted, refrigerated display cases were filled with carefully prepared cuts of beef and pork. The massive meat block was worn down from years-and tons-of meat trimming. The battered cutlery, the sawdust on the floor and the friendly, helpful folks behind the cases all reminded me of familiar images from my past.

As my education about and interaction with the Texas barbecue world grew, so did my appreciation of Prause Meat Market. It is a living reminder of the origins of our state's barbecue traditions. In the early days, when refrigeration was scarce, markets would smoke and sell meats to avoid losses to spoilage. Several present-day barbecue joints still have "market" as part of their names—Kreuz Market in Lockhart, City Market in both Luling and Giddings—but they no longer butcher and sell fresh meats. Years ago, the income from barbecue surpassed the meat market revenue, and the emphasis turned to smoked meats. From those modest beginnings and that simple business model, what we know as Texas-style barbecue was born, and beef brisket is the star of the show. Pit-smoked brisket is the foundation of the Texas barbecue tradition and what separates our barbecue from the pork-centric styles in other parts of the U.S.

On more recent photo excursions to Prause, I've paid particular attention to the names of the customers who've come to buy fresh meats or sit down to a barbecue lunch: Wanjura, Machicek, Dvorak and Schmidt. They are likely the descendants of early settlers—German, Polish and Czech immigrants who also grew up knowing and patronizing their small-town meat markets.

But the Texas barbecue scene has changed dramatically over the past few years. The excitement is in the cities, where energetic, urbanized young professionals have taken on the challenge of producing true pit-smoked barbecue. In Austin, folks happily stand in line for three hours or more at Franklin Barbecue for the pleasure of tasting the amazingly succulent brisket.

Preparing sausage and cuts of beef and pork for the display cases is as much a part of the mission at Prause as serving up barbecue. The meat market is owned by fourth-generation members of the Prause family, though they are making plans to sell the business. The photos below show two generations of Prauses at the massive meat block.



Citified barbecue isn't happening just in Austin. Dallas has its own long lines for barbecue at Pecan Lodge, which recently moved from the farmers market near downtown to new digs in Deep Ellum, a business and entertainment district in East Dallas that is enjoying revitalization. Every major city in the state is experiencing the barbecue boom fueled both by great new joints and the Internet. Google "Texas barbecue," and you'll get hundreds of web sites, blogs, critics and editorial content on the subject.

Prause's doesn't have a website, although the young daughter of one of the owners has created a Facebook page for the shop.

Prause Meat Market, around since 1904, seems unfazed by the barbecue explosion turning heads across the state. Opposite: The "eatin' room" is available for folks who choose to dine in..



This urban 'cue explosion has produced shock waves, but they haven't reached Prause. The barbecue here is prepped as it always has been, served on a paper plate with traditional sides at a reasonable price. Prause's barbecue is affordable for a workingman's lunch, and the line may have as many as three folks in front of you, or none. Grab lunch in the "eatin' room," and you'll sit next to working people- cattlemen, merchants- and occasionally a few pilgrims from out of town or even out of state.

It's likely the team of Prauses running the shop today will be the last family members to do so. The newest generation of offspring is turning elsewhere to make a living, so the current owners are planning to sell. Take my advice: Head to Prause Meat Market now, while it's still a virtual museum for a way of life that's disappearing faster than wood smoke into the Texas sky.

Versatile and accomplished photographer Wyatt McSpadden stands on impressive barbecue credentials. Check wyattmcspadden.com for more proof.



USA to be honored as official Partner Country of HANNOVER MESSE 2016

Submitted by **Liz Hicks, Houston**

Hannover, Germany. The United States has been designated the official Partner Country of HANNOVER MESSE 2016. This was officially confirmed by the White House on the evening of the 23 March in Washington. For many years, HANNOVER MESSE has been fostering deeper ties with U.S. industry, staging business summits and inviting American delegations to Hannover to promote Transatlantic trade relations. HANNOVER MESSE, the world's leading trade fair for industrial technology, will run 13–17 April 2015 and from 25 to 29 April in 2016.

“HANNOVER MESSE 2016 is of exceptional importance to the development of our transatlantic trade relations,” remarks Dr. Peter Wittig, German ambassador to the United States. “Having the USA as the featured Partner Country will give us a golden opportunity to convey our dynamic business relations to the fullest while at the same time widening and deepening them.”

For HANNOVER MESSE, winning the United States as the Partner Country is a great success – one which will further enhance the attractiveness of the next year's event. “President Obama has committed himself to strengthening America's domestic industry. The modernization of America's industrial sector and the digital integration of its production plants and equipment are proceeding there at a rapid pace,” reports Dr. Jochen Köckler, member of the managing board at Deutsche Messe. “The goal of the U.S. government is to regain its status as one of the world's leading production locations, which predestines the United States as next Partner Country at HANNOVER MESSE.”

The USA's Partner Country program will be geared above all to attract foreign investment and expand U.S. export business. In this context, the country will showcase itself as an attractive location for investment and reinforce its reputation as a high-caliber manufacturer of competitive, top-quality products. The thematic focus of Partner Country USA will include energy efficiency and energy production, state-of-the-art production engineering, smart technologies, education and training and transatlantic partnerships.

Under the keynote theme “Integrated Industry – Join the Network”, HANNOVER MESSE 2015 is spotlighting the fourth industrial revolution – i.e., the transition to the smart factory – in which all production partners, equipment and workpieces will be integrated, thus making individualized mass production a reality. Partner Country at HANNOVER MESSE 2015 is India.

HANNOVER MESSE – Get new technology first!

The world's leading trade fair for industrial technology runs from 13 to 17 April 2015 and features India as the official Partner Country. The five main thematic complexes at HANNOVER MESSE 2015 consist of Industrial Automation and IT, Power Transmission and Control, Energy and Environmental Technologies, Industrial Subcontracting, Production Engineering & Services and Research & Development.

Deutsche Messe AG

With revenue of 280 million euros (2014), Deutsche Messe AG ranks among the world's ten largest trade fair companies and operates the world's largest exhibition center. In 2014, Deutsche Messe planned and staged 134 trade fairs and congresses around the world – events which hosted more than 41,000 exhibitors and 3,6 million visitors. The company's event portfolio includes such world-leading trade fairs as CeBIT (IT and telecommunications), HANNOVER MESSE (industrial technology), BIOTECHNICA (biotechnology), CeMAT (intralogistics), didacta (education), DOMOTEX (floor coverings), INTERSCHUTZ (Rescue, fire prevention, disaster relief, safety and security), and LIGNA (wood processing and forestry). With about 1,200 employees and a network of 66 representatives, subsidiaries and branch offices, Deutsche Messe is present in more than 100 countries worldwide.

People

Hermann Sons News, January, 2015
www.hermannsons.org, Part I of III

Celebrating 125 years

HERMANN SONS GRAND LODGE

Who was Hermann?

EDITOR'S NOTE: On March 27, 1890, the eight Hermann Sons lodges that existed in Texas at the time came together to form a "home office" and thus the Grand Lodge was founded.

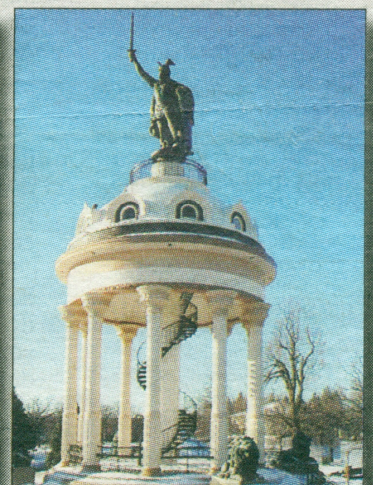
That was 125 years ago. The Grand Lodge will celebrate its quasiquintennial on Oct. 10 in Floresville. The Hermann Sons News will mark the occasion with a series of articles on the history of Hermann Sons. This first article answers the question, "Who was Hermann?" and was compiled by Grand President/CEO Buddy Preuss.

The most common question asked by Hermann Sons members is "Who was Hermann? And why

is our organization named for him?" It's a great question and a great place to start this historical review.

Who was Hermann? Hermann, also known by his Latin name Arminius, born in 18 or 17 BC, was the son of the Germanic Cheruscan chief, Segimerus, and trained as a Roman military commander. He had lived in Rome as a hostage in his youth, where he had received a military education, and obtained Roman citizenship as well as the status of equestrian (petty noble). Around the year 4 AD, Arminius assumed command of a Cheruscan detachment of Roman auxiliary forces.

See WHO, Pg. 20



A colossal statue of Hermann, left, stands on Grotenberg Mountain, a high hill near the German city of Detmold. A similar monument in New Ulm, Minnesota, on right, represents the contribution of Americans of German heritage.

Who was Hermann?

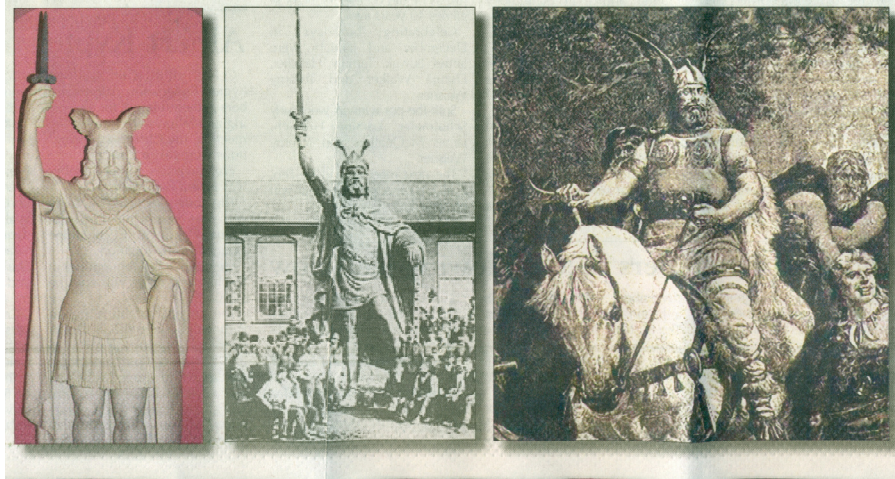


Quintilius Varus, a high-ranking administrative official appointed by Augustus as governor. There he began plotting to unite various Germanic tribes to thwart Roman efforts to incorporate their lands into the empire.

In the fall of 9 AD, the 25-year-old Arminius brought Varus a report of rebellion in northern Germany. He persuaded Varus to divert the three legions under his command (composed of the 17th, 18th and 19th legions, plus three cavalry detachments and six cohorts of auxiliaries) to suppress the rebellion.

Varus and his legions marched right into the trap Arminius had set for them near Kalkriese. History would call it the Battle of the Teutoburg Forest. Arminius' tribe and their allies ambushed and annihilated Varus' entire army, totaling more than 20,000 men, during the three-day battle. When defeat was certain, Varus committed suicide by falling on his sword. German soldiers cut the heads off many of the dead and nailed them to the trees as a warning. It was said Augustus would beat his head against the wall crying, "Varus, give me back my legions." Arminius' success in destroying three entire legions and driving the Romans out of Germany was one of the most devastating defeats Rome suffered in its history, and a high point of Germanic power for centuries.

Arminius had married a princess named Thusnelda. She was captured by the Romans while pregnant and she and their son, Thumelicus, grew up in Roman captivity. In 21 AD, Arminius was murdered by opponents within his own tribe who felt he was becoming too powerful. "Arminius" is probably a Latinized version of the Germanic Irmin meaning "great." In the 19th century the name "Hermann" (meaning "soldier", "army man" or "warrior") came into use as the German equivalent of Arminius and he became an emblem of the revival of German nationalism.



Hermann the Cherusker, aka Arminius, has been immortalized in many ways through the years. At least three statues of him exist, including one, near left, that is in the museum at the Grand Lodge in San Antonio. The middle photo was taken during construction of another one of the statues, the one in New Ulm, Minn. The photo demonstrates just how tall the statue is. The other statue is in Germany and can be seen on previous page. The drawing at the far right depicts Hermann on horse-back shortly after he lead the Germanic people to victory over the Romans. The drawing above was used to mark the 2000- year anniversary of the Battle of Teutoburg Forest in 2009. The celebration was held in New Ulm.

He returned to northern Germania in 7 or 8 AD, where the Roman Empire was seeking to extend its control eastward under Publius

Learn next month why our founders chose Hermann as their namesake. Sources: wikipedia.org and thefreedictionary.com

Submitted by Rodney Koenig, Houston

Celebrating 125 years

HERMANN SONS GRAND LODGE

Someone to unite us

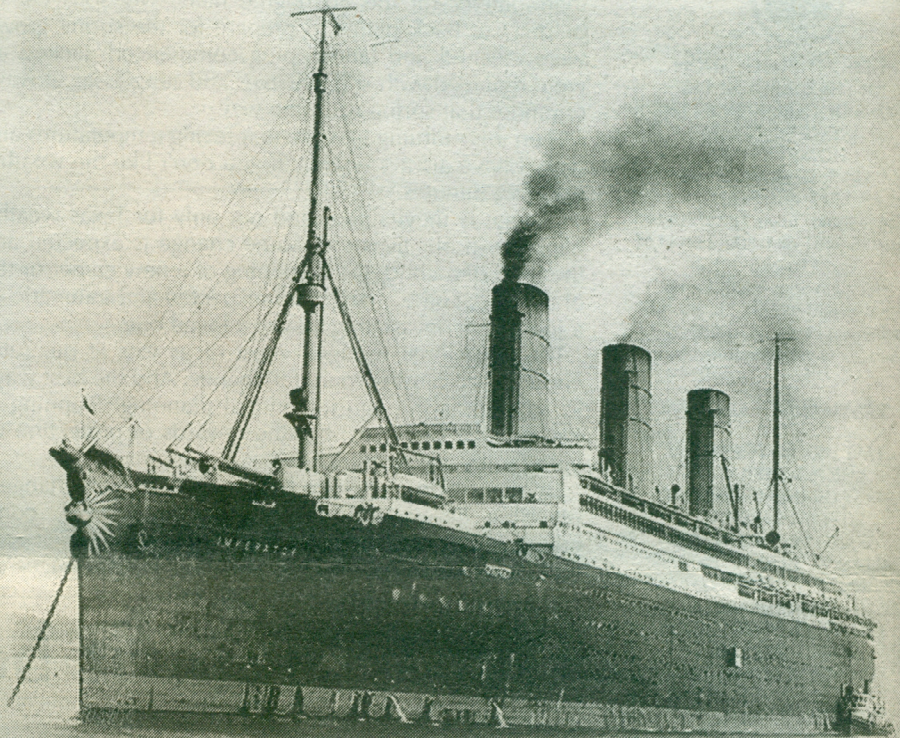
EDITOR'S NOTE: On March 27, 1890, the eight Hermann Sons lodges that existed in Texas at the time came together to form a "home office" and thus the Grand Lodge was founded. That was 125 years ago. The Grand Lodge will celebrate its quasiquicentennial on Oct. 10 in Floresville. The Hermann Sons News will mark the occasion with a series of articles on the history of Hermann Sons. This second article focuses on German immigration to America and the anti-immigrant reactions that lead to the creation of Hermann Sons. It was compiled by Grand President/CEO Buddy Preuss.

In the early to mid-1800's, German immigration to the United States was exploding. From 1840 to 1880, Germans comprised one of the largest immigrant groups. Most Germans came to the United States seeking economic opportunities or religious or political freedom.

Unfortunately, these new Americans did not always find the ideal life they had envisioned. They didn't speak the language, didn't immediately fit in, and often became the target of discrimination.

In the 1840's, nativist groups (organizations that promoted the rights of the native born as opposed to immigrants) took up an anti-immigrant campaign. These groups claimed that immigrants were threatening to destroy American values and democracy.

According to an account published in



The German liner Imperator carried many German immigrants across the Atlantic Ocean to ports in the United States, including Ellis Island, New York.

the *St. Paul Morning Call*, a funeral procession for a German was hindered and the mourners insulted by nativists. This prompted protest meetings of German Americans where a speaker at one said, "another Hermann was needed to protect the Germans from their enemies."

On July 20, 1840, Dr. Philip Merkel,

George Heiner, John Blatz, A. Auer, R. Schwendel, W. Kohler and Philipp Germann gathered on the Lower East Side of New York and founded Der Orden der Hermann Soehne (The Order of the Sons of Hermann).

See GERMAN, Pg. 2

It was an offshoot of the Odd Fellows and the first fraternal society in the nation. It would grow to provide mutual aid and promote the preservation of the German language and traditions.

Hermann Sons adopted the symbolic colors black, red and gold, representing German unity. Black stood for ignorance, prejudice and indifference; red for the light and enlightenment spread by

German culture and the German spirit; and gold for true freedom, which man arrives at through knowledge and labor. Also adopted was the motto of Friendship, Love and Loyalty.



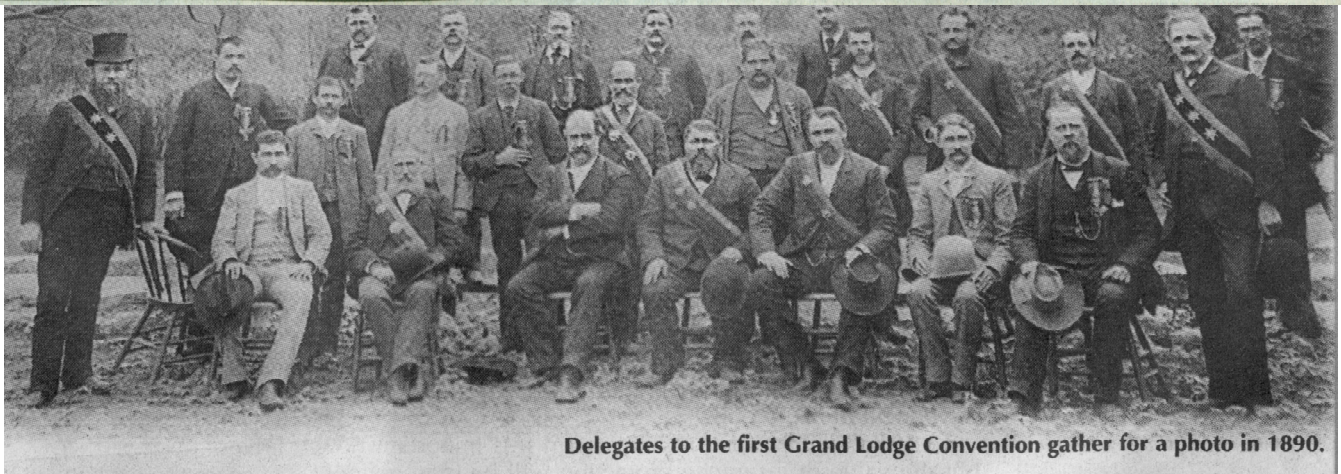
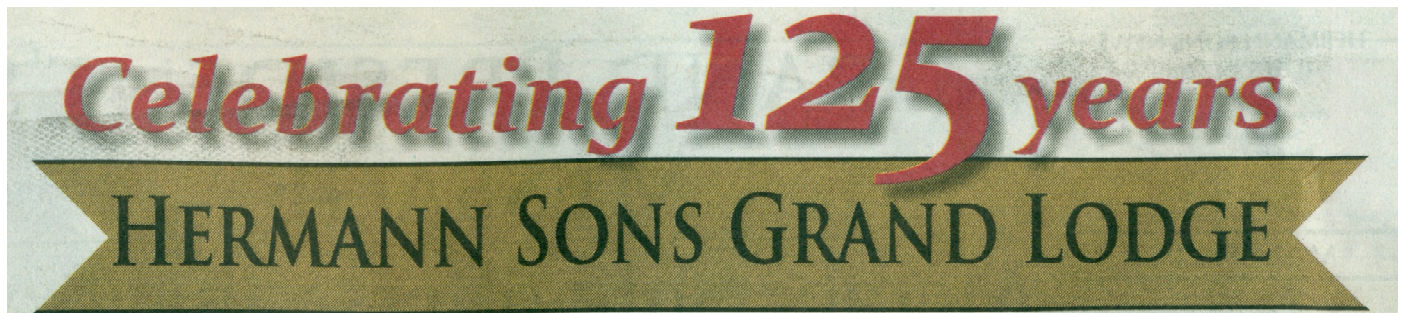
This is the sight that greeted German and other immigrants to the United States as they sailed into New York Harbor. The steamer ships landed at Ellis Island where the immigrants would be processed before they began their new life in America.

Although the order would have a female auxiliary called the Daughters of Hermann, Hermann Sons was for German men who were invited to join.

It was more than a social organization. Either ignored or victimized by commercial insurers of the day, members found another way to provide a small measure of financial security for themselves. It became common practice to pass a hat, gathering contributions to aid the families of deceased members.

Just like German immigration, Hermann Sons flourished. By the late 1800's, there was a total membership of 90,000 in 30 states, Canada and Germany. Texas was one of those states.

Hermann Sons News, March, 2015
www.hermannsons.org, Part III of III



Delegates to the first Grand Lodge Convention gather for a photo in 1890.

German immigrants make Texas home

EDITOR'S NOTE: On March 27, 1890, the eight Hermann Sons lodges that existed in Texas at the time came together to form a "home office and thus the Grand Lodge was founded. That was 125 years ago. The Grand Lodge will celebrate its quasiquintennial on Oct. 10 in Floresville. The Hermann Sons News will mark the occasion with a series of articles on the history of Hermann Sons. This third article focuses on German immigration to Texas and the Hermann Sons movement in Texas. It was compiled by Grand President/CEO Buddy Preuss. *Hermann & Sons News*, March 2015

The largest ethnic group in Texas derived directly from Europe was persons of German birth or descent. As early as 1850, they constituted more than 5 percent of the total Texas population. Intermarriage has blurred ethnic lines, but the 1990 United States Census revealed that 17.5 percent of Texans claimed to be of pure or partial German ancestry.

From their first immigration to Texas in the 1830s, the Germans tended to cluster in ethnic enclaves. A majority settled in a broad, fragmented belt across the south central part of the state. They were land-owning families, artisans and, in a few cases, university educated professional people and intellectuals.

The Hermann Sons movement was introduced to Texans when John Lemnitzer, a member of Genesee Lodge No. 10 of Rochester, New York with Jacob Koll, another member of the Order, took up residence in San Antonio. Lemnitzer and Goll assembled a number of German-speaking citizens of the Alamo City on New Year's Day 1860, and talked about Hermann Sons. The group voted to organize a lodge, and on July 6, 1861, the first Sons of Hermann Lodge in Texas was founded as San Antonio Harmonia Lodge of the Order of the Sons of Hermann.

Five new members joined within the next few months. New members were recommended by current members. German ancestry was very much a prerequisite of membership as this was their common bond and all meetings were conducted in the German language.

New members were accepted or rejected by vote. A ballot box was passed around to members at the meeting. Members would pull a white ball (marble) in the box to accept the new member or a black ball to reject. It was from this voting system where the term blackball (to vote against; to exclude from membership by casting a negative vote; to exclude socially) originated.



Two of the pioneers of Hermann Sons in Texas were, above, Jakob Goll, founder of Harmonia Lodge No. 1, and Carl Lange, right, the first president of Harmonia Lodge No. 1.

Harmonia brotherhood provided assistance for others

Judging from early meeting minutes the pioneers of Harmonia Lodge organized as a brotherhood to be of assistance to each other. The first member death recorded was that of Heinric Werner on Sept. 27, 1861, three months after the forming of the lodge. This prompted the first public notice of the lodge as 11 members attended the funeral in a group. Harmonia Lodge paid for both the coffin and the grave at a cost of \$24. Records of the lodge indicate the widow received assistance from the lodge for a considerable time.

It was during a Harmonia Lodge meeting on Dec. 18, 1873, that connecting life insurance to lodge membership was first suggested. Harmonia Lodge asked the National Grand Lodge to institute a life insurance program and make the insurance obligatory for all members.

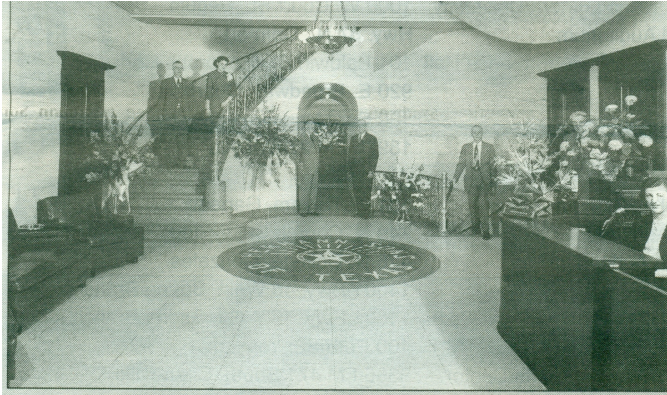
The National Grand Lodge adopted the recommendation and announced on Sept. 22, 1876, that each brother would be entitled to \$300 life insurance and \$60 at the death of his wife. In promoting this national project, Harmonia Lodge and Texas gained national stature.

To boost membership, Harmonia Lodge instituted a system of paying its members \$1 for each new member they brought into the lodge. On Jan. 16, 1890, the member solicitor, Anton Wenzel, arrived in San Antonio. Wenzel laid plans for a successful membership drive which would spread the Order across the state. On Feb. 2, 1890, almost three decades after the founding of Harmonia Lodge No.1, the second lodge, Eintracht Lodge No. 2 was established in Austin. Within the next two months, lodges were

organized in Taylor, Waco, Temple, Brenham, Houston and La Grange, bringing the total number of lodges in the state to eight and total membership to 242.

The National Order recognized the formation of a State Grand Lodge when at least eight lodges existed in any state. So on March 27, 1890, the Grand Lodge of Texas of the Sons of Hermann was founded. William

Heuschkel of Harmonia Lodge was elected as the initial Grand State President of the Texas Group. Some 92 Hermann Sons were established in communities throughout Texas during the ensuing year.



The current Grand Lodge building, located at 515 S. St. Mary's St., was completed in 1950. The photo shows how the building looked during the grand opening.

In the early years, the Hermann Sons office was located on Villita Street between Navarro and South Presa in a two-story rock building. The ground floor was the office and upstairs the various lodges held their meetings. In 1911, what is known today as the Hermann Sons Home Association Building was erected and housed the home office and local lodges until the Grand Lodge offices moved to the current location in 1950.

Through the early 1900s, Hermann Sons supported its members through local lodge assistance and insurance benefits. In 1916 our Order would develop an ambitious and innovative member benefit on a hilltop near Comfort, Texas. Learn next month how the word "Altenheim" became a part of Our Hermann Sons vocabulary.



This is how the San Antonio Home Association Building located at 525 S. St. Mary's Street looked when it was first built in 1911. This was the second home of the Grand Lodge. The First was a building on Villita Street that has since been torn down.

VAHLENKAMP FARM 111 YEARS OLD

This story by Evan Ren appeared in the Abilene Reporter News recently:

OLD GLORY, Texas - With an estimated population of 100 and a school that has been closed for 30 years, the town of Old Glory is little more than a fork in the road. In fact, many Big Country residents have no idea where the tiny unincorporated community (roughly 21 miles northwest of Stamford) is located.

That, however, is of little consequence to Herbert and Gladys Vahlenkamp, who have continued to work the farm they've owned since 1955 and leased since 1946. The farm has been in the Vahlenkamp family for 111 years and is a Designated Family Land Heritage Property by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The Vahlenkamp routine hasn't changed much since their marriage in 1946, though the tempo has slowed as their ages advanced.

The couple still gets up daily at 7 a.m. to work - the same thing they've done since just after World War II, when they began working the land while renting it from Herbert's grandfather, John, a German immigrant who bought the property in 1904.

"We eat breakfast, then we go out and do a little of this and a little of that," Herbert said. "Then we eat lunch, lay down, rest a while and back out and do a little more of this and that."

The oldest of six children, Herbert quit school at the age of 13 to help his family work their own farm - also near Old Glory.

The hardships were unimaginable by today's standards with the family surviving the Great Depression of the 1930s. The decade was further worsened by years of drought, commonly referred to as the "Dust Bowl" which saw a plague of severe dust storms throughout much of rural America from 1934-1940.

"My granddad told me a story about a cow that was walking down this road here during the dust bowl days," said Herbert, pointing out to what is now Highway 283. "It had a sign around its neck that said 'If you can feed me, you can have me.'"

"It was rough for a lot of people in those days. I don't know how they made it, but they did."

Herbert later served in the Pacific Theater during World War II in the Navy, after which he returned to

Old Glory and began farming his grandfather's land. Cotton was the crop of choice at the time, with his living supplemented by working at the local cotton gin.

He also spent some time working for the railroad and building houses while he and Gladys raised their two children, Nancy, 68, and Marvin, 66. But farming was in his blood and gradually became his only occupation.

"I didn't have sense enough to do anything else," Herbert said of his decision to jump back into farming upon his return from the war. "I was raised on a farm, so I had no other talents.

"I had never done anything else."

By 1965, Herbert and Gladys had built a permanent farmhouse on the property, which consists of 272 acres just a few miles east of Old Glory.

The couple no longer farms cotton, having branched into wheat, hay and cattle.

"I think that's what keeps us going," Gladys said. "We've worked together for 69 years and it has paid off.

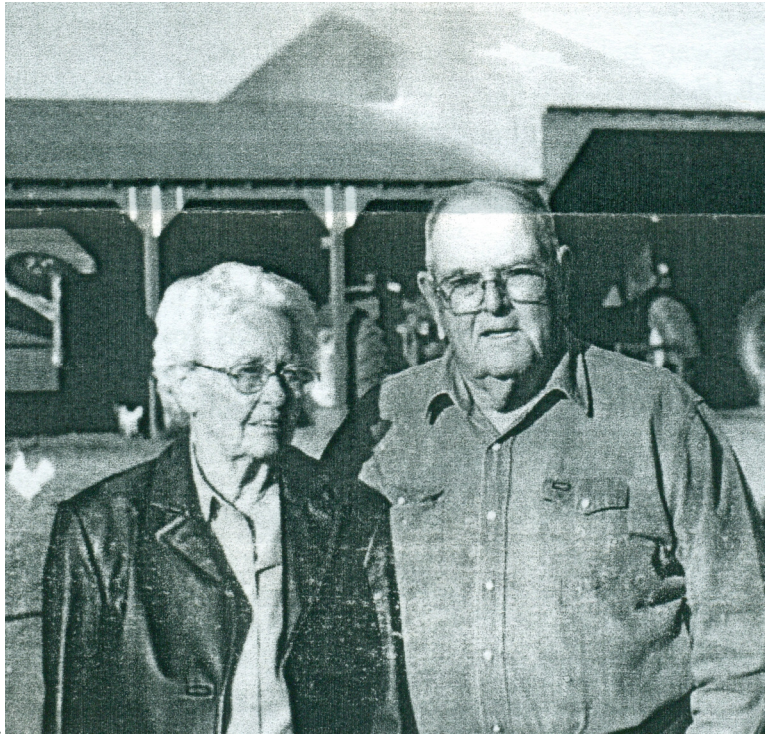
"We've worked from sunup to sundown and sometimes at night. "

This includes a six-day per week work schedule that sees the Vahlenkamps taking only a Sunday breather- though Gladys was quick to point out that there are exceptions.

"We take some (extra) days off," she said. "When it rains."

Of course, technology has made things much easier for the Vahlenkamps, who used to plow their fields with the aid of farm animals, and harvest crops by hand.

They now use modern farm equipment, without which the couple would be forced into retirement.



"We went from a horse and mule to tractors," Herbert said. "Believe me, I spent many days looking at the north end of a southbound mule."

That was the case for many of the German immigrants who settled this area during the 1880s - many of whom still have descendants residing in or near Old Glory.

Originally named "Brandenburg" the townspeople changed the name of the community during World War I, when anti-German sentiment saw a sharp and dangerous rise in the U.S.

It has been Old Glory ever since, with a population peak of 275 people in 1929. Despite a dwindling population, the town has survived through agriculture, though economics have made that increasingly difficult.

The Vahlenkamps, however, are still able to turn a profit due to low overhead.

"If my wife and I didn't have this place paid for, we couldn't make a living off of it," said Herbert, who lost his father to Parkinson's in 1948 and his mother to a stroke in 1956. "But we've got everything paid for, we don't owe anything and that makes a difference."

As for how long the Vahlenkamps will continue their active lifestyle, they have no plans for retirement. The routine they have kept in place for decades will remain the same indefinitely.

"I'm happy out there working, even if I can't get around very well anymore," Herbert said. "When I can't crawl up on that tractor anymore, I'll have to quit."

Seven generations of Schneiders helped shape Austin Heart of the family history is at West Second and Guadalupe streets.

By Michael Barnes - *American-Statesman* Staff



Dr. John Schneider's family arrived in Austin before the Civil War and seven generations of the family have lived, learned and loved in Austin in the years since.

Dr. John "Jack" Schneider can still conjure up the smells of his father's general mercantile store.

"There were big bins with handles of all this dried fruit — prunes, apricots, peaches," the retired doctor says with a faraway look. "You'd go along and get a handful. There were glass containers, too. You'd take the lid off and sneak some candy out."

This was not just any Austin mercantile store, but rather J.P. Schneider & Bros., located inside a handsome brick building at 401 W. Second St. The business, started by Jacob Peter and his mother, Margaretha, across the street in 1873, supplied Central Texans with dry goods for decades.

After housing several other businesses in the late 20th century, the three-story structure — if you include the basement — sat vacant and neglected for years before becoming Lamberts Downtown Barbecue as part of the Second Street District revival in 2001. Renovated by Architects Clayton & Little, it is revered as a model of adaptive reuse.

"The importance of preservation can be vividly experienced when standing at the corner of West Second and Guadalupe today," says architect Emily Little. "Surrounded by the latest and

greatest architectural achievements in Austin, the Schneider Store adds a presence of integrity and character that is unrivaled in the Second Street District." Yet, the building means something more personal to the seven generations of Schneiders who have lived here since the 1850s.

"When the city took it, my grandmother cried," says Mary Schneider Pitts, the doctor's daughter. "It sat there vacant, rotting for 30 years. At least they put a historical marker on it."

It's hard to imagine how many Schneiders, over the course of decades, circulated through the old general store as well as the family's breweries, saloons, lumber yards and other



Inside J.P. Schneider and Bros. mercantile store. (Austin History Center PICH 03551)

A resourceful family

Part of the great wave of German immigrants to Central Texas in the mid-19th century, Jean Schneider, the doctor's great-grandfather, arrived in New Braunfels in 1846. A brewer by trade, he had married Margaretha Groben,



The first Schneider store at 400 W. Second St. across the street from the current Lamberts Downtown Barbecue.



The J. P. Schneider & Bros. Store in its heyday

businesses down by the railroad tracks and above the river, though not above the highest flood line.

Others in the family became bankers, engineers, teachers, engravers, carpenters, bookkeepers, soldiers, mechanics and so forth, yet the family's foundation remained at the intersection of West Live Oak — now Second — and Guadalupe streets.

"Papa Jake, my grandfather, built that store as a young man," Dr. Schneider, 87, says. "They say he never turned away a man in need. He'd give them two slices of bread and a hunk of cheese. If they came a second time, he'd do the same, but they had to work for it. Hobos would put an 'X' on the doorstep, so others would know of his generosity."

another German immigrant, by 1850. They had five children, including J.P., the future merchant.

We know this from a meticulous and generously illustrated genealogy assembled by Jean and Margaretha's descendants, Ann Johnston Dolce and Michael E. Schneider.

Probably in 1858, the family moved to Austin and instantly became involved with the town's Catholic church and German-Texan educational system. In 1860, they purchased two lots on the corner of Guadalupe and Live Oak for a brewery. The brewery's limestone basement, used as a cooling room, was unearthed in 2001 and now serves as a private dining room at La Condesa.

It was not long, however, before Margaretha was raising those five children on her own. According to a Jan. 31, 1862, article, her husband "traveled to the river to fetch sand (and) fell backwards from his wagon." In the accident, "the jerk (harness) instantly broke and shortly thereupon, he died a painless death."

Ever resourceful, Margaretha and son Jacob Peter opened a mercantile store and wagon yard around 1873 on the northwest corner of Guadalupe and Live Oak. The small wooden structure paled in comparison to the surviving brick structure that J.P. built across the street in the late 1880s.

Margaretha remarried, but the second marriage produced no children. By 1883, when she died, son J.P., born in 1852, was already a respected and thriving merchant.

The wooden Schneider family house stood behind a picket fence on the north side of the street, next to the older mercantile shop, which became the "flour house." A wagon yard to the south and west allowed country folk to camp overnight when they came into Austin for supplies.

Although one brother, John Dominic Schneider, did the carpentry and contracting, the mercantile business was all J.P.'s. According to an account from one descendant, the "Bros." was added to protect the family assets during a lawsuit.

Dr. Schneider vividly remembers how goods were conveyed up and down the three floors at J.P. Schneider. "In the back of the store in the southwest corner was an open elevator with a big rope," he says. "That's the way you'd pull the elevator from the basement to the first and the second floor." Green coffee was roasted in a back room.

"The boys would add half a barrel of water and burnt sugar to the barrels of white vinegar to make it more appealing in taste and color," the family history reports. "They also broke up hard sugar with a pick or an axe until the sugar separated."

Seven generations in Austin

Many of the Schneider children attended St. Mary's School or St. Edward's High School, College and University, where several played football. Early on, they married almost exclusively within Austin's German Catholic community.

Although Prohibition advocates targeted them for being brewers and saloonkeepers, the Schneiders were leaders among the Knight of Columbus, Seton Hospital and the Altar and Rosary Society. They often became civic and charitable captains. J.P. started the tradition, serving as an elected alderman for 25 years. Leonard John Schneider (1882-1940) rose to become vice president of the dominant American National Bank. Paula Peters, part of the fifth generation, became a major parks activist.

Dr. Schneider was born in the elaborate — and now long-demolished — Seton Infirmary in 1927 and grew up in Travis Heights when it was considered one of the city's newer, tonier districts.

The future doctor delivered circulars for his father, Ralph Schneider, who took over the family business in 1936. At one time, he operated two other general stores: one on South Congress, the other off Guadalupe Street north of campus. Additionally, he ran a lumberyard on Bureson Road. As a young man, Dr. Schneider worked in all the stores. Like other Austinites of his age, Dr. Schneider can recall the last big Colorado River floods of the 1930s.

"Once, the water came right up to the bottom of the Congress Avenue Bridge," he recalls. "I stood on South Congress and watched houses and trees floating by. There was a terrible odor when the water went down that was there for weeks."



Margaretha Grobin Schneider opened a mercantile store and wagon yard with her son J.P. Schneider in the 1870s on the northwest corner of Guadalupe and Live Oak



Successful Austin merchant J.P. Schneider and his wife, Mary K. Schneider, in 1880. They were in the second of seven generations of the Schneider family to live in Austin. J.P. was Dr. Jack Schneider's grandfather.

His mother, Olga Sundberg Schneider, was a secretary for the prominent Norwood family, whose home is under rehabilitation in a park on Riverside Drive near Interstate 35.



Frances Schneider (center) introduces brother Jack Schneider to his future wife, Ellie Lockett, on the University of Texas campus.

“They had two or three acres down there,” he says. “But they were hit by the Depression and opened up their swimming pool for a nickel or a dime. During the flood, the fire department hooked up there and pumped their water into the utilities. You couldn’t drink it, but you could use it for other things.”

His sister, Frances Evelyn Bauman, introduced the future doctor to his wife, Ellie Lockett Schneider, on the University of Texas campus. Married more than 60 years, they had six children — one since deceased — 20 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

After training at the University of Texas, Tulane Medical School and the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Schneider opened his urology private practice in Austin in 1958. The couple lived for years in Pemberton Heights and now reside in a retirement community. Among the doctor’s many accomplishments was to play a founding role in Caritas, the charity that provides food service, refugee and social service programs.

Most of Jean and Margaretha Schneider’s descendants — more than 300 of them — live nearby in Texas.

“Proves that there’s a chance in America,”

Dr. Schneider says. “If a person wants to work, is honest and dependable, you can make it here. That is what the family stands for.”



Dr. John Schneider, 87, smiles outside his family’s old mercantile store, which is now Lamberts Barbecue, on West Second Street in Austin.

Submitted by Jean Warneke, Smithville, Rodney Koenig, Houston

This and the following article on the Henningers are being reprinted as there were several errors in them. The computer gremlins were at work and when I scanned the PDF John sent me, names were incorrectly spelled and an age was left out. How this happens, I have no clue but am glad John caught these “unforced errors.” Your Editor

Frederick William Ludwig Luedecke



William F. and Emma Luedecke on their wedding day October 20, 1880

William Luedecke, was born January 3, 1857 in Burgdorf, Hannover, Germany, and was christened Frederick William Ludwig Luedecke. By the time he had reached the age of 12 years, he had both step father and step mother, and at the of 17 years he came to America. William’s parents were Christian Frederick (Ludwig) Luedecke and Caroline Dorothee Hillewerth Luedecke. His father (Ludwig) standing 6’-2”,

was a Veterinary Sergeant in the Death Head Hussars, the Personal Guard of the Imperial Household of Kaiser William 1. Caroline stood not much more than 5’-0”. After the death of William’s mother (Caroline) in

1860, the years were hard for William and his brothers and sister. Ludwig was away from home most of the time, and it was during this time that they frequently visited the housekeeper of Otto Hans Von Bismark, the German Premier, and played on his big estate. They remember seeing Bismark many times on his walks through his wooded grounds, always walking straight and grim, accompanied by his half savage, and fiercely loyal, Great Dane hounds.

At the age of 16 years, William Frederick Ludwig Luedecke decided to come to America in search of Peace and Opportunity. He was joined on his voyage from the port of Bremerhaven, Germany by his stepmother Louise Luedecke Sasse, his stepfather Carl Sasse, his sister Auguste Luedecke, his stepsister Mary Luedecke age 12 years, and a stepbrother August Luedecke age 8 years. They traveled on a steamer, and the trip took about a month. They were supposed to land at Indianola, Texas, but due to some landing difficulty, probably a storm, they made port at Galveston, Texas in October 1873. From there they traveled by ox-drawn wagon to Austin County, Texas.

When he came to America, his part of the family Estate amounted to \$1000.00 in Gold, which at that time was at a 20% premium. This was a significant sum of money for a 17 year old. Luedecke went into court and changed his name to LUEDECKE so it would sound more Texan, as he admired the old Texans in his community, and wanted to be like the Old Texas Families.

William Luedecke was married to Miss Emma Dorothy Henninger on October 20, 1880. She was the youngest daughter of Johann (John) Henninger and Magdalena Hornberger Henninger.

In 1885 he filed his original application for Citizenship, but due to some misunderstanding, he thought that no further action was required. In 1888, his vote was challenged in a close election, and the following day he had his attorney find out why. His final Citizenship was granted at the next term of court under Judge W. M. Key, 26th District Court, the elder James P. Hart was District Clerk. William Luedecke was admitted to Citizenship in the United States of America on document #8784 dated October 30, 1888.

His business grew larger each year with Hardware, Fanning Implements, and finally added Private Banking. In the early years he would build wagons, implements, and even coffins for the community needs.

He sold the first Barbed Wire fencing that came to Travis County to Mr. Peter Wells, who was in the Sheep business on the free range.

In later years he bought large tracts of land in Baylor, Liberty, Yoakum, and Travis Counties - always had faith in Texas. Once when buying some land in Yoakum County for \$4.00 an acre, he commented that it ought to be worth that much just to hold the earth together.

He also helped several hundred other people to buy Homes, Farms, and Ranches. Many times in bad years some of these people would beg him to take the property for what they owed, but he never did. He always encouraged them to hold on, telling them "I will see you through", "Don't give up". He never foreclosed on a single lien he held during his entire business career.

William F. Luedecke was generous as to Charity and Community help. He substantially helped to build four Churches, and other fine causes. His pet Charity was Orphan's Homes, as he was an orphan. His mother died when he was three years old and his father died when he was 11 years old. So he knew what it was like to be without a mother and father.

He was known as one of this sections most successful farmers over a long period of years, and in 1926 when he celebrated his half century of farming, his agricultural interests had spread to include not only Central Texas, but to West Texas, Southwest Texas, and South Texas as well.

Many of his early bits of advice on the farming industry are regarded as axiomatic today. "Don't raise too much Cotton" was one of his cardinal farming principles, and "Plant lots of feed".

He observed late in life that he did not believe that he could have selected a better time in history to have

been born, as he had seen lighting come from the pine-knot to Electricity, and transportation from the Ox Cart to the Airplane, communication from holler and shout to the Telephone and Radio. His predication on politics have long since come true, when he observed that the wage earners were having large families and the business and professionals were having small families, which in a democratic society with the majority voting their own special interest, that we could expect a more liberal and paternalistic government emerge.

William F. Luedecke was an Iron Worker by trade in the early years, and plied this trade on the Travis County Court House being built at the southeast corner of Congress Ave. and 11th street. He also worked as an iron worker in Manor, and started his own business when his employer could not pay his back wages and offered him the Business instead. This gradually emerged into the Hardware and Implement business that became his career. William and Emma's Hardware and Implement Store in Manor, Texas is shown below.

He arrived in Brenham in October of 1873, lived two years in Welcome, Austin County, Texas and came to Austin, Travis County, Texas in December 27, 1875. He moved to Manor, Travis County, Texas on March 1, 1876, and started his own business in Manor in September 1879.



Through out his life, he was a member of the Lutheran Church, and attended regularly. Once when out in far West Texas he inquired on a Saturday night, where the closest Church was located. It turned out to be in the next community. He rented a horse and Buggy and drove there to attend services on Sunday Morning, and returned to transact his land deal at the Churchless community. This is only one example of his devotion to his God.

Life ended for this rugged German immigrant in the American Pioneer environment in Austin, Texas April 7, 1932. He had reached the age of 75 years, and passed away as the result of a heart attack. He is buried in the New Section of Oakwood Cemetery in Austin, Texas.

Papa Luedecke, as he was affectionately known to his grandchildren, was a successful Merchant, a Private Banker, a Farmer, and an Investor in Real Estate. He retired from active business in 1914 at the age of 57 years. A favorite Blessing of his was "May you grow in Grace and Wisdom".

William F. Luedecke returned to Germany twice, once in 1900 and again in 1910, to visit his family who had remained. Upon returning from his last trip, he expressed sorrowfully that Germany was no longer the place he had known as a young man - and showed no interest in ever returning again.

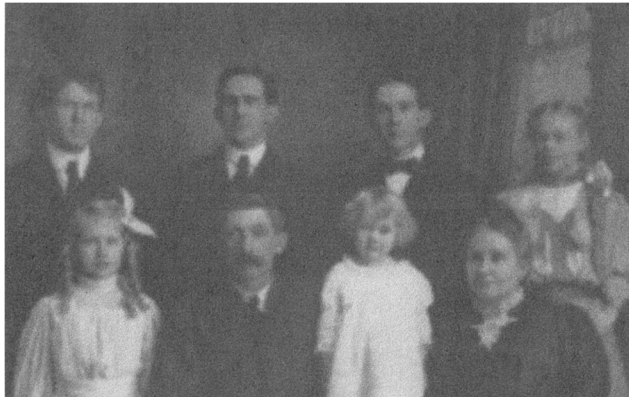


Photo- Back row from left to right are the following: Henry Herman, Louis John, William George, Pansy Front row from left to right are the following: Birdie, William E, Lourie, and Emma D.

William Frederick and Emma Dorothee Luedecke's family all born in Manor, Texas as shown on previous page are as follows:

Louis John Luedecke - 02 September 1881
 Henry Herman Luedecke - 18 January 1883
 William George Luedecke -12 January 1886
 Pansy Magdalena Carolina -20 July 1892
 Birdie Kathrine Philippina Luedecke -06 September 1896
 Lourie Emma Luedecke -25 July 1902

This family history story is from the Luedecke Family History Collection and recent research is being **submitted by John C. Luedecke, CO**

Johann and Magdalena Hornberger Henninger

The journey of a German Family
to Texas 1825 to 1906



Johann [John] Henninger was born October 10, 1832 (family histories)/ October 10, 1830 (Tombstone Oakwood Cemetery in Austin, Texas) in Karlstadt, Rheinfaltz, Bavaria and Magdalena Hornberger Henninger was born April 26, 1825 in Rohrbach, Bavaria (near Landau and south of Heidelberg). John and Magdalena

were married in Karlstadt before 1852. Their first-born Jacob was born in Bavaria on October 17, 1852. Jacob was still an infant, probably two or three months old, when John and Magdalena decided to come to America. It was for this reason that they decided to leave Jacob in Bavaria with his Aunt and Grandmother, Katherine Hornberger Krumeich and Katherine Hornberger. Because of the uncertainty of the long voyage by sailboat and the unknown conditions upon arrival, Jacob remained behind. Jacob would rejoin his family in America when he was 16 years old with his Grandmother Katherine Hornberger.

The Henninger family owned large vineyards and extensive real estate in Bavaria but due to the many wars between France and Germany, the taxes on their property became so excessive that they ate up the revenue and therefore the sons were forced to look to America for their future.

At the time that John Henninger came to America he was a fairly wealthy man. He brought with him from Bavaria \$2,000.00 in gold. At the time of her death, Magdalena Hornberger Henninger left eight twenty-dollar gold pieces. These were passed on to members of the family.

John and Magdalena came to Texas in 1853 arriving in Austin May 16th 1853. After a 73 days voyage by sailboat, on the ocean and the Gulf, they landed in New Orleans, Louisiana. March 15th 1853 having embarked from La Havre, France. Magdalena's three brothers had already come some year or more before so John and Magdalena were going to New Orleans to connect with Magdalena's brother Adam who had a chocolate manufacturing business in New Orleans. Their voyage to America was a terrible experience, because the night before they sailed the Captain of their boat and another captain of another boat were in a drunken brawl and the 2nd captain swore he would sink the Henninger's boat on the high sea. After they were out a week or so this mean captain found their boat and rammed it causing damage. All of the passengers on board helped to repair the boat using lots of clothing, etc. in order to stop the leaks. They were delayed on account of this loss of time. Finally the food began to get short so they had to ration, and the last week they only had thin soup and hard bread. When John and Magdalena arrived in New Orleans there was a yellow fever epidemic of which resulted in Magdalena's brother Adam dying and closing the door on their opportunity in New Orleans. Very much discouraged John and Magdalena sailed to Galveston, Texas then traveled to Houston by rail. From Houston they rode an ox-cart to Austin since there were no railroads to Austin at the time arriving in Austin May 1853. Once in Austin they were going to connect to Magdalena's other brother Jacob who had already immigrated to America in 1845 and living in Austin.

John and Magdalena purchased a farm on the North side of the Colorado River. On this property stood a two-story rock house which was on the West side of Congress Avenue and Third Street. This house became the first location of the I. & G.N. (International

and Great Northern) Railroad Passenger Station. The Missouri Pacific Railroad used the same location for many years until a new station was built in recent years just off of Lamar Blvd. and West Third Street. It was during this time that the children living on a farm attended school on Fourteenth and Lavaca Streets. The school was a private school, which they reached by riding horseback. The central building may still be standing and used to be Ravel Decorating Interiors. In bad weather the younger children would spend the nights with their older sister, Mrs. George (Katherine) Kuempel, who had since been married and lived on Sixteenth Street and North Congress Avenue, across from the Swedish Lutheran Church.

On July 28, 1857, in the Probation Court of Travis County, Texas, John Henninger filed his declaration of Intention to become a naturalized citizen of the United States. This is recorded in the Probate Minutes, Volume B, and Page 583.

When the Civil War became serious John Henninger was concerned he could not finish paying for the home property so he resold it to the former owner and purchased two lots on San Antonio Street (which became the Ambassador Apartments). During the Civil War John and a friend named Leeson made soap for war and civil use as well as different things needed for every day life, so he was selected by the Confederate Authorities to remain in Austin and produce everything they could and to look after the needs of the families whose men had gone to war. The Henningers always loved gardening and had large gardens. John after the war bought a nice Dairy & Produce farm, a short distance from Manor Road (from Austin). This place became known as Pannell's Dairy Farm (a later owner).

John Henninger's father was Nicholas Henninger and his mother was Philapena Helfenstein. Nicholas and Philapena had six children, three sons and three daughters. The sons were named Heinrich, Jacob and John and the daughters were named Katherine, Elizabeth, and Barbara.

Magdalena's father was George Peter Hornberger and her mother was Katherine Schaurer Hornberger. George and Katherine had five children three sons and two daughters. Katherine came to America after her husband died and made her home in Austin, Texas. Katherine is buried on the John Henninger lot in the Oakwood Cemetery.

The 1870 Texas Census of Travis County, Texas, listed John Henninger as follows:

Henninger, Johann-farmer, 45 years old from Bavaria (Naturalized)
Value of \$2,000.00, Real Property; \$550, Personal Property; Magdalena-44 years old from Bavaria, keeps house; Jacob-17 years old from Bavaria, field laborer; Heinrich-15 years old, Born in Texas, field laborer; Philapena-12 years old, Born in Texas, attends school; Emma-7 years old, Born in Texas, at home.

John and Magdalena Hornberger Henninger had six children, two sons and four daughters and their names

are as follows:

Jacob John Henninger born October 17, 1852

Karlstadt, Rheinfaltz, Bavaria

Katharine (Kate) Henninger born August 02, 1853
Austin, Travis, Texas

Henry (Heinrich) Henninger born June 24, 1855
Austin, Travis Texas

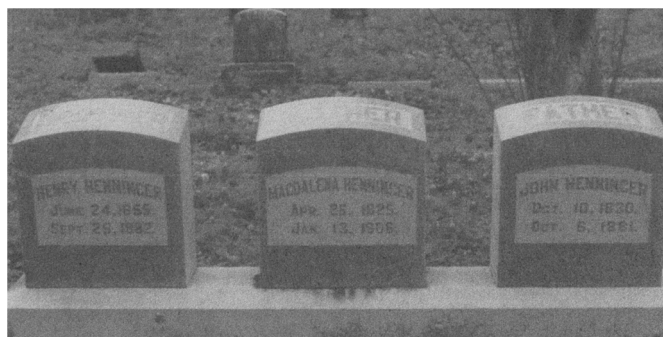
Katharine and Henry were students of the German Free School located in Austin, Texas

Philapena (Bienchen) Henninger born February 09, 1858 Austin, Texas

Helena Henninger born July 11, 1861 Austin, TX

Emma Dorothee Henninger born September 09, 1864 Austin, Texas

Photo taken by John C Luedecke



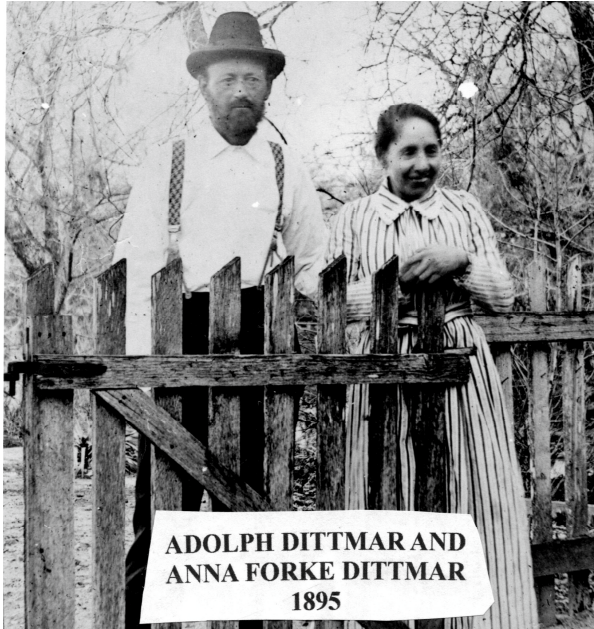
Submitted by John C. Luedecke using sources from Henry Herman Luedecke (Grandfather), Pansy Magdalena Luedecke (Great Aunt), "The Herzer Family History" by Mrs. John F. Herzer 1753 - 1975, and the "History of the Kuempel Family" 1840-1980

Quido Dittmar, a Remembrance

The following is a remembrance written in 1960 by Robert W. Stayton upon the death of my uncle Quido Dittmar, his grade-school classmate and life-long friend. Quido was my father, Richard Dittmar's, brother. The story is interesting for its history and as an account of how children from different cultural backgrounds interacted in San Antonio before 1900.

Robert Weldon Stayton (1886-1963) was the son of a prominent San Antonio attorney (also named Robert) who moved to San Antonio from Victoria. The former law firm (Stayton Lackey & Kleberg) included the well-known Robert Justus Kleberg, Jr., who married Alice King and operated the famous King Ranch. Robert Weldon's grandfather, John W. Stayton (1830-1894), was a college-educated lawyer from Kentucky who became an associate justice (1881) and then chief justice (1888) of the Texas Supreme Court (he died in office). Robert Weldon graduated from the University of Texas in 1904, practiced law for several years in Corpus Christi and then served as a distinguished professor of law at UT for 38 years. I have seen him referred to as "the father of Texas civil jurisprudence". His obituary is on

line and describes a man of exceptional intellect, integrity, accomplishment, and humanitarianism. The Dittmar family received this tribute to Quido with great appreciation.



Quido's father, my grandfather, was Adolph Dittmar. It cannot be said that the Staytons and the Dittmars, as the saying goes, lived on opposite sides of the track, although the Staytons were relatively wealthy in comparison to Adolph and Anna Dittmar. The Dittmar family name had great respect in post-Civil War San Antonio, socially and in the business community. This was in large part due to the success of Albrecht (Albert) Dittmar (1833-1887), said to have been one of the most brilliant and prominent lawyers in Texas and Mexico¹. Albert was, in fact, Adolph's cousin, although some seventeen years older. Albert, born and educated in Germany, was 16 years old when he arrived with his mother and siblings in 1849 two years after his father, Karl Anton (1801-1871) and my great grandfather Ludwig (Louis) Dittmar (1804-1883) had left Darmstadt, Germany and established themselves in Seguin and New Braunfels. He studied law and passed

the Bar exam; served in the Confederate Army, and finally established a thriving law practice in San Antonio.

Albert amassed considerable wealth in real estate in partnership with the distinguished physician Ferdinand Herff. He returned to Germany in 1867 to marry a Herff relative, Emmy von Rehfuës (1849-1941) and sired five children. His early death at age 53 cut short his professional and business career that was carried forward into the twentieth century by his wife and children.



Aurora Apartment Hotel, historic high-rise building located in the Toubin Hill neighborhood in San Antonio. On August 24, 1930, the Aurora opened its doors as one of San Antonio's grandest hotels of the time, catering to the well-known and the well-to-do of the day including Hollywood elite and former first lady, Mamie Geneva Doud Eisenhower—Source Wikipedia.org

Sadly, Emmy's investment in the 10-story luxury Aurora Apartments in 1929 resulted in a bankruptcy, and the building remains as a monument to a major financial misadventure.²

My grandfather, Adolph Dittmar, was not on the same intellectual plane as Albert Dittmar or, for that matter, the Staytons. However, his limited education and native intelligence allowed him to become a talented machinist and water engineer. He married Anna, one of the thirteen children of August Forke, the founder of the landmark Forke Store in New Braunfels. An important aspect of Mr. Stayton's tribute to Quido is that it is a snapshot of the early life of Adolph and Anna and their children in San Antonio. It includes information and comments of great interest to me, especially so because I was born after Adolph died and Anna had migrated to California. At 89, I am the last of their grandchildren living in Texas.

Recollections of Quido Dittmar

By Robert Stayton San Antonio July 27, 1960

The first school I attended was the old Fourth Ward in San Antonio. When I took my seat in the third grade my desk mate was a boy named Quido Dittmar. He was plump and solid, not fat. His most noticeable

¹The Encyclopedia of Texas by Ellis A. Davis and Edwin H. Grobe, 1920, Texas Development Bureau, Dallas

²The Republic of Texas Library, San Antonio Dittmar Family Papers, 1874-1944, Col 1276, Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library, San Antonio

features were his full round face and his big round eyes. He was brown but not dark.

As I afterwards learned, these were family traits. His father and several other members of his family had them. Of course, a kid would never have thought of things like that. These are an old man's recollections. That several of the Dittmars will remember them more accurately is certain.

Quido brought good plump pecans to school and gave me all I wanted. After we learned the moves of chess he made a set of chess pieces out of pecan shells. He brought to school a big top that he had made himself on a lathe. I did not understand about lathes until later. At his home he showed me such a machine, and showed me how to operate it. He took to arithmetic naturally. I did not. Almost every result with the multiplication tables above the fives I got in a responding whisper from him.

One day he invited me to come see him over the weekend. I went, of course. We got to his house by taking the street car up River Avenue, now called Broadway, alighting at a gate, or, it seems to me, a stile, into a large wooded area some two miles from town, and then walking about half that distance to a large cottage on a rise next to the (San Antonio) river. That was where he lived.

He hustled me in and, as we entered, exclaimed loudly, "Mom, Rob wants some bread and preserves." I had not mentioned what he ordered and perhaps that was not entirely a polite introduction. But none of the three of us considered it improper, least of all Mrs. Dittmar, who immediately prepared what we wanted by means of huge slices of bread, uncitified butter and tomato preserves. Nothing in life has ever tasted better to me. As I learned later, she made all of these ingredients herself, baking bread several times a week.

Besides that fine smiling mother I soon met the whole family as it was then constituted. A baby that Quido named "the screacher" was born several years later. As I realize now, but had no thought of then, Quido was not being inconsiderate of his little sister by giving her that name; he was merely indulging in a bluff good humor, of which he was full.

But at the time of my first visit, the family consisted of the mother and father and, in order of their ages, as I remember, Richard, Ella, Quido, George, Lena and "Shoe Shoe". The latter had no other name as far as I knew. She was a very little girl with dark eyes – they seemed that way – and curling hair and was very pretty. Richard and Ella were close in age. They were several years older than us boys. Richard raised bees and was an amateur photographer. Ella took violin lessons and as I faintly recall songs that were sung. George played with us as did Lena. Both were a little younger than Quido and I.

Once we went with Ella to hear a pianist who played a piece for us that reminded us of Erlkoenig, a tune we had learned in school. The pianist afterward told us the name of the piece, and it was Erlkoenig.

Richard photographed all of us one day in a group. Beside all the Dittmar children, except for the photographer, the company contained two guests of Richard – Willie Neville and my brother John – and also me. It seems to me that Miss Edith Symington, our teacher, was also in the group, as Ella's guest. Edith was an effective and lovable teacher. She gave her life to elderly parents until they died and left her an elderly spinster. Life duplicates that story frequently.

I think that must have been the culmination of a picnic. The night before Mrs. Dittmar had gotten together a big lunch in order that the boys could go camping and have supper and breakfast out of that generous supply. We slept under the trees on the bank of the river. At least we spread the blankets there and probably slept some. Besides conversation and laughter, the bull frogs kept us awake, not so much because of their noise as by reason of continual efforts on our part to catch them.

Something ought to be added here about the trees. They were pecans. They appeared to be native, but the nuts that Quido had brought to school were from them and were as plump as cultivated ones and had shells that were thin enough to crack with the hands. Maybe there were other varieties of trees also, but a recollection from boyhood would naturally exclude every sort other than pecans. Under the trees were wild violets by the millions. I had never seen that flower before and I have not seen it since. In the openings between the trees in the Spring were blankets of Blue Bonnets, Blue Bells, and close to the trunks Holzapfeln – if I remember the name correctly. Because alone of their name you could eat them, but the suggestion of the name soon wore out.

Once at a draw in the woods I saw one of Richard's friends – the afterwards famous Onderdonk sketching. He used a reading glass in the reverse, or something that looked like it, to reduce the image and make it sharp. Now, long after his death, his productions are sold at high prices. He evidently copied his penciled sketches in oil.

I believe the whole wooded area belonged to Mr. George Brackenridge and was afterward given by him to the City. It now comprises Brackenridge Park.

On the day after our camping out we were joined by the girls and had a picnic and then that picture was taken. Miss Symington may have been in the group but my memory may have confused this with another occasion.

Frequently the boys went fishing or swimming. The water was clear. Bass were abundant. I will not say we caught none of these, but most of them saw us first. I caught myself though – got a hook through most of my hand at the base of the thumb and forefinger. Mr.

Dittmar was near. Without saying much – he was very quiet – he cut the eye off the hook and forced the point on through before I realized what was happening. In that way he removed the whole trouble. As it was in the day when boys let nature take its course, this place healed in a short time without additional attention other than kerosene oil and bandaging.

Quido was the best swimmer I ever saw, although his brothers and sisters were likewise born to the art. From the time they could walk they probably lived in the water every summer day. There was an artesian well that flowed into the river in the vicinity of the home. As it rushed it filled half of what must have been a ten inch pipe. Quido could hold back the flow by breasting it. As far as I know his only self-pride was his chest expansion. As I see it now, he had six inches “out”. I do not know what the increased circumference was.

In the late afternoons all we younger children played Hop Scotch and Duck on the Rock. At night the game was Authors. I can still hear Quido deplete my hand by such as, “Rob, give me ‘Mill on the Fless’ and now ‘The Alhambra’ - the Alhambra D as I recall, the cards being lettered in groups.

Mr. Dittmar taught us the mores of chess. According to my recollection he called the bishops “runners”. Maybe the knights, though, because I think in German they are called “Ritters”. We called those “horses”. Sometimes we would visit Mr. Simmang’s (later Ella’s husband) establishment on Main Plaza in the city as I remember. The picture I have is of a shop where dies, seals, printing stamps and the like were sold. But I can be very wrong about that because we were not in the market for the likes of those. Quido would get him to play chess with us. Mr. Simmang always complied and he always won, notwithstanding that he would give us his queen.

The home of the Dittmars faced a rock pump house, which was some 75 yards away, bestriding a flume leading from the river and after going through some turbines, the water emptied into a kind of canal. The river coursed to the left of the house as you entered, and nearby could be crossed by means of a suspension bridge which hung from cables. The first few times a visitor passed over that bridge he crawled because it was high and swayed from side to side. Beyond the house on the right was a shed for the cow and beyond that a small stream or rivulet. I cannot remember how it connected with the other water courses in the vicinity. It was interesting because along the margins were reeds with nesting joints that you could pull out and put back, whether to function again I cannot say, and also an active bumble bee nest in a hole. Quido and his brother George used to stride and stoop over the nest and bat the bees with paddles as they came out. A paddler could not afford to miss.

In the neighborhood was a cane break. One of the weekend visitors set fire to it to hear the popping that results when cane is burned. Some sisters from a distant convent appeared and expressed dismay. After great commotion the fire burned out with no further damage. Quido and the other Dittmars were good-humored about the event. At this distance though, I suspect that there was not complete quiet behind the family curtain. As far as I could observe, the boy who liked to see and hear cane burn never visited the home again.

The thought reminds me of something else. The children had chores to do such as washing dishes. If one of them had company he or she was excused and the others bore the burden. I cannot define the manifestations of the resulting displeasure, but after all the years I can recall suppressed rumblings on both sides after such an occurrence. It is clear that now and then Quido got angry. His mild repercussion was almost laughable. It seemed to have no malevolence to it. The resemblance I have seen in later life has been from one of those basso buffos in the opera who makes a good deal of gruff noise that everybody seem to like. But I know I was never exposed to dish washing or anything other than fine hospitality that, in an ordinary family, would have been reserved for grown persons.

When I spent the night in the winter, we reclined on a feather mattress, and Mrs. Dittmar would place another one of the same sort on top of us. Quido would from time to time amuse the two of us until we fell asleep by popping his toes. We would also talk, mostly about fishing.

As a result of my entirely new contact at the pump houses with machinery and power, I conceived the idea that since a motor would run a dynamo and a dynamo would run a motor, that perpetual motion might be accomplished by hitching the two to each other. I even priced some motors and dynamos! Quido was not so sure about it. We sought the advice of his father who explained without a trace of impatience that friction would prevent the imaged result, or at least that is my recollection.

Sometimes Quido visited me. Food at our house was different from food at his. On proper occasion we had hot biscuits, grits, fried apples, round steak and pie. On special occasions my father fried us up fish chowder, not the kind with milk in it, but the kind that had wine and spices in it. The Dittmars, from time to time, had at their table home made light bread, New Braunfels sausage, creamed potatoes, noodles, farina, and floating island, which I think Quido called milk soup. For Christmas they had German cookies, some of which were hard but good and some with aromatic seed for flavoring – anise cookies as I remember. My family like Quido and his family showed the same feeling toward me. He liked our food better than his, and I liked his better than ours.

At my home we boys played a kind of hockey with sticks and a big croquet ball. We fought battles with stripped banana leaves. In the latter, I am sure now that Quido held back some of his power because he was far stronger than I and could have ended those battles more quickly, in fact in the first few swings.

I was in the fish business. One summer at Corpus Christi a Negro fisherman and I went into partnership. He would express to me "collect" about a hundred pounds of fish at a time. They arrived every few weeks. I conceived the idea that if the fish were first cleaned and sealed they would sell better. They sold very well, but I feel sure my father by prearrangement paid the inevitable losses to the fisherman. All my homefolks and friends at hand, including Quido at times when he was there, would help me dress those fish so that I could take around in a home-made hand cart and dispose of them. If I had any left over I would take them to the Menger Hotel and the quartermaster there would relieve me of them at wholesale. When Quido helped, I would always give him a mess to take home. He said he like salt water fish better than those out of the river and I insisted on the reverse.

Years afterward when I was a young lawyer at Corpus Christi, he came down there with some of his family including Lena for a try at salt water fishing. I took him and those that joined us to a good place and Quido caught a bull redfish about two and a half feet long. He insisted on my taking it home. Being the host it still bothers me that I complied, but I found it impossible to decline his generosity.

The river near his house was ordinarily full and clear. Occasionally however, it succumbed to drought. Mr. Dittmar, who kept a scientific and systematic record of the water level, blamed the dryouts on the artesian wells that were being extensively drilled in the water shed. At the time of one of the droughts we boys would wade around in the shallow pools, muddy the water and catch fish that came to the surface with our hands. Once we got hold of an eel and held on to it. Frequently we caught black bass and goggle eye perch and, at a particularly low stage of the canal, a big carp. We sold these to the Menger, where they had us dump them into the cold storage room. There we saw some of the salt water fish I had sold to the hotel several months earlier giving us a frozen stare.

When he completed the eighth grade, as I recall, Quido became an apprentice at Collin's machine shops. Mr. Dittmar had caused the move, saying that when Quido was older and had some money and procured this part of his education, he could reenlist in school and later go to the university. He never did either, but he acquired as good an education as most boys in college; he read a great deal and was interested in what he read. My brother John obtained his high school and college

education in the same way. The technical training at Collins undoubtedly led Quido into his main life work in the cotton ginning business.

Mr. Dittmar was farseeing. He was also a good planner financially if my natural and probably correct impression is true. I do not know positively that he or Mrs. Dittmar had inherited some means. It would be presumptuous for me to say they had not. I merely conclude that from what I saw. It would also be presumptuous for me to surmise what his salary was. He was chief engineer, which meant manager, of the Upper Pump House and, afterward, at the larger Lower Pump House. Salaries were not high in that day. A per diem of \$1 was good pay for ordinary labor. A salary of one hundred twenty-five dollars a month was very excellent one for a man of Mr. Dittmar's skill and judgment. He supported a family of two adults and four and later five and still later six children on his salary and the work the family did at home and saved enough to but a corner on River Avenue (now Broadway) and what is now called Brackenridge Avenue. I have always used Mr. and Mrs. Dittmar's experience as an illustration of what a couple could accomplish if they really tried.

When Quido was about fifteen or sixteen years of age the family moved to a place near New Braunfels on the Guadalupe River. I suppose it was bought and outfitted from savings and the price received for that corner property in San Antonio. The New Braunfels property had, or they constructed, a dam across the river, and were able to use that to irrigate crops. When I was about 15 years of age I visited them in their new home. The field had fine corn in it. My chief recollection of the results of the irrigation was eating roasting ears out of the field boiled by Mrs. Dittmar in a five gallon can. There was all you could eat. The corn was very tender and so good I can still taste the treat.

Quido was of course an expert at anything connected with the water. He could swim indefinitely it seemed, using an overhand stroke when he desired to get to objects quickly. No one could have told him anything about catching fish. Among other devices to that end he had trot line in the river and introduced me to that wholesale way of catching plenty to eat.

Once at mid-life after Quido had settled at Geronimo, he and I agreed to drive over to San Antonio to visit the old home place and see how everything looked I offered to use my car. I was to arrive at Geronimo in time to spend the afternoon in our old haunts. His wife invited me in to dinner. There was a memorable fried chicken and plenty of good things. That regretfully over, we started for San Antonio and I was a little boastful about how well my engine was performing – a "sweet engine" I called it – when suddenly it made a sound like it was crushing rocks and

stopped.

Quido phoned home and one of his daughters came in his car, so we completed our trip in that. The daughter had to listen to a lot of reminiscence as a result. She was pleased about it and interested. I am not sure which of his daughters that was. Several years later I became well acquainted with Quido's daughter Ruth because she came over to Austin and attended the University of Texas. She did some special typing for me – did it excellently. At that time Ruth greatly favored her father both in features and personality. Her marked characteristic was absolute attention to duty in a pleasant and unselfish manner.

Quido and I exchanged brief visits and his wife and Ruth and her children came to our home for a (two short) visit one afternoon in the last year of his life. I was happy that my wife had the opportunity to meet them all. We exchanged Christmas presents. The Dittmars took special pains to provide Christmas cookies for our family, I feel sure. Their baked gifts consisted not only of macaroons – pecan ones naturally – but cookies that in all my memory the family reserved for that particular season.

I saw Quido's place at Geronimo and all his family, I saw on every hand evidences of duty performed, marked generosity and good order. Those are the main characteristics of the Dittmars as I have recognized them all these years.

In this world a man does not live and stop. What he has been goes into his descendants and somewhat into his friends. Life would not be as rewarding if this were otherwise.

Austin, Texas July 27, 1960, Robert W. Stayton

Submitted by Ray Dittmar, Houston



A. Dittmar

Volksdeutsche by the Dozen, Part Three:

World War II Confronts Jakob and Katarina Webel
(Swabians Face Nazi Invaders and Yugoslavia's Break-up)

James J. S. Johnson

As mentioned in Parts One¹ and Two² of this series, Texas hosted the births of **Nate Webel** and **Luke Webel**³, two brothers of German stock, extending the biogenetic impact of their father's *Immigration to America*, in AD1950.



Nate and Luke should one day learn to appreciate how their family history, thanks to God's good providence, includes survival and immigration (to America, after WWII) of "*Volksdeutsche by the Dozen*", on Monday, March 19th of AD 1950, as "expellees" seeking refuge in America (under the amended *Displaced Persons Act*) from Communist tyranny ruling what was then "Yugoslavia".⁴

¹"Volksdeutsche by the Dozen, Part One: Jakob and Katarina Agreed to Marry Before They Ever Spoke to Each Other, A True Example of Love at First Sight ... and First Sound", *Journal of the German-Texan Heritage Society*, 35(1): 25-32 (spring 2013), quoting from page 1-4 of Rosalie Webel Whiting, *From Vinkovci to Medina* (unpublished Webel family history), supplemented by personal interviews with Chaplain Bob Webel (during August AD2012).

²"Volksdeutsche by the Dozen, Part Two: Volksdeutsche in Croatia, before World War II: Jakob and Katarina Webel are Merchants in Marinci (Taking Care of Business and the Business of Life)", *Journal of the German-Texan Heritage Society*, 36(3):154-170 (fall 2014), quoting form Rosie Webel Whiting (see prior footnote), pages 5-18.

³Nate Webel (b. Nov. AD2007, Fort Worth, Texas) & Luke Webel (b. July AD2012, Plano, Texas).

⁴"Volksdeutsche by the Dozen" is the caption of an unidentified newspaper clipping, with a photograph of the 12 Webel family immigrants, who arrived at Ellis Island on March 19, AD1950, after a transatlantic trek that went from Munich to Copenhagen to Scotland to Greenland to New York City. The Webel dozen then were **father** Jakob, **mother** Katarina, Reinhardt (17, a/k/a Reini), Elisabeth (15, a/k/a Elsa), Karl (13), Adolf (12), Theresia (10), Robert (8), Rosalia (6, a/k/a Rosie), Jacob (4), Katherina (2), Daniel (2 months old).



How Two Native Texans Descend from Post-WWII Refugee *Volksdeutsche*

To recap the Texas connection, native Texan Nate Webel met his little brother, little Luke Webel (a new native Texas), during summer of AD2012. Luke's parents are Stephen and Erica Webel, whose lives (and those of their daughters and sons) are in constant motion (due to Steve's professional responsibilities which require international travel), yet they periodically alight and reside (just long enough to catch their breaths) in Arlington, Texas.⁵ Stephen Webel (Luke Webel's father) is the son of Chaplain Robert ("Bob") and Marcia Webel, who currently reside in Florida. Chaplain Bob Webel (Luke Webel's paternal grandfather), as an eight-year-old, was one of the **"Volksdeutsche by the Dozen"** who flew from Munich (Germany) to New York, arriving at Ellis Island, March 19th of AD1950.



Jakob & Katarina (schleicher) Webel

Bob Webel's parents-Jakob Webel and Katarina (nee Schleicher) Webel—who immigrated to America with their surviving ten children, have repeatedly illustrated the phrase "truth is stranger than fiction". As noted before, Jakob Webel's family belonged to an ethnically German evangelical Anabaptist church tradition, a group known as "Evangelical Rebaptizers"⁶-- who lived in what was then called Yugoslavia.⁷ In Jakob Webel's mind it was vitally important, when he

⁵ The family history information in this article is derived from repeated personal interviews with Chaplain Bob Webel, mostly when he was visiting Arlington, Texas (during the summer of AD2012), and from the transcription of his sister (Rosie)'s interview of their parents, an unpublished family history titled "From Vinkovci to Medina" (which is further described below).

⁶ The Yugoslav-emigrated, German-speaking Evangelical Rebaptizers, when they immigrated to America, renamed themselves the "Apostolic Christian Church of the Nazarene". (There is no ecclesiastical connection to what is popularly called the "Church of the Nazarene").

⁷ Like a violently erupting fumarole, the tragic history of Yugoslavia's political factions is a series of internal fighting (dominated by Ustase-led Roman Catholic Croats persecuting Eastern Orthodox Serbs, with Nazi and Russian Communists intervening with their own agendas), and that fighting is a major catalyst in this family history—as will be noted later, *D.v.*, in future reports on this fascinating family history (see, e.g., <http://www.icr.org/article/7056/>).

selected a wife, to marry within his family's faith tradition-it would have been unthinkable to marry someone of another faith.⁸ Jakob succeeded, marrying a kindred spirit wife, Katarina Schleicher, during the early AD1930s, before the world had learned that trying times would be forced upon the world by Hitler, Hirohito, Mussolini, and their ilk.



After the Wedding, Married Life Began with Hard Work on the Farm

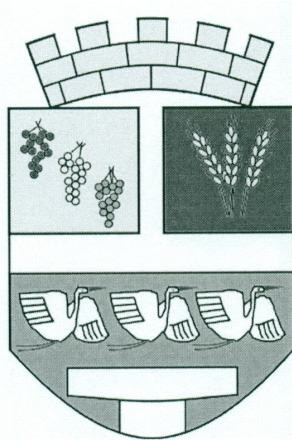
As the testings of time (especially during World War II and its immediate aftermath in Europe) proved, repeatedly, the simple wedding vows of young Jakob and Katarina (*reported in Part One and Two of this series*) were not a mere matter of happy youthful enthusiasm or ceremonial tradition. Jakob and Katarina were promised to one another; there was no looking back. It was unthinkable to consider separate lives thereafter: these two young hearts were truly united as "one" (*see Genesis 2:24*), loyal to each other (and also to their God), as later events would prove, again and again. The young couple were faithfully committed to each other, before God and many witnesses (including themselves), and World War II's horrors and deprivations would soon (and repeatedly) test that marital union. But the couple's family business got started, as a new family (as reported in *PartTwo*), before those horrific challenges confronted them.

As noted before, when Hitler's ambitions reached Yugoslavia (in April AD1941), daily living became an unrelenting challenge to endure, a never-ending series of threats and dangers (including German **Nazis**, Croatian **Ustase**, and Soviet-backed **Communists**, plus war-caused food shortages, property and relocation losses, illnesses and injuries, etc.), as a growing family of honest Evangelical Re-baptizers tried to survive long enough to hopefully, someday, rebuild a "normal" family life.



⁸ Certainly Jakob was thinking Biblically, on this point-see **Amos 3:3 & 2nd Corinthians 6:14**.

For two decades daily life was always abnormal and threatening, never convenient nor comfortable. Meanwhile the Webel family grew to include 11 children, but one (Hilda, twin sister to Robert) died of malaria (in AD1943) as a newborn in Yugoslavia (during WWII), leaving a dozen Webels. Hilda's short life - as the details below show - would nonetheless display God's providence, however, due to a German law that exempted men from being drafted for military service if they were fathers of at least 7 children. (*More on that later.*)



In the transcribed interview, below,⁹ notice that the replies of the Webel parents (**"DAD"** = Jakob; **MOM** = Katarina) don't always fit questions actually asked by the interviewing daughter (**DAUGHTER**). Notice also that Mom chimes in, to clarify (or correct) the English words needed to convey Dad's memory on certain details. At this point (*following Parts One and Two of this series*), Jakob and Katarina Webel are merchants, in **Marinci**, as war approaches Yugoslavia. Amidst the invasion of Yugoslavia by German soldiers and tanks, the death of Robert's twin sister Hilda (due to malaria as a newborn), threats of capture, and more, the Webel family move from Marinci to **Vinkovci** (coat of arms shown above, including storks that inhabit its marshlands), as American bombs fall.

In this Part Three Mr. (Jakob) and Mrs. (Katarina) Webel are interviewed about the tumultuous times that led to abandoning the store-home in Marinci, after Jakob left the Yugoslavian army (due to Croatia's assertion of independence in April AD1943 - "splitting" from Yugoslavia (which was then at war with Germany). Afterwards (to be reported hereafter, *D.v.*), Jakob strove to avoid being drafted by the Nazi-controlled German army, as well as by the Communist-led "partisan" guerrillas, and the family moved to **Vinkovci**. Also (to be reported later, *D.v.*), Katarina was captured and providentially escaped captivity, and successfully returned to her family.

Eventually, as American bombs fell - suggesting to the Webels that the Germans would eventually lose the war - it became clear that some kind of escape was needful. In the midst of this turmoil twins Robert and Hilda were born (June 2nd of AD1943), but only Robert would survive that year. The interview resumes (*at the top of page 19, and continuing to page 25*) with Mr. and Mrs. Webel recalling life in Marinci, during the months of Yugoslavia's short war with Germany, followed by German occupation, Croatia's pro-Nazi "independence" regime, and pro-Communist "partisan" guerrilla warfare.¹⁰

⁹ Rosalie Webel Whiting, *From Vinkovci to Medina* (unpublished Webel family history, copy provide by Chaplain Bob Webel), pages 19-25, supplemented & clarified by personal interviews with Rosie's brother, Chaplain Bob Webel, during July and August of AD2012, and afterwards.

¹⁰ The interview resumes on page 19, recalling events when the Webels still lived in **Marinci**.

* * * * *

DAD: [Yugoslavia's] Government drafted the men to dig ditches, the [German] tank could not go over --- so big. And the people, the soldier was [quartered] here in the house and there in the house, in our house were maybe 10 soldiers.

DAUGHTER: What soldiers?

DAD: Yugoslavian.

DAUGHTER: They lived there?

MOM: Yeah, they live there. They work, they went every day out.

DAD: They work, working, digging the ditches.

DAUGHTER: And then they came in the evening and lived there. Did you have to feed them?

MOM: No, the government feed them, they had a ...

DAUGHTER: A tent?

MOM: No, a big, not a tent ...

DAD: A wagon.

MOM: A wagon and cook, and they bring this food in the yard and it smell so bad and they don't eat everything, then they threw it over there and we said no, they cannot do this, they had to put this in a pail and give it to swine.

DAD: Pigs. Yeah, we had pigs too.

MOM: We had pigs.

DAUGHTER: Did you feed them then when they got this terrible food from the government?

MOM: Oh, no, no, no.

DAUGHTER: What did they eat then?

MOM: They ate okay, I guess. I guess tomorrow is something else. Whatever ... we don't have to give them food.

DAUGHTER: Why did you have to give them housing?

MOM: Where should they sleep?

DAD: When the government says you have to live with 10 men, that meant 3 men who you have to take it ... *[3 men per room, maybe, perhaps looking like these 9 Yugoslavian soldiers, shown below, from AD1941?]* That's all. No choice.

MOM: No choice. They go in the room to see how many room you got, how many children you got, that's enough for you. The rest you have to give to soldiers.



DAUGHTER: Were any of our family, Reini or you, drafted or tried to be drafted into the [military] service?

DAD: No. Reini was little ...

DAUGHTER: I don't know what age you get drafted in Yugoslavia.

DAD: Reini was born in '34 and war [in Yugoslavia] started in '43 so he was 9 years old. They drafted no younger, the first they drafted only 20, 21... Then later, 18 or so.

DAUGHTER: Why did you go away [from Marinci]? Where did you go? Drafted. That's why I was asking. I thought somebody [in the family] was supposed to be drafted.

DAD: When the war started, I was ...

DAUGHTER: How many boys did you have in your home? Ten?

MOM: Yes, 10 men.

DAD: 10 men.

DAUGHTER: Was Yugoslavia an ally of Germany?

DAD: No.

DAUGHTER: They were at war with ...

DAD: Yugoslavia was neutral at that time, it was before the war [in Yugoslavia, i.e., before World War II became active fighting inside Yugoslavia]. But the king [Yugoslavia's Alexander I] was assassinated.¹¹ there was no king and his son was about 15 year old [actually the crown prince was only 11 when his father was assassinated] so they have 3 men [i.e., regents] who ruled the country and that 3 men went to Hitler and made agreement with Hitler, with Germany, tell we let Germany go through but not be involved in the war.¹² And when the war is over, then they will talk about the border because it was ... but when they made an agreement, the king [*Peter II, by then 17 years old, shown below*], as adult, the young king, a 16 year old [actually, he had just turned 17], and the 3 men went down, then said better war [*with Germany and its allies*] than the pact. Then they prepared a new government and prepared for war against Germany.



¹¹ Yugoslavia's King Alexander I was assassinated in Marseille during AD1934, so he was formally succeeded by his son Peter II (who then was 11). King Peter's regent Prince Paul announced (on March 25th AD1941) that Yugoslavia would accede to the "Tripartite Pact" originally bonding Germany [which as of March AD1938 has annexed to itself Austria], Italy, and Japan, a/k/a "Berlin Pact", but eventually joined by Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Slovakia, and (on June 15th of AD1941) the "independent" state of Croatia. Yugoslavia's alliance with Germany was seriously interrupted, however, by King Peter's reversal, when he turned 17 (and was declared "of age" -i.e., an adult king, no longer needing regents to speak for him), allying with Great Britain (on March 27th AD1941 - 2 days later) and announcing opposition to the Tripartite Pact. In reaction to King Peter's announcement, 4 of the Axis powers (Germany, Italy, Hungary, and Bulgaria) invaded Yugoslavia - within a week. The invasion so overwhelmed Yugoslavia's defending army that Yugoslavia surrendered on April 17th AD1941.

¹² Hitler's German troops did much more than merely pass through Yugoslavia (due to King Peter's decision to oppose the Axis powers (see prior footnote). German troops invaded on April 6th of AD1941, quickly overwhelming Yugoslavia's defenses, in a few days. During AD1941 Yugoslavia was dismembered - partitioned between Axis powers Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, and Hungary - amidst an opportunistic civil war that soon resulted in the establishment of a Nazi-backed puppet state, the Ustase-controlled "independent" state of Croatia, which employed genocide and other forms of terrorism to impose Roman Catholicism within the Croatian portion of Yugoslavia - see Wikipedia entries at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Usta%C5%A1e> and at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ante_Paveli%C4%87. The primary targets of Ustase genocide ("ethnic cleansing") were Eastern Orthodox Serbs, Jews, and "partisan" rebels.

DAUGHTER: Against Germany?

DAD: Not against, to defend, not to [attack offensively].

DAUGHTER: Defend against Germany?

DAD: Not to let Germany go through because Germany has a plan to go through Yugoslavia, through Bulgaria, I don't know where, that makes no difference, but then they [i.e., the Yugoslavians in anticipatory defense] made the ditches, [so] the German tanks could not go through us. Ditches here and 50 kilometer out, again ditches.

MOM: Big like houses you could put in [i.e., big enough for a tank to fall in].

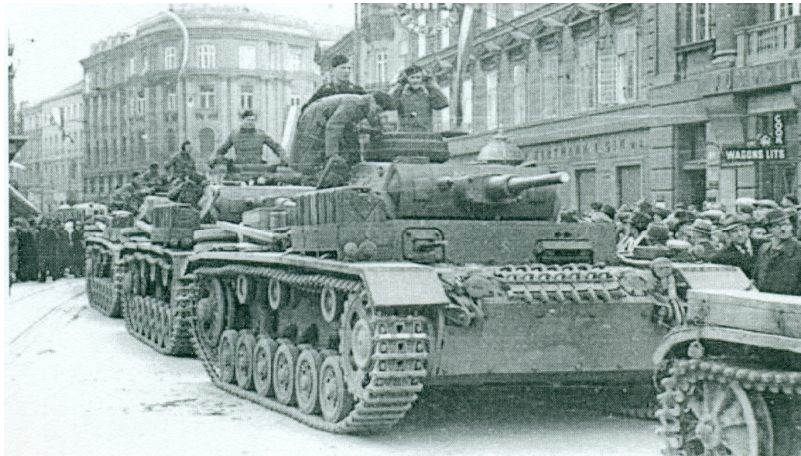
DAD: And the ditch it was on one side almost straight up so tank would go down but it would not go up. But when the German came, they did know [i.e., the Germans had already learned about the tank-trap ditches - see photographs of invading German Panzer tanks in Zagreb, 4-11-AD1941, as now "independent" Croats cheered], they did not go on the ditches.

MOM: They did not even go on ditches.

DAD: They went straight on the roads and nobody could stop them. Nobody.

MOM: They didn't even saw them ditches.

DAUGHTER: And did they come with tanks?



DAD: Yeah. They come with tanks, 100 tanks and here and there in Yugoslavia.

DAUGHTER: Okay, back up now. You've got me to the point where they're digging ditches. Robert was born. Were you drafted?

DAD: No.

MOM: No, Robert was not born yet.

DAD: I was drafted in the army because the war was imminent.

DAUGHTER: Everybody was. What were you drafted to do?

DAD: To go into the [Yugoslavian] army. *[Note: the photo shown right shows some Yugoslav soldiers 5 years before the invasion; the purpose for including it here is to portray Yugoslav soldiers that are not heavily armed - not even equipped with ammunition belts, something Dad Weibel talks about later.]*

DAUGHTER: To do what?

DAD: When you go in the war in the army to be a radio man.



DAUGHTER: Were they teaching you this?

DAD: No. I know that. I have that.

MOM: He had that training already.

DAD: But when I came there, they have no radio unit there so I agree I should be regular soldier but other man was drafted to be a cook and he does not want to be a cook. So I volunteer, I will be the cook.

DAUGHTER: And did you do that?

DAD: Yes.

DAUGHTER: How many years?

DAD: Not how many years. A couple of weeks I was the cook. But then, the rumor is that Germany is already in Belgrade¹³ [see picture of Belgrade after German bombing in AD1941], passed by us [in Marinci] and went there. So we have to go, our whole unit, across, go across, through the German territory, south because the German did not stay here, they just go, go, go, go, go. Tank after tank, they go.



DAUGHTER: The purpose of going through Yugoslavia was just to go through Yugoslavia. They weren't going to do any damage.

MOM: No. They just want to go through.

DAD: Go to occupy the capital city [i.e., Belgrade].

DAUGHTER: So they could[n't] care less about this little city of Marinci.

DAD: What do they care for that?

MOM: NO. They was never there [i.e., to stay and fully occupy Marinci].

DAD: They don't care about that - only for whosoever¹⁴ stood against them.

DAUGHTER: What was the capital?

¹³ Belgrade was the capital of Yugoslavia (a/k/a Jugoslavia, meaning "Southern Slavs", originally labeled "Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes") when the composite nation was formed immediately after World War I. Belgrade was invaded by Nazi Germany on April 6th AD1941. After the break-up of Yugoslavia, in AD1992, Belgrade became the capital of Serbia.

¹⁴ Again we see an illustration of King James English, due to the Webels learning English (in America, during the AD1950s) by virtue of studying the King James Bible.

DAD: Belgrade [which city was bombed by Germany - see photograph below -- prior to the arrival of German tanks] was the capital. And they just go. And then we have to go ...



DAUGHTER: When you said you went south or wherever you went, were you still the cook for the [Yugoslavian army] unit?

DAD: Yes. Yes.

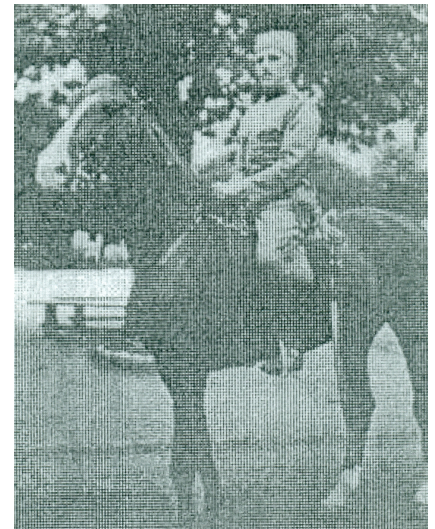
DAUGHTER: It was the whole time, always the cook.

DAD: It was the whole unit.

DAUGHTER: How large was that unit?

DAD: Maybe a couple hundred men, I don't know that, but with horses, cavalry,¹⁵ and we ... that kitchen was on the wagon.

DAUGHTER: The pictures we have of you, is this you with the horse? Is this [a photograph of you, on a horse] then?



DAD: Well, sure, but that ...

MOM: No, not the same, different time.

¹⁵ For some reason the role of horses during World War II is frequently missed in history presentations, yet the truth is that horses were then harnessed for many tasks by both the military and civilians. WWII was a war that contrastingly combined cavalry and atomic bombs.

DAD: And then when we came to a town close to the river (called Mltrovitz)¹⁶ there is, before we came to town, people run out from the town and our officer stopped, one among the people was a police in uniform. He stops him, said, what's news? Why you running? Said the Germans took over the town, that town where we have to go through. But then he, what kind of German? Our German.



DAUGHTER: What kind of German?

DAD: Our German, the people from here [i.e., "Schwabbies" -- *the ethnic Germans who lived in that part of Yugoslavia, due to a much earlier immigration*], that German, took over the ruler. What's happened to the Yugoslavia people? All run away, no Yugoslavian in that area. I mean, the mayor, and the general, the police or nobody from the government is there. Everybody disappeared.

DAUGHTER: Let's get a little history, why did we [*meaning the ancestors of the Webel family, who originally came from German-speaking Europe into what later became Yugoslavia*] end up in Yugoslavia, and how did you get there and all that stuff? That's what I want to know.

DAD: Four thousand [*oops - he probably meant to say 400*] years, they go immigration because Germany is over-populated and there need more people, it was poor lands and nobody want it us [or maybe he said "nobody wanted us"] and good land. They get land. They get land for nothing.¹⁷

DAUGHTER: Okay, you were saying the people who were living in **Mitrovitz** [*see photo of old church in Sremska Mitrovica, a/k/a Сремска Митровица*], the German people who lived there, decided to set up their town because all the Yugoslavians ran away.



¹⁶ This appears to refer to the **Sava River** (also spelled "Save", "Savus", "Savska"), near the town of **Sremska Mitrovica** (a/k/a Mitrovits, f/k/a Sirmium, in Vojvodina province, Serbia).

¹⁷ Maybe Dad Webel is talking about the time, centuries before, when the depopulated Pannonian Basin (which includes Northern Serbia, Central Croatia, and Slavonia) was resettled by "Schwabbies" -- immigrants of German ethnolinguistic ancestry, also called *Donauschwaben* ("Danube Swabians" - see Wikipedia's entries at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danube_Swabians and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pannonian_Basin), who succeeded expelled Ottoman Empire Moslems

DAD: Not all the people, but the government, that mean here is the draft board and the officer and the mayor.

DAUGHTER: And they were all Yugoslavian and they decided to leave.

DAD: They are afraid now 'cause Germany is coming, they be killed, they disappeared. And even if I am mayor here in Mansfield and I am ... [apparently he is using an analogy to make his point] the Russian is coming, I have no mayor anymore. Let whoever want be mayor, and somebody have to take order so the German take order, you go patrol here, you do that and that, the German people.

DAUGHTER: Did your unit go into this city then?

DAD: Yes. We came to the village. Prepared if the German will attack us, to start to fight. But the German people that was civilian, they didn't do nothing, no, just to go away. And let us ... and when the food ...

DAUGHTER: How many meals a day did you have to prepare?

DAD: Three, in the morning was a tea, in the noon was whichever cook, kraut or whatever it be, some meat, in the evening too. But when we was rushed to go, there was no time to cook. The fire burns and cooks but you go and we bought from the bakery bread, there was no delivery, no army to bring us something so we ... but big loaf and divide, give to each one, but when we came to that town, we have to sleep, you know, between because it takes time.

DAUGHTER: Did you have camps or did you sleep out in the open air?

DAD: In the open, no tents. Then ...

DAUGHTER: Everyone had their own bed rolls?

DAD: No bed rolls, you down here.

DAUGHTER: Bed rolls, like a blanket?

DAD: No, no.

DAUGHTER: Nothing? -- you just laid like that, what was your head on?

DAD: Yes. Anything.

DAUGHTER: What time of year was this?

DAD: That was not cold, it was not cold but it was summer. And then we had in the wagon, not carton but wood boxes, with ammunition, and then we are just all unload here and we must sleep here. No, we could do that. I help bring that here behind a tree, behind that big tree so we sleep over here so that if it should explode we are a little bit protected. We would be protected ... and when we came to the town, then there is some officer, give me want to give me hand-bomb, a grenade, you know, to carry. No, I am cook, that not my business to carry that. I don't want to that. And when we came and here is the city, here is, there were roads goes to **Vinkovci** [Dad's earlier hometown] and here is the river [presumably he is referring to the **Bosut River**], going over the river, and when I came close to the river, I saw here some volunteer, they just came, go, go, hurry, hurry up. And then I see here they're pushing over you know ... so I left there my horse and my buggy and I go walking to our home in the north ..

DAUGHTER: Why were they pushing more to the other side of the river?

DAD: Because you go in the mountain in the woods to fight against Germany.

DAUGHTER: And you decided at that point you were through.

DAD: At that point, we have heard already, not we, the people, the Croatian have made a split [*i.e., asserting independence, 4-10-AD1941*] from Yugoslavia and Croatian has built new government in Belgrade, they split from Yugoslavia and go with Germany, and we live in Vinkovci and Vinkovci is part of Yugoslav-
no, of Croatia now. So Automatically I am Croatian citizen, so I.....

DAD: No, therefore, I am not obligated to go with Yugoslavia any more.¹⁸ So I am free from Yugoslavia army and I go home.



DAUGHTER: You decided this all on your own.

DAD: On my own, sure. That I had not, no long choice. You go in the mountain ...

MOM: No one see you. Nobody knows he did that. He's a "deserter".

DAD: I am in the uniform, Yugoslav uniform, but I have no gun, no nothing. And the boys ...

DAUGHTER: Did the Yugoslavia army issue papers like they do here in the American army?

DAD: Yes, they do.

DAUGHTER: You had those with you?

DAD: No, no time for that. This was no different than ... let's say that that some regiment, some 500 people should go to Medina [Dad uses an analogy: Medina is a city south of Lake Erie, in Ohio, whereto the Webers eventually immigrate] and ... there will be dressed up there, but no belt. They had no belt, and without belt, how could the soldiers be without belt? They were so angry, they put a rope and hung on the ammunition and so on.

MOM: But no belts.

DAUGHTER: On your uniform you had no belt?

¹⁸ Dad Webel is providing jurisprudential logic regarding the jurisdictional authority of a government to draft one of its citizens into military service. While he was a Yugoslavian he was obligated to respect Yugoslavia's laws, including its military laws. But, once Croatia had become an "independent" nation, it was up to the new Croatian government to establish binding laws for its citizenry. Since Jakob Webel was a native of Vinkovci, a Croatian city, he no longer owed allegiance to the Yugoslavian army. This sufficed to satisfy his conscience - but that did not mean that his "neighbors" would concur with his jurisdictional/political analysis.

DAD: No belt in the whole unit. Not the whole unit. Not the officer. But the men who came there. So I decide on my own I go home to **Vinkovci**. [see photo below]



DAUGHTER: You didn't tell anybody you did this.

DAD: No, I did not, tell what kind of tell, if you tell, they kill you right away.

DAUGHTER: 'Cause you were considered a "deserter".

DAD: They turn you over, "traitor" or whatever, you never know what the neighbor thinks.

MOM: Cannot say anything. No, you just go by your own.

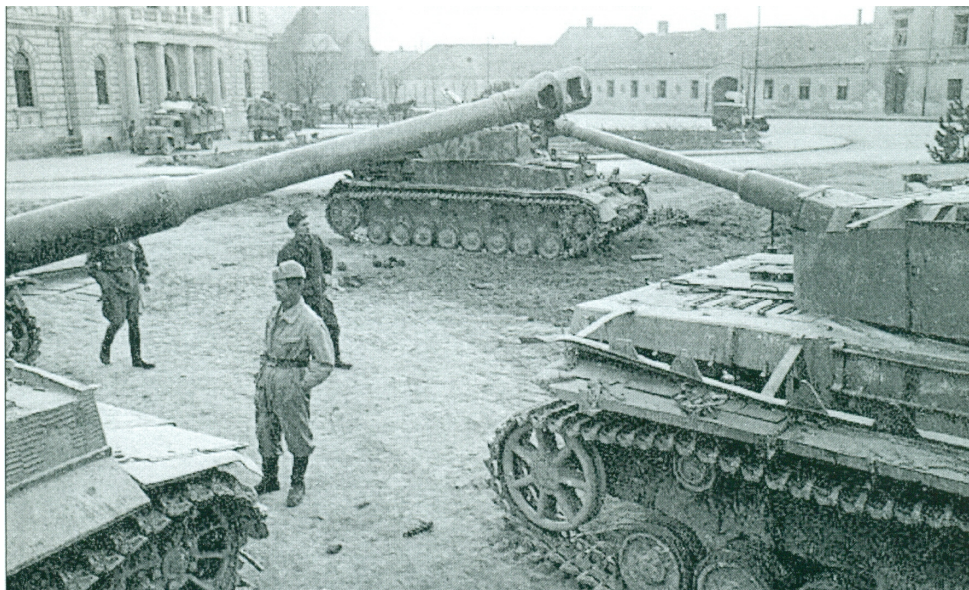
DAUGHTER: So you started walking back home. Now you've got a Yugoslavian uniform on.

DAD: That's not the only one; [there] are many [of] that, that day.

DAUGHTER: That was not so unusual then.

DAD: No, not so unusual. We go on the roads.

DAUGHTER: Did you know where, how to go?



DAD: Sure. Sure, I know, when I am in Medina [another analogy to American geography], I know where is Mansfield so I could go that road and that road is the main road that German goes with the tanks, just go, go, go by us, they go. We go back here, I go against them, and here I see a German tank beside the road in a ditch and some soldier there and I ask him [in German¹⁹] what kind of trouble you got? Because they stay here. In German I ask him. Oh, he said, yes, we got a trouble here. Here is a tank shot, and I think 2 German men got killed.



DAUGHTER: Who shot them?

DAD: Oh, Yugoslav army. Here was a cannon ... and you can see here horses running around here, that and that ... wagon ...

MOM: ... lay around, all running ...

DAD: Yeah. It was a little war there, but [it did] not stop the German.

MOM: One tank is good.²⁰

DAUGHTER: Did you help these people?

DAD: No, the German. Nothing to help with that unit. Just talk a little bit and ask me if the king [meaning King Peter II, the last king of Yugoslavia] is in Belgrade.

DAUGHTER: They asked what?

DAD: Is the king in Belgrade? I have no idea where the king is! (LAUGHS) So there are horses there, go catch horse, put them in the wagon and some men help and we get in the wagon, and horse and buggy go home, it's easier than [to] walk.

DAUGHTER: How did you catch the horse?

DAD: That was army horse. Without owner, just ...

DAUGHTER: He got killed or something.

DAD: That's not a farmer horse.

¹⁹ By conversing sympathetically with the German tank man (about his trouble), in the German language, Dad Webel is likely to influence the German soldier to regard him as a *non-enemy*, because a German soldier is less likely to kill a stranger who speaks fluent German.

²⁰ Mom Webel is helping Dad Webel to fill in details that apparently he has reported to her previously, since she is not the actual eye-witness of these events, only Dad Webel is.

DAUGHTER: What kind of horses did the army have? Do you know the breed?

DAD: They had no own horses [i.e., they had none-of-their-own horses]. You, as a farmer, you have 3 horses, 2 get the army. You have 4 horses, 3 get the army, or 2 get the army, so that kind of horse ...

DAUGHTER: They can ... ?

DAD: ... take it from the farmer.

DAUGHTER: If you had only one [horse], did they take that one?

DAD: No. We took 2 horses and put in the wagon, well, we are 5, 6 men, good, we came in that town, stop the Croatians, down with the ... we are Croatians, you are ... let us go, we go to **Vinkovci** and we will go there. We are Croatians too. (LAUGHS)

DAUGHTER: So you go to a town where there were Croatian people and they wanted to stop you.

DAD: They want to stop you and take the horses, take whatever we got. No, we are Croatian too. We go to **Vinkovci**, and Vinkovci is bigger town so they came to Vinkovci and a man, [who] was with me in war, says, I will take the horses to my home because the Yugoslav they take my horses, my horses were taken. No, the horses go to the City Hall and there we give the horses, they get the horses, and then you could go where you want. When we came to City Hall in Vinkovci, we give the horses there because I was the commander there I was the man who arranged to take the horses and then we give the horses, then you have to go in the office to report there in the City Hall. I came there, all Yugoslav mayor and all the other are there, just a new people. You have new people, just Croatian people there and when I get there I say so and so and so, they came from there so I Yugoslav [?]. And in Vinkovci was not much farther, it is about 20 kilometer from there to Marinci²¹) where Mom was there. In **Vinkovci** I left my bicycle in the yard by my father. And then the men whom I report to have said it's a law, you are Croatian, you are born then and then, you have to go right away to Croatian Army, not home. But I know him, [so he said] you can go home. So he didn't take a paper, nothing, so just go home.

DAUGHTER: So where did you go?

DAD: I came to Dad's house [i.e., to the house, in Vinkovci, that belonged to Jakob Webel's own father, Reinhardt Webel] and take my bike and take bike home [to Marinci].



DAUGHTER: From that time you were drafted to the time you saw Mom again, how long was that?

DAD: April was ... about 2 months. And Mom was, in that time, running the store by herself.

(A chronology-of-events discussion follows, correlating Dad Webel's return to Marinci, memories about the family store, etc., during AD1941-AD1943.)

[TO BE CONTINUED, *D.v.*]

At this point "Yugoslavia" was no longer a nation. Yugoslavia was split up, dominated mostly by Germany, with Croatian nationals controlling most of Croatia, where the Webels lived. More adventures of the family of Jakob and Katarina Webel, during World War II, and after, need reporting (God willing), including the world-changing events that threatened the Webel family, in time triggering their emigration from Yugoslavia.

²¹ **Marinci** is a town on the eastern border of present-day Croatia. In the subtitle (and elsewhere) of Part 2, of this family history mini-series, the town was misspelled as "Marcini". *This is probably not the only misspelling that I am guilty of in this series.* However, if I waited for perfection in proofreading, I fear I would only write and publish, 1/2 of what I write and publish.

In the next report (God willing) the birth of twins will be reported - **Robert and Hilda Webel** - only Robert of whom will survive infancy. It is that same Robert is the father of Stephen Webel, father (by his wife Erica) of brothers Nate and Luke Webel, the native Texans mentioned on the first page of this report. (Thus Robert Webel, born in WWII, is paternal grandfather of Nate, Luke, and their sisters.) How Jakob and Katarina survived the disasters and dangers and deprivations of WWI (and its aftermath) is a magnificent testimony, firstly to God's providential care, and secondly to the Webel family's persistent practice of survival skills. All of those years, during World War II, as well as the refugee years leading up to March of AD1950 (when the dozen Webels successfully immigrated to America), are amazing chapters in the Webels' providential family history. Meanwhile, the life of business - and the business of life - continued for the growing Webel family. Hardships and heartaches would come, stay, and eventually go, for years to come, as World War II and its aftermath ravaged the European continent (especially while partisan rebels fought guerrilla warfare in Croatia, often coercing aid from civilian families). Yet, in time, 12 of the 13 Webel family members would successfully migrate to Ellis Island, and from there to Ohio. But reporting the next chapters (God willing) must await another day. So, for now, this "chapter" rests with an appreciation that two native-Texan boys, **Nate Webel** (born in AD2007) and **Luke Webel** (born in AD2012), as well as their sisters, descend from German immigrant stock ("*Volksdeutsche*") who trace back one ancestral line to paternal grandfather's parents, **Jakob Webel and Katarina Schleicher**, whose early family life together included **surviving WWII**.



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Dr. James J. S. Johnson is a member of the **German-Texas Heritage Society**, and an occasional contributor to its Journal pages. A lover and teacher of Providential history and geography, Jim has taught at 4 different Christian colleges (LeTourneau University, Dallas Christian College, Concordia University Texas at Fort Worth, and ICR School of Biblical Apologetics) in Texas, as well as aboard 9 different cruise ships. As a C.P.E.E. (*Certified Paternity Establishment Entity*), credentialed by the Texas Attorney General's Office), Jim maintains a strong interest in family history documentation. After studying under many teachers, at many schools, Jim happily acknowledges that his best teacher (under God) was Chaplain Robert (Bob) Webel.

Below (left) is a newspaper caption, dated 3-19-AD1950, with the "Volksdeutsche by the Dozen" Webel family, who immigrated to America. Also shown below (right) is Chaplain Robert Webel (who was 8 when his family came to America) with his wife, Marcia, residents of Florida. Chaplain Bob Webel provided information that supplemented and clarified his sister (Rosie)'s interview of their parents, titled "From Vinkovci to Medina," quoted extensively here-inabove.



Schuetze Families Move from Germany to Texas 1851-1871

By Esther Bonnet Miller Strange¹

Heinrich Schuetze (1782-1852) md. Louise Seelman (1799-1878) from Dessau, Anhalt, Germany, Heinrich d. Indianola, Tx of yellow fever, their children were:

-Louis (1818-1864) md. Emelia Ritter(d.Indianola, Tx)Louis died by hanging at Fredericksburg, Tx.

¹Eduard (Edward) (1823-1902) md. Agnes Nitschke (1825-1898)

-Lina (1825-1852) md. Fritz Voigtlander (both died at Indianola, Tx)

-Adolph (1828-1908) md. (1)Fredericke d.1852 Indianola, Tx (2)Sophie

Emelia (1831-1880) md. Hugo Klocke

-Julius (1835-1904) md.(1) Henrietta Heinz (2)Julia Ohrendorf



Sitting L-R: Emelia Schutze Klocke, Louise (Seelman) Schutze b.1799 d.1878, Adolph Schutze; Standing. L-R: Julius Schutze, Edward (Eduard) Schutze b.1823 d.1902.

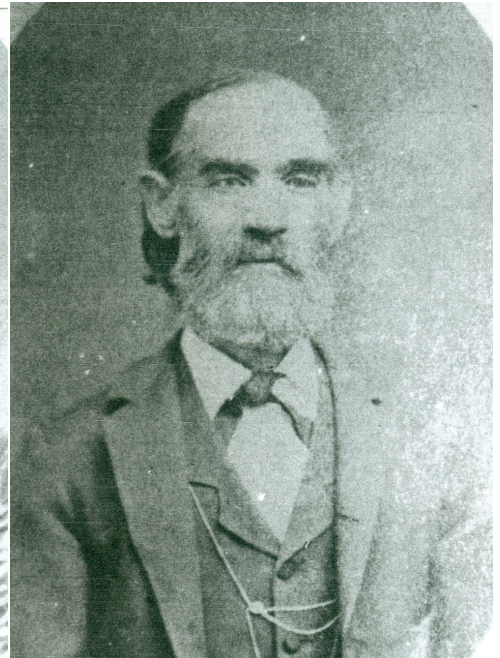
Heinrich and Louise arrived in Indianola, Texas in 1852. Heinrich was 70 yrs. old and sadly succumbed to yellow fever within two weeks; likewise five other family members died within a few weeks of arriving.

Louis arrived first in 1851; Lina, Emelia and Adolph in 1852; Julius in 1853; and Eduard in 1871. Heinrich's occupation in Germany was raising silkworms. In 1834 he published a work on the cultivation of silk. He was also a master tailor. His wife Louise was a brave and strong lady; Lodge No.3 a sister lodge of the Sons of Hermann located in San Antonio, So. St.Marys Street, is named for her.

Since the writer of this article is a descendant of Heinrich's son, Eduard (Edward), he and his family will be the main subjects. Edward and Agnes's children were: Hedwig(1852-1908), Marie(1853-1931), Julia(1854-1927), Henry William(1857-1906), ¹Louise Sophronia(1859-1899)md Henry D. Bonnet(my grt.grandfather); Agnes ((1862-1939), Matilda(1864- ?), Eme- (1866-1949), Adolf(1868-1884), Si- donie(Toni)(1869-1956).



(Mother of Louise Schuetze Bonnet) Agnes (Nitschke) Schuetze b.7 Aug. 1825, Dessau, Germany, d.28 Feb. 1898 in Austin, TX



(Father of Louise Schuetze Bonnet) W.C. Edward Schuetze b.1823 Dukedom of Anhalt, Dessau, Germany. d.1902 Austin, TX. Parents were J. F. Heinrich & Louise (Seelman) Schuetze.

Edward and family immigrated to Texas about 20 years after his parents and siblings. This has always puzzled me. Why did he and his family NOT choose to come to Texas with the others?

In the Dukedom of Anhalt, Dessau, Germany, Edward had graduated from a university and was appointed a teaching position at a gymnasium - which prepared students for entrance to a university. It was said that teachers

were appointed to the position for life; therefore perhaps Edward would not break the commitment.

Perhaps Edward, after learning of the deaths of his father and five other family members caused by yellow fever or cholera, and in 1864 during our civil war, knowing that his brother Louis had died by hanging, he may have feared that Texas was not as safe as Dessau, Germany.

Never-the-less, in 1871, Edward and his family immigrated to Texas. His brother, Julius, helped him land a job in Austin at The General Land Office as a Draftsman where he worked for 25 years when his eyes failed him. The GLO archives have about 18 of his maps that he completed; five of which I have copies in my possession, and three are framed. Edward also served as Trustee of the German Free School 1881-?

During his 25 years at The General Land Office, Edward's salary must have been sufficient; and long after his retirement his maps were often requested for research. I'm always amazed at how coincidences happen in the study of our Genealogies. Some of you may remember the late **Dale von Rosenberg** who was a GTHS and GFS Guild charter member; his ancestor gifted the land to the German Free School. Well, his ancestor and my ancestor, Edward Schuetze, worked together for many years at General Land Office. The remarkable thing is, about 100 years later, Dale and I worked together for 17 yrs. at Mobil Oil Research and Development. He was probably one of the reasons I joined GTHS.



This picture appeared in The Austin American Statesman, Nov. 26, 1976, "Employees of the old Land Office" (next to State Capitol). Edward Schuetze (father of Louise Bonnet) is sitting on front row, the 2nd man on left

The Family of Charlie & Emma (Schroeder) Witt

By Daniel R. Bode

Carl Heinrich "Charlie" Witt was born 23 May 1875, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany; he was the son of **George David Friedrich "Fritz" Witt** (born 10 Nov. 1838, in Gross Grodem, Mecklenburg, Germany; died 9 Nov. 1882, in Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas) and **Friederike "Frieda" Hopp** (born 23 June 1836, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany; died 8 January 1915, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas).

Charlie Witt had three brothers and two sisters:

1. **Henry Witt** born 30 April 1863, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany, and he died 26 Nov. 1957, in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas. Henry Witt married **Meta Monsee** on 21 Dec. 1887, in Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas. Meta was born 4 Dec. 1863, in Germany, and she died 29 Nov. 1901, in Prairie Hill, Washington Co., Texas. After Meta's death, Henry married **Louise Tockhorn** on 13 Feb. 1902, in Prairie Hill, Washington Co., Texas. Louise was born 17 June 1874, in Germany, and she died 10 May 1964, in Brenham, Texas. Henry Witt and his two wives, Meta and Louise, are all buried in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Prairie Hill, Washington Co., Texas.
2. **Wilhelmine Maria Johanna Witt** born 4 Nov. 1866, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany, and she died 17 March 1883, in Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas. Johanna Witt was buried 18 March 1883, in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas.
3. **Friedrich Martin Wilhelm Carl "Fritz" Witt** born 12 Nov. 1869, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany, and he died 16 April 1948, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Fritz Witt married **Emilie Duebbe** on 29 Dec. 1892, in Prairie Hill, Washington Co., Texas. Emilie was born 19 May 1871, in Washington Co., Texas, and she died 22 Oct. 1955, in Crawford, McLennan Co., Texas. Fritz and Emilie Witt are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
4. **Friederika Witt** born 15 Aug. 1872, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany, and she died 10 Aug. 1963, in Crawford, McLennan Co., Texas. Friedericka Witt married Henry Lippe on 13 Dec. 1888, in Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas. Henry Lippe was born 10 March 1866, in Germany, and he died in Waco, McLennan Co., Texas, on 18 May 1926. Henry and Friedericka Lippe are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
5. **Paul Witt** born 27 January 1880, in Strasshof, Mecklenburg, Germany, and he died 7 April 1945, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Paul Witt married **Friederika Engel Wiethorn** on 23 Dec. 1909, in McGregor, Texas. Friederika was born 26 Sept. 1889, in Washington Co., Texas, and she died 11 May 1912, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. After Friederika's death, Paul Witt married a widow, **Mathilda Rodenbeck Vahrenkamp** on 12 December 1912, in McGregor, Texas. Mathilda was born 29 March 1881, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 27 June 1956, in McGregor, Texas. Paul Witt and his two wives, Friederika and Mathilda, are all buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.



The wedding portrait of Charlie Witt and Emma Schroeder. They married January 2, 1901, at Salem Lutheran Church in Washington County, Texas. They were married 42 years, and they were the parents of 10 children.

Charlie Witt was baptized in the Lutheran faith in Germany. When Charlie was six years of age, the Witt Family emigrated from Germany to Texas. The records indicate the Witt Family arrived in Texas on 10 Nov. 1881, when their ship docked in Galveston. The Witts settled in the Wiedeville Community in east-central Washington County, Texas. Charlie's father, Fritz Witt, signed the Constitution of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wiedeville on 26 Dec. 1881, for his family to officially become members of the church's congregation. Fritz Witt died of natural causes in the Wiedeville Community on 9 Nov. 1882, the day before his 44th birthday. Fritz's funeral was held 10 Nov. 1882,

and he was buried in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery. The text of the funeral was Psalm 37:3-15 and Psalm 68: 5-6. The burial records of Immanuel Lutheran Church state that Fritz Witt's funeral was held one year to the day that his family arrived in Texas from Germany. The oldest Witt son, Henry, who was 19 years old at the time of his father's death, became the head of the household.

Just five months later, more grief struck the Witt Family when the oldest daughter, Johanna, died in March of 1883, at the age of 17 years. Johanna was buried near her father's grave in the Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery of Wiedeville. During this time period, the Witt Family rented the land where they worked and lived, as the Washington County Deed records do not show the Witts as purchasing property.

Charlie Witt's sister, Friederike, was confirmed 18 April 1886, by Pastor G. Thoene, at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wiedeville. Charlie Witt was confirmed by Pastor J. C. Rieger on 14 April 1889, at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wiedeville. In the early 1890's, Charlie's sister, Friederike and her husband, Henry Lippe, and Charlie's older brother, Fritz Witt, and his wife, Emilie, moved to McGregor. The Witt and Lippe Families again took up farming on the prairies of western McLennan County, and they became members of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor, which had been organized in 1892. Charlie and his younger brother, Paul, and their mother, Frieda Witt, joined the other family members in McGregor.

Charlie's oldest brother, Henry Witt, was the only member of the family who remained in Washington County. Henry moved his family from Wiedeville to the nearby community of Prairie Hill, where they purchased a farm and became members of St. John Lutheran Church. Henry Witt filed his Declaration of Intent to become a U.S. citizen on 25 Sept. 1885, in Brenham, and he was sworn in as a naturalized citizen of the U.S. on 24 Sept. 1906, in Brenham.

The 1900 federal census shows Charlie Witt as a single man and living in Precinct 7, between McGregor and Crawford, in McLennan County. Charlie is shown as a farmer, and he is renting his property.

Charlie Witt married **Emma Wilhelmine Louise Schroeder** on 2 January 1901, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Charlie and Emma were married by Pastor Johannes Mgebroff, and the witnesses at their wedding were Wilhelm Schroeder and Wilhelm Spreen.

Emma Schroeder was born 19 August 1880, in Salem, Washington County, Texas; she was the oldest child of **Friedrich Wilhelm Schroeder** (born 28 May 1857, in Wehdem, Westphalia, Germany; died 8 February 1942, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas) and **Marie Louise Wilhelmine (Minna) Schroeder** (born 30 January 1863, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany; died 1 September 1942, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas.) According to the census records, Emma's father, Wilhelm Schroeder, immigrated to Texas from Germany in 1872, and Emma's mother, Minna Schroeder, immigrated to Texas from Germany in 1877. Wilhelm Schroeder and Minna Schroeder were married 28 September 1879, by Pastor F. Ernst in Washington County, Texas. The Schroeders settled in the Salem Community in southwestern Washington County, just a few miles from the Austin County line. The Schroeder Family became members of the Salem Lutheran Church of Salem after Wilhelm Schroeder signed the church's constitution in 1887. Wilhelm and Minna Schroeder had 14 children. Emma's six brothers and seven sisters were:

1. **Wilhelm Heinrich Schroeder** born 25 March 1882, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 18 June 1946, in Robinson, McLennan Co., Texas. Wilhelm's date of baptism has not been located, but he was confirmed 8 April 1898, in Salem Lutheran Church of Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Wilhelm Schroeder married **Louise Augusta Becker** on 25 Dec. 1911, in McGregor, Texas. Louise was born 14 August 1888 in Falls County, Texas, and she died 25 Sept. 1972, in Waco, McLennan Co., Texas. Wilhelm and Louise Becker Schroeder are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
2. **Louise Anna Minna Schroeder** born 28 July 1884, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 9 June



The wedding portrait of William Schroeder and Louise Augusta Becker. They were married Dec. 25, 1911, in McGregor, Texas. They were married 34 years, and they were the parents of four children. Louise was the daughter of Wilhelm Becker and Louise Stammeier. William Schroeder was a brother of Emma Schroeder Witt.

1916, in Rehburg, Texas, and she died 9 June 1916, in Rehburg, Washington Co., Texas. Anna was baptized 1 August 1886, and she was confirmed 8 April 1898, at Salem Lutheran Church of Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Anna married **John Gustav Grabow** on 5 Nov. 1903, in Brenham. John Grabow was born 19 Sept. 1877, in Washington Co., Texas, and he died 16 June 1939, in Houston, Harris Co., Texas. John and Anna Schroeder Grabow are buried in the Salem Lutheran Cemetery in Salem, Washington Co., Texas.

3. **Heinrich Friedrich Hermann Schroeder** born 26 March 1886, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 12 July 1902, in Salem, at the age of 16 years. Friedrich was baptized 1 August 1886, and he was confirmed 31 March 1901, at Salem Lutheran Church of Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Friedrich Schroeder was buried 13 July 1902, in the Salem Lutheran Cemetery in Salem, Washington Co., Texas.
4. **Louise Augusta Wilhelmine Schroeder** born 5 February 1888, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 3 May 1970, in Bellville, Austin Co., Texas. Louise was baptized 12 August 1888, and she was confirmed 23 March 1902, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Louise Schroeder married **Friedrich "Fritz" Richter** on 29 Nov. 1906, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Fritz Richter was born 14 Sept. 1880, in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas, and died 15 July 1966, in Bellville, Austin Co., Texas. Fritz and Louise Schroeder Richter are buried in the Oak Knoll Cemetery in Bellville, Texas.
5. **Heinrich Wilhelm Friedrich Schroeder** born 14 February 1890, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 2 November 1978, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Henry was baptized 26 April 1891, and he was confirmed 16 April 1905, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Henry Schroeder married **Selma Henriette Friedericke Bertha Witt** on 19 Dec. 1912, in McGregor, Texas. Selma was born 10 Sept. 1893, near McGregor, Texas; she was the daughter of **Fritz and Emilie (Duebbe) Witt**. Selma Witt Schroeder died in McGregor, Texas, on 19 October 1931. Selma was buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas. After her death, Henry Schroeder married **Adaline Roehle** in 1932. Adaline was born 12 December 1888, in Washington Co., Texas, and she died 6 July 1966, in Waco, Texas. After Adaline's death, Henry Schroeder married a widow, **Frieda Emma Luise (Niemeier) Haferkamp** on 26 Dec. 1966, in Gatesville, Texas. Frieda's first husband, Fred Haferkamp, had died 20 Nov. 1963. Fred Haferkamp was a first cousin to Henry Schroeder. Frieda Niemeier Haferkamp Schroeder was born 18 February 1895, at Coryell City, Coryell Co., Texas, and she died in McGregor, Texas, on 30 June 1978. Frieda was buried beside her first husband, Fred Haferkamp, in the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery in Crawford, McLennan Co., Texas. At his death four months after Frieda's death, Henry Schroeder was buried beside his second wife, Adaline, in the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery (a.k.a. Crawford Memorial Park) in Crawford, Texas.
6. **Bertha Charlotte Doretta Schroeder** born 30 January 1892, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 21 February 1957, in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas. Bertha was baptized 17 July 1892, and she was confirmed 12 April 1906, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Bertha Schroeder married **Otto Wensel** on 21 Dec. 1911, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Otto Wensel was born 10 April 1889, in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas, and he died 10 Oct. 1966, in Brenham, Texas. Otto and Bertha Schroeder Wensel are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Texas.
7. **Edward "Ed" Friedrich Theodor Schroeder** born 14 February 1894, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 13 November 1951, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas. Ed was baptized 25 Dec. 1894, and he was confirmed 4 April 1909, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Ed Schroeder married **Hedwig "Hattie" Meier** on 20 Feb. 1917, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas. Hattie was born 15 December 1894, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas, and she died in Welcome on 1 December 1950. Ed and Hattie Meier Schroeder are buried in the Welcome Cemetery #2 in the Welcome Community in Austin Co., Texas.



The wedding portrait of Edward Schroeder and Hedwig Meier. They were married Feb. 20, 1917, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas. They were married 33 years, and they were the parents of three sons. Hedwig was the daughter of Herman Meier and Minnie Plip-cinger. Edward Schroeder was a brother of Emma Schroeder Witt.

8. **Malinda Minna Sophie Schroeder** born 13 March 1896, in Pleasant Hill, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 16 September 1974, in Brenham, Texas. Malinda was baptized 24 January 1897, at St. James Lutheran Church in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas, and she was confirmed 9 April 1911, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Malinda Schroeder married **Edward Heinrich Wilhelm Winkelmann** on 25 Nov. 1915, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Ed Winkelmann was born 19 Nov. 1894, in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas, and he died 3 Aug. 1958, in Brenham, Texas. Ed and Malinda Schroeder Winkelmann are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Texas.
9. **Mina Henriette Louise Schroeder** born 18 March 1898, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 19 April 1978, in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas. Minnie was baptized 20 Nov. 1898, and she was confirmed 16 March 1913, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Minnie Schroeder married **Otto Boecker** on 23 January 1919, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Otto Boecker was born 12 May 1897, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas, and he died 26 August 1965, in Bleiberville, Austin Co., Texas. Otto and Minnie Schroeder Boecker are buried in the Welcome Cemetery #2 in the Welcome Community in Austin Co., Texas.
10. **Otto Heinrich Wilhelm Theodor Schroeder** born 16 February 1900, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 10 February 1969, in Bleiberville, Austin Co., Texas. Otto was baptized 31 Aug. 1900, and he was confirmed 28 March 1915, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Otto Schroeder married **Adele Louise Boecker** on 27 March 1919, in Washington County. Adele was born 29 December 1896, in Welcome, Austin Co., Texas, and she died 11 October 1981, in Bellville, Austin Co., Texas. Otto and Adele Boecker Schroeder are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas.
11. **Meta Emilie Wilhelmine Schroeder** born 10 November 1902, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 16 June 1951, in Kenney, Austin Co., Texas. Meta was baptized 31 May 1903, and she was confirmed 1 April 1917, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Meta Schroeder married **Herbert Wilhelm Wittneben** on 13 Nov. 1924, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Herbert Wittneben was born 22 February 1900, in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas, and he died 2 July 1961, in Bellville, Austin Co., Texas. Herbert and Meta Schroeder Wittneben are buried in the St. James Lutheran Cemetery in New Wehdem, Austin Co., Texas.
12. **Karl Friedrich Heinrich "Charlie" Schroeder** born 2 November 1905, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and he died 4 June 1967, in Fort Worth, Tarrant Co., Texas. Charlie was baptized 4 March 1906, and he was confirmed 28 March 1920, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Charlie Schroeder married **Sylvia Irene Jones** in Houston, Texas. Sylvia was born 5 July 1912 and she died 4 January 2007. After Charlie's death, Sylvia married a Mr. Ward. Charlie Schroeder and his wife Sylvia are buried in the Shannon-Rose Hill Memorial Park in Arlington, Tarrant Co., Texas.
13. **Mathilde Luise "Tillie" Schroeder** born 17 March 1908, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, and she died 2 May 1961, in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas. Tillie was baptized 14 June 1908, and she was confirmed 25 March 1923, at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Tillie Schroeder married **Carl "Charlie" Hugo** on 24 July 1926, in Zionsville, Washington Co., Texas. Charlie Hugo was born 11 July 1903, in Washington Co., Texas, and he died in Brenham, Texas, on 13 August 1987. Charlie and Tillie Schroeder Hugo are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Texas.

Emma Schroeder was baptized 20 March 1881, by Pastor I. G. Lieb at Salem Lutheran Church in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Emma's sponsors at her baptism were Engel Schroeder, Louise Schroeder, and Fritz Schroeder. Emma's confirmation record has not been located. A search was made through the records of Salem Lutheran Church of Salem, as well as the nearby Austin County churches of St. James Lutheran in New Wehdem and the Salem Lutheran Church in Welcome, but the confirmation information has not been found.

Emma grew up with her brothers and sisters on her parents' farm in Washington County. Emma's siblings covered a wide-span of years. Emma was 27 years of age, a married woman and a mother of four children when her youngest sister, Tillie, was born in March of 1908!

Not much information is known about the family of Emma's father, Wilhelm Schroeder, except that he had a brother, Fritz Schroeder, who also came from Germany and lived at Riesel, Texas, before he settled in the Gay Hill Community of Washington County. Emma's Uncle Fritz died 10 May 1946, when he was struck by a freight train as he was walking home along the tracks from his daughter's home in Gay Hill.

Emma's mother's parents were **Johann Heinrich Schroeder** (born 8 July 1815, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany; died 3 December 1868, in Brockum, Hannover) and **Marie Margarethe Engel Hodde** (born 1 September 1833, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany; died 8 September 1903, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas). Johann Heinrich Schroeder and Engel Hodde were married 20 November 1857, in Brockum, Hannover. Johann Heinrich Schroeder's first wife was **Catherine Margarethe Engel Wendt**, whom he married on 4 June 1848, in Brockum, Hannover. Johann Heinrich Schroeder's first wife died leaving him with two young sons, Hermann Friedrich Schroeder and Heinrich Schroeder. Johann Heinrich Schroeder and his second wife, Engel Hodde Schroeder, had two sons and two daughters:

1. **Friedrich Wilhelm Schroeder** born 10 August 1858, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany, and he died 20 June 1912, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. The family story is that he died of a heart attack while repairing a fence in his pasture. Wilhelm was baptized 15 Aug. 1858, in Brockum. Wilhelm Schroeder was sent by his mother to Texas in 1874 as Engel had a brother living in Washington County. Wilhelm Schroeder married **Elise (Louise) Schwenker** on 9 January 1880, in Washington County, Texas. Louise was born 29 September 1862, in Germany, and she died 18 June 1952, in McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Wilhelm and Louise Schwenker Schroeder are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
2. **Marie Louise Wilhelmine (Minna) Schroeder** born 30 January 1863, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany, and she died 1 September 1942, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Minna was baptized 8 Feb. 1863, in Brockum. Minna married **Friedrich Wilhelm Schroeder** on 28 September 1879, in Washington Co., Texas. Wilhelm Schroeder was born 28 May 1857, in Wehden, Westphalia, Germany, and he died 8 February 1942, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas. Wilhelm and Minna Schroeder are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas. (They were the parents of Emma Schroeder Witt.)
3. **Friedrich Wilhelm August Schroeder** born 5 July 1865, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany. Friedrich was baptized 16 July 1865, in Brockum. For some reason, Friedrich did not come to Texas with his mother and the rest of the family, but he stayed in Germany.
4. **Marie Elisabeth Anna Schroeder** born 4 September 1868, in Brockum, Hannover, Germany, and she died 30 August 1954, in Gatesville, Coryell Co., Texas. Anna married **Heinrich Carl Christian "Henry" Haferkamp** on 24 November 1887, in Zionsville, Washington Cty., Texas. Henry Haferkamp was born 29 September 1866 in



The Schroeder Family-the family of Emma Schroeder Witt's mother. First couple on the left is Wilhelm and Minna Schroeder (the parents of Emma Witt); second couple is Wilhelm and Louise (Schwenker) Schroeder; third couple is Emma Witt's grandmother, Engel Hodde Schroeder Wiethorn and her husband, Wilhelm Wiethorn; the young lady standing right of Engel is Louise Schroeder; and the couple on the far right is Henry and Anna (Schroeder) Haferkamp. Emma Witt's mother, Minna's maiden name was Schroeder and she married a Schroeder. This family picture was taken in Brenham, Texas, prior to daughter Louise's marriage to Fritz Heidemann in 1894.

Haldem, Westphalia, Germany, and he died 16 August 1949, in Coryell City, Coryell Co., Texas. Henry and Anna Schroeder Haferkamp are buried in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery near Coryell City, Texas.

Johann Heinrich Schroeder died at the age of 53 years when his daughter, Anna, was only three months old. His widow, Engel Hodde Schroeder, seemed to have moved from Brockum and remarried. Engel had a child from this second marriage who was given the Schroeder name. This daughter was **Louise Schroeder**, and she was born 15 Sept, 1872, in Germany. Louise married **Fritz Heidemann** on 20 Dec. 1894, in Washington Co., Texas. Louise Schroeder Heidemann died in the Sandy Hill Community of Washington County on 20 September 1895. Louise died five days after giving birth to a daughter, Emma. Louise was buried in the St. Matthew's Lutheran Cemetery in Sandy Hill, Washington Co., Texas. Her daughter, Emma, was born 15 Sept. 1895, and she died one month later, on 26 Oct. 1895. Louise's husband, Fritz Heidemann, was born 24 August 1872, and he died in Washington County, Texas, on 6 March 1959.

As stated previously, Emma Schroeder Witt's grandmother, Engel Hodde Schroeder, sent her son, Wilhelm, to Washington County, Texas, in 1874. In 1877, Engel and her three daughters, Minna, Anna, and Louise, came to Texas. It must have been heartbreaking for Engel to leave her son, Friedrich, behind in Germany knowing that she would never see him again. Their ship, the *Hannover*, docked in New Orleans on 12 Sept. 1877.

Engel Schroeder and her family settled in the Wiedeville Community in eastern Washington County after their arrival in Texas. The Schroeder Family became acquainted with the Witt Family after the Witts arrived from Germany and settled in Wiedeville in 1881, as they all attended Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wiedeville. Engel Hodde Schroeder married **Wilhelm Husemann** on 20 Dec. 1879, in Salem, Washington Co., Texas, but this marriage later ended in divorce on 28 June 1886, in Austin Co., Texas.

Engel married a widower, **Friedrich Heinrich Wilhelm Wiethorn** on 20 Nov. 1886, in Prairie Hill, Washington County, Texas. Wilhelm Wiethorn was born in Dielingen, Westphalia, Germany, on 20 December 1827. Wilhelm Wiethorn came to Texas with his first wife, Marie Margarethe Engel (Graeber) Wiethorn. They settled in the Zionsville Community of Washington County. Wilhelm Wiethorn's first wife died in Zionsville on 15 June 1886, at the age of 58. Wilhelm Wiethorn died in Prairie Hill, Washington County, Texas, on 19 April 1897, at the age of 69. Wilhelm Wiethorn was buried in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Prairie Hill. After the death of Mr. Wiethorn, Engel Hodde Schroeder Wiethorn moved from Washington County to McGregor, Texas, where she lived with her son and daughter-in-law, Wilhelm and Louise Schwenker Schroeder. The 1900 federal census shows Engel Wiethorn living in her son's home in Precinct 5 of McLennan County. Engel is shown as a widow, and her age is given as 66 years. Engel died at her son's home on 8 Sept. 1903, at the age of 70 years. Engel Wiethorn was buried in the Schroeder Family plot in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas; Rev. Paul Gogolin of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor conducted the funeral service. The marriage of Emma Schroeder to Charlie Witt united the Witt and Schroeder Families.

After their marriage in January of 1901, Charlie and Emma Schroeder Witt lived on Charlie's rented farm near Crawford, Texas, north of McGregor. One can only speculate how Charlie and Emma got together as Charlie was living in McLennan County and Emma was living in Washington County. Maybe it was the connections of the Witt and Schroeder Families from their early days in the Wiedeville community in Washington County, and maybe Emma's aunt, Anna Schroeder Haferkamp, who had moved with her husband and family to McGregor in 1895 from Washington County did some matchmaking. Aunt Annie probably told Charlie Witt that she had a niece in Washington County who would be a good wife for him. The 1900 federal census shows Charlie Witt as being a close neighbor to the Haferkamp Family. Who knows how they got together??

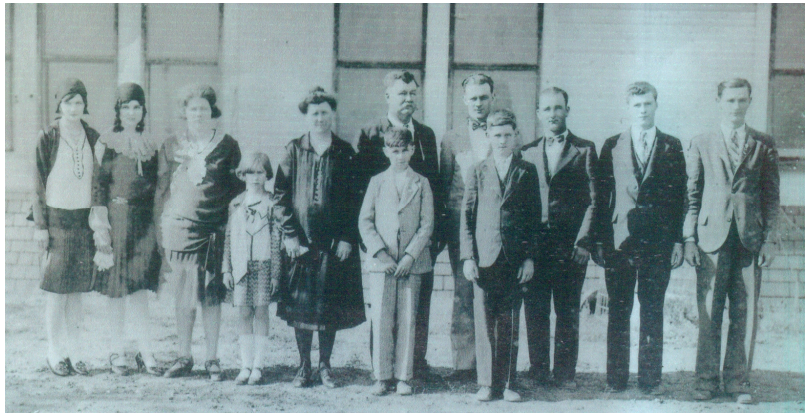
The McLennan County Land Records show that Charlie Witt purchased 100-acres of land on 4 Dec. 1905 from R. L. Bewley. Charlie paid \$400.00 in cash as a down payment, and he made two promissory notes for \$1250. The first note was due 1 Jan. 1911 and the second note was due 1 Jan. 1914-both notes had 7% interest beginning 1 Jan. 1906. On 30 Dec. 1905, Charlie purchased 12.75-acres from C.M. Weekley. Charlie paid \$100.00 in cash as a down payment, and he made one promissory note for \$700.00 that was due on 1 Jan. 1907, with 8% interest. Later, on 13 June 1914, R. L. Bewley and C. M. Weekley sold their interests in the property to Wm. F. Spreen of Brenham, and Mr. Spreen held the lien on the Witt's farm. Charlie and Emma Witt were members of Zion Lutheran

Church in McGregor, and they were members of this church until their deaths.

The 1910 federal census shows Charlie and Emma Witt living in Precinct 5 of McLennan County with their children: Minnie (age 8 years); William (age 6 years); Paul (age 4 years); Charlie (age 2 years) and Rudolph (age 2 months 12 days). The census also shows Emma's brother, William Schroeder, as living in Witt household and working as a laborer.

Charlie Witt's mother, Frieda, is shown on the 1910 census as living in the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Friederike and Henry Lippe, in Precinct 7 of McLennan County, north of McGregor. Frieda Witt's age is given as 73 years. It was at the Lippe home near McGregor that Friederike "Frieda" Hopp Witt died in the evening of 8 January 1915, at the age of 78 years. Frieda Witt was buried 10 January 1915, in the Lippe Family plot in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor; Rev. Paul Gogolin of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor conducted the funeral service. The burial records of Zion Lutheran Church state that Frieda Witt was survived by her daughter, Friederika Lippe, and her four sons, Henry, Fritz, Charlie, and Paul Witt.

The McLennan County Deed Records show that on 12 Nov. 1918, Charlie Witt sold the 100-acres he had purchased from R. L. Bewley in 1905 to Jake and Gustine Smith of McGregor. On the same day, Charlie Witt purchased two tracts of land from Jake and Gustine Smith for \$6400. One tract of land consisted of 150-acres and the second tract consisted of 70-acres. These tracts of land were located two miles west of McGregor, in the Comanche Springs Community. The farmhouse that Charlie and Emma Witt lived in on this place still stands today although it has been remodeled and the outside walls have been bricked over. In addition to the \$6400 in purchasing the land, Charlie Witt also assumed a \$10,000 note against the property that was the balance of a \$14,000 note made by the previous owner, F. C. Baker. Jake Smith conveyed his interest in this property to Fritz Tiemann, and Mr. Tiemann then held the lien on the Witt Farm.



The Family of Charlie and Emma Schroeder Witt at their home in the Comanche Springs Community, just west of McGregor, Texas, in 1927. From left: Matilda, Lillie, Minnie, Johanna, Emma Schroeder Witt, Charlie Witt, William "Bill", Paul, Charlie, Rudolph, and the two boys standing in front are Eddie (on left) and Otto (on right).

The 1920 federal census shows Charlie and Emma Witt living on their farm in Precinct 5 of McLennan County with their children: Minnie (age 18 years), William (age 16 years), Paul (age 14 years), Charlie (age 12 years), Rudolph (age 10 years), Lillie (age 8 years), Matilda (age 6 years), Otto (age 4 years), and Eddie (age 2 years). The census records show that Charlie and Emma Witt lived in their own home, but their property was mortgaged.

The 1930 federal census shows Charlie and Emma with their children who were still at home: Paul (age 24 years), Rudolph (age 20 years), Lillie (age 18 years), Matilda (age 16 years), Otto (age 14 years), Eddie (age 12 years) and Johanna (age 8 years). Charlie's occupation is shown as a farmer, and Charlie and Emma owned their own home, and it was mortgage-free.

On 15 March 1932, Charlie and Emma Witt, adjoined by Fritz Tiemann, sold 4.20 acres of their farm to the Texas State Highway Commission for \$2,847.50. State Highway 84 now runs through part of the former Witt home place.

On 17 July 1932, Charlie and Emma Witt sold a corner of their farm, 3/5 of an acre, to McLennan County for \$60.00 for use to build a public road.

On 10 May 1938, Charlie and Emma Witt were released from the lien held by Fritz Tiemann, and Charlie and Emma were given a free and clear title to their farm. The 1940 federal census shows Charlie Witt (age 64 years) and Emma (age 59 years) with their two children who were still living at home: Eddie (age 22 years) and Johanna (age 19 years). Charlie and Emma's address is listed as Route 1, McGregor, Texas. Charlie's occupation is shown as a farmer, and he is listed as a naturalized citizen of the United States. Charlie and Emma are shown as owning their own home, and their home's value is listed as \$2500. Charlie's education is shown as completing the 5th grade in elementary school, and Emma's education is shown as completing the 3rd grade.

On 9 May 1940, Charlie and Emma sold their farm to Willie Bohne for \$4,358.08. Charlie and Emma then moved into the town of McGregor.

On 13 Feb. 1942, according to the McLennan County Deed Records, Charlie Witt purchased three lots in Block 23 that were situated in the Travis Park subdivision in the city of Waco. These lots, #13, #14, and #15, were purchased for \$200.00 from Oscar Hoppe. Charlie probably saw this as a retirement investment.

On 20 May 1942, Charlie Witt purchased three lots #9, #10, & #11 in the Koyer addition in McGregor from A.P. Cherry and wife Myrtle for \$3500. Charlie paid \$600 cash down and made one vendors lien note for \$2900--payable \$100 monthly beginning 15 June 1942 and then on the 15th day of each succeeding month until the full amount of said note was paid with 6% interest payable semi-annual.

Regarding family relations, two of Emma Witt's brothers, William and Henry Schroeder, moved from Washington County as young men and settled at McGregor, where they married and raised their families. In the first two years of her marriage, Emma had her grandmother, Engel Hodde Schroeder Wiethom, living near her in McGregor until Engel's death in 1903. Emma's Uncle Wilhelm Schroeder's family lived in and around McGregor. Emma's Uncle Wilhelm had died in 1912, but his widow, Louise, lived another 40 years until her death in McGregor in 1952. Emma's mother's sister, Anna Schroeder Haferkamp, and her husband, Uncle Henry Haferkamp, settled at Coryell City in 1909, less than 20 miles from McGregor, along with their family. After Aunt Annie Haferkamp was widowed in 1949, she moved into McGregor where she lived until her death in 1954.

Emma also maintained ties with her parents and siblings in Washington County by writing letters and making visits when the opportunities afforded themselves. Emma's father, Wilhelm Schroeder, died in February of 1942 at the Schroeder home place in the Salem Community in Washington County. *The Brenham Banner News* reported that Wilhelm Schroeder died at the age of 84 years from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The newspaper reported that Wilhelm's body was found near the barn with the shot gun nearby. The newspaper article also reported that Wilhelm Schroeder had been depressed because of his failing health.

The shock and grief of her husband's sudden death hastened the death of Emma's mother, Minnie Schroeder, and she died a few months later in September of 1942, at the age of 79 years, at her home in Salem. Rev. Arthur Mohr, pastor of the Salem Lutheran Church of the Salem Community officiated at both the funerals of Wilhelm and Minnie Schroeder. Wilhelm and Minnie were laid to rest in the Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham. Emma Witt's parents were married 62 years, and they were blessed with many descendants. They were survived by 12 of their 14 children, as well as 53 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. It is evident that Emma made the trip from McGregor to Washington County to attend her parents' funerals as her oldest son, William, or Bill, Witt is listed as a pallbearer in both funerals.

In the late summer of 1943, Charlie and Emma Witt were planning a trip to Houston to visit their son, Rudolph, and his family when Charlie suffered a stroke. Charlie was taken to the Providence Hospital in Waco where he died six hours later.

Charlie Witt died on Sunday evening, 29 August 1943, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 68 years, 3 months, and 6 days. Charlie's funeral was held 31 August 1943, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor with Rev. Louis Hanemann conducting the service. Charlie was buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor. Charlie's obituary states that he was survived by his wife; his four daughters and six sons; his three brothers and one sister. In his obituary, Charlie Witt was remembered as *"always jolly and had a happy word of greeting for everyone."*

In less than two years, Emma Schroeder Witt lost her father, her mother, and her husband of 42 years.

On 5 Oct. 1943, Charlie Witt was released from the lien held by A. P. Cherry and wife Myrtle for the lots he had purchased in McGregor. On 11 Oct. 1943, these three lots were sold by Emma Witt to Clara A. Hackfeld for \$3000. On 27 Oct. 1943, Emma purchased a 100 ft. x 120 ft. lot in the E.S. Wood addition in McGregor for \$1,250. Emma had a small home put there where she resided. During her years of widowhood, Emma often visited in the homes of her children who had moved away from McGregor, as well as making visits to her relatives in Washington County.

Emma was the oldest of 14 children, but she saw many of her younger brothers and sisters precede her in death. Emma's granddaughter, Carol Witt Darby, remembers her grandmother as *"being so sweet, gentle, and kind to everyone."*

On 25 July 1962, Emma was admitted into the Providence Hospital in Waco suffering from congestive heart failure. Emma died at the age of 81 years, 11 months, and 16 days on Friday, 3 August 1962. Emma's funeral was held 5 August 1962, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor with Rev. Gerald Westerbuhr conducting the service.

Emma was laid to rest in the McGregor City Cemetery beside her husband, Charlie, who had preceded her in death 19 years earlier. Emma's obituary states that she was survived by her six sons and four daughters; three sisters and three brothers; 16 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

The children of Charlie and Emma Schroeder Witt:

1. **Minnie Friederike Anna Witt** was born 3 October 1901, at Crawford, McLennan Co., Texas. Minnie's date of baptism has not been located. Minnie was confirmed 16 April 1916, by Pastor Paul Gogolin at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Minnie Witt married **Gustav Friedrich Wilhelm Wiethorn** on February 1922, in McGregor. Gus Wiethorn was born 22 July 1902, in Washington Co., Texas; he was the son of **Henry W. Wiethorn** and **Louise Knuppel**. Minnie and Gus Wiethorn had three children: **Daniel Wiethorn** (born 27 Jan. 1923); **Gus Wiethorn, Jr.**, (born 21 Sept. 1927); and **Laverne Wiethorn**, (born 4 Feb. 1932; died 31 Jan. 1960). Minnie and Gus were active members of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Gus Wiethorn farmed until 1942 when he became a carpenter and was employed by a construction company until his retirement in 1985. Gus also loved playing the accordion. After several years of marriage, Minnie and Gus Wiethorn divorced. Minnie Witt Wiethorn died 19 July 1975, at the age of 73 years. Minnie died of injuries when she was struck by a motorcycle as she was walking along Highway 84 in McGregor. Minnie was taken to the Hillcrest Hospital in Waco where she was pronounced dead on arrival. Gus Wiethorn, Sr. died 19 May 1990, in McGregor. Minnie Wiethorn and Gus Wiethorn are both buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
2. **William Heinrich Friedrich "Bill" Witt** was born 6 December 1903, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Bill was baptized 31 January 1904, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and he was confirmed 7 September 1919, by Pastor M. J. Schwarz, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Bill Witt married **Freda Wilhelmine Springman** on 7 April 1927, in Killeen, Texas. Freda was born 31 March 1905, at Killeen, Bell Co., Texas; she was the daughter of **Emil Springman** and **Annie Meyer**. Bill and Freda Witt had two children: **Viola Mae Witt** (born 21 Sept. 1929) and **William "Billy" Ray Witt** (born 21 May 1935; died 26 Feb. 1978). Bill and Freda Witt were active members in the Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor and the Sons of Hermann Lodge. William "Bill" Witt died at his home in the South Bosque Community near McGregor, Texas, on 14 August 1979, at the age of 75 years. Freda Springman Witt died 31 January 1987, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 81 years. Bill and Freda Witt are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
3. **Paul Wilhelm Heinrich Witt** was born 23 February 1906, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Paul was baptized 16 April 1906, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and he was confirmed 14 March 1922, by Pastor M. J. Schwarz, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Paul Witt married **Mathilda Krollage** on 8 November 1934, in McGregor, Texas. Mathilda was born 3 December 1914, at McGregor; she was the daughter of **Henry Carl Krollage** and **Minnie Louise Hadler**. Paul and Mathilda Witt had two children: **Warner Lee Witt** (born 22 May 1937) and **Wanda Louise Witt** (born 15 Feb. 1942). Paul and Mathilda Witt farmed at Crawford, Texas, until 1955 when they moved to McGregor and Paul became a house painter. Paul and Mathilda were both active members of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor and of the Sons of Hermann Lodge. Paul Witt died in Valley Mills, Bosque Co., Texas, on 27 August 1995, at the age of 89 years. Mathilda Krollage Witt died 28 October 2002, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 87 years. Paul and Mathilda Witt are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.
4. **Carl Friedrich Heinrich "Charlie" Witt** was born 10 January 1908, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Charlie was baptized 22 March 1908, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and he was confirmed 8 April 1923, by Pastor M. J. Schwarz, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Charlie Witt married **Stella Roberta Larson**. Stella was born 20 May 1911. Charlie and Stella Witt had one son: **Jimmie Wayne Witt** (born 4 May 1939). **Stella Larson Witt** died in Fort Worth, Texas, on 8 August 1997, at the age of 86 years. Charlie Witt died in Fort Worth on 21 October 1999, at the age of 91 years. Charlie and Stella Witt are buried in the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Fort Worth, Tarrant Co., Texas.
5. **Rudolph Heinrich Wilhelm Richard Witt** was born 20 March 1910, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Rudolph was baptized 19 June 1910, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and he was confirmed 31 May 1925, by Pastor E.A.F. Hannemann, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Rudolph Witt married **Hilda Henriette Wilhelmine Bode** on 6 December 1938, in McGregor, Texas. Hilda was born 20 March 1913, in the Ross Community near West in McLennan Co., Texas; she was the youngest child of **Friedrich Carl Daniel "Fritz" Bode** and **Anna Margaretha Louise Haferkamp**. Rudolph and Hilda Witt had one daughter, **Carol Ann Witt Darby** (born 31

Oct. 1943). In addition, Hilda had two daughters from her first marriage to Gerhard "Garrett" Kramer that Rudolph raised as his own. These two daughters are **Doris Elfriede Kramer-Witt Jisha** (born 15 June 1933) and **Joan Lydia Kramer-Witt Kerns** (born 18 June 1936). The 1940 census shows Rudolph and Hilda living on Rt. 3, McGregor, Texas. Rudolph's occupation is shown as a laborer, and Hilda's occupation is shown as a housewife. They are shown as renting their home. Rudolph's education is shown as completing the 6th grade, and Hilda's education is shown as completing the 7th grade. Sometime after the census, Rudolph, Hilda, Doris, and Joan moved to Houston where Hilda and Rudolph lived the rest of their lives. Rudolph was drafted as a private in the U.S. Army on 16 May 1945, in Houston. Rudolph went through his basic training, and as he was about to be deployed to the Pacific, the Japanese surrendered thus ending World War II. Rudolph was honorably discharged from the army with full military benefits. Rudolph Witt died in Houston, Texas, on 4 January 1993, at the age of 82 years. Hilda Bode Witt died in Houston on 19 February 2002, at the age of 88 years. Rudolph and Hilda Witt are buried in the South Memorial Park in Pearland, Brazoria Co., Texas.



Hilda and Rudolph Witt



Rudolph and Hilda (Bode) Witt in 1942. Picture taken at the home of Hilda's brother and sister-in-law, Henry and Elfriede Bode, near Dayton, Texas.

6. **Lillie Friederike Emilie Witt** was born 30 January 1912, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Lillie was baptized 19 May 1912, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and she was confirmed 1 May 1927, by Pastor E.A.F. Hanemann, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Lillie Witt married **Awalt Elbert Springman** on 1 June 1935, in Waco, Texas. Awalt Springman was born 26 July 1909, in Killeen, Bell Co., Texas; he was the son of **Emil Springman** and **Annie Meyer**. Awalt Springman was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. Lillie and Awalt Springman had no children. Awalt Springman died 2 April 1982, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 72 years. Lillie Witt Springman died 9 May 2000, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 88 years. Awalt and Lillie Springman are buried in the Waco Memorial Park in Waco, McLennan Co., Texas.
7. **Matilda Louise Witt** was born 5 January 1914, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Matilda was baptized 10 May 1914, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Her confirmation information was not found. Matilda Witt first married **James Paul Beane** on 8 October 1937, in Waco, Texas. This marriage was annulled. Matilda's second marriage was to **Jack William Hix** in 1941. Jack Hix was born 18 February 1923, in San Antonio, Texas. Jack Hix was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. Matilda and Jack Hix had three children: **Mary Louise Hix** (born 20 Nov. 1941); **Kenneth Ray Hix** (born 30 July 1944) and **Barbara Ann Hix** (born 4 Sept. 1947). Jack Hix died in Burleson, Johnson Co., Texas, on 28 April 2001, at the age of 78 years. Matilda Witt Hix died 19 March 2014, at the age of 100 years. Matilda and Jack Hix are buried in the Shannon-Rose Hill Memorial Park in Arlington, Tarrant Co., Texas.
8. **Otto Friedrich Witt** was born 15 December 1915, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Otto was baptized 19 March 1916, by Pastor Paul Gogolin, and he was confirmed 25 March 1931, by Pastor Hans Krause, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Otto Witt married Olga Elaine Vinson. Elaine was born 1 January 1921, in Kansas City, Kansas. Otto and Elaine Witt had two children: **Tommy Melton Witt** (born 30 July 1947) and **Sharon Elaine Witt** (born 25 April 1950). Otto Witt died in Fort Worth, Texas, on 21 February 1992, at the age of 76 years. Elaine Vinson Witt died in Fort Worth on 15 February 2007, at the age of 86 years. Otto and Elaine Witt are buried in the Moore Memorial Gardens in Arlington, Tarrant Co., Texas.

9. **Edward Wilhelm Heinrich "Eddie" Witt** was born 1 December 1917, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Eddie was baptized 3 February 1918, by Pastor M. J. Schwarz at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. His date of confirmation has not been located. Eddie Witt married **Ann Loyce Montgomery** on 28 February 1954, in Waco, Texas. Ann was born 13 May 1920, in Aquilla, Hill Co., Texas; she was the daughter of **Ran Montgomery** and **Minnie Terry**. Eddie and Ann Witt had a daughter, **Sherry Ann Witt** (born 29 June 1955). Ann had a son from a previous marriage who was adopted and raised by Eddie. This son was **Reggie Witt** (born 12 August 1951; died 8 Sept. 1984). Eddie Witt was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. Eddie worked at McLennan County Electric Co-op from 1947 until his retirement in 1983. Afterwards he worked at the Lake Air Little League Park until he retired again in 2000. Eddie Witt was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Waco and the American Legion Post. His wife, Ann Montgomery Witt died 3 April 2004, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 83 years. Eddie Witt died 27 January 2011, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 93 years. Eddie and Ann Witt are buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Waco, Texas.



Eddie Witt

10. **Johanna Bertha Emma Witt** was born 2 April 1921, at McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Johanna was baptized 22 May 1921, by Pastor M. J. Schwarz, and she was confirmed 14 April 1935, by Pastor Hans Krause, at Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Johanna Witt married **Arnold Franklin Reed** on 6 June 1939, in McGregor. This marriage was annulled. Johanna's second marriage was to **Raymond John Mattiza** on 29 March 1941, in McGregor, Texas. Raymond Mattiza was born 13 June 1919, at Crawford, Texas; he was the son of **Henry Mattiza** and **Annie Lehrmann**. Johanna and Raymond Mattiza had two children: **Trudy Kay Mattiza** (born 15 Dec. 1945) and **Jerry Ray Mattiza** (born 7 Oct. 1950). Raymond and Johanna Mattiza were active members of Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Raymond was employed by McLennan County Electric Co-op, and he was a member of the McGregor Volunteer Fire Department. Johanna Witt Mattiza died in McGregor, Texas, at the age of 83 years on 21 October 2004. Raymond Mattiza died 13 December 2004, in Waco, Texas, at the age of 85 years. Johanna and Raymond Mattiza are buried in the McGregor City Cemetery in McGregor, Texas.

Sources: Records of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wiedeville, Washington Co., Texas; Salem Lutheran Church, Salem, Washington Co., Texas; Zion Lutheran Church, McGregor, McLennan Co., Texas. Records in the Washington County Courthouse in Brenham, Texas, and the McLennan County Courthouse in Waco, Texas; Birth, Death, and Census records on ancestry.com Carol Witt Darby of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Mr. Arnold Knuppel of Brenham; Doris Porter of Burton, Texas, and her research from the Church Book of Brockum Parish, Niedersachsen, Germany, on the Schroeder Family.

Compiled by Daniel R. Bode-a great-nephew of Hilda Bode Witt

OPERATIONS

GTHS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes DRAFT 8 March 2015

The regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the German Texan Heritage Society was held on 8 March 2015 in the German Free School headquarters of the Society with the President in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Meeting Attendees: Michael Krause, Charles Locklin, Jim Gudenrath, Richard Gruetzner, Jon Todd Koenig, Liz Hicks, Dr. Barbara Berthold, Brent Hunter, Kristi Lee-Nordin, Connie Krause, Dr. Larry Deuser, Eddie Wolsch, invited guest Ewing "Wing" Evans

President Krause called the meeting to order at 11:23 am and it was established that a quorum was present. The minutes of the previous meeting of 14 December 2014 were approved as submitted. Ewing Evans was introduced to the Board members.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Gudenrath presented the financial report which was accepted.

Reports -

Activities Committee: Reports were made by committee members on the planning for events. The suggestion was made to keep notebooks for each event. The notebooks would contain task lists, to do lists, records of what was done, vendors used and anything which a person might need to plan and hold that type event. Dr. Larry Deuser volunteered to handle contacts with various magazines and public calendars to promote the society's events.

Membership Committee: Jim Gudenrath presented a membership renewal plan drawn up by the committee. A motion was made by Liz Hicks to adopt the proposed membership plan as submitted by the committee. The motion was approved.

German Free School Committee: A report was made which discussed property improvements on site and the ongoing issues involving the hotel being constructed.

Trails App Project: No progress has been made.

Publications Committee: A handout was presented giving the proposals being made regarding the society's web page. A motion was made by Jim Gudenrath that Jon Todd Koenig be given authority to proceed with getting the web site fixed while staying within the budget line item. Motion was approved.

German Immersion Summer Camp proposal: Brent Hunter will confer with the person requesting our input on the proposal.

Opening of the TCU German House: Dr. Barbara Berthold reported on her attendance at the open house of the recently opened German House facility at Texas Christian University.

Administrative Actions -

Restaurant Proposal: The proposal for the establishment of a restaurant was discussed. Charles Locklin made a motion that the President appoint a committee to investigate the proposal further and bring back a recommendation to the Board on how to proceed. The motion was approved. The President appointed Charles Locklin, Ewing Evans, Dr. Larry Deuser, Brent Hunter, Kristi Lee-Nordin, Richard Gruetzner and the president and treasurer as ex-officio as members of the investigating committee.

Student Language Exams: Dr. Barbara Berthold discussed the Goethe Institute “Prüfungs Zentrum” exams and the establishment of the GTHS as a recognized testing site for the exams. A motion was made by Charles Locklin that Dr. Barbara Berthold explore the opportunity with Melanie of the GTHS staff and then brief the Executive Committee for further action. The motion was approved.

Establishing Publications as a Standing Committee in the By-Laws: Charles Locklin will prepare a draft amendment for submission to the Board to make the Publications Committee a Standing Committee.

Confirm Board member appointments to Committees and appoint Development Committee members:

(Confirmed by election)

Executive Committee consists of President Michael Krause, Vice-President Charles Locklin, Treasurer Jim Gudenrath, and Secretary Richard Gruetzner.

(Appointed by the President)

Activities Committee: Charles Locklin and Kristi Lee-Nordin as co-chairs, Connie Krause, Richard Gruetzner, Liz Hicks, Brent Hunter

Budget and Finance Committee: Jim Gudenrath as chair, Jon Todd Koenig, Dr. Larry Deuser, Michael Krause

Membership Committee: Liz Hicks as chair, Jim Gudenrath, Brent Hunter, Eddie Wolsch

Old German Free School Committee: Charles Locklin as chair, Brent Hunter

Development Committee: Jim Gudenrath as chair, Charles Locklin, Kristi Lee-Nordin, Dr. Larry Deuser, Dr. Barbara Berthold

Publications Committee: Jon Todd Koenig as chair, Connie Krause, Dr. Barbara Berthold, Eddie Wolsch, Richard Gruetzner

German Trails App Committee: Dr. Larry Deuser as chair, Connie Krause, Richard Gruetzner, Brent Hunter, Kristi Lee-Nordin, Dr. Barbara Berthold

Education Committee: Dr. Barbara Berthold as chair, James Kearney, Hans Boas, Brent Hunter, Melanie Schmidt-Dumont

Establish the review process for Advisory Board selections and appointments: After discussion, Jon Todd Koenig made a motion that the President should annually check with current members of the Advisory Board and may approve their continuing to serve on the board, if they are willing, and that the President may add people willing to serve and or remove members as needed. Motion was approved.

Journal and Annual Conference Program fees for ads: A proposed schedule of ad fees for the Annual Conference Program and for the four issues of the Journal was discussed. Jon Todd Koenig made a motion to approve the fee schedule as given below, which was approved:

Size of ad	Annual Conference Program	Journal 4 issues
One line memorial	\$15	-----
Business card (3.5" x 2")	\$25	\$50
1/4 page (across or vertical)	\$50	\$75
1/2 page within internal pages	\$75	\$125
1/2 page on inside of cover	\$100	N/A
Full page	\$150	\$200

Schedule next regular Board meeting - The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 14 June 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 pm.



German-Texan Heritage Society

Promoting Awareness and Preservation of the
German Cultural Heritage of Texas Since 1978
2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Renewal
New

If New, how did
you find us?

Name: _____

Other Household Member(s): _____
(If joining in the family, patron or life categories)

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip + 4: _____ - _____

Phone (H): (____) _____ Phone: (C) (____) _____ Email: _____

Yes, I want to Join/Renew!

CATEGORY	ANNUAL DUES: Jan-Dec (July-Dec, 1/2 price for new members only)
Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 <i>(one time payment; 1/2 price not applicable)</i>
Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
International	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 65 <i>(includes international shipping)</i>
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 <i>(at same address)</i>
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Library/Society/Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 40
Student or Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 20 <i>(w/ valid ID. No printed material; e-mail only)</i>

\$ _____

Yes, I want to make a donation!

Thanks, your donations help to maintain and expand our several heritage educational programs.

Donation * \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

* Please make my donation in honor of or in memory of _____
Address for acknowledgment _____

GTHS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Payment Information: Check # _____ MasterCard/Visa Signature _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ V-Code _____ Date _____

Make checks payable to **GTHS**. If you pay by credit card, please sign above. Complete this form and mail along with your payment to: GTHS, P.O. Box 684171, Austin, TX 78768-4171

If your employer offers a matching gift program, please complete their paperwork and forward to GTHS with this form. Rev. 11/2014

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WHERE DO YOU SEND THINGS FOR THE JOURNAL?

Send materials for the Journal (announcements, articles, news of reunions, clippings, and other information to GTHS Journal, c/o Mary Whigham, 16100 McCraven School Road, Washington, Texas 77880-5008 or email to mjwhig@texasbb.com

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING MATERIALS TO THE JOURNAL?

NEXT ISSUE

SUMMER 2015

FALL 2015

Winter 2015

Spring 2016

W

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

May 1, 2015

August 1, 2015

November 1, 2015

February 1, 2016

POLICY STATEMENT

Materials sent for *The Journal* will not be returned. All materials must include the contributor's name, a source and a date. All submitted manuscript articles must be typed single-spaced on 8 ½ x 11" white paper with right, left, top, and bottom margins no less than .7 inches. Electronic versions are preferred. Newspaper clippings should NOT be cropped closely. This can be done more accurately with our computer. All German materials must be accompanied by an English text. All submissions will be reviewed by the *Journal* editor and the Publications Committee. They have the right and responsibility to refuse materials that may not be in accordance with GTHS policies. The German-Texan Heritage Society, its volunteer *Journal* editors and its paid office staff are not responsible for errors or misinformation in submitted articles. All editors are volunteers, and are not paid for their services.

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**Save the Date for the
Annual Meeting in Austin,
September 4, 5**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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German cultural heritage of Texas*