

NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER

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SEE BACK COVER FOR CONTINUATION OF EDITORIAL BOARD

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

N E W S L E T T E R

VOLUME IX NUMBER 3 FALL, 1987

Inside front and back covers...Editorial Board, Board of Directors

- 141 - Table-of-Contents
- 142-144 - Notes from the Editor (Mary El-Beheri)
- 145 - Galveston Meeting news clips
- 146 - Obituaries
- 147-150 - SAMPLE GTHS REGISTRY - Farms and Ranches
 W. M. Von-Maszewski, Editor
- 151 - 1988 Saengerfest Notice (Flora von Roeder)
- 152 - German Gulf Coast Association Fest (Erika Teske)
- 153 - New Book: Richland Community (Fredericka DeBerry)
- 154 - Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture (Helgard Suhr)
- 155-156 - LEAVE YOUR DEUTSCHE MARK (Rodney C. Koenig)
- 157 - Industry Heritage Tour (Ann Lindemann)
- 158 - WANTED: Exhibit Items (A.A. Treybig)
- 159 - Brief aus Deutschland....Hilfe!!!
- 160 - Try Mason for a Week-end Vacation (SA Express-News)
- 161-163 - GERMAN HERITAGE FOR NICKELS AND DIMES (Helga von Schweinitz)
- 164 - Emigration letter (Marion H. Freeman)
- 165 - German Wine(Bill Stephens); Kaffeakraenzchen
- 166-170 - UNMARKED GRAVES OF TWO EARLY GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH CEMETERIES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, 1857-1900
 (Elizabeth Lehmann)
- 171 - History of Shelby by Dr. Darrell Schulze(news clipping)
- 172 - NEW BOOK: The Book of Dallas (Taylor Publishing)
- 173 - University of Texas Press books
- 174 - German Day(Eric Gerber); New books from Germany
- 175 - Reunions (news clippings)
- 176 - St. Michael's 100th Anniversary(Fayette County Record)
- 177-178 - Der Teltschik Familientag 1986 (Minifred Aouelle)
- 179 - Institute of Texas German Studies (Ted Gish)
- 180 - Great Guns(news clipping); letter to the editor
- 181-206 - GERMAN-TEXANS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE (Theresa Gold)
 - 181 - Hamburg Passenger Lists
 - 183 - Bits and Pieces and News
 - 186 - From our Members
 - 194 - Peter Pieper and Neighbors of Colorado County
 (Walter Noser)
 - 200 - Immigration story (Emma Helpert)
 - 202 - Comal County Genealogical Society information
 - 203 - The Texas State Genealogical Society information
 - 204 - 50 Years Ago State Catholic Convention
 - 206 - Footnotes
- 207 - San Antonio Liederkrantz Schedule
- 208-209 - Als Buergermeister Conrads 1853 Nach Texas Ging...
 (J. B. Mueller)
- 210-212 - LBJ's Boyhood Among The German-Americans in Texas
 (Art Kowert)
- 213 - What is the German-Texan Heritage Society?
- 214 - GTHS Membership Application

NEWSLETTER Spring, 1988
Guest Editor: Theresa Gold
Send material to Theresa.

newsletter EDITOR

Mary M. El-Beheri

SOCIETY OPENS OFFICE

Storage of the Society's publications (newsletters for the past 9 years and both Roemer and Biesele books) became a problem we had to deal with and the answer is an office. It has 400 sq. ft. of space...room to grow. It is big enough for board and committee meetings, as well as for storage. The expense is minimal. ANNA THOMPSON will serve as office manager. We hope that we can better serve our present membership and really put on a drive to double our numbers. We urge our members to visit the new site and to get involved!!

G.T.H.S. OFFICE

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512-280-3351
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(Hwy 1626 by Adams Extract)

Mailing address:

P. O. Box 262
Manchaca, Tx. 78652

VISIT BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

DON'T FORGET: All back issues except Volume I (1979) are available to complete your files.
Volume 2 (1980) \$2.50 per issue or \$5.00 for the volume.
Volumes 3-8 (1981-1986) \$2.50 per issue or \$7.50 per volume.
Volume 9 (1987) is the current volume. \$3.00 per issue, \$9.00 per volume.

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY to think about Christmas! Roemer's TEXAS would make a lovely gift for a reader. \$15.95 plus .96 tax plus 2.00 postage and handling will bring it to anyone on your gift list. Biesele's HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861 will be a brand new volume for Christmas stockings: \$16.00 plus .96 plus 2.00 postage and handling.

All these items are available prepaid. Send your orders to:
G.T.H.S., P.O. Box 262, Manchaca, TX 78652

SAVE US POSTAGE!! RENEW NOW FOR 1988!!

CONFUSION OVER NAMES????

All the Texas German Society has in common with the GTHS is that the names are similar. THEY are primarily a social and semi-political group with origins in LaGrange. We cannot espouse political or social causes, because our Texas State Charter classifies us as a cultural heritage group. THEY have a large variety of official addresses. Our ONLY official address is on this NEWSLETTER. We do not condemn them, in fact, there is a need for local German social, cultural and heritage groups, such as the ones in Austin, Industry, New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, San Antonio, Houston, etc., BUT we do not want our membership nor the public in general to think we are one and the same. As members of the GTHS, please make this distinction clear to those who may be in doubt.

LISTING OF GERMAN GROUPS

Please send names of any and all German cultural/heritage/social groups in your area. Please send the name and address of a contact person for that organization. It would be great to get information about activities sponsored by this group. We want to make an official list of all German-related groups in Texas!!!

GALVESTON...GREAT!

Danke! Danke!

to Frances and Mary Faye who made things happen in Galveston. It was inspiring and informative and fun! See news story!

BIESELE BOOK READY.....

As this goes to press the Bieseles books are on the road to Austin. Order yours today. Bieseles HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861 may be ordered either from our new P.O. Box number or from Dona. \$16.96 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling.

NEEDED IN SAN ANTONIO

The 1989 meeting will be in San Antonio. We need someone to chair the local arrangements and someone to be chair for the program. Call Mary El-Beheri, Ingrid Kokinda or Theresa Gold, if you want to volunteer.

Theresa Gold was recently named to the San Antonio Historical Commission.

Maria Watson-White, a member of the Texas Historic Commission, has been appointed to the National Register Of Historic Places Review Committee. Maria did a presentation and helped lead the tours at our San Antonio meeting...we hope she will do that again in 1989.

GERMAN-TEXAN LENDING LIBRARY

We need..... Your slide shows, videos, filmstrips, books, pamphlets, etc., for a lending library in our new office. Donations will be happily accepted.

PUBLICITY NETWORK FORMING...

The Society is looking for KEY PEOPLE in all the areas where the Society has a large number of members to act as publicity agents. These agents will: 1) Contact all German-Texan groups in their local area so that we can get info about their activities, ie., social clubs, singing societies, dance groups, etc. 2) Collect newspaper clippings from local and area newspapers for the NEWSLETTER editor. 3) Send news releases to local and area newspapers about GTHS activities. We have AGENTS in the following areas: HOUSTON - Rod Koenig 6 Valley Forge Houston, Tx. 77024 713-651-5333

SAN ANTONIO -

Frances Heimer Harrison 118 William Classen Dr. San Antonio, Tx. 78232 512-494-2107

VICTORIA - Patsy Hand

417 Cottonwood Victoria, Tx. 77904 512-757-0049

We need AGENTS in:

Fredericksburg, New Braunfels, Corpus Christi, Boerne/Comfort, Dallas area, Brenham, Round Top/LaGrange, The Panhandle and from any area where a member wants to be an Agent.

The Publicity Agents will work closely with Fredericka Richter DeBerry, who is the Publicity co-ordinator for the Society.

If you would like to serve as a Publicity Agent in your area, please contact Mary El-Beheri at once. Send your name, address and home telephone number.

GTHS PAMPHLET READY AT LAST!!

We ask members to put our new pamphlet in libraries, museums and other public places, so that we can make everyone aware of us!! Contact any Board member for pamphlets.

144

Patron Members, May 28-Oct. 5, 1987

Bush, Dell & Woodrow Houston TX
Hartung, Louis A. San Antonio TX
Knopp, Rev. Mr. Kenn Fredericksburg TX
Koenig, Rebeca A. Houston TX
Whorton, Evangeline Loessin Galveston Island
Fry, Naomi W. College Station TX

HAVE REVIEWER...
NEED BOOKS...

Please send new books or the names and publisher of new books that relate to German-Texana to Hanna Lewis.

GERMAN-TEXAN REGISTRY
EDITOR: W. M. Von-Maszewski

Von has included the Farms and Ranches section in this NEWSLETTER so that our members can see what he is doing. If anyone wants to do a section, contact Von. We will give details about how the final Registry will be distributed as soon as a little more progress is made.

Contributing Members, May 28-Oct. 5, 1987

Altgelt, Ms. Annette Grote San Antonio TX
Becker, Mr. & Mrs. Ernst D. Austin TX
Condra, Frances R. San Antonio TX
Heinrich, Gerald D. Lubbock TX
Hrn. Franz, Standesbeamter 6544 Kirchberg
Smith, Mrs. Adelheid G. Dilley TX
Strauch, Gerhard San Antonio TX
UTSA Library, Serials Dept. San Antonio TX
Koehler, Ruth & Bill Austin TX

ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVES

The German-Texan Heritage Society is beginning the Anniversary of its 10th year in existence. In order to mark the Society's accomplishments and successes a special anniversary event is being planned. A committee to commemorate the achievements has been established. The committee would like to hear from the membership including ideas about memorabilia, mementoes, souvenirs or remembrances that individual members would like to have as keepsakes for this occasion. Items will be created, selected, and determined by the popular requests of the members. So please forward your suggestions to the committee. Designs, art work, symbolic emblems and illustrations are needed right away in order to have the items ready in 1988. Ideas already submitted include: lapel &/or hatband pins, mugs, steins and medallions. Please send your ideas to the committee in care of:

Ann Lindemann,
17914 Nanes Dr.
Houston, Texas 77090
or call 713-444-4446.

Suggestions for events and activities to add to the celebration are also welcomed.

THANKS TO EVERYBODY WHO SENDS
ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER! WE HAVE
NEVER HAD A SHORTAGE IN ALL OF THESE
NINE YEARS...KEEP IT UP!!!

GTGS CELEBRATES 10TH YEAR
1988 IN AUSTIN

Anna Thompson is forming a committee NOW to make it happen. If you want to be in on things, call Anna today.

Information needed about old German Christmas ornaments. Contact Helen Arnold 3414 Foothill Terrace Austin, Tx. 78731

Friday, September 25, 1987 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

Locals Participate In State GTHS Program

The members of the German-Texan Heritage Society met in Galveston at Hotel Galvez, on September 11-13 for their annual state meeting.

Attending the meeting from this area were Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Dube, Winedale; Mrs. Miriam York, director of the board, Giddings; Mrs. Leola K. Tiedt, historian and scrap book editor, La Grange; and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Koenig, Houston and La Grange.

Four former Fayette Countians took an active part in the program. The Genealogy Workshop was chaired by Frederika Richter-DeBerry from Clear Lake City, but formerly from West Point. Mrs. Kathleen (Witt) Stahmer was appointed the new index editor. Mrs. Evangeline Loessin Whorton, a former resident of this area, spoke and showed slides of the German architecture in Galveston. She was also the guide at the Powhatan House, which was on tour.

The Rev. Walter A. Dube, of Peace Lutheran Church, Texas City, gave the German service on Sunday morning at the First Lutheran Church. He was born near Giddings.

At the board meeting Dr. Donna Reeves-Marquardt, the treasurer, reported she still receives letters from people complaining they are not receiving their newsletters, although they had paid their membership dues. The problem lies in the fact that they paid The Texas German Society and expected the newsletters from The German-Texan Heritage Society, which is an entirely different organization.

The G. T. H. S. meets only once a year (Austin in 1988; San Antonio, 1989; Round Top, 1990, etc.) They spend their income by reprinting German books that have become difficult to buy, because there are so few available. In 1983 they reprinted ~~Remember~~ Texas; in 1984 a calendar showing early German buildings; and this year B. L. Bisele's *The History of Early German Settlements 1831-1861*.

Anyone interested in joining or renewing their membership may contact Dr. Donna Reeves-Marquardt, Rt. 2, Box 239A, Buda, Texas 78610. The new membership dues are: Students \$5, regular \$8, contributing \$15, institutional \$15, foreign \$12, and patron \$30.

From West Point

Tekla Timmermann, one of seven sisters

GERONIMO — Tekla Timmermann, at 93 the oldest of the seven well-known Timmermann sisters, has died in a Seguin hospital after suffering a stroke at her home here.

The sisters, authors of a book titled "Seven Silver Spoons," were best known in the area for the extravagant Christmas decorations at their farm home. Each year, hundreds of people traveled to the homestead that the sisters, none of whom ever married, inherited from their father to view the unique decorations.

They received national recognition through newspaper and magazine stories and a television appearance in 1955.

Tekla is the third Timmermann sister to die. Estella died in 1984 and Hulda died a year later. Tekla is survived by sisters Melitta, Meta, Wanda and Willie Mae.

Services were conducted Wednesday at Frieden's United Church of Christ. Burial was in Lone Oak Cemetery.

German group to meet here

GALVESTON — About 200 delegates will attend the German-Texan Heritage Society's annual meeting Sept. 11-13 at the Marriott's Hotel Galvez, Frances Knappe, chairman and Ball High School teacher, announces.

Maury Darst of Galveston College will speak on "Lighthouses Along the Gulf Coast;" Evangeline Whorton will discuss German architecture in Galveston with emphasis on German craftsmen who built local Victorian homes; Capt. Julius W. Jockusch Jr. and his sister, Hetta Towler, will discuss the German consular office in Galveston. Their father and grandfather were both German consuls here.

"Everyman's History — A Study of History through Biography — J.J. Schott (1846-1928)" will be discussed by Daniel Zorn of Georgetown University, Brownwood. Schott was a German pioneer pharmacist in Galveston.

At the Saturday luncheon the Rev. Herbert Polinard, minister of Central Christian Church, will talk about German influence in Galveston. Brownson Malsch of Edna, who wrote the prize-

winning book, *Indianola — the Mother of West Texas*, will comment on that port in the mid-19th century. The port was settled by German immigrants.

Henry Hauschild, an authority on the Runge family of Galveston and Indianola, and a Victoria historian and preservationist, will discuss the Runge family in Texas.

Frederika Richter DeBerry of Clear Lake City will conduct a genealogy workshop.

A dinner dance at Garten Verein with a polka band and the Rathkamp Dancers of Houston will be a Saturday feature. Carlos Pena and Raymond Zorn of First Lutheran Church will describe how to save a building and Randy Kirk of Galveston will present a paper on German influence in West Texas. Kirk is a former director of the Texas Tech German Dancers.

Other events will be a dinner cruise on *The Colonel* paddlewheeler, a guided bus tour of Galveston's East End, a special Sunday morning service in German at First Lutheran Church, conducted by the Rev. Walter Dube of Texas City.

Mary Faye Barnes and Bob Nesbitt are assisting Knappe on the committee.

OBITUARIES

Suhr, 56, was former Comal legal adviser
SA Express-News
 October 12, 1987

NEW BRAUNFELS — W. Frank Suhr was a prominent attorney who served 12 years as the chief legal adviser for Comal County.

"He was the best father," said his daughter, Brigitte Suhr, a sophomore at the University of Texas at Austin. "His whole life was his kids."

Suhr worked hard to provide a college education for his son and two daughters. "We're grateful for that," his daughter said.

Suhr, 56, died Friday of cardiac arrest at McKenna Memorial Hospital in New Braunfels.

A past president of the Comal County Bar Association, he was the Comal County attorney from 1960 to 1972 before entering private practice.

Suhr, a lifelong resident of New Braunfels, was a 20-year member and president-elect of the Comal County Fair Association.

"He was everyone's friend, everybody's buddy," his daughter said. "He was so honest and hard-working."

In 1979 Suhr founded the Marschund Wandergruppe, a German walking society in New Braunfels. The society sponsors walks that have attracted more than 1,000 participants.

A 1949 graduate of New Braunfels High School, he graduated from

Southwest Texas State University in 1953 and then spent two years in the Army.

Suhr studied law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law.

Suhr was trustee of St. Paul Lutheran Church, a charter member of the Texas Museum of Handmade Furniture and judge advocate of American Legion Post 179.

He also was a member of the New Braunfels Conservation Society, the Wurmfest Association, Germania Farmers Verein Group of Anhalt, German-American Society, Sophienburg Museum, Elks Lodge and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Survivors include his wife, Helgard; another daughter, Monika, of New Braunfels; a son, Frank B. Suhr of Austin; and his mother, Almida Suhr of New Braunfels.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Paul Lutheran Church with the Revs. Charles DeHaven and Jim Hinkhouse officiating.

Memorials can be made in the form of contributions to St. Paul Lutheran, Sophienburg Museum, the Elks Fund for Crippled Children at Ottine or a charity of choice.

Burial will be in Guadalupe Valley Memorial Park under the direction of Doepfenschmidt Funeral Home.

Scurry had rich life: Music, travel, family

Hedwig Goeth Scurry, 82, worked in the book department at Joske's for 15 years.

Although she retired 12 years ago, she did part-time work into her 70s.

Scurry died Tuesday in a local nursing home after suffering two strokes earlier.

Born in Cypress Mill, she grew up on the Goeth homestead in San Antonio.

She attended a boarding school on South Presa, where she studied piano and German folk dancing. She married John Winston Scurry, but they were divorced some 20 years later.

"In her early years, she was a gifted pianist, and she gave recitals until she was in her 30s," said her son, Rolf Kargl of San Antonio. "For 15 years, recently, she sang and danced with the Senior Songsters of San Antonio at nursing homes. She enjoyed this tremendously."

"Her grandmother, Otilie Fuchs Goeth, wrote 'Memoirs of a Texas Pioneer Grandmother,' published

by Eakin Press in the early 1920s. Many pictures of my mother as a child are printed in the volume.

"The book was translated from German by her sister, Irma Guenther of Austin, and reprinted in English in 1982. James Michener used the book while writing 'Texas,' and mentioned this vivid account of early Germans in this state in his book.

"My mother loved to travel and learn new things," he said. "She never quit learning. She used to drive wherever she wanted to go, but lately I would drive her to the coast or the Valley or to Big Bend.

"She loved Texas wildflowers and would have me stop the car and pick some for her," he said.

Survivors are her son; a daughter, Katherine Chambers of San Antonio; her sister; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in the Goeth-Wenmohs Cemetery in Cypress Mill. Crofts Funeral Home of Johnson City is in charge of arrangements.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
 Friday, July 24, 1987

Menger, member of pioneer family

Hubert Emil Menger, a member of a pioneer San Antonio family, was a certified professional geologist who was still practicing his profession after 51 years.

During his career as an independent geologist, he was district geologist for Stanoland Oil and Gas Co., consulting geologist for Fred Shield, and was division geologist for Monterey Oil Co.

Menger died Tuesday at age 80 of a rare form of anemia.

He was the son of Rudolph and Adele Russi Menger and grandson of Simon Menger, San Antonio's first classroom music teacher and its first industrialist. He founded the Menger Soap Works in 1850 on the banks of San Pedro Creek.

Menger's great-grandfather, David Russi, served with the Confederacy and restored the Alamo in 1849, 13 years after the historic battle.

As a youth, Menger was an Eagle Scout. He was an outstanding and gifted pitcher for Alamo Heights High School for three years. His senior year, he transferred to old Main Avenue High School, where he also pitched. He graduated in 1925.

While playing for a local baseball team, Menger pitched against Dizzy Dean. The game ended at nightfall in a tie. Menger also lettered in football at both high schools, playing halfback for each.

At Texas A&M, Menger was elected president of the freshman class and lettered in baseball as a pitcher. He transferred to the University of Texas at Austin, where he became house manager for his fraternity, Kappa Sigma. He earned a bachelor's degree in geology at UT in 1935.

He and his wife of 51 years, Johnowene Brackenridge Peeler Crutcher Menger, celebrated their golden anniversary last year with a dinner party for 500 friends from all



Hubert Menger pitched against Dizzy Dean.

over at the San Antonio Country Club.

Menger was a charter member of Post Cambrian Geological Society, which he served as president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. He was a charter member and organizing president of the Mayfair Club.

Additional memberships were Northridge Park Baptist Church, South Texas Geological Society, American Association of Petroleum Geologists and honorary life member of Huguenot Society of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia.

Survivors are his wife; two daughters, Owene Caruth III and Roberta Byrd, both of Dallas; a brother, Allen R. Menger of San Antonio; and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday in Northridge Park Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. George Harris officiating and Wilford Stapp as vocalist. Entombment in Sunset Mausoleum will be arranged by Porter Loring Mortuary.

Dittlinger, noted Comal benefactor

NEW BRAUNFELS — Bruno Dittlinger, 93, was a philanthropist who, with family members, financed the Dittlinger Memorial Library dedicated to his parents in 1969.

He and his family also donated money for the Prince Solms Park in the 1970s.

Dittlinger worked at the Dittlinger Mills and the Dittlinger Lime Co., which was co-founded by his father, Hippolyt Dittlinger, in 1887. His father bought out his partner in the mid-1890s and became sole owner.

Bruno Dittlinger died Wednesday at his home after a lengthy illness.

He attended St. Peter and Paul School in New Braunfels before graduating from high school in Prairie De Chien, Wis., and studying at Armour Institute in Chicago.

"My uncle was a very intelligent man," said a niece, Maria Liebscher of New Braunfels. "He was consci-

entious, very withdrawn and quiet.

"His pride and joy was helping young people further their advanced educations," she said. "This was always done very quietly. After World War II, he aided his relatives in Germany by sending them Care packages."

He was a member of St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, but he was also active in Holy Family Catholic Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. He was a member of the American Catholic Society.

Survivors are a sister, Franzisca Liebscher of New Braunfels; three nephews and two nieces.

Prayer services will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Doepfenschmidt Funeral Home. Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Saturday in St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. Private entombment will be in Mission Burial Park South in San Antonio.

SAMPLE OF GTHS REGISTRY 147
by W.M. VON-MASZEWski FARMs/RANChES

BOHLS FARM - 1870

One-half mile southeast of Pflugerville, Travis County

Conrad Pfluger came to America with a younger brother in 1849 on a journey that took seventeen weeks by boat. In 1869 Conrad Pfluger bought 200 acres of land for \$500 which he and his wife moved to in 1870. They built a rock house that year and five years later built a two-story frame house, both of which are still standing. After Conrad's death in 1911, 100 acres were sold to Florenz and Thekla (Ganzert) Bohls, a granddaughter of the founder, who later purchased the remaining 100 acres after the death of Conrad's wife. It is now owned by Chester Bohls. (1)

BUCKERT RANCH - 1860

Four miles southwest of Victoria, Victoria County

Louis Buckert paid \$1,251.50 for a little more than 31 acres of land from the Jacob Klotz Estate March 30, 1860, and began raising corn and pecans. The land then passed to his son, H. C. Buckert, and through H. C.'s wife, to their son, A. M. Buckert. The ranch contains approximately 26 acres of land, A. M. having bought his brother's share in 1958. The Buckert Ranch raises cattle, farms and harvests pecans from the many native trees on the property. A. M. Jr. and Marvin carry on the Buckert agricultural tradition. (1)

F. CORNELIUS 5F RANCH - 1882

Two miles northeast of Midfield, Matagorda County

F. (Friedrich Caspar) Cornelius Sr. was born in Rothensee, County Hersfeld, Germany, on December 2, 1850. He came to America in December 1870, landing at Indianola. He stayed in Indianola until 1872. While here he learned his first English from the Honorable Rudolph Kleberg, who was teaching school there. He was employed by H. Runge & Co. which handled most of the goods shipped in by two Morgan ships twice a week, to be forwarded into the interior.

After that he went to work for Newton Mitchell, a very good cowman. At this time many cattle were going to Oklahoma and Kansas, so he went to Victoria where herds were made up for the long drive.

On June 24, 1875 F. Cornelius married Annie Downer who was born close to the mouth of the Tres Palacios. He continued working on the trail rides to Kansas. In 1882 he purchased land from Shanghai and John Pierce in Matagorda County. This land is located 1.8 miles northeast of Midfield. Later he purchased more land giving him approximately 2,100 acres in 1910.

Mrs. Cornelius died in 1894 leaving him with seven children. The next few years were a real struggle. Hailstorms and floods destroyed his crops and killed many of his stock. On October 24, 1899, F. Cornelius married Miss L. E. Gainer and they had three boys and one girl. Before his death this and was divided among his children. The bulk of the land is still owned by his descendants. (10)

DUDERSTADT-BETTGE RANCH - 1855

Fifteen miles southwest of Cuero, DeWitt County

The land was purchased in 1855 by Friedrich Duderstadt of Luttenrode, Germany. He was an enterprising German immigrant. A stone mason, he built a gristmill, castor bean oil press (oil sold for use on saddle and leather goods), cotton gin and cotton press. He was a teamster during the Civil War building the wagon he used for hauling. His real estate holdings were around one thousand acres.

He married Friederike Brandes and to this union was born Albert Duderstadt, one of ten children (nine boys and one girl). Albert married Caroline Diebel, daughter of Christoph Diebel and wife, nee Katherine Schiwetz. He ranched and farmed and was also a butcher. The meat was packed in covered wooden boxes on spring wagons pulled by team of horses with which Albert's sons combed the community for meat customers. Albert also raised and trained horses. Caroline busied herself with Kirche, Kinder and Küche (church, children and kitchen). A garden was maintained for vegetables and fruits.

Richard Duderstadt (one of seven children) was born to this union. He married Frieda Hartman, daughter of Fred Hartman and wife, nee Justine Sager (her father, Rev. Christoph Adam Sager, was the founder of St. John. Ev.-Lutheran Church, Meyersville, in 1851). Farming and ranching continued. Richard did also barbering. Frieda played the organ in church for 25 years. To this union was born Ruth Duderstadt who married Chester Bettge. They owned and operated a Holstein Dairy on the original land for twenty years. Presently they farm mostly hay and improved grasses and have a Beefmaster cattle herd. The cattle brand is 6D, the original Duderstadt brand.

Ruth and Chester Bettge have two children, Hazel who lives in Austin and is married to Arthur Sembera and Richard who married Catherine Motal and with their daughters, Lisa and Angie, live on this ranch.

The Texas-classic two story home of Chester and Ruth Bettge was constructed by Friedrich and Albert Duderstadt in 1880 and it continues to serve that family. Six generations have lived here. Four generations are living on this acreage (247 acres) presently.

DUKES HERITAGE ACRES - 1854

DeWitt County

Wilhelm Heinrich Schorlemer and wife, Eva (Reinhardt) Schorlemer, and two small children from Darmstadt, Germany, landed at Indianola in December 1848. Three weeks after their arrival another daughter was born at Indianola. As soon as Eva was able to travel they came to DeWitt County where they settled along Coletto Creek. They lived there, and in March 1854, Governor E. M. Pease granted 2,000 acres of land to G. W. Brooks, as a part of Headright League, by a Letter Patent No. 829, Volume 18. In August 1854 Wilhelm Schorlemer purchased 175 acres from G. W. Brooks which became known as their homestead. He later purchased more land, but these original 175 acres still remain in the

family. The fourth, fifth and sixth generation now live on it.

Wilhelm was a tinner by trade. The land grew cotton and corn but it was mainly used as ranchland. Wilhelm and Eva had nine children of which six grew to maturity. At their death in 1900, their youngest son, William Carl Schorlemer, purchased these 175 acres from his brothers and sisters. William was one of the first breeders of registered Hereford cattle in DeWitt County. A carpenter by trade he built many of the old homes in DeWitt and Goliad Counties. Through his labors he was able to add over 3,000 acres to the original acreage. The land has been used for the raising of cattle since 1912.

In 1939 Fritz W. Rabke and wife, Charlotte Schorlemer Rabke, daughter of William, purchased these same 175 acres. After Fritz' and Charlotte's deaths (1969), John E. Dukes and wife, Lornette Rabke Dukes, inherited 105 of the 175 acres; Charles and Judy Soehnge, a grandson of Fritz and Charlotte, inherited the other seventy acres. In 1983 the Dukes deeded fifteen of their 105 acres to their only child, Wesley R. Dukes, who with his wife Sandra and two children resides on the property.

EICHOLT-KRUSE FARM - 1866

Seven miles northwest of Brenham, Washington County

Henry Eichholt, born August 20, 1821, in Brocken, Germany, was the first German to locate permanently in Washington County. He settled there in 1846 and began working on farms, driving ox teams and cutting hay. In 1847, he married Louise Roehling. They purchased 500 acres and began farming. Eichholt also operated a grist mill during the Civil War. At first, the Eichholts lived in a two-room cabin of cedar logs with a dirt floor. A big trunk served as a dining table. There were three children: Louis, William and Louise. Louis was the next owner of the farm, then totaling 307 acres. His daughter Meta Eichholt Guderian became owner of 121 acres in 1928 and raised Herefords. After her death the farm was bought by Howard W. Kruse of Brenham. There are four rooms with stencil-painted walls built by the founder which are still in use today. (3)

FIETSAM FARM - 1858

Ammansville area of Fayette County

Settling on 71.5 acres to produce cotton and grains, the founders (J. Laux, et al. of Germany) received title to the land September 27, 1858. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold W. Fietsam, LaGrange, have a cattle, corn and milo operation on 58 acres still under their management. (1)

FUCHS FARM - 1853

Two miles southeast of Carmine, Fayette County

Fuchs Farm was purchased by Lorenz Fuchs from Thomas D. Owing in 1853 and consisted of 242.5 acres. Lorenz Fuchs used the farm to produce cattle, hogs, poultry, corn, cotton and hay crops. On June 26, 1893, he sold the farm to his youngest son, Otto F. Fuchs who continued the farming operation. August 13, 1948, Otto

F. Fuchs' widow Elizabeth sold the farm to their oldest son, Otto L. Fuchs. He raised cotton, corn, milo, hay, cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry until 1956 when approximately half the property or 102 acres were sold to his youngest son, Howard F. Fuchs. March 8, 1966, Otto L. Fuchs sold the remaining 117 acres to his oldest son, Otto L. Fuchs, Jr.

Of the original 242.5 acres, 219 acres are owned by Otto L. Fuchs, Jr. and Howard F. Fuchs. The other 23.5 acres were sold to the Texas Highway Department for right-of-ways. (1)

FUCHS FARM - 1875

Two miles east of Pflugerville, Travis County

At the age of three, Henry Pfluger, Jr, immigrated with his parents, landing in Galveston in 1850. Twenty-two years alter, he acquired 150 acres from the grant originally held by C. Spalding and W. H. D. Carrington. He later added 161 acres for his cotton, corn, sheep and cattle production. He erected a gin in 1880 and was the co-owner of the first steam thrasher in the community. He and his wife Wilhelmine had ten children. Their daughter Minnie and her husband, Emmet L. Fuchs, acquired the 311 acres in 1917 and raised corn, cotton, maize, sheep, cattle and turkeys. Terraces and spillways were added to the property during their ownership. Emmet and Minnie Fuchs had four children: Blanche, Milton, Vivian and Mildred. Their daughter Vivian Johnson presently owns 150 acres which she acquired in 1971. The founder's granddaughter raises cattle and maize on the land which is worked by her nephew, Lanier Bohls. The original Pfluger home with its fireplace is still standing.

The Fuchs other daughter Mildred and her husband, Warren Smith, acquired 161 acres in 1971. They own 100 acres in addition to that parcel and raise corn, maize and cattle.

HENRY GROPPE FARM - 1883

Three miles south of West, McLennan County

August Gropppe, Sr. was born in Hanover (Verliehausen), Germany, in 1840. He arrived in the United States via New York and found his way to St. Louis, where he lived for five years, working for Buck's Stove Co. In 1872, he headed south to Waco, Texas, where he found employment for two years, driving the horse-drawn buggy of a Dr. McGregor. During this time, he learned of the availability of University land in McLennan County near the town of West. In 1874, he paid \$2.50 an acre for 160 acres located about three miles south of West. He was so successful that he was able to buy more land. His next land purchase was an adjoining tract of 80 acres which he bought from W. W. Wood. In 1883 he paid James Magness \$800 for a second 80 acre tract which adjoined his original holdings. August purchased a third 80 acre adjoining tract for \$300 from J. W. Rice in 1886. In 1894 August bought his final tract which gave him a total holding of 480 acres.

August married Elizabeth Blume in 1874. They lived for a time in a log cabin on the 160 acres for which he was granted the original letter patent and eventually built a comfortable two-

1988 SAENGERFEST OF THE DEUTSCH TEXANISCHER SAENGERBUND

Members of the Houston Saengerbund Damenchor invite you to help them celebrate their 50th Anniversary on Saturday and Sunday, April 30-May 1, 1988, at which time they will host the 42nd Saengerfest (since the end of World War II) of the Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Houston.

The celebration will include a dance on Saturday night, April 30, featuring a full dance band which will play a variety of music to satisfy old and young alike. At the concert on Sunday afternoon, May 2, all of the member choirs will perform solo numbers as well as join together in song.

The origin of this festival of German song in Texas dates back to October 15-16, 1853, when the first Texas Saengerfest was held in New Braunfels. Singers from San Antonio, Austin, and Sisterdale battled bad weather and worse roads as they traveled by horse and wagon to the host city to sing their beloved songs and to "dance 'til dawn." The following year on May 14-16, 1854, the second festival was held in San Antonio, and the State Singers' League (Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund) was officially born.

Three times in its history, war has interrupted the Bund's celebrations. Before the Civil War (1861-1865), Germans in many parts of the state had gone on record as opposing capital punishment and slavery; thus, during the war, many German activities were often officially suspended, many times as a form of punishment. However, in the 1870's, the clubs were re-activated and the Saengerfests revived. Again, during World War I, activities largely ceased, but on May 22, 1921, the song festivals came to life once more. The depression of the 1930's, although creating many hardships, did not discourage the love of holding the songfests when possible, and it was not until the outbreak of World War II that once more activities were curtailed. In 1946, until the present, however, the annual Saengertag has brought together singers to lift their voices in song and often to "dance 'til dawn."

Singing is a joyous pastime, and it is hoped that this vital form of German cultural activity will continue for many years and that a love of song will attract new members to all the choirs:

<u>Name of Choir</u>	<u>Year Organized</u>
Beethoven Maennerchor, San Antonio	February 23, 1867
Dallas Frohsinn	March 25, 1877
Austin Saengerrunde	February 9, 1879
Houston Saengerbund	October 6, 1883
San Antonio Liederkranz	July 12, 1892
Hermann Soehne Gemischter Chor, San Antonio	October 13, 1920
Houston Liederkranz	January 15, 1925
Beethoven Damenchor, San Antonio	March 22, 1932
Houston Saengerbund Damenchor	June 3, 1938
Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor	February 9, 1959

In 1988, a new choir will join the others. Under the direction of Richard McGinty, the Houston Saengerbund Gemischter Chor will appear at the Saengerfest for the first time.

For more information regarding the 1988 Saengerfest, please contact Flora von Roeder, Secretary, Houston Saengerbund Ladies Auxiliary, 2515 Shakespeare #2, Houston, TX 77030.

GERMAN GULF COAST ASSOCIATION

Deutscher Gulf Coast Verband

152

GERMAN FEST OF HOUSTON

April 8, 9, 10 in 1988 are dates one should mark on the calendar. The second annual German Fest of Houston will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in the Westheimer area. The purpose of this festival is to unite the community and to broaden the public's view of German heritage, culture, art, business, etc., and to have fun. The German Gulf Coast Association, sponsoring this event, is a non-profit organization, and all proceeds will be used for the next festivities:

Opening the weekend celebration on Friday, April 8, will be the renowned "Mainzer Hofsänger" direct from Germany, who have presented extraordinary vocal performances for over sixty years. The variety of the program will astonish you. The evening will probably close with their famous song, "So ein Tag, so wunderschön wie heute."

Saturday will feature a variety of performances, exhibits and a gala dinner. Sunday is reserved for a family outing with soccer games and children's entertainment.

Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact the following telephone numbers in the 713 area code: 468-7666, 356-3260 or 328-1634.

A more detailed schedule will be forthcoming in the next issue. Hope you will join us.

Hope you will join us!



Erika Teske

NEW BOOK

RICHLAND COMMUNITY (TRAVIS COUNTY)

A history commemorating the 110th anniversary of St. John's United Church of Christ (German Evangelical Lutheran) in June, 1988.

including---

German history preceeding the settlement of the Richland Community.

background of the German language used in the area. settlement of Richland.

Short histories of over 30 pioneer families in the Richland Community area, with sketches of others.

- ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
- THE CELE STORE
- THE GIN
- THE BLACKSMITH SHOP
- THE SALOON

Photographs & sketches of the area and of some of the early settlers.

Special: "Memories of Richland" by Hildegard Steger Gebert.

This is a non profit endeavor. If there is money leftover after publication and mailing, it will be donated to St. John Church.

ORDER NOW - and pick up your copy (or copies) at the Richland Church anniversary. If you are unable to attend, we will mail your order to you, postpaid.

\$10.00

Make checks payable to: Fredericka Richter-DeBerry
1023 Kemerton Drive
Houston, Tx 77062

NOTE: There will be one printing only and we must have your order no later than JANUARY 1, 1988. Order now and order extra copies for your family.

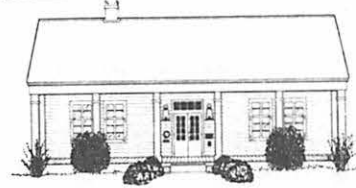


An
Professor
Lisa Kahn
Dichterin
Blockhütte

The
U.S.
Mail
delivered
this!

THE BOARD OF THE GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY WILL HOLD AN OFFICIAL MEETING ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1988 IN SAN ANTONIO. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS, NEW IDEAS, ETC., PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

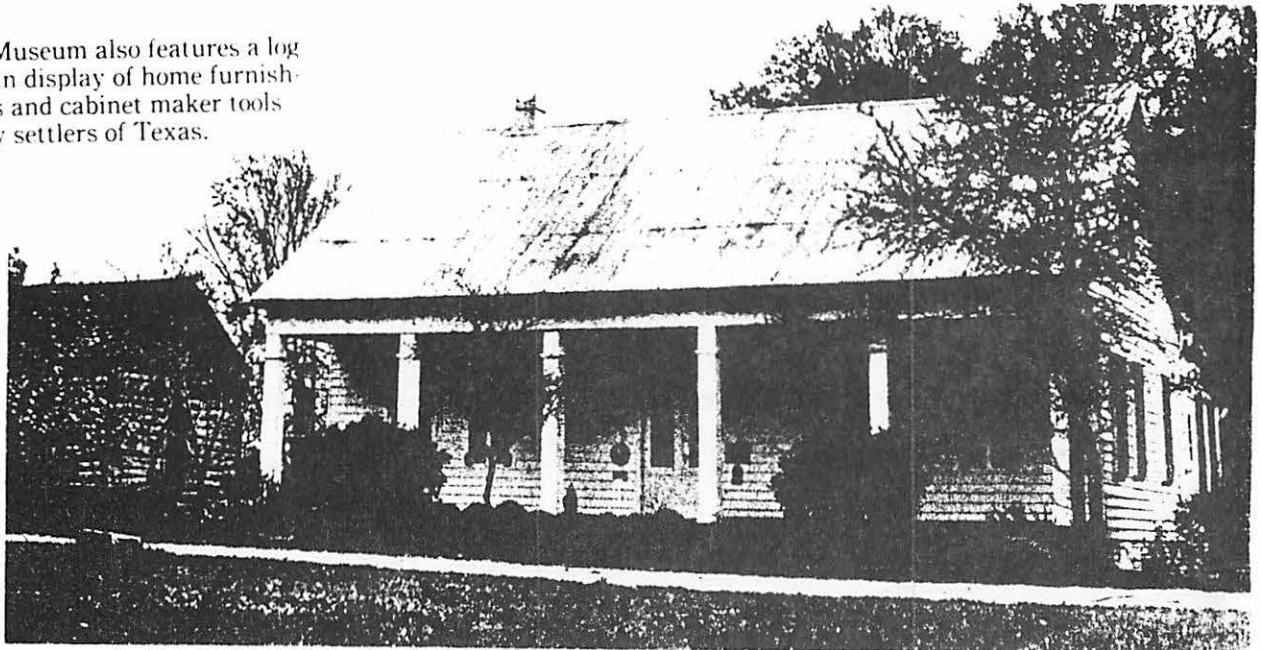
MUSEUM • OF • TEXAS



HANDMADE • FURNITURE

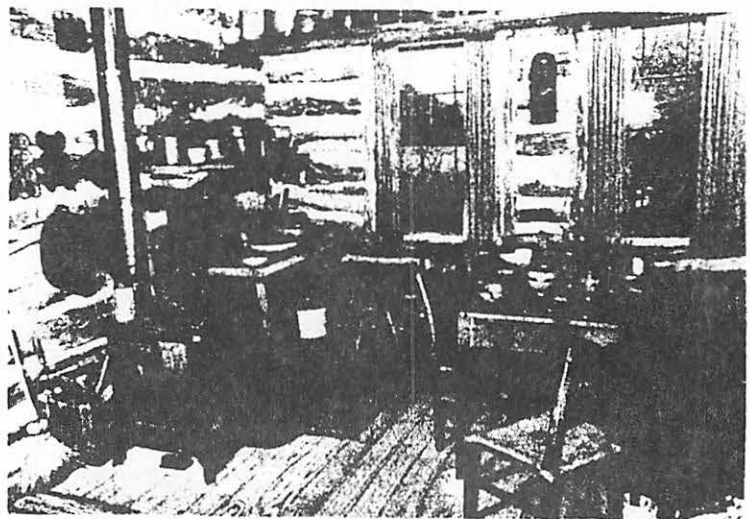
1370 Church Hill Drive • New Braunfels, Texas 78130 • 512/629-6504

The Museum also features a log cabin display of home furnishings and cabinet maker tools used by early settlers of Texas.



Beginning in 1845 many German immigrant cabinet makers settled in the Hill Country of Texas. Men like Tietze, Scholl, Jahn, Evensburger and Stautzenberger were skilled furniture makers who left their marks on the area, if not always on their furniture pieces. Over 75 original furniture items handmade in Texas dating from the mid-19th century to the late 1860's form the central focus of this unique Museum. Scores of rare home accessories, such as English Ironstone are also a part of this collection. All are on display in the Breustedt Home - a Texas historic landmark built in 1858.

Typical One Room Family Home - Unusual hide seat walnut chairs in foreground are framed with square members



The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday - 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Sunday - 1:00 P.M. to 4:00P.M. from Memorial Day through Labor Day. From Labor Day through Memorial Day the Museum is open from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Tour groups are taken on appointment. Admission is \$2000 per adult and \$1.00 for children under 12. For more information, contact the Museum.

LEAVE YOUR DEUTSCHE MARK

(Estate Planning for Germans)
By Rodney C. Koenig

We have just finished a marvelous convention of the German-Texan Heritage Society in Galveston, Texas. The fellowship was superb, the information learned and German heritage revealed was fantastic. I was especially pleased to learn of Captain Julius W. Jockusch, Jr.'s German connection. While I have known of Captain Jockusch through Navy circles, I was not aware of his important connection with our German forebearers. Likewise, the various presentations made on Galveston, the German architecture of Galveston (by Evangeline Loessin Whorton, whose Loessin ancestors owned the farm on which I was born), and others rekindled my commitment to never let our German heritage die.

As a very practical aside, one item that we should all consider very seriously is leaving our mark, *hopefully our German mark*, on this community of ours in Texas after we have died. While many of us work diligently on various projects, such as the Texas German Registry or the reprinting of books concerning our German heritage, after we are gone, we need to decide whether we will leave a portion of our worldly goods to help in worthy projects that we supported during our lifetimes. Accordingly, we should all consider in our estate planning the possibility of leaving a portion or all of our estate to various organizations, such as the *German-Texan Heritage Society*, to further their goals. We all have favorite universities, churches, institutes, singing clubs and other organizations we might wish to benefit. In addition to the German-Texan Heritage Society, another one of such groups would likely be the *Institute of Texas German Studies*, recently created at the University of Houston and chaired by Dr. Ted Gish. This Institute focuses on German Texans and is one of the worthy Texas German groups directly affiliated with a major university. Other universities are closely related to the German-Texan Heritage Society as well. One can quickly look through our officers, committee chairpersons and directors to see affiliations with most of the universities in Texas having German departments.

If we decide we do want to leave our mark on this earth, then action must be taken. Hopefully, we will make a Will that leaves a percentage of our estate to one of the universities for the study of Texas Germans. We might instead leave a specific dollar amount. Other possibilities would be that of creating a scholarship fund or professorship to honor an ancestor having Texas German roots. What better way to honor and perpetuate the memory of a German-Texan ancestor than to create a chair or scholarship fund in his or her name to assist others to learn of our Texas German heritage.

For individuals with substantial estates, charitable lead trusts could be created or charitable remainder unitrusts or annuity trusts could be created to fund a gift. Your attorney would need to assist in this. Fairly simple arrangements for gifts might be the designation of a favorite German charity, such as the *German-Texan Heritage Society*, as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or the beneficiary of an individual retirement account. Another relatively easy way to make a gift is

to deed a piece of real property to a qualified charity, thereby obtaining an immediate income tax deduction. If the donor lives in a home or on a farm and desires to continue living in such home or farm until such person's death, a current income tax deduction could be obtained if the home or farm is immediately deeded to the charity, retaining a life estate (the right to live there rent free) in the property.

Finally, a major contribution could be the creation of a private foundation whose primary purpose was to further Texas German studies and Texas German heritage. Ideally, trustees for such foundation would be associated with a university or have German interests and the income from such foundation would be used on an annual basis to encourage German studies and to encourage scholarship in the various areas that the decedent has an interest.

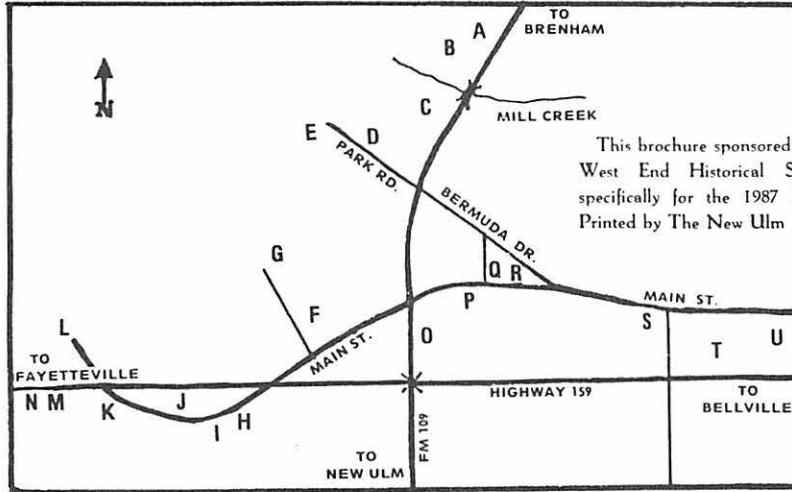
Even if you desire to provide abundantly for your family initially, which is a natural inclination, you might desire to leave five to ten percent of your estate to a favorite German cause. Alternatively, you might desire (if your children or spouse inadvertently die before you do) to leave all of your estate as a contingent gift to a foundation (which you could create in your own Will) to further German Texan causes. For example, your gift could be one which would be used in perpetuity and which would encourage scholarship visits from German students to Texas and visits from Texas German students to Germany. Alternatively, you could create a chair at your favorite university to perpetually leave your German Mark and your own German name for generations to come. An annual lectureship is another possible creation that could likely be done for smaller amounts of money than creating a full professorship.

It is my desire to see the positive virtues of being a Texas German emphasized at our institutes, such as the *Institute of Texas German Studies* at the University of Houston or at the various German departments throughout the state. If you do absolutely nothing, then nothing will be accomplished. Hence, if you desire to leave your German mark on Texas, consider leaving some of your financial resources to further these positive German attributes as a memorial after you are gone. You will obtain a tax deduction from Uncle Sam and a Danke Schön from all Texas Germans.



Rodney C. Koenig is a Patron Member of the German-Texan Heritage Society, is a Director and Singing Chairman of the Houston Saengerbund and a Director of the German Gulf Coast Association. He is a Partner in the Houston based law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski and is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law. He lectures widely on Estate Planning and taxation, most recently at the 1987 State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning and Probate Course. He is the Texas chairperson of Planned Giving for the American Heart Association. He is a past President of the Houston Navy League, and serves as an advisor to the Institute of Texas German Studies at the University of Houston.

1987 HERITAGE FESTIVAL TOUR

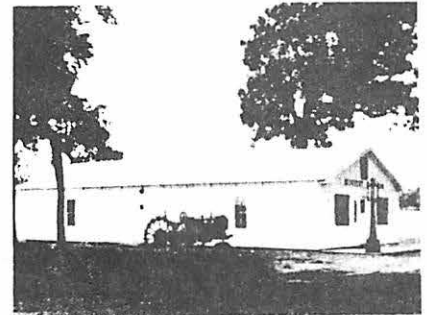


* Open for Tour with admission ticket [available at each location] * Open no charge

- *A. HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING BUILDING: built in 1921, previously served as Cooperative Store, moved to this site in 1985.
- B. WELCOME HALL: built in 1881 in Welcome, Texas, moved to this site in the early 1980's.
- *C. RAEKE HOUSE: built ca. 1850 for John Saeper, first Postmaster of Industry, moved to this site in 1980
- D. & E. ERNST MEMORIAL PARK - INDUSTRY & ERNST HISTORICAL MARKERS.
- *D. DR. ALFRED HACKFIELD OFFICE: built in 1938, moved to this site in the 1970's.
- *E. STONE POST OFFICE BUILDING: early Post Office ca. 1838 on original site.
- *F. INDUSTRY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & CEMETERY: established as a Methodist Congregation in 1854, existed as an independent church since 1847, building constructed in 1867.
- G. PILGRIM'S REST CEMETERY: contains grave sites of early settlers.
- H. LINDEMANN STORE HISTORICAL MARKER
- *I. KAUTZ HOUSE: built in 1924, moved to this site in 1946.
- J. ZASKODA BLACKSMITH SHOP: built ca. 1913, on the original site.
- K. KNOLLE HOUSE: built on land in Knolle possession since 1850.
- L. INDUSTRY BROTHERS CHURCH & CEMETERY: congregation established in 1860, this building constructed in 1968.
- M. CHERRY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: congregation established ca. 1860, the building constructed ca. 1930.
- N. FISCHES ROADSIDE PARK - FORDTRAN HISTORICAL MARKER
- O. INDUSTRY SCHOOL AUSTIN COUNTY HISTORICAL MARKER
- P. EARLY SITE OF INDUSTRY STATE BANK: established in 1911, this building constructed in 1957.
- *Q. WEIGE STORE: built in 1888 on original site.
- R. ASSMANN'S CAFE: building dates to ca. 1890, moved to this site in 1976, has served as hotling works, saloon and cafe.
- S. SCHRAMM HOUSE: built ca. 1865, by C. C. Koch, served as Teufel home and hotel in 1891.
- T. SCHRAMM GIN: established in 1857 for F. G. Knolle, present building ca. 1930.
- U. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH & CEMETERY: congregation established in 1872, present building dates to 1970.

EXCERPTS FROM BROCHURE

INDUSTRY-WEST END HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING BUILDING

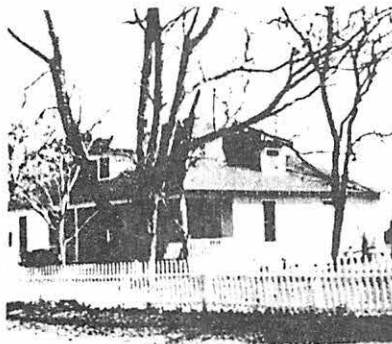


This building was constructed in 1921 and operated as a Cooperative Store until 1960. The structure became the Industry-West End Historical Meeting Building in 1985 when Lindemann Store gave the building to the Historical Society and Mr. and Mrs. Milton Huebner moved and restored it.

The Historical Society was founded when a group of citizens interested in preserving the area's heritage organized and on September 8, 1985 the Industry-West End Historical Society became a Texas State chartered Historical Society. The Society meets in this building on the second Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. and focuses on topics of local heritage, preservation and conservation.

Temporary exhibits designed for special events are shown during special Historical Society Openings of this building.

THE KAUTZ HOUSE

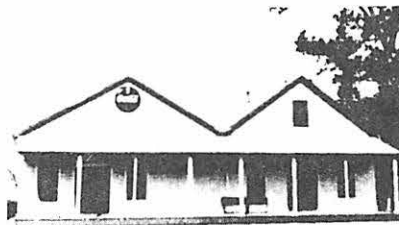


This house was built in 1924 on the Otto Kautz family farm two miles west of town. Fire destroyed the family's earlier home and Otto Kautz with the help of neighbors rebuilt this structure in 66 days.

In 1946 Kautz's widow, Pauline, and daughter, Ella, had the home moved to Industry to this present site. Electricity and butane gas were added at this time.

The home is presently owned by grandson, James Lindemann. It depicts life in the Kautz Home ca. 1925 with all authentic and original furnishings including an extensive collection of handmade fiber items created by Pauline Heinsohn Kautz and family members.

A comprehensive history of Industry, Texas was published by the Industry-West End Historical Society in 1986. The book entitled HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF INDUSTRY, TEXAS 1831-1986, is available from the Historical Society, P. O. Box 55, Industry, Texas 78944 at \$12.50 each [plus \$1.00 handling], total \$13.50.



This store building began as a general store in 1888 by Runkin and Hennings. The business existed in the town for 85 years, and many of those years it was under the ownership of the Weige family. It became the property of F. A. Weige in 1894, in 1908 a brother A. L. Weige purchased and operated the store. The business closed in 1973, but the structure still remains in the ownership of A. L. Weige grandchildren and functions as a storage building today.

THE METHODIST CHURCH



This sanctuary was dedicated in November, 1867. The structure received a Texas State Historical Marker one century later in 1967.

In 1978 the building was moved to its present location. Worship services were held in this structure for 90 years. From 1957 until 1978 the building served as the church Fellowship Hall. During the Sesquicentennial Celebration the historic building housed an impressive pictorial history of the church which is intended as a permanent and ongoing feature.

Wanted!

158

Items for upcoming exhibit: "Rhineland-Palatinate and Texas: Two Regions in Contact"

- PLACE - Mainz (West Germany) City Library
- DATE - June , 1988
- SPONSORED BY - Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
as part of a student exchange between
the University of Houston and the
University of Mainz
- WANTED - documents, photos, posters illustrating
the old and new links between the
Rhineland-Palatinate and Texas in general
as well as between Old Mainz and (New)
Mentz in particular
such as
books, children's books, marriage and baptism
certificates, photos of old homes, churches,
and Texas-German life in general, family
correspondence between the Texas immigrants
and their families in Germany
- CONTACT - Prof. Dr. Hans Galinsky
(for inquiries) Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
Postfach 3980 Welderweg 18
D-6500 Mainz
WEST GERMANY
Home phone: 06131-34279
- (for mailing
exhibits) Frau Bibliotheks-Direktorin
Geesche Wellmer-Brennecke
Stadtbibliothek, Rhein-Allee 3B
D-6500 Mainz
WEST GERMANY
Office phone: 06131-12 26 49

From
A A TREYBIG
Box 1234
EL CAMPO, TX 77437

OLDEST CITY WALL IN NORTHERN EUROPE DISCOVERED IN HILDESHEIM

The Bernward Wall, one of the most elaborate city fortifications of the early Middle Ages north of the Alps, was discovered recently near the cathedral courtyard in Hildesheim (Lower Saxony). The wall was built about 1001 during the time of Bishop Bernward (993-1022) and is considered the oldest city wall in northern Europe. Karl Bernhard Kruse, a spokesman for the Institute for Historic Preservation, said last Thursday (November 6) during a presentation of the excavations that the five-to-six-meter-high wall surrounded the cathedral citadel at the time of its construction. The discovery could be considered the most important find of this type in recent years, Kruse declared.

3 H-n., den 22.9.1987

H.Schuppmann
Treptowweg 49
D-3 Hannover 1

Sehr geehrte Frau Mathis El-Beheri!

Ihre Adresse habe ich aus der Norddeutschen Familienkunde.

Können Sie mir bitte behilflich sein, meine Familienkundlichen Forschungen zu vervollständigen?

So fand ich im "Deutsche Bürgerlichen Geschlechterbuch" Bd.15: Seite 71+72: "b. Marie Magdalene Karoline Hildegard, geb. Langselbold 22.2.1893; heiratet Sioux Falls 10.7.1913 Gustav Schuppmann, geb. 8.1.1982, +4.1919, Pastor u. Prof. d. Theologie (Clayton and Woodsmill Roads, Chesterfield, Mo., USA).

Die Marie Magd. Kar. Hildeg. war eine Tochter des Friedrich Louis Karl Breuchitsch.

Interessieren tut mich allerdings vor allen Dingen der Namensträger Schuppmann!

Entschuldigung: Die vorigen Angaben sind aus dem Adligen Geschlechterbuch, also nicht aus DGB.

Aber aus dem DGB oder aus dem Adligen Geschlechterb. sind auch noch diese Angaben, die sich mit den ersten zu widersprechen scheinen, nämlich: "Bd. 71, Seite 70: "Marie Magdalene Karoline Hildegard, geb. Langselbold 22.2.1893; natürlich Breuchitsch! heir. Lincoln, Nebraska, USA, 10.7.1913 Gustav Schuppmann, geb?, Texas, 14.2.1890, + St. Louis, Missouri, 28.11.1960, Pastor (806 Parkfield Terrace, Manchester, Missouri 63011, USA).

Natürlich sind die Angaben widersprüchlich.

Sind Sie in der Lage die Widersprüche aufzuklären?

Woher kam dieser Schuppmann? Wo aus Europa? Welcher Geburts- und Wohnort? Wer waren seine Eltern und Nachkommen? Leben diese heute noch und wo? Warum der unterschiedliche Heiratsort, Todesort und Datum, sowie Berufsangabe?

Natürlich werde ich Ihre Bemühungen bezahlen, Können Sie Fotokopien machen?

Dann noch eine Bitte!

Alle Militärangehörige sollen in den Military Service Record (NNCC) National Archives GSA, Washington, D.C. 20408 erfasst sein.

Könnten Sie es ermöglichen, dass alle Schup(p)mann, Schop(p)mann und Schubmann, sowie Bieck, für mich herausgesucht werden können?

Das betrifft natürlich auch und besonders alle aus der Vergangenheit. Vielen Dank für Ihre Bemühungen im Voraus!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

H. Schuppmann

Can somebody help with this?

The SUNDAY EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, July 26, 1987

Try Mason for a quiet weekend vacation spot

By LARRY D. HODGE
Special to the Express-News

MASON — Looking for a quiet weekend vacation spot that's undiscovered by the maddening crowd? That has beautiful Hill Country scenery — fragrant wildflowers, flowing streams, towering granite hills and abundant deer and wild turkey? That has great restaurants and shopping?

Then you're looking for Mason, a quiet, charming town. Local ways will tell you it is halfway between Art and Grit. Two other Mason County communities, Mason is located 34 miles west of Llano and 41 miles north of Fredericksburg at the intersection of U.S. Highway 87 and Texas 29.

Mason shares the German heritage of Fredericksburg, but it has an added Wild West element for a flavor all its own. German settlers spreading north from Fredericksburg were some of the county's earliest residents. Later, cattle ranchers moved into the area to take advantage of the county's abundant streams and pastures.

The town and county are still largely populated by descendants of these early settlers, and the entire area is steeped in history. In 1851 the United States Army established Fort Mason on a hill located on the southern side of the present town of Mason. Robert F. Lee was one of the distinguished soldiers who served here.

Fort Mason was abandoned in 1869, and stones from the fort buildings were used by local citizens to build businesses and homes throughout the city. Many still stand today, giving Mason a wealth of handsome, old sandstone architecture that is virtually unmatched in Texas.

Following the Civil War, cattle ranching became a major industry, and in the 1870s cattle rustling developed into a thriving sideline for a lawless element. The local sheriff seemed to be unable to deal with the problem. Lynch law took over, and the county erupted into a bloody feud called the Mason County War or the Hoodoo War. Before Texas Rangers

restored order, a dozen men lay dead.

For information on Mason, write the Mason County Chamber of Commerce at Box 156, Mason 76856, or call (915) 347-5758.

Fort Mason — A reconstruction of the officers' quarters stands atop Post Hill on the southern edge of Mason. The hill offers a sweeping view of Mason and the surrounding countryside. Follow the signs from U.S. Highway 87 south, or take Post Hill Street from the south side of the town square.

The Square — Dominated by the 1909 court house, the square is the commercial center of the county. Buildings around the square have recently undergone an extensive face lift to restore them to their original appearance. A walking tour of the buildings around the square is available from the Mason County Chamber of Commerce, itself located on the square's north side at 108 Fort McKavitt.

Mason National Register Historic District — This collection of some 30 historic commercial and residential structures reaches from downtown Mason to the site of Fort Mason. The dominant style of the houses is Victorian, and the white gingerbread detailing contrasts smartly with the earthy sandstone tones of the walls. Maps of the district are available from the Mason County Chamber of Commerce.

Sequist House — At 400 Broad St., north of the square. The three-story Victorian Sequist House is the finest example of masonry construction in Mason. Group tours are available by calling (915) 347-5413.

Historical Building — South of the square via Moody Street. This building, constructed of stone from Old Fort Mason, served for many years as the grammar school. The Mason County Museum (open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) is housed in the Historical Building.

Historical Architecture — In addition to the buildings around the square and in the National Register Historic District, Mason has many other buildings of architectural or historic interest. A drive around town reveals a profusion of Victorian architecture as well as some outstanding examples of the Bungalow or Craftsman style. One especially interesting type of structure is the concrete block house. A local craftsman cast the concrete in molds in his back yard, and many homes in the city are built of this interesting material that looks like cut stone.

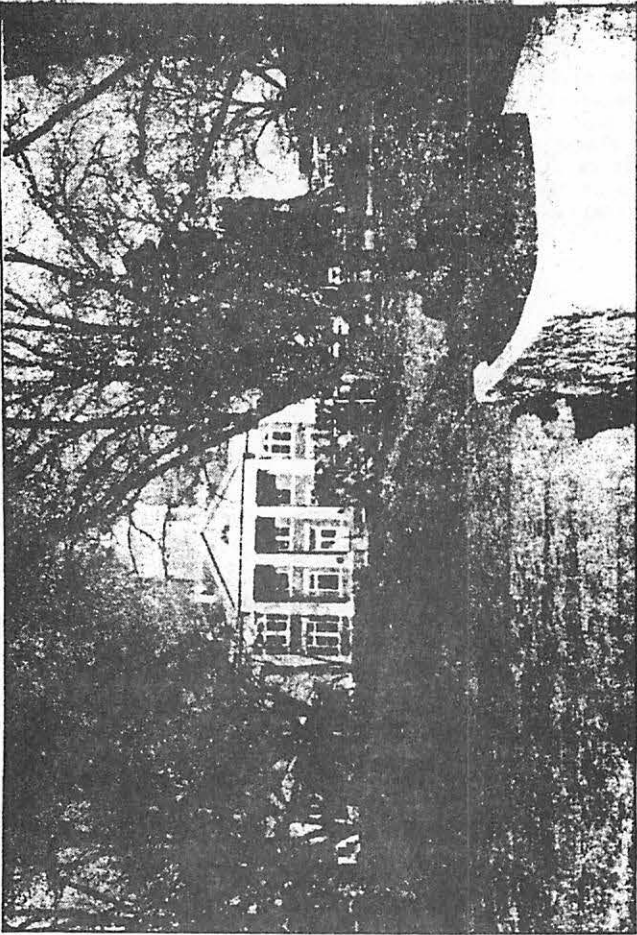
Koocksville — Located about a mile west of downtown Mason, Koocksville was the site of an early German settlement. William Koock built a two-story stone store building in the 1870s as the headquarters for his business supplying area ranchers and cattle drovers moving through the area.

Rock Fences — The most picturesque feature of the Mason County landscape is the rock fences which meander along creek banks and roads, through live oak groves and up the sides of granite hills. Inquire at the Mason County Chamber of Commerce for directions.

Topaz Huntin' — Hunt the state gem of Texas for a small daily fee. You keep what you find. For information, write or call Garner Sequist, Box 35, Mason 76856, (915) 347-5413, or Wesley Loeffler, Menard Route, Mason 76856, (915) 347-6415.

Scenic Beauty — In addition to the Llano and James rivers, numerous creeks drain the county, and winding country roads cross and re-cross the rivers and creeks, affording many opportunities to enjoy the scenery. Some of the most scenic views are along farm-to-market and county roads. Try Ranch Roads 1723, 2389 and 783 south of Mason. County roads off these highways also offer excellent wildflower viewing.

Hunting — Mason County is believed to have more white-tailed deer



A statue of a trail driver on the lawn of the Mason County Courthouse recalls the infamous Hoodoo War, said to be one of the worst feuds in Texas.

PHOTO BY LARRY HODGE

per acre than any other county in Texas. The Mason County Chamber of Commerce maintains a list of available deer leases.

Fishing and Water Sports — Fishing is a popular sport in the Llano River where catfish and bass abound. Luther Simon's fishing camp is on the Llano River 10 miles southwest of Mason on Ranch Road 1871. Simon offers water and electrical hookups for trailers. Write or call Luther Simon, Rucker Route Box 17, Mason 76856, (915) 347-6221.

Arts and Crafts — Mason has an

abundance of artists and craftspeople, some of whom are nationally known. Local shops such as Stuff-N-Such (U.S. 87 North), Dana's Monogramming (on the square), and Country Delights (U.S. 87 North) offer crafts made by area residents. Inquire at the Mason County Chamber of Commerce for a brochure listing area artists and crafters.

Local Color — Mason County is still a ranching area with working cowboys, although most of them ride four-wheeled Broncos rather than four-legged ones and catch maver-

icks with a sack of range cubes instead of a lasso. To see more pick-up trucks and cattle trailers than you thought possible, visit the Mason Livestock Auction just north of Texas 29 on the east side of Mason (turn at the Hill Country Veterinary Hospital). Sales are held every Thursday at 1 p.m., but you can watch the fun for free as long as you are careful not to scratch your nose while the bidding is going on.

Formerly from Austin, free-lance writer Larry Hodge visited Mason on a writing assignment and decided to make it his home.

GERMAN HERITAGE FOR NICKELS AND DIMES

By Helga von Schweinitz



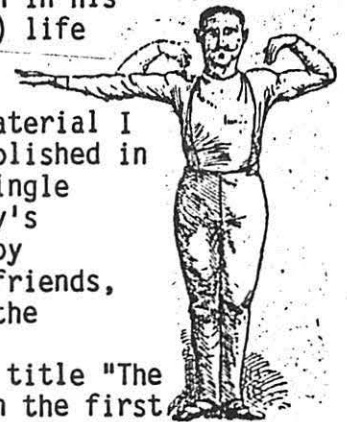
It's not depression glass I hunt for at estate sales. Pre-Columbian first editions are not what I hope to discover in our local Goodwill store and in the Salvation Army thrift shop. I am propelled to bargain centers by a rare affliction: I collect books and magazines related to the German-American heritage, most of them in German. They might have been one of the few tangible links to the culture an immigrant family came from; other books were once helping in the teaching of German; and then there were publications designed to fortify the reader of German in his moral standards and in his quest for a Christian and healthy (!) life style.

And what an amusing collection I have built up!

Being a teacher of German and in perpetual search of new material I started out with old school books. My absolute favorite was published in 1887 under the title "Classic German Course". There is not a single German word in that book. And we think we are too easy on today's students. "Beginners' German", 1933, accommodates the student by completely ignoring the "du", the pronoun used when talking to friends, family, God, animals and children. This way it eliminates all the problems with the verb forms after "du".

A surprise must have been the false promise implied by the title "The Easiest German Reading for Learners Young or Old", 1898, when on the first pages one finds such meaningful phrases as "...meine schwarze Henne, die legt Eier für Herren (...my little black hen, it lays eggs for gentlemen)" and "Braucht ein Hund eine Perücke? (Does a dog need a wig?)". It does make me wonder about educators in those days.

Compared to today's dialogs like "Guten Tag, wo ist der Bahnhof? (Good day, where is the station?)", the old books testify to a more pastoral time with "Hans trieb seine Kuh ruhig vor sich her (John drove his cow quietly in front of himself)", and to a more illustrious era in grammar excercises on The Absolute Accusative: "Der Kaiser sitzt im Untersberg, die goldene Krone auf dem Haupte (The Kaiser is sitting in the Untersberg, the golden crown on his head)".



"German Composition", 1909, startled me with the title of one of its short stories written in English: "The Babes in the Woods." Aha! I thought, finally an edifying piece of immorality among all these pages dripping with righteousness - and I was not disappointed: Two rich, orphaned children were taken into the forest to be killed so that their uncle could inherit their wealth. However, the hired killer changed his mind and left the babes in the woods where they died - slowly and painfully- from starvation. What was the lesson to be learned from that?

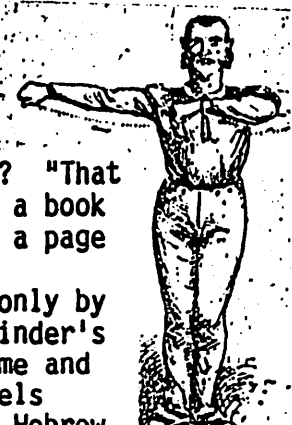
The American textbook publishers obviously had no problem with the change from the Kaiser to the Third Reich. Just the other day, while the news media had a feast because the White House had hired a man who had at the age of ten been a member of the Hitler Youth, our Goodwill store sold me "German, Book One", 1938, with a drawing of two boys in Hitler Youth uniform striding cheerfully across the cover.

Political adjustability is reflected even more drastically in my garage sale trophy "Perspectiven I", printed in 1975 by Madison Collective. It teaches German history and grammar according to the communist persuasion: Fred, an American student on vacation in East Berlin, demonstrates his capitalistic ways to Susan, who is impressed by what she has seen of socialism. "We American men are much stronger than the guys in the DDR, who can't even get Playboy," says Fred and puts his hand on her leg. "Nein, Fred, nicht beim Frühstück (No, Fred, not at breakfast)," snaps Susan, because first she wants to learn more about socialism.

I don't judge a book by its cover, of course, but I sure buy them for their outside looks. Fritz Reuter, ever so popular with the immigrants because he wrote in one of their north German dialects, has his bust on my edition of his works in solid gold. I am very partial to gold, anyhow. I have an 1887 copy of "Deutsche Dichtung" (German Literature) with such fine golden lines making the most exquisite pattern on the cover, and the pages are gilded - it would be a shame to read it.

Illustrations and pictures have a soft spot in my heart. Some are so unique or beautiful, they are just begging to be framed. Why not? "That is a crime too often committed by the illiterate collector," said a book dealer to me in horror, when I explained to him how I would frame a page of the "Gartenlaube" magazine.

Another book I bought for its cover aroused my interest not only by its gold but by the fact that the title was on its back. A bookbinder's mistake, I thought, surely a rare find. It wasn't until I got home and had found my reading glasses that I realized that the book, "Israels Gebete", printed in 1902 in Mainz, was a collection of prayers in Hebrew with their German translation on the opposite pages. In the Hebrew manner it has to be read starting at the end. Since so many Jewish books in Germany were destroyed during Hitler's reign I treasure this copy as a rare survivor.



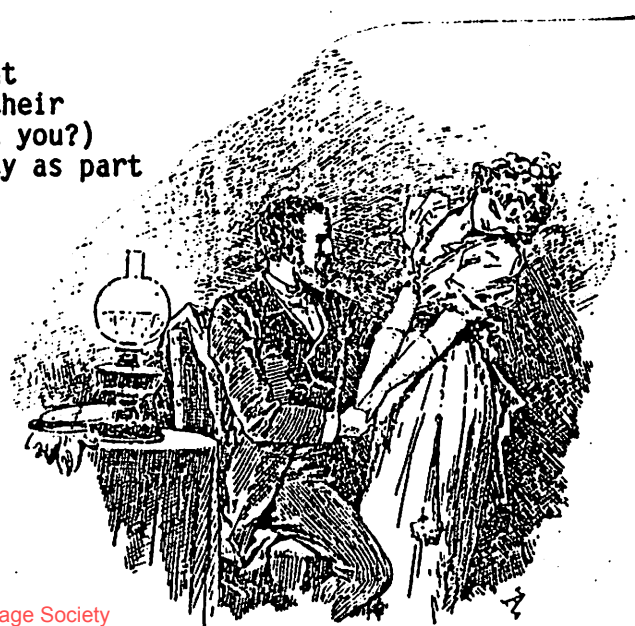
Amazing is the large number of health and fitness books that survived their owners, almost all of them imported from Germany. Their serious illustrations make them so much funnier than Jane Fonda's video tapes. There is the muscular gentleman, his pin-striped trousers secured by suspenders, his Kaiser Wilhelm moustache pointing in the proper political direction. He is doing his daily regiment of excerscises for mind, body and fatherland. The instructional sketches on these pages were copied from a book by Sebastian Kneipp, a Catholic priest and the apostle of a German fitness craze of years long gone. The "Kneipp Kur", however, with its alternating hot and cold water treatment, is to this day a favorite torture in German spas.

Some of my bargain books actually have to be read to be appreciated or to be banned from husbands' eyes, like, for example, the innocent looking "Ehstandsbüchlein" (On Marriage) which grandfather was supposed to read before he entered the state of holy matrimony: The most important quality to look for in a bride, it says in there, is her capacity to obey. If she talks back to her father she'll be quarrelsome for the rest of her life. Don't marry her. A wife must not insult the Lord's order of the world by feeling hurt when her husband unjustly punishes her. As everybody knows, his bad mood and evil temper are most likely brought about by her constant nagging.



Most novels and novellas I found were printed in America and have an obvious moral or religious message. If the hero is not the local pastor, there is at least a monk or some other man of the cloth to lead the virgin on the righteous path. According to the illustrations in "Am Altar" (At the Altar), a love story, the virtuous maiden never even looks a man in the face, she is always embarrassed, from page to page, even when a monk she knows just happens to come around the corner as she walks along a lonesome mountain path.

While the English speaking Miss Evelyn had the likes of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" for her clandestine reading pleasure, Fräulein Johanna in Fredericksburg was stuck with magazines and books touting Gehorsamkeit (obedience), Tugend (virtue) and Frauenfleiss (woman's enjoyment of endless work). Is it surprising then that Johanna learned English in a hurry? With all their moralizing and pontificating these books might have given their writers more pleasure than their readers - until now, when people like me (and you?) can enjoy them with slightly bemused curiosity as part of our history and heritage.



Helga von Schweinitz
 2319 Village Circle
 Austin, TX 78745
 512-441-2089

An excerpt from a letter written by men who had emigrated to the United States and wanted their wives to join them.

Sent to Marion Freeman, Houston, Texas, from Mr. Alfred Mayer of Ormesheim, Germany. It was found in the archives of Speyer, Germany. Translated by Ruth Kosieracki of Houston, Texas.

St. Marie
February 19, 1840

Dear Wives,

We wish to send you a Power of Attorney in order that you can sell everything which is ours and yours and start the journey to North America as soon as possible, as we did about 4 years ago. We are tired of being separated from you for such a long time.

We are of the opinion that you should sell everything immediately and give away what you cannot sell so that there will not be any further delay. Try to get to HAVER by April and come to New Orleans, because from there you can travel the fastest and safest. Book for EWENSWILL right from the start if you should plan to go to New Orleans. In any case, one of us will come and meet you at whichever place you arrive.

Do not take much clothes, only what you absolutely need, because it could get ruined at sea and there is plenty to be gotten here. Travel as light as possible.

Do the following with food stuff:

Fix cut noodles from white flour and eggs; they are very good; also dried prunes and dried pears as much as you can pack; potatoes, white flour and whatever else for cooking, onions, vinegar, let-out (melted) butter. Prepare it all at home. Also, buy smoked hame at home, because in HAVER everything is more expensive but not as good.

You can take along other food, but only something which can be cooked quickly and is easy to eat. Fatty items are not good.

Write to us as soon as you receive the letter and the money.

I wish for my sister Katharina to come with you, and Johann Schackman wants his mother, sister and brother-in-law to sell all of their belonging and come also.

After you receive the money, divide it between yourselves and pay the notary for auctioning off the land so that you can come as soon as possible. Send us word from HAVER with the name of the ship you are travelling on. Make sure that you book on a 3-mast ship.

In case you engage a waggoner tell him that he should load and weigh your belongings in MERLEBACH. (Note: This is the first place at the border of France). However, if you can manage to load everything on Johann's wagon for the trip to HAVER, then do so. Bring the wagon with you to America. Should you be unable to bring it in one piece then break it apart and bring the axle and "naben (?)" Should you decide to buy a horse make sure you buy a nice and heavy one, because a poor horse is worthless in HAVER; on the other hand you will receive more than what you paid for a good one.

We shall close this letter and send all of you our best, also our relatives and friends. We are waiting for your reply and for a happy reunion.

The address: J. Piquet, Jasper County	Balthasar Bauer
St. Marie of Illinois, North Amerique	George Schackman
via Vincennes	Johann Schackmann

(Written crosswise on the last page):

A man for whom one should have pity and whose name is Johann Schackmann could be helped by a nice looking girl, with a face as round as an apple and as sweet as a lamb, with a nice figure and legs, who possesses not only silver pennies but whole coins (Thaler).

The letter varries the following post marks;

St. Marie, Illinois	February 23
New York	March 11
LeHavre	April 17
Paris	April 18
Forbach	April 19 (where the letter was addressed to)

From:

Marion M. Freeman
(Mrs. J. H. Freeman)
2163 Swift
Houston, TX 77030

Traditional sweet German wines changing image, becoming drier

The new buzz word in German wine is "trocken" or "dry." After a week in several of Germany's major wine growing regions I can safely say that if you are not drinking their new trocken style wines, you could get as dry as any flower bed after a waterless week in the Texas sun.

Traditionally German wines have ranged from slightly sweet and fruity to extremely sweet. Even their quality gradations are based upon the sugar content in the grape at the time of harvest, with the highest relating to the highest quality.

These quality designations correspond to the degree of ripeness of the grapes and are expressed in degrees Ochsle. One degree of Ochsle equates to one gram of pure alcohol per liter after fermentation.

10 percent alcohol

To get this back to something that even I can understand, 80 degrees Ochsle equals 80 grams per liter of alcohol or about 10 percent by volume of alcohol. Most American wines run in the range of 11 percent to 13.5 percent of alcohol.

The quality designations in ascending order are: QBA (Qualitätswein bestimmter Anbaugebiete), Kabinett (reserve), Spätlese (late harvest), Auslese (selected bunches of grapes), Beerenauslese (selected individual grapes) and Trockenbeerenauslese (selected individual berries that have become dried).

The sugar content on these range, respectively, from 50 to 150 degrees Ochsle. These equate to potential alcohol contents of from 6 percent to over 20 percent by volume, although alcohol contents of over 16 percent are seldom reached by fermentation.

The traditional sweetness of German wines is not an accident, according to Dr. Franz Werner Michel, co-director of the German Wine Institute.

"After the last war, Germans were very much interested in sweet

S.A. EXPRESS-NEWS

Bill Stephens



“Now (it has become) very fashionable for Germans to drink dry wine.”

— Dr. Franz Werner Michel

things," said Dr. Michel at a dinner given at Schloss Johannisberg's Burg Scharstein Restaurant, "so the wine industry made their wines to suit that taste."

Gone forever

But those days are gone forever, apparently. "German wine writers made such a fuss about dry wine that it is now very fashionable for Germans to drink dry wine," said Michel, "consequently, most of our production is going toward the trocken wines."

The jury is still out on the question of whether or not this is good for the overall German wine picture. Both Dr. Michel and the managing director of Schloss Johannisberg had reservations that stemmed from the feeling that the export market might become confused if the style of German wine were to suddenly change.

In my opinion, the trocken wines as they exist might experience some marketing resistance in the United States due to their style. Almost across the board, the trocken wines are stylistically much thinner, less rounded and less balanced with fruit than similar wine styles with which Americans are familiar.

There is probably a good technical reason for this. Historically, the Ger-

mans have achieved their residual sweetness by the use of a process called "sweet reserve." Simply stated, they ferment the wine to complete dryness, filter out the yeast, then add back unfermented grape juice in quantities of up to 10 percent by volume, thereby adding sugar and the fresh fruit flavors of the juice.

Fruitiness gone

In a trocken wine, they ferment the wine to dryness and that's it. They can no longer rely on the fresh grape juice to add the fruitiness required to offset the high acid in the wine. The keytones and esters that create fruit flavors are not available after fermentation in sufficient quantity to accomplish this.

So how do you solve this? The University of California at Davis developed a technique using very cold, slow fermentations which leave the existing keytones and esters intact, thereby accomplishing a balance between fruit and the residual acid.

But the German winemakers with which I discussed this problem seemed reluctant to even discuss the matter — partly, I am sure, because their wines are now well received in their country, and a fruitier wine

may be perceived by the public to again be sweet.

The problem as I perceive it seemed to exist much more in the Rheingau and Rheinpfalz regions than in the other wine regions we visited. As an example, the Sylvaner Trocker wines of the Rheinhessen Region were across the board much more in balance than the Riesling Trockens from other regions. The nature of this grape is a much softer, rounded character, and this seems to carry over into the trocken wines.

There is in fact, a generic label which will be introduced into this country, "RS Rheinhessen Sylvaner Trocken," which I predict will be successful in our market due to its overall balance and roundness.

Farther south in the Württemberg region we regularly found Riesling trocken wines with good fruit balance, but these are sucked up by the locals and will probably not reach our shores.

Trockens with food

As we were led from bounteous feasts to glorious repasts in Germany's best restaurants, the problem of German wine with food was addressed. Invariably they trotted out the trocken when they wanted to show off a food item spectacularly.

As the week progressed and we tipped trocken after trocken, I went from a mild disapproval to leaving with the feeling that there is definitely a place for these new style wines, particularly at the dinner table.

Whether they will be a plus in the United States market will not be so much a measure of the wines' quality — for surely they are some of the best-made wines in the world — as on the manner in which they are marketed and the quality of the wine-writing on this subject.

San Antonio wine expert Bill Stephens writes a weekly column for the Wednesday Express-News Food section.

Bitte kommen Sie alle, bringen Sie Freunde!
Come y'all, bring friends!

Deutsches Kaffeekränzchen

Dec. 5:

2 p.m. for Kaffee at Marie Weiss' at 2106 Tison, Brenham, RSVP 836-7280 (Brenham)

Dec. 19:

12:00 Lunch and tree trimming at Lisa's farm in Round Top.

FROM LISA KAHN

Unmarked Graves of Two Early German Lutheran Church Cemeteries in Washington County 1857-1900

Searching for burials of ancestors and other family members may be unsuccessful in cemeteries unless registered in the church or family bible. Cemeteries of the first two Lutheran Churches in Washington County, Ebenezer Lutheran Church of Berlin, founded in 1855, and Salem Lutheran Church, 1856, have many unmarked graves dating to the early years of the German settlement of this area. There are rows of graves, unmarked, of infants and children in the Salem cemetery, dating pre-1900.

Most burials in the county, including family cemeteries, are recorded in Cemetery Records of Washington County, Texas, 1826-1960, by Judy and Nath Winfield, Jr. (of Chappell Hill) 1974. The listing below from the records of Ebenezer Lutheran Church (Church Records of the Pioneer German Families of Berlin, Texas, Translated and Transcribed from the Records of Ebenezer Lutheran Church at Berlin, Texas. By Dr. Edward C. Breitenkamp, Bryan, and Dr. Jack Autrey Dabbs of Austin, 1980), and Records of Salem Lutheran Church, Brenham, Texas. 1856-1940. (compiled, Transcribed and Translated by Dr. Jack Autrey Dabbs, Austin, and Dr. Edward C. Breitenkamp, Bryan.) 1986. The unmarked graves from the Ebenezer Lutheran Church according to the church records above, and are not listed in the cemetery record book 1868-1881:

Friederich Bankoni died 18 December, 1868. Born 12 December, 1868, son of Friederich Bankoni from Prussia.

Heinrich Phillip Heine died 25 December, 1868. Born 16 March, 1866. Son of Heinrich Kasparua Heine from Halem, Holland.

Johann Feyt died 17 February, 1869. Born 1835, in Bohemia.

Emilie Quade died 27 June, 1869. Born 27 December, 1867. Daughter of Wilhelm and Julianna Riede Quade from the Duchy of Poznzn, Kingdom of Prussia.

Maria Dorothea Wilhelmine Gruenhagen Sternberg died 28 June, 1869. Born 3 June, 1841, in the Duchy of Schaumberg-Lippe. She was the wife of Heinrich Wilhelm Sternberg.

Anna Johanna Mueller died 2 August, 1869. Born 13 July, 1868, daughter of Johann Adolph August Mueller and wife Dorothea Viereck Mueller of Laaslich, Prussia.

Leonore Pesch died 2 September, 1869. Born 14 January, 1859, daughter of Wilhelm and Dorothea Pesch from Perleberg, Prussia.

Wilhelm Henrichsen died 10 September, 1869, at the age of 56 years. He was born in Schleswig-Holstein.

Sophie Caroline Schulz Pietsch died August, 1869. Born 9 July, 1849, Brandenburg, Prussia.

Michael Neinast (Neynais/Neuast) died 28 September, 1869. Born 19 September, 1790.

Heinrich August Fischer died 11 October, 1869. Born 27 August, 1869. Son of Fritz and Caroline Kiehl Fischer from Winslar, Kingdom of Hanover.

Sophie Wiebusch died 18 November, 1869. Born 18 May 1838 in Westphalia. Left five minor children.

August Wiebusch died 19 August, 1870. Born 16 August, 1869, son of George and Dorothea Heidorn Wiebusch.

Rosine Wilhelmine Caroline Reich died 21 September, 1870. Born 21 November, 1869, daughter of Carl and Wilhelmine Charlotte Buck Reich.

Marie Wilhelmine Sternberg died 25 September, 1870. Born 28 January, 1863, daughter of Heinrich and Marie Gruenhagen Sternberg.

Johann Wilhelm Paulus died 8 October, 1870. Born 21 January, 1850.¹⁶⁷ Son of Johann Wilhelm Paulus and his wife Rosine Breinig Paulus from Beerfelder, Kreis Erbach, Grand Duchy of Hesse.

Amalia Luise Charlotte Wiebusch Gorke died 24 August, 1871. Born 13 October, 1848. Wife of Bernhardt Gorke from Weden, Prussia.

Marie Sophie Wiebusch died 4 July, 1871. Born 21 August, 1870, daughter of Georg and Dorothea Heine Wiebusch.

Carl Tierke died 31 August, 1871. Age 40. He was from Serno, Province of Anhalt-Dessau.

Christian Kort died 29 October, 1871. Born 10 March, 1826 in Wittenberg-Saxony. Married in 1859. Survivors: Widow and seven children.

Christine Frederike Reichberger died 4 January, 1872. Born 11 November, 1871, daughter of Johann and Frederike Ladewig Reichberger.

Carl August Grassmuck died 7 May, 1873. Born 4 December, 1870, son of Anton and Auguste Schulfleisch Grassmuck.

Marie Luise Mueller died 29 May, 1873. Born 27 December, 1803. Wife of Johann Mueller from Perleberg, Brandenburg. Five children survive.

Johann Abel died 5 December, 1873. About 50 years of age. Widower of Wilhelmine Liege Abel from Poland.

Johann Louis Niemand died 19 March, 1874. Born 23 January, 1834. Husband of Anna Knippenberg from Neuenlande, Hanover.

Frederike Wilhelmine Sophie Bode died 17 April, 1874. Daughter of Wilhelm Bode from Rosenthal, Hanover, and his wife Henriette Spreen Bode from Wehdem, Kreis Lubeke, Westphalia.

Robert Julius Luedke died 14 June, 1874. Born 21 July, 1872, son of Edward Luedke from Kiskowo, Gnesen, Poznan, and his wife Johanna Hoerer Luedke from Springberg Wongrowitz.

Henriette Spreen Bode died 15 October, 1874. Born 18 November, 1845 in Wehdem, Westphalia, wife of Wilhelm Bode from Rosenthal, Hanover.

Heinrich Christ died 8 October, 1874. Born in October, 1802, in Berne, Switzerland. Husband of Marie Lange Christ from Perleberg, Westprignitz (Brandenburg)

Melita Sara Greger died 6 February, 1875. Born 4 January, 1875, daughter of August and Hulda Jahns Greger.

Edward Luedke died 29 February, 1876. Born 22 February, 1825, in Kiskowo, Kreis Gnesen. Husband of Johanna Hoerer Luedke from Springberg, Wongrowitz, Poznan. Nine of eleven children survive.

Rosine Mina Luedke died 16 March, 1876. Born 1 November, 1870, daughter of Eduard and Johanna Hoerer Luedke.

Georg Muehlberger died 12 July, 1876. Born 4 September, 1827, in Niederbronn, Alsace. Died while visiting in New York. Husband of Christine Marie Steinmann Muehlberger from Milla on the Werra, near Eisinach. Five sons and 3 daughters survive.

Friederich Wilhelm Eduard Groene died 5 August, 1876. Born 1 July, 1876, son of Heinrich Groene from Wehdem, Westphalia, and his wife Julianna Haubelt Groene from Laidmer, Bohemia.

Johann Carl Eduard Glatzert died 7 December, 1876. Born 15 January, 1860, son of Johann Glatzert from Urschkan, Silesia, and his wife Auguste Gräschke Glatzert from Rosderdorf, Kreis Breslau.

Emma Plewan died 17 August, 1876. Born 23 April, 1876, daughter of Valentin and Franziska Jahn Plewan from Wigstadel, Silesia.

Joachim Ferdinand Krueger died 19 January, 1877. Born 24 October, 1874, son of Wilhelm Krueger from Brese, Westprignitz, Brandenburg, and wife Frederike Karner Krueger from Oberleningen, Wuerttemberg.

Magdalena Imhoff Kuhn died 10 October, 1877. Born 5 July, 1849, in Euserthal, Amt Anweiler, Rhine-Bavaria. Wife of Edmund Kuhn from Rutersville, Fayette County. She immigrated in 1868. Survivors, three minor children.

August Otto Greger died 29 June, 1878. Born 15 October, 1870, son of August Greger from Gross-Gollo, Wongrowitz, and his wife Hulda Jahns from Schocken, Wongrowitz.

Auguste Jahnke died 10 September, 1878. Born 6 November, 1861, daughter of August Jahnke from Laaslich, Westprignitz, Brandenburg, and his wife Wilhelmine Kieke Jahnke from Neuhausen, near Perleberg.

Friederich Ernst Fischer died August, 1879. Born 27 September, 1879, son of Wilhelm and Dorothea Heine Fischer.

Anna Margretha Bischoff died 8 November, 1879. Born 25 October, 1855, in Bruchhoefen, Hanover. Stepfather, Dietrich Nienstedt, mother, Margretha Bischoff.

Signund August Rudolph Jahnke died 23 May, 1880. Born 18 November, 1878, son of August and Wilhelmine Kieke Jahnke.

Johann Heinrich Wiebusch died 6 October, 1880. Born 22 March, 1802, in Hasberger, near Osnabrueck. Wife, Josephine Nichoues Wiebusch died in 1856. Sons: Friederich Bernhard, Clemens Christian Wilhelm, Theodor Eduard.

Ida Sternberg Menk died 30 June, 1881. Born 1 December, 1859, in Berlin, Washington County, Texas. Husband, Julius Menk.

Unmarked graves in the Salem Lutheran Church Cemetery according to the church records, and not listed in the cemetery book (Cemetery Records of Washington County, Texas. 1826-1960.) Adults only are listed below for 1857-1897:

Wilhelmine Spreen died 17 February, 1857.

C. Maria Elisabeth Mernitz Hofmann died 18 November, 1860. Age 20 years.

Friederich Eicholt died 10 March, 1861. Age 35 years.

Henriette Wilhelmine Grause Hofmann died 25 September, 1861 at age 26 years. (Wife of Johann Jost Hofmann of Berlin.)

Peter Hahnke died 22 March, 1862. Age 35 years, 18 days.

Ludwig Zabel died 6 November, 1862. Age 56 years.

Gottfried Weiss died 7 August, 1863. Age 32 years, 4 months.

Henriette Rathke died 16 September, 1863. Age 35 years.

Sophie Meier died 2 August, 1862. Age 20 years.

Friederich Hagemeyer died 3 July, 1864. Age 60 years.

Christine E. Susanne Binding died 15 June, 1865. Age 18 years, 2 months, 7 days.
Daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Binding.

_____ ? Winkelmann died 13 October, 1865. Age 57 years, 1 month, 15 days.

Albertine Jahnke Bode died 2 August, 1866. Age 26 years, 7 months, 18 days. Wife
of Wilhelm Bode.

Engel Emshoff died 4 August, 1866. Age 25 years, 7 months, 14 days.

Friederich Hodde died 6 August, 1866. Age 23 years, 29 days.

Caroline Neumann died 8 August, 1866. Age 40 years.

Julius Friske died 5 October, 1866. Age 30 years.

Wilhelm Emschoff died 20 July, 1867. Age 55 years.

Louise Gorgas died 19 August, 1867. Age 27 years, 9 months.

Chatrina Hahnke died 9 February, 1870. Age 73 years, 1 month, 16 days.

Mina Koch Meier died 13 January, 1872. Age 29 years, 10 months, 9 days.

_____ ? Oldmann Tiemann died 31 August, 1872. Age 61 years, 4 months, 3 days.

Wilhelmine Husemann died 6 August, 1873. Age 70 years.

Carl Wolf died 11 August, 1873. Age 34 years, 2 days.

Julia Wilhelmine Rabe Meyer died 30 August, 1873. Age 42 years, 11 months, 17 days.

Carl Hodde died 19 September, 1873. Age 22 years, 11 months.

Andreas Lange died 23 September, 1873. Age 67 years.

Friederich Pluckhahn died 7 April, 1875. Age 51 years.

Christine Jahnke died 30 July, 1875. Age 34 years, 1 month, 8 days.

Johann Wehrmann died 13 January, 1876. Age 84 years, 3 months, 20 days.

Carl Gierke died 1 February, 1877.

Johann W. Rodenbeck died 5 April, 1877. Age 57 years.

Dorothea Stempel Kiecke died 1878. Age 64 years, 6 months.

Christian Dittmann died 15 August, 1878. Age 35 years, 3 months, 21 days.

Ida Junker Neumann (Adolph) died 28 February, 1878. Age 25 years, 10 months, 12 days.

Hermine Neumann died 7 March, 1879. Age 27 years, 9 months, 3 days.

Gottlob Eugen Emanuel Schlenker died 21 June, 1879. Age 23 years, 3 months, 18 days

Dorothea Elisabeth Abel died 26 December, 1879. Age 19 years, 2 months, 24 days.

August Luedke died 8 June, 1885. Born 27 June, 1856, in Fellin, Bradenburg.
Buried in Sigismund Neumann Cemetery.

Ludwig Albrecht died 26 December, 1885. Age 56 years. Born near ¹⁷⁰Gross Golle, Poznan.

Wilhelmine Steinbach died 31 May 1886. Born in Washington County 1 June, 1869, daughter of Johann and Frederike Kagler Steinbach.

Ernestine Schmidt Weidner died 24 July, 1886. Born 7 October, 1859, in Kutschewo, Poznan. Daughter of Martin and Wilhelmine Schmidt. Husband, Julius Weidner, daughters Ida, Bertha, Martha.

Sophie Gaskamp Zwahr died 8 November, 1886. Born 21 April, 1865 in Ahrenkamp near Dielingen, Westphalia. Daughter of Friederich and Elisabeth Vordemfeldt Gaskamp. Wife of Ernst Zwahr of Sandy Creek.

Henriette Kramer Dinklage died 6 December, 1886. Born 17 July, 1857, in Wehdem, Westphalia, daughter of Friederich and Wilhelmine Holtmann Kramer. Husband, Christoph Dinklage.

Wilhelm Koch died 14 September, 1887. Born 19 December, 1838, in Abbendorf near Wilsnak, Brandenburg. Widow, Meta Meyerdierks Koch. Children, Anna, Wilhelmine, Richard, Carl, Mathilde, Albert, August.

Herman Heinrich Christian Salomon died 29 December, 1887. Born 20 June, 1836, in Seehausen, near Magdeburg.

Henriette Louise Kolwes died 26 May, 1888. Born 7 September, 1869 in Wehdem, Westphalia. Daughter of August and Henriette Placke Kolwes of Wehdem.

Gerhard Heinrich Holle died 8 October, 1888. Born 26 March, 1851, in Brokum, Hanover. Son of Heinrich and Margaretha Bick Holle.

Louise Rabe Renneberg died 9 October, 1888. Born 22 October, 1822, in Dielingen, Westphalia. Widower, Ludwig Renneberg. Children, Karl, Minnia, Henriette, Heinrich.

Johanna Marie Schulze Meyer died 3 August, 1889. Born 2 May, 1864, in Washington County. Daughter of Friederich and Mina Wiede Schulze. Husband Heinrich Meyer.

Johann Joachim Draehn died 9 November, 1889. Born 14 August, 1840, in Rentz near Bresch, Brandenburg. Son of Johann and Dorothea Berthelt Draehn. Widow, Karoline Hastedt Draehn. Children, Wilhelm and Minna.

Karl Heinrich Friederich Schambrick died 7 June, 1892. Born 30 April, 1830.

Wilhelm Specht died 8 May, 1895. Born 9 October, 1835, in Legde, Brandenburg. Widow, son, step-daughter and brother survive.

Georg Grossmann died 9 October, 1895. Born 20 October, 1844, in Reinheim, Hesse-Darmstadt. Survivors, widow and 7 year old son.

Heinrich Kettler died 23 May, 1896. Born 31 October, 1877, in Diehling. Parents, Chr. and Sophie Klenke Kettler.

Julius Weidner died 20 May, 1897. Born 13 February, 1852, in Wittkowo, Kreis Gnesen, Poznan. Widow Auguste Haack Weidner and 4 children.

Wilhelmine Holtmann Kramer died 7 December, 1897. Born 28 March, 1833, in Wehdem, Kreis Luebecke, Westphalia. Widower, Friederich, and 3 daughters survive. Eight children predeceased.

Elizabeth Lehmann Brenham

History Of Shelby Given By Dr. Darrell Schulze

The Industry-West End Historical Society held its July meeting in Shelby at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Dr. Darrell Schulze, a professor at Purdue University and a native of Shelby, presented the program in which he outlined a chronological history of Shelby up to the turn of the century.

In 1822 David Shelby, a 23-year-old Pennsylvania born single man, came to Texas with Stephen Austin's original 300 settlers. Being single only entitled Shelby to 1/3 of a league of land, but with partners James Fraiser and John McCormick, the group received an entire league which was located in southern Austin County near the present town of Wallis. In 1827 David Shelby entered into a contract of marriage with Rachel Hodge. This further entitled Shelby to receive an additional 2/3 league of land. This additional land was located where the present day town of Shelby is situated.

During the 1836 Texas Revolution, David Shelby and his wife were compelled to join other settlers fleeing from the advancing Mexican army. This became known as the "Runaway Scrape." Orders were given to burn everything that could not be carried off with the fleeing settlers thus preventing the Mexican Army any benefit from supplies or provisions left behind. Sometime after the war ended in the early 1840's David Shelby relocated his home to Northwest Austin County on his additional 2/3 league of land. This marked the beginning of the establishment of Shelby, Texas.

An 1899 Austin County History by Trenckmann states that during the 1840's a water powered mill was established in the vicinity along Skull Creek. It is not clear who built the mill, but Otto von Roeder, a member of the German von Roeder family who settled in Cat Spring in 1834, financed and was involved in its operation. It is from this mill that the area became referred to by the German name "Roedersmuehle" or Roeder's Mill.

Skull Creek was dammed off to create water power to run a water wheel which turned the grinding stone. An artifact-an iron paddle-

owned by Couvin Schlabach was displayed and is believed to be a part of the mechanics of this mill. Specific mention was made regarding the mill's operation in the fact that people of the area traveled long distances to have their grain ground at Roeder's Mill. Dr. Schulze believes that grinding stone used at the mill was imported since no native stone suitable for this job exists. It is also likely that the creek did not have an adequate year round water supply to operate the mill. In 1845 when August Vogelsang became the mill's owner, it was converted to horse power.

When the Republic of Texas became a state of the United States the settlement acquired a U. S. Post Office. On May 22, 1846, David Shelby was made postmaster and the name Shelby began being used to refer to the place. In time the name Roeder's Mill waned and Shelby became the official place name.

David Shelby died in 1872 and in 1936 the Texas Centennial Commission erected a marker to honor him. This monument can be seen two miles from town on what is today the Vallen Ranch.

Early school classes were held in individual homes, but in 1854 the teacher, Mr. Suerth, conducted classes in the first community school house. This building existed on the site of today's Lutheran church property.

During the latter of 1800's the Shelby community was thriving. A number of organizations verify that fact. There was an Agricultural Society known by the German name "Landwirtschaftlicher Verein". This group was believed to have ties with the famous Cat Spring Agricultural Society.

Shelby had a German Singing Society or "Gesangverein" as early as 1852. In 1858 this group was led by; C. Doss who had been a court singer in Germany with King Friedrich Wilhelm IV's court. In 1875 a singing group was founded by Emil Trenckmann. H. Otto was an active early leader and member of this group which called itself the "Harmonie Verein". This musical group built a hall in 1883 and had 40 active

members in 1899. It is still an active organization in the community today.

In 1865 an orchestra was begun under the direction of Adolph Plentl. The "Shelby Opera Troupe" also existed in early times. This group presented plays and musical entertainment under the direction of Mrs. Emil Trenckmann.

All of these organizations validate the claim that the early settlers of this area were a cultural minded group. Infact, the area from Shelby to the town of Latium seven miles away in Washington, Co., was known as the "Lateiner Siedlung" or Latin settlement in reference to the concentration of well-educated settlers living in the area.

During the Civil War Years of 1861 and 1865 a Confederate Unit, Company G of the 4th Regiment of Texas Calvary, was organized in the Shelby area. Surrounding area men gathered at the Christian Brandt home before departing for the war. (Today this property is owned by Arno Krebs Jr.)

The history of Shelby's church began in 1876 when the Lutheran minister, Rev. Moegle, began the community's first congregation. For 20 years Rev. Moegle actively worked with this congregation before retiring. Rev. Fruehling arrived next and established "Die Friedens Gemeinde" which translates to Peace Lutheran Church. This name was misleading since things were not always peaceful. Dissention occurred when the minister insisted that baptisms and marriages could be performed only in the church. This disagreement was taken to court for settlement, but the case was dismissed, leaving the issue for the church to decide. The result was a division that caused 20 members to separate from the church and to form a separate Lutheran church. A new church building was constructed for \$250 and a short time later "Peace Lutheran Church" dissolved and the congregation has existed as St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

In 1899 Shelby had 3 general stores, 3 saloons, 2 gins, a blacksmith shop, a saddle shop, 2 doctors with a drug store, a hotel, a tinsmith and various craftsman and tradesmen. There were 2 long distance telephone lines and twice a day mail service. These statistics are evidence that the town was a thriving and active community for a long period of time.

The Historical Society meeting concluded in the historic church building where exhibits and displays were viewed during a special hour.

proud heritage

172

The Dallas County Pioneer Association has compiled this book of histories of families in Dallas County, Texas, prior to January 1, 1880. These histories, which are of varying length, style and content, represent family tradition as well as researched information.

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123

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*From
Fredericks
Richter
De Berry*

**Eric
Gerber**



German Day

News on the march! Items and itemettes from the desk of Ed Cetera...

Once upon a time, there used to be something called German Day.

Observed each Oct. 6, it commemorated the arrival of the first German settlers in America on that day back in 1683. As you might expect, this national day of recognition was discontinued during WWI. Briefly reinstated afterwards, it died out with WWII.

Since 1983 — the tricentennial of German immigration — German Day has slowly been regaining acceptance, and this summer Congress officially re-established it.

Here in Houston, that should be of more than passing interest. This town has a considerable — though not always obvious — German-American heritage.

In fact, this community was known as Germantown *before* it became Houston in 1836. And we continued to have a "Germantown" area (two, actually) long afterward. Some estimates of the Germanic population in Houston during the 19th century were as high as 40 to 45 percent.

As elsewhere, WWI had a chilling effect on Houston's German traditions. What was once called German Street, for instance, was changed to Canal. German Society Cemetery became Washington Cemetery.

But Houston's German heritage wasn't completely expunged. Too many influential members of the city were irrevocably German-American for that to happen. People like Binz, Stude, Henke, Hermann, Meyer, Settegast, Usener, Bering, to rattle off some familiar names.

German-Americans didn't develop Houston single-handedly, but they played a more important role than most modern Houstonians might give them credit for.

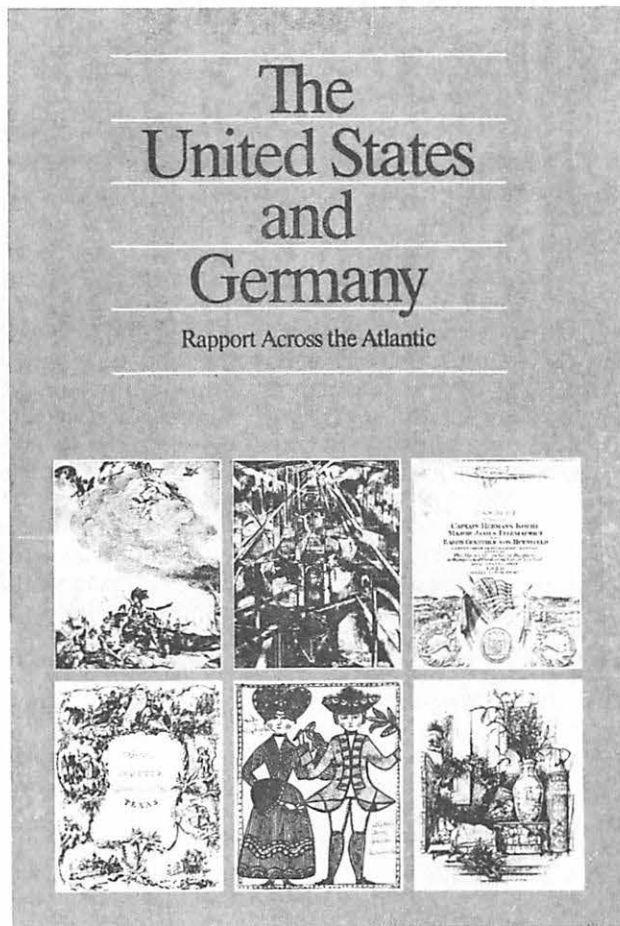
All of which is prologue to this: German Day will be celebrated this Sunday at Bavarian Gardens beginning at 3 p.m. The consul general of Germany and UH German Professor Theodore Gish will speak. Folk dancers and singers will perform.

Just as everybody's Irish on St. Patrick's Day, everybody's German on German Day. So the general public's invited.

Thinking about attending the German Day festivities, but need a little more convincing? The annual Heights Festival will be held that same day. You can meander along Heights Boulevard, then swing by Bavarian Gardens (also in the Heights).

This year's theme for the festival is the Fabulous Fifties, so you might want to dress accordingly.

Of course, if you're going to German Day, you might want to dress for that occasion as well. Lederhosen and a ducktail? Groovy, mein herr...



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175

5th Annual Weyand Reunion Is Held

Fayette County Record 5/5/87

The descendants of Henry and Anna (Dickmann) Weyand met for their fifth annual reunion at Tumis' Camphouse near La Grange on April 26.

A covered dish meal was served at noon. The afternoon was spent in fellowship.

There were 50 members in attendance. The oldest members was Ruby Keilers of Oldenburg. The youngest member was Bradley Kuhn, son of Ricky and Cheryl Kuhn of La Grange. The longest married were Quintos and Ruby Keilers of Oldenburg. The most recent married were Gary and Glenda Weyand of Brenham.

It was decided to have another reunion next year.

Wessels Reunion Is Held At Prairie Valley Sept. 13

The 32nd annual Wessels reunion was held Sunday, Sept. 13 at the Plum Hermann Sons Hall in Prairie Valley with 62 in attendance.

The prayer before the noon meal was given by Bobby Huenefeld.

A short business meeting was held with Martin Baker, presiding. The minutes of the previous year were read by the secretary, Charleen Koopmann. The treasurer's report was given by Laura Havemann.

A moment of silent prayer was observed in memory of George Wessels Sr. who passed away since the last reunion.

Those honored with silver dollars were oldest man present, Alvin Wessels of Smithville; oldest lady present, Leona Tramp of Smithville; youngest child present, Neal Wessels, son of Harold and Donna Wessels from Smithville; traveling the farthest distance, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Tramp and Charles from Cleburne; most recently married couple, Martin and Donna Baker of Houston; couple married the longest, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Raschke, 50 years.

The door prize of a handmade quilt, made and donated by Leona Tramp, was won by Dennis Wessels. Laura Havemann and Dennis Wessels volunteered to donate a door prize for next year.

Ruth Petty and Audrey Huenefeld agreed to take care of entertainment for the next reunion.

It was agreed by everyone to have the reunion next year at the same place and have the same type of noon meal. The afternoon was spent playing cards, pitching horseshoes and renewing acquaintances.

Auslandsstudium

"Haben Sie schon gehört, dass das Fräulein Kringel ins Ausland fährt, um Gesang zu studieren?"

"Nein. Woher nimmt sie denn das viele Geld?"

"Das haben ihr die Nachbarn zum Geburtstag geschenkt!"

* * *

Ärztlicher Rat

"Herr Doktor! Was soll ich bloss gegen meine rote Nase tun?"

"Wenn sie rot von Geburt ist, lässt sich nichts dagegen machen. Ist sie aber vom Trinken rot geworden, müssen Sie tüchtig weitertrinken, dann wird sie eines Tages violett!"

* * *

THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD Friday, July 10, 1987

26th Klaevemann Reunion Is Held In Schulenburg

The 26th annual reunion of the descendants of Herman Christoph and Meta Joost Klaevemann met Sunday, June 28 at the Civic Center in Schulenburg with 60 descendants attending.

The family of Mary Klaevemann Koenig was in charge of arrangements. A covered dish dinner was enjoyed.

A business meeting followed with Rod Koenig of Houston serving as chairperson. Elva Koenig of O'Quinn read the minutes and served as secretary of the meeting. It was decided to attempt to publish a booklet to update the Klaevemann family history with Ray Gouldsberry of Garland to serve as chairperson of this committee. The original patriarch of the family, H. C. Klaevemann, was born in 1837 in Oldenbrok, Germany, which is near Oldenberg in North Germany.

Excerpts from the diary of H. Christoph Klaevemann were read by Robert Koenig of Uvalde, Florence Hertel Farek of Schulenburg and Rod Koenig of Houston.

Some interesting excerpts from the diary, starting Mar. 23, 1874 are: "Steamer, Roland to Bremerhafen, air clean and weather good. Lodging in Bremerhafen at the market. Ship

Frankfort sailing at 3 in the afternoon, favored by the most beautiful weather. That night all of the passengers were sea sick. March 26 a dance on board ship April 1, 1874 rain then beautiful weather. Christoph arrived in New Orleans on Apr. 18 1874 then went to Galveston April 21 and final trip to Schulenburg on April 23 one month after leaving Germany."

Among the honored guests were Chas. Koenig from Cleveland, Texas, the oldest man present (age 83); Erna Schroedter from Weischatte the oldest woman (age 86); Jake Koenig from Uvalde the youngest (23 mo.); Rudy and Minnie Klaevemann from Orange Grove, the couple married the longest (52 years); Wayne and Laura Tiffin most recently married (1 year 2 mos.); Ray and Jeanette Gouldsberry of Garland, traveling the greatest distance; and Frank and Hattie Krischke of Schulenburg, traveled the shortest distance.

A white elephant auction to raise funds was enjoyed with Robert Koenig and Rod Koenig as auctioneers.

The next reunion will be held in Schulenburg on the 4th Sunday in June 1988 with the Callie Klaevemann Hertel family as hosts.

Die 37-Stunden-Woche rückt näher

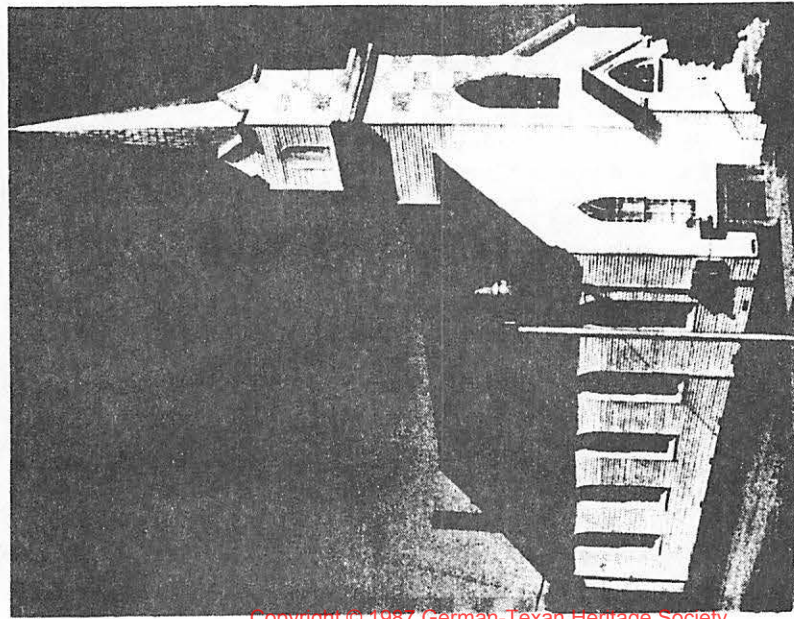
Bonn (INP). - In der Bundesrepublik Deutschland forderten die Gewerkschaften erstmals 1953 die 40-Stunden-Woche. 20 Jahre später war dieses Ziel bereits für etwas mehr als zwei Drittel aller Beschäftigten erreicht. Ab 1980 galt für fast alle Beschäftigten eine Regelarbeitszeit von 40 Stunden pro Woche, und für 41 Prozent von ihnen kam 1986 die 38,5-Stunden-Woche. Seit 1982 wird generell die 35-Stunden-Woche gefordert. Den ersten Durchbruch erzielten Ende April 1987, also zehn Jahre nachdem sie als erste diese Forderung erhoben hatten, die Metalller. In ihrem Bereich gilt ab April 1988 zunächst die 37,5-Stunden-Woche und ein Jahr später dann die 37-Stunden-Woche.

(INP/Globus)

THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD Tuesday, September 22, 1987 Page 7

St. Michael's Plans 100th Anniversary Celebration

St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation dates back to the year 1876. It that year, the Rev. Simon Stuess came to Winchester and gathered together and served the Lutherans living in this community



ST. MICHAEL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Friday, September 25, 1987 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

From the very beginning, the members of St. Michael's saw to it that their children were to be thoroughly instructed not only in secular knowledge, but also firmly rooted in the Christian fundamentals and for that reason Pastor Ernst Stark, as well as his successor, the Rev. L. Greens, faithfully taught school in addition to their regular pastoral duties. After seven years Pastor Greens was relieved of the task of teaching in the classroom, and the congregation called its first regular Christian Day School teacher, Mr. Karl Dube, who served here six years. However, even before a full-time teacher was called, Pastor Greens had to have some assistants because of the increasing number of pupils combined with the greater number of pastoral duties of a young and growing congregation.

It is told that the Rev. Buchschacher was advised when he first went to preach here, not to spend his efforts in Winchester because it would never result in anything worthwhile; however, God blessed this undertaking and the little flock grew to the extent that more room was required. In the year 1883, St. Michael's purchased 15 acres of land, the present church property, from a Mr. Thomas for the sum of \$500. This land was to be used for the congregations needs such as a new church, a school, parsonage, teacherage, and a cemetery. On March 11, 1906, a cornerstone was laid for a new church building, and on July 29 of the same year the new house of worship was dedicated to the glory of the Triune God. This same building is still in use by the members of St. Michael's for worship every Lord's Day.

In the same year a separate school house was built and dedicated on October 21, 1906. Later a parsonage and a teacherage were built; and then later the school house was remodeled and enlarged along with the building of another teacherage. This two teacher school continued for many years. The highest recorded enrollment was that of 117 pupils. However, due to a declining population of school age children, this school was forced to close after the 1967-68 school year. A "Saturday School" was then started in the 1968-69 school year consisting of a half of a day of religious training to replace that which a child would be missing in a nonparochial school. The Saturday School is still in operation today.

Our Sunday School was organized in 1949 and had an enrollment of 61 pupils. Today the Sunday School is still active and we now have an enrollment of 39 pupils. In 1980 the original school building was removed from the property and construction of the present Educational Building took place. The present building complete with classrooms for Sunday School, an office, kitchen, restrooms, and meeting rooms that can be opened into on large room for social gatherings was built by Scholtz Construction Company of La Grange, Texas. Dedication of the new building and its furnishings were held on April 26, 1981. Thanks to the generosity shown in special offerings and donations from our members, former-members, and non-member friends, the building and all furnishings were paid for before the end of the same year.

There have been many other repairs and improvements to the church properties over the years. The teacherage west of the church was sold in 1969 to the Kleiber family. The old parsonage was taken down in 1970 and replaced with the present 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick house. In 1972 a wheelchair ramp with railing was added to the east side of the church. The present air conditioning system was installed in the church in 1979. Vinyl siding was added to the exterior of the church building in 1982 along with ceiling fans being placed in the balcony and directly below the balcony. The old teacherage was taken down in 1984 and pew cushions were placed on the church pews in that same year. Stained glass windows replaced the solid white glass windows in 1987.

During the 100 years now passed 15 pastors have served St. Michael's. They are as follows: Dec. 23, 1888 to Aug. 8, 1889, Pastor Stark; Pastor Buchschacher served his vacancy time; Aug. 9, 1891 to Sept. 25, 1904, Pastor A. L. Greens; Nov. 13, 1904 to Oct. 10, 1909, Pastor H. Huger; Feb. 13, 1910 to Dec. 1, 1918, Pastor F. W. Siebels; Jan. 1919 to April 1926, Pastor Alfred Bohot; May 2, 1926 to Mar. 4, 1934, Pastor Erich Moebus; June 17, 1934 to Feb. 23, 1939, Pastor L. A. Trinklein; July 30, 1939 to Aug. 24, 1947, Pastor E. R. Radtgeber; Dec. 25, 1947 to April 22, 1951, Pastor G. W. Heinemeyer; Feb. 10, 1952 to Dec. 4, 1960, Pastor W. E. Sreischer; July 30, 1961 to April 29, 1963, Pastor W. B. Gummelt; May 31, 1964 to June 30, 1969, Pas-

tor R. M. Friedling; June 28, 1970 to Aug. 1983, Pastor Adolph Brand; Sept. 1984 to April 1986, Pastor James Herzog; and July 1987 to present, Pastor Wayne Schueler.

In 1986, James Herzog was forced to resign due to ill health. During the long vacancy, the congregation was served by two fine men: Pastor Paul Hartfield of Serbin and Pastor Alfred Gallmeier of Smithville. Pastor Theo Michalk also was very faithful in assisting the congregation with many services.

St. Michael's has given to the Lord from its membership three sons to serve the Lord in the holy ministry and two the teaching profession. They are the Rev. W. Gustav A. Tschatschula, the Rev. W. Harnusch, the Rev. Hugo Harnusch, Mr. Leroy Tschatschula, and Mr. Fred T. Zoch. Also, the following children of pastors and teachers from Winchester are serving as pastors and teachers in the church. They are the Rev. James Trinklein, the Rev. Charles Rathgeber, the Rev. James Heinemeyer, the Rev. John Heinemeyer, Mr. Roland Trinklein, Mr. Howard Schuetz, Mr. Ralph Streicher, Mrs. Lillian (Eifert) Deitering, Mrs. Helga (Streicher) Doctor, Mrs. Kathy (Gummelt) Bartels, Mr. Mike Gummelt, and Mrs. Rhoda (Brand) House.

Under God's continuing blessing St. Michael's Lutheran Church has developed into a flourishing congregation that presently has approximately 275 souls and 235 communicant members. The numbers were much larger at one time. They are said to have numbered about 800 souls, but due to the migration of our young people to the cities to seek employment, the membership decreased. At present time, we are experiencing a period of slow growth, which we are very hopeful with continue. Many of St. Michael's sons and daughters are living in the farflung corners of our country and have their roots in Winchester and owe their early education to St. Michael's School and the church's upbringing.

Truly God has showered St. Michael's with the abundant blessings; therefore, "Let us give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endureth forever."

Der Teltschik-Familientag 1986

Dr. Walter Teltschik
Wilhelmsfeld, West Germany

On July 5, 1986 in Nürtingen, near Stuttgart, a reunion of the Teltschik Family was held. 418 persons took part in. With an ambitious and balanced programme the reunion was widely taken notice of. Four conditions led to its unique success:

First, the thorough research into the family's history. The available documents date back to the year 1301, the handing down by word of mouth goes back to the battle of Marchfeld in 1278. The family branches reach out all over the world from Central Europe to the USA, Canada, South Africa and Australia.

Second, the favourably chosen moment with its reference to tradition; this family reunion being held on exactly the same day 50 years after the first family reunion in 1936 in Zauchtel. Many of the elder members of our family, still having a lively recollection of this memorable day, told their children and grandchildren about this great event, thus arousing enthusiasm and agreement for the performance of another family reunion. Even on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean there grew an enthusiastic feeling and a longing to experience the German „home“ and the wish aroused to meet the German relatives.

Third, the careful preparation and the perfect execution. The family reunion had been announced well beforehand by a circular in 1980 and already then outlined in its basic details. The moment the preparation for this event became too comprehensive, Walter Teltschik appointed an advisory committee whose members agreed to take on various preparatory tasks. From then on, till the day of the family reunion, Walter Teltschik kept informing all members of the family on the progress of the plannings by 7 follow-up circulars. Part of these plannings was the preparation of a round-trip through Germany for the American members of the family.

Fourth, the generous monetary contributions by quite a number of members of the family thereby enabling us to realize the ambitious performance of the festivity.

At the same time, parallel to the above mentioned plannings, Walter Teltschik worked on a chronicle about the Teltschik family. This chronicle had also been announced in the first circular sent out. "Such a plan takes its time. I think that it could be achieved in about 5 years time. All knowledge accumulated during that time is then to be published in a book as a family chronicle." So far the quotation from the first circular. This chronicle was finished in time for the family reunion and turned to be an important integrating link within the family.

In 12 meetings altogether the committee worked out all the details for the festivity planned. The following persons were involved in the preparations: Walter and Karin Teltschik, Adrienne Teltschik, Richard Teltschik, Robert Teltschik, Rudolf Teltschik, Isolde Teltschik-Czervenka, Lydia Karzel, Sieglinde Teltschik, Ingrid Teltschik-Weiß, as well as Jeanine and Frank Teltschik, Delores Teltschik-Hopmann and Minifred Teltschik-Aouelle in America. The tour for the American guests through Southern Germany had been planned by Walter Teltschik and realized by Adrienne, Karin and Marianne Teltschik, with Margit Teltschik, Gerlinde Radinger and Elke Weiß as guides.

Originally it had been planned to have a report of the event on TV, yet the committee finally abandoned the idea of presentation on TV because of the negative reporting which is to expect nowadays.

Acts of terrorism directed against American institutions in Germany in spring 1986, the nuclear disaster of Tschernobyl in the USSR, the devaluation of the dollar as well as the collapse of the crude oil price that especially had its negative effects in Texas, made several American clan-members cancel their journey. Of the originally 180 announced guests from USA 60 resigned, so that 120 only took part in the family reunion. They arrived at Stuttgart airport on 2 groups. The larger one on July 2, the smaller one on July 3, 1986. Both groups were warmly welcomed by a delegation of German relatives. A college band, hired by Werner and Grete Remmele, played at the reception. All US-guests found accommodation at the Hotel am Schlossberg in Nürtingen.

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the gaining of independence of Texas from Mexico there was agreed upon a partnership between Nürtingen and Floresville/Texas at a special ceremony. Lord Mayor Bachofer and the former Mayor of Floresville, Wilbert Teltschik, exchanged presents. On July 4, Adrienne Teltschik led an excursion to the Schwäbische Alb which included a visit of the Burg Hohenzollern, the ancestral home of the German imperial family.

On July 4, at 17 hours, there was the opening of the Family Reunion in the Stadthalle of Nürtingen by Walter Teltschik, and all the members of the clan were presented (see: Familienabend). After dinner, taken together, there was a performance of 6 living pictures showing scenes out of the history of the Teltschik family. 27 members represented historic persons of the family in costumes of their times. These pictures were put on stage by Walter Teltschik, costumes were provided by Ingrid Teltschik-Weiß and Karin Teltschik. Appropriate music of the respective time, played by Lydia Karzel on the piano, heightened the effect.

Folksongs were sung by a group of German singers, conducted by Lydia Karzel, together with a group of American singers, accompanied on the piano by Herbert Teltschik, Houston. Fritz and Sieglinde Teltschik assisted, wearing their former national costumes of the Kuhländchen in Moravia, the former home of the Teltschik family. The fisher-song of Zauchtel was sung in the dialect of the old home.

On July 5, at 9 o'clock a divine service was held for the family in St. Laurentius church in Nürtingen. The sermon was given by Herwig Karzel, Superintendent in Oberösterreich (see: Festgottesdienst). The first hymn sung by the family congregation was "Großer Gott wir loben Dich" and they ended with "Nun danket alle Gott", the American members singing the English text. The sermons were preached in German and in English.

After the divine service members of the family, guests and friends gathered in the Stadthalle for the official ceremony (see: Festakt). The ceremony, in the form of an academic celebration, was framed by musical recitals. Alfred Teltschik and his daughter Teresa gave a concert played on 2 pianos. The well-known pianists opened the ceremony with Johann Sebastian Bach's "Schafe können sicher weiden, wo ein guter Hirte ist" ("Sheep may savely grace") and at the end they played the "Spanish Dance" by Manuel de Falla, Poulence's

"Valse" and "Rhapsody No. 2" by Franz Liszt. As an intermezzo during the ceremony Lydia Karzel played on the piano the "Sonata A-Major" by George Philipp Telemann, accompanied by her daughter Hanna on the violin.

Words of welcome and greetings on the occasion of the family reunion had been sent by the following personalities: Lothar Späth, Prime Minister of Baden-Württemberg; Robert Löffler, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Niederösterreich and member of the National Council in Vienna; the "Sudetendeutsche Landsmannschaft", Nürtingen; Adolf Fischer, Chairman of the society "Sudetendeutsche Familienforscher", personally present at the ceremony; Waldemar Kasperek, President in honorary of the society "Alte Heimat Kuhländchen". Warm greetings to all participants of the reunion were also sent by Dr. Erich Meixner, Hannover. The greetings of the Chancellor of West Germany, Helmut Kohl, were transmitted by Horst Teltschik in his speech. The festive speech was held by Walter Teltschik.

After lunch, on July 5, all participants were driven by bus to the Ersbergsschule in the yard of which a photo of all members of the family was taken. The family spent the afternoon in the shady garden of the Evangelische Gemeindehaus drinking coffee and eating cakes. This afternoon's meeting had been organized, with the dean's permission, by Adrienne Teltschik, assisted by several ladies of the family who had baked the cakes, they served, themselves. In the garden "The Teltschik Family Band" with about 25 members played up old tunes and dances conducted by Minifred Teltschik-Aouelle and was very much cheered. The Teltschik Family Band, 50 members when complete, has already won several prizes in Texas. According to tradition they always start their concerts with the German anthem.

On the eve of July 5, an elegant ball took place in the Stadthalle. Walter Teltschik opened the ball with Josefine Teltschik, wife of the last hereditary judge in Kunzendorf. During the ball the American members of the family handed over their presents to their German relatives.

On July 4 and 5, there was an exhibition of documents, photos, mementos and genealogical trees in the foyer of the Stadthalle. The most precious exhibit was the last original document still in the possession of the Teltschik family, put at our disposal by Reinhold Schierenbeck-Teltschik. It dates back to 1734 and had once been issued by Eleonore, Reichsfürstin von und zu Liechtenstein, in Brussels. In this document the privileges of the hereditary judge David Teltschik in Zauchtel are laid down and confirmed. Further precious exhibits were e.g. the first chronicle of the Teltschik family, hand written in ornamental types by Alois Teltschik in 1886, a model of the estate of hereditary judges in Kunzendorf, made by Richard Teltschik and a large colored genealogical tree designed and finished by Robert Teltschik. Besides, Isolde Teltschik-Czervenka exhibited a plan of Zauchtel, showing the position of the different estates of Teltschiks and, in addition to this, many photographs, maps, precious embroideries and dolls in national costumes of the Kuhländchen. The exhibition had been planned and organized by Isolde Teltschik-Czervenka and Robert Teltschik.

In the foyer of the townhall there was installed an information desk looked after by Karin Teltschik and Mizzi Kunz-Böhm. The name plates, of the form of leaves of a linden tree – symbolizing the leaves of the judge's linden tree in Zauchtel – bearing the christian name of each member of the family and the number of his family circle, were handed out there, free of charge. The chronicles, genealogical trees, mementos and beer-mugs with the Teltschik-symbol and any information wanted were also given there. The plates, genealogical tree

and the beer-mugs had been designed by Robert Teltschik, the sheet, commemorating the day of the family reunion 1986, by Jobst Teltschik.

On the morning of July 6, the German relatives bad their American guests farewell at the Hotel am Schloßberg. In 3 busses the American members of the family started on their tour through Southern Germany. It took them to Ulm (stop at the young linden tree from Zauchtel), to Augsburg, Munich, Oberammergau, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Innsbruck, Füssen, Neuschwanstein, Kempten im Allgäu, Friedrichshafen at Lake Constance, Titisee in the Black Forest, Freiburg and Mannheim. The journey ended on July 11, with a visit of the castle of Heidelberg followed by a boat-tour on the Neckar with the pleasure-boat "Europe". It took the participants from Heidelberg to Neckarsteinach and back. The stay in Germany ended with a farewell-party in the "Zehntkeller" in Schriesheim. Afterwards several Americans stayed for some days as guests in German families. The Teltschik Family Band played up during the whole tour through Southern Germany, in Munich and on the boat.

The family reunion had surpassed all expectations of the participants. The elder members of the family were deeply moved by the atmosphere at the meeting. Those who had taken part in this reunion expressed their thanks and enthusiasm by letter and by telephone (see: Resonanz). There were also reports on the family reunion in newspapers and magazines. The detailed report by Siegfried Beier in the "Sudetendeutsche Zeitung" of August 1, 1986 is to be reported here. Richard Teltschik and Rainer Teltschik took videos.

Finally we must not forget to remember the man whose thorough and successful research for the family's history stands at the beginning, Josef Teltschik, teacher in Sedlnitz. His work culminated in the first family reunion in 1936 in Zauchtel. Without his fundamental research, written down in a manuscript, and carefully preserved by his wife and his daughter Isolde all through the chaos of post-war time, this second family reunion couldn't have taken place, at least not in the way it did. Without his preparatory work our family wouldn't possess a chronicle. But just this chronicle, the record of our family's history, is of inestimable value to our family (see: Rezension der Chronik).

All the participants of this second family reunion have expressed the wish that soon a third reunion may follow. Perhaps this will possibly be realized in 1991 in Texas.

One-hundred-twelve Teltschik Family members from Texas, Oklahoma, California, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wyoming attended the second major reunion in the 700 year history of the Teltschik family in Nürtinger, Germany on July 4th and 5th, 1986. They represent the descendants of David Teltschik, the tailor, David Teltschik, the baker, and Joseph Teltschik, the farmer, who came to Texas in the 1890s. The Teltschik Family Band members are descendants of Joseph and Anna Teltschik. There are about 50 members in the band. Twenty-three of the band members made the Europe trip.

From: Texas Journal of Ideas, History, and Culture, Fall/Winter, 1987

Institute of Texas-German Studies Sponsors Project on Ethnicity and Community

By Theodore Gish

A day-long town meeting last May on the past and present "Germanness" of the town of New Braunfels was a successful response to the TCH's 1987 special emphasis on "Community in Texas." The project was undertaken by the Institute of Texas-German Studies at the University of Houston.

New Braunfels, originally the mother colony of the unique *Adelsverein* settlement of Central Texas, has, since its founding in 1845, moved from being the primary German settlement of the state—once the fourth largest city in Texas—to its present status as a small town strategically located along the burgeoning Austin-San Antonio corridor. Like few other cities of its size and ethnic history, New Braunfels is caught in the dynamic community tension of "now" vs. "then," "progress" vs. "containment." It presents the full spectrum of German ethnic community-building and of the community-sustaining process.

Language; cultural life; gender, family, and society; religion; and myth were the focus topics for the town meeting, led by scholars who are specialists in Texas-German studies, Southern history, and folklore. Nearly one hundred New Braunfelsers and others attended the meeting: In this mostly senior-citizen group, humor, mutual understanding, and an eagerness to speak and witness prevailed.

The first session, on language, moderated by Purdue University linguist Joseph Salmons, focused on changes in bilingualism in New Braunfels' history. Although English was spoken in the town from its earliest days, the German language defined and maintained the community communication for a considerable period of time. The local German-language newspaper, the *Nue*

"This is a different place with its own unique history — a place of pride, just like Texas."

German Lutheranism in the Texas-German community has contributed unquestionably to the overall religious definition of New Braunfels. The participants agreed with Boles that, as in the case of other ethnic groups, their forefathers believed that a loss of the use of German in the liturgy was also a spiritual loss.

The fourth session dealt with how myth, like religion, provides a powerful "community of memory" for an ethnic group. Erika Nielson (University of Houston) has investigated ways in which German folk customs were brought to Texas by immigrants. Nielson surveyed the myths that surround the major figures of the *Aldersverein* immigration—Prince Solms, its first Commissioner-General and founder of New Braunfels, and John Meusebach,

Brunfeler Zeitung, for example, had a remarkably long life, from 1852 to 1954. But as elsewhere in the state, regular language usage in the church ceased by the 1920s and '30s. Texas-German residents over forty years of age often speak and read (if not write) the language in varying degrees. Children of the community, however, have grown up for several decades with virtually no home acquisition of German and little special community encouragement to learn the language at school. Participants speaking German commented on how preservation of the German language had been fostered by churches and singing societies, and by summer language programs for children. Both world wars negatively affected the public and even individual use of German. As one older participant vividly recalled, he was told during World War I, "you had better not speak the Kaiser's language." A number of participants commented on the qualities of Texas German spoken in New Braunfels, several humorously describing a kind of local brngue called "Comal Creek *Kauderwelsch*" and the local usage of so-called "Low" German (*Plattdeutsch*).

The session on culture was moderated by UT professor Hubert Heinen, author of studies of the cultural life of the Texas-Germans. Heinen commented on the rich cultural life of the early settlement, which comprised published poets and fiction writers as well as other artists. The early years also saw the establishment of singing, dramatic, and general cultural societies, and political groups, some of which are still active today.

Heinen noted that the contacts between New Braunfels and Germany—particularly with its sister city Braunfels—have been ways not only of maintaining but also of renewing and enriching the German cultural fabric of the city. One participant, finally, was very critical of the local media, which, she felt, neglected German coverage.

his successor, who founded Fredericksburg and concluded a successful peace treaty with the Comanches. The participants agreed that these two personalities continue to be folk heroes. The group also discussed settlers who had become local folklore figures, including the botanist and first editor of the *New Braunfels Zeitung*, Ferdinand Lindheimer, whose political views once caused his press to be thrown into the Comal River.

During the brief concluding session the group considered the community from the vantage point of the outside world. Several people described how comfortable they feel when traveling or living in Germany, "where you are with your own kind."

The project brought together, for the first time, residents from a "German" community in Texas to discuss

Her statement—"If we don't guard our own heritage, we will just be another plain vanilla town in Texas"—drew strong applause from the audience.

The session on gender, family, and society was led by two scholars—Laurie A. Kattner (Brookhaven College) and Ingeborg Rueberg McCoy (Southwest Texas State University), both of whom have authored studies on Texas women and gender roles. They pointed out that original German patterns of gender, family, and societal values have undergone many changes through "assimilation." Nevertheless, some "German" aspects of these patterns still seem to determine the social climate of New Braunfels.

Kattner described how the Germans interrelated with blacks, Mexican-Americans, and Anglos in the historical development of New Braunfels. She pointed out, however, that Germans had complex relations among themselves. A number of the participants discussed the *Amerikaner* (Anglo) population. One participant told the story of her grandmother who had refrained from giving her granddaughter an "American" dentist's dance invitation, explaining later: "you wouldn't have wanted to go out with him anyway." Even among the Texas-Germans, the participants agreed, parents were concerned with the question of an acquaintance's family.

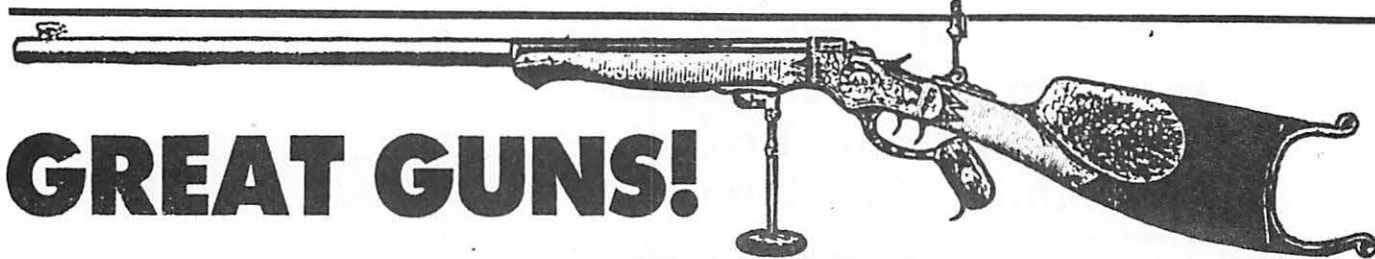
McCoy highlighted the importance of the Texas-German women in the economy of the pioneer family and community. Considerable discussion centered on the various gender-related organizations within the city and on the importance of friendships among women in the community and whether this pattern derived from German values or pioneer circumstances.

John Boles (Rice University), author of numerous studies of Southern religious history and slavery, led the session on religion, describing the importance of religion in ethnic identity. The session pointed out the influence of the original pioneer German "evangelical" church (now the United Church of Christ, or the First Protestant Church) and the subsequently founded Roman Catholic Church, both of which still exhibit subtle ethnic characteristics. The pervasive and profound impact of

ways in which their particular ethnicity has developed, defined, and sustained the community. In addition, the day's meeting gave even the informed participants new ways of considering their own individual and community selves. The informational and educational impact of the project will continue when the local radio station airs excerpts of the audio tape of the meeting on the regularly scheduled heritage program, "Reflections," and when the essays of participating scholars are published.

The project, finally, has launched a necessary beginning—for the scholars to continue their investigation, for the community to continue the preservation and the articulation of its heritage.

Theodore Gish is director of the Institute of Texas-German Studies at the University of Houston.



GREAT GUNS!

Schuetzen resurging in Hill Country

By MARINA PISANO
Express-News Staff Writer

It was an extraordinary sight — 8,000 people crowded around two shooting teams, each with seven crack marksmen armed with single-shot rifles. Some on-lookers, at considerable risk, were crouched down near the targets to get a better view.

The year was 1874, and it was the first long-distance international Schuetzen match between a hot-shot, championship team in Ireland and what the Irish lads thought were a bunch of rubes from Long Island, N.Y. They were shooting at targets 1,000 yards away. It all came down to the last shot.

"Up stepped this tall, lanky American," related Rudi Prusok, editor of the American Single Shot Rifle Association News, in a phone interview from his Marquette, Mich., office. Everything was riding on this shooter, but — awful luck — just minutes before, he cut his shooting hand on a sarsaparilla bottle.

"If he hit the target at all it would be a tie," continued Prusok. "If he hit the center, the Americans would win."

The crowd was still as the rifle cracked, and all eyes turned downrange to watch for the target signal indicating the score. "When a black square went up (bullseye), hats went up in the air, people cheered, and there was such jubilation over this great victory."

Prusok, a German language professor at Northern Michigan University and an avid historian of the Schuetzen, target-shooting sport, explained its roots are ven-



Charlie Hart of Alvin prepares to fire his German Buchel single-shot rifle at a match in New Braunfels.

erable — going back 400 years or more to shooting societies in Switzerland and Germany.

"I suppose the first *vereins* (societies) shot with crossbows. Later they used muzzle loaders and, finally, the breech-loading single-shot rifle," Prusok said.

German settlers introduced the sport to Texas in the 1850s. Schuetzen matches were popular into this century.

Then, World War I and strong anti-German feeling put the kibosh on these foreign shooting clubs and competitions. World War II halted any recovery.

Now, the sport is enjoying a genuine comeback among a small but dedicated group of enthusiasts. The ASSRA, founded in Indiana in 1948, currently has 1,200 members, and there are hundreds of state and local single-shot rifle associations.

Actually, the New Braunfels Schuetzen Verein, formed in July 1849, never went

away. "We are the oldest shooting club in the country still in continuous operation," NBSV president Bill Wimberley said.

The 70-member San Marcos-based Texas Single Shot Rifle Association is led by president Charlie Hart of Houston. And, there are a half-dozen other active *vereins* in other Hill Country towns nearby. The once-thriving San Antonio Schuetzen Verein is no more.

A measure of the single-shot resurgence — Saturday through Aug. 21, Coors Beer is holding its sixth National Schuetzenfest in Golden, Colo. Coors put on some celebrated shooting matches around the turn of the century.

In Golden 126 registered shooters are expected to vie for \$40,000 in prizes.

"There's a lot of history and nostalgia connected to this kind of shooting. A big part of the fascination is with the guns themselves," TSSRA secretary Lige Har-

“There's a lot of history and nostalgia... A big part of the fascination is with the guns themselves.”

— Lige Har-

ris said at a recent match in New Braunfels.

New breech-loading single-shots, both rim-fire and center-fire types of various calibers, are acceptable. But purists like the craftsmanship, feel and authenticity of old European and American models built between the Civil War and WWI.

The look is distinctive — the long barrel, the pronounced curve of the butt plate, the scrolled lever and double-set triggers, the ornately engraved metal receiver, the round palm rest.

"You can buy a wall-hanger for \$350 that's no good to you," Wimberley said. Then you hunt parts at gun shows or in newsletter ads. Wimberley allowed he put \$1,000 into his Winchester Model 1885. Some Schuetzen competition rifles run \$3,000 or more.

Despite the sharp crack, the single-shots are low in firepower. And, for true believers, who cast their own bullets at home, then load every cartridge with smokeless powder at the range, they are ponderously slow. You wouldn't want a rhino bearing down during this almost-two-minute, painstaking operation.

Prusok summed up beautifully. "With the right bullet, the right charge and the right shooter, it's almost a mystical thing that happens with this rifle. And the nice thing is, it's not a killing machine. It's a work of art, strictly for target shooting."

WOLFGANG MIEDER



GEORGINA ZEISS
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

100 only 1987

To Officers & Prime Movers of GTHS.

In order Roemer's Texas - let me add our thanks and genuine appreciation for your good work especially on the Newsletter but also for everything you do to keep the Society going & improving.

We treasure each issue of the Newsletter and read it avidly. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely Yours
Georgette Melissa Zeiss

GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

HAMBURG PASSENGER LISTS

In Germany, there were two main ports of embarkation for emigrants: Bremen and Hamburg. Nearly all records of the Bremen emigrants were destroyed in World War II, but the Hamburg records are intact.

Unless you are absolutely certain your ancestor departed from Bremen, it is worth the effort to check the Hamburg records. Records have been found for emigrants from the following areas: Anhalt, Baden, Bayern, Berlin, Brandenburg, Braunschweig, Hamburg, Hannover, Hessen, Mecklenburg, Nassau, Ober-Schlesien, Ostpreussen, Pommern, Posen, Rheinland, Sachsen, Schlesien, Schleswig-Holstein, Thuringia, Voigtland, Westphalen, Westpreussen, and Wuerttemberg--in addition to such other countries as Austria, Belgium, Bohemia, Denmark, England, Galacia, Hungary, Moravia, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, and Russia.

From time to time, an article appears in a newspaper or magazine about Hamburg's Historic Emigration Office and the Hamburg Passenger Lists. This essay will bring you more information on the availability of the Hamburg records.

Please do not send any more clippings about the Hamburg Emigration Office for inclusion in our Newsletter.

Most of the publicity surrounding the Hamburg records is a marketing effort to sell Americans on a trip to Hamburg. While there, you can visit the Historic Emigration Office located in the Museum of Hamburg History at Holstenwall 24. If you furnish the name and year of emigration, the clerks will check the records. Within one hour, they can tell you if the record is found. If they are successful in finding your ancestor's emigration records, you will receive a fancy certificate with an excerpt of the record.

The charge is \$30, or DM equivalent, if you know the exact emigration year. For each additional year to be searched, there is a fee of \$10, or DM equivalent. This fee is required even if the search is not successful. For this fee, you receive the certificate with the excerpt of the record and a brochure, "Emigration." If the search is not successful, you receive a certificate stating you were in Hamburg tracing your family's roots, plus the "Emigration" brochure.

For a free, colorful leaflet containing the above information, write to: German National Tourist Office, 747 Third Ave., New York NY 10020. Ask for "Come Trace your Roots in Hamburg."

But, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO TRAVEL TO HAMBURG!

The brochure tells you your personal visit is important. But, it also tells you written requests can be accepted with prior payment in cashier's check (no credit card orders). See above for the same fees, \$30 if the year is known, plus \$10 for each additional year to be searched. If you want to write, the address is: Historic Emigration Office, Museum fur Hamburgische Geschichte, Holstenwall 36, 2000 Hamburg 36.

But, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO VISIT OR EVEN WRITE TO HAMBURG!

It is important that all our members know that the Hamburg immigration records have been microfilmed and are available through the Genealogical Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) in Salt Lake City, Utah. The microfilm of Direct and Indirect (see explanation of these below) for 1850-1878 is also available at the Library of

Congress, Washington, D.C.

This means that you yourself can look at the microfilm of the actual records--or you can have a researcher in the U.S. do it for you. There are many reliable businesses and independent professionals in the Salt Lake City area who are thoroughly familiar with these records and will do a thorough search for the records for a reasonable fee. Check the advertisements in the quarterly Genealogical Helper if you need some leads. Or, you may request a list of researchers accredited by the Salt Lake Genealogical Library by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The Genealogical Library, 35 N. West Temple, Salt Lake City UT 84150. Naturally, you would contact the researchers directly about their fees.

Even if you do decide to search the records yourself, you do not need to travel to Salt Lake City. All microfilmed records in Salt Lake City are also available on a rental basis at the Genealogical Library's many branches--in every fair-sized city in the country.

Whether you plan to conduct your own search of the microfilm or contract with a professional researcher to do it for you, here is some information that will be helpful. This was taken from the four sources listed at the end.

The Hamburg Passenger List covers 1850 to 1934, except for the years 1914 through 1919 because the lists were not kept during World War I. Note: if your ancestor emigrated prior to 1850, these records won't help you.

There are actually two separate passenger lists: Direct and Indirect. Both are indexed. The Direct List contains emigrants who left Hamburg and traveled directly to their place of destination, while the Indirect List has the emigrants who left Hamburg and traveled to another port (usually in England and perhaps changing ships) and then went on to their place of destination. Since you probably don't know exactly what your ancestors did, you will check both the Direct and Indirect lists.

The Direct and Indirect lists have separate indexes up until 1910. After 1910, the Indirect List index has been combined with the Direct List index. Both indexes are mere groupings under the first letter of the surname. For example, all the names beginning with "A" are together, but they are not in alphabetical order. In the Direct List for 1850-1854, the passenger list itself was arranged this way. Also, in the indexing, a certain number of pages were allotted to each letter of the alphabet. Some letters of the alphabet naturally have more surnames (such as "S") and would not fit the allocated pages, so they were continued on pages with fewer names (such as "Q" or "X"). In addition, a card index to alphabetize completely the names from 1856-1871 with additional information was started but it was not completed. Check this card index first, but if the name is not found, then check the regular Direct or Indirect indexes.

Here is how you find the number of the microfilm roll to look at it while you are in Salt Lake City or to have your Branch Library order it from Salt Lake City so you can see it in your hometown.

At the Genealogical Library (or at the local Branch in your city) look in the microfiche drawer for the Genealogical Library Locality Catalog and then look under: Germany; then, Hamburg; then, Hamburg--Emigration and Immigration. You will find on this microfiche an index of the microfilm call numbers. When you select the one you want to see, the librarian will order it for you and notify you when it arrives. The Wellauer book (cited below) on pp. 55-56 lists the call numbers for the passenger lists 1850-1900 and for the index 1855-1901. There are a total of 105 rolls of microfilm for the indexes to the regular emigrant lists and 361 rolls of microfilm of passenger lists for the years 1850-1934.

After this, the procedure gets more involved. For example, all passengers are not listed by name--only the head of the household, with only the word "frau" and number of "kinder." Since names of children are not

indexed at all, you must check for the name of the parent, relative, or other guardian to find a child who emigrated with others.

Of course, the usual precautions apply about variations in spellings and changes in names.

Once the name is found in the index, you will note the Passenger List page number and the entry date. These are needed to determine which roll of microfilm to request to read the actual passenger record. You find the ancestor's record by date and page number. The passenger records generally contain: name, age, birthplace or former residence, date of departure, name of ship, occupation, and sex. Because of changes in the information requested over the years, you may also find: birthdate, marital status, confirmation, destination, and children.

If you have followed thus far and are interested in locating your ancestor's Hamburg immigration record yourself, be sure to study the following sources. They contain much more detail than excerpted here and give you a "roadmap" to follow in your research.

Ferguson, Laraine K. "Hamburg, Germany: Gateway to the Ancestral Home. German Genealogical Digest. Volume II, Number 1, First Quarter, 1986. Pages 10-14.

Jensen, Larry. A Genealogical Handbook of German Research, Volume I. Revised Edition, 1980. Pages 40-44.

Jensen, Larry. A Genealogical Handbook of German Research, Volume II. Revised Edition, 1980, Pages 22-23.

Wellauer, Maralyn A. Tracing your German Roots. Pages 54-56.

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

More on Elizabeth Ross

See the previous two issues of our Newsletter as well as the Fall 1982 issue for a report on the schemes of the so-called Elizabeth Ross in offering "family albums" or such. Elsewhere in this issue is a report from the National Genealogical Society's Newsletter on the U.S. Postal Service's complaint filed against American Genealogies, Inc., the firm that uses the name "Elizabeth Ross." Also is a column by consumer advocate David Horowitz about the same "scam." Please be alert to these techniques.

Religious Press Abstracts

Helen M. Lu is abstracting obituaries, marriages, biographies and other miscellaneous items from newspapers published by religious denominations in Texas. Ready for purchase are four volumes from Texas Methodist newspapers, Texas Wesleyan Banner and Texas Christian Advocate, roughly from 1850 through 1881. Later editions of Texas Christian Advocate will be abstracted, another ten volumes, plus newspapers of Texas Baptist and Presbyterian denominations. For a brochure with contents and prices, write Helen M. Lu, P O Box 4276, Dallas TX 75208.

German Translator

We have received a brochure from German Translating Services which specializes in genealogy, local history, and old script. For a copy of the brochure with rates and credentials, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Ann C. Sherwin, 1918 Medfield Road, Dept NL, Raleigh NC 27607.

Texas Open Records Act

Last spring, the Texas Legislature amended the 1973 Texas Open Records Act to

exempt county birth and death records from public inspection. State Vital Statistics Registrar J. L. Howze stated the new amendment does not affect genealogical research. According to Howze, "The 1973 Open Records Act exempted state and local vital records. This law merely reverses two 1982 attorney general opinions which said county records were not included." Family genealogists will have the same availability to local documents that they have to state records--accessibility to anyone who has a direct, tangible, and legal interest in a record. In addition to meeting those criteria, a researcher must provide the subject's name, date or year and county of birth or death, and, if possible, the parents' names. The new amendment bars the media from reporting county birth and death records and prevents persons from leafing through the certificates and picking out the record of a person who matches their age and sex and then using that record fraudulently.

Ellinger Yesterday and Today

This is the title of a new book, not a comprehensive history, but a book of reminiscences. It is 73 pages, 8 1/2" x 11", has photographs but no index. It is softbound with a plastic binding. The book is published by Hengst Printing and Supplies of La Grange TX and may be ordered for \$7.50 plus \$1.00 postage and handling from the author, Ruby E. Martinek, Rt 1, Box 74, Ellinger TX 78938.

New Publication on German Research

We just received notice of a new publication, In Search of your German Roots, by Angus Baxter. This is an expansion of one chapter in Baxter's earlier book, In Search of your European Roots. Since we have not seen the new book yet, we will simply announce its availability in this issue and plan to review it in the next issue. Available for \$9.95 plus \$1.25 postage and handling from Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore MD 21202.

Founders and Settlers of the Heart of Texas Region

A volume on the historic Heart of Texas region is in progress. It will encompass the counties of Blanco, Brown, Burnet, Comal, Concho, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Mason, McCullough, Menard, Kimble, Lampasas, Llano, Mills, and San Saba as well as residents of that area prior to 1900. For information on submitting articles or ordering the book, write to Anchor Publishing Co., 221 N. Main, San Angelo TX 76903.

Texas County Deed Abstracts

New publications of deed abstracts of Austin County (1837-52), Washington County (1834-1841), and Red River County are available from Joyce Martin Murray, 2921 Daniels, Dallas TX 75205.

New Orleans Arrival Records

There are two indexes to the records of arrivals at the Port of New Orleans. The first covers 1820-1850 and includes other Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports such as Mobile, Baltimore, New Bedford, Philadelphia, and Boston. The index cards are arranged alphabetically and may be obtained on microfilm from the National Archives or from the LDS Genealogical Library. The LDS microfilm numbers are 418,161 through 418,348. The second set of index cards covers only the port of New Orleans for 1853-1899 and is found on LDS microfilm numbers 543,403 through 543,434. See article on Hamburg Passenger Lists, this issue, for information on ordering LDS microfilm.

185

from: National Genealogical Society Newsletter, July-August, 1987, p. 81
U.S. Postal Service v. Elizabeth Ross

In May the U.S. Postal Service filed a complaint against American Genealogies, Inc. (and a number of associated companies and individuals), a firm which uses the name "Elizabeth Ross" on materials soliciting orders for its books.

The complaint alleges that the respondents are engaged in conducting a scheme or device to obtain money or property through the mail in violation of 39 U.S.C. 3005 in that they "represent, directly or indirectly, in substance and effect, whether by affirmative statement, implication or omission," that:

Persons will receive a document principally about the ancestry and family name of the addressee;

The product offered contains the names and locations of almost every member of the addressee's family in the United States;

The product offered contains information specifically about the origins of the addressee's family in the United States;

The majority of the contents of the addressee's edition of the book will be substantially different from the contents of an edition of the book pertaining to a family surname different from that of the addressee;

The addressee is related to the individual who purports to make or sign the solicitation;

An individual who is making the solicitation has performed genealogical research that has specifically led to the addressee.

A hearing on this complaint was held in Washington, D.C. on 24 June at which three witnesses appeared, each of whom had purchased a book from "Elizabeth Ross" in the expectation that the book would contain information about his family history.

In a separate, but related, action the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania issued a preliminary injunction directing the Postal Service to hold all mail addressed to P.O. Box 5300, Scranton, PA 18505, which contains orders for books, during the pendency of the administrative proceeding. The preliminary injunction requires the company to accept all books returned by customers for a refund.

During the course of these proceedings it has been revealed that "Elizabeth Ross" is a fictitious person and that some of the persons involved in American Genealogies, Inc. were previously involved with Beatrice Bayley, Inc., a company found to be in violation of 39 U.S.C. 3005 in September 1986.

Persons with complaints relative to their dealings with American Genealogies, Inc. should contact Postal Inspector Gary Claytor, c/o Regional Chief

Postal Inspector, P.O. Box 3000, Bala Cynwyd, PA
 19004-3609

from: San Antonio Light, July 6, 1987,
'Family' album offer p. D-8
latest genealogy scam

By DAVID HOROWITZ



For years I have been getting letters with inquiries and complaints about companies that sell family history publications. The question to be considered is whether or not you can really get any family history for only \$20 or \$30.

My answer, based on conversations with genealogists, is "NO."

But still more and more companies are in the business of trying to sell family genealogies. What people usually get for their money is a listing of other persons with that same family name and a brief, generalized background article on that particular name.

Several months ago I came across a new pitch from a company called The Genealogy Room, in Scranton, Pa. This offer has a different kind of twist. The postcard, which offers a family album, is addressed to the family and says they will receive information about everyone in the United States with their family name. This information is intended to facilitate locating relatives and namesakes, help initiate relationships with other families of the same name and educate you in the fundamentals of genealogical research.

Each postcard is personalized for the individual who is receiving it and says that the Family Album offered is a special limited edition. According to the card, there will be less than 150 books published, and they will only be printed upon receipt of a specific order. All orders have to be received prior to a certain deadline date.

The cost is \$29.95.
 The new sales technique makes it

FIGHT BACK

seem like the person sending out the card has the same name as the person who they are trying to sell the family history to. Maybe this is a way to soften the people so they will buy. It's hard to say no when someone has the same family name.

That's what Elizabeth Ross of The Genealogy Room is doing. She sends out cards which are nearly identical, except that the name of the person who will receive the card has been inserted as her middle name. She sends a card to me, for instance, signed by Elizabeth "Horowitz" Ross.

By the way, Elizabeth Ross is also the same person who ran a company called Beatrice Bayley, Inc. Beatrice Bayley was sending out the same type of notices, offering published family histories, but without using the person's family name as her family name.

The Postal Inspectors investigated Beatrice Bayley, Inc., and the U.S. Attorney of Pennsylvania filed false representation charges against the company. They have also issued a temporary restraining order to keep her from doing business under either name.

The point that I am making here is that there is no quick and easy short cut on the trail of ancient ancestors. If you are really interested in your own family history, you should be prepared for months, maybe years, of individual research through libraries and genealogical records.

The kind of book you get for \$20 or \$30 is not an individually researched, personal family history. In most cases it is simply a listing of people with the same name, usually pulled out of phone books, and instructions on how to do your own in-depth family research.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following section was compiled by your Genealogy Editor from information received from our members. If you have an interest in any of the families mentioned, write directly to the member. To have your story appear in a future issue, write to your Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. Items are published free of charge for members. For non-members, there is a \$5.00 query fee. Please submit a concise paragraph or two, or simply a list of the surnames you are researching along with the Texas counties the families settled and the religion they practiced.

Another note: If you plan to submit an article for publication, please note the manuscript specifications published inside the back cover of each issue. Here they are again: We will consider only materials typed, single spaced, on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4" margin on all sides. Although you see a nice margin in the final Newsletter, our printer does this for us. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Your Genealogy Editor and the Editor-in-Chief evaluate all materials for the readership value of both the content and the typed format.

Arliss Treybig P O Box 1236, El Campo TX 77437 has been busy with two projects. During her school's spring break in March, she traveled solo to Germany to visit four villages that had been the homes of her great grandparents, including one in East Germany. Previous issues of our Newsletter have documented the work she has done on the history of the Braden, Burtschell, Knebel, Heyne, Treybig, Glueck, Marx, and Hennecke families. Arliss has prepared a delightful and well thought out 11-page report of her experiences, including her advance plans and correspondence, her travel and accommodations arrangements, but most of all her report on the people she visited and her personal impressions. A quote from the last page: "This trip was a very wonderful, emotional experience for me. During the years that I have done family research, I have developed an enhanced sense of family pride. By doing the research, compiling it into family books, and making this trip, I somehow felt that I was repaying my ancestors for their courage and struggles in a new land." That's what it's all about, isn't it?

Her other new project concerns an exhibit to be held in Mainz, Germany, in June 1988, depicting links between old Mainz in Germany and new Mentz in Texas. As the historian of Bernadro and Mentz, Texas, Arliss was contacted by Prof. Hans Galinsky of Johannes Gutenberg-Universitat Mainz to assist with the exhibit. See elsewhere in this issue her "Wanted" advertisement for documents, photos, family records and letters to establish links between Texas immigrant settlers from the Rhineland-Palatinate and their families back in the homeland. The exhibit, "Rhineland-Palatinate and Texas: Two Regions in Contrast," is part of a student exchange between the University of Houston and the University of Mainz.

Ruby Einkauf-McDonald 11011 Alhambra, Austin TX 78759 is looking for back issues of Southwest Texas Historical and Genealogical Society's quarterly, specifically for articles published with information from Lavaca County.

Roy Addicks 313 Springbranch Dr., Garland TX 75043 (note new address) is still working on recording the cemeteries of Colorado County. This summer, he went to Menard County, part of the old Fisher-Miller Grant, and found a deed record naming all his German relatives that lived in the Frelsburg area of Colorado County. He now has numerous records on them from 1847-1856, but still has not found them in the Census records.

Cornelia Schrader-Muggenthaler Heimeranstrasse 2, 8000 München 2 BRD (West Germany) is a language teacher and professional genealogist. She is offering, at reasonable rates, to do genealogical research and historical translations and would like to hear especially from other GTHS members.

Naomi Witt Fry 2608 Clearwood Circle, College Station TX 77840 would like clarification of the term "black German." Is this term applied to a specific area in Germany, and if so what area? If you have anything on his term, please write to Naomi as well as to your Genealogy Editor so the answer can appear in a future issue.

Charles E. Albers 6210 Bayou Bridge, Houston TX 77096 is searching for information on his great grandfather Gerardt (Gerd) Albers. He would like to make contact with descendants of the family from the Oldenburg area of Germany. Gerd (born in 1823, son of Johann Hinrich and Grete Hobbie Albers) came to the US around 1845 from Wapeldorf, parish of Rastede. Gerd's brothers and sisters were: Anna Margarete (born in 1810), Johann (born in 1813), Eilert Gerhard (born in 1814) and Joahnn Hinrich (born in 1819). Charles also has information on Gerd's grandparents and others of the previous generation. Eilert Gerhard and Johann Hinrich also came to America around 1845-50. The three brothers settled in the area of Waldeck, Texas. All the Albers that Charles has found in the La Grange area are decdendants of one of these three brothers. The oldest brother remained in Germany and probably inherited the family home. Charles is trying to contact any descendant of Gerd's brothers or sisters who remained in Germany.

Charles is also searching for information on his great grandfather Johann Lehmann who came to Washington County around 1844-56 and settled around Berlin. He and his wife, Eva Neumann had three children: Pauline (1857-1923), Robert (1860-1936), and Gustav Herman (1868-1936). Robert was confirmed at Berlin in 1875 and married Alvine Wilhelmine Boortz in June, 1881. Their son Robert was born in October, 1881. Apparently Eva died around 1870 and Johann married Caroline Priesmeyer around 1874. Johann and Caroline had seven children born between 1876 and 1887: Ida, Henry, Augusta, Mary, Anna Minnie, John, and Johanna. Charles believes Johann was a member of Berlin Lutheran Church at one time and later a member of Salem Lutheran Chruch at Zionsville. Apparently Johann died around 1895, since marriage records at Brenham show Caroline married Henry Kueck in December of 1895. The earliest Census record Charles has found was for 1870, but he believes the family was in the US before 1860, since Texas was listed as the birthplace of the children born duing those years. Charles is thus looking for evidence of their arrival in the US as well as for burial places of the early family members. He is also looking for their specific origin in Prussia.

Gertrude Schuller Appel 5802 Washington Blvd., Indianapolis IN 46220 is looking for information on the brother and sister of her grandfather, Heinrich Albert Julius Schuller, called Julius. Julius landed at New Orleans bearing a pass dated Aug. 21, 1866, and then spent some time in California before coming to Indianapolis in 1871. She thinks he might have been in Texas before going to California. Julius's brother was Karl August Herman Schuler/ Schuller, called Herman, born in 1854 in Stuttgart. He married Rose Rudinger in 1881 and later emigrated to Texas. They had a daughter, Martha. After Herman died, his widow and child returned to Germany. The third member of the famly was Pauline Margareta Schuler/Schuller, born in 1838 in Stuttgart. In 1867, she married a Mr. Strobel, first name unknown. This couple had a son and also came to Texas, but since the relatives in the US did not know anything about him, it is thought he may have stayed behind.

After Pauline's husband died in Texas, she returned to Stuttgart. All these were members of the Evangelical Church. Gertrude is looking for a good researcher who can help her find more about the Texas period of this family's life.

Patricia Ann Schmidt Blanchard 218 Levron St., Houma LA 70360 worked on her husband's Louisiana family lines and is now working on her own Texas families, mostly from Colorado and Fayette counties, including these names: Schmidt, Bauer, Kessler, Dietrich, White, Blaschke, Eckerman, Miller, Jasek, Kuntzman, Zatopek, Huebel, Smetana, Holub, and Paivlitsches. She is particularly looking for more information on her paternal great grandparents William (or Charles) Schmidt and his wife Augusta, both natives of Oldenburg, Prussia. Later they lived near Frelsburg and Columbus in Colorado County. Different documents give his name as William and Charles. Patricia assumes he died between 1872 and 1880 based upon knowledge of the last child's date of birth and the 1880 Census record showing Augusta as the wife of Henry Dietrich with the Schmidt children listed as Dietrich's stepchildren. Thus far, Patricia has not located the family in the 1870 Census. Anyone having knowledge of this family, please contact Patricia. She has also submitted an interesting photograph of a group of Confederate veterans taken in Shelby Cemetery in 1914. Look elsewhere in this issue and help her identify the occasion and others in the group.

Cristel Langfeld 1323 Blue Crest, San Antonio TX 78232 has worked on the histories of the Wille, Zoeller, Wendler, and Metzdorf families.

Norene Searls 447 Satatoga, San Antonio TX 78213 is researching a Shuckhart/Schuckhardt family who lived in Stark County, Ohio, and later went to Richland County, Wisconsin. She wonders if that Shuckhart family is related to this Schuckhart family: George Shuckhart, born 1807 in Hanover, married to Wilhelmina Mark at Carahessa, Germany. Wilhelmina was born in 1805 in Hanover. They sailed for American in 1835 or 1836 on the ship "Nancy Elizabeth." Accompanying them was Wilhelmina's brother Christian Mark and their small son Christian Mark Schuckhart. A daughter was born on the ship and was named Nancy Elizabeth, after the ship. George died in 1879, Wilhelmina in 1881, and both are buried at Salem Reformed Cemetery, Osnaburg, Stark County, Ohio. Their daughter Nancy Elizabeth went to Richland County, Wisconsin, with her second husband, Henry Eagy. Does anyone know of two different Schuckhart families that went from Ohio to Wisconsin? Information on Norene's Kring/Crink, Sparks, and Butts families is listed in the Genealogical Exchange section.

Dorothy Busby Rt 2, Box 2070, Boerne TX 78006 is researching the Busby family. John Rankin Busby married Elizabeth Buda/Budde on Aug. 6, 1856, at Clinton in DeWitt County. The date is verified by the marriage license. According to a Busby family Bible, Elizabeth was born Dec. 15, 1839, in Ozenburg, Germany. Family tradition states that Elizabeth, her sister, and their parents left Germany (or Alsace Lorraine) and came to New Orleans, where the parents died of yellow fever. Supposedly Elizabeth was placed in an orphanage and a Captain Jones of Beeville may have raised her. Dorothy asks if anyone can shed any light on this.

Andrea Walston 919 Montclair Dr., Waco TX 76710 needs information on John Bernard Dahlmann Dieterman, born about 1830 in the province of Westphalia, Germany. His father was Bernard Dahlmann who died between 1830 and 1934. His mother was Gertrude Enke. She later married a Deiterman (thus John's use of the name Dieterman) and they had a son, Edward Deiterman, also born in Westphalia. In 1851, John Dahlmann Deiterman and Edward Deiterman came to

Texas to live with an uncle at Frelsburg in Colorado County. In 1855-57, they lived in Covington, Kentucky, and in 1858-73, they lived in Soring Point, Cumberland County, Illinois. This is just north of Teutopolis in Effingham County, Illinois, where they attended St. Francis Catholic Church. In 1873, they moved back to Texas with their wives and families and were among the founders of Tours in McLennan County. John died about 1884 in Tours. Elsewhere in this issue, see history of the founding of Tours and St. Martin Church by families from Teutopolis, Illinois.

Gerald D. Heinrich 8066 Durham Ave., Lubbock TX 79424 plans to trace the ancestry of Wenzel Heinrich. He and his wife Magdalena Muenster came to High Hill, near Schulenburg, in 1866. A shoemaker by trade, Wenzel was the son of Andreas and Theresa Heinrich of Halbersdorf, Austria. Their children were Joseph, Ferdinand, Leopold, August, and Thekla, who married Edward Gold. Among the original settlers of High Hill in 1860 were Joseph and Anna (Kainer) Heinrich. Gerald would like to know if these two Heinrich families were related, and if so, what the relationship was.

Alpha B. Wagner 8408 Edgemere Blvd., El Paso TX 79925 says her mother Elsie Brand of San Antonio was very interested in the genealogy of the Uecker and Rompel families of New Braunfels and Bulverde. Although her mother is deceased, Alpha and her family are interested in pursuing the research on these families.

Thelma Cade-Perdue 311 Hunstock, San Antonio TX 78210 is the daughter of Winifred Schuetze Cade. She reports that Winifred's translation from the German of August Siemering's book Texas 1882 has been accepted for publication by Eakin Press. Winifred is also enlarging the section containing the biography of Siemering. Publisher of the Freie Presse fur Texas in San Antonio, Siemering had been previously a resident of Sisterdale and a teacher at Fredericksburg.

Cheri De Salme 4403 Black Walnut Woods, San Antonio TX 78249 is a third generation member of the Fritz Rothe family and works with Lou Fohn of San Angelo, a third generation member of the Louis Rothe family. They are both descendants of Heinrich Christoph Rothe and Emilie Rosa Wurzbach, originally from Warmentsteinach, Bavaria. Cheri is in charge of the Rothe family history, chairman of the reunion committee, and writer of the family newsletter. She is also writing a book about the Rothe family.

Helen Novosad 8725 Lugary Dr., Houston TX 77074 is interested in Michael Hartmann who came to Cat Spring in 1847.

Pauline Phillips 12314 Crested Butte Dr., Eagle River AK 99577 knows very little about her mother's side of the family and she is the only relative working on the family tree. The first puzzle concerns Anton Franks and his wife Angelika Heiman. According to the Census, both were born in Prussia, but Pauline does not know the specific place. They lived in Fayette County where their first child, a son, was born in 1859. Since Angelika was age 27 then, Pauline speculates that she may have had previous children who did not survive. She does not know if they were married in Texas or before they came to Texas. Their second child, Ida, was born in 1861, also in Fayette County. She married John Moritz Krueger a native of Posen. As far as Pauline knows, John came to Texas with his mother and a stepfather and lived in Fayette County, possibly at Muldoon. John and Ida moved to Half Moon where he had a general store and was postmaster. When the town of Shiner was established, he moved the family there and again opened a general store and post office. He was the first postmaster at Shiner. Pauline knows very little about this

Krueger family, but she thinks the mother's name was Julia and that she was married three times. One of her husbands was G. J. Henkle; they lived near Muldoon and operated a mill and molasses press. Their son was named either Edward or Albert. Other possible surnames in this family include Kahn and Domes. Grasping for clues, Pauline is looking for the Elizabeth Doms from Smithville who attended her uncle's funeral in 1947 and for the families of the two Heiman brothers who were photographers living in Half Moon and Shiner during the same period as John and Ida Krueger (1883-98 or so). Since Pauline lives so far away in Alaska, she would appreciate any help from our members living in the areas where her family first settled.

Betty D. Kaiser 4200 Lullwood, Austin TX 78722 was looking for more information on her husband's ancestors, Julius Kaiser and his father Christian Kaiser, so she wrote to the Lutheran Church in Stolberg, now in East Germany, the place of birth given on Julius's tombstone. About three months later, she received a reply from the church organist who answers such inquiries for his enjoyment. The reply gave the birth, death, and marriage dates for Johann Christian August Kaiser and his wife Joahne Christiane Henriette Burkhardt and well as some information on their parents and the dates of birth of eight children. Betty fills in the rest: Christian Kaiser, born 1806, came to New York prior to 1847 and then to Winnsbrough, and later to Union County, both in South Carolina. She does not know the place of Christian's death or burial, only that he died about 1862-63. His son Julius arrived in New York in 1848 at age 14-16. In 1850, Julius married Jane Jefferies in Union SC; they had four children. His second wife was Iris Meng, a niece of his first wife. They had no children. His third wife was Mary Virginia Epperson; they had six children. Both Julius and Mary Virginia are buried in the Burns Cemetery at Trenton, Texas.

Mary Schraeder Olson 4705 Hillside Dr., Arlington TX 76013 is looking for information on Felix Imhoff born approximately 1856 in Germany. His wife was Johanna Imhoff (maiden name the same as married name). She was born in 1858 in Germany, the daughter of Johannes and Eva (Butner) Imhoff. Johanna died in 1943 in Temple, Texas. Felix must have died young as Johanna came to Galveston in 1881 at age 23 with a three-year-old daughter, Anna Mary. She moved to Hockley and later married Adam Schutz. Mary is also interested in Louis Schraeder, born in 1835 in Germany and died in 1900 in Galveston. He married Helen Dietzel in 1868 in Galveston, three years after his arrival. Helen was born in 1845 in Germany and died in 1821, also in Galveston. They had four, possibly five, children.

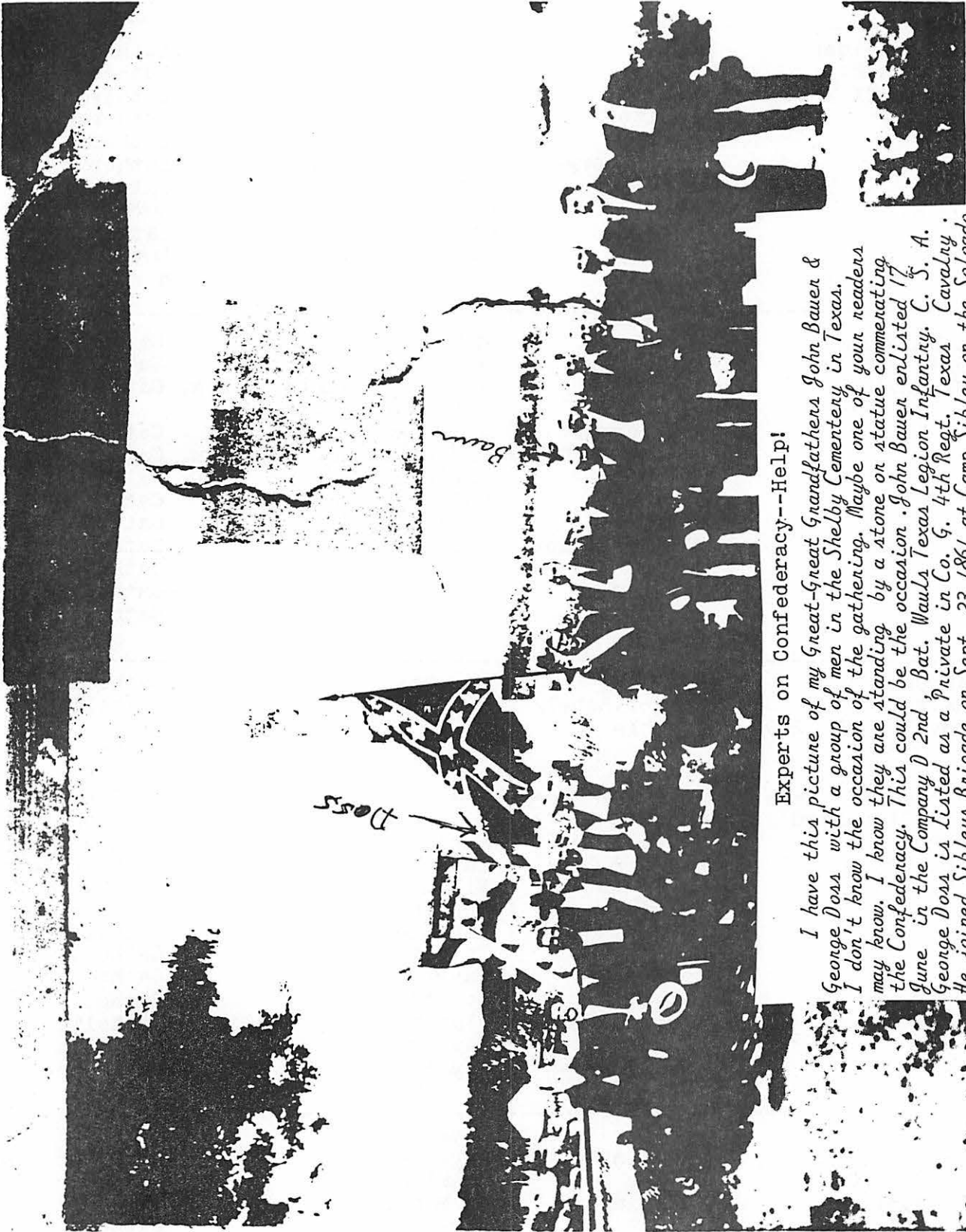
GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the Newsletter. It gives readers the names, areas, and other facts "at a glance." Also, it is quicker for you to submit--and easier for your Genealogy Editor to compile! Let's have more for this section.

Member	Researching Families	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Norma Searle 447 Saratoga San Antonio TX 78213 512 344-6109	Kring/Crink Sparks Butts	Refugio, Bee Mc Lennan, Aransas Medina	Catholic Baptist Baptist

Genealogical Exchange, continued

Member	Researching Families	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Lillian Schneider 238 Sharmain Pl San Antonio TX 78221 512 922-9110	Pieper	Comal, Bexar	Lutheran
	Ahrens	Comal	Lutheran
	Wehe	DeWitt, Comal	Lutheran
	Schulze	Colorado, Wilson	Lutheran
	Boeer	Fayette, Colorado	Lutheran
	Gerstenberger	Fayette, Colorado	Lutheran
	Schneider	Comal, Wilson	Catholic
	Voigt	Comal	Lutheran
	Scheel	Comal	Catholic
	Ulbricht	Blanco, Wilson	Lutheran
	Ortmann	Fayette, Colorado, Wilson	Luth.
Andrea Walston 919 Montclair Dr. Waco TX 76710	Berger	McLennan	Catholic
	Wiesmaier	McLennan	Catholic
	Wimmer	McLennan, Bexar, Falls, Archer, Cooke	Catholic
	Moosburger	McLennan, Bexar	Catholic
	Deiterman/Detterman	Colorado, McLennan, Wichita	Catholic
	Dahlmann	Colorado, McLennan	Catholic
	Enke	Colorado, McLennan	Catholic
	Miller/Müller	McLennan	Lutheran, Catholic
	Weinbarger	Hill, McLennan	Catholic
	Schlehufer	Hill, McLennan	Catholic
William Orton 1641 Halsell Fayetteville AR 72701 501 442-8036	Herrer	Fayette	Catholic
	Raibel.Rabel/ Rable	Fayette	Catholic
Patricia Blanchard 218 Levron Houma LA 70360 504 879-4228	Schmidt	Colorado?	Luth or Bapt
	Bauer	Austin	Luth or Bapt
	Kessler	Lavaca	Luth or Bapt
	Doss	Milam	Luth or Bapt
	Eckerman	Austin	Luth or Bapt
	Jasek	Fayette	Catholic
	Kuntzman	Fayette	Catholic
	Zatopek	Fayette	Catholic
	Huebel	Fayette, Milam	Catholic
	Semetana/Smetana	Fayette	Catholic
	Holub	Fayette	Catholic
	Paivlitsches	Fayette	Catholic
	Cathleen W Stahmer 8115 Hazen Houston TX 77036 713 771 5331	Ruetz	Fayette
Erdmann		Fayette	Lutheran
Hacker		in Michigan	Lutheran
Giermann		in Michigan	Lutheran
Brandt		Fayette	Lutheran
Westing		Fayette	Lutheran
Hickel		Fayette	Lutheran
Zimmer		Fayette	Lutheran
Witt			



Experts on Confederacy--Help!

I have this picture of my Great-Great Grandfathers John Bauer & George Doss with a group of men in the Shelby Cemetery in Texas. I don't know the occasion of the gathering. Maybe one of your readers may know. I know they are standing by a stone or statue commemorating the Confederacy. This could be the occasion John Bauer enlisted 17 June in the Company D 2nd, Bat. Wauka Texas Legion Infantry, C. S. A. George Doss is listed as a Private in Co. G, 4th Regt. Texas Cavalry. He joined Sibleys Brigade on Sept. 23 1861 at Camp Sibley on the Soladoo River near San Antonio, Texas. Anyone knowing of this event in the picture I would love to hear from you. Also it has Shelby 1914 on the picture. Could Sibley be Shelby?

From: Patricia Ann Schmidt Blanchard, 218 Levron, Houma LA 70360

From: Lillian Schneider, 238 Sharmain Pl. San Antonio, Texas 78221 (512)922-9190

PIEPER August Pieper came to Texas 1845. Married Johanna Kramm they had
 KRAMM 8 children, Married into Friesenhahn, Lex, Rhinehardt, Ahrens, Wehe,
 AHRENS Uecker, Johanna mother the widow of Christian Kramm married Johann
 ZUEGEL Kabelmacher. Pieper build first house in Bulverde, On the Cibolo Creek.
 WEHE Friedrich Ahrens came to Comal Co 1849 Lived next to Friedrich Wehe,
 GERSTENBERGER When Wehe died the widow married Friedrich Ahrens. They were 4 Wehe
 BOEER children. Married into Specht, Schwab, Pieper, Bourgeois, Voelcker.
 KRETSCHMAR The 3 Ahrens children married into Pieper, Rittermann . The widow
 LICHEY Wehe was nee Zuegel. Lived at Anhalt Comal Co.
 SCHULZE Johann Gottfried Gerstenberger and wife Marie Rosina Lichey came
 KOHLEFFEL to Texas 1854-1856. They had 6 children. Married into Reichert,
 ORTMANN Woltersdorf, Boeer, Kugler. Colorado Co. And Fayette County.
 SCHNEIDER Charles Seigmund Boeer & wife Anna Rosina Kretschmar came to
 SCHEEL Texas 1851 settled first at Rudersville, Fayette Co. Then 1866 moved
 VOIGT to Oakland Colorado co. They had 5 children, Who married into
 ULBRICHT Hehr, Gerstenberger, Kuglar, Wolf, Lehrich,
 STEPHAN Johann Schulze came from Saxony to Texas and in 1853 married
 SOURMANN The widow of Joachim Ortmann. She was nee Kohleffel. Had 4 Ortmann
 children. Who married into Krebs, Burger, Burkett, Veith, Keithel,
 Then they had 1 Schulze, Carl Henry who married Louise Boeer.
 They had 8 children who married into , Orth, Boening, Klasek,
 Steinbring, Pieper, Nitsche, Hoefflmeyer, Naumann. Colorado & Wilson co..
 Adam Joseph Schneider came from Michelsrombach Germany to
 New Braunfels, 1850 His sweetheart followed 1856. Caroline Scheel.
 married. 1857 and had 8 children. Who married into Ott, Klaus,
 Voigt, Hell, Hicks, Wahl, Reiley, Tschoepe.
 Adam Joseph fell into thrashing machine in 1878 and bleed to
 death. The Widow Caroline then married Eugene Siebert ,
 They had one son Eugene Jr. married Elizabeth Froelich, they had
 4 children, who married into Seidel, Printy, Burrier,
 who all live in New Braunfels Texas.
 Benhard Scheel & wife Barbara Link came to Texas at different
 times Their 16 children married into Schneider, Georg, Kabelmacher,
 Krause, Haas, Koch, Weidner, Poss, Schmidt, Laubach, Wehe, This is
 very large family. Two of Scheel boys had 15 children each. The others
 all had 6 & 8 children. They lived in Honeycreek & New Braunfels.
 Wilhelm Voigt and wife Sophie Zukenfordt (Suchford) came
 from BallenhausenGöttingen Germany To Texas in 1853. They had
 7 children. One died on ship on way over. One drowned in Comal creek.
 The others married into Schwab, Schertz, Donnerberg, Reinshagen,
 Schneider, They settled in Comal Texas.
 The two Ulbricht Brothers came to Texas 1887 Henry Ulbricht
 wife Erenstine Stephan. they had 9 children. married into
 Vogel, Meyer, Braunholz Becker, Eberhardt, Eberhard, Petrosky, Garbrecht,
 Arnold. Herman Ulbricht and wife Ernestine Saurmann had 7 children.
 Married into Strey, Warncke, Matthies, Malchar, Schneider, Lassig,
 Neisser, The Ulbricht came from Königreich, Saxony, Germany.
 Henry Ulbricht settled in Umland Hays Co Texas And Herman
 settled at Poth, Wilson Texas.
 Any help on any of the families. Will be promptly answered.
 I have been working on these families since 1968. Still have lot
 missing. So am waiting to hear from you.

PETER PIEPER AND NEIGHBORS OF COLORADO COUNTY

Walter P. Noser

5326 Yarwell, Houston TX 77096

Peter Pieper, son of Casper Pieper, was born about 1793 in Westphalia, Germany. He was married on 16 September 1826 to Elizabeth Dedich Menke, a widow with a two year old son named Otto Menke. Their children were John Bernard Earnest Pieper, born 27 August 1827 and Elizabeth Pieper, born 19 August 1829. Their son died 3 March 1834.(1)

Peter Pieper was a bricklayer by trade. He emigrated illegally from Muenster, Germany to Texas in 1833. Two other men from the same area emigrated illegally in 1833. They were Johan Heinrich Silkenbaumer from Ascheberg and Ferdinand Witte from Selm.

Elizabeth Dedich Pieper received legal permission for Peter Pieper and family to emigrate in 1835. Emigration permits were given in 1835 to the John Bernhard Heiman family, to John Bernhard Kleikamp and wife, Clara Puelar, to Bernhard Heinrich Honerman also known as Bernhard Schneider, to Bernhard Heinrich Silkenbaumer and wife, Elizabeth Ketterman with one child. The Silkenbaumer name was shortened to Beimer when he came to Texas. Accompanying the Silkenbaumer family was M. Elizabeth Kotter with her daughter, Wilhelmina, aged 2. Her reason for emigrating was to join her intended husband, Johan Heinrich Silkenbaumer, the brother of Bernhard.(2) These people all emigrated at the same time and were probably on the same ship because they all became neighbors in the Frelsburg area.

Peter Pieper was a friend of Freidrich Ernst, the first German with a family to settle in Texas. Caroline Von Hinueber, the daughter of Ernst, wrote about their experiences during the "Runaway Scrape" in the Texas Historical Association Quarterly, Vol. 2, p 227:

"When the war broke out, my father at first intended to remain at home. But the Mexicans had induced the Kickapoo Indians to revolt, and he was warned by Captains Lester, York and Pettus against the savages. We then set out with the intention of crossing the Sabine and seeking safety in the States. When we arrived at the Brazos, we found so many people assembled at the ferry that it would have been three days before the one small ferry-boat could have carried us over the stream. The roads were almost impassable. So my father pitched his camp in the middle of the Brazos bottom near Brenham, here we remained until after the battle of San Jacinto. Thirteen men with their families, mostly Munsterlanders and Oldenburgers from Cummins Creek, were in our party. They were Weppler, Captain Vrels, Bartels, Piefer, Boehmen, Schneider, Kleekamp, Kasper Heiman, Grunder, and Witte. Some of the Germans fared ill on account of their tardy flight. Mrs. Geogens and her two children were captured by the Indians and taken to the border of Texas, where American traders ransomed the lady, but had not sufficient money to purchase the children. These remained with the Indians. The Mexicans captured Stoehlke and intended to hang him. Upon his using the name of Jesus Christ, they released him. Kasper Simon was also made a prisoner, but released upon exhibiting his ignorance of the whereabouts of the Texas Army."(3)

Peter Pieper served during the Texan's war for Independence from 5 May 1836 to 23 August 1836 and was later awarded Bounty Warrant No. 1690 for 320

acres in Colorado County. He assigned this to William Frels and Frels received Patent No. 220 GLO Vol. 2 Abstract 460 in Colorado County.

Peter Pieper settled on land in Colorado County East of Cummins Creek. Two creeks crossed this land, The larger of these was later named Pipers Creek and ran Northeasterly through the center of his tract in a gently rolling beautifully wooded area. Redgate Creek runs North and South through the East quarter of his League. The land is Spring fed with many gravel deposits. In 1836 he applied for a Mexican land grant. In February, 1838 he received Texas land Certificate Number 62 for one Labor of land in addition to the League granted by the Mexican government. There must have been some doubt about the legality of the Mexican grant because he asked for and received Texas land Certificate Number 132 for the original League of land in August 1838.

Colorado County Deed Records indicate that Pieper sold some of his land to Jacob Walters in 1837 and to William Frels shortly after getting his Land Certificate. A land survey was made of his league in March 1838. He and his neighbors, William Frels, Bernard Schneider, Casper Heiman, and Samuel Redgate served as chainmen during land surveys made by surveyors L. S. Hagler and Williard Wadhams.

When the applications for Land certificates were signed in February 1838, Peter Pieper, William Frels, Jacob Walters, Bernard Schneider, Casper Heiman and Bernard Beimer acted as witnesses for each other and for the deceased Henry Bymer (Johan Heinrich Silkenbaumer). In August 1838, Jacob Walters and John Oatkin witnessed Land Certificate for Casper Simon. Jacob Walters and Casper Simon witnessed Land Certificate for Adolphus Zimmerscheid. Charles Gieseke and Jacob Walters witnessed Land Certificate for Peter Pieper.

Elizabeth Kotter and Casper Simon's common law marriage was made legal with their marriage under Texas law at Columbus on 9 July 1837. Elizabeth Kotter Simon was widowed and shortly thereafter married Peter Pieper on 11 September 1838. She made application for letters of administration on the estate of and was declared the sole survivor and legal heir of Casper Simon.

At the time of their marriage, Peter Pieper and Elizabeth Simon each had small children. Peter Pieper's stepson, Anton Menke Pieper, was fifteen years of age. Anton moved to New Braunfels and became Sheriff of Comal County at age 26. A daughter, Elizabeth Pieper, born in Munster, received a gift of 165 acres of land from Peter Pieper on 1 January 1851 and was married to William Hahnlan at Columbus Texas on 10 January 1853.

Elizabeth Kotter Simon Pieper had two daughters at the time of her marriage to Peter Pieper. The eldest, Wilhelmina Silkenbaumer, born 15 April 1832 in Munster, Westphalia, Germany, was the daughter of Johan Heinrich Silkenbaumer who emigrated illegally in 1833 and who must have died before his daughter arrived in Texas. Wilhelmina married Antone Neuendorff on 13 February 1847 in Columbus, Texas. Wilhelmina and her husband, Antone Neuendorff received 288 1/2 acres of land as a gift from her mother on 13 May 1847. This was shortly after the Casper Simon Headright was patented on 16 February 1845. The second daughter, Elizabeth gave her maiden name as Simon when she married Ernest Koenig in Fayette County on 29 July 1856.

Elizabeth Kotter Simon and Peter Pieper had three children. Their first son, Freidrich, died young. A daughter, Julia was born at Frelsburg in 1840 and later married John B. Braden at Mentz, Texas on 20 May 1857. Their youngest son, Paul Pieper, was born 20 June 1846 in Frelsburg, served in the

17th Regiment of the Texas Infantry during the Civil War, married Catherine Mendel at Mentz, Texas on 28 August 1866, and died 6 December 1924 at Barclay, Falls County, Texas.(4)

Peter Pieper began selling portions of his headright lands as early as 1837. His first sales were to his German friends and neighbors such as Jacob Walters, William Frels, John Grunder, George Damkin, Renke Stoltze, Bernard Beumer, Carl Giesecke, Bernard Schneider and others. Most of these families camped with Friedrich Ernst during the "Runaway Scrape".

Peter Pieper and his wife, Elizabeth Kotter Simon Pieper, gave two portions of land in the Pieper headright to Bishop John M. Odin of the Catholic Diocese of Galveston in order to build a church in Frelsburg. After the Casper Simon headright was patented in 1846, they sold portions of it to recent immigrants from Germany. Land sales by him and his wife show some 60 separate portions of land. These sales may have been a major source of their total income.

Recent research in the early Catholic records of Galveston and Houston indicate that difficulties were encountered by the early missionary priests. Father John Timon, rector of the Vincentian Seminary of St. Mary of the Barrens, Missouri brought Father Nicholas Stehle to Texas to work among the Catholics settled along the Brazos and Colorado Rivers. Father Stehle was sent out on his missions on 22 December 1840. On 18 Jan. 1841 the Texas Congress confirmed the use, occupation and enjoyment of the existing churches, church lots and mission churches to the Roman Catholic Congregations; living in or near the vicinity of the same. Father Stehle found frontier life too strenuous and was returned to Missouri on 13 July 1841. Father John Odin, appointed Vicar Apostolic to Texas, was one of the early missionaries in Texas who was later consecrated Bishop of Texas at New Orleans on 6 March 1842. He returned to Galveston on 13 May 1842.(5) Bishop Odin dedicated St. Vincent de Paul Church in Houston on 17 July 1842. In the spring of 1843 Bishop Odin began to keep what is now called "The Saddle Bag Records" because it was carried in the saddle bags of the early priests. One of these priests, Father F. P. Oge' made a trip to Colorado County in November 1843 to a location he names Westmunster, Colloretto County which was probably in or near Frelsburg. He performed marriages and baptized children of families who had not seen a Priest for several years:

5 Nov 1843 baptized:

Elizabeth Pieper, age 8, daughter of Peter Pieper and Elizabeth Kotter.

Julia Pieper, age 3 1/2 daughter of Peter Pieper and Elizabeth Kotter.

Louis Beimer, age 5 1/2, son of the deceased Bernhard Beimer and his wife Elizabeth.

William Casper Beimer, born 17 Feb 1839, son of the deceased Bernhard Beimer and his wife Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Beimer, born 13 May 1840, daughter of the deceased Bernhard Beimer and his wife Elizabeth.

Bernadine Schneider, age 2 10/12, daughter of Bernard Schneider and Clara Peular.

John Heinrich Schneider, age 10/12, son of Bernard Schneider and Clara Peular.

Elizabeth Heiman, age 2, daughter of Casper Heiman and Barbara Wetzell.

11 November 1843 in Westmunster, Coloretto County.

Performed Marriages of :

Peter Pieper and Elizabeth Kotter.

Bernard Schneider and Clara Peular.

197

Casper Heiman and Barbara Wetzell.

Baptized Johanna Elizabeth Jurgan, born 26 Aug 1836, daughter of the deceased Jurgan and his wife Elizabeth Henige.

20 November 1843, Colloretto County, Baptized:

Johanna Rohr, born 14 April 1840

Edmond Rohr, born January 1843.

children of ?

Maria Forster, born 30 March 1840, daughter of John and Elizabeth Forster.

21 November 1843, Colloretto County, Baptized:

Phillip Edward Cuhman, born 21 May 1843, son of Edward and Magdalena Cuhman, citizen of Westmunster.

30 November 1843, baptized:

Ludoviciam Jipe', born 14 July 1840, daughter of the deceased Henrie Jipe' and his wife, a Protestant.

Emillia Maria Louisa Wilke, born 29 May (1843?) daughter of Henrie Fred Louis Wilkie and Elizabeth Lander, citizens of San Felipe.(6)

The 1850 census of Colorado County shows No. 187 Peter Pieper age 59 and his wife Elizabeth age 43 but does not list his children.

Colorado County Probate Case 282 in Book D, page 96 shows that on 27 March 1855 Antone Burttschell, the second husband of Wilhelmina Silkenbaumer Nuendorf, was named administrator of the Estate of Peter Pieper who died shortly before this date. His widow, Elizabeth Kotter Pieper, died some time before December 1862. Land records indicate that her surviving children by quit-claim deeds to each other divided the remaining portion of the Casper Simon Headright in December 1862.(7)

Notes and Comments

¹ Records were obtained in 1983 from Bistumarchiv Munster at 4400 Munster, Georgskommende 19 and at Staatsarchiv, Munster, Bohlweg 2 Nordrhein-Westfalen, West Germany. Information on where to find records was obtained from Smith, Clifford Neal & Anna Piszczan-Czaja, *American Genealogical Resources in German Archives (AGRIGA): A Handbook*. Munchen, Verlag Documentation, Publishers, 1977.

² Schroeder, August, Editor *Beitrage zur westfalischen Familienforschung* Band 22-24, 1964-1966, pp 65,66,275,298. English translations of references are:

156 Johan Bernhard Heimann from Isendorf, area of Vorhelm, grocer, age 50 with wife, Elizabeth Knappkotter, age 40 from Beckum, and children A. Elizabeth, 23, Johan Bernhard, 21, A. Christ, 15, Herman, 11, Anton. 9, Heinrich, 7, Elisabeth 5, Stephan, 2 emigrated in 1834 to North America.

161 Johan Bernhard Kleikamp from Ascheberg, Weaver, born 25 Aug. 1806, and wife, Clara Peular from Rinkerode with one 6 year old child emigrated in 1835 to America.

162 Bernhard Heinrich Silkenbaumer from Ascheberg, farmer, born 20 March 1804, and wife, Elizabeth Ketterman from Rinkerode with one nine month old child emigrated in 1835 to America. (Changed his name to Beimer, sometimes spelled Baumer, Beymer or Bymer when he came to Texas).

163 M. Elizabeth Kotter from Eickendorf, area of Drensteinfurt, age 28 with daughter, Wilhelmina, born 20 April 1832, emigrated in 1835 to North America-Texas. (She accompanied the Bernhard Silkenbaumer family to reach his brother, her intended husband).

165 Peter Pieper from Munster, Bricklayer, age 42, with wife, Elizabeth Dedig, age 43, stepson Anton Aloys Otto Menke, born 23 Sept. 1823, and daughter Elizabeth, age 5 1/2, emigrated legally in 1835 to North America- New Mexico. Pieper had emigrated illegally in 1833.

3999 Johan Heinrich Silkenbomer from Ascheberg, farm laborer born 7 Feb. 1800, emigrated in 1833 to America without consent. He is father of illegitimate child of Elizabeth Kotter, No. 163.

4001 Ferdinand Witte from Selm, weaver, born 17 Oct. 1795, with son, Ferdinand, born 10 May 1815, emigrated without consent in 1833 to America. Accompanied by wife and child (of son ?).

4520 Berhard Heinrich Honermann also called Schneider from Ascheberg, born 7 March 1814, son of Johan Heinrich Honermann and Bernardine Schneider emigrated in 1835 to America.

☞ Names were given late in life by Caroline von Hinueber to her grandnephew, Robert Kleberg Jr., who translated them into English. Crystal Sasse Ragsdale in *The Golden Free Land*, p.14, gives the first names of the men. My research indicates that Piefer was Peter Pieper, Boehmen was Bernhard Heinrich Beimer (Silkenbaumer), Schneider was Bernhard Schneider. These names have been spelled differently in land records. ie:

Amsler, Armsler; Weppler; Vrels, Frels, Freils; Bartels; Damke, Damkin, Dannker; Wolters, Walters; Piefer, proably Pieper or Piper; Boehmen, probably Baumer, Beimer or Bymer, Schneider, Sdyder, Snider; Kleekamp, Kleikamp, Kleekamper; Kasper Hiemann, Hyman, Heilman; Grunder, Gruender; Witte; Stoehlke, Stoltze, Stoelje. Other German names such as Goergens or Jurgens were anglicised by clerks who spelled the names the way they were sounded. No doubt, many of the early German immigrants had difficulty in communicating in a language foreign to their own.

⬆ Vital records were obtained from church and civil records. Detailed records appear in privately printed *Early German Immigrants to Bernardo, Mentz, Frelsburg in Colorado, County, Texas* by Noser, Garnett Pickett and Walter. P., 1981.

▣ Castaneda, Carlos. E. *Our Catholic Heritage in Texas, 1519-1936, Vol. 7* Austin: Von Boeckmann-Jones, 1958.

◊ O'Donnell, Sister Mary Brendan, *Annunciation Church-Catholic Motherchurch of Houston*, Master of Arts Thesis, 1965, University of Houston.

"Saddle Bag Records" of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, the first Catholic church in Houston, Texas. Records are now in Houston-Galveston Diocese archives in Houston, Texas.

7 Colorado County Probate records, Book D, p419, p503, p517, p566, Book E, p.7,8,9,16, Book L, p.327-37.

Additional Comments

If you have followed this confusing story thus far, perhaps a few additional comments are in order.

Walter Noser submitted a lengthy paper on these families, published in our Summer 1981 issue, pages 39-44. Also in 1981, he and his wife, Garnett, expanded that article into "Early German Immigrants to Bernardo, Mentz, Frelsburg in Colorado County, Texas" which Mr. Noser cites in footnote 4. Mr. Noser also had an article in our Summer 1984 issue on his research trip to Germany. In addition to the sources cited in the footnotes to this article, he sent some 20 pages of documentary evidence, including many land transaction records.

Yet, questions still remain. There are many names mentioned in this article; some fit into the story, while others do not. In addition, there is still a question as to when the Silkenbaumer/Silkenbömer name was shortened to Beimer. Perhaps it was when he lived in South Carolina, before coming to Texas. We may never know for sure. How do we know those people (in the third paragraph) emigrated at the same time and "probably" on the same ship? How do we know Peter Pieper was a friend of Friedrich Ernst? How do we know that Elizabeth Kötter and Casper Simon had a prior common-law marriage? How did she find him to marry him? Even if Casper Simon died immediately after applying for a land certificate on August 2, 1838, it would have been less than six weeks later that his widow married Peter Pieper. Possible, but likely?

There are other questions concerning the details of applications for land certificates, church burial records, probate records, etc. We invite comments from any other member or reader who has an interest in and knowledge of these families and events.

* * * * *

On the next two pages are a newspaper article (and translation) about the immigrant Johann Henrich Silkenbömer that tie in with the previous article.

* * * * *

ETHNIC COMMUNITIES

Do you live in a community whose early days were largely influenced by immigrants from non-English speaking countries? Does this community retain a European flavor? Are there festivals to enhance and keep alive those traditions? The IGS is interested in collecting such information and publishing vignettes about these communities. Let's let the Californians know about our Texas ethnic communities. Write: Immigrant Genealogical Society, 5043 Lanker-shim Blvd., North Hollywood CA 91601.

Für Johann Henrich Silkenböhmer lohnte sich das Wagnis Ackerknecht wurde großer Farmer

Bernhard Rothers gab Urenkel Auskunft über Vorfahren in der Osterbauerschaft

Ascheberg. Der Zufall spielte mit. Eine Begegnung mit einem Nachfahren eines Ascheberger Auswanderers hatte jetzt Heilmatzeinsvorsitzender Bernhard Rothers. Ein paar Tage nach der Lektüre eines alten Kalenderartikels über einen armen Ackerknecht, der im Jahre 1833 nach Amerika auswanderte und für den das geflügelte Wort vom „Land der unbegrenzten Möglichkeiten“ Wirklichkeit geworden ist, stand ein Urenkel des Auswanderers beim ehemaligen Ascheberger Gemeindegeldrektor vor der Tür.

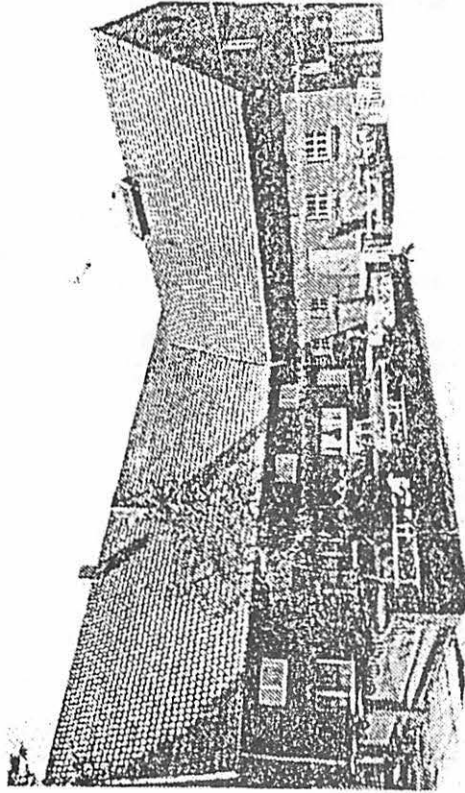
Sent by Emma Helpert,
Dallas, Texas.
Translation on
next page by her.

Photo is of the
Silkenböhmer home
in Ascheberg--the
home of Johann
Heinrich Silkenböhmer/
Beimer, who came to
Texas in 1833. This
was Emma's great
grandfather.

„Vor einigen Tagen las ich zufällig in einem alten Heilmatkalender (1957) unter der Überschrift „Auswanderer aus dem Kreise Lüdinghausen vor 20 Jahren“ daß sich im Frühjahr 1833 beim Landrat in Lüdinghausen die ersten Auswanderer nach Amerika meldeten mit dem Antrag auf Genehmigung. In diesem Bericht wird u. a. der Ackerknecht Johann Henrich Silkenböhmer, geb. 1800 in Ascheberg, genannt. Seine persönlichen und finanziellen Verhältnisse sind im einzelnen in dem Antrag dargestellt; der Landrat rät dringend ab, weil er „arm sei, so daß er nicht einmal die Überfahrt selbst bezahlen könne“ ein Hobrecker aus Hamm hatte sich bereit erklärt, diese Kosten zu übernehmen) und weil er wegen einiger gesundheitlicher Mängel ausgemustert, das heißt vom Kriegsdienst freigestellt worden sei.

Silkenböhmer ist aber trotzdem 1833 in einer Gruppe von weiteren Auswanderern aus dem Kreise Lüdinghausen und der Umgebung von Hamm nach Süd-Carolina in USA ausgewandert. Es handelt sich bei diesen ersten Auswanderern nach dem Bericht im Heilmatkalender ausschließlich um ärmere Leute, die hier keine „Existenz“ hatten. Nur der Fabrikant Hobrecker aus Hamm, der dort seine Fabrik verkaufte, um drüben neu zu beginnen, hat die Kosten für die Überfahrt fast der gesamten Gruppe übernommen.

Am Tage nachdem ich diesen Bericht im Heilmatkalender gelesen hatte, steht in der Tat ein Urenkel dieses Johann Henrich Silkenböhmer vor meiner Haustür mit einem Zettel, auf dem mein Name stand und erkundigt sich nach seinen Vorfahren in Deutschland. Die Besucher berichteten, daß dort damals alle Auswanderer gut zurückgekommen seien. Der Ackerknecht Johann Henrich Silkenböhmer habe eini-



Stammte vom Hof Silkenböhmer in der Osterbauer 12 ab: Johann Henrich Silkenböhmer, der 1833 nach Amerika auswanderte. L.Z.-Foto: j...

ge Zeit nach seiner Überfahrt mehrere tausend Morgen Land vom Staat bekommen und eine schöne Farm dort errichtet. Da ich von jeder Familie der allen Gemeinde Ascheberg eine Akte angelegt habe, konnte ich meinen deutsch-amerikanischen Besuchern erschöpfende Auskunft über ihre Vorfahren auf dem Hofe Silkenböhmer, Osterbauer 12, geben und dazu noch eine Ablichtung des für sie sehr aufschlußreichen Berichtes aus dem Heilmatkalender.

In den späteren Jahrzehnten, besonders auch um die Jahrhundertwende, sind aus dem Kreise Lüdinghausen zahlreiche nachgeborene Bauern und Bürgersöhne nach Amerika aber auch zum Osten ausgewandert. Sie kamen zu einem guten Teil aus wohlhabenden und gutsituierten Familien, so daß sie

hinreichendes Startkapital mitbrachten. Aus den heute noch bestehenden Kontakten mit den Auswanderern geht hervor, daß sie in USA und Kanada gut zurechtgekommen sind. Die meisten haben in Gruppen ihre plattdeutsche Sprache in der neuen Heimat beibehalten. Erst im Zweiten Weltkrieg entstand hier ein Bruch, so daß die jüngeren Nachkommen nur noch Englisch sprechen.

Am 9. Juli werden Nachkommen der Auswandererfamilie Dabbel ihre Angehörigen in Ascheberg für einige Tage besuchen. Dies ist kein Einzelfall; fast in jedem Jahr kommen Deutsch-Amerikaner, die sich auf einer „Sight-Seeing-Tour“ in Deutschland befinden, in die Heimat ihrer Vorfahren und werden hier herzlich begrüßt und als Verwandte freundlich aufgenommen.“

200

ON JULY 9th RELATIVES OF THE IMMIGRATED FAMILY DABBELT WILL VISIT THEIR RELATIVES IN GERMANY, ~~FOR MANY~~ DAYS. THIS IS NOT A BARE THING, MOST EVERY YEAR GERMAN AMERICANS COME ON A "SIGHT SEEING TOUR" TO GERMANY IN THE HOMETOWN OF THEIR FORE FATHERS AND ARE HEARTLY GREETED AND WELCOMED AND TAKEN IN AS FRIENDLY RELATIVES.

IN LATER YEARS A LOT OF YOUNGER FARMERS AND SONS OF MIDDLE CLASS CITIZENS IMMIGRATED TO AMERICA FROM THE AREA OF LUDINGHAUSEN, BUT ALSO TO THE EAST IN U S A. THE MOST OF THEM CAME FROM WELL TO DO AND GOOD SITUATED FAMILIES SO THAT THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM A GOOD STARTING CAPITAL. FROM THE CONTACT AS OF TODAY WITH THE IMMIGRANTS WE HEAR THAT THEY ARE WELL SATISFIED IN U.S.A , AND CANADA. THE MOST IN THEIR GROUP HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR (PLATT DEUTCH) LOW GERMAN LANGUAGE IN THEIR NEWMOMELAND, ONLY WITH THE SECOND WORLD WAR IT CAME TO A BREAK THAT THE YOUNGER GENERATION SPEAKS ONLY ENGLISH.

ONE DAY LATER AFTER I SAW THIS NEWS ITEM IN THE "HOME LAND CALENDER" FOR A FACT THERE STOOD AT MY DOOR THE GREAT GRANDCHILD OF THIS JOHANN HENRICH SIKKENBOMER WITH A PAPER THAT HAD MY NAME ON IT AND ASKED ABOUT HIS FOREFATHERS IN GERMANY. THE VISITORS TOLD US THAT ALL THE IMMIGRANTS AT THAT TIME ALL MADE IT GOOD. THE LABORER JOHANN HENRICH SIKKENBOMER SOME TIME AFTER HE CAME TO THE U S A OB-TAINED SEVERAL THOUSAND MORGANS OF LAND FROM THE STATE AND ACQUIRED A NICE FARM. BECAUSE I KEPT A REPORT OF ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE PARISH IN ASCHBERG I COULD GIVE MY AMERICAN VISITORS A THOROUGH INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR FOREFATHERS FROM THE HOME SIKKENBOMER OSTERBAUER SCHAFT 12 9 (THIS IS OUR RELATIVES WE VISIT THERE) AND ALSO A LOGICALLY CORRECT INFORMATION OUT OF THE "HOME LAND CALENDER".

A FEW DAYS AGO I JUST BY CHANCE READ IN AN OLD "HOMESTEAD CALENDER (1957) ISSUE A NEWS ITEM, IMMIGRANTS FROM THE AREA OF LUDINGHAUSEN FOR 20 YRS. THAT IN THE SPRING OF 1833 A IMMIGRANT ASKED ABOUT ACCEPTANCE TO GO TO AMERICA. IN THIS INFORMATION THE LABORER JOHANN HENRICH SIKKENBOMER BORN 1800 IN ASCHBERG WAS MENTIONED. HIS PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL SITUATION WAS MENTIONED IN THE PROCESS. THE PROVINCIAL LAW ADVISED HIM NOT TO GO, BECAUSE HE WAS POOR AND COULD NOT PAY HIS WAY. (A HOBRECKER FROM HANN QUICKLY MADE HIMSELF AVAILABLE TO OVER TAKE THE EXPENSE OF THE TRIP) AND BECAUSE OF A HEALTH PROBLEM (MANGEL; THIS COULD BE ANY HEALTH PROBLEM) HE WAS DEFERRED FROM ARMY DUTY. IN SPITE OF ALL SIKKENBOMER JOINED A GROUP OF IMMIGRANTS FROM HANN AND IMMIGRATED TO SOUTH CAROLINA IN U S A . THIS WRITE UP IN THE "HOMESTEAD CALENDER" SPEAKS MAINLY OF POOR FOLKS THAT HAD NO CHANCE OF EXISTANCE THERE. BUT THE HOBRECKER A FACTORY OWNER WHO SOLD HIS FACTORY IN ORDER TO START A NEW BUS-INESS PAID THE FARE FOR THE GROUP FROM HANN.

ASCHBERG THE CHANCE PLAYS A PART. PRESIDENT BERNHARD ROTHERS PRESIDENT OF THE "HOME TOWN SOCIETY" HAD THIS EN-COUNTER WITH A RESEARCHER FROM ASCHBERG. A FEW DAYS AFTER THE LECTURE OF AN OLD CALENDER ARTICLE OF A POOR LABORER WHO IMMIGRATED TO AMERICA IN 1833 AND FOR WHOM THE WINGED WORDS FROM THE LAND OF IMPOSSIBLE BECAME A REALITY. THERE STOOD THIS GREAT GRANDCHILD OF THIS IMMIGRANT AT THE DOOR OF THE HUSBAND OF THE "ASCHBERGER PARISH DIRECTOR".

DAY LABORER BECAME BIG FARMER BERNHARD ROTHERS GAVE GREAT GRANDSON INFORMATION ABOUT HIS FOREFATHERS IN THE OSTER BAUERSCHAFT FAMILY.

FOR JOHANN HENRICH SIKKENBOMER THE ATTEMPTED VENTURE PAID OFF

201



COMAL COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 583 • New Braunfels, Texas 73130

I N F O R M A T I O N

MEETINGS: 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month (except July) in the 2nd floor meeting room of the First Savings & Loan on the Plaza in New Braunfels, Texas.

DUES: \$10.00 per year

FAMILY FOOTSTEPS: Published quarterly (Mar., June, Sept., Dec.)
 Mailed to out of town members.

Queries are free to members and will be placed as space permits. Non-members may place queries at a cost of \$1.00 per query. Address to:
 Editor, Family Footsteps Quarterly
 P.O. Box 583 New Braunfels, TX 78130

Local & family histories are located in a small Genealogical Section in the Dittlinger Library. Ask the Librarian for assistance.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

COMAL COUNTY TX MARRIAGE BOOKS - \$8.00 per book plus \$1.00 postage.

- Book 1 1846-1864 - Over 1,500 Names
- Book 2 1864-1877 - Over 1,700 Names
- Book 3 1877-1888 - Over 2,000 Names
- Book 4 1888-1897 - Over 2,000 Names
- Book 5 1897-1907 - Over 1,600 Names

NEW BRAUNFELS TX CEMETERY RECORDS - \$18.00 plus \$2.00 postage.

QUARTERLIES: \$2.00 per number plus 50 cent postage.

- Volume I 1984 - Numbers 1, 2, and 3
- Volume II 1985 - Numbers 1, 2, and 3
- Volume III 1986 - Numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4

**ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN GENEALOGY ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR GROUP.
 VISITORS ARE WELCOME.**



A SPECIAL INVITATION for YOU -

The TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in November, 1960, for the purpose of enriching the wealth of genealogical and historical research material in Texas, and to make it more readily available to all who seek their family and local history.

Your membership in TSGS makes you a partner in a unique opportunity to preserve the family heritage of our State. Your financial support will assist the Society in expanding these many opportunities.

Your membership will also bring you into contact with other genealogists, and will entitle you to a voice in Society affairs. The Society meets annually for a combination business meeting and conference which features noted lecturers on a variety of genealogical topics. You will receive four issues per year of the official publication, STIRPES, with FREE query privileges in each issue. Should you wish to purchase space for a paid advertisement, as a member you will receive a 10% discount.

STIRPES (Latin word for roots) totals approximately three-hundred pages each volume (year) and carries a full-name AND a topical index. While we are dedicated to TEXAS related material, there are also articles of general interest, a regular feature on ethnic genealogy, a bulletin board of meeting information as well as the usual book reviews and queries and advertisements. If you have not seen a recent issue of STIRPES, we hope you will ask your local library for a copy.

The TSGS Board of Directors cover the State, and we are in your area to serve you and your local Society. We invite your inquiries.

Membership and Subscription Data

Memberships and Subscriptions are by the Calendar Year, payable on or before each January 1. Those joining during the year will receive those issues already published. If you wish to receive a membership card, please include a Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelope with your membership/subscription order.

Individual Member	\$15.00	Contributing Member	\$20.00
Member & Spouse	\$18.00	Patron Member	\$50.00
Subscriptions (Libraries & Societies) . . .		\$20.00	
Foreign addresses should add \$3.00			

Checks and/or money orders for membership dues and/or subscriptions should be made payable to

TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

and mailed to

2507 Tannehill
Houston, Texas 77008-3052

You are invited to submit your first query with your membership check.

New Member () Renewal () Individual \$15 () Individual & Spouse \$18 ()
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If Individual & Spouse, please give BOTH names. LADIES, maiden name please.

first	middle/maiden	last
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MAILING ADDRESS: _____

This article was submitted by Andrea Walston, 919 Montclair, Waco TX 87710. For ease in reading, we are using Andrea's typed version of the history of St. Martin's at Tours. Currently, Sr. Mary Elizabeth Jupe, GTHS member, is residing at Tours to prepare a comprehensive history of St. Martin's.

The West News - July 16, 1987

50 & 60 Years Ago

By Dorothy Warren

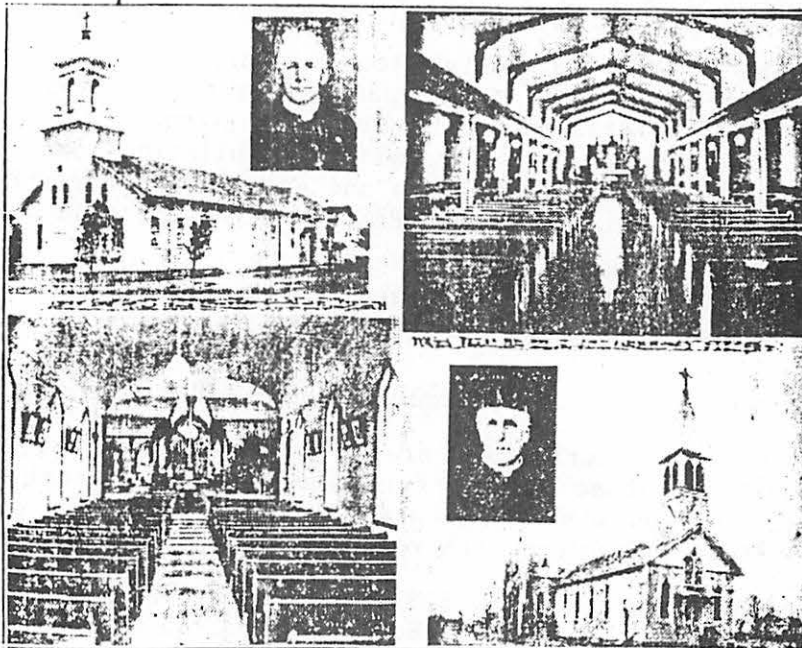
**60 Years Ago...
Friday, July 15, 1927**

**3 Business Buildings
Burn In Aquilla**

Fire starting in a room at the Pool hotel from an oil stove which a roomer had left burning, at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, completely destroyed that hotel, a barber shop and fixtures belonging to P.M. Whaling, a vacant restaurant building belonging to Rube Harvey, and then spread to the homes of Jim Cauble and Joe Burt where it was checked by the combined efforts of the West, Hillsboro and Whitney fire departments.

Aquilla only possessed a bucket brigade and it would have been impossible to have checked the flames without the aid of neighboring towns.

Catholic State League Will Meet at Tours Church



German Catholics will assemble Tuesday for the annual convention of the Catholic State League in Texas at the newly remodeled St. Martin's church of Tours. Above are shown exterior and interior views of it, with an inset of Rev. George J. Duda, pastor, who is spiritual director for the state in the denomination. Below are views of the church, one of the oldest Catholic houses of worship in this area, before it was made over. Inset is the late Rev. Christopher Preker, who was pastor until his death. Dedication services for the new building will be held during the convention. —Waco News-Tribune.

50 YEARS AGO...July 16, 1937

STATE CONVENTION FOR CATHOLICS TO BE HELD AT TOURS

For the first time in the history of Central Texas the annual convention of the Catholic State League of Texas will meet in this section July 20 to 22. the meeting place to be at St. Martin's Church in Tours. of which Rev. George J. Duda is pastor. This is the thirty-ninth convention of the Catholic League and an attendance of 350 to 400 is expected.

Following is a summary of the history of St. Martin's Parish at Tours. We found this article to be of much interest, therefore pass it on to our readers:

In December, 1872, the northern part of McLennan county was formally opened to colonists. On the feast day of St. Martin of Tours, November 11, 1873, four resolute German Catholic families, accompanied by two single men, arrived in what is now called Tours, eighteen miles north of Waco. They came from Effingham, Illinois, to stake their claims and establish future homes. They called the place Martinsville, in honor of St. Martin.

The first comers were Edward Deitermann, wife and family, John Deitermann, wife and family, Clemens Uptmor, wife and family, Frank Debendner, wife and family, George Busker and George Kirshfield. These were followed about a month later by Wencel Mashek, Austoria, Ill. and Theodor Prumer and Ernest Willenberg from Quincy, Ill. In February, 1874, two Irish families joined the settlement. they were Bryan O'Connell and family and Martin O'Connell and family. The record does not state where the O'Connells came from.

Those sturdy Catholic settlers, when they had built their own little homes, their next consideration was to build a house, however humble, to their God, where Christ's very substance might be tabernacled in thier midst. Therefore, under the guidance of Father Bussant, Pastor at Waco, they commenced to build the first little log church on Monday in Holy Week, 1874. Five days later, Holy Saturday, Father Edward Fleury blessed the cross and placed in over the front entrance. The next day, Easter Sunday, he hald the first service in the unfinished church. On the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, April 25, 1874, the little church was dedicated to God in honor of St. Martin of Tours, and from that day the church was called St. Martin's and the colony was called St. Martinsville, later changed to Tours on account of the U. S. postmark.

During the summer and fall of 1874, several families cam to Tours. Among them was John Jupe, who when the priest could not come, read for years an explanation of the epistle and gospel of the Sunday by Rev. Father Goffine.

Among the next group of settlers who came in December, 1874, was Heinrich Hardrup who was a graduate of the Franciscan College, Quincy, Ill. He taught the first school in Tours, called the Ranch School, and he instructed the children every Sunday in Christian Doctrine. After a few years he was succeeded by Mrs. Featherfon, a sincere convert to the Catholic faith. She taught for some years until she moved with her husband, Dr. Featherfon, to California.

The little log church of Tours was attended for the first three years by Father Bussant. He said mass in Tours twice a month and administered the Sacraments. He baptised the first child born in Tours, 1876, Louis Frederick Willenborg, son or Ernest Willenborg and Elizabeth Prumer. Some time during the year of 1875 a small two-room half-log and half-box rectory was built. From the years 1876 to 1879 Father Fleury administered to the congregation of Tours. He could come only twice a month, as he had eight other mission churches to attend. Just as the first cross was blessed by Father Fleury for the gable of the log church, so the first marriage was performed by him on January 18, 1879. The recipients of the sacrament were Frank Debendner, Jr. and Helen Hordemann.

From September, 1879, the congregation of Tours was attended by several missionary priests and all records were kept in Father Joseph's rectory, Marlin, as he was the priest in charge of Tours. Little is known of those seven years between 1879 and 1886, as all records were destroyed when the rectory of Marlin was burned to the ground December, 1886, and Father Joseph died the day after the fire. About all we know is that the first little rectory of Tours was destroyed by storm in 1882 and that Father Joseph had a three room rectory built the same year. In 1886 a larger rectory was erected for Father Adelar, who was the first resident pastor.

He commenced to build the second frame church in 1887, which was finished in 1888 by his sucesor, Father Carl Preis. The day the second church was

dedicated is not stated in the records, but two bells were blessed that day and placed in the tower. The little bell was called St. Agnes. It was donated by Frank Jerabek. The large bell was given by the congregation and called St. Martin. There were over twenty priests present on that occasion. Among them were Father Badelon of Waco and Father Chromcik of Fayetteville.

A few days after this great even on February 9, Aloysius Kolar died and was buried the next day with a Requiem Mass from the new church. This was the second death to take place in Tours. The first was Clemens Uptmor, who died just after the first log church was finished.

In the summer of 1889 the Most Rev. N. A. Gallagher, bishop of the diocese of Galveston, appointed Father J. B. Gleissner pastor of Tours, now Right Rev. Msgr. Gleissner of Bryan. During his administration, in 1890, the first parochial school was constructed and the Sisters of Divine Providence, San Antonio, were procured as teachers. In November, 1896, Father G. Wiese came as pastor. He was succeeded by Father Christopher Preker in October 1897. Father Preker was pastor of St. Martin's for over thirty-eight years and during his administration, in 1912, the rectory was enlarged. The same year the church was enlarged and the sanctuary beautified. In 1927 the present large brick parochial school was built. Father Preker died February 7, 1935. He was the first priest to die as resident pastor of Tours.

In March, 1935, the present incumbent, Father George J. Duda, was appointed pastor of St. Martin's, Tours.

A4 • The Chronicle of Higher Education • September 30, 1987

Foot- notes

The main reading room and gallery of the Library of Congress will close on December 9 at 5 P.M. for about one year, as part of an extensive renovation project that began in 1986 and is scheduled to be completed in 1992.

"It's going to be tight around here," admits John C. Broderick, the assistant librarian for research services.

He says, however, that every effort will be made to minimize the impact of the closing of the reading room, located in the library's Thomas Jefferson Building. Other reading rooms—in the Jefferson and the John Adams Buildings—will expand their hours and services, and a computerized book-catalog center will be available in the Adams Building.

The library's third and newest structure, the James Madison Building, was dedicated in 1980.

Mr. Broderick stresses that the

improvements produced by the renovation project will more than compensate for any short-term inconvenience. For instance, moving the card catalog to a new location will permit the current three-quarters-circle of desks in the main reading room to become a full circle. In addition, the present number of terminals available in the computerized catalog center near that room will more than double.

The library also has plans to:

- Create many more study rooms, which scholars could reserve from periods of a few months up to four years.

- Establish divisions for European studies, American studies, and other fields by consolidating administrators, books, and exhibits related to each of those research areas.

- Restore many of the decorative features that contribute to the library's beauty.

In the meantime, Mr. Broderick says, "we hope that people will bear with us, because the library is open for business. In many parts, patrons won't notice any difference at all."

He does recommend, however, that scholars check with the General Reading Rooms Division for information on how the renovation might affect their plans to do research at the library.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Society for German-American Studies

Apr. 28-30, 1988
Millersville University
of Pennsylvania

Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the society, the first protest against slavery in America in Germantown 1688, and the origins and influences of the German element in Pennsylvania on the American culture. Abstracts of scholarly papers dealing with these and related topics should be submitted by November 1, 1987, to Prof. C. Richard Beam, Center for Pennsylvania-German Studies, Wickersham Hall, Millersville University, Millersville, PA 17551

Public Broadcasting System's TV lineup for this fall includes "Heimat"—a German soap opera with subtitles. It traces the lives of three German families over 63 years.



San Antonio Liederkrantz

P.O. Box 6738
San Antonio, Texas 78286

To: Associate Members and Friends of the San Antonio Liederkrantz. Greetings:

As requested by many of you, here is a list of activities for the next few months.

Sept. 25	11 a.m.	St. Joseph Church	4th Sunday Mass
Sept. 25	2 p.m.	Hermann Sons Ballroom	Gerbirgs Sangerfest
Oct. 25	11 a.m.	St. Joseph Church	4th Sunday Mass
Nov. 22	11 a.m.	St. Joseph Church	4th Sunday Mass
Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.	Central Christian Church	All German X-Mas Candlelight Service
Dec. 17	7:30 p.m.	St. Joseph Church	Christmas Concert
Dec. 24	11:30 p.m.	St. Joseph Church	Midnight Mass
Jan. 21	?	First Presbyterian Church	Ecumenical worship service for the Council of Churches

Add to this a few events that you might also enjoy:

Sept. 26	7:30 p.m.	Hermann Sons Ballroom	Gerbirgs Dance
Sept. 27	12 p.m.	420 E. Durango	St. Joseph's Society Festival
Oct. 3	?	422 Pereida St.	Beethoven Octoberfest

In August, the SAL was invited to sing at the 100th Anniversary of the town of Shiner. This engagement was enlivened by a visit to the local brewery. While the SAL has always been famous for singing around the keg, these 500-gallon kegs inspired a resonance and harmony seldom, if ever, achieved. We have been invited back in the spring to give a concert in the town's recently restored 19th-century theater.

Although probably unseen and unheard by the throngs, the SAL performed at 6:50 a.m. at the papal mass site. It was an honor and a moving and uplifting experience to be there.

As many of you already know, the SAL is getting ready for its 100th Anniversary. Committees are working on plans for the concert and special celebration. It is our dream to have a home of our own with larger rehearsal space and perhaps a German cultural center. YOU CAN HELP! Bring your friends to hear us sing at St. Josephs. (Free parking at St. Joske-Dillard's.) Invite us to your church to sing to broaden our base of support. (We charge but not that much.)

Finally, many thanks to all of you who have supported the SAL for so long. We need and appreciate your support for people of German heritage in San Antonio.

Als Bürgermeister Conrads 1853 nach Texas ging . . .

Die USA und die Bundesrepublik Deutschland gedachten im Jahre 1983 in einer Vielzahl von Feiern und Begegnungen jenes 6. Oktober 1883, an dem 13 Familien aus Krefeld als erste geschlossene deutsche Auswanderergruppe mit dem Segelschiff „Concord“ nach 75tägiger Seereise an der Küste Nordamerikas landeten. Sie hatten als Quäker ihre rheinische Heimat verlassen und waren dem Rufe von William Penn gefolgt, um in der Neuen Welt in dem von diesem britischen Quäker gegründeten Pennsylvania die ihnen bisher verwehrt Freiheit ihres Glaubens zu erhalten. Am Ufer des Delaware gründeten sie als erste deutsche Siedlung ein amerikanischem Boden den Ort Germantown, heute ein Randbezirk von Philadelphia.

In den seither vergangenen drei Jahrhunderten sind ihnen 8 Millionen Deutsche in die USA gefolgt. Zu ihnen gehörten auch viele Hundert Frauen und Männer aus dem Kreis Ahrweiler. Allein von 1846 bis 1888 waren darunter fast neunzig Familien mit 600 Personen aus den Gemeinden des Breisiger Ländchens am Rhein, im Vintxbachtal und aus dem Brohltal. Den stärksten Anteil mit 10 Familien hatten das Weberdorf Waldort (61 Männer, Frauen und Kinder) und Oberbreisig, aus dem 52 Personen ausgewandert. Brohl verließen damals sieben Familien und 37 Personen, Niederbreisig acht Familien und 32 Personen, Gönnersdorf fünf Familien und 29 Einwohner, Rheineck schließlich ein Ehepaar mit sechs Kindern.

In der Sprache des einfachen Mannes begründete der 20 Jahre alte Bäcker Anton Frisch aus Niederzissen im Jahre 1852 seinen Wunsch, aus dem preußischen „Unterthannenverband“ entlassen zu werden und – trotz aller amtlich vorgeschriebenen „Verwarnungen“ durch den Bürgermeister – nach Amerika auszuwandern zu können, mit den nüchternen Worten: „Bei der seit Jahren herrschenden Kartoffel-Krankheit, der dazugekommenen Mißernte der übrigen Lebensmittel und

bei der Theuerung der letzteren sowie bei dem Mangel an Gelegenheit zu Verdienst bin ich nicht mehr im Stande, mich dauernd ernähren zu können und will ich nach Amerika auswandern, wo ich mir eine bessere Zukunft verspreche“ – obwohl er nur 100 Taler Reise-geld in der Tasche hatte.

Kluft zwischen Armen und Reichen

Diese Haltung ist verständlich angesichts der Not, in der sich große Teile der deutschen Bevölkerung befanden und angesichts der Kluft, die zwischen arm und reich immer sichtbarer wurde. Medizinalrat Dr. Wegeler, ein sorgfältiger Beobachter der Brohltal-Region Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts, verzeichnete damals mit großer Besorgnis, „daß der wohlhabendere Bauer sich immer mehr von dem ärmeren scheidet, zwischen verhältnismäßigem Reichtum und der Armut eine größere Spalte entstanden ist und es nicht lange dauern wird, daß sämtliche kleinen Besitzer ausgekauft sind“.

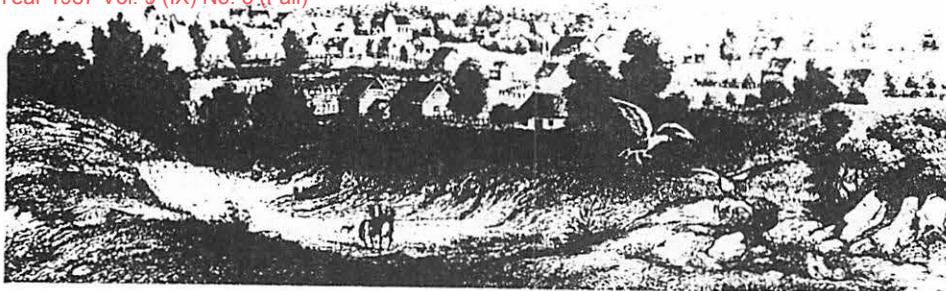
In den acht Jahren zwischen 1847 bis 1854 verließen fast 1,1 Millionen Deutsche ihre alte Heimat Richtung Nordamerika; in den zwölf Jahren von 1873 bis 1884 waren es sogar 1,3 Millionen. Unter den 600 Auswanderern jener Jahre aus dem Brohltal und dem Breisiger Ländchen befanden sich Angehörige fast aller Handwerker-Berufe, vor allem aber kleine Ackerer. Leineweber aus Waldorf und Niederzissen verließen ihre alte Heimat, Steinhauer, Bäcker, Müller, Schiffer und Tagelöhner.

Prominenteste Auswanderer um die Mitte des vergangenen Jahrhunderts waren der 41 Jahre alte Niederbreisiger Distriktsarzt Dr. Dick, der 1852 mit seinem zwölfjährigen Sohn nach Amerika ging, und ein Jahr später der langjährige Bürgermeister von Altenahr und Königfeld und zuletzt in Niederbreisig Heinrich Joseph Conrads, der mit dem Rest der Familie seinen drei Söhnen nach Neu Braunfels in Texas nachwanderte. Gemein-

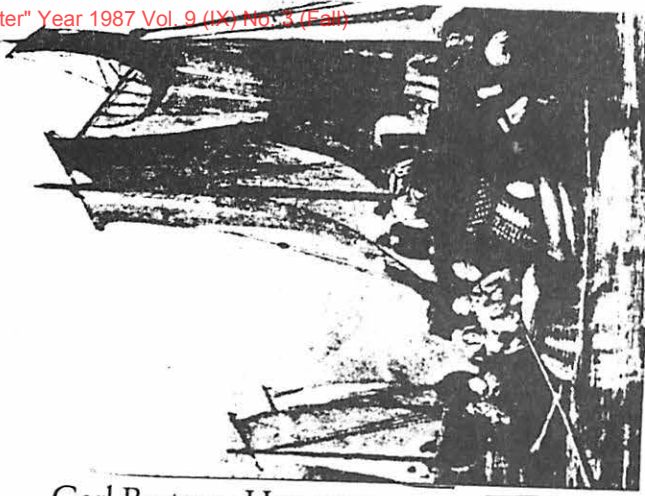
sam mit dem jüngsten Sohn des Bürgermeisters, dem Gemeinde-Adjunkten Gustav Eduard Conrads, waren 1851 die beiden Brohler Johann Anton Nonn (31 Jahre) und Johann Winger (39 Jahre), die über 200 bzw. 80 Taler Reisegeld „in Gold-, Papier- und Talerstücken“ verfügten, nach Texas gegangen. Auch der Breisiger Schreiner Johann Morbach hatte sich mit Frau, vier Söhnen und einer Pflegetochter die seit 1840 bestehende Gründung des „Mainzer Adelsvereins“ für deutsche Siedler als neue Heimat ausgesucht.

Die amtlichen Listen verzeichnen sorgfältig, ob es bei den Auswanderern Steuerrückstände gab oder ob nicht der eine oder andere noch eine Strafe in Geld zu zahlen oder in Haft abzusetzen hatte. Auch die Frage der Wehrpflicht wurde geprüft. Mancher junge Mann mußte deshalb seine Eltern und Geschwister vorausziehen lassen und zunächst zurückbleiben. Gegen Ende der sechziger Jahre erhielten andere keine Genehmigung zur Ausreise mit der Begründung, sie seien „im Falle des Krieges“ unabhkömmlich.

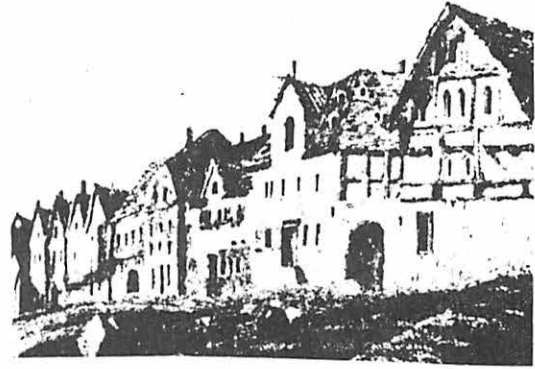
Nicht alle, die in Hamburg, Bremen oder Antwerpen einen der Amerika-Segler bestiegen oder im Zwischendeck der neuen Dampfschiffe über den Atlantik reisten, wanderten freiwillig aus. Da gab es etwa einen jungen Brohler, der sich – wie der Bürgermeister anmerkte – Mitte der fünfziger Jahre den „Verdacht der Untreue zugezogen“ hatte und seinem Lehrherrn entwichen war. Ihn „beabsichtigen seine Oheime“ – so wird lapidar vermerkt – „nach Amerika zu schaffen“. Dreißig Jahre später hatte ein anderer aus Niederbreisig, 19 Jahre alt und ebenfalls noch Lehrling, beim Militärdienst „wegen Fahnenflucht“ drei Monate absitzen müssen. Für ihn stellte der Vater den Antrag, „seinen renitenten Sohn auswandern lassen zu können“ – was ihm gestattet wurde.



Neu-Braunfels in Texas um 1850. In diese zehn Jahre zuvor gegründete Siedlung deutscher Auswanderer zog 1853 der Breisiger Bürgermeister Conrads mit seiner ganzen Familie.



Carl Bertram Hommen



209

Geschichte
und Geschichten
aus 2000 Jahren

Das Breisiger Ländchen

Mit Vinxtbach- und Brohltal

by

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18966

Aus freien Stücken entschloß sich Conrads jedenfalls nicht, nach Texas zu gehen. Ob seine älteren Söhne als Studenten zum Kreis der 48er gehörten, ist nicht zu ergründen. Jedenfalls wehrte sich Conrads drei Jahre lang gegen seine Entlassung, bis seine Stelblenzer Regierung „kassiert“ wurde. Mit Paß vom 19. Oktober 1853 reiste Conrads mit seiner Frau sowie seiner Tochter und dem jüngsten Sohn ebenfalls nach Neu Braunfels in Texas, wo er bis zu seinem Tode am 19. Mai 1876 lebte. Von dort meldete er sich – Typ des korrekten preußischen Beamten, den er offensichtlich darstellte – mit Schreiben vom 9. April 1855 noch nachträglich bei der Gemeindeverwaltung in Niederbreisig ab. Und da die Regierung seine Entlassung mit Datum vom 4. April 1854 definitiv erklärt hatte, wovon er offensichtlich erst Ende 1857 erfuhr, stellte er am 28. Januar 1858 an die Gemeinde Niederbreisig das Gesuch, ihm die Hälfte des nicht gezahlten Dienstinkommens von vier Silberroschen je Kopf der Bevölkerung für die Zeit vom 20. Juli 1850 bis 4. April 1854, insgesamt 608 Taler nachzuzahlen, was man in Breisig selbstverständlich ablehnte.

Noch in unseren Tagen leben am Comal- und Guadalupe-River in Texas, in dem Städtchen New Braunfels, das es 1910 siebenzig Jahre nach seiner Gründung mit Eisenbahnstation, Post und Telegraph bei 1610 Einwohnern bereits zum Hauptort des Bezirks gebracht hatte, Nachfahren des Bürgermeisters Conrads aus Niederbreisig. Aber es ist, obwohl sich die Bevölkerung mehr als verdreifacht hat, am Rande der größten Öl-Region der USA ein Landstädtchen geblieben, in dem die deutsche Idylle mit Oktoberfest, Sauerkraut und „Liedertafel“ in nostalgischer Rückschau auf die Vergangenheit unter den Nachfahren der meist rheinischen Einwanderer des 19. Jahrhunderts heute noch gepflegt wird. Deutsch wird jedoch nur noch in wenigen Familien gesprochen.

Ein bewegtes Beamteneben

Bürgermeister Conrads, 1798 in Gelsdorf auf der Grafschaft geboren, war seit 1834 in Breisig. Er hatte eine für preußische Beamte damals übliche Laufbahn hinter sich. Zur Zeit der französischen Besatzung war er als junger Mann 1812 Bürgermeisterei-Sekretär in Gelsdorf geworden. Er hatte dann 1815/16 als Freiwilliger am Befreiungskampf gegen Frankreich teilgenommen. Nach kurzen Beschäftigungen bei den Kreisverwaltungen in Linz und Neuwied wurde er 1820 zeitweise Gehilfe des neu ernannten Ahrweiler Landrats von Hilgers bei der Einrichtung der Kreisverwaltung. 1821 berief dieser ihn zum Verwalter der freigewordenen Stelle eines Bürgermeisters in Altenahr.

Am 12. Juni 1826 wurde er zum Leiter der Bürgermeisterei Königsfeld/Niederzissen befördert. Er heiratete dort im November die Tochter Johanna Maria Catharina des königlichen Steuereinkommers Fleischer und war hier acht Jahre tätig. 1834 bat er seinerseits um Versetzung auf die Bürgermeister-Stelle in Niederbreisig, die seitens der Regierung zu Koblenz am 11. November 1834 ausgesprochen wurde. Diese Bürgermeisterei hatte damals 2902 Einwohner, was eine finanzielle Verschlechterung bedeutet haben dürfte. Denn die Dienstinkommen wurden je Kopf der Bevölkerung – in Breisig mit vier Silberroschen je Jahr – bemessen.

Als der Landrat ihn in Niederbreisig am 11. Juli 1850 von seinem Amt „suspendierte“, wurden zwar keine Gründe hierfür genannt. Jedoch scheinen Intrigen von seiten örtlicher Notabeln, insbesondere von führenden Mitgliedern des seit wenigen Jahren bestehenden Gemeinderates, erfolgt zu sein, wenn man Akten und Ratsprotokolle aus den letzten Jahren richtig deutet. Später wirft man ihm „Protokollhandel“ sowie auswärtige Geldgeschäfte vor, durch die er sein Gehalt aufzubessern versucht haben soll – was angesichts der damals kargen preußischen Besoldung im Hinblick auf seine große Familie nicht ungewöhnlich gewesen sein würde.

By Art Kowert

"Amtlich gemeldete Geburten: Sohn von Sam Johnson, geboren am 27. August. . ."

So read the simple announcement of the birth of a future President of the United States of America as it appeared in the German language newspaper, the *Fredericksburg Wochenblatt*, published in the county seat of Gillespie County, Texas, on September 9, 1908.

Lyndon Baines Johnson was born in a frame cottage not far from the Pedernales River, near the little hamlet of Stonewall, about fifteen miles east of Fredericksburg.

He was the first child of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., and when his proud grandfather rode through the neighborhood to spread the word about the birth of his grandson, he did it by saying, "A future United States Senator was born today."

How true that prediction was! And the Senator would go on to become President of the United States of America.

Lyndon B. Johnson's parents were married in Fredericksburg, August 20, 1907 by County Judge Max Blum in the Gillespie County courthouse. His mother was Rebekah Baines, a daughter of J. W. and Ruth Huffman Baines, who lived in Fredericksburg. President Johnson points with pride to his German ancestors in the Huffman family.

Fredericksburg, Texas, was founded May 8, 1846, by immigrants from Germany, and as more and more arrived they settled on farms and ranches all over Gillespie County. The land along the Pedernales River where the Johnson family lived was then, and still is today, some of the best and most fertile farm and ranch land in the state.

LBJ'S BOYHOOD AMONG THE GERMAN

-AMERICANS IN TEXAS



Lyndon, fifth from left in back row of sophomore, junior and senior class picture, Johnson City High School, 1924.

Many of the Johnsons' neighbors were persons who were born in Germany or whose parents came from there, so his association with them stems from earliest childhood. There were the Lindigs, Kleins, Beckmanns, Ruebsahms, Weinheimers, Meiers, Danzes, Schumanns and many others.

The little boy who put on cowboy boots when he started to school at the age of four at the Junction School was to gain a genuine appreciation for these German-American friendships, as well as the customs and traditions he learned from his playmates, schoolmates and neighbors. These early contacts gave him an insight into the different cultures that made Texas and the rest of the United States. From his father, who served in the Texas legislature at two different periods, he was to gain political insight, too, into German-American relationships, which would be

helpful to him in his later life.

When S. E. Johnson, Jr. won a seat in the special election called for February 15, 1918 to fill the vacancy created when his cousin, Thomas J. Martin, entered the armed services, he was to prove himself a true friend to his German-American constituents. At that time feelings of antagonism were often encountered by persons of German parentage, even though they were naturalized, or even second and third generation American citizens.

In an account published in the April 6, 1918 *Fredericksburg Standard*, the English language sister-paper of the *Wochenblatt*, S. E. Johnson, Jr. is credited with using his personal influence with senators in having the passage eliminated from the Loyalty Bill which would have bestowed the power of arrest upon every citizen. This, in his opinion, "was

a dangerous provision for the peaceful civil status of the citizenship as a whole."

The anti-German feeling died down in the years after the close of World War I; it is to the credit of such people as the Johnsons that they had always accepted their German-American neighbors and friends for the staunch and loyal Americans—and Texans—they really were.

Now visitors come by the thousands to view the birthplace that has been re-constructed just as it was in the days when the Johnson family lived there, and a little boy walked the half-mile trail from his home to the schoolhouse on the hill in 1912-13. The school still stands today overlooking the peaceful countryside.

When Lyndon was four years old, he was a precocious youngster who could already spell simple words, could recite Mother Goose rhymes and Bible verses, and was so anxious to learn that he often ran away from home to the nearby schoolhouse.

Since he had to walk near the river to get there, his mother feared for his safety, so she asked the teacher if he could attend with the other children. Miss Kate Deadrich, the teacher, gave her consent, and, as she recalled when invited to attend President Johnson's inauguration, he often sat in her lap while he recited his lessons.

Mrs. Johnson loved to read to young Lyndon, so he had a good foundation for starting to school at such an early age, and he was able to keep up with the other pupils through the eleven years he attended school in Gillespie and adjoining Blanco Counties.

The number of pupils in the first school he attended varied, but there were often as many as 30. The one-room building was typical of the rural schools which dotted the county, and one teacher usually taught all the students in grades one through seven.

Many of the children of German parentage were to learn their first English at the school; however, there was never any lack of communication between Lyndon and his classmates. While they were having their English polished up, he was learning German from them.

That he retained some of the German he learned to speak as a youth was shown recently. After attending church services June 16, 1968 in Trinity Lutheran Church across the river from the LBJ Ranch, he pointed out the building nearby in which classes had been held when he was a boy, saying that was where he had learned some of this German.

Helen Thomas, of United Press International and a member of the White House press corps, asked him whether he could still speak German, and would he say something for her. He complied readily, with a smile: "Wo wollen Sie hingehen?" This brought more smiles, as the press corps is always "going somewhere" when "covering" the President!

As he grew older, and when he was not in school, Lyndon had chores on the farm, just as other boys did in those days. When his father was serving in the Texas legislature he assigned certain chores to his oldest son, telling him he would be "the man of the house."

By this time there were other children in the Johnson family. There were three girls: Rebekah, who became Mrs. Oscar Bobbitt; Lucia, who married Birge Alexander; and Josefa, who was married to Jim Moss at the time of her death; and there was a brother, Sam Houston Johnson.

Taking his father's word literally, that he was "in charge," Lyndon assigned certain chores to his sisters and brother, including feeding the chickens and gathering eggs, chopping wood for the kitchen range and heating stoves, taking care of the livestock. Though some of them protested when father returned home, Mr. Johnson took Lyndon to task only if his daughters had been worked too hard.

The Pedernales River, on whose banks President Johnson was to welcome heads of foreign states and American dignitaries, was the source of fun and relaxation, too, for the Johnson children. Here they could go fishing with cane poles, and there were many delightful swimming holes in the pools among the white rocks from which the river got its name.

School for young Lyndon, as he grew older, continued at Stonewall. While he could walk to the Junction School, he rode a donkey the two miles to Stonewall. Later he went to Albert, and rode a horse to get there, because that was further from home. He liked to recall that his father named all his horses after United States presidents; the good ones were named for Democrats and the others after Republicans! The one he rode to Albert was a "nag," he recalled, named after a Republican president.

The Johnson family moved back and forth, too, between their home in Stonewall and their house in Johnson City, about fifteen miles east.

While he was attending high school in Johnson City, young Lyndon entered the University Interscholastic League debate. His mother had taught "expression" in Fredericksburg before her marriage, and so she encouraged her son to enter debate and speech events.

In his senior year he and his partner, John Brooks Casparis, won the debate competition in the county meet. The issue revolved around the question of whether United States Marines should be stationed in Nicaragua. Historians may someday compare the similar situation that exists today when there is constant debate over whether the United States should be in Vietnam.

But Lyndon had fun, too, and liked sports. Playing first base on the baseball team, forward on the basketball team and throwing the discus were some of his favorite activities.

He finished the first phase of his schooling in Johnson City when at the age of 15, he was graduated from high school. Superintendent Edward Bowman awarded the diplomas to the six graduates, Lyndon Baines Johnson, John Dollahite, Margaret Johnson, Georgia Cammack, Louise Casparis and Kitty Clyde Ross.

Mrs. Johnson was now to receive the first disappointment in her eldest child. Lyndon decided he did not want to go to college, but wanted to get out in the world and be on his own. His mother placed great value on higher education, having attended college herself, so she tried to persuade him to do likewise.

As it turned out, the experience was perhaps one of the best things that happened to him. Perhaps that was why later as President, he, too, was to value higher education so much that he did all he could to make sure that a college education was available to everyone who wanted one.

"Being on his own" meant a trip to California with five of his friends. Instead of finding fame and fortune there, they had many disappointing experiences. Young Lyndon hitch-hiked back to Texas, and started to work with a road construction company. He helped build the highway that led to what would one day be known as the LBJ Ranch.

Back in Texas, and after a hard winter spent working on the road, he realized that there must be a better way to earn a living. How overjoyed was his mother when he informed her he was ready to quit his job and go to college.

Without hesitation she arranged to register him at Southwest Texas State Teachers College (now known as Southwest Texas State College) in San Marcos. In February, 1927 Lyndon B. Johnson started his college work, and three and half years later, in August, 1930, received his Bachelor of Science degree. When his finances were low during his college years, he took time off to teach school so that he could finish his education. Seeing him graduate from college was one of the many proud moments his mother was to have.

Many years later, in 1960, when he was a United States Senator from Texas, Lyndon B. Johnson had this advice to give. He wrote this statement for a young friend who had written to him.

When I finished high school my mother wanted me to enter college. I decided to go my own way. Against her wishes I set out for California to make my fortune. I soon knew that I had made a mistake. In a few months I had enough of the nomad's life. I went back to Texas and followed my mother's advice to enroll in college. It was the most important decision I ever made—it turned me in the right direction. It also taught me two lessons I have never forgotten.

First I learned to listen to my mother. I realized how much more she knew than I had given her credit for knowing. She was right in the first place, of course. From then on I listened to her with a willing heart. When I listened I learned. And I grew.

I learned something else from that experience. I learned that youth is life's soil. Whatever we are and do tomorrow depends on what we are and do today. The big question is, What kind of soil is my youth? We can choke it with weeds of careless living and thoughtless deeds, or we can enrich it by hard work, clear thinking, and honest living.

Sometime ago a famous preacher wrote a book and called it *A Great Time To Be Alive*. He was right. These are wonderful years to live, to serve, to sacrifice for some great cause.

But I would add another chapter to that book. I would call it, "A Great Time to Be Young." Surely it is. A thousand opportunities rise to challenge imaginative and willing young people. There is, of course, no one formula for success. But I personally believe that you will never be far from the right way if you find today's task and do it well—as well as you can. Tomorrow grows out of today.

(signed) Lyndon B. Johnson

Though his adult years took him far away from the Pedernales River and his German-American friends and neighbors, Lyndon B. Johnson could never forget them.

In 1951 he and Mrs. Johnson bought from his aunt the land that is now known as the LBJ Ranch. The old rock house that forms part of the Texas White House was built by the Meier family and the Johnsons very carefully preserved as much of it as they could, adding more rooms as they were needed.

It was here that the Johnsons were to entertain Chancellor Konrad Adenauer on April 16, 1960, and Chancellor Ludwig Erhard on December 28-29, 1963.

Among the Fredericksburg and Stonewall people who helped with local arrangements for the visits by both German Chancellors were classmates or children of some of Johnson's classmates from whom he had learned his first German. As the Texans chatted with the German statesmen and journalists who accompanied both Chancellors, bonds of friendship and mutual respect were formed. Many of the Germans at first registered surprise, and then marveled at the considerable amount of German that is still spoken in Fredericksburg and Stonewall—not just by the older residents but also by the young people.

Chancellors Adenauer and Erhard were not the first distinguished German statesmen brought to Fredericksburg by Mr. Johnson. A group of distinguished Germans visited there on March 18, 1954, upon the invitation of Senator Johnson. They were Dr. Carlo Schmid, professor of political science at Frankfurt University and ranking vice president of the German Bundestag; Fritz Erler, deputy chairman of the Bundestag's security committee; Willy Brandt, then the Berlin representative in the Bundestag, as well as Günter Klein, the alternate representative from Berlin.

Although he could not be present personally, Senator Johnson sent this message to be read at the dinner honoring the German dignitaries: "I believe this is a historic meeting which symbolizes the deep bond that will always exist between the leaders of freedom in Germany and the descendants of Germans in America who have made such a tremendous contribution to the culture and the civilization of Texas and our nation."

An excerpt of Senator Johnson's remarks placed in the *Congressional Record* of April 21, 1954 states in part: "Fredericksburg was settled more than 100 years ago by a group of German colonists. The people of that area established a community which should be a model for America. They adapted themselves quickly to the conditions of the New World while retaining the best of the German culture which they had left. The visit between the German leaders and their kinsmen in America was successful in helping strengthen the bonds between two great countries."

On the same date a letter from Thruston B. Morton, Assistant Secretary of State, addressed to Senator Johnson was inserted into the *Record*, and it reads, in part: "I have learned from Mr. Straus of the Department's Office of German Affairs that the four German parliamentary leaders who recently visited Fredericksburg, Texas, at your invitation, enjoyed their visit there immensely. They were greatly impressed by the many Americans there who have adopted the best American traditions and still retain their knowledge of the German language. It is their belief that this exemplifies Old World-New World relations at their best."

"I am certain that their visit to Fredericksburg has left them with a permanent favorable impression and am certain that it contributed directly to strengthening of good German-American relations."

When the First Lady brought a group of 38 foreign journalists to Fredericksburg on April 5, 1968 there were many Germans in the group. They, too, expressed amazement and surprise at the amount of German spoken so fluently and freely there.

They accompanied Mrs. Johnson when she and Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall served as special guides for a tour of old Fredericksburg homes and buildings, where she proudly pointed out the German *Fachwerk* mode of construction in many of the old houses and stores. Later, she took the microphone on the bus when they toured the LBJ Ranch and pointed out the places where Chancellors Adenauer and Erhard had been entertained.

One of the gifts given to Chancellor Erhard for his wife upon his visit here in December, 1963, was a hand-bound volume of poems written by Texas' first woman poet of German extraction, Hulda Saenger Walter. Two of her poems, "Mein Vater" and "Mein Heimatland, Texas," were bound with a copy of Lungkwitz's etching of Fredericksburg.

When the President is at the LBJ Ranch he often attends services with his family at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg. For years, a house built in 1847 by a German immigrant, Peter Walter, served as the chapel for the congregation. In this tiny house only about eleven people could be seated comfortably for morning worship. The Johnsons always point out the grapevine which was brought from Germany by Walter when he came here in 1846. "It is still growing," they will say, "and communion wine is made from its grapes."

Some times when he is at his Texas ranch, President Johnson attends services at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Stonewall with his daughter, Luci Nugent. The priest there is a native German, Rev. Wunibald W. Schneider, whom the President took along to Germany to attend the funeral of Chancellor Adenauer.

So, whether your name is Johnson or Hodges, or German like Weinheimer or Schumann, it matters little in Gillespie County. There is a feeling of love and respect among neighbors and friends in the Texas Hill Country, and it makes no difference whether one's ancestors came from Tennessee, Virginia, or any of the older American states, or from Westphalia, Hamburg, or any of the provinces in Germany.

ART KOWERT is the Editor of the Fredericksburg Standard, Fredericksburg, Texas. The photographs provided by Mr. Kowert came from old family albums and were given to him by the Johnson Family a long time ago.

JOURNEY THROUGH TEXAS

By Allison Cowan

The German colonists

State Archives, Austin



A celebration — Jan. 28, 1882 — in Fredericksburg, a prominent German community.

In 1830 Stephen F. Austin considers the project of inducing Swiss and Germans to settle in Texas. He likes their talent and character. "They don't have that horrible mania for speculation which is so prominent a trait in the English and North American character, and above all they oppose slavery," states a smug Austin.

J. Val Hecke, a retired Prussian army officer, writes in 1821 that Prussians can get control of all the Indian trade in Texas. He wants to set up a trading company very similar to the already successful British East India Company. Prussia would import sugar, cotton and indigo from Texas, and Texas would import manufactured goods from Prussia. Galveston would be a depot for goods to be sent to Mexico. Hecke wants to bear all expenses and reap all profits. On top of that, he wants the Prussian government to furnish troops to protect his outfit.

One drawback to Hecke's ideas is that he wants to send all thieves and "incorrigibles" to Texas. Although his plans fall through, there is much encouragement for Germans to emigrate, and they begin coming to the Hill Country in 1844 to establish a German colony and trade center in the heart of Texas.

The Germans think they will have a good business venture going in Verein, also known as Fredericksburg. Trading their manufactured goods for Texas' raw supplies will help both countries meet their economic needs, they believe.

Carl, Prince of Solms-Braunfel, arrives in

1844, with the commission to establish a colony on the Verein River. He finds the country already inhabited up to the Guadalupe. And he finds the soil fertile and the climate healthy, with plenty of wood and water. In 1847, 15 stores are open and the population exceeds 2,000, and by 1849 Fredericksburg is on one of four main roads the U.S. government has opened to the Rio Grande Valley.

Many people have gold fever and head West in 1849. Fredericksburg is the last town on the "Emigrant" road where supplies can be purchased before reaching El Paso. Needless to say, the storekeepers do great business.

Prince Carl sees the Americans as coarse and untrustworthy. He even looks upon their products in disdain. "Wagons bought in the U.S. or built by the Americans here in Texas are generally of a much heavier construction, and I dare say double the price at which the wagon can be built or bought in Germany," he claims.

Another immigrant to Verein, Viktor Bracht, establishes himself as a merchant in 1846 and says, "Texas is the country where every farmer with a little capital, and every skillful mechanic and every industrious laborer can count on a comfortable existence."

The weekly series, *Journey Through Texas*, is a Sesquicentennial project of the University of Houston-University Park. Office of Media Relations. The articles are based on material housed in the Special Collections Department of the university's M.D. Anderson Library. For information on any of the Texian documents, write to M.D. Anderson Library, 8th Floor, University of Houston-University Park, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas 77004.



German-Texan Heritage Society

"1988--Celebrating 10 years"

Founded in 1978, the German-Texan Heritage Society is a non-profit organization devoted to building pride in the heritage of the German-speaking settlers who brought an important cultural ingredient to Texas. The Society is united in its effort to disseminate information about archives, research projects, cultural events, folklore, publications, and meetings related to German-Texan topics.

The Society seeks members from the general public . . . descendants of all German-speaking peoples, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

A NEWSLETTER is published three times a year (50-75 pages). It is sent to all members. The NEWSLETTER features a genealogical section which includes hints about research in German-speaking countries, Texas, and the United States; brief family histories submitted by members, and a genealogy exchange column. Other sections of the NEWSLETTER include reprints of articles from other publications, announcements about activities and events, a book review column, an annual index, and original essays about various topics related to German-Texana.

An ANNUAL MEETING is held the second weekend in September in various German heritage areas of Texas. The program emphasizes the German-Texan heritage and includes talks, slide shows, show-and-tell sessions, and discussions by researchers, preservationists, folklorists, authors, members who have a story to tell and guest experts in specific fields; informal social events; plays and music; and tours of historical sites in the host city.

Membership categories are:	Student	\$ 5.00
	Regular	8.00
	Contributing	15.00
	Institutional	15.00
Annual Meeting	Foreign	12.00
1988 - Sept. 9-11, Austin	Patron	30.00
1989 - Sept. 8-10, San Antonio		

The German-Texan Heritage Society calendar year is from January 1 to December 31. Membership payments and renewals are due in January.

Completed projects of the Society:

1. The reprint of *ROEMER'S TEXAS*,
2. Sponsorship of the reprint of *THE CABIN BOOK (DAS KAJUTENBUCH)*, by Charles Sealsfield,
3. The reprint of Rudolph Biesele's *THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861*.

All books are available through the Society. Please request price list.

Project in progress: The creation of a German-Texan Registry.

For more information or price lists for books and back issues contact:

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
1011 Meredith Drive
P. O. Box 262
Manchaca, Texas 78652



FOUNDED 1978

German-Texan Heritage Society

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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- \$12 Foreign
- \$30 Patron (saints of the society)
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- Showing visitors historical sites in my town/city/area.
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- Genealogical exchange. (What names?)
- Photographing historical sites; Annual Meeting.
- Speaking German.
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ANNUAL MEETINGS

1988... SEPT. 9-11
AUSTIN
10th Anniversary
Anna Thompson

1989...SEPT. 8-10
SAN ANTONIO
Chair needed

1990...SEPT. 7-9
LA GRANGE/BRENHAM/ROUND TOP
Chair needed

1991...SEPT. 6-8
CORPUS CHRISTI
Chair needed

1992...Sept.
NEW BRAUNFELS

1993...Sept.
SAN ANGELO
Otto Tetzlaff

1994...Sept
FREDERICKSBURG

1995...Sept.
VICTORIA

1996..Sept.
INDUSTRY
Texas Statehood 150 Year
Celebration

1997...Sept...
KERRVILLE/BOERNE/COMFORT

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