

**GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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## NEWS ARTICLE SOURCES

Initials on news articles are for the contributors to this issue. In a few cases no name was with articles, so if you were left out, don't take it personally, please!!  
LS - Lillian Schneider, San Antonio  
HS - Helgard Suhr, New Braunfels  
JB - Joyce Behr, Comfort  
RK - Rod Koenig, Houston  
TG - Theresa Gold, San Antonio  
PH - Frances Harrison, San Antonio  
MMc - Meredith McClain, Lubbock  
ME - Mary El-Beheri, San Antonio  
HH - Harrold Henck, Galveston  
MP - Marlene Pritz, New Jersey

FD - Fredericka DeBerry, Houston  
PH - Patsy Hand, Victoria  
GT - Geneva Tetley, San Angelo  
LR - LaVern Rippley, Minnesota  
WN - Wilhelm Niermann, Germany

JOIN US IN NEW BRAUNFELS FOR THE 13TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY, SEPTEMBER 11-13

SEE THE SECTION IN THIS JOURNAL ABOUT THE  
PLANS AND PROGRAM OF THE MEETING









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HEADQUARTERS  
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# 1992 IN NEW BRAUNFELS SEPT.11-13

70 Jahre Eintracht; Mozart Obit; Elisabeth Ney; Frauen  
 GTHS membership Application  
 Information About the GTHS  
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# EDITOR'S COMMENTS.....Mary M. El-Beheri

## JOURNAL/GENEALOGY EDITORS' JOBS

I edited and compiled the JOURNAL/NEWSLETTER for 11 years and never really counted the hours I spent on it but this issue I have noticed. It is fun and the materials are very interesting but it is a job that is best done in long blocks of time, which are hard to find sometimes. The editing of the Genealogy Section and the JOURNAL no longer fall in the volunteer category. These have become at least part time jobs, full time when the deadline is near. I think it is time for the Society to pay for this service.

## THANKS TO

Helga von Schweinitz and Anna Thompson for supervising the new GTHS office which is the very old German-American School building left to us by Kelley Stevens last November.

Dona Reeves-Marquardt for taking care of the publication of two new GTHS books. They will be on sale at the meeting in New Braunfels.

Helgard Suhr and her committee for what looks like a great meeting!

Fredericka DeBerry for getting out lots of news releases for the books and the meeting.

### YES, THIS EDITION IS LATE....

I got called to teach summer school so I did not have as much time for my volunteer work.

## NEED NEW INDEX EDITOR

Who volunteers?  
If you are interested, please send a note to the office or call.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR COMMENT

The classified ads in many publications are as much fun and as helpful as the publication itself. It is a place for members to support each other in their business endeavors or to find things they need.

What do you think about having a "Classified Ad Section" in the GTHS JOURNAL? Only ads of interest to our members, such as books, genealogy software, artifact preservation supplies, travel, guesthouses, tours, antiques, note cards, paintings, and what else? And perhaps GTHS members' businesses and places of interest to our members.

There are many ways to set up a classified section. Ads of equal size for a set fee. By the inch. By the number of spaces(letters). The Board would have to decide how to set it up. The editorial board or the ad editor could refuse ads not appropriate for the GTHS Journal.

The money earned from this could:  
1) pay for publication of the JOURNAL;  
2) pay for someone to do the genealogy section of the JOURNAL;  
and 3) pay someone to be general editor to put it together and get it out to the members. These are major jobs and our organization is big enough now to pay for professional services.

I would also suggest that we publish the JOURNAL 4 times a year and not send out a NEWSLETTER. I volunteer to handle the campaign for advertising.

What do you think about these ideas? Let's have some suggestions.

Please call the GTHS office at 512-280-3351 or drop a note to the office.

## CONDOLENCES

Harold Jansing, Contributing Member, San Antonio, on the death of his daughter, Katherine C.(Kotsie) Jansing, March 25, 1992, in San Antonio.

Lillian Schneider, Charter Member, San Antonio, on the death of her husband, Oscar Schneider, April 7, 1992. See notice in Journal.

Fredericka DeBerry, Secretary and Publicity Chair, Houston, on the death of her husband, July 5, 1992. He had a heart attack.

## KUDOS

Our members write about the the GTHS and JOURNAL:

"I would like to thank the Society for helping me with my research paper." George J. Cannata(Pt. Worth)

To Theresa:"Finally, let me say that I enjoy your column very much and believe it to be most educational. It's the first thing I read upon receiving my JOURNAL!"Harrold K. Henck(Galveston)

"I must share with you the wonderful joys and benefits I have experienced through the membership in GTHS." Leonora Stoll Wolf (New Braunfels)

"I want to compliment you and all of the staff of German-Texan Heritage Society for your fine publication. Your Spring, 1992 is the most interesting I have read." Edward P. Staley(Muscle Shoals,Ala)

"We got the latest JOURNAL and again, compliments on its beautiful appearance. You always do a super job." Dona and Lew Marquardt(Buda)

"...I enjoy the good reports in the JOURNAL!" Gertrude Fischer (New Braunfels)

# 1992 in New Braunfels, Sept. 11-13

# BEGINNINGS OF THE GTHS GENEALOGY AND THERESA GOLD

In this Issue I am including the first four pages of the VOLUME I, NUMBER 1 Issue of the first publication of the German-Texan Heritage Society. Here are the names, the ideas, the commitments, the challenges that set forth the basis for the GTHS. It was an unknown, exciting, ambitious adventure we embarked upon in those early days. Now 14 years later we are still embarking, committing, and challenging, in our pursuits. We may be even more ambitious because of our many successes. Perhaps the perspective of our short history may keep us aware of our origin and our goals. I am teaching children born in the year that we founded our Society. This is a sobering factor in my life. In those days we were the younger ones, the pioneers in organizing. Now we are those who have done our work and are ready to move on to other pursuits, thus passing the torch to others. Change is the basis of progress.

I went back through all of the old NEWSLETTERS AND JOURNALS to see when we started Theresa's Genealogy Section and it was in VOLUME I, NUMBER 2, July, 1979. Since that time she has not only compiled, edited and written her 20/30 page Genealogy Section, but she has often edited the entire publication. Theresa is the only member of the GTHS who has been actively involved in communication with our members continually (no vacations) since 1979. If we published her Sections we would have a 7 or 8 hundred page book. I would estimate that she has given our Society at least 80 hours per issue. She not only compiles, she also calls people, asks questions, writes notes, does research to check out information, attends meetings, goes to workshops, and does promotional work. She types most of her section herself because many of her queries are bits and pieces from members. Theresa Gold is a treasure. She has forgotten more about German-Texana than any of us ever knew. She is our best

source for research. Theresa never stops learning, taking courses, getting new college degrees, and she has recently learned German. I hope that all of our readers are as aware as I am of the good fortune we have in Theresa's commitment to the German-Texan Heritage Society. Please thank her. She should get a five-star Ehrenstern from the GTHS!!!!

**NEW BRAUNFELS MEETING**  
 The 13th annual meeting of the German-Texan Heritage Society will be Sept. 11-13, 1992.  
 See Program!

GERMAN - TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
 NEWSLETTER  
 Volume I, Number I, January, 1979

VOLUME I NUMBER I JANUARY, 1979

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WHO ARE THE EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS OF THE GTHS?

Anna Thompson was born in Germany and became a German-Texan through marriage. Anna is vitally interested in the attempts by Texans to revive German cultural activities. She attends every festival and German-related activity that comes along. Anna's own children learn to speak German so that they will never lose contact with the culture.

Joseph Wilson is a native Texan, who has lived in Germany, and lives today in Houston for his work and on his (actually his wife's) LaGrange/Giddings area farm for fun. Joe is an outspoken defender of the Wendish and Czech cultures in Texas and believes that his LaGrange/Giddings/Brenham area is sadly neglected in all annals of German-Texan history. Joe is presently involved in an archaeological project on his farm - did you see him on EYES OF TEXAS? Joe collects slides of monuments, grave and cornerstones in German, Czech and Wendish.

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EDITORIAL C O M M E N T.....from the editor

In a child learns that great grandpa came from Germany, landed after weeks at sea in Indianola and went by wagon to central Texas, that child has a heritage. And great grandpa always smoked a long wooden pipe, had a beard, and spoke German. His wife made her own sauerkraut and cheese, and scrubbed the floors twice a day. How does a child find out about these things? Parents usually talk about them and in this way customs are born. The child hears those same parents speak German and an interest in learning another language is born. This is living history. Much of this type of simple history was lost because Germans were afraid to be too German after and during the two world wars. Many old-timers kept their German heritage to themselves and either failed or refused to share it and to promote it with new generations. There is no need anymore for embarrassment among German-Texans, for their heritage is based on pride and joyful remembrance. It is time for us to tell our children about this great heritage and to inspire them with its vigor. It is time to make all Texans aware of the contributions Germans made to the life-style of 20th century Texas. It is not too late to revive an ethnic entity which hid itself, but never died. German-Texans are all around us - some had German-speaking ancestors here long ago, some have come recently from a German-speaking country, others are of German ancestry from other states who somehow landed in Texas. We must not exclude those who, out of love or interest, have become devotees of the German-Texan culture. We all have a common bond. Let us go forth to spread our enthusiasm for all things relating to our German-speaking heritage.

\*\*\*\*\*

FUTURE NEWSLETTER ISSUES.....

Features about German-speaking ethnic subcultures in Texas; the Wendes, Jews, German-Russians, Alsatians, Mennonites. Are there others we could feature?

Articles from other publications about German-Texan topics of interest.

Do you have any old maps, pictures, news articles you could copy and send for the newsletter?

Send suggestions.

Im Unglück erkennt man die Freunde.  
(J.G. Herder)

Hochmut kommt vor dem Fall.

In böser Zeit sind Freunde weit.  
(Polnisches Sprichwort)

Vergeben ist leichter als Vergessen.

Jeder ist seines Glückes Schmied.

Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn.

Aus nichts wird nichts.

Irren ist menschlich.

WHO ARE THE G.T.H.S. PATRONS?

Special thanks to these benefactors who, by their generosity, have proven their willingness to support just the promise of the objectives of cultural preservation.

Mrs. Charles Bybee, Houston and Round Top  
 Mary M. El-Beheri, San Antonio  
 Minetta and A. V. Coyne, Arlington  
 Ilyne Klingelhofer Harper, Fredericksburg  
 Erwin Heinen, Houston  
 John G. Hofmann, San Antonio  
 Ilsa Kahn, Houston and Round Top  
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The German-American Club of Fort Worth  
 The Mac German Club, Douglas MacArthur High School, San Antonio

\*\*\*\*\*

FAMILY REUNIONS

Soefje Family - June Clear Springs  
 Elley Family - every summer - Seguin area  
 Alves Family - descendants of August Alves take turns in hosting and making arrangements as to place and date. They notify others by post card.

Walters-Herder - every summer at Walters Park, Schulerberg  
 Bauer-Rummel - every two years, usually at Round Top

----thanks to Velma Huber for this information. If anyone has dates and places of family reunions, please send them to the editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Der Weg zur Hölle ist mit guten Vorsätzen gepflastert.

Güte bricht einen kein Bein.

Was jeder tun soll, tut keiner.

MEMBERS' PROJECTS AND SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Bärbel Becker-Cantarelino, Austin, has a project "Texas Germans in early photographs" (U.T. Photography Collection).

John G. Hofmann, San Antonio, is researching the families: Jacob Anton Laux from Neustetten-Hessen-Nassau Nicolaus Ferdinand Benz(Binz) from Buehl-Baden,Wuerttemberg; Karl Theodor Schleuning from Darmstadt, Hessen; and Christian Xavier Meyer from Switserland. Other interests: "I would like to determine the location of the "Immigration Contracts" for 1847; General Land Office has contracts(1844-Dec. 1846)". Also, interested in cataloging graves of local German cemeteries(if not already done).

Eberhard Herrmann, Dallas, helped originate the Symposium on German Cultural Heritage in the Southwest in Dallas. He is interested in compiling a collection of short biographies of prominent German Texans, with an English-German text.

Rev. Kenn Knopp, Fredericksburg, is interested in development and protection of the German heritage in and around his home town. He is the national coordinator of the International Volksportverband(IV) with the USA headquarters: International People's Sports-USA, 107 W. San Antonio, Ft.G., 78264. This is the Volksmarsch organization with its internatl. hdq. in Germany. Rev. Knopp has written many feature articles for Fredericksburg papers through the years and published a booklet, "President's Priest" the Rev. W. W. Schneider.

Oliver A. Kretzer, San Antonio,(retired military) is collecting travel guides and maps of Eastern Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire published prior to 1914 to facilitate the location of the old German districts, cities and towns that have now been incorporated into either the USSR or Poland with the resultant change of names. He will be happy to help with research.

\*\*\*\*\*

Der Mensch denkt, Gott lenkt.  
 Ehrlich währt am längsten.  
 Erfahrung ist die beste Lehrmeisterin.  
 Früh zu Bett und früh wieder auf, macht gesund und reich in Kauf.

Wenn die Katze fort ist, tanzen die Mäuse.



VOLUME I NUMBER I JANUARY, 1979

HOW OUR SOCIETY STARTED

Dona Reeves and Mary El-Beheri have been feeling sorry about the loss of the German-Texan culture for four or five years. Both are so involved in teaching and in other endeavors that they just talked. Then Dona and Glen Lich put together the Southwest Texas State University Symposium on the Texas Germans and talk became activated. There was interest. Over four hundred excited people attended that symposium. And Patrick McGuire reminded them that nearly 5,000 attended the Institute of Texan Cultures' German Christmas party in 1977. Now! On a very hot summer day Dona, Patrick, Anna Thompson, Maria Watson and Susan Clayton met in San Antonio at Mary's apartment and that was the first meeting of the German-Texan Heritage Society. The second meeting was held a month later in San Marcos. Our organization is six months old with the publication of this first Newsletter.

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WANTED

One representative, club or group in every county in Texas.: Would you be an organizer in your town and/or county? If you can handle publicity, membership, lists of projects, news articles printed about German-Texan activities, etc..... VOLUNTEER TODAY!! Contact the editor nearest you.

COLLECT

News stories, articles, information in your local area for this Newsletter. Send whatever you collect to the editor.

HELP:

Who writes perfect German and has the time to correspond regularly with German archives, libraries and individuals interested in our German-Texan Heritage Society? Dona Reeves needs help in this activity, please contact her.....sofort!

Copies of the Newsletter may be ordered from the Society, \$2.50(members) or \$3.00 (non-members). Please include 66¢ for postage/handling. Published in February and in July at A U S T I N, Texas.

-2-

WHO ARE THE EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS OF THE GTHS?

Mary Mathis El-Beheri is a German more by interest than through blood although she had German ancestors on Continental soil before either the USA or Texas officially existed. Mary has researched Missouri River Germans, lived two years in the Rhineland and since 1972 she has been totally dedicated to reviving the heart and soul of German-Texans, San Antonio.

Susan Clayton is pure Anglo(English/Irish)Saxon, but her interest, as a native Texan, in the German culture has led her to visit Germany, to write about San Antonio Germans, to major in German at UT, Austin, and to go in 1977-80 to study at the University of Freiburg, where she will be the GTHS associate editor on German soil.

Robert Robinson-Zwahr is a native Texan of German and Wendish descent. He knows something about everything that has anything to do with German-Texan culture. Bob is into ethnic studies, genealogy and historical preservation. It's amazing how he sits out in Lubbock answering all our questions.

Dona Reeves is half German-Russian and half English by birth, but she is by all accounts the heart and soul of German-Texans today. She is a prime-mover in re-establishing the German-Texan Heritage. For more than twenty years Dona has sought to form just such a Society as ours. This year she was awarded the National Goethe Award given by the German Government to an American whose efforts in supporting the German language and culture are deemed outstanding.

Glen Lich is a German-Texan born in Comfort. He co-ordinated the SUTSU Symposium with Dona. Glen has recently finished a new book about German Texans for the Institute of Texan Cultures. He loves taking his friends and relatives on his special tour of Germany.

Lera Tyler is all English, but a Texan. She met her husband Glen Lich while they were studying in Vienna. Lera collects, researches and writes while helping Glen raise their three children. They are both photography buffs and collect old photos.

Minetta Altgelt Goyns was born in New Braunfels and with a name like Altgelt, she is indeed a proud German-Texan. She has taught German at UT, Austin, Arlington, Texas Wesleyan and TCU. Minetta is now happily retired, enjoying her new grandchild and writing.

Maria Watson's address tells us something: Yes, she is a San Antonio German-Texan with the royal blood of King William Street. She is a member of the Groos Family, best known as bankers. Maria still helps make herring salad every Christmas, an old Groos family tradition. She is researching her family. Her special interest is old S.A. buildings.

James Patrick McGuire sounds 100% Irish, but Pat is 50% German-Texan and 100% Texan. He is the foremost Texas authority on German-Texan artists, having published two books and currently working on his third. Pat dabbles in collecting German-Texan art, old pipes, other artifacts and books. No one loves the German-Texan heritage more than Pat.

Julia Mellenbruch is a German-Texan born in Pflugerville. She is a part of the old Pfluger and Klattenhoff families. She keeps the records up-to-date about George Pfluger, founder of Pflugerville and recently published a new book about his family.

Wüßtest Du daß.....

....the first laws for the State of Texas were published in both German and English.

....in 1876, there were according to the city assessor, in a total San Antonio population of 17,314, to give only the most numerous elements, 5,630 Germans and Alsations; 5,475 Americans, English and Irish; 3,750 Mexicans.

Do you have interesting little tid bits to share with us in this column? If you do, please send them to the Editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Much of the old German heritage in Texas has died. It is time to bring it back to life: And if it is only lost, let us find it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Are you or one of your neighbors German, Alsation, Swiss, Austrian, Russian-German, etc., and don't know it? Every third Texan has a German-speaking ancestor or two.

# Ingrid Kokinda of Germany is deep in the heart of Texas

Express-News

Saturday, July 11, 1992

Sometimes it takes coming from somewhere else to fully appreciate what San Antonio, what Texas, what the United States are all about.

Ingrid Kokinda, from Germany, first came to San Antonio in 1965 as a young military wife and returned in 1973, upon her husband's retirement, as a permanent resident.

She is a strong asset to San Antonio as an advocate and interpreter of the city's soul, whether it is leading a group of Canadians on a three-state tour (she is now a free-lance tour director) or introducing local Upward Bound students (as a volunteer at the Institute of Texan Cultures) to the wonders of their multicultural heritage.

Kokinda's first memories of grown-ups being nice to her, a refugee from East to West Germany at the end of World War II, were those of U.S. soldiers there. "I was about 6½ years old, and everything beautiful, kind and generous and good-tasting that happened to us as children was when the GIs invited us to Christmas parties."

In subsequent years she and her brother would go to the movies on Sunday afternoons. Always cowboy movies. To this day, driving through West Texas she sees those same vistas.

In 1965 the Kokindas came to the United States on a troop ship leaving from Bremerhaven. Her relatives waved goodbye, just as relatives had waved goodbye more than 100 years before to the German families immigrating to America.

Arriving in New York harbor, Kokinda arose before dawn to see her ship move ever so slowly past the Statue of Liberty. "If you ever



Barbara Stanush

in your life do a boat trip," she advises, "go past the Statue of Liberty, because you feel what those immigrants must have felt when they saw the statue welcoming them."

Her fantasy that everything in America was perfect and beautiful was shattered in New York. Everywhere the wind blew there was trash. However, having been told that Fort Sam Houston was one of the choicest Army assignments in the country, she was not disappointed. "I think it was meant for me to come here," she says.

Her biggest surprise? Learning that Germans had played a role in the settlement of Texas. On Saturday mornings in '65, her husband babysat, and Kokinda took the bus to town, to shop at Joske's he thought. Actually, she visited the River Walk, then undeveloped, and roamed downtown.

Walking around to the Commerce Street side of Joske's (now Dillard's) one day, she felt faint with *deja vu*. There, tucked into the building, was a steepled church, right out of Germany, with the cornerstone, dated 1868, inscribed in German. Whenever she feels nostalgic for her roots, she visits St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

And soon after, she found King William Street, named for Kaiser Wilhelm, whose architecture reflected a turn-of-the-century German neighborhood. Her present-

day walking tours of the city include the church, the King William area, once called Sauerkraut Bend, and the Commerce Street bridge, whose message once read in German, English and Spanish, "Fast riding across this bridge is prohibited."

Shortly after her return to San Antonio in '73, when she was volunteering at the Krueger Middle School library, the librarian put a book in her hands. "The most important book in my life," Kokinda says. It was "German Seed in Texas Soil" by Terry Jordan, the story of German immigrants in Texas. "And I discovered that the first man to found a German settlement, Industry (in 1838), came from Oldenburg, and I am from Oldenburg. You don't know the floodgates that opened then, with that bit of information."

Now, on Saturdays, she explored the country roads within a 60-mile radius of San Antonio. When she saw German names on mailboxes, she would wait for a little old man or woman to come pattering down the road in a pickup for the mail, and she would speak to them in German. "You should see how their faces lit up," Kokinda made many friends, most of whom are gone now. But she recalls their stories, their history.

"Talk to the old people," she implored a class of teachers recently at the Institute of Texan Cultures, "because they can tell you stories of three generations, including their grandparents."

In 1975, when she was invited to become a docent at the institute by James Patrick McGuire, Kokinda felt she had found her niche at last.

During a tour of the German-Texas exhibit there last week, she stopped in front of two photo por-

traits. "When I started work at the institute, I actually dreamed of these men," she admitted. They were Ferdinand Lindheimer, "the father of Texas botany," and Ferdinand von Roemer, a paleontologist who returned to Germany to write "Texas," which was to attract hundreds of Germans to the state. These and other German intellectuals who came to Texas in the 1800s have become heroes to her. She had never heard of them before.

"But the Germans who come as tourists aren't interested in these people," she says. "They want to see the cowboy and Hispanic Texas." She takes them to Banderita to visit a dude ranch and to the missions. "They know their Texas history inside and out. In front of the Alamo they almost go down on their knees and kiss the ground, because that to them is bravery, and they are very in awe of it."

Kokinda returns to Europe often. Her brother lives in Germany, her sister in France, so three languages are spoken at the reunions. "My children have very positive feelings about these countries because of their relatives. This is why it is so very important to exchange our young people, send them to Russia, bring the Russians here. It is the biggest peace work we can do. They become so much better citizens."

To Ingrid Kokinda, the United States is now home. "There's something in this country, you can't put your finger on it, it sets you free."

Barbara Stanush is an educational consultant, poet and author of "Texans: A Story of Texan Cultures for Young People."

**CALL FOR PAPERS  
DEADLINE OCTOBER 15, 1992  
S.G.A.S. 17th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM  
APRIL 22-25, 1993**

**SGAS 1968-1993  
CELEBRATE IN TEXAS  
25 YEARS**

The German-Texan Heritage Society and the Capitol Area Group of the G.T.H.S. are pleased to host the next symposium of the Society for German American Studies. The meeting will be headquartered in the historic landmark of Austin, Texas, the 1857 German Free School, home of the German-Texan Heritage Society. The symposium will focus on the Southwest; however, papers dealing with other aspects of German-American Studies are welcomed.

Abstracts of scholarly papers for the 1993 symposium may be submitted to: Ms. Mary El-Beheri, 507 Parland Place, San Antonio, TX 78209 Fax: 512-599-2920.

Paper selection committee: Theodore Gish, University of Houston; Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos; Mary M. El-Beheri, Douglas MacArthur High School San Antonio. On site arrangements, information about lodging: Anna Thompson, 2116 Lynbrook, Austin, TX 78748 Tel: 512-282-1933.



# Herzlich WILLKOMMEN in

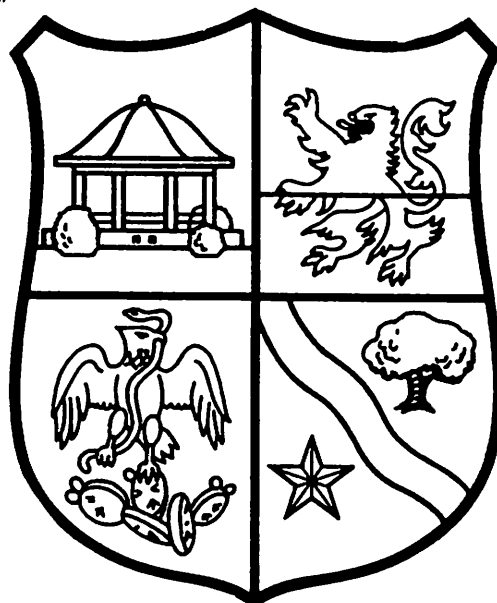
## *New Braunfels*

BIENVENIDOS

ПОЖАЛОВАТЬ

VÄLKOMMEN

VELKOMMEN



WELCOME

ΚΑΛΩΣ ΩΡΙΣΑΤΕ

בר הכים הבאים

# 1992 IN NEW BRAUNFELS, SEPT. 11-13

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY CONVENTION

Committee Members:

Helgard Suhr, 512-625-6330; Florence and David Riedel, 625-2760  
Ethel and Carl Saur, 625-0731; Ethel and Barney Canion, 625-8766  
Agnes Lehmann, 625-5391; Hildegard & Alfred Brueckner, 625-5206  
Clyde Blackmann, 629-1572, (Museum); Lucille Jett 625-3861  
Margarete Fields, 625-6853 ; Kurt Lehnhoff , 629-4810

# GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

## ANNUAL MEETING 1992

September 11, 12 & 13 in New Braunfels, Texas

### REGISTRATION FORM

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE August 31

Pre-registration cost: \$35.00      Late registration: \$40.00

Registration includes: Registration, Friday reception at Holiday Inn, Saturday Banquet, entertainment, programs and dance.

Registration:	(by Aug.31)	No. of persons	___	@ \$35.00	\$ _____
	(after 8/31)	No. of persons	___	@ \$40.00	\$ _____

Optional:      visit to two museums/ price not known at this time

List the name of each person as you want it on the name tag:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Mail to: Brett Becker, Office Manager  
 GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
 P O BOX 684171  
 AUSTIN, TX 78768

(in case of cancellation a \$15.00 service fee will be charged)

### HOTEL RESERVATION

A block of 75 rooms is being held at the special GTHS rate of \$52.00 per night plus tax for 1 to 4 persons occupancy at the HOLIDAY INN in New Braunfels. DEADLINE Aug. 11, 92  
 Please reserve early. Mention GTHS when reserving by telephone.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Arr. date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dep. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail HOTEL RESERVATION to:  
 HOLIDAY INN  
 1051 IH 35 E.  
 New Braunfels, Texas 78130  
 512-625-8017 or 800-465-4329

TENTATIVE PROGRAMFriday, September 11, 1992

- 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Registration at HOLIDAY INN and Reception  
 7:00 -10:00 p.m. Get together at BAVARIAN VILLAGE or GRUENE HALL

Saturday, September 12, 1992

- 8:00 - 6:00 p.m. Registration (Exhibits and Sales in Sunshine Room)  
 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Opening Addresses:  
 Greetings from Convention Committee  
 Welcome by: von Maszewski, President  
 Consulate General, Lufthansa, Goethe Institute  
 City or County Officials from N.B.  
 9:30 - 9:50 a.m. Everett Fey/ Ann Rogers: First Families of N.B.  
 10:00- 10:20 a.m. Barney Canion: Ferdinand Lindheimer  
 10:30- 10:50 a.m. Vernon W. Strey: Genealogy  
 11:00- 11:20 a.m. Sieglinde Schön Smith: Sister Hummel & new museum  
 11:30- 1:00 p.m. LUNCH on your own  
 Holiday Inn, Luby's, Smokehouse, Kettle Restaurant  
 1:00 - 1:20 p.m. Dr. Meredith McClain: Karl May  
 1:30 - 1:50 p.m. Dr. Ted Gish: Hermann Seele  
 2:00 - 2:20 p.m. Ethel Saur: Rev. and Mrs. Ervendberg-Orphanage  
 2:30 - 2:50 p.m. Mike O'Dowd & Dr. Johnson: Lückenbach, Texas  
 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. General Meeting and Election of Board Members  
 W.M.v. Maszewski: Sörgel/Sojourn in Texas 1846-47  
 Rodney Koenig: Leave Your German Mark  
 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. German films or videos at the Hotel or  
 Visit to new Hummel Museum and Lindheimer Haus  
 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. BREAK  
 JOHN NEWCOMBE'S TENNIS RANCH : BANQUET  
 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Get together - cash bar  
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. DINNER  
 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. Meeting: President von Maszewski  
 Awards and presentation of new officers  
 8:00 - 8:15 p.m. Sing-a-long with Ed Kadlecek  
 8:15 - 8:30 p.m. Performance by N.B. Folk dancers  
 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. Dance music by Ed Kadlecek and the Village Band

Sunday, September 13, 1992 HOLIDAY INN

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Meeting for Board Members  
 8:00 a.m. Breakfast for Convention Visitor on your own  
 9:00 - 12:00 Exhibits and Sales  
 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Devotional Service by Fred Fey, Deacon  
 9:30 - 9:50 a.m. Barron Schlameus: Baetge in Russia and Texas  
 10:00- 10:20 a.m. Agnes Lehmann: Sängerbund and Schützenverein  
 10:30- 10:50 a.m. Herb Skoog: Oral History  
 11:00- 11:20 a.m. Clyde Blackman: Adelsverein, Mainz 1842  
 11:30- 11:50 a.m. Bill Stein: The German Draft Revolt  
 12:00 Convention adjourns



GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
EXHIBITOR AND SALES RESERVATION FORM  
FOR THE  
NEW BRAUNFELS CONVENTION  
September 11, 12, 13, 1992

Please reserve ----- table(s) for:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone : Area ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

If company, owner or representative's name:

\_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) Non- Members: \$25.00 per table.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Members: 1st table, no charge.....\$ 00.00
- Additional tables, \$25.00 each..... \_\_\_\_\_

Please return with the necessary payment for table(s) to:

German Texan Heritage Society  
Helgard Suhr  
8 Mission Drive  
New Braunfels, Texas 78130  
512-625-6330

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



# TRAVELS IN TEXAS

By Hermann Seele (1823-1902)

Presented by TED GISH, PhD



The home of Hermann Seele, 1864, built on the location which is now 361 W. San Antonio Street.

Pastor and Mrs. L.C. Ervendberg established the Protestant Church in New Braunfels. Concurrently they made a home for themselves, their five children and nineteen orphans whose parents died during the long sea voyage from Germany or on the difficult trip overland from Indianola.

Presented by ETHEL SAUR

## ORPHANS WITH ERVENDBERGS

Augustina Bitter  
Daniel Fromme  
Christian Guenther  
Wilhelmine Koether  
William Kretzer

Heinrich Kreikenbaum  
Franziska Lange  
Louise Lange  
Lizette Schmidt  
Natalie Schmidt

Carolina Schuessler  
Marie Stendebach  
Frederick Walter  
George Walter  
Peter Walter

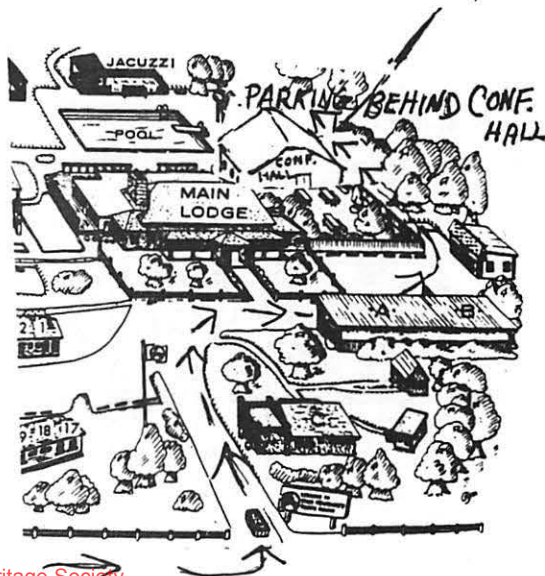
Friedrich Weber  
Heinrich Weber  
Johann Wessinger

Saturday  
night  
Banquet



JOHN NEWCOMBE'S

TENNIS RANCH



Presented by EVERETT FEY and ANN ROGERS

# Society capturing history of founders

By ROBERT STEWART  
Staff Writer

The Sophienburg Museum and Archives in conjunction with the Comal County Genealogy Society is working to compile material for a book project to produce the definitive book on the first wave of founders of New Braunfels.

"What we would really appreciate is if the readers (who feel that one of these is their ancestors could come down here and go through these books and look at the old letters," said Everett A. Fey, who is in charge of the project. "The hope is to have this book ready for publication in 1995 which is the 150th anniversary of the founding of New Braunfels."

Part of the book will consist of biographies of these founders along with any available pictures. Another part of the book will contain family tree charts showing the descendants of that person to his or her great-grandchildren, he said.

Settlers landed at Indianola and rode to New Braunfels in a trail ride. Indianola is near the present-day Port Lavaca. German immigrants had left their homeland because of bad conditions and a promise of 320 acres in the new land. Upon arrival, people were actually given a one-half acre lot in town and 10 acres outside of town.

Lindheimer traveled much of the United States and Mexico before settling in New Braunfels. Through his study of Texas Botany, he organized the plants of Texas into a scientific system and thus became known as the Father of Texas Botany.

Presented by BARNEY CANION

1852

Nov. 12: Ferdinand Lindheimer began publishing the Neu-Braunfels Zeitung, a weekly all-German newspaper that printed news and comments on that news. The Mittendorf Brothers also planted the county's first cotton crop.

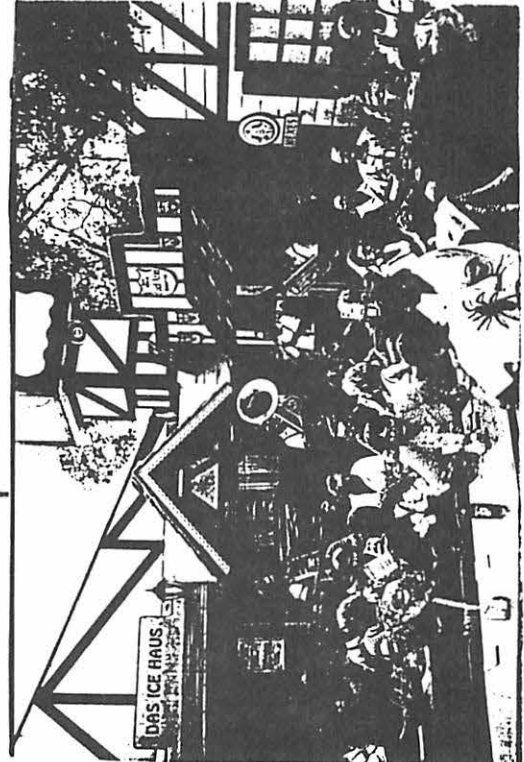
Gemütlichkeit  
New Braunfels  
Style  
Then and Now



"The sun place to eat"

## Bavarian Village

RESTAURANT & BIERGARTEN  
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Friday  
night  
at the  
Bavarian  
Village



# German roots running deep in New Braunfels

By MARK WARNKEN  
City Editor

The fall of the Berlin Wall in late 1989 pointed out to one local immigrant just how widely New Braunfels is recognized for its German character.

"When the wall fell, television stations from Dallas, Houston and Austin — and naturally San Antonio, too — came to New Braunfels to interview Germans, including me, but I know that they have thousands of German natives there," said Helgard Suhr, who came to New Braunfels from Germany in the early 1960s.

Suhr, vice president of the statewide German-Texan Heritage Society, is active in the local German-American Society, serving in the past as president for eight years. The 200-member German-American Society, founded in 1978, promotes German culture and language in New Braunfels and Comal County. The organization subsequently spawned two related organizations, the German Folkdancers and the Marsch-und-Wandergruppe walking club.

New Braunfels' strong German character is widely recognized throughout the state, nation and even world, and many traditions brought from Europe by the



Suhr

area's German settlers still thrive today, Suhr said.

"Some people think that there is not that much German here anymore, but I think there's a lot. But throughout Texas, whenever something is German, the first thought that comes to their minds is New Braunfels. It is well-known for its German character," Suhr said.

Many outsiders, of course, know New Braunfels because of its German-flavored Wurstfest celebration each fall. Other less-visible aspects of the community's rich German heritage include the widespread playing of Skat, a card game that originated in Germany, and nine-pin bowling, Suhr said.

German nine-pin bowling, as opposed to the standard 10-pin variety in the United States, is an activity widely enjoyed by small bowling clubs throughout Comal County, Suhr said.

"I have friends who, if they have several activities scheduled for one night and one of them is bowling, everything else doesn't count," Suhr said.

Spoken German is still commonly heard here, she said, although some English words are used to name such things as cars, air-conditioners and television, that came into being after the area was settled in the 1840s.

"When I go to Wuest's (supermarket), I hear German. I'm surprised to hear the older people speaking German to each other," she said.

"I am proud of the fourth-generation Texans who still speak

German," Suhr said. "I have friends who came here after World War II, and they hardly speak German anymore, and their children don't speak German at all."

The German-American Society organizes German summer schools for children and German language classes for adults, Suhr said. Also, the society sponsors the annual Maskenball costume party and produces a weekly one-hour radio show featuring German music.

The society also brings German cultural arts performances to New Braunfels, including jazz groups, choirs, orchestras and singers, Suhr said.

Other activities include working closely with the German consulate in Houston and the embassy in Washington, D.C. The society has even held a dinner for the German ambassador, she said.

The society also gives three college scholarships each year, raising the money through a Wurstfest booth.

Also, the German-American Society promotes the community's relationship with its sister city, Braunfels, Germany. This has included organizing a reception for the visiting Braunfels mayor and finding homes for Wurstfest visitors from Braunfels to stay in, Suhr said.



## 1842

The Adelsverein, also known as the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas, was organized at Biebrich on the Rhine. The group consisted of some nearsighted German noblemen with the noble intention of easing overcrowding in Central Europe. Their aim was to secure free land for those who could get none in Europe, help them get to Texas, secure markets for their goods and take care of them until they were able to take care of themselves.

Unfortunately, the noblemen underestimated both the numbers of potential immigrants and their needs. Survivors of the eight-week sea voyage occasionally were left on the beaches without cover, food or transportation to the inland settlements.

Still, Adelsverein settlements, including New Braunfels and Fredericksburg, prospered. More than 7,000 immigrants came to Texas between 1844 and 1847, and 20,000 more came between that time and 1860.

## Presented by CLYDE BLACKMAN

### 1845

More than 5,000 settlers to be sent by the Adelsverein begin arriving in Texas, with 1,000 winding up in Fredericksburg. Several hundred died from cholera, bad water and the hardships of a long ship voyage, stranded on the beach at Indianola or struggling overland without the aid of draught animals.

But New Braunfels grew into the biggest German settlement in Texas, outstripping earlier colonies in Austin and Fayette counties. Hospital sheds were built for the ill, and men put up solid little homes in town.

# Mit Winnetou zum Weltrekord

Deutschland erinnert an den Abenteuer-Autor Karl May

Dresden (INP) — Deutschland ehrt in diesem Jahr seinen meistgelesenen, meistgedruckten und meistübersetzten Schriftsteller anlässlich seines 150. Geburtstages am 25. Februar. Dekken Bücher sind in rund 80 Millionen Exemplaren und in 30 Sprachen verkauft worden. Sein ungeheurer geschäftlicher Erfolg, der sich noch immer in nach seinen Büchern gedrehten Filmen und in regelmäßig stattfindenden Festspielen fortsetzt, beschäftigt die literarische Forschung. Sein Name: Karl May, von Beruf Volksschullehrer. Die Bücher, die ihn zum Auflagen-Imperator machten, sind von ihm „Reiseerzählungen“ genannte Romane, die hauptsächlich unter den Indianerstämmen Nordamerikas oder im Vorderen Orient spielen.

Begeisterte Leser sind nicht nur traditionell seit Jahrzehnten Jungen und auch Mädchen im Schulalter, sondern dazu bekannten sich auch Männer wie Theodor Heuss, der erste Bundespräsident der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Albert Schweitzer, Albert Einstein

oder Autoren wie Hermann Hesse, Franz Werfel und Thomas Mann. Der Philosoph Ernst Bloch nannte Karl May den „Shakespeare der Jungen“. Immer neue Biographien werden über den Mann geschrieben, dessen Oeuvre von trivialster Heftchen-Literatur bis zu tiefgründigen surrealistischen Symbolromanen reicht und dessen „Historisch-Kritische Gesamtausgabe“, auf 99 Bände angelegt, erst jetzt erscheint.

Wer war er? Der Sohn eines armen Webers im sächsischen Dorf Hohenstein-Ernstthal war bis zu seinem fünften Lebensjahr blind. Der begabte Schüler geriet, als er am Ende seiner Lehrerausbildung stand, aus finanzieller Not auf die schiefe Bahn.

Seine kleinen Diebereien und nicht ganz so harmlosen Betrügereien und Hochstapeleien brachten ihm in der Jugend durch drakonische Richter rund acht Jahre in Strafanstalten ein. Allen Taten gemeinsam ist ein Überschuss an Phantasie, ein Aufwand an Verkleidungs- und Verstellungskunst und ein stets lächerlich kleines Ergebnis finanzieller Art. Erste veröffentlichte Erzählungen sind Humoresken und Dorfgeschichten, dann nimmt ein Kolportage-Verleger Karl May in seine Dienste, und bei der Abfassung unendlich umfangreicher und konfusier Fortsetzungsromane unter so bezeichnenden Titel wie „Waldröschen, oder die Verfolgung rund um die Erde“ und „Deutsche Herzen — deutsche Helden“ findet Karl May sein Metier.

In seinen nun niedergeschriebenen „Reiseerzählungen“ sind Idealgestalten wie Old Shatterhand, Kara Ben Nemsis und der „edle Wilde“, der Indianerhäuptling Winnetou, die Leitbilder. Der immense Bekanntheitsgrad seiner Bücher unter Titeln wie „Durch die Wüste“, „Der Schatz im Silbersee“, drei Bände „Winnetou“, „Im Land des Mahdi“ und „Old Surehand“ wurde unterstützt durch die Ich-Form der Erzählung, die dem Leser ein Selbsterleben suggerierte. In Wahrheit hatte Karl May die fernen Länder vorher nie gesehen. „Weltreisen“ erst ab seinem 58. Lebensjahr unternommen, als er zu Geld gekommen war.

Daß er aber seine schon zu Lebzeiten zwei Millionen starke Leserschaft nicht nur im Glauben gelassen hatte, er selbst sei dieser Rambo-Vorgänger Old Shatterhand und Kara Ben Nemsis, der alle Sprachen spreche, alle Sportarten beherrsche, alle bösen Menschen spielend austricksen könne, wurde ihm

übel genommen, als durch eine Pressekampagne die Wahrheit ans Licht kam. Die Jahre „auf Weltreisen“, eigentlich die in Haft, schadeten dem Ruf des nun schon berühmten Mannes sehr. Er war bei dem Versuch, sich sein eigenes Leben nun auch zusammenzudichten, gescheitert. Selbst als 1909 in einer heute nur noch schwer verständlichen Weise gegen ihn polemisiert wurde, jedenfalls aber die Tatsachen auf dem Tisch lagen, hielt er zu seiner Version: „Karl May ist mehr als zehnmal in den Vereinigten Staaten, in Kanada usw. gewesen und öfters auch in denjenigen asiatischen und afrikanischen Ländern, wo er die Studien zu seinen Reiseerzählungen zu machen hatte.“

Mochten sich auch viele von ihm abwenden — die Jugend, der er mit seinen Träumereien vom Edelmenschen besiegt, begeistert hatte, hielt treu zu ihm. Und diese Jugendlichen wurden Erwachsene und blieben bei ihrer Meinung. Als Karl May am 30. März 1912 in Radebeul bei Dresden, wo er lange gewohnt hatte, starb, soll an seinem Grabe der aus USA angereiste Indianerhäuptling White Horse Eagle gesagt haben: „Du hast unserem sterbenden Volk im Herzen der Jugend aller Nationen ein bleibendes Denkmal gesetzt.“

Heute ist Karl Mays Wohnhaus in Radebeul, das während der DDR-Jahre lange Zeit Kinderheim war, wieder Museum und mit seinen wertvollen indianischen Sammlungen Pilgerstätte aller jungen und alten

May-Fans. Nach der deutschen Teilung von 1945 war auch beim Inventar eine Teilung erfolgt, so daß zum Beispiel der Schriftsteller heute in Hamburg steht, wohin der 1960 nach Westen geflüchtete Karl-May-Verlag gezogen war. Für die Funktionäre der DDR war der Autor in seiner „Villa Shatterhand“ ein „bürgerlich-dekadenter“ Abweichler gewesen. Ein Umschwung kam aber in den achtziger Jahren, als versucht wurde, ein „DDR-Staatsbewußtsein“ mit Erinnerung an das historische und kulturelle Erbe zu schaffen.

Jenseits aller Querelen und der Diskussionen um den Wert oder Unwert von Karls Mays Büchern hat sich der beispiellose Aufstieg des Vielschreibers zum meistgelesenen Jugendautor seiner Zeit vollzogen, zu dem sich — sonst gäbe es zum Beispiel keine „Karl-May-Gesellschaft“ mit Jahreskongressen und Jahrbüchern — auch immer die Erwachsenen bekannten. 1987 — es war 75 Jahre nach seinem Tode — gab die Deutsche Bundespost eine Karl-May-Briefmarke heraus.

Zu seiner unübersehbaren Lobby könnte Karl May heute auch die Leute zählen, die ihm bei seinen Prozessen immer das Leben so schwer machten: Vorsitzender der Karl-May-Gesellschaft ist der Hamburger Professor für Strafrecht und Allgemeine Rechtslehre Claus Roxin.

Eberhard Nitschke  
(IN-Press)

Presented by MEREDITH MCCLAIN, PhD

Presented by BARRON SCHLAMEUS

## BAETGE- His life in Russia and Texas

Carl Friedrich Baetge was born in Germany in 1805. He was educated there as a civil engineer and is said to have been fluent in seven languages. In the early 1840's he was commissioned to build a railroad from St. Petersburg in Imperial Russia, 420 miles south to Moscow. This was to connect the Winter Palace of 1050 rooms with the Summer Palace.

Mr. and Mrs. Baetge came to New Braunfels in 1850 and two years later built a beautiful home on the Demijohn Bend Ranch above Smithsons Valley. When the Canyon Dam was built the structure was dismantled and rebuilt at Conservation Plaza in New Braunfels.



GENEALOGY

The Genealogical Research on the Strey family has spawned twenty additional family histories. Sixteen of the twenty family histories are available at the Sophienburg Museum and Archives for research.

The speaker will explain how he got started and where he is today in his research in Texas and in Germany.

Presented by VERNON STREY



Presented by BILL STEIN

The German Draft Revolt

The Germans who came to Texas did not approve of having slaves. Instead, the family provided the labor needed to farm and ranch their property. When it became necessary for Texas to decide whether to be a slave or free state the Germans were in a quandary.

German-Texans were given the choice to join the Confederacy or leave Texas. A group of Comfort Germans while leaving the State were murdered on the way to Mexico at the Battle of the Nueces.

A similar confrontation occurred in Colorado County and will be the topic of Bill Stein's speech.

Presented by MIKE O'DOWD and SHEILA JOHNSON, PhD

Looking at Luckenbach-

through the eyes of a German Texan born in 1970.  
Meine Mutter, ihre Eltern, ihre Grosseltern und Urgrosseltern sind alle in Luckenbach geboren und aufgewachsen.

True tales of my families involvement with Luckenbach have always been part of our shared heritage:

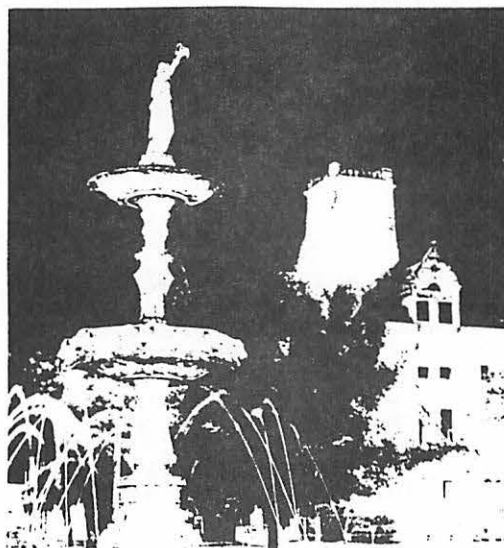
From Jakob Brodbeck, who flew around the fields of Luckenbach and Fredericksburg in the 19th century to the Luckenbach town center - my great grandparents General store, post office, & dance hall, to father Schneider, family friend and confidant to President Johnson.

As the first generation who had to learn German at the university, I want to share some of this past as well as some thoughts about Luckenbach's future with you.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL

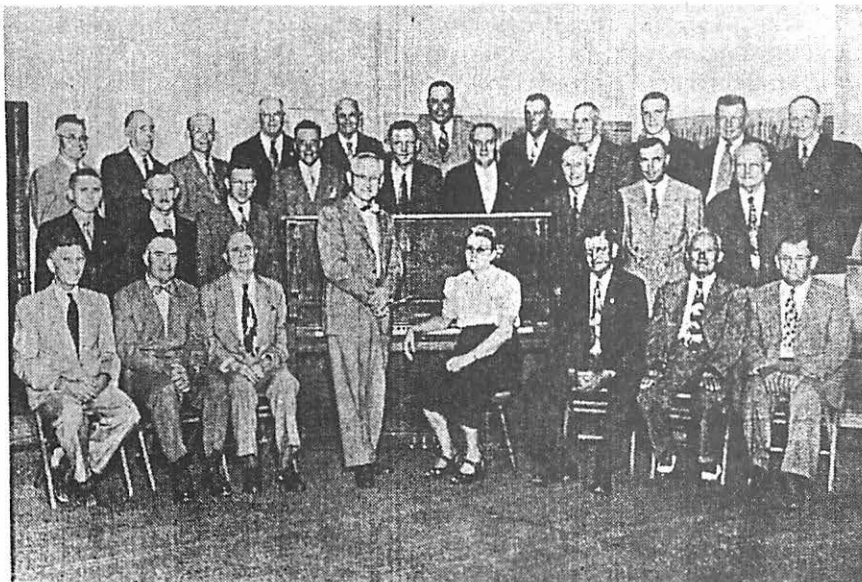
in

NEW BRAUNFELS





TO PIQUE YOUR INTEREST



### Gesangverein "Echo"

Am 25. Juni 1894 fanden sich eine Anzahl sangeslustiger Männer zusammen und gründeten den Gesangverein Echo. Die Gründungsmitglieder des Vereins waren Herman E. Dietel, C. Gehren, Ad. Stein, O. H. Deutsch, A. Holz, F. Andrae, F. Kohlenberg, Theo. Staats, C. Eiband, W. Tays, W. Streuer, F. Hoffmann, Geo. Henne, Hilmar Fischer, P. Lengen, A. Mueller, Theo. Babel, A. Hoffmann, H. Floege, W. Nuhn, A. Buchberg, W. Ludwig, und H. Babel.

In der darauf folgenden Versammlung des Vereins wurden die ersten Beamten gewählt C. Gehren, Präsident; H. Floege, Vize-Präsident; F. Andrae, Sekretär und Schatzmeister; und Herman E. Dietel, Dirigent.

#### 1853

Singing groups from all over South and West Texas met in New Braunfels for the first Staats Saengerfest. The Germania singing society had been founded locally in 1850, and it was joined at the sangerfest by clubs from San Antonio, Austin and as far away as Galveston.



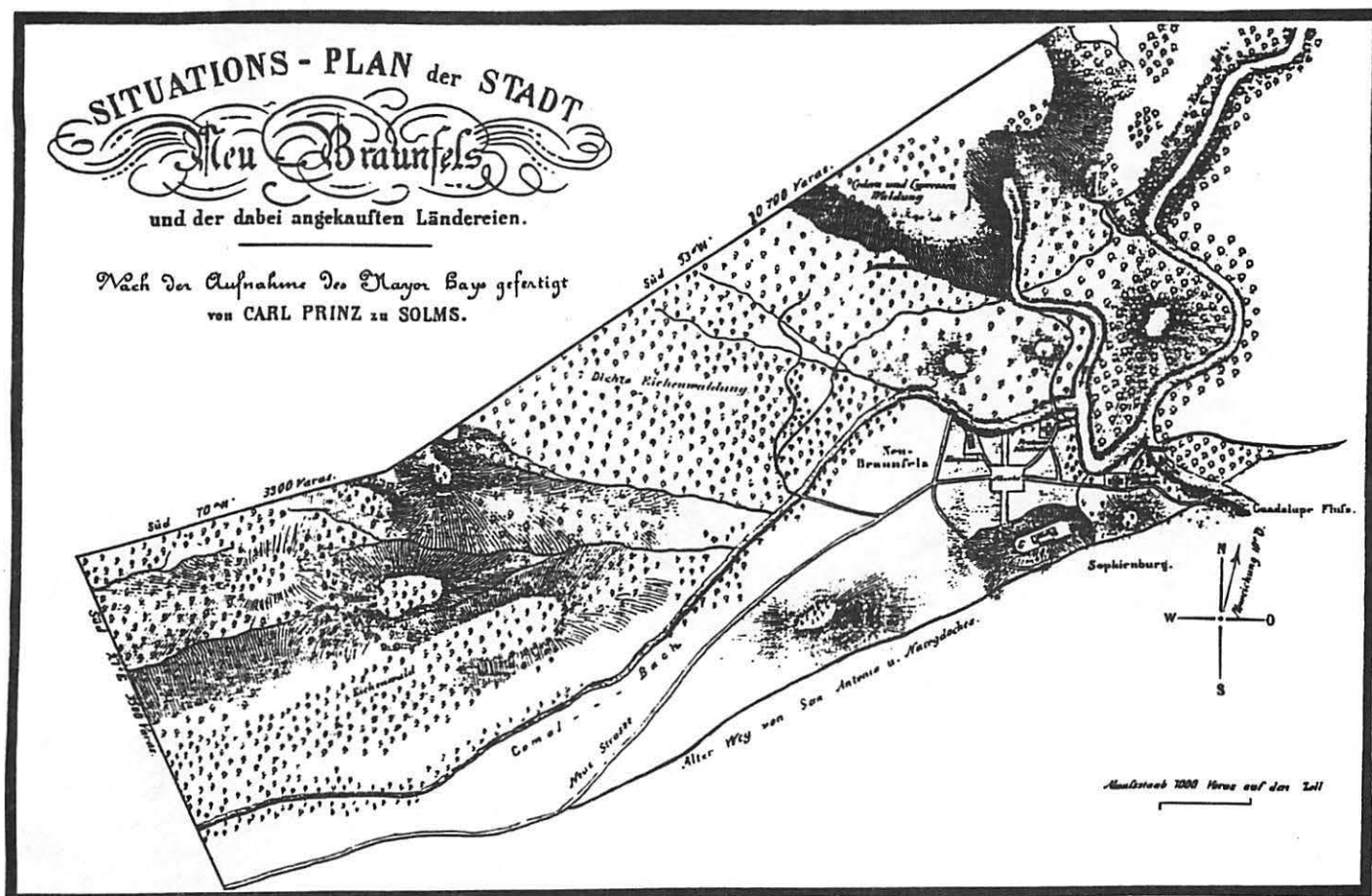
The New Braunfels Marksmen Club (Schuetzenverein) organized July 4, 1849, marked its 119th King Shoot, July 4, 1968. Member with highest score at the 4th July shoots is named king for the year. The practice was kept up by the fourteen charter members even during Civil War years. With the powder scarcity in those years each member was allowed one shot to determine who was king. Since 1938, wives and sisters of members have become associate members, and do some competitive sharp shooting.

Presented by AGNES LEHMANN



# The Mystery of the New Braunfels Map!

by Everett A. Fey



The above map is an interesting one, found in the book "Texas 1844-1845" by Carl, Prince of Solms-Braunfels. At first glance it seems like a very early map of New Braunfels. The Plaza, along with the early streets in town, are clearly indicated. Also shown are several points of interests along with their descriptive names.

The boundaries of the tract are identical to the maps of the Veramendi Tract which Prince Solms wanted to purchase for the New Braunfels "way station" to the Verein's settlement area near the waters of the San Saba and Llano Rivers. As the inscription states, the major part of the map with its boundaries, forests, creeks and rivers was probably drawn by Colonel Hays, the Texas Ranger who himself had led surveying expeditions in the Texas Frontier.

However the details of the town itself were probably added by Prince Solms himself (as the caption by the title hints). On closer scrutiny, this appears to be a glamorized map of how Prince Solms wanted to present the new settlement in Texas to his peers back home in Germany!

Note the dominance of the Sophienburg Fortress high on a hill overlooking the tiny village. With careful detail, the fortress, named after his beloved Sophia, sits on a high mesa which slopes down on all four sides to the valley below.

Prince Solms has accurately drawn the "neue strasse" (San Antonio St.) from the "Alter Weg" (Nacogdoches Road) to the main plaza. However the rest of the town's streets shown on the map are impossible to reconcile with the early layout of the settlers' lots. Note that what appears as Seguin Street runs from the main plaza to the Guadalupe Crossing. That is accurate but it should meet San Antonio Street at the plaza at a 45 degree angle not a 90 degree angle! This sets up a suspicion for all the town streets--none have any historic basis! The only valid roads may be the "one line" trails drawn in the forests showing the excursions Prince Solms took on horse back to explore the region as he noted in his Tenth Report.

Next, look at the three buildings. The Protestant Church is shown on one of the roads crossing the Comal Creek. Because the waterways are not drawn to any accurate scale, it is difficult to decipher where he placed the church, but it does appear to be in the large acre lot granted to Nicolaus Zink for his services to the Verein. In all probability Reverend Ervendberg had already received his own lot from the Verein when Prince Solms left New Braunfels in May...so why was his church drawn in by the river and not nearer the Sophienburg where it should be?

More plausible reasoning can be found for his placing the Catholic Church near "Seguin St." and the Lindheimer Botanical Gardens (which may be "suggested" by the drawing of smaller trees along the River). George Wenzel and his son Ignatz (both Catholics) were credited by tradition for arranging for a priest to celebrate the first Mass at their home. George and Ignatz drew lots in that section of town. Perhaps Prince Solms remembered their dedication when he left the community in May, even though a priest could not have already visited the town by that time.

No reason is known at present for his placing the "hospital" where he did. This is where the Zinkenberg (the stockade) was located. It is one building Prince Solms should have been most familiar with. In his Tenth Report back home he states "I had an encampment erected on a bluff overlooking the Comal Creek". Since the German word "hospitalier" can mean a "knight", perhaps he used "hospital" in a looser sense to signify the community's fortress.

Finally Prince Solms states, in his Tenth Report, that he is enclosing a map of the land "as attached to the purchase contract". That may well have been the map from which this one was copied and added to as the caption states. Also the print and workmanship of this map, as we have it reproduced here, seems to require more workmanship than was available on the frontier. A very interesting map, amazingly accurate if while studying it, one also reads the entire Tenth Report...for sure this is the earliest attempt to put New Braunfels on the map!

"Un-Word" of 1991: "Foreigner-free" M.M.C

Several months ago, we reported on an all-German campaign by the Society for the German Language (*Gesellschaft für deutsche Sprache*) to determine the "Un-Word of the Year 1991," a campaign that was described by the chairperson of the society's Frankfurt chapter, Horst Dieter Schlosser, as an effort to draw attention to "thoughtless, often inhumane and cynical language use". The response was considerable, with 366 submissions received by the jury, a committee of scholars and linguists. Now, after due deliberation, the jury has awarded the dubious distinction of "Un-Word of the Year" to the word *Ausländerfrei*, or "foreigner-free"; among all submissions, it was found to most strikingly demonstrate "inhumane language usage."

The second-place "un-word" was *durchrasste Gesellschaft*, a word creation that suggests a racially "impure" society and that was attributed by the *Frankfurter Rundschau* newspaper to Bavarian Minister of the Interior Edmund Stoiber (CSU). *Intelligente Waffensysteme* ("smart weapons systems"), which came in third, was cited by the jury for indicating "a lack of sensitivity." This was followed by two terms associated with the employment situation in eastern Germany, *Personalentsorgung* ("disposal of personnel") and *Warteschleife* ("holding pattern"), which refers to a grace period before an actual layoff; both were cited for a "cynical attitude toward the fear of layoffs and unemployment of thousands of working people in the five new states."

The words that appeared most frequently among the submissions were *Ossi* and *Wessi*, mildly derogatory terms for eastern and western Germans. A related word, *Besserwessi*, or "know-it-all Wessi" was chosen late last year as the society's "Word of the Year," a word found to be "most characteristic" of a given year.

Quite a few people, however, thought that *Besserwessi* had won the wrong contest and more properly belonged among the "un-words." Another frequent submission was *Abwicklung*, a term used to denote the process of liquidating eastern German firms. *Abwicklung*, however, has officially ceased to exist; the trustee agency charged with privatizing former East German state holdings found it too blunt and initiated a campaign of its own to replace it with a more positive term. The winner: "reconstruction"

Plaque will commemorate former school

A plaque describing the history of the German-English school buildings at 419 S. Alamo Street will be presented to the Plaza San Antonio Hotel, current owner of the buildings, at 10:30 a.m. on April 11.

The plaque is to be presented by former students of the old San Antonio Junior College, which occupied the buildings from 1925 to 1951.

The building was completed in 1859 and was known as the German-English school. It closed in 1897, and was re-opened six years later as the George Brackenridge Grammar School. That school closed in 1923, and the structure was then used as Thomas Nelson Page Junior High School until 1925.

A short program is to be presented, and all members of the San Antonio Junior College classes of 1925 to 1951 are invited.

A kaffeeklatsch will follow. Call 229-1000, extension 7802, by April 8. For more information, call 822-3498.

SAE 10000 - News April 5, 1992



GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

College Awards

This is the third year educational awards were given on the college level. Outstanding German students at the following institutions were awarded copies of Biesele's The History of the German Settlements in Texas: 1831-1861, or membership and subscription to the Journal for 1992:

University of Houston:	University of Texas at Austin:
Book: Gloria Howard	Book: Cynthia K. Muth
Membersh.: Frank Schulte-Ladbeck	Membersh.: Thomas A. Reece
Texas Lutheran College, Seguin:	Angelo State Univ., San Angelo:
Book: John Durst	Book: Patricia Hickson
Membersh.: Jeff Gushwa	Membersh.: James McNew

Junior Historian Awards

We are pleased to announce the GTHS Education Award winners in the Junior Historian writing contest, a program for Junior and Senior High-school students administered by The Texas State Historical Association. According to a letter received from David De Boe, Director of Educational Services...

"First place (\$100) went to Jennifer Wilson a student at Hallsville Junior High who wrote on 'German Settlers: Contributors to Texas History.' Kerry Carter from Pine Tree Junior High in Longview won second place (\$50) for her essay entitled 'The Influence of German Immigrants on Texas.' Both essays should make excellent articles in next year's Texas Historian."

Sponsors of all Junior Historian chapters, who are primarily social studies teachers, were offered copies of GTHS' own publication, Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage, edited by W. M. Von-Maszewski, to help students find German-Texan topics for next year's writing contest.

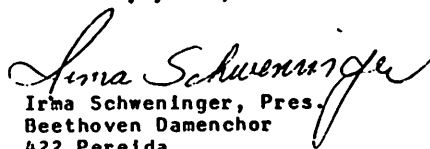
My name is Irma Schweninger, and I am the president of the Damenchor in San Antonio, Texas. My good friend and fellow singer, Merva Pankratz told me to please send you our calendar of events for your information to have.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity and maybe you will find something newsworthy from our club.

Our ladies do celebrate one of the biggest events of the year, that is "Fasching" in February. We enlarged our garden facility and can now accomodate quite a large crowd. Every third Friday of the month during June, July, August, Sept. & October, we have gardenconcerts. Everything is German. Should you like to know of anything that I might be of help to you, please contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Irma Schweninger, Pres.  
Beethoven Damenchor  
422 Pereida  
King William District  
San Antonio, Texas 78210

BEETHOVEN MAENNERCHOR/DAMENCHOR  
1992 CALENDAR

Texas Folklife Festival	Oktoberfest
August 6,7,8,9	Oct 9, 10
Gartenkonzert	Gartenfest
Aug 21, Sept. 18	Nov 20
Gebirgs Saengerfest	Beethoven Band Christmas Concert
Oct. 14(San Antonio)	Dec. 9

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**SCHNEIDER**  
Oscar J. Schneider entered rest April 7, 1992 at the age of 79 years. He was preceded in death by brother, Hugo Schneider and sisters, Linda Schneider and Hilda Brown. Survivors: Wife, Lillian M. Schneider; son and daughter-in-law, Ewalt and Gladys Schneider; daughter and son-in-law, Ruth Marie and Wallace Schlicketsen, 11 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Thursday, April 9, 1992 at the Brookhill Chapel with Rev. Merle Carlson officiating. Interment will follow in San Jose Burial Park. Arrangements with:  
**Brookhill**  
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Am 6. Mai starb in Paris die Schauspielerin und Sangerin Marlene Dietrich. Nach ersten Filmrollen Anfang der 20er Jahre schaffte sie ihren Durchbruch zum Weltruhm 1929 an der Seite von Emil Jannings in dem Josef von Sternberg-Film "Der Blaue Engel" nach dem Roman "Professor Unrat" von Heinrich Mann. Noch im gleichen Jahr ging sie mit Sternberg nach Hollywood, wo sie u. a. in "Morocco" (1930), "Shanghai-Express" und "Blonde Venus" (beide 1932) mitwirkte. 1939 wurde sie US-Burgerin. Wahrend des Krieges sang Marlene fur die amerikanischen Soldaten an der Front, was ihr viele Deutsche tobel nahmen. Zu ihren Nachkriegs-Filmerfolgen zahlen "A Foreign Affair" (1947) und "Zeugin der Anklage" (1957). Auch als Sangerin begeisterte die Dietrich das Publikum auf der ganzen Welt mit Liedern wie "Johnny, wenn Du Geburtstag hast", gesungen mit tiefer Rauchstimme. Seit Ende der 70er Jahre lebte sie zuruckgezogen in Paris. Marlene Dietrich soll am 16. Mai in Berlin beigesetzt werden, wo sie am 27. Dezember 1901 auf die Welt gekommen war.

**WORD FOR WORD**





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

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

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

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

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

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

### Categories:

- I. Old Businesses ----- Stores, banks, newspapers, mills, etc., founded before 1925 by German-Texans. Need not be under the original owner throughout its history.
- II. Vereine ----- Organizations founded before 1920, defunct or still active today, including agricultural, musical, literary, shooting clubs, etc., and/or their buildings.
- III. Churches & Synagogues ----- Congregations founded and/or buildings erected before 1925 by German-speaking people.
- IV. Cemeteries ----- Public, private and church cemeteries which primarily contain graves of German-Texans.
- V. Schools ----- Public, private and parochial schools founded before 1925 and/or their buildings.
- VI. Farms & Ranches ----- Homesteads of considerable size and/or significance developed before 1925 and still intact. Ownership need not be the original family.
- VII. *Fachwerk* Construction ----- Buildings using *fachwerk* (half-timbered) construction in all or part of the structure.
- VIII. Museums, Historical Societies,  
Libraries ----- Institutions devoted to the preservation of German-Texan history, culture, or the work of a German-Texan, or housed in a historic building of German-Texan significance.
- IX. Historical Markers,  
Monuments and Statues ----- State of Texas historical markers, local plaques, monuments, statues, and National Register of Historic places and plaques pertaining to German-Texan heritage or history.



**LEAVE YOUR GERMAN MARK**

By Rodney C. Koenig

We are living in exciting times! Recently Richard von Weizsäcker, the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, visited Texas, stopping in Houston and San Antonio on May 2 and 3, 1992. He met and visited with the Mayor of Houston, with Dr. Michael DeBakey and his German wife, with Eckhardt Pfeiffer, Chairman of Compaq Computers, and with your Board members, W. M. Von Maszewski, Helgard Suhr, Helga von Schweinitz and Rodney C. Koenig in Houston. His cousin, Heidi Beale, a resident of Houston, was also in attendance. Many of us traveled on to San Antonio to see him greet Texas Governor Ann Richards and numerous other dignitaries, including our Theresa Gold, at the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of San Antonio Liederkrantz. German President Richard von Weizsäcker asked whether the German Song was already in Texas or whether the German immigrants brought music with them when they came to Texas. The President was a super representative of the Federal Republic of Germany and indicated that German immigrants left their mark with their German Song which is still being celebrated today at the Deutsch Texanisches Sängerfest. The German President left his mark by dedicating the German Heritage Park in the Hemisphere grounds in San Antonio, at which time the German Bear statute was repositioned to the German Heritage Park grounds.

We are truly fortunate in the German-Texan Heritage Society that Dr. Kelly H. Stevens left a generous German mark by donating the German Free School in Austin to our society. Currently we are attempting to find a generous donor or donors who will help us landscape the grounds of the German Free School. We need a family or group of persons to help us in this landscaping project around the home at 507 East 10th Street in Austin. We have a design for landscaping already, but need funds for a sprinkler system and for permanent plants and flowers.

We also have other examples of our members leaving their German Mark. Asta Grona established the "Asta Grona German Texan Heritage Society Scholarship" at the University of Houston which was awarded to Ulrike Bahr and Tanja Reifenrath this year. Miriam York, another one of our Board members, donated generously to cause a number of old German language newspapers to be microfilmed at the University of Houston. In other German clubs, Sanford Schmid has donated the Witte-Schmid House near Shelby, Texas to the Texas German Society. Please let us hear of other examples of persons who have left their German Mark. The form below could be photocopied and used to make a donation to assist in the preservation and maintenance of the German Free School.

My donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. I desire to leave my German Mark for the following purpose:

- Maintenance and Preservation of the German Free School.
- Landscaping Fund for the German Free School.
- Microfilming Project of German Texan Heritage Society.
- Scholarship Fund at a university to be designated.
- Other gift for \_\_\_\_\_.
- I wish to make a gift in my Will. Please call me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code



LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OF GERMANY

Following his May 1992 visit to the U.S., including stops in San Antonio and Houston, the president of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker, sent a letter of appreciation to the San Antonio Liederkrantz, his host for the San Antonio segment of the tour. Because the message shows his warm appreciation for the continuation of the German tradition in Texas, we relay his remarks with you.

The letter is dated Bonn, den 11. Mai 1992, and is addressed to Leonard Gittinger, Jr., president of San Antonio Liederkrantz. We thank the San Antonio Liederkrantz for sharing this message with our GTHS members.

*Der Präsident  
der  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

"Joining you and all the members of Liederkrantz at your reception and the splendid banquet was like a homecoming for my wife and myself: In the middle of Texas we found ourselves surrounded by the most charming "German Gemütlichkeit", enriched

by ever so beautifully performed German music and songs, demonstrating beyond any doubt that German culture and tradition is alive and well in Texas.

"Your kind words of welcome and my conversations in the course of the evening convinced me that Texas can be proud of its citizens of German descent. They have become valuable members of Texan society and at the same time they remain ready and open to foster American-German cooperation at the cultural and other levels.

My wife and I should like to thank you and all others who joined forces to organize that lovely evening for your your very charming hospitality. For its future I wish the Liederkrantz the best of success and - until the next centenarian celebration - many more such enjoyable evenings."

(signed) Richard v. Weizsäcker



## German Heritage Park, Inc.

*proudly announces its Sunday in the Park concert series*

on the grounds of German Heritage Park  
(Alamo Street entrance to HemisFair Park)  
July 19 • August 2 • August 16, 1992

Two concerts each month; watch event calendars in local papers.

Free music from 12:30 - 2 p.m. German food and drinks will be on sale.

If you prefer, bring your own picnic and lawn chairs.

German Heritage Park, which recently won unanimous approval by City Council, began as a committee of the San Antonio Liederkrantz. The committee expanded to include other prominent interested citizens from all sectors of the city and became German Heritage Park, Inc. — the non-profit organization dedicated to transforming four acres of HemisFair Park into a center showcasing the important legacy of the German heritage in San Antonio's history.

For more information on German Heritage Park or concert dates and entertainment, call Gerhard Buech, executive director, at 696-5372.

German Heritage Park, Inc.  
9901 IH-10 West, Suite 900, San Antonio, TX. 78230

**SOCIETY FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES - SYMPOSIUM 1992**

Since our affiliation, GTHS has sent one of its board members to participate in the symposiums of the SGAS. This year it was my turn. I went to Lawrence, Kansas, not only to report on the progress made in securing a meeting place for SGAS in 1993, but also to get to know some of the people who make SGAS what it is and to get absorbed in some of the many symposium topics offered during the almost four-day long conference.

The participants represented national and European colleges and universities, high schools, museums and art galleries, government entities, and historical and cultural societies. I met representatives of the Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society, German Genealogical Society of America, German Historical Institute in Washington, DC, Society for the History of Germans in Maryland, Indiana German Heritage Society, Institut für Volksmusikforschung in Vienna, Austria, and Deutsches Volksliedarchiv in Freiburg i. Br., Germany. All were interested in the exchange of information of the German element in the Americas. This was done in a pleasant environment in a congenial manner. As is always the case in annual meetings of this nature, a lot of visiting was done before and after the sessions, in the lobby and over meals.

There were three sessions running concurrently on topics of German-American literature, history, politics, authors, culture, immigration, education, genealogy, heritage, and more. It was not easy to choose which sessions to attend, since many were of interest to me as a former German teacher, recent immigrant, and representative of GTHS. The symposium's keynote speaker was Reinhard R. Doerries of the Erlangen-Nürnberg University, who discussed "The Acculturation of German Immigrants in the Post-Civil War era." He said that by the turn of the century, most German organizations had changed their books from German to English and that most Germans were integrated into the American society by the beginning of WWI. I was glad that he said "most" and not "all", because it would not have been true for many Germans in Texas.

As I progressed through the program, I came to realize that Texas is indeed "a whole other country." The president of the Society for the History of Germans in Maryland told about his efforts to find out what happened to all the halls the Germans used to own. He found that even though Germans are the largest ethnic group in Maryland, this fact is down played. Historic buildings are razed, lots of papers are being thrown away by descendents, and there is no place to deposit what is kept. His society was started to find what is still there and to preserve it, if possible.

In another session, an update was given on a very important project. Professors and secondary school teachers are working on a model to put German history and culture in the schools, possibly into the social studies and German classes. Members of the Education Task Force of the SGAS have done an outstanding job in identifying the problem and suggesting and preparing solutions. A four-page publication, "Guidelines for the Introduction of German-American Studies at Various Educational Levels" outlines the task ahead and is available to interested persons. Several supplemental teaching materials have already been designed and are being tested in the classroom. They address multicultural topics, German immigration and famous German-Americans, roles of Germans in the building of America, and German customs, beliefs and traditions (with handouts of Weihnachtslieder and favorite German Hymns).

At the beginning of the symposium, the Max Kade Center for German-American Studies was dedicated at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. The Center is housed in the historic Sudler House, renovated with a grant from the Kade Foundation. It houses a library with more than 5,000 books, magazines, newspapers and personal papers. The library includes documents in German that were brought by immigrants or were published in the United States. The collection, which reflects the life and culture of German immigrants in the United States, is suitable for research in a variety of disciplines. During an open house, I was able to spend an entire afternoon at this library. Among the many writers familiar to a German native, I also found interesting materials pertaining to the Germans in Texas. In

the monthly "Der Deutsche Pionier," 1869, 5. Heft, an unnamed writer reminisced about the Adelsverein in "Erinnerungen an die Trümmer der Adels-Colonie in Texas (aus den Jahren 1846-1850)." He named names I had never seen before, leaving me to wonder if the report was more fiction than truth. The book The Forty-Fighters. Political Refugees of the German Revolution of 1848, edited by A. E. Zucker, had a picture of the "Funeral of German Patriots at Comfort, Texas, August 20, 1865," from Harper's Weekly, January 20, 1866, and made mention of R. L. Biesele and Gustav Struve. Materials such as these, if not widely accessible, could keep our Journal filled to the brim time after time.

Another session which held my interest dealt with truth of information in diaries, histories, biographies, and major reference works. One item should be of interest to genealogists who are planning to use the Glazier/Filby Passenger List "Germans to America." Researchers have found that 90% of the "unknown" list is in error. This has to do with computer glitches concerning three zeros, three o's or a combination thereof. Village names that could not be easily read were also entered as "unknown." A "miraculous" immigration on the ship "New England" was discovered, when sixty-four passengers known to have died during the voyage, appeared in the passenger list of the book as having arrived.

In the session on folk music and folk songs, two researchers had come all the way from Germany and Austria to report on their efforts to record and preserve German-American music. Their contact and research partner is the University of Chicago. There is a letter elsewhere in this issue asking members who have handwritten German song books or German-American hymnals to contact the "Deutsche Volksliedarchiv."

During the Round Table session with other affiliates, suggestions were made for a program in Texas next year. These suggestions will be passed on to the program committee. The SGAS has accepted the invitation of GTHS to come to Texas and celebrate its 25th anniversary in Austin. The 17th Annual Symposium of the Society for German American Studies will take place on April 22-25, 1993 in Austin at the Airport Hilton next to Highland Mall. Many participants of this year's symposium have told me that they are looking forward to coming to Texas. It is our turn now to extend the legendary Texas hospitality and make them feel welcome.

GTHS is compiling a mailing list of members interested in participating or attending this symposium. To be put on this list, write to GTHS Headquarters, Attn: SGAS Symposium, PO Box 684171, Austin, TX 78768. You will be sent a Call for Papers and other information as it becomes available.

Report submitted by Anna Thompson, 2116 Lynnbrook Dr., Austin, TX 78748

P.S: The book The German Americans by Anne Galicich (Chelsea House Publishers), of the series The Peoples of North America which is available for sale, should be in history classes and school libraries. An item of great interest is the catalog of the German Language Video Center (Division of Heidelberg Haus, 7625-27 Pendleton Pike, Indianapolis, Indiana 46226-5298 - Phone (317) 547-1257). You can rent or buy German language video-films from them, and some of them are wonderful "oldies."

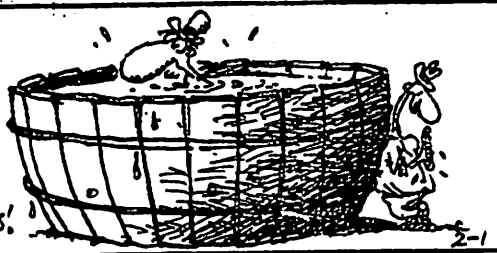
## CORRECTION

The annual Llano River Valley German Hymnfest will be held Sunday, Sept. 27th at Trinity U.M. Church in Castell, TX. at 3 PM.

**WORD FOR WORD**

MANY OF US SOMETIMES FIND OURSELVES IN A PICKLE!

THIS TERM BECOMES CLEARER WHEN WE KNOW THAT PICKLE (FROM THE GERMAN PICKEL-BRINE) ORIGINALLY REFERRED TO THE LIQUID IN WHICH VEGETABLES, ETC WERE PRESERVED ... NOT TO THE VEGETABLES THEMSELVES!





### German Expressionists at McNay

A traveling exhibition of some 140 major German prints was scheduled to go on display June 14 at San Antonio's McNay Art Museum.

The exhibition, "Inner Visions: German Prints from the Age of Expressionism," features the work of Max Pechstein, Max Beckmann and Kathe Kollwitz. Interspersed with this nucleus is a survey of work from major artists of the time, including members of the Brucke, Der Reiter and Bauhaus.

More than any preceding group, the German Expressionists used the printmaking media to establish the position of original prints as a major art form. Because of their desire to create art accessible to a wide range of people, most of the major artists of the period created prints in addition to their paintings.

Many were drawn to the stark simplicity of the woodcut, a technique dating to the 15th century. Because of the expressive power and creative diversity of these works, German Expressionism became one of the high points in the history of art.

The exhibition, from the Portland Art Museum, includes a high proportion of rare and unique proofs and was assembled chiefly by two pioneering collectors, Dr. Gordon Gilkey, curator emeritus of prints and drawings at the Portland Art Museum, and Ismar Littman, an attorney in Breslau until his death at the hands of the Nazis in 1934.

"Inner Visions" will be on view in the McNay's Jerry Lawson Gallery through Aug. 9. The McNay is located at 6000 N. New Braunfels Ave. in San Antonio, telephone (512) 824-5368.

from: Theresa Gold, based on an article in the Recorder, June 4, 1992.

arben

*Sagte Frau Müller zu Frau Meier: "Ich sehe schon wieder rot. Denn mein Mann ist mal wieder so blau, dass ihm vor lauter weisse Mäusen schwarz vor Augen wird!"*

**Fernsehen...** *MF*

"Ich habe in den frühen Abendstunden einen so leichten Schlaf", stöhnt Herr Neugebauer, "das ich bei der kleinsten Bild- oder Tonstörung aufwache".

### NEWS FROM

#### SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Among the twelve recipients of the San Antonio Conservation Society's 1992 Preservation Awards were several with German heritage connections:

**Hill Country Preservation Society** for restoration of the Charles Schreiner Mansion, Kerrville, Texas;

**Lewis Neeb** for restoration and adaptive use of the Hugo & Schmeltzer Building-Spaghetti Warehouse (restaurant), San Antonio, Texas;

**New Braunfels Historic Railroad and Modelers Society** for restoration of the International and Great Northern Railroad Depot, New Braunfels, Texas; and

**Andrew Hull** for restoration and adaptive use of the Schumann Homestead-Seguin High School Parenting Center, Seguin, Texas.

The awards were presented at a dinner and ceremony May 13, 1992, at the Southwest Craft Center, formerly the Ursuline Academy, San Antonio.

#### GERMAN GULF COAST ASSOCIATION Deutscher Gulf Coast Verband

PRSS RELEASE

#### ANNUAL GERMAN FEST OF HOUSTON - 1992

Please mark October 3, 1992, on your calendar!

On that date, the **SIXTH ANNUAL GERMAN FEST OF HOUSTON** will be held at the **Vesta Galleria Hotel**, 5060 West Alabama, Houston.

This event is celebrated in conjunction with **National German-American Day** (October 6).

The **Gala Dinner Dance** begins at 8:00 PM (cash bar opens at 7:00 PM), with the **Jaegermeister Band** providing ballroom dance music.

A non-profit organization, the **German Gulf Coast Association** will use proceeds from the dance to provide scholarships to deserving German students and for the 1993 annual fest.

For further information and reservations, call

(713) 651-5333  
(713) 358-3371  
(713) 324-3982

## DOING LUNCH WITH THE PRESIDENT

by Helga von Schweinitz

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker, and the First Lady of Germany, Freifrau von Weizsäcker, had invited me to a "Mittagessen" (dinner at lunch time) for May 2, 1992, in the Omni Hotel in Houston. I slipped, of course, into better dress and heels for the occasion.

My husband, who was not invited, had the honor of chauffeuring me to the event. Champagne and wine while other guests arrived - no name tags (who is she, I wonder) but assigned seating by name cards around tables of ten with husbands and wives being separated - a gentleman of experience moving his name card to another table while we were still mingling - no picture taking, please.

Among the distinguished guests were oil executives, old Houston money, the German Ambassador to the US and lots of folks known for their contributions to good German-American relations like German - Texan Heritage Society board members Helgard, Von and Rodney.

The President had arrived while I wasn't looking - no fanfares, no secret service spectacle. We sat down.

The main course was Texan and delicious: Angus beef tenderloin with Gulf crab cakes. Portions were small as one might expect in polite society. The food was complimented by the most exquisite German wines.

The gentleman on my left was an editor for a major German newspaper, a member of the presidential entourage. "Is the President going to meet our Governor while he is in Texas?" I asked him. "The Governor of Texas? What's his name?" he asked in return. "Ann", I replied. She was not on the itinerary. With the raspberry sorbet dessert came a short speech by von Weizsäcker, delivered in excellent English, and a few toasts. The "Mittagessen" had been a pleasant affair.

As I learned, the President's schedule for his three day visit to Texas was filled with many an occasion to remind him of the German part in Texas history. Some presents he received from GTHS and from individual members of the Society will give him a chance to learn even more about it: among the books were von Maszewski's "Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage", Biesele's "The History of the German Settlements in Texas, 1831-1861", and Bethune's "Forward to the Past".

In true American fashion, some frugal Hauswives among the guests waited until the President was out of sight, consulted with the diningroom staff and carried out the beautiful flower center pieces that had adorned the tables. I, too, took one home as a gift to my chauffeur.

*Franconian Village Houses German-German Museum, A Museum of Division*

A small sign at the outskirts of Mödlareuth, a 50-person-village in Upper Franconia on the edge of the Thuringian Forest, announces that this is the home of the "Mödlareuth German-German Museum." The visitor is greeted by an anachronistic sight: 18 months after the two Germans unified, some 100 meters (approximately 328 feet) of the cement wall and about a mile of the border fence that once divided eastern and western Germany stand in the village. On the other side of town, a watchtower, a relic of the former border installations, has also been reconstructed. The vestiges acknowledge both Germany's recent past, but especially Mödlareuth's own: like its more famous cousin Berlin, the intra-German wall divided this tiny village straight down the middle.

Unlike the Berliners, however, the Mödlareuthers had a good deal more time to accustom themselves to division: theirs goes back four hundred years, to the days when the *Tannbach*, the stream that runs through the village, was the border between Thuringian and Brandenburgian territory. When World War II ended, only to be followed by the Cold War, half of the Mödlareuthers became citizens of the Federal Republic, the other half of the German Democratic Republic. Even today, there are two signs for the town: if one approaches from the East, a sign announces "Mödlareuth, Community of Cebersreuth, County of Schleiz (Thuringia)"; coming from the West, one is

welcomed to "Mödlareuth, Community of Töpen, County of Hof (Bavaria)."

Now, a museum will be built which will use the history of this little town to tell the larger history of the Federal Republic. The driving force behind the museum project is Arndt Schaffner, a western German photographer and documentary filmmaker, whose boyhood bicycle rides along the western side of the wall and curiosity about "what lay behind it" led to a lifelong fascination with the intra-German border. Shortly after the portion of the wall that transversed the village was razed, Schaffner founded the "Mödlareuth German-German Museum Association." Since then, funded by the states of Bavaria and Thuringia, the two counties and the two communities, Schaffner has been researching and collecting for the museum, which is scheduled to open in 1994. The items he collects range from the buttons of border guard uniforms to the border transportation vehicles; nearly everything relating to division is of interest.

With his museum project, Schaffner is seeking to show the "human tragedy of victims and perpetrators along this border." He proposes to do so with simple documentation and presentation of the facts. Bavarian police and former German Democratic Republic border guards have helped museum personnel to reconstruct the installations accurately. For some of the guards, this work has also included dismantling mines planted along the one-time border.

**German-Americans in the American Revolution: Henry Melchior Muhlenberg Richards' History** - edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann. Considered the definitive history of the involvement of German-Americans in the American Revolution, this work was originally published in 1908 and has long been out of print. It focuses on Pennsylvania and surrounding colonies, where the colonial German element was concentrated, and contains extensive biographical information of value to genealogists and historians. Although about ten percent of the population were German-Americans, they overwhelmingly supported the Revolution, whereas it is said that of the Anglo-Americans, one-third supported it, one-third were Tory loyalists, and one-third were neutral. Because of this, German-Americans played a significant and crucial role, especially in Pennsylvania, which was one-third German, but in nearby states as well.

In 1776, Congress raised a German-American regiment which fought in many battles and spent the winter of 1777-78 at Valley Forge with Washington, whose personal bodyguard unit was a German-American unit. Other such units would also be formed. It is said that the American troops were German trained, fed, and led, as Baron von Steuben served as inspector-general, Christopher Ludwig as superintendent of baking, and Heinrich Luttreloh as quartermaster-general. Of General Nicholas Herkimer, commander of several German-American battalions from New York, Washington wrote, "It was Herkimer who first reversed the gloomy scene...he served from love of country, not for reward." How German-Americans contributed to the American victory is described in detail in this work, which is essential to an understanding of the Revolution. Contains numerous lists of soldiers, many illustrations, and surname and subject indexes. Dr. Tolzmann has edited several German-American works offered by Heritage Books; here he provides additional information pertaining to the role of German-Americans in the War of Independence. 1992, 552 pp., paper, index, illus.

Retail price after that date: \$38.50

plus \$3.00 for postage and handling

Available from:

**Heritage Books, Inc.  
1540E Pointer Ridge Place  
Bowie, Maryland 20716**

**Tel.: 301-390-7708**

Other works by Don Heinrich Tolzmann, published by Heritage Books, Inc.

**GERMANY AND AMERICA (1450-1700): JULIUS FRIEDRICH SACHSE'S HISTORY OF THE GERMAN ROLE IN THE DISCOVERY, EXPLORATION, AND SETTLEMENT OF THE NEW WORLD.** (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, Inc., 1991). \$20.00 - plus \$3.00 for handling and postage

**THE FIRST GERMANS IN AMERICA, WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY.** (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, Inc., 1992). \$13.00 - plus \$3.00 for handling and postage

**The Steuben Monument in Washington, D.C.: A National German-American Landmark** - Edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann. This work makes available an important historical document regarding the establishment of a major German-American landmark, the Steuben Monument in Washington, D.C. The document is *Proceedings upon the Unveiling of the Statue of Baron von Steuben, Major General and Inspector General in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, in Washington, D.C., December 7, 1910, and upon the Presentation of the Replica to His Majesty The German Emperor and the German Nation in Potsdam, September 2, 1911*. Originally published in 1911, this long-out-of-print work contains the proceedings of the dedicatory ceremonies in 1910 and of the dedication of a replica of the monument in Germany in 1911. Baron von Steuben, born in Magdeburg, Prussia, in 1730, an outstanding soldier in the Prussian army, offered his services to the American colonies after the American Revolution began. In the words of Alexander Hamilton, von Steuben "introduced into the army a regular formation and exact discipline" and "established a 'spirit of order and economy.'" Von Steuben wrote *The Blue Book*, the standard instruction manual for the American army; he also formulated plans for the founding of a military academy, thus laying the foundations for West Point. As a reward for his services, the U.S. Congress awarded him 16,000 acres of land near Utica, New York. Included in this illustrated, indexed volume are the addresses of Congressman Richard Bartholdt, President William Howard Taft, Dr. Charles J. Hexamer (President of the National German-American Alliance), Count Johann Heinrich von Bernstorff (German ambassador to the U.S.), and others. Included are letters between von Steuben and George Washington, documentation pertaining to von Steuben, and a bibliography. A lengthy section contains all congressional proceedings from the time of the Continental Congress to the time of the dedication. Dr. Tolzmann has edited several German-American works offered by Heritage Books; here he offers a historical perspective and aids to research. 1992, 247 pp., paper, index, biblio., illus.

Retail price after that date: \$22.50

## Deutsch-amerikanische Rundfunkkommission

Die Bundesrepublik und die USA haben am 19. Mai in Berlin ein Abkommen über die Gründung einer bilateralen Kommission zur Förderung des Austausches zwischen dem Rundfunkwesen beider Länder unterzeichnet. Nach Angaben der US-Zeitschrift *riefen Bundesinnenminister Rudolf Seiters und der amerikanische Botschafter Robert Kimmitt mit ihrer Unterschrift eine "Rias Berlin Kommission" ins Leben, die sich der Pflege der Kontakte zwischen Rundfunkjournalisten beider Länder verschreiben soll. Die Bundesregierung werde die Arbeit dieser Kommission in diesem Jahr mit 20 Millionen Mark finanzieren. Das Gremium trage den Namen des früheren amerikanischen Raddiosenders in Berlin, um an dessen Rolle als "transatlantische Medienbrücke" zu erinnern und seine Tradition der deutsch-amerikanischen Zusammenarbeit fortzuführen.*

← Oblo Valley German Biographical Index - Don Heinrich Tolzmann, editor. This volume provides access to several major German-American histories, biographical directories, and indexes covering the German element in the Ohio Valley (mid-18th to early 20th century), not indexed heretofore. One of the sources which Dr. Tolzmann has indexed for this volume (there are four total) is in the English language and the others are in German; an English translation of one of the German-language volumes will be available in the fall, 1992. These works are available in most large public libraries and in research, genealogical, and university libraries.

plus \$3.00 for postage and handling (the price \$17.00 - plus \$3.00 for postage and handling)



GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

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

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

Annual Genealogy and Family History Seminar at Brigham Young University will be 5-8 August 1992. For information, write to Conferences and Workshops, 136 Harman Building, Provo UT 84602, or call (801) 378-4853. (from: Newsletter of German Interest Group, Minnesota Genealogical Society, January 1992)

"New Horizons: A Conference in the Southwest" is the theme of the 1992 Federation of Genealogical Societies conference co-sponsored by the Arizona Genealogical Advisory Board, 19-22 August, in Phoenix. It features over 100 conference sessions, many by "big name" presenters, and several dealing with German and Eastern European research. For information, write: FGS/AzGAB Conference, P. O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City UT 84110-3385.

Texas State Genealogical Society conference will be 6-7 November 1992, at Doubletree Hotel, Austin. For information, contact TSGS, Rt. 4, Box 56, Sulphur Springs TX 75482. The TSGS also has an electronic bulletin board network linked to a national system. For information, consult TSGS's "Newsletter," May 1992 issue.

National Genealogical Society's Annual Conference in the States for 1993 will be in Baltimore, Maryland, 2-5 June, 1993. For information, contact NGS at 4527 17th Street North, Arlington VA 22207-2399.

Photographing the Ancestral Hometown in Germany is the sideline of James A. Derheim, a staff photojournalist based in Darmstadt with the military services publication "Stars and Stripes." His European Focus photography will go to your ancestral hometown and photograph your ancestors' homes, schools, farm sites, etc., and compile the photographs and other memorabilia into a quality photo album. Although there are no set rates, the service begins as low as \$100.00 and increases according to the client's wishes. In his line of work, he travels frequently to most of Western and Central Europe and has done client photography in England, Czechoslovakia and Poland, but these areas may require additional expense. He does not conduct family lineage research. If interested, write to: James A. Derheim, Box 22, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211.

German Genealogical Society of America's Research Director, Michael Palmer, wrote a nice letter complimenting us on our GTGS Journal, specifically the third issue for 1991. From the extensive resources available at the GGSA, he was able to give follow-up advice to four of our members on the possible locations of their ancestral hometowns, including Marion Freeman, whose item appeared on page 229 of that issue; Barbara Brod Bonin, p. 230; Charlene Nash, p. 231; and Bill Lehman, p. 231. We thank Michael for his interest and his kind remarks.

Glückstal Colonies Research Association, through Margaret Freeman, contacted our GTGS for advice on documenting certain Germans from Russia, particularly some from the Glückstal group of colonies near Odessa in the Ukraine, who apparently settled in such Texas localities as Wichita Falls and Petrolia, as well as in Wichita, Lipscomb, Clay, Fort Bend, and Smith counties. The Glückstal Colonies Research Association aims to locate, gather, organize, and access sources pertaining to the colonies of Bergdorf, Kassel, Glückstal, Neudorf as well as their "daughter" colonies and to coordinate efforts of individuals researching descendants of those colonies. For information on her research project, contact Margaret Freeman at the Glückstal Colonies Research Association, 1015 22nd St, Santa Monica CA 90403.

Lost Towns Many U.S. towns have had their names changed over the years or no longer exist. If you cannot locate a town when researching, write to: U.S. Board of Geographic Names, 523 National Center, Reston VA 22092. (from: South Texas Genealogical Society, Spring, 1992; reprinted from "Stalkin' Kin," San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc.)

Microfilm copies of indexes for births in Texas between 1903 and 1976 are available through the Texas State Library. If your local library does not own this, please advocate its purchase through: Records Management Division, Microfilming Department, Texas State Library, P. O. Box

Genealogy: Bits and Pieces and News, continued

1297, Austin TX 78711. (from: South Texas Genealogical Society, Inc., Fall 1990) Note: an index for death certificates is also available.

Texas State Executive Department ledgers are also available on microfilm through the Texas State Library. Ranging from 1835 to 1972, this block of records includes the Secretary of State Record books, 1846-1917. Within this group are many of the colonization and ship lists for such Republic-era colonies as the Castro Colony, Fisher-Miller Colony, Mercer Colony, German Immigration Company, and the Peters Colony. A complete set of the microfilm contains 57 reels. Any may be obtained at a local library through interlibrary loan. Information about purchasing a copy may be obtained from: Texas State Library, Records Division, P. O. Box 1297, Austin TX 78711; telephone: (512) 454-2705. (from: South Texas Genealogical Society, Inc., Fall 1990)

Texas State Library in Austin reopened in January after a major renovation and asbestos removal. New supervisor of the genealogy collection is Judy Duer. The genealogy collection is located on the first floor of the Lorenzo De Zavala State Archives and Library Building at 12th and Brazos streets. It is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, except on state and national holidays. The staff will answer limited inquiries by mail. Inquiries should be addressed to: Genealogy Collection, Texas State Library, Box 12927, Austin TX 78711. The telephone number is (512) 463-5446, and the FAX number is (512) 463-5436. (from the Texas State Genealogical Society's Newsletter, May 1992, page 5, which also included a drawing of the floor plan of the TSL's Genealogy Unit)

Barker Texas History Center holdings and services were outlined on page 4 in the May 1992 issue of Texas State Genealogical Society's Newsletter (same issue as cited above).

German-American Genealogy, Immigrant Genealogical Society's 24-page publication for Spring 1992 had several articles of interest. An article on Hinterpommern included a time chart of the historical development of Russia, Poland, Germany, and Austria, with a map of the areas covered in the article. Another article discussed using the computerized Family History Library Catalog at your local L.D.S. Family History Center. This issue listed the surnames found in January-June 1990 issues of FANA, Familienkundliche Nachrichten (see article in this issue of GTHS Journal by Herbert Beinhorn about FANA). Other IGS articles included researching a Sachsen family, information on Hungarian, Aremnian and East Elbia--and on the Sophienburg Archives in New Braunfels! The address of the IGS is P. O. Box 7369, Burbank CA 91510-7369.

German Genealogical Digest also had interesting articles in its issue for the first quarter of 1992. It included information on: Austro-Hungary and the German settlers called the Danube Swabians; records available for places in Yugoslavia with German populations; bibliography of printed sources to help establish the place of origin of emigrants to Southeast Europe; Salzburger emigration; locating the ancestral hometown--"When the Church Books are Wrong!"; emigrants from Schwerin; update on microfilm acquisitions by the L.D.S. Family History Library; plus queries and book reviews. The Digest had been printing an alphabetical list of surnames from the Hamburg Emigration records, but this appears to have been dropped again. German Genealogical Digest is \$22.00 a year, four issues. The address is P. O. Box 700, Dept. 92, Pleasant Grove UT 84062.

Family Footsteps, publication of Comal County Genealogy Society, in recent issues has published the 1852-53 baptism register for New Braunfels' Protestant Congregation founded by L. C. Ervenberg, some "Road Minutes," cemetery inscriptions, abstracts of 1847-48 New Braunfels city council minutes, several petitions with original signatures, excerpts from county marks and brands books, transcripts of speakers' meeting programs, and of course, queries. An interesting continued feature is a translation of Ferdinand Lindheimer's 1870 Zeitung article describing the 25th anniversary of the founding of New Braunfels. Also significant is the listing of the direct index to deeds of the German Immigration Co. to the early German settlers of New Braunfels, 1846-58, found in the first issue for 1992. Family Footsteps is published three times a year and sent to members of Comal County Genealogy Society. Dues are \$15.00 a year; the society's address is P. O. Box 30583, New Braunfels TX 78130-0583.

Comal County Genealogy Society has moved its library holdings from the Dittlinger Memorial

Genealogy: Bits and Pieces and News, continued

Library to the Sophienburg Archives in the old city hall at 200 W. Seguin St. in New Braunfels. (from Family Footsteps, Comal County Genealogy Society, Vol. IX, No. 1, March 1, 1992)

New Braunfels and Comal County books for sale by Comal County Genealogy Society include these: Baptism Register for First Protestant Church (1845-1854), \$21.75; Index to Probate Records (1846-1884), \$8.00; Index to Naturalizations (1847-1927), \$11.00; Cemeteries within New Braunfels, \$25.00; Comal County Cemeteries outside New Braunfels, \$25.00; New Braunfels Cemetery Sexton's Records, \$8.00; Comal County Sexton's Records, \$8.00; Old New Braunfels and Comal Cemetery (1917-1957), \$8.00. In addition, there are available seven volumes of Comal County marriage records: Book 1, 1846-1864; Book 2, 1864-1877; Book 3, 1877-1888; Book 4, 1888-1897; Book 5, 1897-1904; Book 6, 1804-1912; and Book 7, 1912-1918. The marriage books are \$10.00 each. For each book, we have added in the price of the postage, so the prices as given here are complete. Order from Comal County Genealogy Society, P. O. 30583, New Braunfels TX 78130. (from Family Footsteps, Comal County Genealogy Society, vol. IX, No. 1, March 1, 1992)

South Texas Genealogical Society was formed in 1988 and began a quarterly publication in 1989, which is exchanged with our GTGS Journal. The Society covers six counties: Karnes, Goliad, Live Oak, Bee, Refugio, and San Patricio. The quarterly includes records found in some of those counties, including census, death, marriage, birth, naturalization records, as well as newspaper excerpts, old photos, cemetery survey listings, and of course, queries. If you thought South Texas lacked German heritage and German settlers, you should see this quarterly's published list of naturalized immigrants from Prussia and Austria as well as from Germany! The Society supports the local history and genealogy collection at the Bee County Library in Beeville and maintains a surname interest file. Dues are \$15.00 a year by writing to P. O. Box 754, Beeville TX 78104. Issues 1989-on are on file at our GTGS office.

Stalkin' Kin is the quarterly published by San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc., also exchanged with our GTGS Journal. This Society covers 13 counties: Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Concho, Crockett, Schleicher, Menard, Sutton, and Kimble, although the emphasis seems to be on Tom Green County in the four issues we saw recently. The November 1991 issue carried a membership roster including the surnames of interest to each member. The quarterly is publishing an index to Calvary Cemetery in San Angelo; the direct index to minutes of the District Court; Tom Green County reverse index to deeds and deeds of trust; Concho County early cattle brands (1890s); transcripts of articles in San Angelo newspapers of the 1880s; Bible records; compressed ancestor charts; and queries (free to members and non-members). The San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society offers its publication, 1890 Records of Tom Green County, for \$15.00, postpaid, containing marriage, tax list, index to probate, roll of unrendered property, and also includes railroads, businesses, Civil War Union Army veterans and widows. Membership is \$12.00 a year (1 August through 31 July) by writing to the SAG&HS, Inc., at P. O. Box 3453, San Angelo TX 76902. The Society also offers Tom Green Pioneer Certificates; send an SASE to the above address for information.

Plum Creek Almanac is published by the Genealogical and Historical Society of Caldwell County, 215 S. Pecan Ave., Luling TX 78648. Current dues begin at \$15.00. Although the Society states that their publication is "bi-annual," it is actually a semi-annual publication, with massive issues of about 100 pages released in Spring (May) and Fall (November). Going beyond the usual offerings of a genealogical quarterly, this publication features excellent regional history articles, found to be well researched, well documented, well written, and with a professional look to the typography. GTGS also exchanges publications with the Caldwell County group, and we have received six issues thus far, for 1989 through 1991.

Tombstone Inscriptions of Some Cemeteries of Brazoria County, Vol. I, contains records of 18 local cemeteries. The book is available for \$17.50 plus \$2.25 P&H from Brazoria County Cemeteries, P. O. 813, Lake Jackson TX 77566. (from: The Genealogical Record, Houston Genealogical Forum, December, 1991)

Lavaca County, Texas Cemetery Records are available in three volumes. Vol. I has 50 cemeteries, Vol. II has 20 cemeteries, and Vol. III has 31 cemeteries, but unfortunately, we do not know which cemeteries are in each volume. Also available is Aransas County, Texas Cemetery Records



Genealogy Bits and Pieces and News, continued

covering Fulton, Lamar, and Rockport cemeteries. Each volume is \$15.00 plus \$.94 state tax and \$1.50 P&H. Order from Sammy Tise, Rt. 1, Box 110AA, Hallettsville TX 77964. (from: Plum Creek Almanac, Genealogical and Historical Society of Caldwell County, Fall 1991)

Cemetery Records of Austin County. See announcement on page 30 of our last issue and a review elsewhere in this issue.

German Interest Group of Minnesota Genealogical Society has a interesting and valuable Newsletter. The GIG has regular meetings and workshops in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and also has a Research Committee as well as study groups focusing on Bavaria, Canada, Hesse, Pommern, Posen, Rheinland, Schleswig-Holstein, Baden, Alsace-Lorraine, Switzerland, Württemberg, Oldenburg/Lower Saxony, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Poland, and Ostfriedland/Friesland. The Research Committee has trained research assistants to answer members' requests by mail and to assist members at the GIG's library collection. The GIG has an extensive library collection at Concordia College's Buenger Memorial Library in St. Paul, and the Newsletter reports on new library acquisitions. Among the items they have for sale are Ancestor Charts and Family Group sheets in German, Guide to Pronouncing German, a list of translators, a guide to Gothic Script, guides to Meyers Orts und Verkehrs Lexikon and to the Müllers Grosses Deutsches Ortsbuch plus surveys of several cemeteries in Minnesota. The group has had much success with their publication of Research Guide to German-American Genealogy. From time to time, we include items extracted from this Newsletter. For further information, contact: German Interest Group, Branch of Minnesota Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 16312, St. Paul MN 55116.

Wedding customs of the German tradition brought to Australia by the early settlers was the subject of an article in Die Zeitung, Vol. 1, No. 9, Sept. 1991. This is the newsletter of the German Research Group of the Genealogical Society of Queensland, Australia. (from: Newsletter of German Interest Group, Minnesota Genealogical Society, January 1992)

Do you have a surname ending in "ius" in your family history? You may be able to trace it back to Roman times! An article in the Oct/Nov/Dec 1991 issue of Der Bumenbaum, of the Sacramento Genealogical Society, tells about this. (from: Newsletter of German Interest Group, Minnesota Genealogical Society, January 1992)

Ten libraries in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area have genealogical materials used for German research. A list of them was in the May 1991 issue of the newsletter published by the German Interest Group of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. This should be on file in our GTHS office and you may request a copy of page 3 of that issue.

Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly for March 1992 had several significant articles, including one on using direct mail techniques to locate descendants of a particular family; another on the use of GENIE, General Electric's network for Information Exchange and its Genealogy Round Table (GRT); one on "How not to get your manuscript published," with excerpts from covering letters that are humorous, but...; an article on genealogy and interlibrary loan (cooperation among librarians); and another on the accreditation program of the L.D.S. Family History Library with information about the examinations and what the initials "A.G." signify. APG's mailing address is 3421 M St., N.W., Suite 236, Washington DC 20007.

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AVAILABLE

Harrold K. Henck, Jr., of Galveston has been reading newspapers to help with his family research. He found two articles he felt might be of interest to our GTHS members and forwarded them to your Genealogy Editor.

The first is a photograph and caption of five generations of the Kainer family of near Weimar from the Galveston Daily News, 22 April 1942. Mrs. Theresia Kainer is pictured on her 97th birthday. Other names in the family are Kloesel, Jasek, Teltschik, and Brossmann.

The other is a drawing of a Mrs. Herman Frederic Dietz, of Dallas, who was one of the soloists at the 1896 Saengerfest held in San Antonio.

Anyone wishing to have these copies may send an SASE to your Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. Thanks, Harrold!

More Bits and Pieces and News and Research Tips

**"Sensation oder Schwindel?"**

Several times we have noted persons and/or companies offering a "Yourname Family Heritage Book." Recently, Arliss Treybig of El Campo called to our attention that the "business" had crossed the ocean, and she shared with us a copy of the letter sent by Halbert's of Bath, Ohio, to one of her Hennecke relatives in Germany, offering a "Hennecke Familien Weltbuch." Arliss said another friend named Kleine received a letter about a "Kleine Familien Weltbuch." Shortly after this correspondence, we noticed the following article in the May 1992 Newsletter of the Inmigrant Genealogical Society of Burbank, Calif. This article explains the situation again.

**GENEALOGICAL FRAUDS**

Occasionally we need to remind members, especially new ones, that there are some persons advertising genealogical services who are not completely honorable. Those who have done genealogical research for many years are familiar with some of the fictitious names used, such as Beatrice Bailey/Bayley, Sharon Taylor, Elizabeth Ross and Mary Whitney. Halbert's is known for inventing coats-of-arms. Two new angles have come to our attention.

Persons from Germany have been writing to our Society mentioning their "Family Worldbook" (*Familienweltbuch*) from Bath, Ohio. Then came the March-April 1991 issue of FANA (*Familienkundliche Nachrichten*) with a two page analysis, titled "Halbert's Familienweltbuch: Sensation oder Schwindel?" The U.S. Postal Service has been granted authority of intercept mail to some of these businesses because of fraudulent practices. They are now trying their techniques overseas!

In February member Louise Lamb received a letter from Halbert's at Bath, OH, which stated, "Because your name is Lamb and you're a valued customer. . . a unique money-making opportunity is yours when you become the Lamb Family Director. . . All you do is give your consent to use your name as sponsor in the sale of products to people who share your Lamb surname. Every time Halbert's offers its products to Lambs living in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, you'll be paid in the amount of two percent for all net sales made." Halbert's claims to have already paid Family Directors over \$125,000.

Obviously hundreds of persons have purchased what is touted as a family history, but is only a book of pages where you may enter your information, a few articles about genealogy, and a list of persons of one surname living today.

Now that the U.S. Phonedisk C-D's are available to the public, (locally at the LA Public Central Library), surname lists are readily available without paying for questionably relevant material.

Don't lend your name to questionable material.

**WHERE'S BAVARIA?**

One of the things we must always keep in mind in our research is that few persons emigrated from what is called "Bavaria" today. Records prior to 1871 which list "from Bavaria," almost invariably refer to what today are Baden-Württemberg, Rheinland-Pfalz or Saarland. Bavarian rulers at various times controlled most of central Europe. They were Catholic and Protestants who came under Bavarian rule often emigrated rather than convert to Catholicism, as was often required. Be sure you look carefully at the date of records and study central European history to identify the area where your ancestors actually lived at any given time.

Inmigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter, May 1992

*Descendents of Huguenots Meet in Berlin*

Descendents of Huguenots from Germany, France and Switzerland met in Berlin on Saturday (April 25) for the 37th German Huguenot Day, exactly one hundred years after their first meeting in that city. The approximately 250 participants, descendants of seventeenth century French Protestant refugees to Berlin, commemorated their traditions in the French Cathedral in eastern Berlin.

Every fifth Berliner was a Huguenot in 1720, according to the Berlin-born French historian Pierre-Paul Sagave. Sagave outlined the history of the Huguenots after 1685, when Louis XIV lifted the edict that had guaranteed the Protestants religious freedom. Some 300,000 Huguenots left France; 20,000 settled in Brandenburg and 6,000 in Berlin. Sagave emphasized that the Huguenots "owed their salvation to the House of Hohenzollern." "Tolerance was and is a tradition here," declared the historian; he noted that Friedrich Wilhelm, who reigned from 1640-1688, ensured that the Huguenots had shelter and employment. Frederick II "the Great," who ruled from 1740-1786, promoted political tolerance in addition to religious, he noted.

The Week in Germany, May 1, 1992

**GERMANIC EMIGRANTS REGISTER**

The Germanic Emigrants Register has been created by a group of German professional genealogists as a source for locating origins of Germanic emigrants. The index includes certain miscellaneous sources for the years 1820-1918, and covers the entire former German Empire. To determine if the database holds the German place of origin for a particular emigrant, send his full name and approximate birth date, occupation and/or denomination, and year of emigration or earliest appearance abroad. The same data should be sent for all known family members and relatives along with the name of the German state or Prussian province of origin, if known. You will be notified if the place of origin is found and quoted a fee. You may accept the offer or not. Submit inquiries to Germanic Emigrants Register, P.O. Box 1720, D-W 2840 Diepholz, Federal Republic of Germany.

From Forum, Federation of Genealogical Societies, Winter 1991

## FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following section was compiled by your Genealogy Editor from the information received from our members. If you have an interest in any of the families mentioned, write directly to the member. To have your story or query appear in a future issue, write to your Genealogy Editor Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. Items are published free of charge for members. For non-members, there is a \$5.00 query fee.

If you wish to submit a longer article for publication, please be sure it is camera-ready. The manuscript specifications are: materials must be typed, single spaced, on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4 inch margin on all sides. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Because of concerns as to the length of the Journal, we suggest that such articles be limited to two pages.

Although every effort is made to publish reliable and historical resource material, the GTHS Genealogy Editor does not accept responsibility for errors of fact or judgment in the materials submitted by members for publication. This holds also for spelling of names of persons and of and places in Germany; unless a family or place name falls within the previous personal research experience of the Genealogy Editor, the spelling is used as submitted by the member.

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John D. Movius 621 Lake Terrace Circle, Davis CA 95616 has done considerable research on the names Movius, Mevious, Mevis and other spellings. His research goes as far back as the year 769 in the Neatherlands, but he is still searching for his own family origins. In particular, he would like to know more about the father of Joseph Mevius (first name unknown) who settled at or near Brownsville, Texas. Joseph Mevius was born in 1870 in Brownsville, and the family later moved to New Orleans. There is also a Frederick Mevis who was naturalized somewhere in Texas in 1857; could this be the father of Joseph, also of James and Mary and possibly Alexander? The naturalization information came from an article on Naturalization Records in Texas by Addison Oates, published in the Copper State Bulletin, Vol. 11.1, pp. 17-22 and Vol. 11.2, pp. 44-49. Your Genealogy Editor has never heard of this publication, so if any of our readers/members know if it, please let us know. John's research has taken him back to 34 Romans named Maevius or Maenius in years 203 BC to 236 AD and includes other occurrences of the name or similar names from the early Middle Ages on in Livonia (now Estonia), Pomerania, Belgium, The Netherlands, Lithuania, Sweden, Poland, Russia, Hamburg, Berlin and other parts of Germany.

Eugenia Krause 1001 W. Park Blvd, #228, Plano TX 75075 reports she and her husband have moved from Comal County to the above new address. She also sent information found in Salt Lake City to confirm that Anton and Bernard Geistman were brothers, both sons of Joan (sic) Henrich Geistman and Maria Catharina Suntrup. Anton, their fourth child, was born 14 July 1814, and Bernard, their sixth child, was born 14 March 1817. All six of the children were born at Gronhorst and baptized at Freckenhorst, in Westfalen.

Laura F. Bachus 113 Commerce, Palacios TX 77465 is attempting to locate some family records to start her research. She knows only that her maternal great grandmother, Henrietta Poffenberger was born in Germany. After arriving in Texas she married a man named Ralston. Among other children was a daughter named Ida Lee Ralston, Laura's grandmother. Laura assumes that the family was Protestant, but is not certain of their origin in Germany nor of their Texas settlement history.

Gladys Arnold, Rt. 3, Box 279, Victoria TX 77901 is looking for information on her cousin August Weber. He was born on 18 August 1911 in Koerth in Lavaca County, the son of Robert Weber and Amalia Rieger. The last anyone heard of him was when he was in the service, the 11th Air Cargo Resupply Squadron (serial number 6275753). he supposedly married, had children, and lived somewhere in the Washington state, near Tacome. Gladys would like to hear from any member of his family or anyone with information about this person.

The second person of interest to Gladys is Joseph Preiss; her great grandfather. He came to America in 1854 from Osterhofen, Velshofen, Bavaria. He was born on 12 March 1832. She would like to know the name of his immigrant ship and where he landed.



Genealogy: From Our Members, continued

The third family of interest to Gladys is Josephine Weber Akers and Claude Akers. They lived around the Dallas area and had four or five children. Josephine was born in Victoria on 11 April 1892.

Yet a fourth interest of Gladys's is Simon Edwin George Weber born in Victoria on 14 August 1893. His father was Charles Weber, Jr., who died when George was two years old. His mother was Martha Beck; and she remarried around 1900 to a Mr. Thompson. George may have taken the name of Thompson. George married, but Gladys believes he had no children. She would like any information concerning George or his wife.

Doris Ann Gorman 5528 Pitt St., New Orleans LA 70115 had two great great grandfathers arriving in 1846 aboard the ship "Henry." They were Jacob Bender and Peter Mueller. Both are listed in Geue and Geue's A New Land Beckoned. Doris Ann has obtained a copy of Jacob Bender's immigration agreement with the Adelsverein (Society for Protection of German Immigrants in Texas), but would like to learn more about the Adelsverein and its colonists.

Evelyn Wolf Rt. 1, Boc 194, McDade TX 78650 sent a list naming the families she and her husband, Dan, are researching which appear in the "Genealogical Exchange" section. She is also very concerned about the preservation and availability of records of the Lutheran churches in some of the smaller towns where she would like to do research. Anyone who shares her interest in these records should contact Evelyn.

Doris Obsta 4306 Guy Grant Road, Victoria TX 77904 reports that her granddaughters, Katherine Elizabeth and Allison Elizabeth Schuelke are fourth grandnieces of Julius Schütze, who was the schoolmaster of the German Free School in Austin and later lived in the school with his family. (This is the building where GTHS now has offices.) This is the lineage as Doris gave it to us:

Katherine, age 7, and Allison, age 4, descend from

Parents	Don E. Schuelke	Katherine <u>Obsta</u>
Grandparents	Henry Schuelke	Naomi <u>Lala</u>
G-Grandparents	Leo Schuelke	Selma <u>Seiler</u>
GG-Grandparents	August Wm. Schuelke	Emelia Schütze
GGG-Grandparents	Eduard Schütze	Agnes <u>Nitschke</u>
GGGG-Grandparents	Heinrich Schütze	Louise <u>Seelman</u>

Eduard and Julius Schütze were brothers. Doris also has records showing that Julius Schütze was married twice; the first marriage was to Henrietta Hinz and the second was to Julia Breuegerhoff. He died 23 April 1904 and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Austin. Doris also noticed that on the list of former German Free School students there are four students named Nitschke. Possibly these were related to Agnes (above).

Philip B. Pfeffer 8326 Neff, Houston TX 77036 writes that all four of his paternal great grandparents were born in Germany and came to the United States when they were young. The family names were: Pfeffer, Koch, Höhn (Hoehn in the U.S.), and Hunsinger. Early settlements include Pittsburgh and Maryland, but most of the family ties are in the New Orleans area. Some of the Hoehn family descendants have moved to Phoenix. Philip has been told that when his Pfeffer-Hoehn grandparents married, they traveled to Fredericksburg on their honeymoon. Philip has visited with Hoehn relatives in Weisbaden, Germany, and is trying to build a genealogy computer data base on his family.

Esther P. Henry 609 Lallah St., Pineville LA 71360 says that her late husband, Dr. Harvey P. Henry, was descended from the Mueller family that settled in Washington County in 1867. The family landed at Baltimore from Germany that same year, but she is trying to find out how they traveled from there to Texas. Esther's father's family, Hildenbrand, came from Switzerland and landed in New York in 1885 and traveled by train to Louisville, Kentucky. Since they had Swiss neighbors in Lincoln County, Kentucky, they finally settled there. Her mother's parents came from Hamburg in 1847 and landed at New Orleans. From there they went up the Mississippi River to Cincinnati and traveled overland to Ripley County, Indiana.

Edward P. Staley 1101 Harding St., Muscle Shoals AL 35661 has learned a lot about his ancestors

Genealogy: From Our Members, continued

in the last 18 months. He began knowing only his great grandmother's maiden name, Postart, but nothing about his great grandfather, John Gusmus. Since his trip to San Antonio in January 1991, he has collected much information and has made many contacts. Recently he learned that his mother's brother was Christopher (or Christof) Postart. In 1985, his original house, built in 1855, was relocated by the San Antonio Conservation Society to the grounds of the Yturri-Edmunds home and mill, one of several historic sites operated by the SACS.

Lenora and Carl Wolf P. O. Box 310584, New Braunfels TX 78131 have completed books on the Arning, Heckmann, and Huske/Hueske families, all from Germany, plus on the Stoll family from Switzerland. Although these books are completed, they are always looking for additional information on these and other families of interest, particularly the Hueske ties between their family and those residing in Washington County. Eventually they would like to complete a book on the Swiss-Texan settlements in Williamson county around the Wuthrich Hill and New Bern communities, dealing mainly with the Stoll, Wuthrich, and Krieg families, also the Stauffer family if enough information is located. In connection with further research, they would like to pinpoint the location of two places in Germany: Schwarzenau and Dambrowka, Hauland. Can any member help with these?

In order to request family group information for the books they published, Lenora and Carl devised their own form for relatives to fill in. Lenora sent samples, and your Genealogy Editor notes many features to recommend it. For a sample, send an SASE to the Wolfs at the above address.

David C. Bianchi 10 Branden Road, Conroe TX 77302 reports his Bischoff ancestors have been traced to the 17th century in Dietlingen, Baden, using L.D.S. (Mormon) microfilm of church records. Likewise, his Hirschhauser ancestors have been traced to the late 18th century in Manderbach and Offdilln, Nessen-Nassau, also using L.D.S. microfilm. However, he has been unable to locate records for the Leschner family of Bresalu and Torgau, in Germany or Poland, depending on the year. Surnames of other ancestors found in the Dietlingen church records include: Eberle, Bissinger, Bauer, Rupf, Weiss, Schnerr, Burger, Bussang, and Timbolds. Surnames of other ancestors found in the church records of Manderbach and Offdilln include; Huck, Schmidt, Hoffman, and Schaefer. All church records were found in the "Evangelische Kirche;" in Texas the families were Lutheran. All three families settled in Victoria County.

Minnie Weidner Rosenberg 318 Blue Bonnet Blvd., San Antonio TX 78209 has published books on the Friederick Heitkamp family (1978), on the Kramm family (1981 and 1982), on the Langbein family (1981 and 1988) and on the Weidner family (1992). She has copies of the Weidner family book for sale for \$35.00, which includes postage. The nearly 300-page, hardbound book contains 2,700 names and 900 marriages and birthdates and an index. Minnie is continuing to look for additional information on the family of Christiane Weidner Holz, from Oberlichtenau, Saxony, and Nikolaus Holz, from Olstrich on the Rhine, Nassau. They were a Lutheran family of Comal County with possibly a former residence in Guadalupe County.

Charles E. Behrens Star Route, Box 51, Levels WV 25431 is looking for the town of origin in Germany for his grandfather Behrens. As far as Charles knows, he was the only one of his family to come to the U.S.. The Behrens family lived in Lawrence, Mass.; Lutherville, Johnson County, Ark.; and in Indian Territory before arriving in Texas between December 1890 and 1893. In Texas, they lived in Tarrant County and were possibly Lutheran. Of his seven children, only three had children. Of the seven grandchildren, five are living. Two Behrens remain in Tarrant County (Colleyville) and a granddaughter was in Fort Worth two years ago. Charles has also been in touch with a great granddaughter. But, none of the relatives could help with information about the town of origin in Germany.

Judith Renker 4010 Deer Trail, Temple TX 76504 has not done any research on the Renker and Vogel families in the past year because she has been deeply involved in the publication of Growing Up in Tillson, New York. The first edition was published in late October and was sold out by the end of December. The Huguenot Historical Society will print the second, revised and expanded edition. More stories, photographs, and newspaper clippings were contributed by others who also grew up in Tillson. We hope Judith will share with our GTHS members her story about the disappearance of the Renker land survey in Bastrop County. Sounds mysterious!

Genealogy: From Our Members, continued

Phyllis Thielemann RR #1, Box 58A, Carlock IL 61725 is compiling a list of descendants of the Thielemann and Grebe families and would like to contact someone who has done that for the William Remmert family that started out at New Wehdem and moved to the Sealy area about 1880-90. This Remmert married two Thielemann sisters who were first cousins to the Thielemann brothers that Phyllis is following. She would like to get to know that side of the family. Phyllis writes, "I enjoy researching my notes and talking to other families about our family."

Rowena Bartels 3732 N. Indiana, Kansas City MO 64117 has a little information on her husband's family and is looking for more. She does not know where Henry Bartels or Bartles was born. Either he or his wife, Etta Schulze came from Germany. Henry was born 23 February 1853; Etta was born 7 June 1855. Rowena does not know when or where they married. They had two sons, Edwin Otto, born 17 June 1877; and Henry A., born 6 April 1894; both born possibly in the vicinity of Geronimo, Seguin or San Antonio. Edwin Otto married Frieda Zipp on 1 January 1902; she was born 5 January 1881, but where? They had two sons, Harold H., born in 1904, and Robinson Edward, born in 1907, both born at Dietz, Texas. A daughter, Evelyn, was born in 1917 at Needville. Robinson Edward was her husband's father. Henry Bartels's other son, Henry A., had four children: Bee, Pearl, Etta Marie and Henry, Jr. Bee married a Derrington; Pearl married a Stroman; and Etta Marie married a Hooker. Henry A. was married first to Margaret Engelhardt and then to Elva Barnes. Henry A. died 8 September 1961 in San Antonio. Your Genealogy Editor is attempting to aid Rowena and Felton in contacting relatives living in San Antonio.

Curtis A. Schwab 1636 Shadow Valley Dr., Ogden UT 84403 says that his Schwab lineage has been traced to about 1650 and his Foerster lineage to about 1808. However, he has very little on his mother's side, the Roemisch, Dramberger, and Gold families. His great grandmother was Rosina Gold (11 Jan 1842-24 Dec 1929) who married Wencel/Wenzel Roemisch. They lived in Guadalupe County. There does not seem to be a connection with the Golds of your Genealogy Editor's husband's family. That Gold family came from Moravia about 1878, settled first at High Hill and then at Nada, while current-day families are found also at Weimar, El Campo, Violet, and surrounding areas. More information on Curtis's families can be found in the "Genealogical Exchange" section.

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GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

At the request of several members, we have added a column for "Origin in Germany" for the Genealogical Exchange. Because of the positive feedback on this additon, we are continuing the new format. The "origin" may be given as broadly or as specifically as known. Place and family names are given as spelled by the contributors.

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
MEMBER: Curtis A. Schwab, 1636 Shadow Valley Dr., Ogden UT 84403 (801) 479-0930			
Schwab	Hessen	Comal/Guadalupe	Cath/Prot
Foerster	Roetgen by Aachen	Comal/Guadalupe	Protestant
Roemisch	?	Guadalupe	Catholic
Dramberger	?	Gualalupe	Catholic
Gold	?	Guadalupe	Catholic

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Genealogy: Members' Genealogical Exchange, continued

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Madeline E. Gold Wyrwich, 10207 Sunrise Field Dr., San Antonio TX 78245 (512) 673-1125

Gold	?	Comal, also in Ill.	Meth. or Luth.
Locke	?	Comal	Catholic (?)
Christian	?	in Vienna & Peoria Ill.	?
Prim	?	in Vienna & Peoria Ill.	?
Schulze	?	Comal	?
Wilkins	?	Atascosa	?
Marquardt	Rothenacker, Reutz & Switzerland	Kerr	?
Peschel	?	Kerr	?
Grasso	Beverungen, Westphalia	Gillespie	?
Seidensticker	?	Kendall	?
Werner	?	Kendall	?
Handley	?	Bexar	?
Klier	?	Kerr	?
Cowan	?	Kerr	?
Wehmeyer	?	Kerr	?
Ransom	?	Bexar	?
Green	?	Bexar	?
Smith	?	Kendall/Bexar	?

MEMBER: Evelyn and Dan Wolf, Rt. 1, Box 194, McDade TX 78650

Wolf	Rotehof near Worlitz	Bastrop	Lutheran
Zander	Seehausen near Wittenberge	Bastrop	Lutheran
Jantzen	Eckfleth near Oldenburg	Bastrop	Lutheran
Heinze	Zwenkau near Grimma	Bastrop	Lutheran
Ihlo/Ehlo	Serno near Coswig	Bastrop	Lutheran
Schlüter	Grochewitz near Coswig	Bastrop	Lutheran
Ratzenburg	Seehausen near Wittenberge	Washington/Bastrop	Luth.

The following families did not come to Texas; they are maiden surnames of Dan's ancestors that did come to Texas. As the above families, all were known to be Lutheran.

Arnke	Huntlosen, W. Ger.
Schubert	near Leipzig
Schulze	Serno near Coswig, E. Ger.
Schelling	? in Germany
Luken	? in Germany
Kasebier	near Worlitz, E. Ger.
Möglich	? in Germany
Huth	Grochewitz near Coswig, E. Ger.
Malzahn	Serno near Coswig, E. Ger.

MEMBER: Gladys Arnold, Rt. 3, Box 279, Victoria TX 77901, (512) 575-0560

Weber		Lavaca	Lutheran
Preiss	Osterhofen, Velshoven, Bavaria	Victoria	Catholic
Akers		Victoria/Dallas/Tarrant	Catholic
Weber		Victoria/Dallas/Tarrant	Catholic

Genealogy: Members' Genealogical Exchange, continued

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Mrs. Carl F. Wolf, P. O. Box 310584, New Braunfels TX 78131-0584

Meiske	Mehnen bei Levern, Westphalia	Austin/Williamson	Lutheran
Arning	Oppenwehr	Austin	Lutheran
Heckmann	Sundern, Levern, Westphalia	Austin/Williamson	Lutheran
Huske/Hueske	Schwarzenau	Washington/McLennan	Lutheran
Lampe	?	Washington	Lutheran (?)
Bosse	Oppernwede or Oppenwede	Austin/Washington	Lutheran

MEMBER: Daniel Waskow, 111 Royal Street, Bryan TX 77801 (409) 846-5344, work, or 696-7113, home

Waskow	Funkenhagen, Pomeran	Washington	Lutheran
Waskow	Deگو	Guadalupe/Fort Bend	Lutheran
Goth	?	Fort Bend	?
Otto	?	Guadalupe/Fort Bend	?

MEMBER: Virginia Schulmeier, P. O. Box 215, Geronimo TX 78115

Schulmeyer	Menteroda	Comal/Bexar	Lutheran
Ackermann	Menteroda	Bexar	?
Stahl	Nister	Comal/Bexar	?
Krueger	?	Comal/Bexar	?
Froboese		Comal/Bexar	?
Rittmann	from France	Guadalupe/Bexar	?
Eisenhauer	Aurich	Bexar	Lutheran
Wagenfuhr	?	Comal	?

MEMBER: Regina (Mrs. Harvey) Adam, 102 Scottie Dr., Boerne TX 78006 (512) 249-2735

Adam	Tzefenbach	Kendall	Freethinker
Wendler	Bielfeld, Westphalia	Kendall	?
Hofheinz	Strass-Ebersbach, Dillenberg, Nassau	Kendall	?
Willke	Collberg on Baltic Sea	Comal/Kendall	?
Haufler	Württemberg	Kendall	?
Richter	Bremen	Comal/Kendall	?
Voelcker	Prussia	Comal/Kendall	?
Lohmann	Schleswig-Holstein, Eckenforde	Kendall	?
Magers	Hanover	Kendall	?
Busch	Steinbruicken Amt. Dillenberg	Comal	?

MEMBER: Elizabeth Dehnel McKinney, 10902 Sage Oak Cove, Austin TX 78759 (512) 258-2168

Dehnel	Oels	Austin	Evang. Lutheran
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Genealogy: Members' Genealogical Exchange, continued

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Mrs. Carl T. Smith, 223 E. Palfrey Dr., San Antonio TX 78223 (512) 333-4563

Uhr	Nassau	Comal	Lutheran
Reichmuth	Lippe	Comal/Bexar	
Wahl	Nassau	Comal	
Kreitz	Roetgen	Comal/Guadalupe	Lutheran
Rotscheidt	Gemünd	Comal	

MEMBER: Roy A. Engler, 3504 Creston Ave., Fort Worth TX 76133 (817) 924-8912

Eger/Engler	Bad Immau, Hohenzollern	Guadalupe	Catholic
Eberhardt	Farnrode, Eisenach	Guadalupe	?
Specht	Lobach, Kreis Holzminden	Comal	?
Grote	Worbsen	Comal	?
Harborth	?	Guadalupe	?
Schmalkoke	Dousen Amtgerich, Eschershausen	G'lupe	?
Lange	?	Guadalupe	?
Hundertmark	?	?	?
Basse	?	?	?

MEMBER: Patsy Hand, 417 Cottonwood, Victoria TX 77904 (512) 575-0049

RabenaIdt	Lubeck, Schleswig Holstein	DeWitt	Lutheran
	Mittelhausen, Saxony/Anhalt		
	Wolferstedt, Saxony/Anhalt		
	Monchpiffel, Saxony/Anhalt		
Goldman	Kefferhausen, Thuringia	DeWitt	Catholic
Schuenemann	Pommern Province	DeWitt/Goliad	Lutheran
Kluge	Pommern Province	DeWitt/Goliad	Lutheran
Lundschen	Ackmenischken, Lithuania	DeWitt	Lutheran
Mertien	Lithuania	DeWitt	Lutheran

The following families did not emigrate; these families married into the RabenaIdt and Goldman families:

Bauer	Weimar, Thuringia	Lutheran
Dittmar	Weimar, Thuringia	Lutheran
Eckhart	Kefferhausen, Thuringia	Catholic
Gebhard	Kefferhausen, Thuringia	Catholic
Goldschmidt	Allstedt, Saxony/Anhalt	Lutheran
Schmidt/Schmidts	Kullstedt, Thuringia	Catholic
Schmidt	Lengefeld, Thuringia	Lutheran
	Weimar, Thuringia	Lutheran
Vogt	Kullstedt, Thuringia	Catholic

MEMBER: Judith Renker, 4010 Deer Trail, Temple TX 76504 (817) 778- 5960

Renker	Hessen-Darmstadt	Bastrop	Luth/Meth
Vogel	Harve, Prussia	Caldwell	



Genealogy: Members' Genealogical Exchange, continued

Researching Surnames	Origin in Germany	Tex. County Settled	Religion
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MEMBER: Pat Newhouse, 808 N. 8th S t., Honey Grove TX 76556 (903) 378-7237

Molzberger	Nassau Prov.	Gillespie	?
Hoerster	Prussia	Mason	Methodist
Leifeste	Braunschweig	Mason	Methodist

MEMBER: Jonathan F. Riba, 1009 Whippoorwill Ct., Arlington TX 76014 (817) 274-5782

Riba	Austria	Blanco	Catholic
Beck	Baden Baden	Comal/Bexar	Catholic
Uecker	Tempelburg	Comal/Bexar	?
Leesch	Stralsund	Comal/Bexar	?
Scheel	Michelsrombach	Comal	Catholic
Schwab	Michelsrombach	Comal	Catholic
Syring	Sieben Gebergen	Comal	Catholic
Friesenhahn	Dalheim	Comal	Catholic
Nitsche	Prussia	Comal	Catholic
Heinemann	Henden, Prussia	Gillespie	Catholic
Raulz	?	Gillespie	Catholic
Klett	Saxony	Gillespie	Protestant
Wendel	Heimbach	Gillespie	Protestant
Durst	Dettenhausen	Mason/Gillespie	Protestant
Ahrens	Hanover	Gillespie	Protestant
Bratherich	Hanover	Gillespie	Protestant
Miller	?	Austin/Llano/Gillspe	Protestant
Boecker	Alsace Lorraine	Washington	?

MEMBER: Barbara Brod Bonin, 2318 Willow Blvd., Pearland TX 77581 (713) 485-3408

Brod	Prussia	Colorado	Catholic
Braden	Budesheim	Colorado	Catholic
Baumann		Victoria/Milam	Catholic
Dixon	Alsace Lorraine	Bexar/Harris	Luth/Cath
Haude		Harris	Luth/Cath
Burtschell	Bingen	Colorado	Catholic
Laux	?	?	Catholic
Schmidt	Sponsheim	?	Catholic
Garvel	Poland	Victoria	Catholic
Morrow		in SC and GA	?
Born		in SC and GA	?
Bonin	Grenoble	Harris	Luth/Cath
Dugas	?	not in Texas	Catholic
Allen	?	?	?
Beimer/Silkenbäumer	Ascheberg, Westf.	Colorado	Catholic
Meismer	Saxony	Fayette	Catholic
Behne	?	Colorado/Falls	Catholic
Plocek	?	Colorado/Falls	Catholic

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1992 in New Braunfels, Sept. 11-13

Leonora Stoll Wolf, P. O. Box 310584, New Braunfels, Texas 78131, reports that she completed the Christian H. Arning and Wilhelmine Bosse family history. Christian H. Arning was born July 31, 1844 in Germany, believing his birthplace to be Oppenwehr. He married Wilhelmine Bosse while still in Germany and they were blessed with three children born in Germany: Christoph, born October 18, 1868; Henrietta, born January 5, 1870, and John W. born January 18, 1872. Christian and Wilhelmine and their three children made the choice to immigrate to America and they arrived on October 18, 1874. Following their arrival in Texas, settling in Austin County, Texas, they were blessed with five more children: Sophie, born January 2, 1876 at Kenney; William, born December 21, 1877 at Kenney; Matilda, born may 29, 1880 at Kenney; Minnie born August 29, 1882 at Kenney and Emma, born October 4, 1888 also at Kenney.

Christian was accidentally killed at age 45. He had hauled a bale of cotton to the gin and on the journey home from Bellville, the horses were frightened and they panicked. Christian fell from the wagon as it was going down the hill at Buffalo Bridge. He received a broken rib which punctured the lungs and he died from an infection three days later on September 2, 1889. Wilhelmine died at the age of almost 93 years, on August 14, 1936, her birth date being September 22, 1844, also in Germany.

In compiling the Arning family history, a request was made of one of the granddaughters of Christian and Wilhelmine Arning to share any memories of her grandparents and to relate any stories she remembered her grandmother telling her of their experiences on the journey to America. This granddaughter is Meta Arning Henske, residing in Brenham, Texas. And, her story is now shared with the members of the German-Texan Heritage Society, with Meta's permission.

#### A GRANDDAUGHTER REMEMBERS

By Meta Arning Henske

"You asked if my grandmother ever talked about their trip from Germany to America. All I remember she did say was that the people got so sea sick. Uncle Christopher (Meta's uncle) was so sick that they did not think he would make it. They did not have the right food for a sick child on ship and he almost starved to death. And, I remember "Mutter" had a big coffer or trunk where they had all their belongings in. Whatever happened with the coffer or trunk when she died I do not know. And, "Mutter" had some folks left in Germany but I do not know if it was her parents or sisters or brothers. But, ever so often she would get a letter and they would complain that they had no money to buy things. Then "Mutter" would be so upset that she would send them some money. Daddy had to help her with it. Then she would write them a letter and put the address on the letter in German writing. How it ever got there, I do not know.

"Mutter" was a sweet Grandma. She always called me her girl because Mama was sick when I was little. So Grandma taught me a lot. And, then when the boys were bigger and had a car, Model T, one of them had to take her to church every Sunday..which was twice a month at the Old Germania Church. Grandma taught us to read German. And I tell you when we would go to Church that Sunday, she would ask what did the preacher preach on..what book of the Bible. And, we were sure to know.

And, her main job was to shuck all the corn for the hogs, chickens and horses. If we would not want her to do the job, she would get upset and say..that's my job and I like it. She would say we kids make a mess with the shucks mixed up with the corn. And, one more job which was hers was to church the cream for making butter and also to feed the dogs and cats. "Mutter" would carry the shucks to the cows. She scratched her leg on a piece of barbed wire and it got so bad that she got the "Rosen", as it is called in German. It just would not heal. She decided to go to Taylor...maybe there was a doctor who could help her. So her daughters, Minnie and Sophie got her up to Taylor. But she never got over it.

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"Mutter" had a pair of wooden shoes which she brought from Germany. And we kids just loved to wear those shoes in the house because they would make so much noise when we walked in them."

Meta continues, "after Annettie got married (Meta's sister) I had to sleep in her room with her since she had a double bed and I had a single bed. And, "Mutter" was in Taylor on the occasion of her 80th birthday. So, they had a celebration for her and she got a beautiful cut glass flower vase shaped like a basket. "Mutter" said some lady who had a jewelry store gave it to her and when she would die, I should have it. And, I sure got it too...still have it.

Whenever we would get the first bale of cotton, she would give us each 25 cents and we were so happy. She would go and help us pick cotton right there at home. She would tie up her apron and pick into her apron. Well, that was some good and bad days."

Something else Meta shared was the description "Mutter" told about the trip over on the ship. "The Arnings had one large room on the ship. At times it was so bad, that one member of the family lay in one corner trying to sleep while another lay in a different corner throwing up from seasickness, while another family member sat in the third corner on the "pottie" and the mama sat in the fourth corner feeding the baby. This is not really something one likes to repeat, but it is just the way it was on the ship."

The story gives us an insight to the hardships and turbulent times our ancestors experienced in coming to this new country, seeking their freedom and new adventure and new opportunities to improve their own life and that of their future generations.

## **Current Status of New Braunfels Sesquicentennial Project** by Everett A. Fey

Last year in Vol. XIII, #3, of THE JOURNAL we announced our sesquicentennial project in New Braunfels to prepare and publish a book about the First Founders of New Braunfels. We are pleased to say that we are making progress in our endeavor.

Ann Rodgers and her volunteers at the Sophienburg Archives have been busily researching the names and families of the New Braunfels founders. They are gathering facts and other data about these first settlers from the Solms Archives, census records, county records and other documental sources. Family histories are also being combed for all genealogical data.

Some members of the Comal County Genealogy Society have helped with supplying genealogical charts for more of these first families. They have also assisted in helping to collect biographies of these earliest settlers.

Some of you readers have also responded well. I have received several letters with biographical and genealogical data of the founders. It is always great to hear from you readers because you are aware of so much more of the traditions and other little known details of these pioneer settlers.

Finally, I have made a fairly exhaustive search of the granting of the first town and acre lots by the Verein to the immigrants, the early Verein financial ledger in the Solms Archives and a closer look at the early ship logs. All this data is combined with the above in my computer. Roots III is an excellent program to keep track of all the families especially with all the intermarriages of the first families.

To all readers....do you have any biographical or genealogical data of any of the New Braunfels first founders? (Refer to list on page 234 of Vol XIII, #3). Please share it with us so we can publish it in our book. We want names and dates of their children (and spouses), grandchildren (and spouses) and their great-grandchildren. Also a portrait (laser copy please) of the founder himself when possible.

Send all material to: Everett A. Fey  
6516 Honey Hill  
San Antonio, Texas 78229



**BEINHORN FAMILY: "FANA"**

Shortly after discovering the name of the Beinhorn home-town in Germany in the old St. Peter church records (page 59, GTHS JOURNAL, Vol. XIV No. 1, Spring, 1992), the GTHS NEWSLETTER No. 1, 1990 arrived with an article concerning the FAMILIENKUNDLICHE NACHRICHTEN ("FANA"). This is a family information news magazine published six times a year and has a circulation of over 13,000 in Germany.

The article stated that the magazine was devoted entirely to ads for "missing ancestors" and the cost for an ad was about U. S. \$15.00. The request should be written in English detailing the German background of the family and the approximate date of departure for America. I wrote "FANA" immediately, sending along the necessary family information and \$15.00 in cash. In early June 1990 I received a copy of the March-April issue of the magazine which contained the ad.

The information I sent to them:  
The Beinhorn Family of six persons sailed out of Bremerhaven 11 Nov. 1853 on the bark "SUWA" commanded by Capt. D. Schwartz and arrived in Galveston, Texas 23 Dec. 1853. This family was Dietrich Beinhorn, wife Sophie?, and four children from the village of OsloB near the city of Wolfsburg.

The ad as it appeared :  
Beinhorn - Alles gesucht "über die Familie, die mit 6 Personen (Dietrich, \* um 1793, Sophie [Ehefrau] und 4 Kindern) aus OsloB bei Wolfsburg mit Schiff "SUWA" unter Capt. D. Schwartz 1853 nach USA kam.  
Route 1 Box 100, Moscow, Texas 75960 USA Herbert L. Beinhorn

In July 1990 I received a letter from Herr Reinhold Jerke of Tappenback, a village near OsloB. Herr Jerke sent a census list from the "county seat" of Gifhorn for the years 1747, 1766, 1791, 1807, 1833, 1848, 1871, 1971 and 1987. Some years had more than one Beinhorn family listed. Following are a few of the entries:

1. Hennig Jacob Beinhorn, 1747 in OsloB, old house No. 12. (in the year 1700 this farm belonged to the widow of Hans Porsielen).
5. D. (Dietrich?) Beinhorn, 1833 in OsloB, old house No. 15. Family of five persons (3 males - 2 females). (Dietrich? by Herr Jerke).
8. Heinrich Beinhorn, 1971 farm-owner in OsloB, old house No. 12.
9. H. (Heinrich?) Beinhorn, 1987 in OsloB.

This was very good news if D. Beinhorn was really Dietrich. St. Peter records show that Dietrich died in December, 1866 at age 73. His birth date would have been around 1793 which would have made him 40 years old in 1833 with a family of five. He was 60 years old in 1853 on arrival in Texas with his family which included a six year old son. My next step would be to send Herr Jerke postage money with my thanks and also to request the address of the OsloB Church.

"FANA" really did work for the Beinhorn Family and below is their address:  
FAMILIENKUNDLICHE NACHRICHTEN  
Verlag Degener & Co.  
Postfach 1340  
D - 8530 Neustadt (Aisch)  
Germany

Submitted by:  
Herbert L. Beinhorn  
Route 1, Box 100  
Moscow, Texas 75960  
U.S.A.

### UVALDE COUNTY RESIDENTS WITH GERMAN SURNAMES, 1855-1920

In our GTHS Journal, issue #3 for 1992, page 228, we announced that Tom Schleising, member of GTHS and the Uvalde County Historical Commission, had prepared a 30-page document listing Uvalde County residents with German surnames extracted from documents between 1855 and 1920. Sources included county marriage records, cemetery lists, and the U.S. Census for 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 and 1910. Below is a listing of the German surnames found in these records and appearing in the document. We thank Tom for sharing this list with us. For further information on these surnames or for a copy of the item where a particular surname appears, send an SASE to Thomas G. Schliesing, P. O. Drawer 1453, Uvalde TX 78802.

AHLHARDT	HEINE	MEYER	SHUDDENAGEN
AIGNER	HEINRICH	MILLER	SMIDT
ALBRECHT	HEIRMAN	MOOS (MEWIS)	SPEIGHTS
ARNIM	HELBIG	MUELLER	STAUSS
BALZEN	HELMLE	NERTZ	STEIN
BARNARD	HERMAN	NEUMANN	STENDABACH
BAUER	HERMANN	NIEMEYER	STREIB
BAUMER	HILDEBRANDT	OHLENBUSCH	STRUBE
BEHR	HORG (HOOG)	PANKRATZ	TAMPKE
BERGER	HOHENBERGER	PETERS	THAME
BEVERSHAUSEN	HOOG	PIPER	THEILEPAPE
BLECHSCHMIDT	HORNER	RADBE	THEIN
BLETSCH	HUBERT	RAUSCH	THIEMANN
BRADEN	HUEGELE	REHM	THIEN
BRAESICKE	JAEGLI	REINAMER	TOPPERWEIN
BRETHAUER	JANSSEN	REINARZ	ULBRICH
BRENER	JURICK	REINEMER	ULRICH
BRIESCH	KAMPMANN	REINHARDT	UNLANG
BRITZMAN	KARN	REINHART	UTZ
BURKHALTER	KELLERSBERGER	RHEIN	VOELCKER
CLINE	KESSLER	RHEINER	VOGEL
CRENWELGE	KIEFER	RICHARZ	VOBT
DICKE	KIACHNER	RIEBER	WACHTER
DIETRICH	KLAUS	RIFF	WEIGLE
DOERSAM	KNIBBE	RINKUS	WEISINGER
DORNBUSCH	KNIPPA	ROTHE	WENTZ
DROESSER	KOCH	SATHOFF	WERTH
DUBE	KOCHENDOERFER	SAMMANN	WEYMILLER
EBELL	KOEHLER	SANTLEBEN	WIDNER
ECKELBERG	KOERNER	SCHAEFER	WIEBUSH
EHLERS	KONEN	SCHASTAG	WIPFF
ENGEL	KORN	SCHAME	WISH
ENGELMANN	KRABRAUM	SCHEILE	WITTENBURG
ERFURT	KRAMER	SCHIMMELPFENNING	WOHLSCHLAEBER
FALKENBERG	KRAUSE	SCHLUCHTER	WOLFF
FASCH	KRAUT	SCHMIDT	HOLLSTHALEGER
FISCHER	KREBAUM	SCHNEIDER	ZINSKEISTER
FREIDA	KREIS	SCHOELLMANN	ZUERCHER
FRIEDRICH	KRECHMER	SCHROEDER	ZWICK
FUCHS	KRUBER	SCHULENBERG	
FULENIDER	KUBESCH	SCHULER	
FUSSELMAN	KURTZMAN	SCHULTZ	
GETZENDANNER	LANGNER	SCHULTZER	
GLAESER	LIEBER	SCHUTZ	
HABERMACHER	LUBBE	SCHWARTZ	
HABY	MATTHIES	SCHWEINFURT	
HAGERMAN	MENDEKE	SCHWING	
HAUBNER	MERGELE	SHANE (SCHOEN)	
HEIDEMAN	NERTZ	SHUDE	

**THE CEMETERIES OF AUSTIN COUNTY.....A Book Review**

The Cemeteries of Austin County, a project of the Austin County Historical Society, is a hardback book with black vinyl cover with gold lettering, weighing 4 3/4 pounds, measuring 8 3/4" by 11 1/2", containing 776 pages, and listing over 18,000 names from what had been estimated at first to be 75-80 burial sites, but escalated to 170 upon completion. The book gives records of burials by cemeteries as well as an alphabetical index by individual names, plus a removable map giving burial site locations. Undertaking such an immense project as this in one of the areas most thickly populated by German immigrants into Texas in the 1800s was done by dedicated volunteers wanting to preserve a part of Texas history, and is probably the only record that some of them even existed. It has been accomplished over an eight-year period and several proof readings. However, the Austin County Historical Commission is well aware errors do exist and that unknown private burial sites are not recorded. They welcome any correction or addition as they intend to make yearly supplements and enter date into their computer files, plus making them available upon request.

Because this book may be the best source for immigrants to the area in the 1800s, it behooves each of us who knowingly had relatives settling in this area (or any concerned person), even though not purchasing a copy of the book, to check its contents for accuracy and submit any corrections or additions to aid these dedicated volunteers in making this as perfect a source reference for all who may use it now or in the future. A simple example: date of death on one tombstone in a private cemetery had partially deteriorated; it was read as "in the 1800s." When a family genealogy was done almost 20 years previously, with the stone being cleaned, it was recorded as "in the 1860s." One can see the possibility of a man's life's work more accurately, especially knowing he had come to Texas in 1846, settling in the Cat Spring area, where he was also buried. Time and weather take their toll especially on unkept private burial areas, even losing all traces of some. However, if a record could be made in this book, the knowledge would always be available.

It also concerns me that no date of publication has been printed in the book, or that no mention was made of a copyright being pending. Surely a book of this importance should be on record in the Library of Congress. It could probably be more accurate than data found in the 1850 and 1860 Census. Together, though, much accuracy could be obtained in correlating the two by anyone researching such.

The Cemeteries of Austin County, Texas is still available by sending a check or money order for \$41.21 (\$35.00, plus \$2.71 tax and \$3.50 shipping) payable to "Austin County, Texas" and sending to Cemetery Book, c/o The Austin County Historical Commission, P. O. Box 187, Bellville TX 77418. This is a most remarkable reference book, well-organized and easy to use. Nothing but praise should be extended to all who have made it possible, with a big "thank you," especially to those who did the "legwork" collecting the data and braving the elements, underbrush, snakes, bugs, and especially the fireants. Certainly a job well done! Thanks to each of you.

from: Nellie Kinkler Moses, San Antonio, Texas

**Genealogy Editor's note:** Mrs. Moses brings up a topic that may be of interest to our members and readers--the current copyright laws.

Under current copyright law, all written (and other) materials are assumed to be copyrighted from the time the work is created in fixed form, even if the word "copyright" or the symbol "©" does not actually appear on works published after 1 March 1989.

Also, there is no real connection between obtaining a formal copyright and submitting the work to the Library of Congress. Although a copyright registration is not required, the Copyright Act established a mandatory deposit requirement for works published in the United States. Generally it is the owner of the copyright who has the legal obligation to deposit in the Copyright Office, within three months of publication in the United States, two copies for the use of the Library of Congress. Failure to make the deposit can result in fines and other penalties, but does not affect copyright protection.

For information both on copyrighting and on depositing a work with the Library of Congress, see "Copyright Basics," which is Circular #1 of the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress, Washington DC 20559.



### FAMILY REUNIONS

**The Siegert-Beckmann-Garling & Schultz-Kulow** reunion will be held 2 August 1992 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Millheim Harmonie Hall in Millheim, Texas. The children present will be entertained by a puppet show, and family line pictures will be taken. A basket lunch and "Tasters Pride" dishes will be served. From: Lucille Siegert-Ricke, 1302 Overhill, Houston TX 77018.

**Preiss Family:** The first annual reunion of the Joseph Preiss, Sr., family will be held 8 August 1992 at Trinity Luther Hall, 404 E. Constitution, Victoria, Texas. Joseph came to America when he was 22 years old from Osterhofen, Velshofen, Bavaria. He lived all his life around the Victoria, Texas, area doing farming and ranching. He and his wife, Anna Marie (Mary) Dittmeyer had the following children: Anna Preiss Gisler, Joseph Preiss, Jr., Mary Preiss Schindler, Henry Preiss, Cresencia Preiss Duderstadt, Alois Preiss, and Theresa Preiss Schindler. The Reunion Committee requests those attending bring a meat dish and/or vegetable or dessert. Coffee, tea, paper plates and utensils will be furnished. For information: Gladys Arnold, Rt. 3, Box 279, Victoria TX 77901, phone: (512) 575-0560.

**Beinhorn Family Reunion:** A covered dish affair is planned for all day Saturday, 10 October 1992, in the fellowship hall of St. Peter United Church of Christ (formerly Evangelical and Reform), 9022 Long Point Road, Houston, Texas. Descendants of Christian and Mary and Jacob and Wilhelmine (Tendler) Beinhorn include: Bauer, Kolbe, Noack, Stopple, Golbow, Paschek, Sauer, Eichler. On Sunday, 11 October 1992, St. Peter will celebrate its 144th anniversary with a special service and a dinner on the grounds. For information, call C. A. Beinhorn at (713) 391-1851, or H. L. Beinhorn at (409) 398-2766.

**The second Ricke-Hock** reunion will be held 18 October 1992, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Runge Park, Santa Fe, Texas. Guests will bring basket lunches and a family-line skit will entertain. From: Lucille Siegert-Ricke, 1302 Overhill, Houston TX 77018.

**Hoelscher-Buxkemper:** Over 1,200 descendants of Anton and Mary Katherine Hoelscher attended the 20th biennial reunion 27-28 June in San Angelo. The biggest family in Texas is descended from four sons: Anton, Jr., Joseph, William and Ben, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Theodore Buxkemper. The 1,245 in attendance included 59 descendants of Ben, 87 of William, 254 of Elizabeth, 274 of Anton, Jr., and 598 of Joseph. This has to be the "biggest family reunion in Texas!" From: Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213.

**Jank Family:** The descendants of George and Johanna Jank held their first family reunion on 6 June 1992 at the Ander Lutheran Church picnic grounds, Ander, Texas. George Jank was one of the ten children of Maz and Maria Jank and was born in Liegnitz (now actually in Poland) on 18 October 1838. At age 25, he married Johanna Berger. While still in Germany, they had a family of eight children: Johann, Traugott, Marie, Anna, August, Magdalena, Carl, and Pauline. George's brother, Johann, and a married sister, Anna (Mrs. Hans Ghano), had emigrated to Texas and encouraged him to join them. In 1881, George and Johanna brought their family to America and after farming in the Paige, Texas, area near his siblings, he settled in the Goliad area on a farm near Meyersville and Ander. For more information, call Mrs. John Caldwell in the Goliad area at (512) 645-2644, or Mrs. Paul Jank in the San Antonio area at (512) 497-3545.

**The Uptmor Family,** prominent in McLennan County, held its first all-inclusive Texas descendants reunion on 8 March 1992 in Tours, Texas. The family came from Teutopolis, Ill., to McLennan County along with the families of John and Edward Deiterman, August Dulock, George and John Schneider, George Buscker and George Hirstfield. The wagon train wended its way through Missouri, the Indian Territory of Oklahoma, and northern Texas. These pioneers knew of this fertile farmland through Clement Uptmor's sister, Mary Uptmor Pruemer, who had lived in Waco since 1872. Clement brought one daughter, Annie, and four sons, Herman, Frank, Henry, and Anton. Mrs. Uptmor had died in Teutopolis in 1868, so the maternal grandmother came with the family to care for the children. After Clement's death on 12 June 1876, the three younger boys lived with Herman who had recently married Mary Fisher. Herman moved to Missouri in 1882.

The descendants who attended the Uptmor Reunion, over 600 in all, were grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren of Frank, Henry, and Anton. They came from



Family Reunions, continued

California, Montana, Florida, Arkansas, Louisiana, as well as many cities in Texas. Charts delineating ancestry and extended family were on display. At 1:00 p.m., the recently-published genealogy, The Uptmor Family Heritage Book, was exhibited for sale. The 1184-page book has 836 pictures and eight maps. Sister Mary Elizabeth Jupe, researcher and compiler of the Uptmor family history, is a descendant of Mary Uptmor Pruemer, sister of the pioneer Clement Uptmor. From Sr. Mary Elizabeth Jupe, C.D.P., 602 S.W. 24th St., San Antonio TX 78207, phone (512) 432-3620.

## East German, Texas cousins break 108 year separations

The early immigration of German families to Texas in search of a better life separated many families. Often they never saw each other again. This was the case when Karl and Mary Jenke immigrated to Texas in 1884 with their six sons; Karl, Max, Emil, August, Hermann and Henry. Karl Jenke left behind relatives in Kittlitz, Saxony, who they never saw again. One of these being his married sister, Carolina Schwartz.

Through the past 108 years correspondence has continued with the descendants of Mrs. Schwartz. Today it is third cousins writing to each other, when Ernestine Schulze from McDade writes to Rosi and Udo Klopfer. And for many years, Alwina Richter from Paige has corresponded with Rosi's mother Ruth Wenzel, her second cousin.

There were periods during the two world wars that correspondence ceased. But after World War II, letters arrived from Rosi's father Ernest Wenzel, describing the many hardships the relatives in Germany were having. The U.S. Government encouraged sending care packages and the Texas cousins responded with many packages being sent to cousins in Germany. And today, they still speak of gratitude for this help.

In 1986, Ernestine Schulz was going through some of her deceased mother's things and came across a stack of keepsake letters that Bertha Wolf had saved from her German cousin Ernest Wenzel and wife, Ruth. Ernestine decided to write a letter to the Wenzel family and tell them that Bertha Wolf was deceased. Ruth, the widow of Ernest Wenzel, received the letter even though she had moved. Fifteen years had passed since she received the last letter from Bertha Wolf. She did not know that Mrs. Wolf had had a



MARY AND KARL JENKE

major stroke that caused correspondence to cease. Mrs. Wenzel had the letter from Ernestine translated. Ernestine received a reply the day before her cousin Dan Wolf and Evelyn were departing for Germany.

The Wolfs took Mrs. Wenzel's address and told Ernestine that they would try to make contact with Mrs. Wenzel. They obtained a three-day visa to enter East Germany, their plans being to find the villages that three of Dan's grandparents immigrated from. They were privileged to spend the night with Mrs. Wenzel while in East Germany.

When the Wolfs returned to Texas, they started corresponding with Mrs. Wenzel and sent numerous packages of things that were not

available there.

In the summer of 1990, shortly after the communist wall had fallen, Ernestine Schulz and Dan and Evelyn Wolf went to Germany and were guests for one week with Mrs. Wenzel's daughter in Karl Marx Stadt. Rosi and Udo Klopfer took the three Texans to the soil that their Texas ancestors had come from, Kittlitz being the village Karl Jenke was from, G. August Wolf from Worlitz, Karl Ihlo from Serno, and Fred Zander from Seehausen near Wittenberge.

Now the Schulz and Wolf families have Rosi and Udo Klopfer as their guest in McDade. A Jenke reunion was held on April 25 at McDade VFW Hall so the Germans could get acquainted with their Texas cousins. Plans have been made for trips to Galveston, Houston, Brenham, Austin and San Antonio.

Giddings, Texas, Times & News, May 7, 1992, Sent by Evelyn Wolf, McDade, Texas

## CALENDARS AND CONFUSION

By Betty Marsicek

You all know George Washington's birthday --- it's February 22, right? Well, yes and no. His birthday is February 22 but he was born on February 11. Was that in 1731 or 1732? To be precise it was 1731/32.

Are you confused yet? I'll bet George was, too! These strange facts are all the result of a change in the way we record time which happened (in this country) in 1752. It can be very confusing and can cause a big problem to genealogists who may find strange discrepancies in family records such as one suggesting a child of this era had been baptized several days before its birth.

The Julian calendar which had been in use since about 500 BC (sometimes called "Old Style Calendar") was formulated by Julius Caesar who, in consultation with Egyptian astronomers had determined that it takes about six hours more than 365 days for the Earth to revolve around the sun. To correct for this, the Julian calendar called for three successive years of 365 days and then one year of 366 days ("leap year"). Leap years were designated as those years exactly divisible by four.

These calculations were pretty good for their time but were still off by about 24 hours every 128 years. This went unnoticed for centuries. However, the Roman Catholic Church, in 325 AD, had begun to determine the date of Easter by the vernal equinox which, in that year, fell on March 21. By the 16th century, the small error had caused the calendar to be ten days ahead of the sun and the vernal equinox fell on March 11. In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII declared that the feast of St. Francis would become October 15 rather than October 5, thereby adjusting for the ten days that the calendar was off. To keep the same thing from happening again, he decreed that only century years exactly divisible by 400 would be leap years. Therefore, 1900, although exactly divisible by four, was not a leap year but 2000 will be. The new calendar was called the Gregorian ("New Style") calendar.

Sounds like everything is fixed now, doesn't it? Well, it should have been, but now history rears its stubborn head. The last hundred years before the Gregorian calendar was introduced was marked by the Reformation and the emergence of Protestantism. You didn't think all those Protestant countries were going to do something because the Pope said it was right, did you? Catholic countries jumped on the "new style calendar" bandwagon right away, but England and her colonies held out until 1752. By that time, the Julian calendar was off by 11 days. The changeover in England and the colonies resulted in the "removal" of eleven days from September of that year so that September 2 was followed by September 14. George Washington simply adjusted his birthdate by adding eleven days, making his new birthday February 22.

Another change happened at the same time. In 1751, Parliament decreed that 1752 would officially begin on January 1. Before that time many businesses, legal documents and town records had used January 1 as the beginning of the year but most religious groups (who generated church records) began the year on March 25 to coincide with the approximate date of Easter. This means that for records generated between January 1 and March 24, in years before 1752, you must know whether the recorder used January 1 or March 24 as New Year's Day. Once you have determined the true year, you should record the year in the following manner: old style/new style. Therefore, George Washington was born in the year 1731/32. Since he adjusted the date for the missing eleven days, his full birthdate is February 22, 1731/32.

From: The Chisholm Trail, Williamson County Genealogical Society, Spring 1992



**Bundeskanzler über Hochhuth empört**

Vor 29 Jahren wurde der Schriftsteller und Dramatiker Rolf Hochhuth mit seinem umstrittenen Papst-Drama "Der Stellvertreter" auf einen Schlag weltberühmt. In dem Stück wirft Hochhuth Papst Pius XII. vor, von den Naziverbrechen gewußt, sie aber aus politischen Erwägungen nicht verurteilt zu haben. Jetzt ist es Hochhuth abermals gelungen, in ein Wespennest zu treten.

In seinem neuesten, bisher noch nicht aufgeführten Theaterstück "Wessis in Weimar" läßt Hochhuth eine ostdeutsche Pfarrerstochter die Tätigkeit der Berliner Treuhandanstalt zur Privatisierung der DDR-Industrie kritisieren. Die Stelle gipfelt in dem Satz: "Wer so etwas wie Rohwedder tut, soll sich nicht wundern, wenn er erschossen wird." Detlev Karsten Rohwedder, der Präsident der Treuhandanstalt, war am 1. April 1991 von Terroristen erschossen worden.

Bundeskanzler Helmut Kohl hat, wie Regierungssprecher Dieter Vogel am 26. Mai in Bonn mittelteil, im Bundeskabinett "sehr deutlich seine Empörung" ausgedrückt, nachdem Hochhuth sich in einem Interview des "Manager Magazin" offenbar mit der Rohwedder-Außerung seiner Protagonistin identifiziert hatte.

Kohl bezeichnete solche Äußerungen nach Angaben seines Sprechers als "eine Art Freibrüf für Mörder". Hochhuth schmähte einen "deutschen Patriot", der in schwierigen Zeiten bereit gewesen sei, seinem Land an entscheidender Stelle zu dienen.

Hochhuth bestreitet, den Mord an Rohwedder gerechtfertigt zu haben. Er habe sich auch in dem Interview nicht mit der kontroversen Textstelle identifiziert. Allerdings verurteile er das Vorgehen der Treuhandanstalt, die seiner Ansicht nach über die Köpfe der Menschen hinweg entscheide und dafür verantwortlich sei, daß heute jeder dritte Arbeitsfähige in den neuen Bundesländern arbeitslos sei.

Hochhuth: "Wo eine Institution heute noch im Jahre 1992 so wenig von denen politisch kontrolliert wird, über deren Schicksal sie befindet, da darf sie sich nicht wundern, wenn Verrückte oder Giftgaster - zuweilen identisch - mit Meuchelmord antworten."

Hochhuth, der die "Wessis in Weimar" als Satire verstanden wissen will, wirft seinen Kritikern vor, sein Stück nicht gelesen zu haben: "Niemand, der mein Interview liest oder gar diese Szene in meinem Stück, kann auf die Idee kommen, ich würde auch nur mit einer Silbe diesen Mord rechtfertigen."

**KULTURNACHRICHTEN**

**Kinder schreiben über die Wiedervereinigung:**

**Das Beste an der Einheit ist die Marmelade**

Das Beste an der deutschen Einheit sind der Kaffee und die Marmelade. So beurteilt die 13jährige Francis Siegel aus dem thüringischen Altenburg das Ereignis, das das Leben der meisten Menschen in der ehemaligen DDR radikal verändert hat. Francis findet es auch gut, daß ihre Mutter mehr Zeit hat, seit sie nicht mehr arbeiten geht. Als dann allerdings auch der Vater seinen Arbeitsplatz verlor, war Francis sich nicht mehr sicher, ob es jetzt besser sei oder vor der Wiedervereinigung.

Die Gewerkschaftszeitung "metall" hatte die sieben- bis 14jährigen Schüler in West- und Ostdeutschland aufgerufen, ihre Erfahrungen mit der deutschen Einheit aufzuschreiben. Bundespräsident zeichnete am 10. Juni in Berlin die zehn Gewinner des Wettbewerbs aus. Neun von ihnen kommen aus den neuen Bundesländern, was damit zu tun haben könnte, daß die westdeutschen Kinder von der Wiedervereinigung nicht viel gemerkt haben.

Silvio Flügel aus Plauen (Sachsen) schreibt wie viele andere ostdeutsche Kinder über das für sie neue Erlebnis der Arbeitslosigkeit ihrer Eltern: "So sitzen Vati, Mutti und mein Bruder oft abends am Tisch und bewerben sich. Bis jetzt hatten sie kein Glück." Die 13jährige Franziska Arlt aus Neurußp (Brandenburg) sieht Vor- und Nachteile der Wiedervereinigung: "Vielen hat die Wende bis jetzt Arbeitslosigkeit, Coca Cola und McDonalds gebracht."

Der 12jährige Stefan Wolfram aus Ueckermünde (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) ist unsicher: "In der Schule ist auch alles anders; denn die Lehrer erzählen das Gegenteil von dem, was sie uns vor ein-

halb Jahren erzählt haben. Das verwirrt alle, und die Leistungen lassen nach. Wozu soll man lernen, wenn man ja doch arbeitslos wird." Haben hier die Eltern mitgeschrieben?

Ratlosigkeit spricht aus den Sätzen, die die 14jährige Andrea Falknuß aus Lindstedt in Thüringen aufgeschrieben hat: "Jetzt, wo die Tore offen sind, fällt alles auf einmal auf mich. Es ist, als ob eine Bombe einschlägt, die Unsicherheit, Ängste und Verwirrung mit sich bringt."

Von den "sehr vielen Einbrechern aus dem Westen Deutschlands", die jetzt in den Ostteil des Landes kämen, berichtet Stefan Schwarz: "Unsere Familie schaffte sich schon ein besseres Schloß an."

Eher tragisch als komisch ist ein Erlebnis, das Eik Waldmann schildert: Seine Mutter habe ihm den Umgang mit seiner Freundin Katja verboten, weil deren Eltern Stasi-Informanten gewesen seien. Als er Katja das erzählte, "knallte sie mir eine und schrie, ihre Mutter hätte ihr den Umgang mit mir verboten, weil meine Eltern Stasi-Spitzel gewesen seien."

Eine Auswahl dieser Aufsätze ist im Frankfurter Eichborn-Verlag in Buchform erschienen: "Plötzlich ist alles ganz anders". Brandenburgs Ministerpräsident Manfred Stolpe schreibt im Vorwort, die Kinderaufsätze bräuchten "das Hauptproblem der deutschen Einheit auf den Punkt: Wie gelingt es uns, die Menschen wohlbehalten in das gemeinsame Deutschland mitzunehmen?"

July 3, 1992

**U. S. Investors Increase Activity in Eastern Germany**

The United States has become the third largest foreign investor in the new federal states, according to Günter Rexrodt, a board member of the trustee agency (Treuhandanstalt) charged with privatizing former East German state holdings. Rexrodt, who returned recently from a promotional tour through the United States, noted that 22 American firms have taken over 35 eastern German companies and that eight other firms are participating in joint ventures. American involvement in eastern Germany, he stated, meant investment pledges of DM 1.6 billion (about U.S.\$ 1.1 billion) and had secured about 6,000 jobs.

Rexrodt observed that only France and Great Britain have been more active in the five eastern states, investing DM 2.3 billion and DM 1.6 billion respectively. French investors have purchased 48 eastern German companies and the British 68, according to agency statistics. The agency board member also expressed appreciation of Swiss, Austrian and Scandinavian involvement. In all, foreign investors have taken over 370 eastern German companies, he said, guaranteed 100,000 jobs and pledged investments totaling about DM 11 billion.

**Hitler Liked Him, Too: Comic Book Show Explores the Rise and Fall of Mickey Mouse in the Third Reich**

For four days in late June, the Bavarian city of Erlangen was transformed into a mecca for comic book fans: the International Comic Salon, which took place this year for the fifth time, drew 20,000 visitors and sparked numerous discussions on the purpose and meaning of comic books and cartoons.

Discussion of the role of Mickey Mouse in the Third Reich drew great interest at the meeting, awakened in part by the publication of the book *Wie Mickey unter die Nazis fiel* (How Mickey Fell Under the Nazis) by comic book specialist Carsten Laqua. According to Laqua, as reported in the newsmagazine *Spiegel*, Mickey had fans in high places in the Nazi regime. Propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels, for example, noted in his diary that Adolf Hitler had been "very happy" about Goebbels' 1937 Christmas present to him: eighteen Mickey Mouse films. "I hope that this treasure will bring him much joy and relaxation," Goebbels wrote.

Mickey was enormously popular in Germany at the beginning of the 1930s. The *Film-Kurier*, a film journal, described the Disney creation as "a gift for the laboring masses. Forget your everyday troubles, enjoy an hour of joy and freedom from cares." The purveyors of Mickey Mouse dolls, salt shakers and porcelain made healthy profits. But only a year later, the *Film-Kurier* quoted an NSDAP publication, which had recognized that a mouse from Hollywood was not a suitable object of admiration for Nazi youth: "Mickey Mouse is the most miserable, disgusting ideal (for young people) that was ever in-

vented....Down with the Jewish trickery of the masses (*Volksverdummung*)! Away with the vermin! Down with Mickey Mouse, put up *Hakenkreuze*!"

Still, Mickey Mouse films continued to be shown in Germany even after Hitler came to power, proof, according to Laqua, that cultural life was not as *gleichgeschaltet* (made the same, "cleansed" of supposedly "detrimental" influences) as has been supposed. The films were finally banned in 1937, when the Nazi regime restricted imports to military goods and raw materials. Walt Disney and his brother Roy traveled to Germany to attempt to persuade the Germans to loosen the import ban and to bring out their share of the money German theaters had taken in from the films. They were unsuccessful, and after that their only orders from Nazi Germany were small ones: Hitler, for example, ordered five Mickey Mouse films in July, 1937 for private showings.

Later, Laqua wrote, Goebbels saw a way out of the attraction-repulsion dilemma posed by the little mouse: Germany would make its own cartoons. In 1941, he founded *Deutsche Zeichenfilm, GmbH* (German Cartoons), a studio modeled on Disney. The new enterprise had fifty illustrators and was supposed to produce full-length films and shorts. In order to allow plenty of time to learn the craft properly, the deadline for the first feature was set for 1950. In fact, the Nazis' venture into cartoon-making was a disaster: by the time the war ended in 1945, they had produced only one short film, while using up inordinate amounts of the taxpayers' money, as the central tax office complained in 1943.

# Iconoclastic:



Houston Grand Opera and the Hamburg State Opera have collaborated to produce a truly adventurous first: Wagner's monumental final opera,

*Parsifal*, presented in a new production directed and designed by Texan iconoclast Robert Wilson. Born October 4, 1941 in Waco, Texas, Wilson's unorthodox life and work, like those of Wagner and his opera *Parsifal*, have often been the subject of controversy. Wilson's *Parsifal* is only now coming to fruition — the culmination of many years of preparation.

### Intense and unfathomable

Described as having a "visionary grasp of the complex medium of opera," Wilson "sees what he wants, and is able to translate his inner vision into stage terms, and to circumvent the crippling conventions of dramatic presentation: what he calls 'ping-pong dialogue' and soap opera plots." (William S. Burroughs)

He intends his audience to experience the Grail as the boy Parsifal first experiences

it — not as a Christian ritual but as an intense and unfathomable mystery. As a director "more attuned to the sound of a word than its meaning" his production is to be "more of a response to the music and its resonances than to dramatic issues... While scanning the research... he paused over an article describing Wagner's music as 'opening the way to depths unilluminated by the word' and stopped to underline the phrase 'one is moved beyond any explaining by meanings not yet understood.' It was this sense of mystery, of the inexplicable and the wondrous, that Wilson sought to convey in his visuals, especially those for the temple of the Grail. His viewpoint was not so different from that of Wieland Wagner, who wrote at the time of the Bayreuth Festival's reopening in 1951 that a staging of *Parsifal* 'requires mystical expression of a very complex state of the soul, rooted in the unreal and grasped only by intuition' — not by illustrating the story but by creating a mystery that could exist almost independently within Wagner's own mystery, each magnifying and clarifying the other. By clearing the stage he also hoped to create space, not merely physical space but space in which to listen and experience authentically."

(Lawrence Shyer) And Annette Michelson, who worked extensively on *Parsifal* with Wilson, adds: "Bob didn't want too much motion on the stage.

You know, there's a curious way in which the rhythms and pacing of Bob's work are fairly consonant with the ritualistic manner in which *Parsifal* is usually pre-

sented. One could almost say that his staging fits into a traditionalist approach to the opera.

"The artist spent countless hours listening to *Parsifal* in his loft, during which time he would have seen the expanse of water outside his windows [the Hudson River] under changing conditions of light and weather — at sunrise, by moonlight, in the brilliance of noonday and in mist — a great reflective surface undergoing continual transformation, much like Wagner's music."

Houston Symphony Music Director Christoph Eschenbach conducts, with the HGO debuts of Yugoslavian soprano Dunja Vejzovic as the complex Kundry; American baritone Monte Pederson in his HGO debut as Amfortas; and Dutch bass Harry Peeters as Gurnemanz; and the returns of HGO favorite Richard Paul Fink as the sorcerer Klingsor, and Houston Opera Studio alumnus tenor Warren Ellsworth in his internationally acclaimed portrayal of the title role.

### Richard Wagner

Richard Wagner (born May 22, 1813 in Leipzig) was his entire life a controversial figure, whose life was fraught with upheaval, scandal, exile and triumph. His exposure to Beethoven and the singer Schroeder-Devrient at the age of 15 "suddenly gave a new direction to my artistic feelings and exercised a decisive influence over my whole life... If I look back on my life as a whole, I can find no event that produced so profound an impression on me."

Long before Wagner began to compose his last work, *Parsifal*, he first came across Wolfram von Eschenbach's thirteenth-century epic, *Parzival*, while taking a "cure" at Marienbad. "With the book under my arm I hid myself in the nearby woods, lying by the brook and enjoying myself with Titarel and Parzival in Wolfram's strange but so intimately appealing poem." His thoughts crystallized in 1857: "The garden was green, the birds were singing... I suddenly realized that it was Good Friday." This brought to mind an episode in Wolfram's poem, and "now its ideal contents came to me in an irresistible form, and from my Good Friday thoughts I quickly con-

ceived an entire drama..." The "meaning" of *Parsifal* is much debated; broadly, it can be said to embody both Christian and Buddhist doctrine, and center on the theme of redemption, or the universal message that enlightenment through compassion brings salvation.

Wagner began the work in 1877. He called *Parsifal* a "Bühnenweihfestspiel" or "consecration piece" for his Festspielhaus at Bayreuth, where, during its first performance on July 26, 1882, he spontaneously took over the conducting of the last part of the third act. Six months later, he died in Venice on February 13, 1883, at half past three in the afternoon.

## Course in German Immigrant Culture.

Dr. Peter Merrill, Dept. of Languages and Linguistics, Florida Atlantic University, P.O. Box 3091, Boca Raton, Fla. 33431-0991

Peter Needs to hear from people who have suggestions about teaching this course. He would like to have materials, such as pictures, copies of papers, books, or lists of books or textbooks. He wants videotapes about German-American topics. Anything about German settlements in Texas, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, and New York would be of interest. His topics of interest are: the colonial period, the labor movement, German-American art, German-American theater and literature, and social activities such as the Turnverein. He would like suggestions for other topics. Please respond to this interesting request!



Der unterzeichnete Königlich Preussische Regierungs-Präsident beehret hierdurch, daß ...  
*Leemann zu Stricken, geboren am 3ten  
 September 1878 zu Stricken, Kreis Liebsschl.*  
*mit rücksichtlicher Genehmigung auf seine  
 beabsichtigte Auswanderung nach Nordamerika*  
 die Entlassung aus der Preussischen Staatsangehörigkeit ertheilt worden ist.

Diese Entlassungs-Urkunde bewirkt für die kaum ausdrücklich genannte Person mit dem Zeitpunkt der Auswanderung den Verlust der Preussischen Staatsangehörigkeit; sie wird jedoch unanwendbar, wenn diese Entlassene nicht binnen sechs Monaten vom Tage der Auswanderung der Entlassungs-Urkunde *seiner* Wohnsitz außerhalb des Bundesgebietes verlegt, oder die Staatsangehörigkeit in einem andern Bundesstaate erwirbt. (§ 18 des Gesetzes über die Erwerb- und den Verlust der Bundes- und Staatsangehörigkeit vom 1. Juni 1870. S. 68 Bl. S. 266.)

### Neue Westfälische

### Der Königlich Preussische Regierungs-Präsident.

So sieht die Entlassungs-Urkunde aus, die Fritz Thielemann 1892 vom Regierungspräsidenten in Minden ausgehändigt erhielt. Oben ein späteres Bild von ihm. on/Foto: Horstmann

# Parsifal in Texas



## REISEAUSKUNFT

## Bob Robinson-Zwahr

In February 1989 I and my cousin, fellow GTHS member Paul von Donop of Washington DC and a native of Mason County, made a trip to Australia to visit my relatives and to locate the grave of a member of Paul's family, Baron Max Wilhelm Arthur von Donop, who died in St. Kilda in 1887. With the help of Mrs. David Simpson, who is married to the grandson of Herman Goldbeck (a brother of the late E. O. Goldbeck of San Antonio, a GTHS member), who emigrated to Australia and settled in Adelaide, the grave was located in the old city cemetery of Melbourne. Paul, being the first of the family to visit the grave, was therefore able to photograph the tombstone for the von Donops of Lippe-Deimold and America.

Next stop was in Adelaide to visit with James and Renee (Goldbeck) Simpson before driving 47 miles northward to visit with the Zwa(h)rs of the Barossa Valley of South Australia. The area is known as Australia's wine-producing capital and is noted for both its red and white wines. The Valley itself is relatively small, extending approximately 19 miles south to north and from 3 to 6.9 miles east to west, bordering with the famous Australian "Outback". Within the confines of the small area encompassing the Valley one encounters over thirty wineries and no less than twenty-five Lutheran churches!

The Barossa Valley's first settlement was established in 1842 at Bethany by Germans (who had arrived in Port Adelaide in 1838) under the leadership of Pastor Kavel. They, as well as their countrymen who followed them as immigrants, were primarily from Silesia and East Prussia. The Germans were later joined by Sorbs from Saxony who began arriving in 1852, many of whom had strong ties with the Sorbs of Texas, often with one brother opting to settle in Australia and one in Texas. Surnames such as Biar, Wenke, Zwa(h)r and others are common to both locales, with contact between the two groups having been maintained over the years.

It might be pointed out that in 1868 numerous Sorbish and German families from Ebenezer and Light Pass in the Valley made a long trek overland to New South Wales and settled at Walla Walla. In both locales, one will find many of the tombstones in German. The Valley also still preserves a definite German character in its architecture, its foods, its religion, its music, etc., although the German language is disappearing, brought about in large part by the past two World Wars. The Germaniness of the Barossa and its inhabitants, however, is best presented at the Barossa Valley Vintage Festival, held in March or April since 1948 in the years of odd numbers.

German-Texans will find particular delight in visiting the Barossa Valley and allTexans will enjoy Australia and the Australians, finding much in common with them in their friendliness and hospitality. In addition, outside of Sydney and perhaps the Gold Coast of Queensland, there is a similarity between Australians and Texans in the manner in which they view the land and its resources. Even though a long air trip is required to visit the "Land Down Under" and even though Australia is far from inexpensive, the trip is more than worthwhile and rewarding!

For this issue, "Gute Reise!"



Das "Deutsche Volksliedarchiv" sucht handschriftliche Liederbücher und alte Kirchengesangbücher der Deutsch-Amerikaner

Prof. Dr. John Meier (1864-1953), der u.a. mit seinen Untersuchungen zum 'Kunstlied im Volksmund' (1906) die Volksliedforschung auf eine bis dahin kaum vorhandene wissenschaftskritische Grundlage stellte, gründete 1914 das "Deutsche Volksliedarchiv" (DVA) als zentrale Sammel- und Dokumentationsstelle des populären Liedes im gesamten deutschsprachigen Raum. Mit der wachsenden Bibliothek ging der Blick auch über die Sprachgrenzen hinweg, und das DVA ist heute eine "Arbeitsstelle der internationalen Volksliedforschung". Durch Kontakte vor allem zur "University of Chicago" und dem dortigen Ethnomusikologen Prof. Dr. Philip V. Bohlman ist unser Interesse an der deutsch-amerikanischen Liedüberlieferung neu erwacht. Seit 1928 gibt es ein Jahrbuch für Volksliedforschung" mit wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten, die immer wieder auch solche Themen aufgreifen. Viele andere Publikationen, die laufende Dokumentationsarbeit mit ca. 500.000 Liedbelegen in unterschiedlichsten Formen und in vielfachen Karteien und die laufende Auskunftstätigkeit bestimmen heute die Arbeit mehrerer Wissenschaftler am DVA. Besonders wichtig ist die im DVA erstellte Einzeliieddokumentation, das sogenannte Mappensystem. Hier wird z.B. der laufend wachsende Bestand von ca. 230.000 Aufzeichnungen aus mündlicher Überlieferung (A-Nummern) registriert und möglichst individuellen Liedtypen zugeordnet. Für deren eingehende Analyse reichen damit die historisch greifbaren Belege zuweilen vom Spätmittelalter bis in die Gegenwart. Der Schwerpunkt lag früher auf der reinen Dokumentation, heute rückt die Interpretation in den Vordergrund. Manchmal haben wir mit großen Stoffmengen zu tun, z.B. bei der Volksballade von "Graf und Nonne" mit über 2.000 Belegen zu einem einzigen Liedtyp. Allein in dem Jahrzehnt 1975 bis 1995 wurden 5.300 neue Liedtypenmappen angelegt; der Gesamtbestand ist nicht gezählt worden. Seit einigen Jahren werden auch fremdsprachige Einzeliieder dokumentiert, und die Speicherung über Computer wird bei neuen Projekten realisiert. Gerade weil wir so gut ausgestattet sind, fallen uns Lücken umso schmerzlicher auf und beim deutsch-amerikanischen Material besonders in zwei Bereichen. - Der eine sind handschriftliche Liederbücher, die zum eigenen Gebrauch angelegt wurden. Sie werden von dem jeweiligen Besitzer bei Lebzeiten natürlich ungerne aus der Hand gegeben. Oft aber haben die Erben an solchen zerrissenen Sammlungen wenig Interesse, und sie verschwinden leider. Gerade auch die Gebrauchsspuren machen sie für uns wertvoll, und falls wir nicht das Original überlassen bekommen, geben wir uns gerne mit einer Kopie zufrieden. Wichtig ist es, dabei alle persönlichen Daten festzuhalten, die die Herkunft der Sammlung erläutern. - Ein zweiter Bereich, in dem wir sehen, schlecht ausgestattet zu sein, ist der des deutsch-amerikanischen Kirchengesangbuchs der verschiedenen Synoden seit etwa 1850 bis nach dem Ersten Weltkrieg. Hier würden wir unsere vorhandene Sammlung deutscher Kirchengesangbücher gerne mit den wichtigsten deutsch-amerikanischen Exemplaren ergänzen. Falls Sie uns bei diesen beiden Aufgaben helfen könnten, würde ich mich über einen Kontakt sehr freuen:

Prof. Dr. Otto Holzapfel, Deutsches Volksliedarchiv, Silberbachstr. 13, D - 7800 Freiburg i.Br.

**THE GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL BUILDINGS  
ERECTED AS A SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN OF GERMAN SETTLERS,  
THESE HISTORIC BUILDINGS HAVE SERVED NUMEROUS  
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES:**

1858 - GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL FOUNDED BY "THE LATEINER," A GROUP OF GERMAN INTELLECTUALS.

1859 - PURCHASE OF 60 VARAS ON ALAMO ST. CORNERSTONE LAID NOV. 10 FOR ONE - STORY LIMESTONE BUILDING ON NE CORNER, DEDICATED TO POET FRIEDRICH VON SCHILLER: ARCHITECT G. FREISLEBEN, BUILDER JOHANN H. KAMPMANN.

1860 - ONE-STORY BUILDING ADDED ON SE CORNER.

1869 - TWO-STORY LIMESTONE BUILDING ON NW CORNER DEDICATED TO SCIENTIST BARON VON HUMBOLT.

c. 1873 - TWO 2-STORY BRICK BUILDINGS ADDED TO COMPLETE PERMANENT STRUCTURES ON CAMPUS.

1897 - PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY F. GROOS & MRS. HULDA GROOS; HALF INTEREST SOLD TO G.W. BRACKENRIDGE.

1903 PROPERTY CONVEYED TO SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT. PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON SITE:

1903 - 23 - GEORGE W. BRACKENRIDGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

1923 - 25 - THOMAS NELSON PAGE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

1925 - 51 - SAN ANTONIO JUNIOR COLLEGE ESTABLISHED UNDER SUPERVISION OF UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HIGHER EDUCATION DURING GREAT DEPRESSION. COLLEGE MOVED TO LARGER CAMPUS 1951.

1953 - THROUGH PRESERVATION EFFORTS OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY, TITLE TRANSFERRED FROM SAISD TO CITY OF SAN ANTONIO FOR USE AS OFFICES.

1964 - BUILDING RESTORED FOR HEADQUARTERS OF HEMISFAIR, SAN ANTONIO'S 1968 WORLD'S FAIR: ALLISON PEERY, ARCHITECT.

1972 - PLAZA NACIONAL CORP. LEASED SITE FROM CITY.

1982 - RESTORATION AND LANDSCAPING OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SUPERVISED BY FORD, POWELL & CARSON, ARCHITECT, TO CREATE PLAZA SAN ANTONIO CONFERENCE CENTER.

HISTORICAL MARKER ERECTED BY ALUMNI OF  
SAN ANTONIO JUNIOR COLLEGE - 1982

←  
**Otto Holzapfel:**  
Items he is looking for are:  
1) Handwritten songbooks for personal use  
2) Hymnals used in German churches in the U.S.



# Ausstellungen im Heimathaus Wehdem sollen ständig wechseln

Mehrere hundert Besucher nahmen am Sonntag Einrichtung in Augenschein

W. N. W.

Weldem. Das Heimathaus in Wehdem mit ständig wechselnden Sonderausstellungen über heimisches Handwerk, Handel und Gewerbe zu präsentieren, so wie sich diese in der Vergangenheit darstellen, ist das Ziel des Arbeitskreises zur Einrichtung des Hauses, betonte am Sonntag, Arbeitskreissprecher Fritz Möller.

Gedacht sei dabei an die frühweithin bekannten Holzschuhmacher, Schumacher, Sattler, Schneider und dergleichen mehr, die oft von Hof zu Hof, von Haus zu Haus zogen und dort ihre Arbeiten durchführten. Material für solche Sonderausstellungen habe man genügend vorliegen, und das Interesse daran sei in der Bevölkerung groß.

Fritz Möller konnte am Sonntag nachmittag, als das Heimathaus für den allgemeinen Besuch geöffnet war, verschiedene Gegenstände vorweisen, die von Besuchern mitgebracht und dem Heimathaus zur Verfügung gestellt wurde.

Mehr und mehr setze sich die Erkenntnis durch, wie wertvoll das Heimathaus für die Bewahrung alter Einrichtungen und Gegenstände sei, und damit wachse in der Bürgerschaft die Bereitschaft, die Arbeit des Heimatvereins Stenweide und des Arbeitskreises für das Heimathaus in Wehdem durch die Bereitstellung von alten Kleidungsstücken der früheren Heilmattnacht Leinwandstoffe, althäufigen Gerätschaften und dergleichen mehr zu unterstützen, so Möller. Darüber freue man sich sehr.

So brachte auch an diesem Nachmittag Günter Bohne aus Driolme eine wertvolle Mutze der Heimattnacht mit, die er dem Heimathaus zur Verfügung stellte.

Die Einrichtungen standen im Mittelpunkt des Interesses auch im Mittelpunkt des Interesses auch an diesem Nachmittag über hielt der Betrieb an. Den ganzen Nachmittag über hielt der Betrieb an. Den ganzen Nachmittag über hielt der Betrieb an.

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## HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM A COLLECTION OF EARLY TEXANA ca. 1840 - 1900

- Museum Store
- Justice of the Peace
- Pawn Shop
- Wagon Shed
- Post Office
- Barber Shop
- Sheriff's Office
- Blacksmith's Shop
- Syrup Mill
- 1866 Tolar Cabin
- Cherokee Church
- Railroad Depot
- Collier Store
- Turkey Creek Inn
- Apothecary Shop
- Physician's Office
- Seamstress Shop
- Music Shop
- Log Utility Shed
- Chair Factory
- Little Red School House
- 1845 Cantilever Barn

Also visit

- The Cottage Rose
- Village Jeweler
- Pickett Wouse Restaurant
- Big Woods Nature Trails

- ANNUAL EVENTS**
- October Harvest Festival-
  - Ghost Stories of Texas Past-
  - Christmas Twilight Tour-



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except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

\$2.00 Adults; \$1.00 Children  
Guided tours available upon advance notice  
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### TYLER COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY

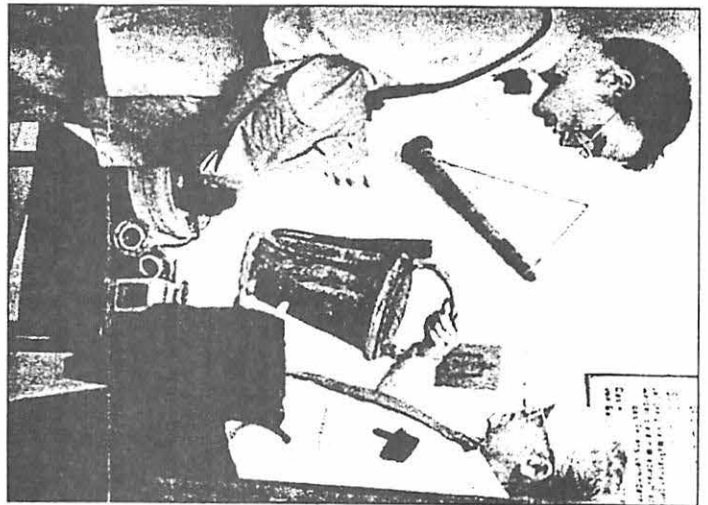
Memberships  
\$10.00 Individuals; \$20.00 Families.  
Members receive free admittance to the Village and the "East Texas Echo" monthly newspaper.



Heritage Village Museum  
P. O. Box 888  
Woodville, Texas 75979  
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OCTOBER 16-17 HARVEST FESTIVAL CIRCA 1840  
1900 CRAFTSMEN IN COSTUME DEMONSTRATE SKILLS AND TOOLS OF THE PERIOD AND SELL THEIR WARES. WEAVING, SPINNING, FURNITURE MAKING, CARVING, BASKET MAKING, POTTERY, LYE SOAP, PAINTING, BUTTER CHURNING, HOT CAKES, BLACKSMITHING, CHILDRENS CRAFTS, STORY TELLING, ROVING HINSTRALS, TEXAS REVOLUTIONARY ARMY VOLUNTEERS, CLOGGERS, MUSIC, FOOD AND MORE. SAMPLE LIFE IN EARLIER TIMES.  
SAT. 9:00 - 5:00 SUN. 10:00 - 5:00  
COME EARLY SUNDAY ( 8:30) FOR AN OLD TIME CHURCH SERVICE IN THE 1860 CHEROKEE CHURCH. ADULTS \$5.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12 \$2.50 UNDER 6 FREE. PARK AT THE FAIR GROUNDS. FREE SHUTTLE BUS. (409) 283 2272

OCTOBER 31 GHOSTS OF TEXAS PAST. STORYTELLERS GATHER AT THE VILLAGE . IN COSTUME. TO TELL FOLKLORE AND MYTHS OF THE AREA.  
6:30 - 8:30 HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM  
ADULTS \$2:00 CHILDREN UNDER 6 \$1:00 UNDER 6 FREE. (409) 283 2272.



Karl Rodenbeck and Sohn Erich aus New York beim Betrachten aller Einrichtungen für die Feuerwehr. Karl Rodenbeck hält einen Leichter in der Hand.

DECEMBER 5, 1992 CHRISTMAS TOUR OF THE VILLAGE 1840-1900 DECORATIONS, AREA CHOIRS THROUGH OUT THE VILLAGE. A LIVING NATIVITY AND A READING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY FROM THE BIBLE IN CHEROKEE CHURCH. MUSEUM STORE OPEN FOR YOUR GIFT SHOPPING. ALL PROFITS APPLIED TO RESTORATION PROJECTS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE TYLER COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY. REFRESHMENTS SERVED. 5:00 - 8:00PM NO ADMISSION CHARGE.

# San Antonio Liederkranz

Hundertjahrfeier - One Hundred Years  
1892 - 1992

## LIEDERKRANZ CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS:

The final 1992 Centennial event for the San Antonio Liederkranz will be the Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 12. A brass ensemble will accompany the choral group as it portrays the magic of Christmas through a program of old and new Christmas favorites.

**EVENT:** San Antonio Liederkranz Oktoberfest and Saengerfest **FOR MORE INFORMATION, READERS SHOULD CALL 512/945-5959.**

**BENEFITS:** The Oktoberfest and Saengerfest is sponsored by and benefits the San Antonio Liederkranz, a 100-year-old men's choral organization, dedicated to the preservation of German culture in San Antonio and South Texas through music, song and cultural events.

The choir was formed in 1892 as the choir for St. Joseph's Catholic Church and has since expanded into a singing society with members of all ethnic and religious backgrounds.

**TIMES:** OKTOBERFEST - noon - 10 p.m., Sat. Oct. 3, 1992  
SAENGERFEST - 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., Sun. Oct. 4

**LOCATION:** Villita Assembly Hall, in La Villita National Historic District -- the restored 18th century Spanish neighborhood in the center of downtown, bounded by the famous San Antonio River Walk and Nueva, Presa and Alamo streets.

**OKTOBERFEST:** Colorful booths will sell a wide variety of food and drink, including a multitude of German delicacies such as several variations of sausage, funnel cakes, potato pancakes, apple strudel and German drinks. Entertainment will be provided by the San Antonio Liederkranz; a prestigious choral group from Sulz, Germany; and bands playing lively German and American music, including polkas and the popular chicken dance.

**SAENGERFEST:** The Gebirgs-Saengerfest is a singing festival featuring choral presentations by the eight Gebirgs Saengerbund Texan-German singing societies in the Texas Hill Country area, including Fredericksburg, New Braunfels and San Antonio. A choral group from Sulz, Germany (a sister city of San Antonio that has hosted the Liederkranz members when they toured Germany in 1989) also will perform. Food and drink is sold at the saengerfest.

Each group performs one number for the enjoyment of all, then the ladies' mixed chorus, the men's mixed chorus and, at the finale, the combined mixed chorus of men and ladies perform.

**TICKETS:** OKTOBERFEST - Tickets are \$3 for adults; \$1 for children 12 and under.

SAENGERFEST - Tickets are \$3 for adults; \$1 for children 12 and under.

**BACKGROUND:** The impact of the German immigrants that settled in San Antonio in the mid to late-1800s was decisive: the first city charter was written in German, the city's first singing society sang in German; the members of the city's first social club spoke German. The chili powder used in Mexican dishes was--and still is--made by the Gebhardts.

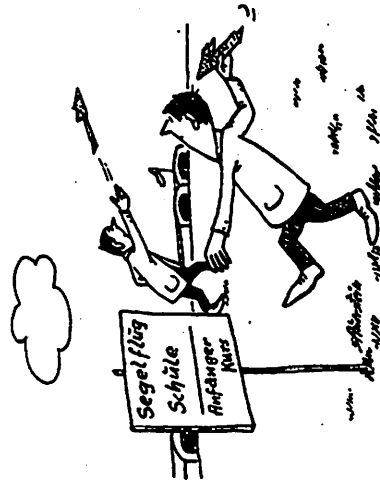
Kuster Koster  
Kustard Kustard Kuester Kuester  
Custard Kustard Kistard Kister Kester  
Caster Castor Kastor Koester Kerster Keister  
---- THE CASTOR ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ----

THE 5TH NATIONAL CASTOR REUNION will be held June 19-21, 1992 at the Harvey Hotel-DFW in Irving, Texas by the non-profit organization, THE CASTOR ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA. With nearly 400 members, this group is dedicated to the preservation and discovery of family history for the Caster, Custer, Kustard, Kaster, Kester, Keister (and other variants) families. Information on over 4000 families, some going back to the 17th century, has been collected, and the notebooks of family records will be available at the reunion for browsing.

Membership in the association is \$10 for the first calendar year, and \$8 per calendar year thereafter. An annual membership directory is available for an additional \$3. Membership is open to anyone interested in family history. The association is willing to exchange family information for those who do not wish to join.

For more information, write to The Castor Association of America, 2103 Plantation Drive, Richmond, Texas 77469, or call (713) 342-5603.

Nancy Hankins, publicity  
1035 Runnymede Ct.  
Keller, TX 76248



Ohne Worte



# Translation of diary recaptures German emigrant's sea journey

Imagine what it must have been like: You and your family and several score of other emigrants bound from Germany to the new Republic of Texas crammed aboard a three-mast ship 115 feet long and 27 feet wide.

Behind are friends and relatives who didn't want to take the trip; ahead is a land that seemed as distant and mysterious as the moon. Between is the sea and the more immediate problem of enduring a long voyage.

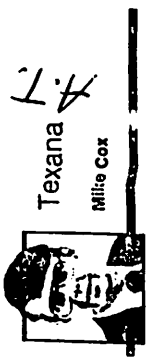
How fast the journey went depended upon the wind, which sometimes sent the German bark Neptunus slicing through the waves so fast she seemed to be flying over the water and at other times left her virtually becalmed, drifting with the current. Carl Blumberg, a teacher and lover of music, had plenty of time to record in his diary his thoughts and what happened during his long sail to Texas. Often, he wrote up on the main deck, gazing out at the seemingly endless sea as his family and friends fought seasickness below.

Blumberg's account, *Bremen to Texas in the Fall of the Year 1845*, was published in Germany in 1846. Now, 145 years later, it has been published for the first time in English.

The diary could have stood on its own, but it is included in a family history compiled and self-published by a fifth-generation Texan who is a descendant of Blumberg. The 282-page book is *Forward to the Past!* by Pearl Elley Bethune of Austin. It sells for \$60.

Sixty dollars is about twice the price a book of this size would normally sell for, but since it contains some primary research material in English for the first time, libraries and serious students of the history of German settlement in Texas will find it worth the price.

Reading Blumberg's journal should be particularly satisfying for anyone whose Texas family tree has a German branch. Blumberg's voyage must have been typical of the many that brought European settlers to Texas in the 1840s and 1850s.



Texana  
Mike Cox

Aside from historical and genealogical considerations, Blumberg's diary is just plain interesting reading. Like any good writer, he takes a reader aboard ship with him. When he describes the Neptunus sailing brahly across a calm, moonlit sea, her wake illuminated by phosphorescent organisms, it's hard not to start smelling the salt air.

On Monday, Nov. 24, 1845, the Neptunus moved through thick fog toward the Texas coast. The fog burned off enough for land to be seen. The captain had a boat lowered to go ashore and see if he had reached Galveston or some other port. At 2 p.m., the party returned. They had indeed made Galveston.

"What joy this must have given the pas-

sengers is easy to imagine, when one considers that after a sea voyage of almost seven weeks, every heart longs to be able to set foot on firm ground, the sooner the better," Blumberg wrote.

The boat brought more than that good news. "The helmsman also brought from the land... a fairly sizeable piece of beef, some wheat bread and radishes, as well as a black, fairly large suckling pig."

Also included in the book are a couple of letters Blumberg wrote from Texas and other information on him, his family and his descendants.

Blumberg got to enjoy Texas only eight years. On Nov. 5, 1853, he died after coming down with yellow fever. But those eight years had been plenty of time for his family to have become firmly rooted in its new home.

Now, thanks to Blumberg's great-granddaughter, others can enjoy his descriptive talents and marvel at what it must have been like to land in Texas after seven weeks at sea.

When Blumberg got to Texas, he settled with his family in Comal County. Many other Germans went farther west to Fredericksburg and lived in log cabins. But as soon as they could, they began building more substantial stone buildings.

To order your autographed copy of **FORWARD TO THE PAST!** in German & English, Send \$60. + \$2.50 shipping, to **BETHUNE PUBLICATIONS**, 1106 Ruth Ave. Austin, TX 78757. Texas residents please add 8% sales tax. Phone orders accepted -- 512/459-6031

Free-lance writer Mike Cox is the author of five Texas-related books and a collector of Texana. Address questions or comments to him at P.O. Box 4815, Austin 78765.

Published in Austin, Texas June 20, 1991. THE WHITLEY COMPANY -- PRINTERS, and G & S TYPESETTERS. BETHUNE PUBLICATIONS ON "INSIDE TEXAS" interview, CACTUS PRYOR called book a MONUMENTAL WORK, & MAGNIFICENT! (Aired KLBJ RADIO April 6 & 7, 1992).

## \$9 million Menger renovation about complete

By Loree Lambeth  
Express-News Business Writer

A \$9 million renovation of the 133-year-old Menger Hotel is about complete, with 90 percent of the newly designed retail space ironing the hotel along Alamo Plaza now occupied.

A finishing touch is being planned that calls for restoring the hotel basement, the

foundation of the original structure, and "to operate something down there" that would be an attraction for tourists, said J.W. "Mac" McMillin, general manager.

Before the hotel was built in 1858, William Menger operated a brewery on the site. Visitors to the brewery would stretch out on the tables and fall asleep. That's when the enterprising Menger decided to build a hotel.

Since then, tunnels connecting the basement to the streets have been sealed off and the basement turned a bit dusty.

McMillin said long-range plans are to restore the basement, perhaps turning it into a "little Rathskeller," restaurant or mini-brewery.

A Menger family descendant has offered to let some pieces of the original brewery go on display in the basement, which moved to the Menger in January.

"My store proves that quality sells downtown," he said.

Hausser said business has included a combination of local shoppers and convention and tourist trade.

The improvement to the Menger adds to the overall outlook of Alamo Plaza, said Doug Beach, president of the Alamo Plaza Association, and managing partner of IMAX Theater.

"Downtown San Antonio is not only alive and well, but it's doing very well," he said. Beach said that with only about six retail spaces remaining available in Alamo Plaza the downtown area has turned a corner.

Continued from 1B

life a huge limestone archway at the main entrance. So far, six firms have leased space: Alamo Visitors Center; Heagen Dutz Ice Cream; San Antonio Style, a gift shop; Silver Spur, a Western apparel store; Posters on the Plaza, a print art shop; Kings X Toy Soldiers, a collectible toy soldiers shop.

The hotel is working on two more leases for an antique store and a store with Victorian-style Texas collectibles.

An 854-square-foot shop remains available. McMillin hopes to lease it by the end of the year. Located in Alamo Plaza is "the best thing we ever did," said Albert "Boo" Hausser, owner of Kings X.

McMillin said. In 1977, the Menger began an intensive renovation that included adding 33 new rooms, suites and a ballroom.

Last year, renovation began on 8,000 square feet of retail space in front of the hotel. Also, the hotel's entrance was re-stored, which uncovered and brought to

SA May 15, 1992 Express-News

# Saengerfest Celebrates German

By Art Kowert

An early historian, Moritz Tiling, in his book, *The German Element in Texas*, wrote that the great love of music and song is characteristic of the German people.

"The German song was the invisible passenger that accompanied the German immigrant who came to Texas from 1845-1850," he stated.

That he was correct in his assessment of the place of music and song in the lives of the German people has proven to be correct, for Sunday the Texanischer Gebirgs Saengerbund is holding its 100th Saengerfest in Fredericksburg, with the Hermann Sons Mixed Choir as the hosts.

As early as March 2, 1850, a German singing society, "The Germania", was organized in New Braunfels, and, while there was a Staats-Saengerfest (state singing festival) held in New Braunfels in 1853, The Texanischer Gebirgs Saengerbund, was not organized until 1881 when it was founded on Easter Sunday, April 18, 1881, according to the history of the bund compiled by Lee Gastinger of San Antonio and secretary of the bund, that appears in the Festschrift published for the 100th Saengerfest being held here Sunday.

The first Saengerfest of the Texanischer Gebirgs Saengerbund was held in Boerne with the Boerne Gesangverein as hosts on April 9, 10, and 11, 1881. Choirs participating were the Fredericksburg Concordia, the Concordia of Kerrville, Comfort Liedertafel, Boerne Gesangverein, Anhalt Ufnau, Smithson Valley Echo, Sattler Walhalla, Honey Creek Liedertafel and Twin Sister Gasangverein.

The first officers of the Bund were Casper Real president; Edward Schmidt, secretary, and C.W. Boerne, treasurer.

Gastinger's account of the history of the Texanischer Gebirgs Saengerbund, as taken from the minutes of the bund, continues as follows:

*The organization had resolved to hold a Saengerfest every year, however this was not to be, for in 1887 it was called off for reason of a "Fehlerte" (crop failure). The functions were not held in the years of 1894, 1897, and 1900, however Saengerfahrten (singers trips) were made to Sisterdale in 1894 and 1900, and a brief note in the minute book informs us of a trip to Salatrillo (Converse) in 1897. These were not counted as official Saengerfests.*

*The Bund was a slow growth institution, and while new choirs joined, some of the old fell by the wayside. By the 1916 the count had*

*grown to thirteen choirs when the disaster of World War I occurred.*

*All festivities were cancelled for 1917, 1918, and 1919. But the spirit of the German singers was not dampened, for in 1922 the bund boasted a total of nineteen choirs. The largest influx of membership came in 1926 when nine choirs were accepted, among them three from San Antonio who are still active, these being: Beethoven Maennerchor, San Antonio Liederkrantz, and Hermann Soehne Gemischter Chor. With the pluses and minuses since 1922, the Bund now consisted of 23 choirs and was by far the larger of the two Texas organizations, remaining so for over 40 years.*

*The depression took its toll of many of the newly accepted choirs and also some of the old, however, singing was one of the new forms of entertainment during those years and 11 new singing organizations were accepted between the years 1932 and 1940. In New Braunfels in 1940, 26 choirs were in attendance counting slightly over 700 singers as per the club listings.*

*Fifty years ago (1941) in Fredericksburg the same number of groups participated with 667 singers listed. This was to be the grand finale as World War II curbed all activities for the next four years. In 1946 a Saengerpicknick was held in San Antonio, and pieces were slowly patched together again. Amazingly enough, 22 choirs took part in the 1947 Saengerfest, and*

## Love Of Music

Sept 25, 1991  
Fred. Standard -  
Radio Post +  
J.B.



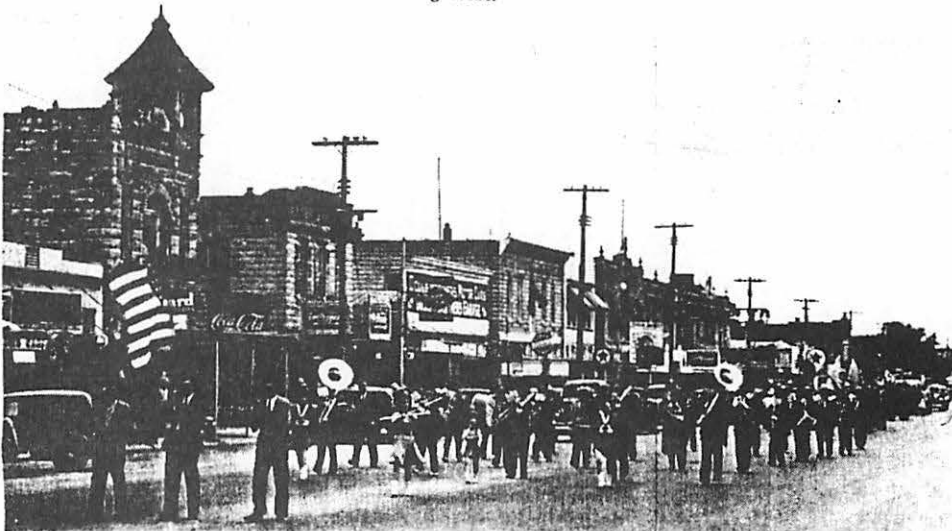
## 100th Saengerfest Sept. 29

*the numbers remained primarily the same until the early and mid 1960's.*

"The youth of this day," Gastinger concluded in his history of the Saengerbund, "have found many other forms of entertainment and are not interested in taking part in German singing."

"Today we have a total of 11 choirs and less than 300 singers. None of the original founding organizations are left, the Fredericksburg Concordia being the last to drop out."

It is interesting to note that this year's Festschrift is dedicated to Fritz Hartmann, the first director of the Concordia, and that two of his granddaughters, Celia Henke and Mary Knopp, a great-granddaughter, Roberta Priess, and three great-nieces, Lillian Hahne, Frances Hartmann and Annie Cornehl, are active members of the Hermann Sons Mixed Choir, the hosts for this year's 100th Saengerfest.



**THE PARADE OPENING** the 56th Saengerfest in Fredericksburg in 1941 was led by the Fredericksburg Junior Concert Band and a color guard of the American Legion. All of the singers partici-

pated in the parade as it marched west in the 100 block of East Main Street. This was the final Saengerfest held prior to the opening of World War II. —Standard-Radio Post Photo by Art Kowert

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# The name changed, but town kept its character

There was a time in America when most of the people lived in small towns. They liked it and they prospered. Such a place was Hilbigville, 30 miles east of Austin. Every burg was known for something. Bastrop had its lost pines. Elgin had its hot sausages, Smithville its railyard. Hilbigville was known for its German Catholics, who were staunch in every sense but the toponymical. They could not settle on a name for their town.

The first generation of the 1850s called it Walnut Creek, the next Lehmanville. By 1930, it was Hilbigville, which required an explanation seldom worth the effort. It was not that locals lacked pride. Their cotton and corn, their sunrises and sunsets were something to see. Row upon row, cotton covered the rolling farm country in a green and white corduroy, and where there weren't bolls and weevils there were spacious skies and amber waves of grain. And there was, at the nimbus of the village, the Sacred Heart Church, a stalwart congregation of Christians which even Protestants took pleasure in noting.

But, of course, Hilbigville's somewhat eccentric reputation was only regional. It really was no more distinctive than a thousand other towns across America. This is not to say it was not a good place in which to live. Obviously it was. Although the courthouse was at Bastrop, Hilbigville and Sacred Heart Parish grew until they could count 50 families and 250 souls in the 1930 census. No boom, certainly, but then Hilbigville never passed itself off as an adventurer's mecca. It was proudly a place for the simpler virtues of work and worship, of home and school, church and cotton gin.

Such a way of life can be narrow and conforming, but it is also comfortable and secure. The rhythm of life was as slow and predictable as the change of seasons. Neighbors could be counted on and strangers rarely passed. The people went to bed at night without locking their doors. Besides farmers, the town produced men who were merchants and millers and Monsignors, optometrists and Optimists, ranchers and Rotarians, electricians and Lions. Solid, stolid types, who, if they did not bring fame to Hilbigville, brought no shame.

And then, on the last day of March in 1931, a man who had never set foot in Hilbigville died in a plane crash in Kansas, and by his death transformed the village, giving it a new name, Rockne, and a wider fame. The way it happened tells us the world was a global village long before television. It did not matter that Hilbigville was 2,700 miles from Berlin, 2,430 miles from Rome or 1,200 miles from South Bend, Ind.

Knute Rockne was a Norwegian immigrant and a Lutheran before he caught fire at Notre Dame, becoming not only America's greatest football coach but its most famous Roman Catholic. He was a hero, even in Bastrop County. It did not matter that in the 75 years of its existence under whatever name, Hilbigville had never been a host of an official football game.



TG  
Billy Porterfield

Any male and half the females who could read the newspapers or listen to the radio kept up with Rockne and his Irish Ramblers, who in 13 seasons had amassed a yet-to-be-matched 105-5-12 record. And Rockne had no greater admirer than Father Francis S. Strobel, the tall, white-haired pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. It was said that Father Strobel wore out his left ear hearing confessions, and wore out his right listening to radio broadcasts of Notre Dame football. He, of course, was a great reader of the Bible, and of poetry, especially the work of the Catholic poet, Joyce Kilmer.

In August of 1932, Father Strobel proposed to the St. Joseph Society that the elders of the town allow the children at Sacred Heart School to choose a new name for the town. He proposed students be given two choices: name the town Kilmer, after the poet, or Rockne, after the coach. Every boy voted for Rockne, every girl for Kilmer, which made it a tie. Edith Goertz, a fifth-grader, broke the stalemate by going over to the boys. "I did it because I was that much of a rebel," says Edith, who now lives in Austin as Edith Goertz Ayers.

Two years later, Father Strobel was transferred to another parish, and residents, who remember him fondly, say he died somewhere in Europe. There have been nine priests at Rockne since Strobel — Father Clyde Holtman being the current pastor — each carrying on in an age which has not been particularly encouraging for the church or rural life.

Rockne has changed since the days of Knute Rockne and Father Strobel, just as Mason City, Iowa, and Sauk Centre, Minn., have changed since the days of Meredith Wilson and Sinclair Lewis. It is no longer removed from the rest of us by bad roads and the insularity of country ways. Since 1988, when the U.S. Post Office put out a special Rockne, Texas, ink stamp and another stamp honoring Coach Rockne, tourists have passed through, stopping to read the historical marker in front of the church and maybe buy a soft drink at the Goertz family's general store.

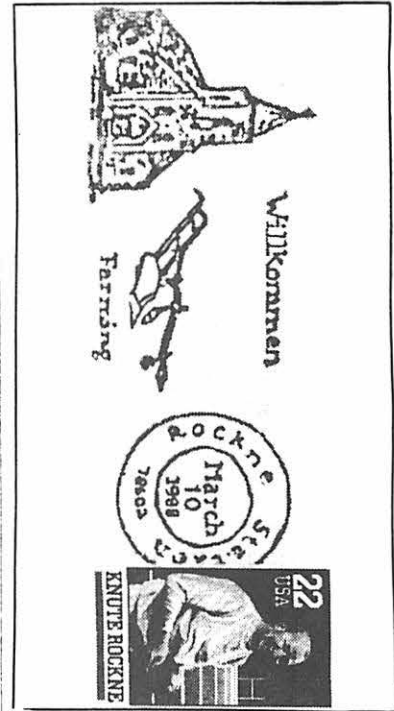
The irony is that Rockne lost its post office to Red Rock, and the church its students to Bastrop public schools. What has not lost but gained is church attendance. Today, Sacred Heart Parish counts on its rolls 255 families and 753 individuals. And what visitors see behind the historical marker is a high-steeped, spacious church, built and dedicated five years after Father Strobel left.

Yes, there are still pickups lined up at the crossroads, and there's grain and cattle in the fields. And even as Rockne, Hilbigville has gone 58 more years without a football game. But the cotton has long since gone, and the land is getting too expensive to plow. Most of the residents commute to work in Bastrop or Austin. It is only a few minutes by car. There is a lot of traffic through Rockne now, and the people are starting to lock their doors at night.

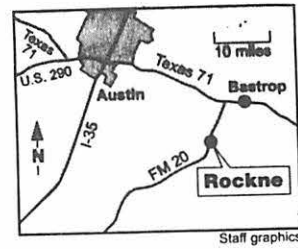
And yet there remains something wonderfully reassuring about Rockne, Texas. I find it expressed in the old German households like the Lehman and Bartsch families. Descendants of the town founders, Vernon Bartsch and his wife, Minnie Lehman Bartsch, live on a gravel road near Sacred Heart Church and the cemetery that holds their first American ancestors. Vernon is a retired draftsman with the Texas highway department. Minnie is a vice president of the First National Bank in Bastrop. They have four grown children and five grandchildren, but none have moved away. They are a stone's throw from one another, as close as families should be.

And don't tell Minnie Bartsch there's nothing to do in Rockne. After a 45-hour work week at the bank in Bastrop, she and her family members raced home every

night this week to a host of commitments. They helped the church find food and gifts for poor families, attended choir practice in preparation for Christmas Mass, made plans and sold tickets for the VFW chapter's New Year's Eve dance, planned their own family holiday doings, taped interviews with oldtimers for the Heritage Society, went to a birthing, a wedding and a funeral, and prayed for some semblance of a snowy Yuletide.



In 1988, the U.S. Post Office issued a special Rockne, Texas, ink stamp and another stamp honoring Coach Knute Rockne, the town's namesake. The children of Sacred Heart School selected Rockne as the name of their town in 1932.



Staff graphics

Source: Galveston Daily News, 16 April 1942, P.11.

**Man Who Walked From Here to Fort Worth Dies**

Dallas Tex April 15, P. Frank Pavelka, 78, Czech who walked from Galveston to Fort Worth in 1904 to see if Texas was a suitable country for his family, died tonight.

He spent his savings for passage to America, and later sold his home near Prague for enough money to bring his family to Texas.

Survivors are his widow and two sons, Anto and James, of Dallas; two daughters, Mrs. Anton Koldin and Mrs. Blanche Krupka of Fort Worth.





## R/K Sing 15 Years Together

Five members who have been with the group for the entire 15 years are (left to right) Minnie Schellberg, Ellis Wickel, Evelyn Fuchs, Verlie Wegner and Rosa Lee Hinze. Wickel and Fuchs designed the banner they are holding.

For 15 years, a group of area folks have delighted lovers of traditional German songs - the kind many older folks heard at their parents' knees.

The group, called Der Froeliche Gesang Verein (or Winedale German Singers), celebrated their 15th anniversary with a party in Winedale recently.

The group was formed in 1977 after Lonn Taylor, representing the University of Texas Winedale program, asked around at the various churches if anyone would be interested in forming a group to sing German songs at the Winedale festivals. In February of that year, a group began rehearsing, and were ready for their first performance at the Winedale Spring Festival on April 2, 1977 - just weeks after the group gathered.

One of the coordinators of the group's activities was Ronnie Sacks, a German teacher. The late Eurlene Baranowski played a piano accompaniment for the group until illness forced her to curtail her playing. Dwight Nitsche accompanied the group on his accordion for most of the 15 years.

About 30 members are at every practice session and performance. The group meets every two weeks and is 34 members strong at present. Membership fluctuates as some members drop out for various reasons, or death claims a member, or new members join.

Most of the members were present at the anniversary party. One, a college coordinator, and another, a student doing research in the Antarctica at present, were unable to join the fun-loving group for the anniversary event. Members come from all walks of life and span several generations - from school-age to Social Security Set age.

The group has performed for a variety of events throughout the years, including festivals and special events in Winedale, Washington-on-the-Brazos, Brenham, Burton, Rosebud, Houston, Moulton, Yoakum and Calvert. Their first really big performance was at the New Braunfels Wurstfest on Nov. 5, 1978. The second performance of that day was rained out, but they had the enjoyment of delighting crowds for their first performance.

One of the highlights of the 15 years was their invitation to sing at the Texas Sesquicentennial Celebration at San Jacinto on April 20, 1986. Willie Nelson was a headliner that evening. The German singers also enjoyed touring the Battleship Texas and watching the spectacular fireworks that evening.

Another highlight was giving a

special program of Christmas carols and German lessons during the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Yoakum. They also sang at the 100th Anniversary of the Hermann Sons Lodge of Seguin, and for the 1991 Southeastern Texas-Southern Louisiana Synod Assembly in Brenham.

The group hosted the visit of members of the Musik Kapelle Markt Erkheim, a German band from Bavaria, and sang with them on several occasions.

The Winedale singers perform at rest homes, at special gatherings and parties, and even at funerals of members of the group. They receive more invitations than they can possibly accept, due to limitations of time and finances.

But always, they enjoy being together - singing, eating, playing dominoes, or whatever. Some of them enjoy another German tradition: drinking German soda water after a performance or just before eating. (They love to eat, and always prepare great food!)

# Collecting fever strikes Germans

Scripta Howard Service  
S.A. ZKoven/News  
7-9-92

STUTTGART, Germany — Practically anything can be collected. Practically everything is at least in Germany, where research shows one in every three Germans collects something or other.

Collectors, 80 percent of whom are men, will often spend big money on their passion. Economists reckon Germans spend \$20 billion a year on collectibles.

From the motivational point of view, Thomas Merbt of Stuttgart is a typical German collector: "I'm a fanatic," he admits.

What Merbt collects is not so typical: he's the world's premier collector of anything to do with Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, the "Desert Fox." Germany's most popular World War II general, Rommel died in 1944.

The pride of Merbt's collection is Rommel's uniform. Among his other 10,000 items are five tanks and

numerous guns. Accumulated over 30 years, the collection fills five barns as well as a traveling display.

known as the Erwin Rommel Museum. Merbt is especially proud of the tanks: "I dug one of them out of the desert in Tunisia myself."

He claims he doesn't glorify war and has included several bits of a field hospital in the collection to show how ghastly war is.

Whatever they collect, most collectors end up in the same pickle: they run out of room to store the stuff.

One German collector, Barbara Ernst, builds her own dollhouses, each furnished according to the decor of a different era.

The research and the imagination involved make each one a work of art. Like many collectors, she loves the illusion that her things provide of being able to slip into another world at will.

But gradually the dollhouses have taken over flat apartment. "It looks like a supermarket," she says.

Henry Kissinger wurde für seine Verdienste um die deutsch-amerikanische Partnerschaft am 25. Mai in Hamburg mit dem Eric. M. Warburg-Preis der Atlantikbrücke ausgezeichnet. Kissinger forderte beide Länder auf, ihre außenpolitischen Ziele neu zu definieren, damit sie mit den "chaotischen internationalen Verhältnissen" fertig werden könnten. Der FDP-Bundestagsabgeordnete Hans-Dietrich Genscher (links im Bild) sprach sich bei der gleichen Gelegenheit für einen Freundschaftsvertrag zwischen der EG, den USA und Kanada aus. Helmut Schmidt warnte in seiner Laudatio für Kissinger vor einem wachsenden internationalen Mißtrauen gegenüber Deutschland.









## Recent Publications

Donald F. Durnbaugh, "Radikaler Pietismus als Grundlage deutsch-amerikanischer Kommunitarier Siedlungen," *Pietismus und Menschheit. Ein Jahrbuch zur Geschichte des modernen Protestantismus*. Band. 16 (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1990), 112-131. In German but with excellent sweep of the supporting literature via English in virtually all the footnotes. Scholars of communal societies who ignore this study do so with great peril.

Brent O. Peterson, "Germanistik and Ethnicity," in *Challenges of Germanistik. Traditions and Prospects of an Academic Discipline*, ed. Eitel Timm (Judicium Verlag, 1991), p. 29-47. ISBN 3-89129-093-4. A fine survey of the history of German-American scholarship which points out the weaknesses along with the hopes of analyzing the cultural differences that could revitalize the discipline of *Germanistik*. Poses major questions: Is ethnic literature only about migration and acculturation? Can a German-American writer be of a different than German ethnic background? Is everything produced by a German-American really German-American? What role does the language of the writer play? Of what significance are translations? What about other national parallels like the *Gastarbeiter* or *Aussiedler* in Germany today? A very probing study.

Robert Reitzel, *Adventures of a Greenhorn: An Autobiographical Novel*. Translation and Introduction by Jacob Erhardt. (New German-American Studies, Vol3) (New York: Lang, 1992), 93 pp.

*The Nazi Menace in Argentina*, by Ronald C. Newton (Stanford University Press), 540 pages; \$49.50. Challenges previous accounts of the extent of Nazi activities and influence in Argentina, including efforts to influence the country's German-speaking population, government, military and right wing.

Viktor Bracht, *Texas in 1848*, trans. Charles Frank Schmidt, introduction by SGAS member Theodore G. Gish (German-Texan Heritage Society, Box 262, Manchaca, TX, 78652, 1991), \$21.00 postpaid.

"Tune In" is a Newsletter for the German-American Community published at 504 Parkview, Elmhurst, IL 60126 Tel: (708) 941-3993. It is edited by Marlis Schmidt who also airs German radio programs.

Robert A. Heitman, *Marriages Reported by Der Libanon Demokrat: A German-Language Newspaper published at Lebanon, Pennsylvania* (Bowie, MD: Heritage, 1990). Indexes 2,500 names from the *Demokrat*; a model of how German-American newspapers should be indexed.

Max von Eickling, *The German Allied Troops in the North American War of Independence 1776-1783* Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, reprint of 1893 ed. *History of the German Regiments based on manuscript sources*; W.D. Learned called this book "the best source of information" on the topic.

Eugen Kotte, ed., *Ostbovaren in Amerika*, Ostbovaren: Heimatverein Ostbovaren e.V., 1991, 208 pp. Contains essays on the North German immigration especially to Indiana and Ohio; contributions by SGAS members Wolfgang Heibich, Antonius Holtmann, and Don Heinrich Tolzmann. Contact: Werner Schubert, Prozeptionsweg 13, 4412 Ostbovern, Germany.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann, *The First Germans in America, With a Biographical Index and Directory*, (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1992), \$13.00. Contact: Heritage Books, 1540E Pointer Ridge Place, Suite 400, Bowie, Maryland 20716. Telephone: 301-390-7708. Discusses the first Germans in America, especially at Jamestown, Virginia and in New York. Demonstrates that German-American history begins in 1608 with the arrival of the first Germans.

Ernst Thode, *Address Book for Germanic Genealogy*, 4th ed. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1991), 218 pp. paperback. 1001 North Calvert St. Baltimore, MD 21202-3897, \$27. Lists American and European archives as well as religious organizations, book sellers, and importers with map ship and riverboat records. Many sources for local and regional genealogical research in the German speaking regions of Europe.

Beste Hinrich, *Deutschamerikanische Presse Zwischen Tradition und Anpassung* (New York, Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 1989) Vol. 16 in European University Studies Series, 232 pp. Treats the *Minneapolis Staatszeitung* and the *Chicagoer Arbeiterzeitung* 1879-1896. A pioneer effort to comprehend the bourgeois but socialist field out of which grew the American labor movement with its sometimes anarchistic, sometimes Lassalleian socialist bent, nurtured at the hand of Forty-eighters and their liberal press in America. That the two primary papers analyzed in this study lasted for some seven decades attests to their success. Fine endnotes and bibliography.

Gerhard P. Basler, *The German Canadian Mosaic Today and Yesterday* (Ottawa: German-Canadian Congress, 1991), 205 pp. Paperback. ISBN 0-9695486-0-5. Order from G-C Congress, 965 Richmond Road, Ottawa ONT. K2B 6R1, CD. A magnificent work divided into 30 chapters using a back-up approach from the Germans in Canada today to the earlier periods and with separate chapters on the separatists like the Hutterites, Pennsylvania German Mennonites, Hessians, Moravians, Lunenburgers and more. Special chapters also for each province. No footnotes, but comprehensive bibliographies listed separately for each chapter. The book has high appeal for the laymen and scholar alike.

Rudolph Vecoli, *Documenting Diversity: A Report on the Conference on Documenting the Immigrant Experience in the United States of America, Nov. 18-17, 1989* (St. Paul: Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, 1991). ISBN 0-932833-12-8 The results of a planning conference of 42 scholars, at which were presented papers by experts, among the best by SGAS member Kathleen Conzen on "The Historian's Quest for Immigrant Documentation", where she uses largely Stearns County, Minnesota as a base to illustrate the problems. Vecoli's brief article sets the key and offers an overview of the problem. Others highlight the many related problems. Contact: Immigration History Center, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114.

Joseph A. Amato, *Servants of the Land. God, Family, and Farm. The Trinity of Belgian Economic Folkways in Northwestern Minnesota*, 2nd rev. ed. (Marshall, MN: Crossings Press, 1991), 69 pp. Maps, sketches, photographs. A professional historian reports in memoir style the economic folkways, character, mores, traditions and successes of the Flemish Belgians that settled mostly in the Lyon County region of southwestern Minnesota. These are Germanic people who have customarily dealt easily with neighborhood immigrants from the Reich. Contact: the press at 202 Park, Marshall, MN 56258.

James P. Leary, *Modeling in Dairyland. A History of Swiss Music in Wisconsin* (Mount Horeb: Wisconsin Folk Museum, 1991), 63 pp. Many pictures, bibliography. Widely published folklorist James Leary devotes his attention in the first half of the booklet to the Swiss settlements and their "old time" music in Wisconsin (the most densely Swiss state in America on a per capita calculation), while in the second half editing a taped autobiography of Rudy Burkhalter, the Midwest's uppermost traditionally Swiss musician. In the 1960s and 70s Wisconsin-Swiss musician, Burkhalter, became famous as a high school assembly artist with a one-hour show about Switzerland and its folk traditions. Contact the Museum at Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

Julius Friedrich Sachse's *History of the German Role in the Discovery, Exploration, and Settlement of the New World*. Ed., Don Heinrich Tolzmann (Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1991), 265 pp. \$20 Order #T549. Published to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America and the role of the Germans in its development. The book first appeared in 1892 to commemorate the 400th anniversary, as published by the Pennsylvania German Society. Describes conditions in Germany prior to 1700 which contributed to emigration. New introduction and conclusion by Tolzmann. many original facsimile illustrations, modestly well reproduced in the new printing. Limited updated bibliography appended.

Arnold H. Marzoll, *Let's Talk German-Russian with Emphasis on Emancipation and Emancipation*. 2nd enlarged edition with selections from the author's *Pravda Poems and Poems to Pravda* (Bismark: Germans from Russia Heritage Society, 1991). First reviewed in this newsletter Vol 11, No. 4 (December 1990), p. 35. Includes reviews and comments made about the first edition. A significant feature in all of the anecdotes is the original dialect German language of the Germans from Russia along with renditions in high German as well as in English. Along with Eberhard Reichmann's *Hoosier Germans* [Indiana German Heritage Society, by NCSA Literatur, Green Valley, Nashville, IN 47448], this is a beautiful contribution to portraying the everyday lives of ethnic German people in down home America.

Bernad G. Laengin, *Die Russlanddeutschen unter Doppeladler und Sowjetstern: Siedler, Landschaften und Menschen auf alten Fotos*, (Augsburg: Weltbild Verlag 1991). Excellently written, beautifully illustrated history of the Russian Germans, from the beginnings to the recent past, with special reference to the various Russian German settlements — a "must" for anyone interested in the topic.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann, ed., *Ohio Valley German Biographical Index* (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, Inc., 1992), \$20.00 — plus \$3.00 for handling and postage. This volume provides access to several major German-American histories, biographical directories, and indexes covering the German element in the Ohio Valley (mid-18th to early 20th century), not indexed heretofore. One of the sources which Tolzmann had indexed for this volume (there are four total) is in English and the others are in German; an English translation of one of the German-language volumes will be available in the fall, 1992.

The Ohio Valley was a major destination and distribution point for German immigration and settlement, and this index is of use by individuals who have connections to the Valley. The geographical emphasis is on the tri-state region of Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. Occasionally, German settlers in other regions are listed as well. This volume is of particular value to researchers interested in rural and urban areas which were settled by German-Americans who came from the greater Cincinnati area, such as Lawrence County, Tennessee; New Ulm, Minnesota; Guttenberg, Iowa; Teutopolis, Illinois; and Oldenburg, Indiana. Altogether, 3,754 names are indexed. Non-German names in the sources are excluded from the index. Contact: Heritage Books, 1540-E Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie, MD 20716 (301) 390-7708.

## THE SOCIETY

Established in 1968 and registered in the state of Ohio as a non-profit organization, the Society is an international professional association of individuals and institutions interested in and involved in the field of German-American studies.

## PURPOSES

The Society holds to the following purposes:

- to engage in and promote interest in the study of the history, linguistics, folklore, genealogy, literature, theater, music, and other creative art forms of the German element in the Americas;
- to publish, produce, and present research findings and educational materials of the areas of interest as a public service;
- to assist researchers, teachers, and students;
- and to improve cross-cultural relations between German-speaking countries and the Americas.

## EDITOR

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
LaVern J. Rippley  
St. Olaf College  
Northfield, MN 55057





**AFFILIATES AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

The Society aims to cooperate with organizations with similar purposes and serves as an umbrella organization for them. A list of the regional representatives can be found in the S.G.S.A. Newsletter.

The following organizations are affiliated with the S.G.A.S.: The Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies (University of Wisconsin-Madison) • The German Heritage Society of Greater Washington D.C. (Washington D.C.) • The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies (Millersville University) • The Max Kade German-American Document & Research Center (University of Kansas) • The Indiana German Heritage Society (Indianapolis, Indiana) • The German-American Historical Society of Greater Cleveland (Cleveland, Ohio) • The German Texan Heritage Society (Southwest Texas State University) • The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland (Baltimore, Maryland) • The Germans from Russia Heritage Society (Bismarck, North Dakota) • The German Genealogical Society of America (Los Angeles, California).

**GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES GUIDELINES**

The S.G.A.S. has prepared guidelines for the introduction of German-American studies into the curricula of schools and colleges. A copy of these guidelines may be obtained by writing to the treasurer.

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  - \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliated Organization ..... \$150
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Life ..... \$500
- (may be paid in five annual installments)

To become a member, please write a check payable to:

"The Society for German-American Studies"  
 and mail it with this application form to the treasurer:

William Roba  
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 500 Belmont Road  
 Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

**PUBLICATIONS**

The Society publishes a quarterly newsletter and a yearbook to further its purposes. The Newsletter, while containing informative articles concerning the Society, also carries articles about the activities of other organizations with similar purposes and short articles on German-Americana.

The Yearbook contains articles in English and German on German-American history, literature, and culture. It also contains a Book Review section edited by Jerry Glenn, University of Cincinnati, and the annual Bibliography of German-Americana, edited by Giles R. and Dolores Hoyt, Indiana University, Indianapolis, assisted by the Bibliographic Committee of the Society.

Back issues of the Yearbook are available from the treasurer at \$20.00 per volume. The 1981-5 Yearbook index is available from the treasurer for \$5.00. The forerunner of the Yearbook, the Journal, is available from Micro-Film International. The Journal index is available from the treasurer for \$5.00.

**German-Americana in American History Textbooks:**

In 1983 Nathan Glazer examined American history textbooks from major textbook publishers, and published the results in *Ethnic Groups in History Textbooks* (Washington DC.: Ethics and Public Policy Center, 1983). In his study he indicates the number of pages and the percentage of each text devoted to: Indians, Blacks, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Chinese, Japanese, Northern and Western Europeans, and Southern and Eastern Europeans.

Note that Europeans are simply lumped together, mainly because the textbooks provide little information on them. One could not even begin to ask the question about the image of the German-American in American history textbooks, because there is no image, since there are little or no references to them. The same could be said about other European ethnic groups also.

Glazer notes that "European groups receive only a fraction - in all but one history, a quarter or less - of the coverage given to non-whites and Hispanics." (p. 18) He describes this as an "imbalance" and indicates that it is due to the fact that European immigrants are not identified, but rather appear in the textbooks under "ethnically anonymous terms," such as "industrial workers" or immigrant city-dwellers.

Our task in the field of German-American Studies is not only to work for the introduction of our field into the curriculum, but we need textbooks for German instruction and for the social studies areas, which deal with the German-American dimension. We call upon our SGAS membership to take up the task of examining textbooks, and to contact publishers with regard to the preparation of new ones, which fully, fairly, and accurately describe the diversity of American society. As Julius Friedrich Sachse once wrote, we are only requesting our proper place on the historical page of America.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann

**1990 U.S. Census Updates**

Since the 1990 U.S. Census ethnic ancestry data is not yet available, SGAS members should consult state Data User Centers, which have such information for individual states.

According to the Ohio Data Users Center, the following categories are listed in the census which would be relevant to a total German element statistic: 1) Alsatian, 2) Austrian, 3) German, 4) Liechtensteiner, 5) Luxemburger, 6) Germans from Russia, 7) Silesian and 8) Swiss.

Other categories to be examined for German ethnicity are those for: Lorraine, Frisian and Sorbian/Wend. Although a category for Pennsylvania-German had been announced, none was in the Ohio Data Users Center. Hence, there are 8 categories; the major ones, of course, are 2,3 and 8, but 1 and 4-7 are also important. For example, in certain states category 6 (Germans from Russia) constitutes the major German ethnic group.

Requests for a combined statistic of these groups remain unanswered. At this point those involved in the field of German-American Studies, as well as for German-American organizations, must obtain such data from their state Data User Center, and then total the statistics for their respective states. My studies of the 1980 census reveal that on average the statistic for category 3 (German) can usually be raised from 5 to 7% per state with the addition of the other 7 German ethnic groups. In states, however, with Germans from Russia, this would be considerably higher. It should be noted that category 3 (German) excludes all other German ethnic groups.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann

**Funding Sought for the re-printing of the Hutterian Brethren's Klein-Geschichtsbuch.**

Back in 1947 the Hutterian Brethren, with the support of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation in Philadelphia, printed the 840-page German-language *Das Klein-Geschichtsbuch der Hutterischen Brüder*, as edited by A.J.F. Zieglschmid of Northwestern University. Today the Woodcrest Bruderhof would like to reprint it and hopes to find funding for scanners that can encode the Fraktur style type in preparation for a new edition. If you can help or know of others or agencies that might be willing, contact: Martin Johnson, Woodcrest Bruderhof, Route 213, Box 903, Rifton, NY 12471-0903 Tel: (914) 658-8351, Fax 914 658-3317.

**Query**

Brigitte Schütz, an art historian in Germany preparing an exhibit on the National Socialist movement in Munich from 1912 to 1946, seeks historical objects relating to this topic that may be in American hands. Contact her at Lucile-Grahn-Str. 36, 8000 München 80, Germany.



**DIE ABENDPOST  
/SONNTAGPOST 1889-1991**

The oldest German-language newspaper of Chicago, the *Abendpost* and its Sunday edition, the *Sonntagpost*, was recently absorbed by the *Nordamerikanische Wochen-Post* of Troy, Michigan, and subscribers to the former will begin receiving the latter, according to Knuth Beth, editor and publisher of the *Wochen-Post*. The *Abendpost* had earlier absorbed the *Milwaukee Deutsche Zeitung* and contained news from Milwaukee, as well as Chicago. The *Wochen-Post* has been in existence for 137 years; it was founded in 1854 by Karl Marxhausen (editor of the first anthology of German-American literature).

According to a report which appeared in the *Eintract*, many older German-Americans, who immigrated to Chicago after the World Wars, recall that they made their first contacts through the *Abendpost*. They were not fluent in English and the *Abendpost*, which was printed in German, had the most want-ads in their language. In those days, in the early morning hours, German immigrants looking for work, stood in line on Washington Street, waiting for the edition to come out.

Karl Arndt records that the *Abendpost* circulation in 1900 was over 37,000 and in 1920 over 48,000. By the 1970s circulation was ca. 10,000. The *Wochen-Post* now contains pages devoted to German-American news from Chicago and Milwaukee. Contact: Nordamerikanische Wochen-Post, 1120 E. Long Lake Rd., Troy, Michigan 48098.

Frances Ott Allen

**Query on  
German-Americans in Science**

Andreas Daum, assistant at the University of Munich, plans a visit to the U.S. this autumn to do historical research in the field of 19th century German-American science history. He is interested in the mutual perception and reception of natural science, especially in its "popularized" version (as A. Brehm or E. Heeckel practiced in Germany). One aspect will be the public esteem of Alexander von Humboldt in the U.S., but some traces of German immigrants who acted as naturalists or natural scientists will also be investigated. Andreas Daum would be grateful for any further information on this topic. Contact Daum at: Institut für Neuere Geschichte, Universität München, Herzogstr. 60/II, 8000 München 40, Germany.



**Max Kade Foundation Gives  
\$350,000 For German-  
American Research Institute**

The Max Kade Foundation has given \$350,000 to establish a German-American research institute in Penn State's College of the Liberal Arts. The institute will be affiliated with the Department of Germanic Languages and Literature and will help expand opportunities for research and teaching.

"Penn State is an appropriate setting for this institute because Pennsylvania has a rich heritage of German settlement and the largest population of German-Americans in the United States," said Susan Welch, Dean of the college. "In addition, the University already has unique resources that will complement the work of the institute." As two examples, she pointed to the University Libraries' Allison-Shelly collection on Anglo-German literary and cultural relations — the nation's largest — and to faculty who have international reputations as specialists in such areas as German history and German philosophy.

"The institute will provide a focal point for current scholarship in German literature and language, culture, history, politics and related fields, and will allow us to launch initiatives that should bring national recognition to our program," noted Frank Gentry, head of the Department of German. Gentry said activities the institute could undertake might include: 1) supporting distinguished visiting scholars who would do collaborative work with Penn State faculty and students; 2) providing assistance to graduate students in German-American literature or culture; 3) sponsoring lectures and symposia; 4) providing a meeting place and library resource base for faculty, students and visitors interested in German-American research; and 4) awarding grants-in-aid to stimulate research.

The Max Kade German-American Institute to be located in Burrowes Building at the University Park Campus honors the New York-based Max Kade Foundation which makes grants primarily to institutions of higher education. It was established in 1944 by Max Kade, a Ger-



man who emigrated to the United States in 1905 and built a successful pharmaceutical company. Kade had a special interest in promoting better cultural relations between the United States and Europe. The gift will create an endowment to provide a permanent source of income for the institute. Contact: Frank Gentry, Department of German, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802.

**PASTORIUS KOLLEG  
(Pastorius College) A Multi-Use  
Facility In Germany Offered  
for use to German-Americans**

Housed in the Pastorius Home and named for Franz Daniel Pastorius, outstanding immigrant leader and first German scholar in America (1683), the college offers overseas study programs that are unique in scope, intensity and financial accessibility. U.S. high school teachers and college professors can arrange and conduct their own programs at Pastorius Kolleg. Likewise, adults can participate in organized educational and cultural activities or run their own programs. U.S. German clubs are invited to use the facilities when planning activities in Germany. U.S. companies with ties or interests in German-speaking countries may also conduct corporate meetings and language or professional training programs at Pastorius Kolleg. Contact: Pastorius Home Association, Inc., Box 66, Germansville, PA 18053.

**Postscript to 1991 SGAS  
Award Recipient**

Günter Moltmann, Professor of History at the University of Hamburg, Germany, and recipient of the 1991 SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award, celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday on December 18, 1991. In his honor an international symposium was held in Hamburg, January 3-5, 1992, "Transatlantic Communication: Cultural and Economic Aspects of Migration from the late 18th to the Early 20th Century." Papers were presented by Roger Daniels (keynote address), Anthony G. Roeber, Kathleen Neils Conzen, Walter T. K. Nugent, Marianne Woceck, Dudley Baines, Pieter R. D. Stokvis, Rainer Mühle, and Ulrike Skorsetz. Hans-Jürgen Grabbe deserves special credit for organizing the meeting. A publication of the contributions is forthcoming.

Moltmann continues his work in the field of German-American Studies and pursues various projects: a survey of American-German relations from the 18th to the 20th centuries, a political biography of U.S. special agent to Europe, Ambrose Dudley Mann, American-German return migration, and immigrant songs as

1992 MEETING

NEW BRAUNFELS

SEPT. 11-13

sources for immigration history. In recent years his interest has also focused on Texas-Germans and the *Mainzer Adelsverein*, the "league of nobles," founded in 1842 to promote immigration and develop a German colony in Texas.

In 1987, and again in 1989, he visited the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, and browsed through the old files of the *Adelsverein* which, after two decades of disappearance, have been purchased by that institution and are now included in its Collection of Western Americana. In the spring of 1990 he was scholar-in-residence at Baylor University's Regional Studies Program, directed by Professor Glen E. Lich, and participated in a planning conference for the sesquicentennial anniversary of the *Adelsverein*, 1842-1992, "Dimensions of Discovery." Under the guidance of Lich (now Secretary of State Professor for multicultural and German-Canadian Studies at Winipeg) he toured Texas Hill Country and studied the heritage of German immigration to that region. In cooperation with Lich and Professor Theodore Gish, University of Houston, he has been searching for hitherto unknown documents throwing new light on the *Adelsverein* and its activities.

In the private archives of one of Germany's old noble families in the Westwald he discovered the original diary of Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels containing detailed day-to-day notes about his "Reise nach Amerika 1844." The prince, commissioner-general of the *Adelsverein*, was sent to Texas where he founded New Braunfels to prepare for the arrival of thousands of immigrants. Tragic fate befell many Germans who either could not be accommodated, fell sick, starved or died at the coast after their arrival occurred after the prince's departure and return to Germany. He was a romantic adventurer who had hoped Texas would remain independent and dreamed of a strong force of German settlers to contain the south-western expansion of the United States.

Moltmann is transcribing the diary, scribbled in old German handwriting, as an interesting source for the history of German-American migration and of the American West. The publication of an edition of the text is under consideration.

The editor



SAN ANGELO STANDARD-TIMES—Monday, November 18, 1991—

# German noble made lasting pact with Comanches

**SAN SABA** — There are many un-  
sung heroes of Texas, and a former  
German nobleman who  
helped settle the  
Texas Hill Coun-  
try and paved  
the way for West  
Texas develop-  
ment perhaps  
leads the list.



Ottered Hans,  
Freiherr von  
Meusebach  
chose a life of  
hardship and freedom over a life of  
comfort and influence in his native  
Germany. His prominence in Texas  
grew from a little-known event that  
happened just west of here when the  
former liberalistic European, now  
simply a Texas citizen, smoked the  
peace pipe with Comanche Chief  
Mopeluchope (Old Owl), Santana,  
Buffalo Hump and others.

John O. Meusebach was saddled  
with the responsibility of guiding  
the development of German col-  
onization in the Texas Hill Country  
in the early 1840s as commissioner-  
general for the Society for the Pro-  
tection of German Immigrants.

Although given an almost im-  
possible task and few tools and  
money to work with, he succeeded  
in bringing peace between the Ger-  
man settlers and warring bands of  
Indians, allowing the settlement of  
a massive amount of land between  
the San Saba and Colorado rivers.  
He also personally supervised the  
laying out of the town of  
Fredericksburg.

Meusebach, who lived out his lat-



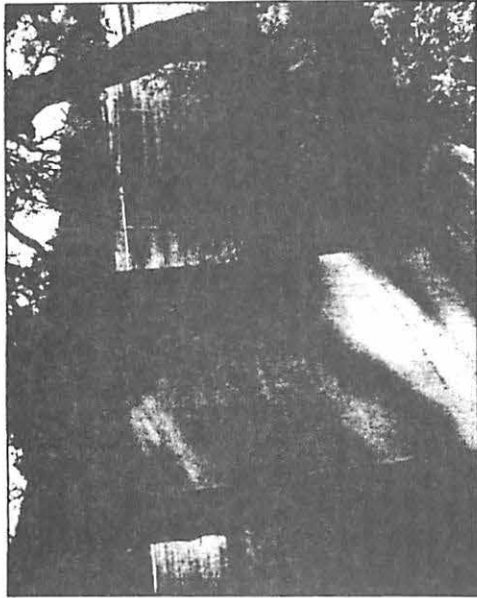
Out  
Yonder  
by Ross  
McSwain

ter years as a storekeeper and  
farmer in the Loyal Valley area  
halfway between Mason and  
Fredericksburg, is truly the father  
of Western Texas development. His  
parley with 20 Indian chiefs in 1847  
at the site near here resulted in br-  
ing Indian depredations under  
control.

Few people today recognize the  
importance of the treaty that was  
negotiated by Meusebach with the  
various chiefs. It was never broken.

Nestled beneath some oak trees  
near the Sloan community in west  
San Saba County alongside Farm-  
to-Market Road 2732 is a plain  
granite marker that com-  
memorates the treaty that was  
agreed upon on March 1-2, 1847. This  
treaty allowed some 5,000 people to  
begin moving onto the land that was  
made available to the German im-  
migrants through the Fisher-Miller  
Grant. This land, totaling some 4  
million acres in Central and West  
Texas, was totally in the hands of  
the Comanches.

Meusebach also was faced with a  
settlement deadline. Within two  
years of his arrival at Indianola, the  
society was to have 6,000 families  
settled on the grant. If this could  
have been done, the society not only



S-T Photo by Ross McSwain

This granite marker, erected by the state of Texas in 1936, marks the  
site of a meeting between a delegation of German colonists and Com-  
anche Indian chiefs in San Saba County which opened up several  
million acres of land to settlement. The marker is near the Sloan com-  
munity on Farm-to-Market Road 2732.

G.T.

would have helped each settler get a  
sizable farm but would have some 2  
million acres itself to dispose of as it  
pleased.

Prince Carl Solms-Braunfels  
came to Texas in 1844, and in  
December of that year had more  
than 400 immigrants with no place  
to put them. The prince bought land  
for a settlement in what is now Com-  
al County, and established New

Braunfels. That community and  
later Fredericksburg, established  
by Meusebach, were meant to give  
the immigrants a place to live and  
raise some crops until the society,  
or Verein as it was called, could get  
them moved to the Fisher-Miller  
Grant, all north of the Llano River  
and west of the Colorado.

When Meusebach arrived in  
Texas, he found the prince trying to  
40-man detachment encamped on

leave. However, the prince was de-  
tained because the Verein owned con-  
siderable amounts of money for its  
land purchases. Meusebach had to  
pay off some of the debt.

Despite continued Verein finan-  
cial problems, Meusebach did not  
give up and return to Germany like  
some of his predecessors. He and a  
small detachment of men ventured  
into the grant territory to look it  
over and find places where the  
many immigrants arriving daily  
could be placed.

Meusebach started his journey in  
January. He and his men  
meandered along the Llano River  
and finally met a band of Coman-  
ches on Feb. 5, 1847, near their camp  
on the San Saba River near the  
present-day McCulloch County-  
Mason County line. Two days later,  
Meusebach and his men along with  
his Comanche guides went into a  
huge Indian camp where they set up  
camp and made friends with the  
Comanches.

In a report by men of the  
Meusebach expedition published  
later in a German publication, the  
Indians were described as being col-  
orfully dressed with red or blue  
cloths draped about their shoulders  
with their necks and ears decorated  
with pearls and shells.

"The long hair of the men is braid-  
ed into long plaits which, when in-  
terlaced with buffalo hair, reaches  
from head to foot. Most carried  
bows and arrows, but some had the  
long-barreled American rifle," the  
report noted.

Meusebach left most of his

the San Saba with the host Indians  
and took his remaining group with  
Indian guides to inspect the grant  
territory to the west. They reached  
the old Spanish presidio on the San  
Saba River near present-day  
Menard.

The great council of the chiefs  
started on March 1 and continued  
for two full days, according to the  
reports made to the German soci-  
ety. After a big feast, the Germans  
started their return to  
Fredericksburg by present-day  
Llano and Enchanted Rock.

Meusebach's treaty was made  
with powerful Comanche chief-  
tains, including the War Chief San-  
tana, Buffalo Hump, Mopeluchope  
and Ketemocy.

Ketemocy, chief of the Coman-  
ches living in the immediate area,  
was the first Comanche that  
Meusebach encountered. The com-  
munity of Kalemey in Mason Coun-  
ty is named for him.

Through the treaty, Meusebach  
was able to get the communities of  
Castell and Bettina started on the  
Llano River within the grant  
territory.

Unfortunately, the society was  
doomed to failure as debts soared.  
Meusebach resigned as  
commissioner-general before the  
organization went bankrupt, but he  
continued to serve as a leader of the  
German immigrants. He ultimately  
served as a state senator before  
returning to his Loyal Valley home  
where he was postmaster and  
justice of the peace. He died on his  
farm there in 1897 and was buried  
near Cherry Springs.

P.H.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, Meyersville, Dewitt County, Texas was  
organized in 1850 and was the only Lutheran Church in the area  
(except Trinity in Victoria) until St. Paul's Lutheran in  
Yorktown was organized in the middle 1870's. The church has just  
completed a project to have their valuable congregational records  
placed on microfiche. They have microfilmed the original German  
and also the English translations that were completed a few  
years ago. They have a microfiche reader at the church office  
and the records are available for scanning. Church office hours  
are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 am to  
12:30 pm. Phone Number...512 275 8653. Shirley WENDEL is the  
church secretary.

Ganz klar HS

Es war im Manöver. Leutnant von Itzenblitz  
nannte das Kinderkreuzung. Ein Infanterist  
schleppt sich humpelnd zur Sanitätsstelle.  
„Was fehlt Ihnen?“ fragt der Sanl-Unteroffizier.  
„Ich bin vom Boden gefallen.“  
„Von was für einem Boden?“  
„Vom Heuboden!“  
„Hoch?“  
„Ne, — runter!“



The Schulenburg Historical Museum Presents ...

RK

# Legacies And Legends

Six names were inscribed on the cornerstones of Schulenburg's first Fire Station, Jail and Meeting Hall. This cornerstone is now located in front of the present City Hall. Information on the six city officials named on this cornerstone is being presented in this column.

## CHARLES SENNELMANN

Charles Sengelmann was born Feb. 19, 1856 in Sprengel, Holstein, Germany to Hans and Wilhelmina Sengelmann.

He and August, his brother, came to Texas in 1871 at ages 16 and 17 respectively, landing at Galveston. They first located at the village of Welcome, Austin County, where they worked on a farm. They then moved to Columbus where they worked in their uncle Henry Ise's saloon called "Dicks Hall."

They moved to Schulenburg in 1877 and on Dec. 7, 1877 purchased the business house of Hermann Liebler who had been operating a tobacco and musical instrument business and the Henry Berghahn General Store; the buildings were side by side.

Liebler had been accused of killing Henry G. Metzger on Nov. 5, 1877, however, he was found not guilty because of lack of evidence. It is believed he sold out because of the notoriety.

The Sengelmanns remodeled the two stores and opened their business as the "Two Brothers Saloon." Charles Sengelmann married Elizabeth Armin Feb. 24, 1879 by Judge A.D. Paulus, probably at the home of her father, Alexander Armin. His home was located on the north side of Anderson Street about the middle of the block between Lyons and Upton.

Their children were: Henry A., 1880-1926; Wally, 1881-1963, who married Charles F. Baumgarten; Alex; Mollie, 1886-1927, who married C.A. Pennington Sr.; Charles F. "Kollie," 1889-1942, saloon keeper; Marnie, who married Hugo Homer; Lillie who married

Rudolph Seeburger; Hester, "Mike," who operated Mike's Cleaners on Upton Avenue; August, Apr. 24, 1891-1910; May, 1892; and Klondike, 1898-1950, who was assistant cashier at the Russek State Bank.

Their home was on the northwest corner of Upton and Paulus. In 1885, their brother, Gustav, came to Schulenburg, worked two years to earn the money and then bought August's interest in the saloon. August returned to Germany and went into the saloon business at Garden-by-Kiel.

The "Two Brothers" Saloon was then owned and operated by Charles and Gustav Sengelmann for over 50 years. People from far and wide dropped into the saloon for refreshments, a game of dominoes, a table of billiards, or just to read the daily papers. The Sengelmanns were the first to provide out-of-town newspapers for their customers.

In the early 1880s there were a few rowdies in the town and Jim Jamison, town marshal, had to arrest quite a number of them and stab a few to maintain law and order. It is said Jamison stabbed one outlaw on the back stairs of the saloon and there are a few bullet nicks inside the establishment.

In 1881 August and Charles Sengelmann bought a piece of property (just west of International Muffler Company) from Joe Russek, planted a row of stately cedars along the south edge fronting the street and called it Cedar Park. Only one of the cedars is still standing. There was an open-air dance platform in the park lighted by kerosene torches and a Schuetzen (Shooting) Club where members shot at targets 100 yards away.

At the advent of the Model-T, after World War I, tourists used the park for overnight camping at 25 cents per car. There was a short-order cafe at the right, rear corner of the "Two Brothers" Saloon operated by John and Louise David, by Fritz

Names were inscribed on the cornerstone of Schulenburg's first Fire Station, Jail and Meeting Hall. This cornerstone is now located in front of the present City Hall. Information on the six city officials named on this cornerstone is being presented in this column.

## FREDERICH EBELING

Fredrich "Fred" Ebeling was born in 1855 at High Hill to Heinrich and Anna (Seydler) Ebeling. Heinrich "Henry" was born Feb. 3, 1827 in Grabow, Mecklenburg and Saxony, Germany. Their children in 1870 were: Frederich, Ferdinand, Marie, Henry Jr., Gustav and Otto. Heinrich died Oct. 13, 1883 and Anna died March 21, 1916; both are buried in the Schulenburg City Cemetery.

Heinrich's General Store was located on the east side of the road just north of St. Mary's Church and was the first post office building established June 20, 1860 with Heinrich as the first post master of High Hill. The store burned in April 1894.

In 1880 the cooper was Godfrey Winzenriedt who cleaned, repaired and loaded empty kegs for shipment to New Orleans for refills. One of the train engineers who spotted the box car on the siding to receive the

house was located on the north side of Summit Street, the second house east of Wolters Avenue.

Max Walla was the last to live in the house prior to its demolition in early 1990.

The Anheuser Busch Beer Company of New Orleans established a beer and ice house in Schulenburg along the railroad right-of-way on the southwest corner of North Main and Upton about the mid 1870s. The company hauled in a full railroad boxcar of keg beer and ice; stored it in the ice house and it was retailed to saloons in the town; first retail agent is unknown. The ice cold beer was favored over the warm, "heatsache" beer from the Kreische Brewery on the Bluff and from Richter's Brewery at High Hill which led to the demise of the two establishments.

In 1880 the cooper was Godfrey Winzenriedt who cleaned, repaired and loaded empty kegs for shipment to New Orleans for refills. One of the train engineers who spotted the box car on the siding to receive the

the wires so the top was torn off. It will be moved to one of C&G Sengelmann's lots south of the railroad tracks (on the west side of Upton Avenue and just north of Schulenburg Creek). There it will be arranged into rooms and made into a treat house.

W.D. Cowan, manager of the Schulenburg Central Light & Power Company was the first to live there.

After Heinrich died in 1883, the grocery business on Main Street was operated by Fred and other members of the family for a period of time.

The first issue of The Schulenburg Sticker published Aug. 16, 1894 chronicled the death of Mrs. Marie Pundt, Fred's mother-in-law. She was born Dec. 9, 1832 in Berlin, Germany and died Aug. 9, 1894; she is buried in the Schulenburg City Cemetery.

Anna Ebeling, Heinrich's widow, and the family sold the original Ebeling Store on Main Street to C&G Sengelmann for \$2,000.

PH

NAZI BOOKS STUDIED TO ASSIST FAMILIES.....VICTORIA ADVOCATE, FEB. 10, 1992.....Archivists are poring over Nazi death camp records in a new American Red Cross effort to catalog thousands of names and help families of Holocaust victims learn the fate of their loved ones.

The original records-including transport lists, death books and lists of victims of medical experiments-have been accessible to the public through the National Archives for 20 years. But because they are difficult to wade through, they have been of value mostly to historians and scholars.

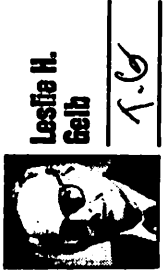
These documents "will now be used for a truly humanitarian purpose," Elizabeth DOLE, president of the American Red Cross, said Tuesday.

"Yellow with age, these documents will bring light to the final days of hundreds of thousands who suffered," she said. "they provide vital information on at least 300,00 individuals, and possibly as many as half a million, who disappeared at the hands of the Nazis."

On Tuesday, Mrs. DOLE presented microfilm of the first 7,000 names to the International Committee of the Red Cross to be cross-referenced and integrated into the files of its International Tracing Service in Arolsen, Germany.

# Germany facing decade of unattained ambitions

**“ Bonn already gives far more than others, on top of the \$100 billion it transfers yearly to eastern Germany. These sums are already generating financial strains in Germany that will test its internal political stability. ”**



Leslie H. Gelb

**BONN, Germany** — One can imagine Germany's future as a power of the first rank, but it is not now. Germany is trying to fill a huge power vacuum left by a collapsed Soviet Union and a declining America — and it does not have the means.

After western Germans drag their eastern cousins to near equality, Germany will begin to reach its full potential. But that is 10 or more years away — except in Eastern Europe.

For now, Germany's friends and allies, old and new, ask too much of this newly united country. And Germans ask too much of themselves.

### Too great a load

This is more than the United States or Japan, two bigger countries with much bigger economies, could do. And it is certainly more than Germany, with its huge reunification costs and its fragmented politics, can undertake.

To be the father and the bride at every wedding, to pay and to star, puts too great a load on German society — although worriers should be calmed to see how well upstart Germans deal with the recent labor strike that left garbage on their virginal streets.

Germany is and will be the pre-eminent power in Europe. It has and will have enormous responsibilities. But the West should take some pressure off Bonn, and Germans need to relax a little themselves.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in his last weeks as the German foreign minister, disgresses. "We have to lead — in partnership with our allies" — he insisted on his characteristic slash in an office he has graced for more than 18 years.

That is longer than anyone has commanded the foreign policy of modern Germany, save for Otto Bismarck, the 19th century master diplomat whose portrait faces Genscher's desk.

"Germany cannot solve its inter-

friend and neighbor in Switzerland, Vladimir Nabokov. "I knew his faults: for instance, he was obsessive about punctuality. If you were five minutes late, his face showed it." 10 minutes and a meeting was a disaster.

"Perhaps you will then understand my own embarrassment as go-between in a meeting that never took place, between Nabokov and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. That was in 1975, when Solzhenitsyn was staying in Zurich after his expulsion from the Soviet Union. To my surprise, he told me he would like to meet his fellow exile. So we arranged a private luncheon at the Palace Hotel in Montreux, where the Nabokovs lived."

Ten, fifteen, thirty minutes passed, and the great dissent failed to appear. Finally, the Nabokovs dined alone. A letter of explanation then followed, from Mrs. Solzhenitsyn. Her husband, she said, had come punctually to the hotel, but could not bring himself to pass the formidable doorman. Besides, she added sternly, Sasha felt that Vladimir would have been a better writer had he remained in his homeland.

Stung, baffled, Nabokov turned to his German publisher and shrugged: "Alas, he's just another barefoot priest." As Mr. Ledig-Rowohlt told the story, punctuated with flourishes of his Cuban cigar, it seemed all the more a pity that he was never deemed important enough for an interview on American television. It is too late now. He died in New Delhi, while attending his last book fair.

KARL E. MEYER

## Editorial Notebook

### America's German Voice

**A Belated Handspring For an Unsung Bookman**

A notable example was the legendary German publisher Heinrich Maria Ledig-Rowohlt, who died this month at age 83. Though he prospered as a bookseller, his delight was to render into German the distinctive prose of foreign authors, especially Americans. "It's like making a good salad," he would say. "You need pepper, salt and spice to bring out the flavor. Henry Miller, Jimmy Baldwin, John Updike are not so difficult; the real challenge is a novel like Vladimir Nabokov's 'Invitation'..."

Thanks to Mr. Ledig-Rowohlt, and the firm that his father founded, German-speakers were introduced to all of the above, plus Ernest Hemingway and Thomas Wolfe, Sinclair Lewis and William Faulkner, Tom Morrison and Thomas Pynchon, Philip Roth and Harper Lee. Yet publishing reputations travel poorly; few Americans ever heard of this literary impresario who built an audience for their best writers.

By good chance, I met Mr. Ledig-Rowohlt last October at the Frankfurt Book Fair, which he helped found when that city was still rubble. Ruddyly handsome, courtly in manner, he had only recently abandoned his ice-breaking trademark: unexpectedly turning a handspring. He recounted the story of his rise to succeed his father, Ernst Rowohlt. And he spoke vividly and warmly of his

### Germans in North America 75 Years Earlier Than Previously Thought

German Americans have traditionally celebrated October 6 as the day in 1683 on which Germantown, Pennsylvania was founded and German settlement in the North American colonies began. According to researcher and bibliographer of German Americana Don Heinrich Tolzmann, however, there is evidence that German immigrants were among the residents of the British colony of Jamestown, Virginia as early as 1608.

Tolzmann, who works at the University of Cincinnati, Ohio, spent years studying old German-language newspapers, and concluded that eighteen members of the Jamestown colony were German. The men, some of whom were Thomas Cassen, William Urger, Peter Keffer, and Nathaniel Graues, worked as glass blowers, wine merchants, and tobacco farmers.

The researcher also found that Germans were among the settlers in the Massachusetts colonies after 1630 and in Maryland after 1660. They played a particularly important role in New York, then called New Amsterdam. Both the first governor of the colony, Peter Minuit, who bought the island of Manhattan from the Indians for 60 Dutch guilders, and his successor, Jacob Leisler, who has been credited by historians as the first politician to demand unity among the colonies and a severance of ties to London, were German. Tolzmann noted as well that the history of the Germans and the Dutch in North America has often been confused because of the similarity of "Deutsch" and "Dutch."

Southern Express News

13 May 1992

## NINETEENTH-CENTURY BUILDINGS OF GERMAN HERITAGE

by Anne-Kathleen Kreger and Polly Jespersen  
MacArthur High School, San Antonio, Texas

First Place, Texas State German Contest  
Austin, Texas, Spring 1991

"Guten Morgen, wie geht's?" is not nearly [so] common a greeting in San Antonio, Texas as "Buenos dias, ¿como esta usted?" but this river city has a more colorful historical conglomeration of cultures than is apparent at first glance. During the [middle and late] nineteenth century there was a significant population of German settlers. Though [currently] not as dominant as the Spanish culture, there has been a strong German influence in the city. Architectural examples of the German culture are the Staacke Building, Harnisch and Baer [Confectionery Building], Dullnig Building, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Menger Hotel, and the German-English School, all of which were constructed during the nineteenth century and continue to serve San Antonio today.

In 1841, a prominent German family commissioned the preeminent architect, James Riely Gordon, to design a building to house their thriving carriage business. August, Rudolph, and Herman Staacke erected the building at 309 East Commerce Street.<sup>1</sup> They operated the largest carriage dealership in the city from this location. Their early inventory included Springwagons, rockaways, buckeye mowers, reapers, and wagon hardware. This successful German business is credited with introducing the first automobile into the city in 1905, as well as selling the first automobile in San Antonio, according to the son of Corrine Staacke. The Staacke family continued to operate their prosperous business until 1920.<sup>2</sup> The Staacke Restaurant [now closed] commemorates the German heritage in the building today.

Another German entrepreneur built the Harnisch and Baer Confectionery nearby, at 415 East Commerce Street, in 1877. Mr. Harnisch introduced the pound cake to America upon immigrating from Germany in 1860. In the next block [from the Staacke Building] is the Harnisch and Baer Confectionery building. Although another man [G. A. Duerler, Sr.] is credited with the introduction of the ice cream soda in the 1870s, many early San Antonians remember enjoying them in [Harnisch's] first confectionery which was located on Alamo Plaza during the 1860s. "In 1868 Harnisch and Baer put the first ice cream soda--their own invention--on the menu of their ice cream parlour. It was called the 'Dolly Varden,' after a famous opera star of those days," claimed Bretano Harnisch.<sup>3</sup> The interior of the shop was lined with open skylights, long polished stone tables and potbellied stoves for winter warmth. Some of the specialties included imported pastries, homespun candies, glazed fruit, almond paste, and peppermint drops.<sup>4</sup> It closed in 1918 but [the building] is now home to the Original Mexican Food Restaurant [not to be confused with the original Original Mexican Restaurant, formerly located at 115-121 Losoya Street].

Near Harnisch and Baer, at the corner of Alamo, Commerce, and Losoya [streets], stands the Dullnig Building. This large building, now separated into many different businesses, used to house a large grocery business, which was owned by a prosperous German businessman, George Dullnig. The building was erected in 1886. Aside from being one of the handsomest buildings in the city, it was a commercial beehive.<sup>5</sup> The Dullnigs sold their products at bargain prices: butter at 25 cents per pound, potatoes at 15 cents per peck, and flour at 40-50 cents per 24 ounces. San Antonio's first elevator to be operated by hydraulic pressure was installed in this building.<sup>6</sup> The grocery business ended with the death of George Dullnig, although he is still remembered because his name is printed on one of the windows of the building.

To the east of the Dullnig Building is St. Joseph's [German] Catholic Church, or "St. Joske's" as it came to be called because it was eventually surrounded on three sides by a large department store named Joske's. The store changed ownership and is now Dillard's. The church was [originally designed by G. Friesleben, later Theodore Giraud became church architect] and the cornerstone was laid on November 5, 1868, bearing this inscription: "Siehe die Wohnug Gottes bei den Menschen / den 5 Nov 1868" ("See God's house, built by the people") [or, "Behold the dwelling of God among men"].



German Heritage Buildings, continued

The purpose of the church was to fill the German Catholics' need for a place to worship in their own language so they would no longer have to worship with the [English-speaking congregation at St. Mary's Church]. [In 1898, the spire, designed by architect James Wahrenberger, was added.] Around 1902, stained glass windows were brought from Germany and installed.<sup>7</sup> [The church has undergone several restoration efforts, notably in 1981 and 1991.] Today it still serves as a center of worship. [The church is located at 623 East Commerce Street.]

Located near Rivercenter [Mall] at 204 Alamo Plaza is the elegant Menger Hotel. In 1855, William A. Menger operated an authentic German brewery and later he and his wife opened a boarding home. Soon business was booming and they announced their plan to build a large hotel. J. H. Kampmann completed this hotel in 1859 for a total cost of \$16,000.<sup>8</sup> [John Fries was the architect for the original building.] It was [classic Greek-revival] style with fifty rooms and a stable for the guests' horses. In March of 1879, gas lights were installed.<sup>9</sup> The hotel was much too expensive for the average traveler. Many famous people stayed there, including [Theodore] Roosevelt, Captain Richard King of the King Ranch family, Oscar Wilde, O. Henry, Frances Parkinson Keyes, Sidney Lanier, Jenny Lind, Sarah Bernhardt, and Gen. U. S. Grant. [The popularity of the hotel is evidenced by several enlargements, including the 1909 addition designed by noted architect Alfred Giles that included the three-story Victorian lobby.] The hotel's business experienced a decline in the mid-Depression, but was reconditioned in the 1940s and is currently a center of San Antonio's social affairs. [The Menger Hotel is on the National Register of Historic Places and is recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.]

A few blocks south on Alamo Street is the [former] German-English School. In the 1800s, it was considered an outstanding cultural institution in Texas and drew enrollment from throughout the state. It was organized in March 1858 with two basic principles. Religious instruction was prohibited, and German and English language instruction enjoyed equal emphasis. The curriculum included Spanish, geography, writing, poetry, history, algebra, mathematics, sewing and singing. [In] 1860 the classes moved to the Alamo Street headquarters. With the development of public schools, the German-English School closed in 1897. The building served as [an elementary and a junior high school, the first location of San Antonio College, HemisFair headquarters [city planning offices], and is now [a conference center for the hotel Plaza San Antonio].

These are but a few of the more prominent examples of the influence of the German heritage on the architectural base in a historic city more often associated with the Hispanic culture. [The students included copies of vintage photographs to contrast with their own colored snapshots of the current appearance of each building.]

## Notes

<sup>1</sup>Chris Carson and William McDonald, editors, A Guide to San Antonio Architecture (San Antonio: San Antonio Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 1986), p. 26.

<sup>2</sup>"Staake Building," vertical file, Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library, San Antonio, Texas.

<sup>3</sup>"Ice Cream Sodas," San Antonio Express and News, 15 February 1971.

<sup>4</sup>Rolla Williams, "Ever Drink a Dolly Varden?"

<sup>5</sup>Telephone interview with Mrs. George Dullnig, 14 January 1991.

<sup>6</sup>Mrs. John A. Albert, "From Sodas to Easter Eggs, Dullnig Block Had Bargains," San Antonio Express and News, 5 December 1965, p. 8C.

<sup>7</sup>"St. Joseph's 100th Anniversary," San Antonio Light, 17 September 1967, n.p.

<sup>8</sup>Linda Johnson and Sally Ross, Historic Texas Hotels and Country Inns (Austin: Eakin Press, 1982), pp. 79-81.

<sup>9</sup>Walter Prescott Webb, The Handbook of Texas (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1952), s.v. "Menger Hotel," by Eleanor Stuck.

<sup>10</sup>German Exhibit, University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio.

Typed [and annotated] by Theresa Gold

NOTE: A Guide to San Antonio Architecture is still available. It is a 136-page book with photographs and descriptions of 239 buildings, both historic and contemporary. Send \$9.00 to: San Antonio Chapter AIA, 1149 E. Commerce St., Suite 200, San Antonio TX 78205. Price includes tax and postage.



# German Writer Told Tales Of Llano Estacado

150.  
Geburtstag  
25. 2. 1992

BY MEREDITH MCCLAIN  
UNBELIEVABLE AS it may seem to residents of the Texas Staked Plains, thousands of Germans will honor the 150th birthday of a writer who made his enormously successful career by describing their very own Llano Estacado.

Karl May (pronounced My), who wrote, among other best sellers, a novel titled "Der Geist des Llano Estacado (The Spirit of the Llano Estacado)," never got to the wild west of America, although he did spend some time at Niagara Falls several years before his death in 1912. But May had the ability to create from available stories to him and out of his fantasy the noblest native of the High Plains, the Apache chief, Winnetou.

In the early to mid-1960s German filmmakers set about presenting Winnetou and his German blood brother, Old Shatterhand, in what was then hailed as a break in to the American domain of bang-up perfect Westerns. The perfect setting was Yugoslavia and the perfect actors for the job turned out to be a Frenchman, Pierre Brice, as Winnetou and an American, Lex Barker, already known to German audiences as Tarzan, playing Old Shatterhand.

This pair became so well-known and so popular in their roles that as

## Winnetou, Noble Apache Chief, Is German Hero

late as the mid-1980s one joke going around East Germany was that Chairman Erich Honecker had been caught looking at western T.V., but he was forgiven since it was a Karl May show with Lex Barker and Pierre Brice.

Pierre Brice continued to play Winnetou for 30 years and in the summer of 1990, when it was announced at the open-air Karl May Theater in Bad Segeberg that Brice was stepping down, public disappointment was enormous. The front page of the New York Times carried an article on the situation labeled "Oh No! Noble Apache Bites the German Dust."

THERE ARE many strange turns along this German Western trail which can lead one outside Köln (Cologne), then away from the Rhine, over some bumps to a Western club village named Lubbock!

On Feb. 25, 1842, Karl May was born into the poverty of a weaver's household in the Eastern German state of Saxony. After a sickly childhood and difficult youth, May followed his father's wishes and aspired to become a teacher. However, accusations of theft put an end to that career direction and landed him in jail for a period of 7 years.



Winnetou, the noble Apache chief of Mr. May's novels, is shown on a German commemorative stamp. At right are shown French actor Pierre



Brice as he has portrayed Winnetou for 30 years, and American actor Lex Barker as Winnetou's sidekick and friend, Old Shatterhands.

The next attempt at a career was in journalism and May worked with several newspapers and published some rather shoddy stories. The radical change in fate occurred for May when he began writing travel fiction and, in 1882, he published "Durch die Wüste" (Through the Desert) in which he introduced the character Kara Ben Nemsi and his faithful campaign Hadshi Halef Omar.

In the next year, 1883, the publication of "Winnetou I," offered May's readers a move from the East to the far and wild West of North America. Employing first person narrative, May's new hero, Old Shatterhand, a German turned frontiersman, tells how he became famous in the West and how he won the friendship of the noble Apache chief, Winnetou.

Further intrigues in "Winnetou II" and "Winnetou III," appearing the same year, reveal the loyalty of the blood brothers, Winnetou and Old Shatterhand, and give the details of the life and tragic death of the young Apache. The story lines of Winnetou set forth in three volumes has been called "an unforgettable monument to the tragic fate of all Indians."

The popularity of these first nine books among German readers was instant and lasting. Karl May was firmly launched on a writing career which would bring him unbelievable fame and fortune. By his death in

1912 he had written stories which now fill 74 volumes.

Today, 80 years after his death, Karl May still holds the position of number-one best-selling German author of travel literature. In 1987 it was estimated that over 80 million copies of his works had been sold in 30 different languages. Such numbers confirm that May's works ran among the "top ten on the all-time best-seller list of world fiction."

MAY'S CENTRAL place in German cultural history has been recently summed up by Arno Schmidt, a well-known May scholar.

He said, "If one were to take the trouble to open a normal German brain, then one would find among other amazing educational bits and pieces like Goethe, Snowwhite, the Romans, and Old Fritz - one would unquestioningly find Hadshi Halef Omar and Old Shatterhand and Co."

One aspect of his writings which points to May's popularity among readers was his identification with his main characters, Kara Ben Nemsi and Old Shatterhand. Not only did May use the first person in his writing, but he often dressed like these two characters and even had professional photographs made for his fans which he signed: "Karl May called Old Shatterhand!"



## Karl May

In 1896 May moved into a large villa in Radebeul, a fashionable suburb of Dresden where he was visited by throngs of admiring readers. He named his house "Villa Shatterhand" and the interior was decorated to enhance May's sense of identity with his created heroes.

A second element essential to May's popular writing style is his ability to describe his fictitious characters and settings in convincing and

80.  
Todestag  
30. 3. 1992



# Perspective

On Opinions, Analysis

Sunday, February 23, 1992

Page 5, Section A

fascinating detail. It has always surprised me that Germans often seemed to know more about the Llano Estacado than most Texans do.

Only after I learned about May's Winnetou character and discovered the novel by May titled "Der Geist des Llano Estacado" did I begin to understand why the area in which I live is so well known in Germany.

According to statistics from the Karl May press in Bamberg, the Winnetou stories have always been and continue to be the most popular of May's writings.

An interesting footnote here is that in 1987 the German federal postal service issued a stamp commemorating 75 years since May's death and the lone figure on the stamp was Winnetou.

SINCE MAY was never on the Llano Estacado, one wonders where he found material on the area. The answer comes surprisingly from Ireland. According to the research of Dr. Klaus Hoffmann at the Karl May Museum in Radebeul, one Thomas Mayne Reid (1818-1883) left Ireland to try his luck in the New World, arriving in New Orleans in 1839.

From there he went to New Mexico traveling through the Llano Estacado and experiencing all kinds of Wild West adventures for several years. In 1850 Reid went to England and began to write down his experiences, filling the pages with detailed descriptions and writing in the first person. When one checks Reid's book "Scalphunters" which appeared in 1852 in the first German translation in Leipzig (in Saxony), amazing similarities to May's descriptions and characterizations come to light. It turns out that Old Shatterhand's European name was not May but Reid!

Several events occurred after May's death which helped to assure his continuing popularity. May's widow, Klara May (1864-1944) established the Karl May Foundation and in agreement with Euchar Schmid founded in the same year, 1913, the Karl May Printing Press which produced 1,610,000 volumes in 1913 and steadily increased production each year thereafter until the difficulties of WWII set work back.

After 1945, the Schmid heirs made the decision to move the press away from the foundation and to Bamberg in West Germany. The difficult break was accomplished in 1960 just before the Berlin Wall went up.

SINCE THE East German regime viewed Karl May as an undesirable writer of trivial literature, no further publication in Dresden was possible. By moving to Bamberg, the Schmid heirs were able by 1963 to reach the record production total of 25,156,000 volumes and have seen steady increases each year to the present.

Two movements in Germany further promoted Karl May's position of prominence long after his death. First there is the gradual forming of Cowboy and Indian clubs which began in Munich in 1913, the year after May died.

The Cowboy Club Old Munchen was formed specifically to honor the memory of Karl May.

Today the many members of the organization, which is divided between Cowboys and Indians, may exhibit less loyalty to the writer, but the fascination with the American West, which May first encouraged, is

a constant common denominator.

Today I estimate there are at least 200 western clubs in former West Germany alone and perhaps 4,000 active members.

One can find clubhouses, saloons, weekend ranches, ranging from the largest "Western Town" in Berlin to the hidden club near the Rhine named "Lubbock"!

Former Mayor of Lubbock, Morris W. Turner, remembers that in 1973 a group of seven German men visited Lubbock and appeared before the Lubbock City Council to formally give their greeting and to state their intent of founding a western club village named after the Hub City.

Exactly 10 years later I was touring Germany with the student organization I sponsored, the Texas Tech German Dancers. You can imagine my surprise when a German named Willi Kuester stepped out of the audience at one performance, showed us the official document stating that he was an honorary citizen of Lubbock, Texas, and offered to lead us in his U.S. Ford Mustang convertible to visit Lubbock, Germany.

And so it happened that two van loads of Texas Tech students, who had put away their Black Forest costumes and put on their jeans, were

greeted as royalty by pistol-packing cowboys and their Western ladies for an afternoon in the country.

IN THE Lubbock saloon, where we were served "Kaffee und Kuchen," we saw the City of Lubbock flag, money from the bank of Lubbock, and various Red Raider memorabilia. This unexpected outing to "back home" remained one of the highlights of the entire tour.

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1992, hundreds of Germans will travel to the Karl May birth house in the town of Hohenstein-Ernstthal, Saxony, to celebrate his 150th birthday. The German postal service will issue a special commemorative stamp in his honor, a statue will be unveiled at the church where he was baptized, and the city fathers will proclaim Hohenstein-Ernstthal, "The Karl-May-City"! The general celebration has certainly been heightened by the reunification of Germany.

It has also been inadvertently helped by President Bush, who announced that this year, 1992, would be the "Year of the Native Americans." And in German, "Native American" translates as Winnetou ... and Karl May.

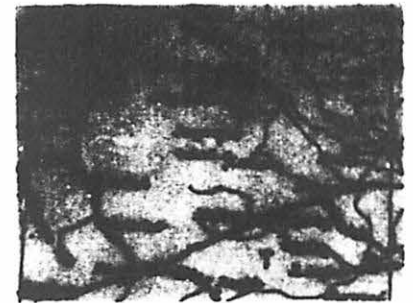
Happy Birthday, Y'all!



HOWDY FROM GERMANY—At left is a book cover of the Dutch version of Karl May's German novel, "The Spirit of the Llano Estacado."

Karl May

Der Geist  
des Llano estacado



Reclam



(EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Meredith McClain is Associate Professor of German at Texas Tech University, where she has taught since 1976. She earned M.A. and Ph.D degrees in German at the University of Texas in Austin. As Director of the Southwest Center for German Studies at Texas Tech, she has delivered numerous research papers documenting the German heritage of the Texas Panhandle Plains and has published in that area. She has represented the Lubbock area on several occasions in Germany.)



## GERMANS VISIT THE LLANO ESTACADO

By Marlene Lucas

Dr. Rolf Dencker, director of the Goethe Institute in Houston, scouted out the Llano Estacado during the annual National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration in Lubbock on May 28-31.

Through the symposium, Dr. Dencker met working cowboys, heard the words of cowboy poets and tasted cowboy grub prepared by chuck wagon cooks. His visit brought him to Casa del Sol, a house built in Blanco Canyon, first settled by a German named Heinrich Schmitt. Casa del Sol is owned by a granddaughter of Schmitt, who had Americanized his name to Hank Smith.

Lubbock Mayor David Langston welcomed Dr. Dencker and Dr. Ulrich Sacker, director of the Goethe Institute in San Francisco, by making them honorary citizens of Lubbock.

Dr. Sacker is coordinating the visit of German Indian clubs to San Francisco and the Llano Estacado for the celebration of National American Indian Heritage Month, November 1992. The Germans also will participate in a symposium in San Francisco on the topic of "The European View of the North American Indian" in October and November.

Dr. Sacker spoke during the cowboy symposium in Lubbock and presented Germany's view of the Llano Estacado Indians and cowboys through a brief showing of a Winnetou movie, based on the character created by Karl May, Germany's premier Western writer. Dr. Sacker is arranging for several Winnetou movies to be dubbed with English so that they may be featured in a film festival in San Francisco and then Lubbock in October.

Dr. Meredith McClain, an associate professor of German at Texas Tech University, has been active in spreading the word about the German-West Texas connection. She has spoken with several groups in Lubbock and showed slides of Lubbock, Germany, a cowboy club. She also has published a half-page article explaining the connection in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal in conjunction with Karl May's birthday in March.

May's birthday was celebrated in grand style by Dr. McClain and Germans in the Lubbock area with the opening and enjoyment of two bottles of Karl May wine, bottled in Germany and presented to Dr. McClain at the 11th Congress of the Karl May Society in September 1991 in Wiesbaden, Germany.



HONORARY CITIZENS OF LUBBOCK -- Dr. Rolf Dencker, center, director of the Goethe Institute in Houston, and Dr. Ulrich Sacker, right, director of the Goethe Institute in San Francisco, and his wife, Christine, recently visited Lubbock in the heart of the Llano Estacado. They were greeted by Dr. Meredith McClain, left, associate professor of German at Texas Tech University, and Mayor David Langston, who made them honorary citizens of Lubbock.



# Germans take game of Cowboys and Indians seriously



**Western trade**

Scott Nickell, a cowboy artist from Fort Worth, works on a sculpture during the recent National Cowboy Symposium held at Tech. This was the fourth year for the symposium, which ran through Sunday and attracted participants from across the country.

by **LEN HAYWARD**  
THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

Many Americans played Cowboy and Indians as children, but Germans have taken the game one step further.

People in Germany and throughout Europe have created cowboy and Indian clubs that they take very seriously. This was the focus of the one of the sessions at the fourth annual National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration on the Tech campus this past weekend.

Dr. Ulrich Sacker, director of the Goethe Institute in San Francisco, spoke on Germany's connection to the American cowboy. The Goethe Institute has 10 campuses in the United States for the study of German culture around the world and gives access to German culture and language.

Sacker described the primary reason many Europeans, Germans especially, are interested in the American West is the popularity of books written by Karl May. May is one of the best known fiction writers in Germany and the sale of his books is second only to the Bible.

"I think there are two types of Germans: the settlers who helped settle the West and the ones who never left Germany but loved the cowboys and the Indians," Sacker said. "But the 19th century author Karl May wrote about 30 novels about cowboys and Indians. He got a lot of his information

from libraries and virtually every adult and child has read his books. He has influenced all of us."

Sacker explained that May was born in the eastern part of Germany, and he had never been to the United States.

"His novels were read by the Imperial Germans, the Nazis, but the communists banned his novels because the Nazis used it as propaganda," Sacker said.

Sacker said Hitler read May's novels and even had a chance to hear him read his books, when Hitler was younger. The communists removed the ban of May's books in the latter days of East Germany, with the last chancellor before German reunification bringing them back.

May created two characters in his novels to which many Germans relate, Winnetou and Old Shatterhand. Winnetou was an Apache Indian chief, and Old Shatterhand was his friend.

"Most of us (Germans) think of the Indians as the noble savage because they have not been spoiled by civilization and things such as that," Sacker said. "I think Cowboys know best because they have the same love of nature and the land that the Indians have, they are closely related."

May wrote a novel called "The Pride of the Llano Estacado," which talked about Winnetou's adventures in this area.

May told of mountains on the Llano Estacado in his books and many Euro-

peans who come to the area are surprised to see the mountains not there.

"I think it is an escape for many people to read his (May's) novels," Sacker said. "Germany did not have very many colonies at the time he was writing and there was sort of a need to find out about exotic places. And Karl May romanticized the Indians."

Sacker said May came to the United States after he had written his novels. Movies were made about his books, but Sacker said they were not allowed to film them on location in the United States.

"In the mid-'60s they made movies of his books in Yugoslavia, because they could not come to America," Sacker said.

May was a popular figure when he was alive, because he would go around signing his books as Old Shatterhand, Sacker said, adding that there are more than 300 cowboy clubs in Germany, including one named the Lubbock Cowboy Club just outside of Cologne. He also said that many people are interested in African tribes and he says some even dress like Huns.

Sacker said Germans are thorough in their fun with the cowboy and Indians and spend what amounts to thousands of dollars on the authentic dress.

A museum outside of May's home in Eastern Germany has many artifacts from the American Indian, and many artifacts that Sacker says can't be found even in the United States.

## Deficit threatens U.S. power, ex-West German leader says

San Antonio Express-News

By **Wilson W. McKinney**  
Express-News Military Writer

Thursday, April 30, 1992

**"The idea that we can collect a peace dividend right now is bizarre."**

— **Helmut Schmidt**,  
ex-West German chancellor

The United States will not be able to maintain its position as the world's leading superpower if it does not begin reducing its enormous deficit, former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said in a recent speech at Trinity University.

"It's a dangerous situation," Schmidt said of U.S. economic weaknesses and the inability to finance both defense and such social necessities as schools and health care.

"And if it continues for a decade, it will threaten U.S. leadership in the world," said Schmidt. He was at Trinity on Tuesday as part of the university's Distinguished Lecture Series.

In a wide-ranging overview of the world after the Cold War, Schmidt warned that turmoil in the wake of the breakup of the Soviet Union can be expected to continue for at least another generation.

The cost of overcoming that turmoil has not been fully realized, Schmidt said. "The idea that we can collect a peace dividend right now is bizarre," he said.

Schmidt headed the West German government from 1974 to 1982 during the Cold War, when the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States formed the heart of NATO forces in Western Europe.

He is publisher of the German weekly "Die Zeit" and has written several books on international relations.

The breakup of the former Soviet Union is having an impact on every region of the world, from Asia and Africa to Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and the United States, Schmidt said.

Europeans in particular are joyful over the end of Communist dictatorships in Eastern Europe, he said.

"But now, instead of the Cold War, we have a host of problems to solve," Schmidt said.

Three basic principles of international relations must be observed in the world today, Schmidt said, including a return to the concept of a balance of political and military power among nations.

The post-war principle of economic, monetary and financial cooperation has weakened since the Vietnam War and must be restored, said Schmidt, an economist.

Finally, he said, Third World nations must work to control their population growth while developed nations must work to reduce their



Helmut Schmidt called U.S. economic weaknesses a 'dangerous situation.'

overuse of energy resources.

On Saturday, German Federal President Richard von Weizsacker and his wife will be in San Antonio for the opening banquet of the annual singing festival of the San Antonio Liedercranz.

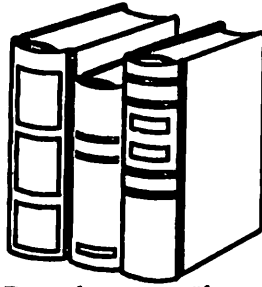
Weizsacker's visit is part of a six-day tour of the United States at the invitation of President Bush.







## KULTURNACHRICHTEN



### Institut für deutsche Sprache: Englisch in der Oberschicht, Deutsch als Alltagssprache?

Vor allem in den ehemals kommunistischen Staaten Ost- und Südosteuropas steigt die Nachfrage nach Deutschunterricht. Dies wurde auf der Jahrestagung des Instituts für deutsche Sprache bekannt, an der etwa 450 Sprachwissenschaftler aus aller Welt teilnahmen und die am 26. März in Mannheim zu Ende ging.

Begünstigt vor allem durch den politischen Wandel und die Wanderungsbewegungen, gehe die Tendenz in Europa zur Mehrsprachigkeit, sagte der Präsident des Instituts, der Bochumer Professor Siegfried Grosse. Die Folgen dieser Tendenz für Schulen, Hochschulen, Kultur und Administrationen seien noch nicht absehbar.

Englisch sei nach wie vor die bedeutendste Verkehrssprache in Europa, erläuterte Professor Ulrich Ammon (Duisburg). Die Nachfrage nach Deutschunterricht liege in Westeuropa weit hinter der nach Englisch; auch Französisch sei stärker gefragt als Deutsch. In Osteuropa werde Deutsch jedoch fast so oft gelernt wie Englisch.

Zur Bedeutung der deutschen Sprache in den Staaten Ost-Mitteleuropas stellte Csaba Földes aus Budapest fest, selbst die 40 Jahre lang verordnete Dominanz der russischen Sprache habe die Bedeutung der deutschen Sprache in diesen Ländern nicht schwächen können. Zwar übernehme in der Oberschicht Englisch die Rolle der führenden Fremdsprache, aber Deutsch gewinne wieder die Funktion einer regionalen Verständigungssprache im Alltag.

Professor Anatolij Domaschnew

### Deutsche lesen mehr

Etwa 250 Millionen Bücher liehen sich die Deutschen im vergangenen Jahr aus den etwa 4.500 öffentlichen Bibliotheken. 1990 waren es nur 210 Millionen gewesen. Diese Zahlen teilte die Vorsitzende des Verbandes der Bibliothekare, Birgit Dankert, am 28. Mai bei der Jahrestagung in Essen mit.

aus St. Petersburg erwähnte in seinem Konferenzbeitrag die lange Tradition der deutschen Sprache in Rußland. Heute werde an 30.000 der 34.000 russischen Mittelschulen wieder Deutsch unterrichtet. Er selbst habe allerdings den Eindruck, viele Deutsche seien dabei, im Ausland ihre eigene Sprache zugunsten der englischen aufzugeben.

### Germans, East and West, Made More Visits to Libraries in 1991

Meeting at a conference in Essen (North Rhine-Westphalia) late last week, the Association of Public Library Librarians and the German Library Federation announced that Germans have become more enthusiastic readers (*leselustig*). According to their figures, library patrons borrowed 250 million books and other materials last year, up from 210 million in 1990.

A speaker said that data from 1991 indicated that about half of the library members in eastern Germany had stopped using the facilities, but their numbers appear to be growing again. About 50 percent of the holdings of these libraries have been changed, the speaker noted, adding that are between 1,200 and 1,500 libraries in the five new states and about 3,000 such facilities in western Germany.

Auch in den neuen Bundesländern, wo den öffentlichen Leihbüchereien im vergangenen Jahr die Hälfte der Leser verlorengegangen war, stellt der Verband in diesem Jahr wieder steigende Leserzahlen fest, nachdem die Hälfte der aus DDR-Zeiten übernommenen Bücherbestände ausgewechselt worden sei.

### An International "Ja" to German: Demand for Instruction Rises

According to the 500 international participants at the recent annual meeting of the Institute for German Language (*Institut für deutsche Sprache* or IdS) in Mannheim (Baden-Württemberg), the demand for German instruction abroad is rising. A spokesperson for the IdS noted at the meeting, which this year focused on the use of German in Europe as a language of commerce and negotiation, that interest is particularly high in eastern and southeastern Europe.

Siegfried Grosse, president of the IdS, predicted that "multilingualism will spread through Europe." He said that a "polyglot dialogue," in which interlocutors each speak their mother tongue, but can understand each other's language as well, will increase and that this could lead to a strengthening of German as a working language within the European Community.

Professor Ulrich Ammon from Duisburg (North Rhine-Westphalia) said that although English is "the most important language of commerce in western Europe today," there are more people who speak German as their mother tongue. An investigation by the University of Duisburg into the importance of German in the economic sector showed that in parts of eastern Europe, the demand for German instruction was as high as that for English. In western Europe, however, the demand is much less than for English, and somewhat less than for French.

### German-American Joint Venture in Space Technology Founded

The German company Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, a subsidiary of Deutsche Aerospace AG, and the Atlantic Research Corp. have established a joint venture with equal participation, Deutsche Aerospace reported Monday (March 23) in Munich. The new company, with the name ARC/MBB, is to develop a liquid fuel propulsion system for the final stage of the Pegasus rocket, with which small satellites are to be shot into orbit, the statement noted.



# German president cuts ribbon for new park

By James Coburn  
Express-News Staff Writer

RK

German President Richard von Weizsaecker dedicated the German Heritage Park in HemisFair Park on Saturday, saying he hoped it would help keep the Alamo City the top tourist destination in the state.

He was welcomed to the park about 6 p.m. by the San Antonio Liederkranz, an 80-member German singing association that

backed the three-year effort to build the park.

The men's choral group was founded here in 1897.

"I've come to celebrate with you the 100th anniversary of German cultural activity in this region, and at the same time to witness the beginning of a living German heritage kept for posterity in this lovely park," Weizsaecker told the crowd of about 200 people.

After the ceremony, Weizsaecker

was asked during a brief news conference about his thoughts on the rioting in Los Angeles that followed the acquittal of four white policemen in the beating of black motorist Rodney King. The president of the newly united Federal Republic of Germany said:

"I think we all have to struggle with tension coming out of social injustice. We always have to find our way back to a non-violent and

tolerant way to get (along) together.

"And what impresses me is how the American people — and especially the people in Los Angeles themselves — find a way from the various racial groups to come together and build up and do away with the damage that has been done in the last hours and the last days."

Weizsaecker said the people of

San Antonio Express-News

Sunday, May 3, 1992

Europe, for other reasons but for various connotations of the same problems, had learned to overcome tensions in a non-violent way.

The president said that Friday, he went through the Martin Luther King Center in Atlanta, where the message was tolerance and non-violence.

Referring to the situation in Los Angeles, he said, "I think those terrible sufferings and misjudgments may open our eyes to get closer together. And I think that is, in all its suffering, a positive message coming out of those hours."

Weizsaecker, 72, came to San Antonio from Houston, where he gave the commencement address to more than 1,000 graduating Rice University students. After a dinner attended by Gov. Ann Richards on Saturday night at the Plaza San Antonio Hotel, he returned to Houston for more activities there.

Before dedicating the German Heritage Park, Weizsaecker and his wife, Marianne, were given a tour of the Alamo by Betty Burr, president general of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and Marjorie Hardy, Alamo Committee chairwoman.

Also touring with the German president was Mayor Nelson Wolff and his wife, Tracy, and City Councilwoman Yolanda Vera.

The group then toured the University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures in HemisFair Park.

Wolff, speaking for a reception at the institute, said San Antonio was a city with a rich German heritage, as Germans immigrated here starting in 1831.

The mayor said his German ancestors came to Pflugerville in 1858 before members of his family



Richard von Weizsaecker (left), president of the Federal Republic of Germany, greets members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Saturday during a tour of the Alamo.

moved to San Antonio in the 1930s.

Weizsaecker told the reception that Germans viewed Texas as the embodiment of America's many cultures.

The group traveled by VIA streetcars the short distance to the German Heritage Park, located inside HemisFair Park's west entrance.

In dedicating the park, Weizsaecker said:

"It gives me deep satisfaction to witness this German-Texan private initiative, born out of and backed by the venerable German singing association, San Antonio Liederkranz.

"I hope that the additional attraction of the German Heritage Park will help to keep San Antonio as No. 1 among the places most visited in Texas."

Serving the committee to plan this agenda with George Boerger of Houston, were Dr. Charles Wukasz of Austin and Evelyn Kasper of War-da.

## 3 Continents Represented At Texas Wendish Society

RK

A very unique opportunity to visit with Wends from three continents at once will be given to members and visitors attending the meeting of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society at Serbin on Sunday, May 17. This meeting will begin at 2 p.m. and will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church to accommodate the large crowd expected. Members are asked to please bring either sandwiches or sweets for refreshments.

Benno and Beverly Gatzke of Melbourne, Australia, will be arriving for a visit with Arnold and Evelyn Kasper on Saturday, May 9, and plan to visit in this area until May 18.

A delegation of eight people from Sprewitz, (originally part of East Germany) Pastor and Mrs. Hornich and their daughter, Esther, Johannes Grosa, Dieter and Waltraud Kretschmar, and Wilfried and Elke Jensch, will arrive in Houston early

next week. Dr. Joseph Wilson of Houston and Winchester will meet the group at the air port. After a visit with friends in Houston, they will be brought to the Wendish Museum at Serbin where local hosts will pick them up on May 14 to visit until May 17. Local hosts and hostesses will be Jack and Marian Wiederhold, Milton and Edna Kasper, Leroy and Elinor Steglich, Rev. Robert and Georgie Boyce, and Milton and Esther Pampell. Members of the Wendish Society will take the group to Austin after the meeting, and after a visit in Austin will take them to San Antonio. The San Antonio group will then bring them back to Serbin for the annual homecoming church picnic where the Houston members will pick them up for their return flight from Houston.

## Old Round Top School Reunion

Ex-students of the Old Round Top Schools held their annual reunion May 2, in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Educational Building with 97 ex-students and guests attending. Mayor Dave Nagel welcomed everyone to Round Top.

Ex-student Kellie Brau from Irving traveled farthest. The oldest ex-student was Dr. Arthur Wiederanders, 90, youngest was Johnelle Graeter Minzenmeyer. The couple married longest was Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Wolle, 61 years. The Alfred Levien family had four ex-students attending, the largest number from one family.

Lunch was enjoyed and a business meeting followed with Edgar Fricke, president, in charge. Mrs. Frieda Schiege Franke served as emcee. Former teachers were introduced and shared memories and experiences. Officers were re-elected as follows: Edgar Fricke, president; Eugene Menking, vice-president; Georgia Tubbs, secretary-treasurer.

Door prizes were won by Faye Korf Keilers, Frieda Schiege Franke, and Evelyn Kneip Boenig.

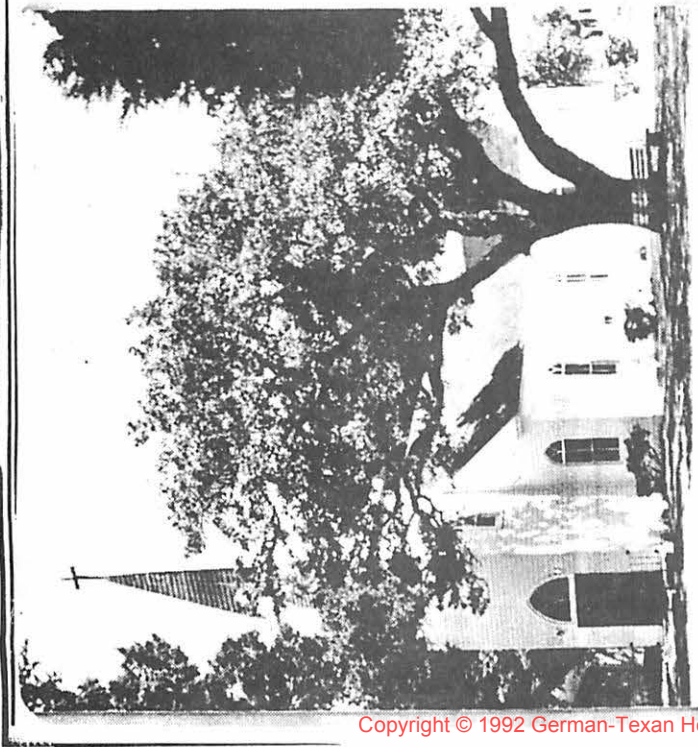
## Counterfeiter Has Wealth of Problems

A noise-sensitive money counterfeiter in Hamburg recently got himself into real trouble. Bothered by loud neighbors, he called the police to complain; when they arrived, they heard the report of a gun inside. The man stated that he'd fired a shot because he was unable to stand the noise any longer. Suspicious, the police made a search of his premises, where they discovered a photocopying machine, along with half a million DM in hand-tinted counterfeit bills.

The man insisted that he just wanted to see "what it's like to be rich for once in my life," but the authorities were skeptical, since two of his bills had been found in circulation.



Friday, May 1, 1992 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD



## UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Lutheran Church In Swiss Alp Celebrates 125th Anniversary

A special event took place Sunday, April 26, at the United Evangelical Lutheran Church-Swiss Alp, when the church celebrated its 125th anniversary.

The day began with a very impressive service at 9:15 a.m. with a procession into church by Pastor Clement Richards, Bishop Paul J. Blom and former pastors, Pastor Manfred Holck, Pastor Arlyn Hausmann, Pastor Don Mattson and Pastor Clarence Hagens who was a son of the congregation and became a minister, also the cross bearer and acolytes namely Chad and John Davis and Brandis Altmann. The sermon was given by

Following church services, Decoration Day Services were held on the cemetery by Pastor Richards.

The delicious noon meal was catered by Curtis Guentert and family. This was followed by a program with Gary Lincke serving as master

Rod Koenig

of ceremonies. The former pastors and guests shared a few words with everyone. This was followed by visiting and viewing the picture display.

The Salem Building where the meal was served was beautifully decorated under the leadership of Mrs. Gale Lincke. All the tables were covered by light blue covering. Each table held a live flower arrangement of yellow, purple and white spring flowers. At each place setting was a place mat in yellow with a picture of the church, date of the anniversary, name of the church, and 25th and 125th anniversary printed on it. The anniversary cake that was served was a yellow cake with pineapple filling, white icing with assorted spring flowers, a gold cross, name of the church and 125th anniversary printed on it. The table holding the cake was skirted in blue.

The Swiss Alp community dates back to approximately 1865, and the church dates back to 1867. It all began when eight Wendish families moved from their settlement in Serbin, Lee County, and settled near the East Navidad River. Since there were no churches, the settlers knew they could not make real homes without God.

C.C. Rudi, a teacher in Serbin, was invited, and he accepted to come and lead them in worship of God and teach their children. He traveled back and forth, later he moved to the Swiss Alp community. Everyone's desire was soon realized when a meeting was held, March 24, 1867, and a congregation was organized. They named the church "The Philadelphia Evangelical Lutheran Church" which was suggested by Revelation 3:7-12. The first constitution of the new congregation was written by Pastor Rudi and was signed by him along with J.F. Melcher, Friedrich Gebert, L. Franke, Frank Klein, George Knippa, Christian Kolbe, Adam Ritter and O.F.

Adam Frank. The first church council was composed of J.F. Melcher, Friedrich Gebert, L. Franke, and Frank Klein, and Pastor Rudi. There are still members attending the church whose heritage goes back to the above.

On Sept. 9, 1867, John Knippa and his wife donated 10 acres of land to the congregation for a church. The building contractors were: J.C. Melcher and Mr. Klingemann. The logs were donated by George Knippa and J.F. Melcher. On Feb. 18, 1877, part of the land in back of the church was set aside for a cemetery. On Nov. 6, 1877 the congregation purchased 44 1/2 more acres. After Sept. 1, 1880, a parsonage was built and part of it along with improvements served until 1960 when a new parsonage was built. By 1889 the members decided a new church was needed and the new church was dedicated Jan. 12, 1890 and the contractor was C.L. Melcher.

Many pastors served the congregation during the years. Pastor Karl Kern served the congregation from 1890 through 1921. His influence was felt throughout the community for many years and many improvements were made. Following him several pastors served the congregation.

Pastor F.E. Eilers served the congregation from 1937 until 1963. There were also many changes and improvements made during his time. One outstanding improvement was the remodeling of the church. Pastor Eilers drew the plans of the present church which was built in the form of a cross. It also provided for the remodeling of the original walls of the old church. The present remodeled church was re-dedicated June 28, 1942. The present parsonage was built in 1960.

When Pastor Eilers resigned in 1963, he had been serving Trinity Lutheran Church-Black Jack, and

Salem Lutheran Church-Freyburg, along with Philadelphia-Swiss Alp. When Pastor Arlyn Hausmann was installed Oct. 24, 1965, a study was made concerning the three churches. Due to the declining population in rural areas and difficulty in maintaining three congregations, a decision was made to merge the three congregations. The new congregation would remain as the Philadelphia Lutheran Church-Swiss Alp. On April 23, 1967 the three parish congregations adopted a constitution and decided to name the congregation "The United Evangelical Lutheran Church", and all three became one. Therefore, it is also the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the constitution for the merger of three churches on April 23, 1967. The Christian churches in these three rural communities have a very rich heritage.

Hence, Sunday, April 26 was a very special day for the church and for all in attendance. "If the celebrating of the 125th anniversary of the church gives each of us a little deeper appreciation for those who have left us, the rich heritage which the three churches have should give us all added strength and inspiration for the years which lie before all of us. It was truly an enjoyable occasion," voiced a member of the congregation.

Pastor Clements O. Richards is the present pastor, and the present church council consists of: Gary Lincke, president; Virginia Kallus, vice-president; Johnelle Minzenmeyer, secretary; James Hatfield, treasurer, and Roslyn Altmann, Sandra Smith, Janet Anders, Walter Roeder, Leo Jares, Dorothy Koether, Larry Oeding and Pastor Richards.

The church humbly acknowledges her indebtedness to the community and the Church at large for the many favors they have extended her during the past 125 years.



**Eschenbach: a tale of Germans, Texans and the art of conducting**

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*Battle of the Batons* <sup>RK</sup>

**J**UST WHAT IS it that Christoph Eschenbach's got? The press has called him everything from "a master craftsman" to "a member of an endangered species" to "the first conductor since Stokowski to set Houston on fire." The wiry little fellow with the impish smile returned to the Houston Symphony podium this weekend, "playing" Jones Hall like a giant bass fiddle in performances of Beethoven and Prokofiev's jolting Fifth Symphony. While he was off on a seemingly endless tour abroad, we had been made to suffer two lackluster concert sets under guest conductors Carl St. Clair and Egich Leinsdorf. Our maestro's return in glory gave us the chance to scrutinize, by way of comparison, the elements that make up his sound. What is it, then, that makes Eschenbach different from all the others?

A recent *Wall Street Journal* article, musing on the new incursion of German-born and trained conductors into our nation's music life, asked whether Americans are now ready for "a spell of old-fashioned German seriousness." Can Eschenbach's art be explained in terms of his nationality? Is there not subtle racism in the notion that German musicians breathe some rarefied air, that somehow the artistic fire is "in their blood"? The answer is to be found not in nature but in nurture: like other Germans of the first post-war generation, Eschenbach grew up in an environment in which substantial elements of the great performing tradition of the 19th century — though seriously damaged by the "brain drain" of Germany's darkest decade — remained intact. As a youth his conducting idol was no less than the great Wilhelm Furtwängler.

Eschenbach took the tradition to heart, placing his own perfectionist stamp upon it. And that's what makes his art unique. The Teutonic seriousness, if you will, is tempered with a playful polish that reflects in part the rigorous yet confused, eclectic culture of post-war West Germany. This mixture of old and new came through in his rendering of Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony last Saturday: it had the pacing and style of a Herbert von Karajan, the cerebral charm and crudity of a Furtwängler, and yet there was something modern and even show-



**MUSIC PAUL HORSLEY**

**Eschenbach's Teutonic seriousness is tempered by a playful polish that reflects post-war West Germany.**

bizzy about the splash of its huge fortissimos. The work's first movement was not all in place (perhaps because of the mystifying tempo and direction built into it), but during the rest of the piece Eschenbach brought the HSO to a stun-

ning new level of performance. Under his baton, the ensemble is on the verge of entering the "world-class" category.

Eschenbach and the orchestra sounded just right accompanying Brazilian pianist José Feghali, too, but in the end their controlled performance of Beethoven's Third Concerto didn't convince 100 percent. Feghali is a splendid musician: detailed, colorful, on the mark. But his playing sounded more like a very good "reading" than like the sort of rich performance that results from intense study and thought.

**Symphony sets tour of Europe**

**Eschenbach eager to show orchestra**

**BY CARL CUNNINGHAM POST PERFORMING ARTS CRITIC**

A European tour, which has been the Houston Symphony's fondest dream for a quarter of a century, will finally come to pass this fall, when music director Christoph Eschenbach leads the orchestra on a three-week tour of 12 cities in Germany, Austria and Switzerland Nov. 17-Dec. 8.

The tour includes performances in some of the most famous new and historic concert halls in several European music capitals — Berlin's Philharmonie, Vienna's Musikverein, a pair of concerts in Frankfurt's Jahrhunderthalle and Alte Oper, and Zurich's Tonhalle where Eschenbach was conductor for five years before coming to Houston.

In announcing the tour, the German-born Eschenbach said: "In my four years here, I have felt quite adjusted to the American style of working and the quick achievement of goals which are set. To show these achievements in a country where I was born means a lot."

The \$1.2 million tour will be preceded by a concert in New York's Avery Fisher Hall Nov. 18. Then Lufthansa Airlines, a major tour sponsor, will fly the 98 musicians to Frankfurt, for several concerts in Southern Germany: in Stuttgart Nov. 22, Munich Nov. 23, Nuremberg Nov. 24 and back to Frankfurt Nov. 25-26.

They will play three concerts in western Germany — Bochum, Cologne and Dueseldorf — Nov. 28-Dec 1. Then they will cover a larger geographical triangle in the northern and eastern sectors of the nation: Hannover Dec. 2, Berlin Dec. 3 and Ham-

burg Dec. 4.

Most, if not all, of the travel within Germany will be by motorcoach, but the orchestra will fly from Hamburg to Zurich for a Dec. 6 concert, then on to Vienna for the final Dec. 7 concert preceding the orchestra's return to Houston Dec. 8.

In all cities, the Houston Symphony will be scheduled on major concert series, setting this orchestra's newly improved standard of playing against that of major international touring orchestras and some very famous orchestras that are resident in those cities. "After all," Eschenbach quipped, "the Vienna Philharmonic is not the worst orchestra in the world."

Pianist Tzimon Barto, one of the Houston Symphony's most popular soloists, will be the soloist for the New York program (making his professional debut there) and at least seven of the 12 European concerts, playing either the Barto/ Second Piano Concerto or the Prokofiev Third Concerto. Programs for the other five concerts have not been set.

Orchestral repertoire will include several works that have won Eschenbach special acclaim here: Mahler's Fifth Symphony, Dvorak's Eighth Symphony and Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony.

Eschenbach has also chosen a work by a historic 20th-century American composer, Charles Ives' *Three Places in New England*, to open several of the concerts.

Commenting that European audiences are a little bit skeptical about newer American music, Eschenbach said: "I thought it would be good for the first tour to choose a beautiful but more or less standard American piece."

Houston Symphony executive director David Wax said the orchestra will earn about half the tour costs — \$500,000 to \$600,000 — in fees from European presenters. The rest will be made up with special fund-raising locally.

The tour, 18 months in the planning stages, is one goal of the symphony's ongoing \$41 million capital campaign, due to be completed by 1995. It follows last summer's acclaimed two-week tour to Japan and a shorter tour to Singapore in 1990.

THE LUTHERAN ■ MAY 1992

**Germany names first female Lutheran bishop**

**G**erman theologian Maria Jepsen, 47, became the first woman ever to be elected a Lutheran bishop.

Elected bishop of Hamburg April 4 by the North Elbian Evangelical Lutheran



**JEPSEN**

Church, Jepsen is the equivalent of an ELCA synod bishop. The Hamburg district is one of three in the North Elbian Lutheran Church.

Opposition to Jepsen's election exists. But her male opponent, the Rev. Helge Adolphsen, was one of her strongest supporters. One detractor, the Rev. Edgar Spir, quoted Paul's injunction in 1 Corinthians 14:34 for women to be silent in churches. Another had warned that the election of a woman would damage "the worthiness of the office."



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# 'Frau Greenpeace' storms the palace

Monday, March 16, 1992

By Hanne Simonsen  
Los Angeles Times Service

Express-News



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS

Monika Griefahn, minister of environment in Germany's Niedersachsen province, is on a collision course with the nation's minister of the environment.

A year ago there was something of a revolution in the old gray palace that serves as the Ministry of Environment in Germany's Niedersachsen province. When the Social Democrats won the provincial election, it spelled the end for Werner Remmers.

He was a conservative minister of the traditional sort: male, 60 years old, a close friend of one of the country's most important industrial leaders, and housed by environmental activists.

Sitting in Remmers' place now is his opposite in every way: Monika Griefahn. In Germany, she was so strongly identified with Greenpeace that she was christened "Frau Greenpeace" in newspaper headlines. She is 36, with masses of dark, frizzy hair, an open, brown-eyed gaze and lively gestures. She drapes herself in bright, gauzy dresses. In her new surroundings she is as foreign as a tropical butterfly.

## Many employees shocked

Griefahn's arrival at the Ministry of Environment in Hannover shocked many of the ministry's employees. The staff was now required to discuss their work in groups. Until then each manager, most of them men, had his own area of expertise, strictly based on training and position. Many openly showed their dissatisfaction. Who was she to give orders to them?

"Oh, they'll get used to it," Griefahn

says breezily, as she seats herself in her office chair. The furniture is light and solid, of Scandinavian design. On the walls are color photographs of seals, birds and the ocean. A little ceramic bowl of fruit stands on the table. The room is large and airy, with high windows.

Former Greenpeace colleagues describe Griefahn as strong and competent. She joined Greenpeace in France in 1978. Two years later she and two other Germans formed a chapter in Germany. In 1983 she was elected to the board of directors of Greenpeace International. As the 1980s drew to a close, Griefahn began to think about her future. Should she serve yet another year on the board of directors? She had already sat longer than anyone else. What else could she do?

Just then Gerhard Schroder called. The Social Democrats' strong man in the Niedersachsen province and a Greenpeace supporter, he needed a candidate for environment minister for the upcoming local election. Environmental questions were timely and Remmers was unpopular. Schroder wanted Griefahn to consider the job.

"Why not, I thought. It was a risk, but one worth taking," Griefahn says with a smile.

Election results were extremely close. The Social Democrats and the environmental party scraped together a

winning margin of less than 2 percent. Many political observers said it was Griefahn who helped the Social Democrats win.

Before Germany's reunification, Niedersachsen had a long border with the former East Germany. Along the former East Bloc side there is a bend in the landscape marking the site chosen in the

1970s as a convenient place for underground storage of spent nuclear fuel. Now construction is fully under way, but Griefahn wants to stop it. The friends of the environment who elected her expect it.

Women must play a central and decisive role in ensuring sustainable development. An economically and politically enabling environment must be assured for women (or women have to make sure it exists) so that they can use their energies and creativity productively. Violence against women, minimizing women, exploiting women, humiliating and disempowering women are all injustices that appear wherever one looks — even though public officials often claim to endorse women's participation in all spheres of national development.

Women continue to be agents as well as victims of environmental degradation. Partly because they have been co-opted into the status quo, actively participating in activities that are unfriendly to the environment. But many women worldwide are working for sustainable development. They often are patronized; given lip service or simply ignored. Sometimes they are publicly condemned.

Women must make themselves visible in decision-making processes and not wait for token appointments and co-optation. Things will not be done for women; they must do things for themselves. Women should not wait to be heard; they must be heard.

be invited into politics and decision-making processes; they must get involved and ensure that the destiny of the planet is also in their hands.

Women and all people in general will not be given their rights on a silver plate. They must fight for them and eliminate dictatorships in all forms, unjust and undemocratic governance that is partly responsible for injustices against women, widespread poverty, crippling international debts, national and international wars, overexploitation of the resource base, threats of climate change and marginalization of entire communities and regions.

Individually we can all make a difference wherever we are. Collectively we initiate a revolution: Nothing should stop us. Nothing will stop me.

Wangari Maathai is coordinator of the Green Belt Movement in Kenya, a project funded by the National Council of Women of Kenya (c) 1992, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Friday, February 21, 1992 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

## 3rd Successful Elderhostel<sup>LT.</sup> Is Completed At Round Top

Friday morning, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, 40 members of the Round Top Elderhostel received their awards at the historical Bethlehem Lutheran Church from Dr. Eloise Norton, the hostess of the seminar that featured the German migration in Texas in the 1840s, its food and the decorative arts, its German language and a demonstration of Victorian Crazy Quilting.

Eleven members from the Houston and Pasadena area were joined by members from Shiner, Waco, College Station, Midland, and Austin; as well as those from Ohio, Washington, Michigan, Florida, New York, Wisconsin, Wyoming and California.

They were stitching on their "Crazy Quilt Projects" taught by Mrs. Wren of Houston, listened to Daphne Garrett from Warda and Houston, to Dorothy Rothermel from Carmine and Pasadena, Ann Lindermann from Industry and to Leola K. Tiedt from La Grange, giving them the facts about the above-mentioned subjects.

These lectures and demonstrations take place at the Round Top Retreat, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Nick Goad and their daughter, and located about a mile north of Festival Hill, a music center near Round Top.

In addition to these lectures, tours are made to Henkel Square, Winedale Historical Center, Wag-

ner's Woodworking and Festival Hill.

The Hostel group was privileged to meet Madalene Hill and Gwen Barclay, who have published the book *Southern Herb Growing* and who were featured at an autograph party by the Herb Study Group, formed by Mary Reeves and Francis Harris. This group plan to put in a native-plant-and-herb-garden at Winedale Historical Center.

Also displayed at Festival Hill was the South Texas Herb Society's national exhibit on "Grossmutter Eichlers Bauernhof" that was shown in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, three years ago. Tiedt had spoken on "My Grandmother's German Garden", which was the basis of this exhibit at the morning session.

### Herb Study Group

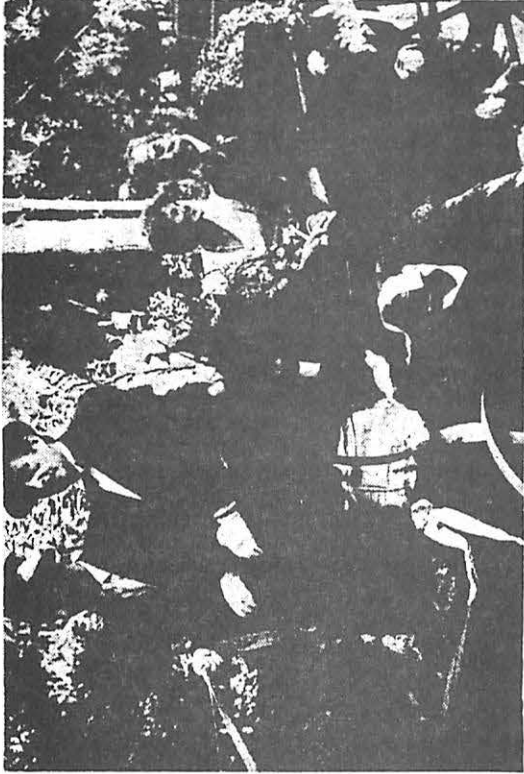
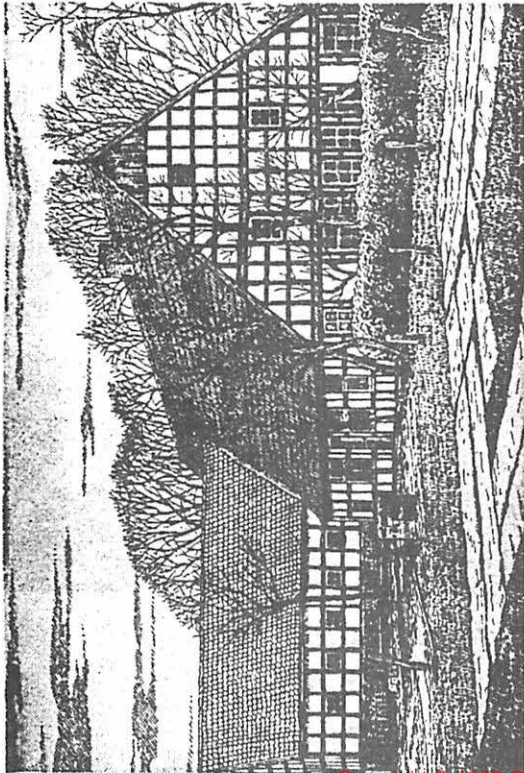
The second meeting of the Round Top chapter of the Herb Study Group was held on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. at Festival Hill. James Dick, Founder of Festival Institute, welcomed everyone. The meeting began with the sharing of a covered dish luncheon.

At the meeting, Gwen Barclay explained the benefits of having a chapter of Herb Society of America in Round Top. Her comments were followed by a question and answer session. Leola Tiedt of La Grange described the I.S.A. exhibit at Grossmutter's Barnhauf in Carmine.

The Elderhostel Group, which was spending the week in the area, joined the herb group for a tour of Festival Hill's grounds, the herb garden at the Menke House and the various buildings. They also attended the book autographing.

The book autography featured *Southern Herb Growing* by Madalene Hill and Gwen Barclay. Both were present. Proceeds were given to the new herb group to help fund some of their planned projects. Magalene and Gwen were at the event and provided cheese rolls with herbs and packets of dry herbs as favors. People attending were from Round Top, Carmine, Industry, Cat Springs, Navasota, Fayetteville, La Grange and New Ulm - and the Elderhostels who were from various parts of the United States.





**Ertrinkt Deutschland im Wein?**

Nach der Überschwemmung des deutschen Marktes mit Tafelwein zeichnet sich nach Ansicht von Landwirtschaftsminister Ignaz Kiechle nun auch eine Überversorgung mit Qualitätswein ab. Schuld an der Entwicklung sei der gemeinsame EG-Markt.

Bei der Eröffnung einer Wein- und Fruchtsaftmesse meinte der Minister am 26. Mai in Stuttgart, er mache sich ernste Sorgen um den deutschen Weinmarkt. Mit dem Inkrafttreten des gemeinsamen EG-Marktes am 1. Januar 1993 drohe ein verstärkter Angebotsdruck aus dem Ausland, zumal der Weinverbrauch in Italien, Frankreich und Spanien stark rückläufig sei. Durch die Assoziation oder den Beitritt weiterer wichtiger Weinbauländer könne sich der Druck auf den deutschen Markt weiter erhöhen.

Vor Weinbau-Experten aus ganz Europa fügte Kiechle in Stuttgart hinzu, selbst bei einer Verbesserung der Absatzförderung "kommen wir nicht daran vorbei, die Erzeugung sowohl quantitativ als auch qualitativ stärker an die Aufnahmefähigkeit und die Anforderungen des Marktes anzupassen". Diese Anpassung, im Klartext Reduzierung, könne nur im Rahmen eines europäischen Gesamtkonzepts erfolgen.

Kurz zuvor hatte die EG-Kommission, vom Europäischen Gerichtshof dazu aufgefordert, die deutsche Mengenregulierung für Wein als nicht in Übereinstimmung mit den geltenden EG-Richtlinien verurteilt, weil sie die Überproduktion nicht wirksam verhindere. Würden die EG-Bestimmungen angewendet, müßte etwa ein Drittel des in Deutschland erzeugten Weins aus dem Verkehr gezogen werden. Der Weinbauminister von Rheinland-Pfalz, Karl Schneider, sprach die nüchterne Konsequenz aus: Nicht alle Weinbaubetriebe würden überleben.

Mit einer offenen Kutsche wurden das Brautpaar sowie Lore und Friedel Toettger, die mit in der Kutsche saßen, von Fritz Schwengel und Ewald Reddehase zum Hof Röttcher gefahren.

**Bundesrichter Norman C. Roettger heiratete in Lavern / Vorfahren wanderten im Jahre 1850 nach Amerika aus**

**Kaffeetafel fand auf der Deele des Stammhauses statt**

Stemwede-Lavern. In diesem Jahrhundert dürfte es wohl kein zweites Mal vorkommen, daß ein Bundesrichter aus den Vereinigten Staaten nach Lavern kommt, um im Stiftsdorf, dem Heimatort seiner Vorfahren, zu heiraten. Pastor Friedrich Stellbrink traute jetzt in der Zionskapelle den Bundesrichter Norman C. Roettger und Gattin Charayn aus Fort Lauderdale im Bundesstaat Florida.

siedelte. Dr. Nunnenkamp hatte Norman C. Roettger bereits vor Jahren während eines Urlaubs in Florida persönlich kennengelernt.

Nach der Trauung fand ein Kaffeetrinken für die Hochzeitsgäste auf der Deele des Stammhauses Röttcher in Lavern statt. Lore Röttcher hatte dazu Streuselkuchen gebacken und die Kaffeetafel so hergerichtet, wie es früher hier im heimischen Raum üblich war. Zum Abendessen im Saal Reddehase überraschten Jäger aus Stemwede das Brautpaar mit einem Standchen von Jagdhornsignalen. Gefahren wurde das Brautpaar von Fritz Schwengel und Ewald Reddehase mit einer offenen Pferdetskutsche, was aus Sicherheitsgründen in Florida sicherlich ohne Begleitschutz wohl nicht möglich gewesen wäre. Nach der Hochzeit in Lavern fuhr das Brautpaar weiter nach Berlin, Dresden und Prag.

Minster (Kreis Augliaze) berufen. Erwähnt werden auch zwei Brüder von Wilhelm Roettger, Christian und Friedrich (Friederick), die in einem Infanterieregiment, bzw. in der C Kompanie des 37. Regiments der Freiwilligeninfanterie in Ohio dienten und während des gesamten Krieges kämpften. Der Ehe von Wilhelm und Charlotte Roettger, geb. Koch, entstammten neun lebende Kinder, deren Berufsweg durch Fleiß und Tüchtigkeit gekennzeichnet waren.

Leider konnte die Trauung wegen der bekannten Bauschäden nicht in der Stiftskirche stattfinden, wo die Vorfahren von Bundesrichter Norman C. Roettger getauft und getraut worden waren. Als Dolmetscher des Trauungsgottesdienstes in der geschmückten Zionskapelle fungierte übrigens Dr. Wilhelm Nunnenkamp, als Republikaner wurde er von Präsident Grant in dessen zweiter Amtsperiode zum Postamtsvorsteher in

nem Staatsschiff gearbeitet, um das für die Überfahrt geliehene Geld zurückzahlen zu können. Seinem Vater half er beim Aufbau der Farm, ergriff dann aber das Handwerk eines Möbblers.

Am 31. Juni 1856 heiratete er Charlotte Koch, die ebenfalls schon im Alter von zehn Jahren mit ihren Eltern nach Amerika ausgewandert war. Sie kam ebenfalls aus Lavern. Ein Jahr nach der Auswanderung starb bereits ihre Mutter. Der Vater, Friedrich Koch, verstarb im Jahr ihrer Hochzeit mit Wilhelm Roettger (1856). Nach der Hochzeit, so ist es in der alten Familienchronik weiter überliefert, leierte Wilhelm Roettger, der Urgroßvater des heutigen Bundesrichters, zwei Mühlenbetriebe mit Erfolg, bevor er gesundheitsbedingt diese Stelle aufgab und eine Farm kaufte.

Als Republikaner wurde er von Präsident Grant in dessen zweiter Amtsperiode zum Postamtsvorsteher in

So sah der Stammhof, das Heuerlingshaus Röttcher befand sich in unmittelbarer Nähe, im Jahre 1836 aus. Vor dem Haupthaus ist zur Bleiche ausgelegtes Leinen zu erkennen.

W.N.

auf die damaligen schweren Lebensverhältnisse und das kärgliche Einkommen breiter Schichten der Landbevölkerung im heimischen Raum wie auch den für sehr viele Auswanderer nicht leichten Start in der Neuen Welt wirt.

Als Eltern von neun Kindern, wovon zwei im Kindesalter verstarben und ein Kind erkrankt, war auch für die Röttchers zunächst der Start in Amerika nicht leicht.

Neun Wochen dauerte die Überfahrt mit dem Segelschiff. In Baltimore gingen die deutschen Auswanderer an Land und zwei Wochen vor Weihnachten erreichte man Neu Bremen, Kreis Auflage, in Ohio. Carl-Friedrich Röttcher (Roettger) pachtete eine kleine Farm, die er noch sieben Jahre lang bewirtschaftete, bevor er bereits 1857 verstarb. Sein Sohn Wilhelm Roettger, hatte nach der Überfahrt, er wurde in Lavern am 29. September 1833 geboren, ein Jahr lang auf ei-



L.S.

# Germany trip tests ways to master language barrier

By JONATHAN TAYLOR  
Los Angeles Daily News Service

MUNICH — For all I knew, which wasn't very much, the word "Stadtmitte" that appeared on signs along the road on the outskirts of Munich, could have translated into English as the name of a street, or a new brand of underarm deodorant.

All I wanted was to get to my hotel in the town center, and I was sitting there in morning rush-hour traffic on a congested street called Garmischerstrasse that was not on the map supplied by the car-rental company. I may not have known where I was, exactly, but I knew that I was only getting farther away from where I wanted to be.

It was only later, after I had stumbled onto a street that led to my hotel, that a cabby who spoke English informed me that "Stadtmitte" does, indeed, translate as "city center."

Such is the risk in traveling stupid, linguistically at least.

It's a common problem for foreign travelers from the United States, where the ability to speak another language is valued about as highly as the mastery of cricket.

I knew from the time the assignment to travel through Germany was made that I would face a communication challenge. My German consisted of little more than "Ich Bin Ein Berliner" and "Der Volkswagen has der fahrvergnugen."

In previous trips to Europe — mostly during my college days — I had always been able to communicate adequately, albeit through modified charades and strategic pointing.

Anyway, on this trip, I decided to see how well I could do using my wits and chutzpah. It took all of both.

I had learned through past experience that phrase books and German-English dictionaries are helpful, but only to an extent. For instance, they're useful when ordering in restaurants — I might have been able to figure out that *rauchlachsstreifen* is salmon — and for composing the most basic yes-or-no questions.

But, you soon realize that while the phrase books help you ask the question, they're not much use in helping you decipher the rapid-fire response. It's fine to be able to ask, "Wo ist den flughafen?" (Where is the airport?), but then you're faced with a flurry of instructions telling you the finer points of avoiding the traffic and finding a choice parking space.

I also soon learned that while it's true many Germans speak quite adequate English, most of them don't really want to. EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, July 29, 1990

Even in places where you would assume English fluency is beneficial — hotel reception desks, rental-car agencies, large banks doing a big trade in converting traveler's checks — the employees' faces revealed an unmistakable glance of dismay every time they were confronted with a visitor speaking English.

Of course, I could have avoided the communication challenge by hooking up with an English-language tour, staying in the German branch of an American hotel chain and eating in American restaurants. Even little (although heavily touristed) Garmisch-Partenkirchen boasts its own Holiday Inn, McDonald's and Pizza Hut, and Big Mac is part of the international vocabulary.

If I wanted that kind of experience, though, I could have saved a lot of money and just gone to a Der Wienerschnitzel fast-food place at home.

Instead, I devised some generally useful survival techniques. Some of them even work.

● **GETTING A TASTE OF HOW THE LOCALS LIVE:** The trick is to go to places that are neither so touristy nor so far from the center of town that no one will know how to speak English.

In Munich, tourists of all nationalities congregate in Marienplatz, the square in front of the Rathaus (town hall), where at 11 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. each day, the carved figures in the Rathaus tower come to life to the accompaniment of glockenspiel music. There are a number of OK restaurants there, but you're more likely to bump into a pal from your hometown than any Germans.

Just a couple of blocks south, you'll find the irresistible Viktualienmarkt, a large open-air market crowded with merchants selling fruits, vegetables, cheese, bread and meat, as well as the obligatory beer and wurst. This colorful, lively market (and there are similar open-air markets in many German towns large and small) not only gives tourists a look at real Germans going about their lives, it also offers a pressure-free way to learn the German words for some familiar food items.

● **ORDERING IN A RESTAURANT:** One technique that usually yielded satisfactory results was ordering dishes that had the town's name mentioned. In Cologne (which Germans call Koln), I ordered a dish called something like "Kolnischerwurst." I wasn't sure what it was, other than it would be some sort of sausage. It turned out to be a mixed-meats plate that wasn't at all what I was in the mood for, but which turned out to be pretty tasty.

● **FINDING SOMEONE WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH:** If the hotel clerks and waiters are reluctant to speak English, imagine what people who don't specifically work in the tourist trade think of it.

When venturing into the Munich subway, called the U-Bahn, I was met with numerous boards full of instructions and what appeared to be an automatic ticket machine — nothing that a German-language illiterate like me could decipher. Approaching the one human who seemed to be working there, I asked in my most pleading and pathetic German, "Sprechen sie English?" He looked up disdainfully and responded, "Sprechen sie deutsch?" and returned to his book.

Looking around at the people hustling through, I tried to find someone who might be able to speak English. Finally, I decided to try a couple of 18-ish girls, figuring they probably studied the language in the not-too-distant past. Sure enough, their English was halting but more than adequate.

Subsequently, I found I had my best luck with younger people, although I stayed away from the ones wearing army boots and sporting rainbow-colored mohawk haircuts.

The best advice for any traveler facing a language barrier is to be polite and to develop a thick skin. Few things guarantee a grumpy response more than a loud, pushy, obnoxious tourist, while someone displaying good manners frequently gets the benefit of the doubt. And, if you don't get help from the first person you ask, don't be discouraged — chances are someone will be willing to help you.



## VIENNA'S MONUMENT AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

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by Christine M. Boeckl

A solemn ceremony held on Friday, June 21, 1991, marked the completion of Vienna's controversial political *Monument against War and Fascism*. The unveiling of the last two-ton marble relief of Alfred Hrdlicka's memorial dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust completed an extensive iconographic program portraying historic events from 1938 to 1945. Most of the multi-media sculpture ensemble had been erected three years earlier, on November 25, 1988, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Austria's annexation by Nazi Germany, the Anschluss.

Political monuments, vivid reminders of Vienna's illustrious past and its more modest present, comprise an integral part of the old Austrian capital. Its most recent addition was built on a 1945 air-raid site of a building, where many of the victims are buried forever under the rubble. To avoid the desecration of their resting place by a parking garage, this location was chosen for the memorial which spreads over a whole city block. The terrain is unencumbered by fences, letting people relive history by walking within its parameter. The artist calls this travel through time "ein begehbares Monument" (a monument inviting interaction from the viewer).

The front of the gigantic stone configuration is marked by a towering arch: "Gateway to the Forces of Power" (Tor der Gewalt). It displays on the left the "Stairway to Death" (Todesstiege). Concentration camps' victims appear like shadows in their emaciated bodies before a brutal guard figure. The high relief on the right—the last addition—represents an artistic statement on senseless death in wartime visualizing its chaos and horrors: Two heads are juxtaposed, a dead soldier with the steel helmet and that of a child just given birth by its mother. All figures remain anonymous. Further back, standing alone, appears a single block "Orpheus in the Underworld" (Orpheus in der Unterwelt). A figure of a striding man, half submerged in webs, symbolizes Austria's resistance groups. The monument's focal point is the menhir-like rock, "Stone of the Republic" (Stein der Republik) which displays the opening words of Austria's 1945 Constitution. The memorial is further enriched by a bronze sculpture, the figure of a crouching Jew shown in the process of cleaning streets, a demeaning task which had been assigned to many unfortunate victims of this race when the Nazis marched into Austria.

Some controversies about *The Monument against War and Fascism* concerned its site. It has been suggested that this modern work of art should not be placed so close to the Opera but

rather on a less public, and by the same token more appropriate spot: the former Gestapo Headquarters outside the inner city. The disapproval also pertained to the artist, who was unpopular with some Austrians because of his communist affiliation. Other critics might have objected to the local sculptor because they were unaware that Hrdlicka had distinguished himself already as international designer of war memorials. Additional objections were of aesthetic nature. It is true that the monument lacks clarity in design and artistic refinement and is problematic in its use of material and scale. These faults are in part the result of being a rush job because the commissioners wanted to avoid further changes to the site-specific design and because a memorial of this magnitude is a big order for any artist in any period.



Some of the justifiable criticism was that the granite quarried in the Concentration Camp of Mauthausen clashes—albeit consciously—with the Carrara marble reliefs which are placed on top of the unfinished boulders. The upper portions of the combine sculptures recall the refined style of the late thirties, making the viewer aware of the dreadful change in fate in store for the victims in whose memory the monument was raised. Other objections maintained that the life-size, prostrate bronze figure is dwarfed by the surrounding rocks and therefore appears insignificant in the monumentally conceived work. (I believe this is due in part to the evolution of the project which evolved

from a more realistic design stage prior to the determination of the grandiose scale of the whole scheme). Moreover, people were afraid of antisemitic sentiments to be expressed to a figure so accessible to the public. Still, the voiced concern of vandalism seemed in part unfounded, because the only deferential treatment the man received came from tourists who, oblivious of the sculpture's meaning, rested their weary bodies on his back. Then, one person who felt that the figure needed to be visually more significant gilded it overnight, whereupon the sculpture was temporarily removed. However, when the bronze was returned to its former place next to the gateway, the artist had made some changes. Additional sections of spiked rods, simulating barbed wires which suggest fences in death camps, remedied some of the problems. In fact, it is this image of a suffering man that gives the whole structure ethos and lets the viewer relate to the modern work of art on a human level. Frequently one finds votive flowers, such as roses, placed on the victim's back.

Regardless of the memorial's artistic shortcomings, in the opinion of the writer the positive features outweigh the negative qualities. The *Monument against War and Fascism* proves to be a success as a political statement, inviting, for example, demonstrations of spontaneous candle vigils. Although Hrdlicka's sculptural ensemble may recall events which some Viennese prefer to forget, its cathartic power seems to encourage a change in governmental policies. Moreover, the fact that the consciousness-raising monument did receive a place of honor in the heart of the city speaks for the willingness of the Austrian People to acknowledge their past not only in words but also in deeds. The memorial seems to configure Austria's past and future and proves that the suffering was not in vain and will never be forgotten.

*Christine M. Boeckl, born in Vienna, Austria, studied art history and classical archaeology at the University of Vienna. In 1956 she emigrated to the United States where she lives in Washington, DC. Ms. Boeckl returned to graduate school at the University of Maryland in 1981 and wrote her MA thesis on "Altar Paintings during the Reign of Emperor Charles VI." She received her Ph.D. in 1990 from the same institution. Dr. Boeckl has taught art history at colleges and universities in Maryland, Virginia, Montana, Colorado and Nebraska.*



70 JAHRE EINTRACHT

L.R.

The German-American newspaper *Eintracht*, which is published in the Chicago metropolitan area (9556 N. Lawler Ave., Skokie, IL 60077), recently celebrated its seventieth year of publication — no small feat in the 20th century, and considering the fact that this time period included two World Wars. Karl Arndt records that the circulation in 1940 was 4,000, but in 1954 circulation was only 800. Today's masthead states: "Serving a community of over 300,000 German-Americans."

The *Eintracht* began as an independent weekly and originally carried the subtitle: "Deutsch-österreichische-Ungarische Zeitung." The goal of this weekly was: to be a vehicle of communication for the Chicago German-American Societies so that the German-speaking societies might survive. About midway through its existence the newspaper was taken over by Gottlieb Jüngling, a Swabian teacher and journalist. Until his death in 1979, Gottlieb Jüngling published the *Eintracht* with the help of his wife Emmy. Then his wife, and the two Jüngling sons, Walter and Klaus continued the *Eintracht* Verlag. Today Ilse and Marianne, wives of the Jüngling sons, also help with the newspaper's publication.

According to the editors, the name "Eintracht" (harmony in English), signifies peace, friendship, and reconciliation. The word is often used by sports organizations as a symbol of peaceful competition. The concept of *Eintracht* also is to be found in German song and poetry.

When the Jünglings took over the newspaper, it was a 4-pager. Now the weekly

paper runs from 10 to over 20 large pages. In it one can still follow the happenings of the German-American societies in Chicago, and the pages have many pictures taken at these events. But, besides the rich information on Chicago German-American life, the newspaper today also contains articles on German and German-American sports. Every issue also includes an advice column, "Fragen Sie Frau Isabella." For the past 30 years Isabella Erbe has given personal advice to German-Americans, who receive advice from someone who understands their culture. But Frau Isabella not only gives personal advice in her column, she will also track down lost recipes, verses half remembered, and other bits of sought-after information. In the *Eintracht* one also finds a page of humor and other entertainment: cartoons, puzzles, and a weekly German horoscope. Recent issues have also carried the words and sometimes also the music of German folksongs.

*Eintracht's* readership includes the Chicago German-American community, but also many readers from other cities, other states, and other countries. According to the editors of the *Eintracht*, readership includes former Chicago German-Americans, often retired, who, having moved away, still wish to keep up with the news, and the newspaper is also subscribed to by family members in the homeland, who are interested in reading about their relatives who have emigrated.

Only two libraries in the United States are listed as holding subscriptions to this newspaper in the large bibliographic database OCLC. One hopes that someone somewhere is preserving this piece of German-Americana for future researchers.

London paper corrects Mozart's obit

LONDON (AP) — A British newspaper Sunday corrected its report nearly two centuries ago on the death of Wolfgang Mozart.

The Observer said on Dec. 25, 1791, it reported "the celebrated German composer" Mozart had died 10 days earlier in Vienna.

"We are now able to confirm that the composer died on Dec. 5

and was, in fact, Austrian. As today is his birthday, we should like to take this opportunity to apologize to the composer's family for any distress.

"We should like to point out that news traveled more slowly in those days and the previous day's Times (of London) committed the same error."

Kann das sein?

Lehrer: "Was bedeutet Bigamie?" - Schüler: "Doppelte Hausarbeit für den Mann!"

\*

...Mein Mann will mich verlassen, wenn ich seinen Wagen noch einmal zu Bruch fahre" - "Ma und?" - "Ich werde ihn sehr vermissen!"

END OF AN ERA

She was a free spirit living in a gridled era.

German-born sculptor Elisabeth Ney settled in Austin in 1892, built herself a studio called Fornosa, and raised eyebrows in Austin for more than a decade.

Among other things, the eccentric artist slept on the roof of her studio and often dressed in leggings and short velvet tunics (not the fashion of the time).

In the spring of 1907, Ney fell ill after returning from Italy where she was overseeing the cutting of the marble for her Albert Sidney Johnston memorial. A bronchial ailment brought on by breathing marble dust aggravated an old heart condition.

On June 29, 1907, Ney died in the studio at the age of 74 in the arms of her husband, Dr. Edmund Montgomery.

One of her last works was a stunning sculpture of Lady Macbeth, which many believe to be an emotional self-portrait. It is displayed in Ney's Hyde Park studio, which was turned into a museum.



File pic

Story by Michèle Stanush and Biruta Celmins Keart

Reitstunde HS

Unteroffizier: „Mensch, Meier, Sie sitzen ja auf Ihrem Gaul wie die Iphigenie auf Tauris!“  
Der Feldwebel legt dem Unteroffizier die Hand auf die Schulter:  
„Es ist ja sehr nett, daß Sie so gut in der Bibel Bescheid wissen, aber Gottes Wort gehört nicht auf die Reitbahn!“

Frauen bleiben im Nachteil

Bonn - Frauen sind in Gremien und Ämtern, auf deren Besetzung die Bundesregierung Einfluss hat, in allen Fachgebieten und Geschäftsbereichen erheblich unterrepräsentiert. Das geht aus einem Bericht der Bundesregierung hervor.

Der Frauenanteil ist dem Bericht zufolge in den vergangenen zehn Jahren nicht wesentlich gestiegen. Untersucht wurde der Anteil von Frauen in über 1000 Gremien, Beräten, öffentlichen Anstalten, Stiftungen, Gerichten und Kommissionen. Dabei stellte sich heraus, daß von insgesamt 16 147 in diesen Bereichen tätigen Personen 1156 weiblichen Geschlechts sind. Das sind 7,2 Prozent.

Mehr als die Hälfte der Gremien fragen der Studie zufolge ganz ohne Frauen: der Bundespersonalaussschuß, die Rundfunkräte der Deutschen Welle und des Deutschlandfunks, der Europäische Gerichtshof. Auch die Vorstände der Postunternehmen, Postdienst, Telekom und Postbank seien nur mit Männern besetzt.

Die Untersuchung ergab, daß vor allem in naturwissenschaftlich-technischen, Beratungsgremien und in der Rechts-, Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik Frauen rar sind. In 36 der über 1000 untersuchten Ausschüsse liegt der Frauenanteil bei mindestens 20 Prozent. In sechs Gremien stellen die Frauen die Hälfte der Mitglieder oder mehr. Dabei handelt es sich meist um Ausschüsse aus dem Geschäftsbereich des früheren Ministeriums für Jugend, Familie, Frauen und Gesundheit.

Die Regierung kündigte Maßnahmen an, um die Chancen der Frauen zu verbessern. Man werde alle Beteiligten „appellieren, bei der Besetzung von Ämtern und Gremien Frauen angemessen zu berücksichtigen. Die Berücksichtigung von Frauen in Gremien solle in einem Gleichberechtigungsgesetz geregelt werden. Ein Gesetzentwurf werde noch in dieser Legislaturperiode vorgelegt.“

M.F.





# German-Texan Heritage Society

FOUNDED 1978

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  - Photographing historical sites.
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Send your check and this page to:

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507 East 10th Street  
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## German-Texan Heritage Society

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 JOURNAL is published three times a year (50-75 pages). It is sent to all members. The JOURNAL features a genealogical section which includes hints about research in German-speaking countries, Texas, and the United States; brief family histories submitted by members, and a genealogy exchange column. Other sections of the JOURNAL include reprints of articles from other publications, announcements about activities and events, a book review column, an annual index, and original essays about various topics related to German-Texana.

An ANNUAL MEETING is held the second weekend in September in various German heritage areas of Texas. The program emphasizes the German-Texan heritage and includes talks, slide shows, show-and-tell sessions, and discussions by researchers, preservationists, folklorists, authors, members who have a story to tell and guest experts in specific fields; informal social events; plays and music; and tours of historical sites in the host city.

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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* (temporarily out-of-print).
2. Sponsorship of the reprint of *THE CABIN BOOK (DAS KAJUTENBUCH)*, by Charles Sealsfield.
3. The reprint of Rudolph Biesele's *THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861*.
4. *THE HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE*.
5. The reprint of Victor Bracht's *TEXAS IN 1848*, translated by Charles Frank Schmidt.

For more information or price lists for books and back issues contact:

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# GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ISSUE	DEADLINE	ARRIVAL
SPRING	FEB. 10	APRIL 1
SUMMER	JUNE 10	AUG. 1
FALL	OCT. 10	DEC. 1

(Ideally, this allows for one week to assemble, four weeks to print, one week to prepare for mailing, and the time for the U.S. Mail.)

## STATEMENT OF POLICY

No materials sent for the JOURNAL will be returned to the sender.

All materials must include a source, a date, and the name of the contributor. The issue Editor is not responsible for errors in spelling, for typos, or for misinformation.

All articles and manuscripts must be typed, SINGLE SPACED, on 8.5-inch by 11-inch white paper, with a .25 inch margin on all edges.

The issue Editor or the elected Board of the GTHS has the right and the responsibility to refuse materials that may not be in accordance with the by-laws of the German-Texan Heritage Society.

Deadlines will be followed as closely as is possible for volunteers.

### SEND THE FOLLOWING TO:

German-Texan Heritage Society  
P. O. Box 684171  
Austin, Texas 78768

Announcements, articles, genealogical inquiries, conference, meeting and reunion dates, news or other German heritage events, and other interesting information.

Subscription and membership inquiries.

Correspondence, contributions and manuscripts for publication. All translated manuscripts must be accompanied by the German original.

## ANNUAL MEETING

1992  
September 11, 12, 13  
NEW BRAUNFELS  
  
Helgard Suhr  
8 Mission Dr.  
New Braunfels, Tx. 78130

1993  
September 10, 11, 12  
SAN ANGELO  
Otto Tetzlaff  
Angelo State University  
915-944-1927

1994  
September 8, 9, 10  
FREDERICKSBURG  
Kenn Knopp (contact person)

1995  
September 7, 8, 9  
VICTORIA  
Patsy Hand  
417 Cottonwood St.  
Victoria, Tx. 77904  
512-575-0049

1996  
September 5, 6, 7  
LUBBOCK  
Meredith McClain  
2612 24th St  
Lubbock, Tx. 79410  
806-744-6033

## ADDRESSES OF GTHS INTEREST

German-American Chamber of Commerce, Houston  
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Houston, TX 77010  
Tel. No.: (713) 658-8230

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