

THE 1978 REUNION REVISITED

The 37th Reunion was held at the VFW Hall in Round Top, Texas, July 9, 1978 with 128 members and 19 guests in attendance, a total of 147. Registration began at 10:00 a.m. followed by a picnic style luncheon at noon. The business meeting began at 2:15 p.m. with President Frederick A. von Rosenberg II of Dallas, Texas, presiding.

Members of the International Festival Institute of the University of Texas told us of their program of development in the Round Top area, as well as singing many German songs for our assembly.

The minutes were accepted as contained in the March 1978 Newsletter and Robert Hein gave his Treasurer's report.

The oldest member attending was Mrs. Anna Campbell of San Antonio, a tender 88½, the youngest was Eric Martin von Rosenberg of Dallas, son of our Family President. The member coming the longest distance to attend was Rives Meerscheidt and family from Bonn AFB in Germany.

Glenn von Rosenberg of Waco conducted a memorial service for these deceased members: William Harvey Adams, Mrs. Hilmer P. Krause, Marvin Shaw Lee, Mrs. Ellen May Speckels, Wm. Frederick von Rosenberg, and Maggie von Rosenberg.

Glenn von Rosenberg also invited the Association to Waco, Texas, July 21 and 22 for the 1979 Reunion. It will be held in the K. of C. Hall.

Alfred Wupperman of Austin rendered his resignation as Chairman of Branch #1 which was accepted with thanks for his past services. Ralph Gordon Kirkley of Austin was appointed to replace him.

The President also directed that his appointments of the Officers Nominating Committee would be announced in a future Newsletter.

The major issue of the day was the proper method of financing the printing of the "letter." After considerable discussion, a motion was made by the Secretary, seconded by Leo Meerscheidt, Jr. of San Antonio, that each family in the Association be asked to contribute the sum of \$20.00 or more to a printing fund which would guarantee the purchase of one copy per contributing family and that furthermore, should the collective sum exceed the final cost of printing (an unknown factor at the time), the

contributing family would be entitled to an appropriate refund or they could donate the overage to our General Book Fund, if any. The motion carried.

THE SOCIAL EVENING

96 of our members sojourned to the VFW Hall in La Grange July 8, 1978, for a great meal, refreshments and visiting with each other. Mr. Phil Lester was the M.C. for the occasion, furnished us a good sound system, and taught us how to square dance. The Road Runners, a trained square dance team, performed very well for us. It was interesting to note that some of our Family members are members of that team. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening and as I've said before, "Our folks sure like to party"!

THANK THE HOST

The Association once again offers its gratitude to the Host Committee for the 1978 Reunion in Round Top. It's comforting to know that what's with Round Top being our "Official Reunion Meeting Place" we have people there who do so well at hosting one. They had to prepare rather hurriedly this time because the Reunion was changed from Houston to Round Top almost at the last minute. They still did a grand job. Thanks Sam, Eunice, Lucille, Dan, Lester, and A. L. von Rosenbergs and Henry Dolezal, Will Moore, Homer Eck, and Mrs. Edgar and Mrs. Alex von Rosenbergs. You all did a beautiful job as usual and we all appreciate you.

DONATIONS

If you haven't made your '78-'79 donation to our Family Operating Budget, please feel free to do so immediately. Kindly make your checks payable to: "Von Rosenberg Family" and send it to your Secretary.

THE MAILING LIST

If you or any of your near relatives have moved since last year, or if you know of someone not receiving the Newsletter, please send me the correct addresses and I'll take care of it.

HELP KEEP OUR MOMENTUM GOING

We are pleased to announce, some 3 months in advance, the 1979 Reunion will be held in Waco, Texas, Sunday, July 22, with the Social Evening the night before, the 21st.

Past President of the Family and host Glenn von Rosenberg has a bunch of things planned for us this year and we are really looking forward to it.

For a motel reservation, write to:

Holiday Inn
Box 1669
Waco, Texas 76704

or phone: area 817-753-0261. It is located at the intersection of I-35 and Riverside. If I'm not mistaken, the Inn is the newest in town and is very nice. I know because I've stayed there. Reunion and Social Evening details will be sent you in the June Newsletter.

ELECTION TIME

We will be electing officers at the Waco Reunion on July 22nd. We will elect a President, Vice-Pres., Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian to serve our Association from '79 to '81. If you wish to be considered for either of these offices, please let your Secretary know and your name will be given to the about-to-be-appointed Nominating Committee. I'm happy to announce we have had one person indicate a desire to be Historian. This is a big help and the name will be given to the Committee. On the Secretary thing, however, no one has applied yet.

Helen Hellmuth Walker, Chairman Branch II, reports the deaths of Ernest William Hellmuth, San Antonio, in Sept. 1978, and Erna Hellmuth Crofford in Waco on Oct. 6, 1978.

Charles W. von Rosenberg informs that Irma and Ernest A. Guenther of Austin have provided a new translation of the Family Genealogical Scroll brought over from Germany. It is more complete and corrects typographical and other errors in the translation appearing in Vol. I, pages 1-4.

Nicky and Pamela Rosencran, previously in Alaska, now reside at: 9801 Meadowglen Lane #183, Houston, Tx., 77042. Pamela is a daughter of the Secretary.

Our attendance was pretty good again in '78. We recorded our 3rd largest attendance in our Association's history: 147.

Following are the complete attendance figures since the 1st year, 1939:

1939--153	1960-- 50
1946--127	1962-- 61
1948-- 90	1963-- 35
1949--143	1965-- 88
1950--101	1970-- 45
1951-- 98	1971-- 23 (yuk)
1952-- 60	1972-- 82 Rockport
1953-- 77	1973-- 82 Rockport
1954-- 71	1974--107 Rosenbg.
1955-- 88	1975--148 Round T.
1956-- 45	1976--126 San Ant.
1957-- 63	1977--146 Austin
1958-- 49	1978--147 Round T.

Funny thing about our attendance. Look at the average of each Reunion by the decade:

1930's--153 ('39 only, the 1st)
1940's--120
1950's-- 72
1960's-- 58
1970's--100

The average per Reunion for the 1st 30 years, '39 through '69, steadily declined. We have done better in the '70's, especially since 1972. From '72 to the present, we averaged 119 per Reunion.

James G. and Jane (Ulrich) Dougherty reside at 1102 Karen Ave., Austin, Tx., 78757. James is a native of Marshall, Tx., a U. of T. Journalism grad and a photographer for the Austin American-Statesman newspaper; he is also a Regional Director for the National Press Photographers Association. Wife, Jane, has been the Life/Style Editor of the American Statesman for the past 3½ years. Before that, she was a writer for the Dallas Morning News for 5½ years. Good!

VOL. II

You are reminded that copies of Vol. II of the Family book are still available and can be obtained by mailing a check in the amount of \$13.00 per copy to Robert Hein, 413 Ridgemont, San Antonio, Texas, 78209. We have only a few left!

Copies are still available of the booklet "Emigration of the von Rosenbergs to Texas, 1849," compiled and published first in 1938 by Walter Otto Wupperman, secondly by Mrs. Harold (Monte von Rosenberg) Fletcher in 1960, and thirdly by Phil Meerscheidt in 1976.

Please send your check of \$6.00 per copy to Robert Hein, 413 Ridgmont, San Antonio, Texas, 78209.

FREELY AND DEEPLY

It was with nervous anticipation, hardly two weeks after the '78 Reunion at Round Top, that I began to open the first of 3 letters I had just extracted from my mail box. "Maybe the next Secretary is stepping forward," I hoped!

"Dear Phil, I read the last Newsletter with great interest, most especially about the Family needing a new Secretary. I wish to apply for it. Following are my qualifications....." I read every word with great animosity. The letter was beautifully composed. "Gee," I said "Our prayers are answered. Oh What A Relief It Is"! The von Rosenberg Family "Does It Again."

The second letter commenced: "Dear Phil, I know the Family Association means a great deal to you and that you wish to be replaced. By Golly, after much deliberation, I'm happy to inform I'd like to be the one to replace you. I have a degree in Journalism from SMU and" "Wow," I said "How lucky can we be? For a whole year we've had no response; now we suddenly have 2 capable people who want the job. Certainly our Association can still say "We are Driven."

The third: "Phil, on that Secretary's thing, don't worry about it, I gotcha covered. I'm like the carpet on the floor. In the past, I've....." This person not only displayed a great sense of humor but told of some very worthwhile projects I was sure the Family would be interested in. "Boy," I said "The 1979 Reunion is sure gonna have a tough time deciding between these three people. All are strong candidates and all are interested, truly a landfall." I thought "Phil, You Deserve A Break Today" and "You Asked For It, You Got It."

Someone is shaking my shoulder. "Wake up, Phil! It's 7:00 a.m. Didn't you want to get an early start on that Newsletter this morning"?

The '78 Reunion Revisted" portion of this Newsletter revealed that printing the "letters" was discussed and moved upon. In capsule, the plan is to ask each family to donate \$20.00 to a "letters book fund" the collective sum of which would enable us to have enough means to have the work printed and that each family would receive one copy, plus an overage refund, if any. The exact amount necessary for printing was unknown at the '78 Reunion. President Rick von R. appointed a "Letters Committee" to explore the most feasible way to print the letters and at a price we could best afford. The Committee is composed of: Robert Hein of San Antonio, chm.; Hal & Monte Fletcher of Hallettsville; Ray von Rosenberg of Taft; and Bruno and Judy Ybarra of Austin.

PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee will give you a detailed report at our Reunion in Waco but for our purpose here, let me give you the highlights of their search so far:

1st--Charles' manuscript was duplicated 5 times so that each Committee member could present a sample to their source for a quotation on printing.

2nd--to fix and prepare the letters as done with Vol. II is entirely too expensive, like 4 to 6 thousand dollars.

3rd--a copy of the manuscript is presently in the hands of the University of Texas Press for their judgment. If they find the work worthy and useful to their purpose, they would print the work at their expense and sell our members the copies they desire. The cost would be paid from the \$20.00 you had previously sent to the Secretary and your book or books would be mailed to you. Should an overage occur, it could either be refunded to you or you could donate it to our regular book fund, whichever you prefer.

If, however, the U. of T. decides negatively, we would merely cross-off that source and find another way.

4th--unless the Committee finds a better way, it looks like we'll have to type every page of the manuscript, some 326 pages, get them camera-ready, and let Kwik-Kopy, or the like, print it for us. This would cause it to be in the form of the "Emigration" booklet, probably at a cost of around \$2,500.00.

ANYBODY WANT TO GO SHOPPING?

I am asking you to begin sending me your \$20.00 or more immediately so that when the eventual method is finally decided upon by the Committee, or by the '79 Reunion, we will have the necessary funds on hand to proceed with the order.

SALES TALK

You need only a short one! If you could see the final results of Charles W. and his Translation Committee, you would easily pay \$50.00 per copy. The new insight and knowledge you will learn about the early part of our Pioneer Family is immeasurable. I don't believe a member of our Association can be complete without at least one copy of these "letters" on hand. They really reveal new things.

Secondly, Charles W. von Rosenberg and his Committee deserve to see their four years of sweat and toil culminated in a proper form. Their motivation was simply to see the letters in printed form so that every member of our Association could have a copy of them.

End Sales Talk!

Send \$20.00 Immediately

TO CHARLES W. AND HIS COMMITTEE

Our entire Association owes a great deal of thanks and gratitude to Charles W. von Rosenberg and his Committee who helped in the translation of the "letter." Those members are: Anna Campbell of San Antonio, Laura Wingo of Birmingham, Ala., and Ernest and Irma Guenther of Austin. Alfred Wupperman of Austin and Robert Hein of San Antonio helped on some questions, and of course, Past President Ray von Rosenberg of Taft was instrumental in finding the letters originally.

But it was Charles W. who did the most and the hardest. In spite of facing bad health, he kept after his task unrelentlessly, persevering as only he can do. If the long tedious years of compiling Vol. II were not enough, he sprang headlong almost immediately into the difficult task of translating the almost 400 letters Ray had found and given Charles copies of. Esther von Rosenberg of Austin also furnished Charles some letters she had in her possession which also needed translating from German into English. The Committee helped Charles greatly but in the end it was our distinguished Historian who put in 4 hard years of work.

Charles, we all love you and we all thank you for the many great contributions you have made to this Association. Your resignation as Historian will certainly be a hardship on the Family but we know you will help your successor whenever possible. Resign in peace and know that amongst all others, you truly deserve the best "Well Done"!

Alfred Wupperman has a new address:
2401 Manor Road #119, Austin, Tx., 78722.
Phone: 474-2732.

Alan B. Wardle also has a new address:
#104 3683 E. Hastings
Vancouver B.C. V5K2B

W. L. and Sharon Roquemore of Odessa, Tx. announce the birth of their new daughter: Jenell Marie, Aug. 19, 1978, 7 lbs. and 3 ozs. Storcks! and Congratulations.

Tom and Pat Jolly have purchased a new home. Their new address is: 6846 Van Lynn Lane, Houston, Tx., 77084. Pat is also a daughter of the Secretary.

The next Newsletter will be sent you in June, 2 months hence. If you have news or information, please send it to me as soon as possible and I'll include it.

Remember, if it's worth doing, it's usually worth telling someone about it.

Usually! that is.

Don't forget to:

1. make your plans to attend the Reunion in Waco July 21 and 22.
2. make your motel reservation.
3. send me \$20.00 for the "letter."
4. send me your family news.
5. send your \$5.00 for '78-'79.
6. order a copy of Vol. II.
7. order the "Emigration" booklet.

This space was reserved
for News of YOUR family!

WHAT HAPPENED?

This Newsletter submitted by:

Phil Meerscheidt
Family Secretary

April
1979