

# von Rosenberg Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2001

The von Rosenberg artifacts including the originals of the Familie Froelich charts and other fragile documents have potentially found a permanent home in the LaGrange Historical section of the La Grange Public Library.

A study made by Neale Rabensburg and Bilye Beth Baker have proven to be very positive. At the time the site, though small has a climate controlled room for storage and nice research abilities.

The historical coordinator is excited at the possibility of having additions to the von Rosenberg files, which at the present time, are extremely small.



## von Rosenberg 2002 Trip to Europe

Join us on this adventure of a lifetime. Glenn and Jo von Rosenberg are organizing a tour through von Rosenberg Europe that includes several Rozmberka (that's how the Czechs spell it) castles in Old Bohemia where the vRs lived from 1100 to 1500. Next we will stop in beautiful Prague before going for a visit to the battle field in Leipzig, Germany where the jaw of Peter Carl's horse was shot away in 1813 at the Battle of the Nations in October of 1813, and Napoleon was first defeated. Then we will visit historic Warsaw, Poland. From

there we will take a boat trip on the beautiful Baltic Sea to Klapeda, Lithuania, (old Memel with Eckitten nearby where Jo and Glenn visited last year). This is the area of Kurland where the vRs lived from 1500 to 1849 when they immigrated to Texas. Next we will visit Berlin and Potsdam, the old royal city. Finally, we go to Brussels to visit the Waterloo Battlefield, where Napoleon was finally defeated with the help of Peter Carl and the other Prussians and the British. Eighteen days, first class hotels, transportation, 2 meals a day, lots of shopping and

much to see-- for around \$3500--about \$190 a day. You can also join for either the first or last part of the trip. We will leave Dallas on May 11, 2002 and fly to Munich, returning from Brussels on May 28. All plans are subject to change and modifications. Nothing is finalized yet. We are hoping for at least 20 members of the family and friends.

Cousin Nancy Hein of Point to Point Travel in San Antonio is in charge of arrangements.

To put your name on the list, or for more information call:

Jo 254-772-4990

Nancy 210-822-1000

Ray 254-773-4372

## Notes from the Past

Our first family reunion was held May 7, 1939 in Round Top, Texas. There were 150 in attendance. Herbert von Rosenberg was elected the first president.

The second reunion was May 5, 1940 in La Grange. Otto von Rosenberg celebrated his 74th birthday there. He was born May 7, 1866.

The third reunion was the first two day affair, held May 17 and 18, 1941 in La Grange. The fourth reunion was April 26, 1942. However, the fifth reunion

was not held until 1946. A note on the page written for the 1942 reunion states: "no reunion during the war years: 1943, 1944, 1945—shortage of gas for autos."

The 8th reunion held September 4, 1949, was the centennial celebration of the immigration from Germany in 1849.

The 20th reunion was held May 7, 1961 in Joske Pavillion in San Antonio. John Paul Warnken was president.

So it goes through the years that in 1999 we celebrated

the 150th anniversary of the arrival to Texas and the reunion in 2001 will be the 60th reunion of the family association. Since the humble beginnings in 1939 the family has grown extensively, from the few hundred descendants to almost 2600 by the end of 1999! At the 2001 reunion in July, we will be heralding another historic moment by presenting the updated family history in the third volume of *The von Rosenberg Family of Texas*.

MINUTES - BUSINESS MEETING — Saturday, July 17, 1999

The meeting was called to order by Art Green, President at 4:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Art.

Three speakers spoke on the history of the von Rosenberg Family. Ray von Rosenberg spoke on the von Rosenberg's history in Europe (Prussia); Jim Kearney, a local historian, spoken about the early German settlers in Texas and their relationship to Nassau Plantation; Dale U. von Rosenberg presented a slide show depicting pictures of the original route that Peter Carl and his family took from Galveston to Nassau Plantation. Glenn and Jo von Rosenberg also showed pictures from the site of Peter Carl's homestead in Europe from their recent trip to Europe.

A welcome speech was given by Art Green. Self introductions of all the family members followed. It was moved and seconded to dispense with the reading of the Minutes. The Treasurer's report was given by William von Rosenberg, III. The combined Book & Operating Fund had a beginning balance of \$6,420 and a balance of \$7,313. It was moved and seconded to accept the treasurer's report, and the motion passed.

Ann Barnes presented the following historian's report:

First, Neal Rabensburg made a presentation on Branch V letters. Ann then displayed a von Rosenberg signature quilt. She also gave an update on Volume III, encouraging all to submit their specific family's information including biographies on generation five. The remaining information is needed by February 2000.

Ann Juranek announced that we have over 600 cookbooks remaining to sell and that these funds will be needed for publishing Volume III. Akin Press is being utilized to help distribute these books. Bill von Rosenberg, III said that we have new v.r. T-Shirts available for \$10 each. There was also an idea for a commemorative pen to sell for about \$25.

The following people were nominated as officers to serve for the years 1999 to 2001: Wayne Scholz : President; Pam Peters: Vice President; Daryl Green: Secretary; Bill von Rosenberg III: Treasurer; and Ann Barnes: Historian. A motion to elect this slate by acclamation was made and seconded. The motion passed.

The time and location for the 2000 Reunion was discussed and suggested to remain at Camp Lone Star to be held on the third weekend of July ( 14, 15, 16 ).

Announcements / Achievements.:

Leo Meerscheidt made a plea for every family member to take time to complete their family data needed for Volume III. Leo's daughter-in-law, Beverly, received her college bachelor's degree after many years of work. Leo's grandson also received his Masters Degree in Engineering. Sharon Lytton Roquemore's son graduated with a college degree. Leo Meerscheidt's other daughter-in-law completed her training in the Montessori school. Pam Peters's son graduated from high school this last year in the Dominican Republic. Bill von Rosenberg, III announced that his daughter, Leslie, is engaged to get married.

Wayne, Lynn, Ellyn and Alyson Scholz traveled the farthest coming from Michigan. The youngest in attendance was Charles M. von Rosenberg, 1 year and 2 months old and son of Karl von Rosenberg. The eldest family member present was Edna von Rosenberg, mother of Glenn von Rosenberg and Nettie Green, at 90 years young.

Ann Juranek announced a hayride at 6:30 p.m., kids games at 7:30 p.m., and music/dance following these activities. Ann said that a silent auction and a social time would be at 9 p.m. The devotional service will be held on Sunday at 10 AM led by Art and Daryl Green.

A Memorial Service will be held at the devotional service on Sunday with a reading of the names of 6 members whose deaths have been reported since last year's Reunion :

Melba Hall, unknown date of death; Elsa Goeth Youngblood, 3/29/99; Botho Schenck, 4/23/99; Frederick (Rick) von Rosenberg, 5/16/99; Nancy Frahm (Watt) Koehn, 11/17/98; William D. Howell, 8/14/98.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 5:32 p.m. President, Art Green, closed the meeting by reading a quote from the von Rosenberg letters.

Wayne A. Scholz, Family Secretary

Minutes - Business Meeting — Saturday, July 15, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Scholz, President, at 4:05 p.m. Wayne then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Wayne noted that this was the 59<sup>th</sup> family reunion and the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Peter Carl's landing in the United States. Additionally, he gave a brief description of locations in the vicinity of LaGrange that were of interest to the von Rosenberg family (Peter Carl's grave, the von Rosenberg house on Hinkle Square in Round Top, and Nassau Plantation).

Self introductions of family members (and guests) were made. It was moved, seconded, and passed to dispense with the reading of the Minutes. Daryl publicly recognized Ann Barnes for her work on the Newsletter. The Treasurer's report was given by William von Rosenberg, III. The combined Book and Operating Fund had beginning balance of \$7,313 and an ending balance of \$8,154.40. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report and the motion passed.

Ann Barnes presented the following information in her Historian's Report:

- Ann presented to the group an index of Volume II of The von Rosenberg Family of Texas. Also made available was a Listing of Historical Data which detailed numerous items/heirlooms in the possession of the family. Ann initiated a discussion about the need to find a place to archive these items and artifacts. Since some of the documents are crumbling due to age, the desire for expediently finding adequate and appropriate storage was voiced. A motion was made for Ann to research archival options and present a final recommendation to the v.r. family officers. This motion was seconded and passed.
- The von Rosenberg Family of Texas, Volume III was discussed. Ann reported on work done and the support received by several family members (Jo von Rosenberg, Nettie Green, Leo Meerscheidt, and Ray von Rosenberg). The goal for publication is to have the book available at the family reunion in the Summer of 2001. Order blanks are available from Bill von Rosenberg, 11404 Antler Lane, Austin, TX 78726 (billvr@aol.com).

A motion to accept the historian's report was moved, seconded, and passed.

Old Business: Authority was given to the Treasurer to print up to 100 copies of Ancestral Voices.

New Business: The location and time of the 2001 Family Reunion was discussed and the vote was to remain at Camp Lone Star. The third weekend in July includes July 20, 21, 22.

Announcements/Achievements: Alyson Scholz (Wayne and Lynn) graduated from high school and will be attending Texas Christian University in the fall. Leslie von Rosenberg (Bill and Susan) was married on January 8<sup>th</sup> to J.L. Murrillo. Ross von Rosenberg (Roger and Robin) completed his freshman year at Lynchburg College and was selected for the lacrosse team. Genell Roquemore (Wendell and Sharon) was married on May 27<sup>th</sup> to David Sutherland. Conner Bechtel (Darlyn and Drew Cartwright) qualified for the Boys State Choir which will perform July 28<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen and Jim Schock both retired from public school teaching (30 years for Kathleen and 34 years for Jim). Shirley Meerscheidt retired on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Eighty-four people were in attendance at this years reunion.

The youngest in attendance was Charles McCann von Rosenberg (Karl and Michelle) at 2 years 2 months.

The oldest in attendance was Edna von Rosenberg at 90. She is the mother of Glenn von Rosenberg and Nettie Green.

The longest distance traveled was awarded to Albert and Hester Meerscheidt. They and their three children (Paul (17), Hester (13), and Rosemary (9)) traveled from near Spokane, Washington. They planned a six week 7600 mile vacation around the dates of the reunion!!! Thanks for your effort!! (more on them in the next newsletter).

Family members were reminded of the silent auction, T-shirt sales, cook book sales, and entertainment taking place this evening. A devotional and memorial service will be held on Sunday including the reading of the names of family members whose deaths had been reported since the last reunion: Walter Gilbert Rabensburg on April 14, 2000.

**From the Historian**

*To learn more about German nobility, Ray von Rosenberg searched the Internet and found an interesting site. As he explained at the reunion, briefly, von is nobility that makes us all Barons or Baronesses. The only catch is, such titles are illegal in the United States. To learn more: [www.worldroots.clicktron.com/brigitte/royal/germannobility.htm](http://www.worldroots.clicktron.com/brigitte/royal/germannobility.htm).*

*We have had an offer to have Familie Froelich translated at a very modest price. The translator is working up information to present to the family. More information will be available at a later date.*

*In looking through the newsletters of the past, I found that in the 70s we had a Branch chairman for each Branch, but that somehow through time, we no longer have such. All of us who have worked on Vol III, strongly believe that we need to incorporate this practice once again as coordinators under the Historian to help keeping our records up-to-date. We need to seriously consider this.*



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Daryl Green, Secretary  
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**The 60th  
von Rosenberg  
Family Reunion**

July 20-22, 2001

Camp Lone Star  
LaGrange, Texas

Come enjoy  
Cards · Dominoes  
Talent Show  
Swimming · Fishing  
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Webmaster  
Danny Udall  
udalld@earthlink.net

Visit our website:  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~vonrosenberg.net>

**General Store**

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The von Rosenberg Family of Texas Vol. III*  
(available at the July 2001 family reunion)—\$20 each

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of Vol. I — \$16 each

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of Vol. II — \$13.50 each

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The von Rosenberg Family of Texas Cookbook* — \$14.95 each

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *Ancestral Voices*—the letters —\$20 each

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of Emigration Booklet — \$6.50 each

\_\_\_\_\_ laser copies of black and white drawing of Eckitten Estates — \$3 each

\_\_\_\_\_ von Rosenberg family T-shirts — \$10 each  
Indicate Number: Adult:     XXL     XL     S  
Youth:     XS(2-4)     S (6-8)     M (10-12)     L (14-16)

\_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal  
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+ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to the von Rosenberg Family of Texas operating budget

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Rosenberg Family of  
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**Mail to:**  
Bill von Rosenberg  
Treasurer  
11404 Antler Lane  
Austin, TX 78726  
512-258-5719  
billvr@aol.com

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*The 60th von Rosenberg Family Reunion*

*July 20-22, 2001*