

# von Rosenberg Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2001

On Saturday, July 14, 2001, many books, newspaper clippings and various articles pertaining to the von Rosenberg family became permanently housed in the archives of the Fayette Heritage Museum and Archives in La-Grange, Texas. Also included were the framed family charts that came from the Familie Froelich book. Jo von Rosenberg, Nettice Green, Ann Barnes and Neale Rabensburn turned over the artifacts to assistant director Donna Green. The archives already has a collection of family research and these books and family charts are a nice addition. Thanks go to Billye Beth Baker for making arrangements for our new home for our artifacts.

## Vol III Is Here!

Thanks to the help of many family members as well as a few non-family members, The von Rosenberg Family of Texas 1849-1999, Vol III was presented and distributed at our July family reunion.

Family members were excited and had great fun looking up names. They especially loved going through all the photos that were included in this issue. This newsletter is arriving early so all family members will have the opportunity to order these wonderful new books in time for Christmas. This is a book you surely want to add to your library and pass on to your family members.

Originally the cost was announced at \$20.00. However, the price has been adjusted to \$25.00 per book plus \$4.00 shipping. Please use the order form in the newsletter for ordering. For anyone who took books on consignment from the reunion—when payment is sent to the treasurer, please be sure to let him know that the books have already been delivered. Hopefully this will avoid any books being mailed by mistake.



## Charles Wilburn von Rosenberg, former family historian passes away

Charles Wilburn von Rosenberg, who was the family historian for many years, died July 27, 2001 in Dallas, Texas. He was 93. Charles was never married but is survived by several nieces and nephews. He was born November 28, 1907 to Otto Carl von Rosenberg and Lisette Schenk in Hallettsville, Texas. He was active in the von Rosenberg family organization and authored some of the books in the family collection. Charles had a brilliant professional career, Graveside services were held August 13 at the Hallettsville Cemetery.

## von Rosenberg 2002 trip to Europe postponed

Jo von Rosenberg received word at the end of August that visiting the family sites in Lithuania for the present is impossible. Restrictions imposed by the country are

extremely high which would make entry very expensive, if not impossible. Therefore, plans for the visit are postponed until at least 2003. During this time Jo

and others planning the trip will continue to investigate the possibilities and the realities. As she stated at the reunion, "We want to do it right."

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## Minutes of meeting:

President Wayne Scholz called the meeting of the 60th von Rosenberg family reunion to order July 14, 2001 at 1 p.m.

After the pledge of allegiance to the flag, introductions were made. There were 89 members present.

Vice President Pam Peters, Secretary Daryl Green and Treasurer Bill von Rosenberg were all unable to attend this year.

The minutes and treasurer's report for the past year were read by Wayne Scholz, and secretary-elect Karl von Rosenberg and approved by family members.

The historian's report given by Ann Barnes who reported that numerous books and family charts had been donated to the Heritage Museum and Archives in LaGrange. Family members were encouraged to visit the archives after the business meeting adjourned.

She also stated that while in Texas she would be going to the Center for American History at the University of Texas to take an inventory of the von Rosenberg family holdings there. This would be reported at the next meeting. Glenn von Rosenberg then explained the increase in price of Vol. III from \$20.00 to \$25.00 per book and encouraged anyone who was interested to take books on consignment to family members not in attendance. It was also reiterated that cookbooks, a few T-Shirts, and Vol. I, Vol. II are still available.

An election of officers was held before the meeting was adjourned. New officers are:

**Wayne Scholz, President  
Pam Meerscheidt, Vice President.  
Karl von Rosenberg, Secretary,  
Bill von Rosenberg, Treasurer, and Ann Barnes, Historian.**

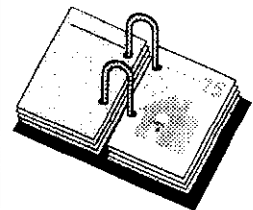
Jo von Rosenberg made a proposal to reinstate the practice of having Branch chairmen. A number of years ago each Branch had one or two people acting as chairmen. The purpose was to help the historian keep current with information such as births, marriages, deaths, etc. We have learned from personal experience when trying to update information for the new book the necessity of having more help. With the family as large as it is, it has become impossible for one person to try to make sure every branch is reporting this important information.

Therefore, a format and guidelines for putting branch chairmen into place is currently being worked up. There will be more information coming.

### Mark your Calendars

*The 2002  
reunion of the  
von Rosenberg  
family of  
Texas will be  
held  
July 12 -14.*

*La Grange,  
Texas*



## Meerscheidt House in La Grange back into the family

While Neale Rabensburg, Branch V, was driving through La Grange on reunion Saturday, he noticed that an old Victorian house which was once owned by the Meerscheidts was up for sale. Being a real estate man himself, Neale lost no time in making a quick phone call to find out more information. Happily, Neale is now the owner of "The Meerscheidt House" which is at 458 N. Monroe. Axel Meerscheidt first owned the property where the house now sits. He sold the land to his brother Paul, who built the present house in 1884. The house is registered with the state of Texas as an historical landmark. In about 1890 the house was sold to John and Marguerite Speckels.

In 1915 Louis and Meta Walter purchased the home. In 1925 Charles and Wilhelmina Grindt bought the house. Neale's grandfather eventually inherited the home which he kept for many years. He sold the home in 1955. At that time, the house left the family. Now, almost a half century later it comes back to a descendant of the Meerscheidt, Speckels and Rabensburg families.

Neale is excited to have the house back into the family again. He will be making some renovations of his own and hopes to be able to have a reception at the house during the next reunion.





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