

vonRosenberg Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 10

MAY 2010

Message from the President

As my first term as President of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas, I want to encourage all of you to attend this year's reunion to be held in La Grange, TX @ Camp Lone Star. The reunion has been held in Fayette County for many years, and it is appropriate that it continue there where our common ancestor, Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg and his family, initially settled. Since our ties to Fayette County remain strong, it was appropriate that the Fayette Library and Heritage Museum & Archives in La Grange was selected several years ago as the main depository for the Family's archives including documents, heirlooms and photographs. The Library is a state-of-the-art facility that can house your original documents. I would encourage you to add your family archives and heirlooms to this facility so that other von Rosenberg family descendants and historians can research and enjoy your material. The Library, however, will only accept originals at present. If you do not want to part with your originals at this time, please then consider digitizing them and forwarding them to the Fayette County Genealogical Society (FCGS) <http://www.favcogensoc.com/> for storage and shared research. Since I am the Vice President of FCGS, I can offer you these two entities for document warehousing with internet access.

Our own website for the von Rosenberg Family of Texas <http://www.vonrosenbergfamily.com/> is presently under reconstruction and should be updated with modifications prior to this year's reunion. We would encourage you to check periodically for these changes where the latest information, forms, family documents and data should be posted for member and public consumption.

We are attempting to make this year's reunion as enjoyable as possible to all age groups including young adults, teenagers and adolescents. Input from younger generations is encouraged, and anyone can forward their suggestions for new activities to me at nealerabensburg@cmaaccess.com/. I hope to see many of you this summer in La Grange.

A. Neale Rabensburg
President
von Rosenberg Family of Texas and Reunion

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Reunion Information

It's almost that time of year to once again have loads of fun and visit with family.

Make plans to join us @ the 69th annual reunion of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas. It will be held @ Camp Lone Star in LaGrange, TX (map enclosed). Registration form is enclosed so please don't delay—HURRY, fill it out and send it in so you will be among the Elite that will be attending this year's reunion !!!!!!!!!

It's doesn't get any better than our reunion. Lots of activities for young and old—something for everyone. Good eats, lots of sweets, games, cards, music, history, visiting and yes, of course the KEG !!!!!

Special Thanks to Neale Rabensburg for graciously hosting the Saturday night reception @ the beautiful, historic Meerscheidt House. Always a fun time for all. You never know what lays in store when the polka band gets going.



Silent Auction: Everyone's participation is needed. This helps keep the cost of the reunion down each year. Of course all items are needed & welcomed but let's try something a bit different this year. The theme is "Home Made or Hand Made" — anything that applies. One idea would be to make goodies from our family cookbook—everyone needs sweets now and again. Or if you're extra crafty—maybe make something that fits the family's history (i.e. rendering of one of the original houses etc.) Don't forget the kids love to bid as well so we need items to fit all age groups.

Golf Tournament: Please contact Bill von Rosenberg at billvr1229@sbcglobal.net.

REUNION TIME

It's time once again to make your plans to attend the 69th Reunion of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas. The reunion is being held at beautiful Camp Lone Star in LaGrange, Texas, for the 28th consecutive year. With excellent accommodations, great meals, and a wide variety of recreational facilities and activities, Camp Lone Star is the perfect setting for family gatherings such as ours. For a fun and relaxing weekend full of friendship and fellowship, Camp Lone Star and the family reunion are hard to beat.

If you haven't been to a family reunion, or haven't been with us in several years, you have been missing out on a great time. Come enjoy the wonderful fellowship and friendships.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM!

(Form enclosed or you may go to our website at www.vonrosenbergfamily.com and download/print a copy from the Reunion Info page)

Updates

Births

Nothing to report

Marriages

Christopher James Guethle (dob 4.13.78) married Jessica Rae Burge on June 28, 2009 in Austin, TX. Jessica was born 9.9.85 in Lake Jackson, TX. (Branch III, Vol III, p 106).

Lee Derek Guethle (dob 2.8.82) married Jasmine von-Gynz Roskowski on April 19, 2008 in Montgomery, TX. Jasmine was born 3.5.82 in Oschatz, Saxony Germany. (Branch III, Vol III, page 106).

Deaths

Laura Miller Wingo died 4.28.10 @ 12:05 pm in Carrollton, TX, at the age of 92. In 2005, the Familie Froelich book was translated in its' entirety by Laura, a descendent of Peter Carl and retired German teacher.

Loretta J Hammack died 8.24.09 at the age of 97.

Please help us keep our records up to date by reporting new information to our secretary, Debbie Smith. Her mailing address is 5126 Lido Ln, Houston, TX 77092, (832) 277-3965. E-mail is dsmith5126@gmail.com or d.smith@wellsfargo.com.

REUNION INFORMATION

continued

1999 Reunion Recalled

The 1999 von Rosenberg Family of Texas reunion held at Camp Lone Star was a special reunion for many as well as myself. It was particularly memorable for me since it represented the beginning of my participation in each von Rosenberg Family of Texas reunion to follow. It also was the year that the Family gathered on Saturday morning for a tour of Nassau Plantation as well as various other von Rosenberg family homes and structures near Round Top. I was mesmerized at that 1999 reunion by our arranged personal visit to the original home site at Nassau Plantation for Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg and his family. I was also intrigued with the grand display of historical family documents and photographs at Camp Lone Star and spent hours going through that data with our historian, Ann Barnes. I became hooked on the reunion at that point and remembered the warm and friendly reception that I received by the many that attended that special celebration in 1999.

By: Neale Rabensburg, President

1939 Reunion Honors Its Youngest

Harold Wayne von Rosenberg (Branch IV) of Austin & LaGrange recently informed our President that he was the youngest attendee at the 1939 von Rosenberg Family Reunion held in Round Top, Texas. For his status as the youngest, Harold received a certificate to that effect, which he still has in his possession. The 1939 reunion was the first ever held by the family and started the tradition of meeting annually in various locales around Texas. Approximately 150 descendants of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg gathered in Round Top that day on Sunday, May, 7, 1939. Family members came from all parts of Texas including Brownsville, San Angelo, Austin, Houston, Bellville, LaGrange as well as many other cities, towns and rural locations.

On display @ that reunion were relics having historical bearing on the original forebear, Peter Carl von Rosenberg. The reading of old letters and newspaper clippings, replete with extraordinary material were among the high points on that Sunday.

Thank you Harold for your story and we look forward to seeing you in July.

Family Members, please let us know if you have anything you'd like to include in the newsletters.

Schedule of Events

Friday

Check-In after 5pm. You're on your own for supper but don't miss the "byosag" (bring your own snacks and goodies) @ 7pm. Of course the visiting and catching up will begin just as soon as all get together. Movies and Music will be playing periodically throughout the weekend plus lots of other activities for our younger crowd. Officer's Meeting @ 8pm.

Saturday

8:00 am

Breakfast

Display Family Artifacts

9:00 am

Silent Auction Begins

Fishing Contest Begins and will last throughout the day (don't forget your rod and reel or cane pole & bait/lures)

10 am

Tour - Texas Czech Heritage Center hosted by Neale Rabensburg

12:00 Noon

Lunch

1:00 pm

Business Meeting

James Kearney Presentation

2:00—5:00 pm

Swimming (lifeguard on duty)

3:30 pm

Fishing contest concludes: (winners announced @ dinner)

5:30 pm

Dinner

7:30 pm

Reception @ "The Meerscheidt House"

Sunday

8:00 am

Breakfast

Silent Auction Concludes

10:00 am

Memorial Service & Devotional

12:00 Noon

Lunch

Everything must be out of rooms by noon.

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

SATURDAY MORNING TOUR OF THE TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE CENTER

Tour of the Texas Czech Heritage Center (TCHC) of LaGrange: the family has made special arrangements for a Saturday morning private tour of the new Czech Museum beginning at 10am and lasting approximately an hour. In a state wide competition held several years ago, LaGrange, TX was named the official Czech Center for the State of Texas. The German and Czech communities have functioned side-by-side for 140 years in Fayette County, and many of the German and Czech families through marriage can now boast common alliances.

The TCHC received State and international attention last year with the opening of its new multi-million dollar state of the art museum built at the Fayette County Fairgrounds that was once von Rosenberg ranch land. The opening occurred during the summer of 2009 and was officiated by not only state and regional dignitaries but also the United States Ambassador for the Czech Republic from Washington, DC. Other Czech facilities at the Fairgrounds include an outdoor amphitheatre and a cluster of historic Fayette County homes and miscellaneous structures that have been moved to the TCHC for preservation.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER & REKNOWN AUTHOR, JAMES C. KEARNEY SUBJECT: HIS NEWLY RELEASED BOOK "NASSAU PLANTATION" & THE VON ROSENBERG YEARS

James (Jim) C. Kearney will be our keynote speaker this year and will give a PowerPoint presentation for about 30 minutes on Nassau Plantation. Jim graduated from the University of Texas in 1969 with a double major in German and history. He studied German language and literature at the University in working toward his doctorate. Discouraged by the job market, he retooled in the Graduate School of Business. Currently he teaches German at Katy High School near Houston and has been a featured speaker at numerous conventions and symposiums on Texas, German subjects and is at present a student again at the University of Texas working on the completion of his PhD. Kearney lives with his wife of 35 years on the historic family ranch in Colorado County, Texas—where he grew up.

Jim will focus on the fascinating history of the Nassau Plantation including the involvement of the von Rosenberg family with the Manor House and 800 acres out of the original tract.

Many of you may recall his lecture on Nassau Plantation at one of our reunions a number of years ago. Expect this year's topic to take the subject to a new depth never before heard but now documented in his newly released book titled "Nassau Plantation, The Evolution of a Texas German Slave Plantation". Jim has devoted an entire chapter to the involvement of the von Rosenberg family. The lecture will immediately follow our business meeting and Jim has agreed to stay afterwards if anyone is interested in hearing more. **Don't miss this lecture !!!!!**

Special Note: On June 12, 2010, there will be a book signing for Jim and his new book titled "Nassau Plantation, The Evolution of a Texas German Slave Plantation". Mary Belle Rather, who is the present owner of the property once occupied by the vonRosenberg family @ Nassau Plantation is organizing the event. The event will be held @ the Round Top Town Square and will begin @ approximately 10 am.

Last but not Least

General Store

T-Shirts will be on hand @ reunion and available for sale—prices to be determined. After the reunion, t-shirts will be available on our web-site: www.vonrosenbergfamily.com

Books:

- The Von Rosenberg Family of Texas, volume I (Sold Out)
- The Von Rosenberg Family of Texas, volume II (\$13.50)
- The Von Rosenberg Family of Texas, volume III (\$25.00) - over 1,000 available
- Von Rosenberg Family Cookbook (\$14.95) - over 500 available
- "Ancestral Voices - The Letters" (\$25.00)
- "Emigration Booklet" (\$6.50)
- CD-ROM of Photographs/Vol III Combination (\$40.00)
- The English Translation of "Familie Froelich" (\$15.00) - please contact Bill Wingo @ gaatfc2001@yahoo.com to purchase "Familie Froelich".

A charge of \$4.00 will be added to each order for shipping & handling.

For all other purchases, please contact Forrest Campbell, 8218 Creepline Dr, San Antonio, TX 78251 or fcampbell@satx.rr.com.

Von Rosenberg Family of Texas

**161 years since Peter Carl's
arrival in Texas**

69th Reunion

**144 years since
Peter Carl's death**

**28th consecutive year
at Camp Lone Star**

Cost

The cost at Camp Lone Star is both reasonable and comparable to other venues in the area. Nightly room stays (meals included) are offered in either one or two night packages with adult and youth rates applying. For a two night stay, which includes five meals, an adult package is \$117.00 (18 years and above). The youth package (17 years and younger) is less at \$91.00. Children (5 years and under), who are accompanied by their parents, stay for free. One night stays would be calculated on a pro-rated basis with at least two meals included. For more details, please contact either Forrest Campbell, Treasurer, at fcampbell@satx.rr.com or David von Rosenberg, Vice-President, at dvonrosenberg@austin.rr.com or david.vonrosenberg@ge.com.

For those, who come for the day, and plan to attend the daytime activities such as Saturday events including but not limited to the Czech Center morning tour, lunch at Camp Lone Star, the Saturday business meeting at Camp Lone Star, the afternoon lecture by James C. Kearney, which follows the business meeting, the evening meal at Camp Lone Star, the Meerscheidt House Reception & Dessert Party in La Grange and music, dance, movies & refreshments to follow late into the evening at Camp Lone Star, will be charged only for the price of the meals they consume. However, donations towards Camp Lone Star overhead will be accepted. Prices for adult meals (10 years & older) is \$10.00/meal. Children between the ages of 6 & 9 years pay \$8.00/meal. Children 5 years and under eat for free.

Please get your reservation in as soon as possible for nightly stays. If you do not plan to spend any nights, then come early Saturday to take part in our day trips as well as the afternoon and evening activities. Daytime users are encouraged to use the registration forms to indicate the number of adult and children meals that they plan to consume. This will be helpful so that Camp kitchen staff can plan enough food for all reunion attendees whether they spend the night or not. (Handwrite your estimation of meals at the bottom of the form and send to Debbie Smith, Secretary, as directed).

RVs and campers are not recommended since there is no place set aside to park them.

For questions contact: Camp Lone Star, PO Box 8, La Grange, Texas 78445 979-247-4703

Directions to Camp Lone Star

If Coming from La Grange: Take State Hwy 77 south out of La Grange towards Schulenburg. Immediately after crossing over the Colorado River bridge that exits La Grange, turn left (east) onto Camp Lone Star Road.

If coming from Schulenburg/I-10: Take State Hwy 77 north from Schulenburg to La Grange (about 17 miles). As you reduce your speed while descending into La Grange from the "Bluff", you will encounter a number of highway "S curves" on that approach. As you reach the bottom of the "Bluff" and before you cross the Colorado River bridge into La Grange, make a hard right (east) onto Camp Lone Star Road.

Camp Lone Star Road meanders for about two miles as a tree shaded lane to the entrance at Camp Lone Star. Once inside the camp grounds, stay to the right on the main road and proceed past the Camp Office but do not stop. A short ways past the office will be a parking area to your left camouflaged by a forest of trees. Turn here into the parking lot via one of two entrances. Once parked, take the concrete sidewalk that follows the hillside down to the Johnson Center. The entrance door from the parking lot is an unceremonious approach into the Center. The first room to be encountered inside is likewise uneventful and houses Ping-pong tables. Proceed straight ahead through a doorway into a hallway that leads straight back to the Assembly Room where you will find Registration and Reception.

Map of camp-grounds enclosed



The vonRosenberg Family of Texas
Debbie Smith, Secretary
5126 Lido Ln
HHouston, TX 77092

Address Service Requested

Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

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The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

CELEBRATING

161 YEARS IN TEXAS

It's reunion time again!

July 16th—18th, 2010

Camp Lone Star La Grange, Texas

(Map enclosed)

Schedule of Events & Activities von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion 2010

Dates: July 16-18, 2010

Location: Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star near La Grange, Texas

Friday July 16, 2010

- **PM (Afternoon)**

- Golf Tournament

- Time: Start time to be determined

- Location: Place to be determined.

- Coordinator: Bill von Rosenberg

- Contact email:

- **5:00 pm**

- Reservations & Check-in (for Nightly Room Stays at Camp Lone Star)

- Time: Check-in after 5:00 pm until bedtime.

- Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

- Coordinators: Forrest Campbell or David von Rosenberg

- Reception & General Information

- Time: Available after 5:00 pm until bedtime

- Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

- Coordinators: A rotating crew of smiling von Rosenberg volunteers.

- Visitation

- Time: From arrival until bedtime

- Location: In all public areas at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

- **6:00 pm**

- Supper (Keg of beer and beverages will be available; however, there is no food service supplied by Camp Lone Star on Friday night. Family members usually supplement with their own food and snacks and are willing to share with others)

- Time: From arrival until bedtime

- Location: Central game room & Main Dining Room in the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

- Entertainment (Cards, dominos, movies, music)

- Time: From arrival until bedtime

- Types: Games (cards & dominos), movies & music.

- Location: All public areas at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

- **8:00 pm**

- Officers' Board Meeting

- Location: Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

Schedule of Events & Activities von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion 2010

Dates: July 16-18, 2010

Location: Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star near La Grange, Texas

Saturday, July 17, 2010

- **8:00 am**

Breakfast

Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Location: Cafeteria & main dining room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

Costs: \$10.00/person (10 years & older); \$8:00/person (6-9 years); \$0.00 (5 & under eat for free). Meal costs apply to those who come just for the day. Meals are included with nightly stay packages

- **9:00 am**

Silent Auction (Display & review of silent auction items. Auction commences also at this time and concludes Sunday morning.)

Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

Family artifacts/photos (Display of family heirlooms, documents, artifacts & family albums)

Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

- **9:45 am IMPORTANT ITEM!!!!**

Morning Tour****

Instructions: Meet in the Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star no later than 9:45 am for auto departure to the Texas Czech Heritage Center in La Grange.

Time: Tour commences at the Czech Center Museum promptly at 10:00 am.

Location: Hwy 77 north of La Grange at the Fayette County Fairgrounds.

- **12:00 noon**

Lunch

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Main Dining Room at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Costs: \$10.00/person (10 years & older); \$8:00/person (6-9 years); \$0.00 (5 & under eat for free). Meal costs apply to those who come just for the day. Meals are included with nightly stay packages.

- **1:00 pm IMPORTANT ITEM!!!!**

Business Meeting****

Time: Starts promptly at 1:00 pm and adjourns at 2:00 pm

Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Schedule of Events & Activities von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion 2010

Dates: July 16-18, 2010

Location: Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star near La Grange, Texas

Saturday, July 17, 2010 (continued)

- **2:00-2:30 PM IMPORTANT ITEM!!!**

Historic Lecture****

Speaker: Renown author, James (Jim) C. Kearney.

Topic: "Nassau Plantation" from his newly released book of the same title.

Time: Lecture will extend beyond 2:30 pm for those who want to hear more about Nassau Plantation's influence on early German settlement in Texas. Jim devotes an entire chapter in his book on the von Rosenberg family.

Location: Assembly Room at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

- **2:00 –5:00 pm**

Swimming

Location: Camp Lone Star outdoor pool located south of the Johnson Retreat Center

Supervision: Lifeguards on duty during the posted times. Parents must accompany children when lifeguard is not present.

- **5:30 pm**

Supper

Time: 5:30-6:30 pm

Location: Main Dining Room at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Costs: \$10.00/person (10 years & older); \$8:00/person (6-9 years); \$0.00 (5 & under eat for free). Meal costs apply to those who come just for the day.

Meals are included with nightly stay packages.

- **7:30-9:00 pm IMPORTANT ITEM!!!!**

Reception & Dessert Party at the 1884 Meerscheidt House, La Grange****

Entertainment: The New Austin Polka Band

Location: 458 N. Monroe, La Grange.

Directions: Take Hwy 77 into La Grange from Camp Lone Star. Turn right at the traffic light, which marks the intersection of Hwy 77 with Hwy 71 Business (Travis Street). Proceed three blocks on Hwy 71 Business (Travis Street) to N. Monroe Street. (HEB will be on your right.) Turn left off Hwy 71 Business (Travis Street) onto N. Monroe Street and proceed 3.5 blocks (you will cross over a railroad track) to 458 N. Monroe, which will be located on your right.

Schedule of Events & Activities von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion 2010

Dates: July 16-18, 2010

Location: Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star near La Grange, Texas

Saturday, July 17, 2010 (continued)

- **9:30 PM**

Games, Movies, Music & Dance****

Time: Upon return to Camp Lone Star until bedtime. There will be cards & dominos in the Game Room, movies in the Assembly Room, music & dance in the Main Dining Room and on the terrace, which overlooks the lake.

Location: All public areas at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Sunday, July 18, 2010

- **8:00 am**

Breakfast

Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Location: Cafeteria & main dining room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Costs: \$10.00/person (10 years & older); \$8:00/person (6-9 years); \$0.00 (5 & under eat for free). Meal cost apply to those who come just for the day. Meals are included with nightly stay packages

- **9:00 am**

Silent Auction Conclusion

Location: Assembly Room at the Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star.

- **10:00 –11:00 am**

Devotional

Location: Assembly Room at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

- **12:00 noon**

Lunch

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Main Dining Room at Johnson Retreat Center, Camp Lone Star

Costs: \$10.00/person (10 years & older); \$8:00/person (6-9 years); \$0.00 (5 & under eat for free). Meal costs apply to those who come just for the day. Meals are included with nightly stay packages.

- **PM (Early afternoon)**

Departure

Check-out: Noon or immediately following lunch.
