

The von Rosenberg Family of Texas



NEWSLETTER



La Grange, Texas & the World

Revised Edition

DECEMBER 2010

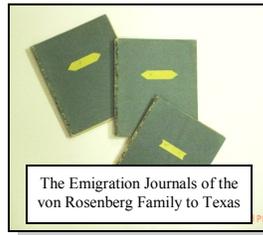
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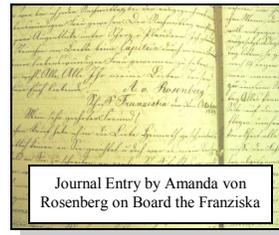
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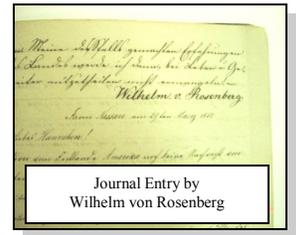
*"Books are eternal, but
T-Shirts are nice too."*



The Emigration Journals of the von Rosenberg Family to Texas



Journal Entry by Amanda von Rosenberg on Board the Franziska



Journal Entry by Wilhelm von Rosenberg

Original Emigration Journals of the von Rosenbergs to Texas Resurface after 160 Years

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

The original 1849-1851 "Emigration Journals" of the von Rosenberg family from Germany to Texas including the family's initial settlement at Farm Nassau appeared miraculously this past summer among the donated documents and photographs that had been a part of the collections of Robert Hein's mother, Mrs. Paula Hein of San Antonio, grandfather, Mr. Paul Meerscheidt of San Antonio and grandaunt, Miss Martha Meerscheidt, also of San Antonio.

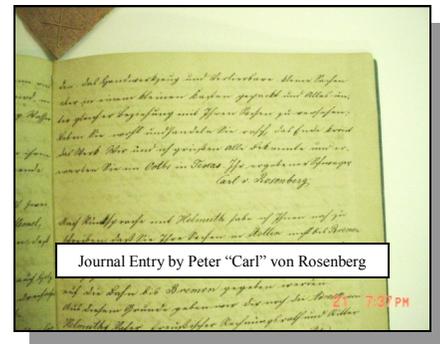
The journals are in three separate, blue covered volumes trimmed in a decorative strip over its bound edge. They are all in excellent condition. Each measures 8 1/4 x 7 inches and are tied together with string, and the third volume still includes its original pink-colored ink blotter. Entries are written by the Pioneer Father and Mother, Peter "Carl" and Amanda von Rosenberg, and two children, Wilhelm and Lina.

Each journal is approximately 1/4 inch thick. They were sent from Koenigsberg, Germany in 1935 to Miss Martha Meerscheidt of San Antonio, Texas. The journals were never letters that were individually mailed but were rather a family

travel diary, which also included the first two years of settlement at Farm Nassau.

It appears that the journals were eventually sent to Germany to be shared among Froelich and Fallier family members in order to prepare anyone contemplating a move to the Americas of what to expect during the voyage and upon arrival.

The originals will be on display at next year's Reunion and then donated to the Fayette Library and Heritage Museum & Archives in La Grange. Copies of the same will be made in advance so that these Journals and their translations will be available through our family store to all descendants and historians.



Journal Entry by Peter "Carl" von Rosenberg

The von Rosenberg Family of Texas NEWSLETTER



- Published twice yearly, once in the fall and again in the spring.
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In Search of Alex von Rosenberg A Day-Trip to Liberty

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

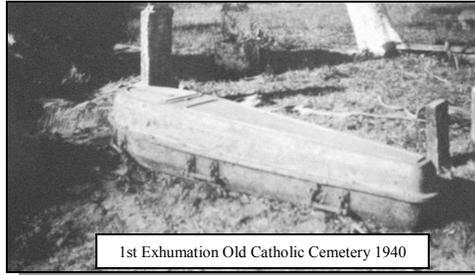
The cross marks the spot. Located directly between and at the very foot of the graves of the two pictured grave monuments is a small rectangular-shaped piece of granite, which marks the location where the head of a cast iron casket is buried. The casket was accidentally discovered in 1940 and has been speculated to be the burial location for the Civil War soldier Alex von Rosenberg, son of Peter Carl and Amanda von Rosenberg of Round Top, Texas.

Neale Rabensburg became intrigued with his 2nd great granduncle, Carl Alexander von Rosenberg, after he came across 1980 documents in the La Grange, Library, which speculated on the remains as that of Alex von Rosenberg.

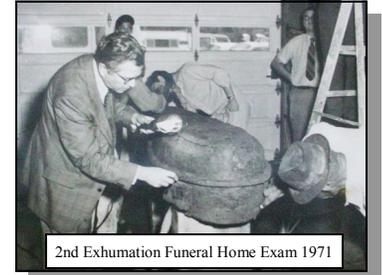
After numerous attempts to contact people, institutions and businesses associated with the 1940 discovery and a court ordered exhumation and examination that followed in 1971, Neale decided that it was necessary to make a day-trip to Liberty, Texas and size things up for himself.

During his visit to Liberty, Neale was met by Sandra Pickett, former head of the Liberty County Historical Commission, who had been an active member of that organization during the time of the 1971

Turn to **Day-Trip** on Page 7



1st Exhumation Old Catholic Cemetery 1940



2nd Exhumation Funeral Home Exam 1971

Cast Iron Casket Twice Exhumed in Liberty, TX. Is this the Lost Grave of Alex von Rosenberg?

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Is the body inside this elaborate cast iron casket with a glass viewing window our great granduncle, Carl Alexander von Rosenberg, who died in a Liberty, Texas military hospital during the Civil War? At least some citizens of Liberty County have speculated as much!

The casket was accidentally discovered in 1940 at the Old Catholic Cemetery in the town of Liberty. Interest in this mysterious casket and the body inside persisted until December 1971 when it was exhumed for a second time by court order and with permission from the Bishop of Beaumont.

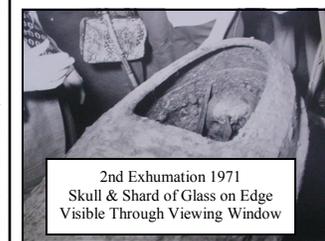
Nine years after the second exhumation in 1980, Miss Sallie Woods of the Liberty County Historic Commission contacted Mr. Walter Freytag of the Fayette County Historic Commission with drawings and a photograph of the casket including information referencing Alex von Rosenberg, who died in a Liberty military hospital on October 2, 1864. Miss Woods had deduced that there was a strong possibility that the remains were that of Alex von Rosenberg of Round Top, Texas.

By the spring of 1864, Sergeant Carl Alexander von Rosenberg and his younger brother, Corporal Walter von Rosenberg, sons of Peter Carl and Amanda von Rosenberg, had already served the Confederacy courageously for several years defending the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coasts against Union gunboat attacks and military invasions. The two brothers were

members of Cruetzbauer's Battery, 5th Texas Artillery, which had defeated a Union naval force of two gunboats and captured about 200 men at the Battle of Calcasieu Pass in May of 1864. Alex and Walter had gone home to Round Top on their first furlough since the beginning of the War shortly after the battle and then rejoined their unit that summer at Cat Springs before returning to Liberty.

Later that summer, Alex von Rosenberg and many of his fellow comrades contracted Yellow Fever. Most recovered, but Alex grew worse and was admitted into a military hospital in Liberty on September 4, 1864. His company received orders to pull out of Liberty, but Alex was too sick to travel. His condition grew steadily worse, and he finally succumbed to a merciful death at the age of 31 years on October 2, 1864. He was reportedly buried in a cemetery near Liberty.

Alex von Rosenberg "was loved by all family members, and many sons of



2nd Exhumation 1971
Skull & Shard of Glass on Edge
Visible Through Viewing Window

later years bore his name." If Alex had survived the War and been able to marry and have children,

then his family line would have been recognized as Branch VI of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas.



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Ray von Rosenberg Parts with Some of His Family Historical Data

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Von Rosenberg family historian committee members, Billye Beth Baker (Branch IV) and Neale Rabensburg (Branch V), drove to Temple, Texas from La Grange in mid-August 2010 in order to share with Ray von Rosenberg (Branch VII) some of the recently acquired historical documents including the original 1849-1851 emigration and settlement journals of the von Rosenberg family to Texas from Germany. Ray, who was the Historian for the von Rosenberg Family immediately prior to Dale U. von Rosenberg, was unable to attend this past summer's gathering of the family at Camp Lone Star.

The three spent much of the day going through each other's historical data. Ray brought out the Civil War sword that had been Corporal Walter von Rosenberg's (Branch VII) when he served with Cruzebauer's Battery and the 5th Texas Artillery. The bone handle is engraved with Walter's name and the date of 1862.

Billye Beth and Neale were a bit overwhelmed when Ray pulled from his bookshelves numerous binders from his own personal collection of von Rosenberg family material and instructed his two visitors to return with his material to La Grange and add them to the family archives. Significant among Ray's own written histories was also an original copy of the 1909 *Familie Froelich* by Reinhold Froelich. This is a complete copy written in German featuring a number of related family lineage foldout charts including those von Rosenberg's, who came to Texas.

The von Rosenberg Family is very grateful to Ray for his generous donation of family material. However, he continues to send more, which will also be added to the Family's archives. The Ray von Rosenberg Collection will be on display at next year's Reunion and then donated to the Fayette Library and Heritage Museum and Archives.

Robert Hein Donates Historical Documents at 2010 Reunion

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Members were pleased to welcome after a long absence Robert Hein (Branch V) and his wife, Nancy, to this past summer's Reunion. Before their departure on Saturday, Robert presented President Neale Rabensburg with a large plastic storage container of family documents that had been in the possession of his mother, Mrs. Paula Hein.

Neale had to wait until after the conclusion of the Reunion on Sunday before examining the container's content. He was pleased to see numerous old documents and photos including three, small blue-covered bound papers of handwritten letters. It did not take him long to recognize that these were perhaps old copies of the emigration journals of the von Rosenberg family from Germany to Texas.

Initially, Neale could not accept the possibility that these journals may actually not be old copies but rather the original journal entries made by the pioneer mother and father, Amanda and Peter Carl von Rosenberg, and two of the children, Wilhelm and Lina, beginning with the 1849 voyage aboard the *Franziska* and terminating two years later with the family's settlement at Farm Nassau. Realization that these were indeed the original journals finally began to take hold over the next several days following the Reunion.

Also, of special note in the box of documents were biographies and lineage charts that had been used for the development of the Red Book (Volume II). The box also contained minutes and account records of the early days of the Reunion beginning with the first gathering of descendants of the von Rosenberg family in 1939 at Round Top.

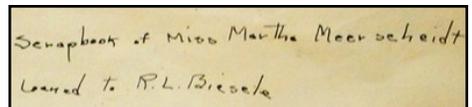
The Robert Hein Collection will be on display at next year's Reunion and then donated to the Fayette Library and Heritage Museum and Archives.

Robert Barritt Appointed Member Of the Historian's Committee

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

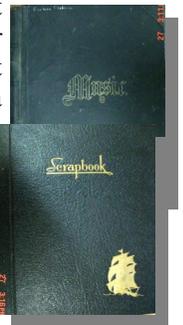
Robert Barritt (Branch V) has been appointed to the Historian's Committee for **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas**. This Committee is headed by Chairman Arthur von Rosenberg of Spring Branch, Texas and includes a maximum of seven committee members, who represent, as closely as possible, the active Branches of the descendants of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg. The Historian's Committee also include in an Emeritus Position for life past Historians Ray von Rosenberg and Ann Barnes.

Martha Meerschiedt's "Loaned" Scrapbooks



BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Neale Rabensburg (Branch V) discovered recently at the Center for American History at UT's Briscoe Center two old scrapbooks that had belonged to Martha Meerscheidt (Branch V) of San Antonio. These had been loaned, apparently prior to World War II, to Rudolph L. Biesele of the UT German History-Department. One scrapbook dealt with newspaper articles and the other, German cartoons. Martha Meerscheidt was one of the founders of **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas** and the Blue Book (Volume I) was dedicated to her memory.





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“Free-thinkers”

J.T. Koenig, vR Historian’s Committee Member, Will Make It Official

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

J. T. Koenig (Branch IV) has agreed to work with his fellow vR Family historians and prepare a written statement of opinion that could be adopted as the official position for **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas** with regards to the subject of “free-thinkers” (German: “freidenkers”), and, more importantly, how the concept of free-thinking or free-thought, was defined by members of the von Rosenbergs at the time of their emigration from Germany to Texas.

Since the principles of free-thinking had been applied to an array of established dogmas, the meaning of free-thinking varied across the countries of Europe. To many, it was a rejection of religious dogma while to others, it took the form of a rebellion against autocratic forms of government in favor of representative rule.

The von Rosenbergs left Germany due to their stance on the principles of free-thinking. We would not be here today if it were not for this thought process. Therefore, it should be important for all descendants of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas to have a clear and precise understanding of what it meant to have been a von Rosenberg free-thinker in the mid-19th Century.

Kay Ellen Walker Donates Historic Photographs to vR Family Archive

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Kay Ellen Walker (Branch III) of Lampasas, Texas stopped by the home of Neale Rabensburg in La Grange on her way home after visiting her mother in Houston this past summer and presented to him several 19th Century photographs of the family of Wilhelm (William) von Rosenberg (Branch I) of Austin.

Kay Ellen had been visiting in Round Top, Texas a few years ago and met James C. Kearney, who was conducting research at the time on his forthcoming book based on the history of Nassau Plantation. Earlier, he had found in a house that was being demolished in the Round Top area old family photographs, which had been discarded. He scooped them up and gave them to Kay Ellen since she had identified herself as a von Rosenberg descendant, and thus a relative to those pictured.

Due to the delicate condition of these photographs, both Kay Ellen and Neale donated them immediately to the Fayette Library and Heritage Museum and Archives in La Grange on behalf of **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas**.

The vR Family of TX Agrees to Donate Family Publications To Round Top Library

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Recently, vR Board and family members were canvassed for their opinion on a motion to donate to the Library at Round Top, Texas all copies of our family publications including the Blue Book (Volume I), the Tan Book (Volume III), Ancestral Voices, the Emigration diaries and the Cook Book. (The Red Book (Volume II) was not included since that publication was already a part of that Library’s collection.)

Those who responded were all positive for the donation of family material so Neale Rabensburg will set the process in motion to see that the Library at Round Top receives these publications by year’s end and hopefully, before Christmas.

Darlyn Cartwright Agrees to Help with the Role of Treasurer

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Forrest Campbell (Branch V), who has held the position of Treasurer of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas for many years, announced at the 2010 Reunion that he will turn over the reigns of Treasurer at next summer’s Reunion to some else.

Darlyn Cartwright (Branch VII) expressed interest in the Treasurer’s position and has agreed to help assist with any transition.

Debbie Smith Will Not Seek a Second Term As Board Secretary

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

The Board of Directors for **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas** received notice at the end of September that Debbie Smith, Board Secretary, will not seek a second term. She did, however, agree to continue her duties until next July. Anyone, who is interested in helping during the

*Turn to **Board Secretary** on Page 7*

Holiday gifts that keep on giving.
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www.vonrosenbergfamily.com.



*“Books are eternal, but
T-Shirts are nice too.”*



Reunion NEWS



The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

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Recap of The 2010 von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion



The von Rosenberg Family Gathers for a Group Shot During the Dessert Party & Reception on the Front Lawn & Porch of the Meerscheidt House in La Grange

Next Year's Reunion For 2011 Should Be An Historical Extravaganza

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Emphasis at next year's Reunion 2011 will be on the historical. There will be much in the way of von Rosenberg family documents on display including photographs, personal letters and artifacts. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own family albums, Bibles and personal collection of documents and artifacts so that they too can be displayed on Saturday afternoon following the Business meeting. Historian committee members will be present to evaluate the material on display and advise those with personal collections on how best to preserve and store their collections. Information on how to copy and/or donate family material will be available to family members as well.

Weather permitting, a 30-minute play or skit is planned after dinner Saturday evening at the Old Cemetery in La Grange. The play is to be titled "The Reunion, A Commingling of the Dead and the Living". Everyone, who attends, will automatically become either an active or passive participant in the play. Active players will receive short, written scripts while others will be required to follow only verbal instructions from a narrator, whose responsibility is to provide cohesion to the play along with direction and cues.

A brief demonstration of "grave witching" will be shown by one or more Historians during the Reunion perhaps while the Family gathers at the Old Cemetery. "Grave witching" has become an acceptable practice by many genealogists, who are trying to confirm not only actual grave locations but also the sex of those buried below the surface. Conventional dowsing rods are the tools of the trade.

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

The 2010 von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion held its annual gathering of the descendants of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg at Camp Lone Star for three days on July 16-19, 2010.

Revelers began to arrive on Friday afternoon, July 17th around 5:00 pm. The onslaught of Reunion attendees continued to check-in unabated through the evening hours until the last group of male and female golfing enthusiasts arrived later that evening to a hall of welcoming chatter, snacks and air-conditioned comfort. Everyone seemed to be pleased with the attempts by the new Board to create a more attractive atmosphere upon arrival with the advent of natural plants and flowers, a more pleasing arrangement of table and chairs and background music.

After breakfast the next morning, the Reunion was treated to a personal guided tour of the new Czech Cultural Center at the Fayette County Fairgrounds. Following lunch back at Camp Lone Star, the business meeting commenced followed by keynote speaker and author James C. Kearney, who spoke about his newly released book on Nassau Plantation with a chapter that was devoted solely to the von Rosenberg family.

With the completion of dinner, the

Reunion attendees and their guests descended upon La Grange to the home of Neale Rabensburg, who held his annual dessert party and reception at the 1884 Meerscheidt House. The Reunion re-converged after the reception to Camp Lone Star where adults and children found various forms of entertainment to occupy their time including dominos, cards, music, food, beverages and full length video movies.



Pam Peters Displays New T-Shirt from the Family Store

Sunday morning was a time for somber reflection and meditation in the Assembly Hall at Camp Lone Star where the Devotional was led by Robert Barritt. After lunch, everyone said their good-byes, loaded their vehicles and made their departure for home.

Attendance at the 2010 Reunion was perhaps the largest that has been experienced in recent years. The Board has even greater plans for next year's festivities so begin making your plans to attend the 2011 Reunion and watch for the Spring Newsletter with details.



Miscellaneous Matters



The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

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The President's Message

Dear Cousins,

I am now 16 months into my first term as vR President. I got my feet wet at the 2010 Reunion and will be turning my attention to next year's reunion within a few months.

Since the By-Laws are purposefully vague about the duties of the President, each new administration is free to implement policy shifts and changes as to technique. I have chosen for myself to make the job as President a twelve-month operation that functions on a continual basis as personal time allots. Reunion planning and preparation takes about five months out of the year between reunions, and the balance of seven months allows me to concentrate on other family matters, more particularly, genealogical research. This has made my job more fulfilling, and I hope that the results will be a benefit to the entire family.

Family history is obviously a passion with me, and as I have become more familiar with the past actions of this family unit by reading through its newsletters, minutes and other files starting with its formation in 1939, I am, thus, able to see that for the first forty years of its existence, the main thrust of its time and energy was spent with the study and development of its family history as represented by six active Branches. The tangible results of those first forty years of effort are evident with its many publica-

tions, which include the 1949 Blue Book, the 1960 Emigration letters, the 1974 Red Book, the 1976 Emigration letters and 1978 Ancestral Voices.

It appears that after 1980, there was a shift in emphasis to make the Reunion more of a recreational event with a greatly extended time agenda. This has probably worked well over the years because it brought together many Branch descendants, who would have otherwise never commingled. A generation of families have grown up together over the past 30 years at Camp Lone Star. It was this new, more welcoming atmosphere created by this "recreational" generation of descendants that brought me back into the fold beginning with the 1999 Reunion.

The year 1999 was also the sesquicentennial celebration of the Texas arrival of the von Rosenberg Family and had been the primary reason for my attendance. The array of historical documents that were on display during that Reunion satisfied my passion for history. Coupled with the welcoming, friendly environment, I made the decision to come back the following year, and the rest is history.

It is my hope that a balance is always in force between the recreational and historical elements within this family organization. One without the other will limit its recruiting abilities and eventually lead to decay.

Sincerely, Neale Rabensburg

Email Addresses Please!

A Phased Transition

Over the next several years, **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas** will begin communicating more and more with its membership via the Internet, that is, the Family website at www.vonrosenbergfamily.com and the email addresses of individual members.

For those of you, who wish to receive Newsletters via conventional postal services, we will only institute a change with your permission and after the receipt of an email address. Otherwise, you will continue to receive Reunion information the old fashioned way via snail mail.

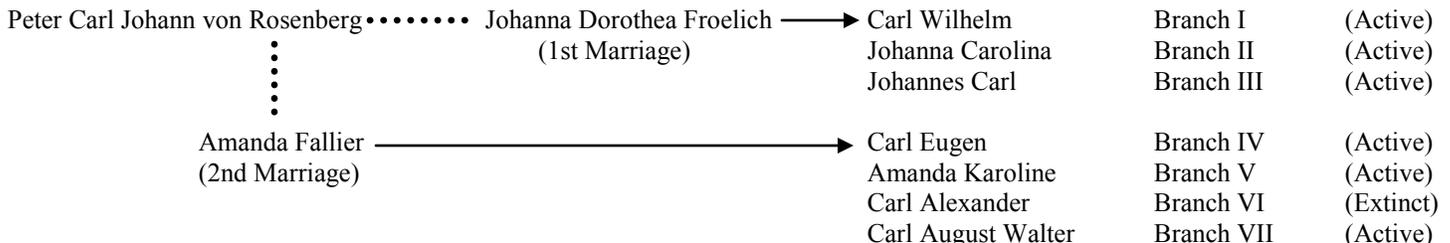
With the change to email addresses, you will, of course, be responsible to keep us updated for any changes to any email address modification. This is, of course, true now for your snail mail addresses.

We hope that you will enjoy the transition to electronic mail and will appreciate the upgrades that will be made to our Family website so that you receive faster and more detailed information. Besides a source for Reunion information and reservations, the website is also being expanded to make it a prime source for the promotion and sale of our official von Rosenberg Family publications, CD's and personal accessory items.

If you wish to be placed on our email mailing list, you can contact me, Neale Rabensburg at nealerabensburg@cmaaccess.com. Please include a statement saying that you wish to

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Deep Roots and Strong Branches of The von Rosenberg Family of Texas





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The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

Day-Trip to Liberty

Continued from Page 2

exhumation. She shared with Neale her records from that time period. Both met with Darlene Mott, acting Director of the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center (Sam Center), and reviewed the file of historian and attorney, Charles W. Fisher, Sr., who was directly involved with the 1971 exhumation and examination. Mr. Fisher's records of the 1971 exhumation had been donated to the Sam Center.



Sandra Pickett Stands Over Cast Iron Casket Burial Site

Sandra Pickett also gave Neale a guided tour of the Catholic Cemetery and showed him the exact burial location for the cast iron casket. Before departing for La Grange, he was able to meet local attorney Ed Pickett, Sandra's husband, who

oversees the operations for the Catholic Cemetery in Liberty.

After his trip to Liberty, Neale concluded that the evidence falls short for support of the theory that the remains in the cast iron casket are that of Alex von Rosenberg. Only a third exhumation and DNA testing would provide the necessary proof that the remains are indeed Alex or someone else. This seems unlikely since such a course of action might have to follow procedures taken in 1971, which required a court order as well as permission from Catholic Church hierarchy.

The cast iron casket and body inside were apparently in good condition at the time of the first exhumation in 1940. The air tight seal of the casket was intact but became compromised during the removal when the glass viewing window was accidentally cracked allowing air to enter the casket, causing the remains inside to slump. The body had been visible through the glass but only for a brief moment and was reportedly clad in a military uniform. Photos taken during the first exhumation indicate that the casket was entirely

removed from the ground, but apparently not opened for a thorough examination. It was reburied that same day upon orders from the Church.

The second exhumation that finally occurred in December 1971 was years in the making and involved a number of people, institutions and businesses. Interest in the cast iron casket and the body inside was revived by members of the Liberty County Historical Commission, who petitioned the Catholic Church for permission to exhume the casket and examine the remains. This group was trying to attain historical status from the State for the old Catholic Cemetery, and it was deemed important that more information about the cast iron casket and the remains inside be brought to the surface *literally*.

Neale found the official examination report in December 1971 lacking in details. It did not indicate whether or not the upper half of the casket was actually removed. File photos do not show the two halves separated, therefore, it would have been difficult to examine the remains below the chest through just the viewing window. The report, however, indicates that there was no visible evidence of clothing with the exception of one wooden button that had been mounted to a decorative leaf pattern. These objects were resting over the rib cage at the sternum. No sword was inside even though this was reported to Neale by Ed Pickett during an earlier conversation.

There was a newspaper article about this 1971 exhumation in one of the local Liberty newspapers, according to Charles Fisher, Jr. son of attorney, Charles W. Fisher, Sr. Neale was told that the Sam Center has microfilm copies of both local newspapers but unfortunately, the issue needed was missing from their files. Another possible source, Mary Urban, who is the lone surviving eyewitness to the 1971 exhumation and examination, was unavailable and in a local hospital at the time of Neale's visit and her diagnosis, according to her son, was very serious.

Neale continues to explore other avenues and sources and hopes that one day, a document will surface that will shed new light on the details surrounding Alex's burial. A fitting recognition is in order for this brave soldier, who was revered for many years.

Board Secretary

Continued from Page 4

interim with Secretarial duties can contact Neale Rabensburg at nealerabensburg@cmaaccess.com.

Also for anyone, who is interested in running for the office of Secretary, he or she can contact Neale Rabensburg at this time or wait until after the new year when a nominating committee will be appointed and directed to prepare a slate of possible candidates in order to fill this position as well as any others.

Email Addresses

Continued from Page 6

receive all future communications by email including Newsletters, and that you will continue to update the Family about any address changes (both email and snail mail addresses) so that our records remain current.

If you have any questions with regards to the planned changes, please contact me, Neale Rabensburg at the aforementioned email address or at:

Neale Rabensburg
458 N. Monroe
La Grange, Texas 78945-1942
or
Tele: (979) 702-0525 (cellular)

OFFICERS

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Email: nealerabensburg@cmaaccess.com

Vice President.....David von Rosenberg
Email: David.vonrosenberg@ge.com

Secretary.....Debbie Smith
Tele: (832) 277-3965
Email: D.smith@wellsfargo.com or
Email: dsmith5126@gmail.com

Treasurer.....Forrest Campbell
Email: fcampbell@satx.rr.com

Historian's Committee
Chairman.....Arthur von Rosenberg
Email: art@gvtc.com



Notices & Novelties



The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

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DECEMBER 2010

Family Notices

Arthur von Rosenberg A Proud Grandfather

Arthur von Rosenberg (Branch I) and his wife Frances of Spring Branch, Texas missed this past year's 2010 Reunion because Arthur's grandson decided to arrive six weeks early. Arthur is Chairman of the Historians' Committee and Frances has been in charge of the Reunion's Silent Auction in recent years.

The proud parents, William and Keri von Rosenberg of Seattle, Washington, named their baby boy, Jameson Kurland von Rosenberg, who was born on



June 24, 2010. The vR Family extends its congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents.

Kay Ellen Walker Displays Her Art



Kay Ellen Walker (Branch III) of Lampasas, Texas enjoys painting and is seen here with some of her large scale paintings depicting flowers.

Kay Ellen paid a visit to Fayette County in November and stayed for sev-

Gretchen Cooter Winters Reports

Gretchen Cooter Winters (Branch V) reports to the vR Family on October 26, 2010 with the following three notices:

- Her mother, Marian Francis Jenner Cooter, passed away on November 3, 2009 at the age of 81. She was born in Seattle, Washington on June 23, 1928 and was the daughter of Ilma Meerscheidt and Edward Jenner.
- Her brother, Detrick Edward Cooter, passed away on October 16, 2010 at the age of 56. He was born in San Francisco, California on April 20, 1954. Both he and his mother resided in Lakewood, Washington for the past many years.
- Her daughter, Holly Johanna Winters, born on September 13, 1980 married Jeremy Richards on October 15, 2010 in Seattle, Washington. Holly is the grand-daughter of Marian Cooter.

Note:

Gretchen Cooter Winters said that she can be reached at the following:

Email: umpfwall@aol.com

Mailing Address:

25826 18 Ave S

Des Moines, Washington 98198

Tele: (253) 941-1311

eral days while she visited with her von Rosenberg relations, who shared with her their family historical documents and files.

Kay Ellen brought a handwritten letter dated 1862 that was addressed to Johannes Carl von Rosenberg ordering him to report for duty into the Confederate Army.

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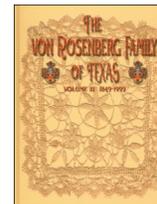
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