

Texas German Society



Organized September 6, 1983

■ *Witte Schmid Haus 1860*

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Reporter

Winter 2018

VOL. XV, NO. 1

35th Annual Texas German Society Convention

May 5, 2018



Harmonie Hall

(979) 277-4657 or (979) 836-8735

509 W FM 389

Fayetteville, TX 78940

www.harmoniehall.com

Registration Form

2018 Texas German Society State Convention

Hosted by TGS Executive Board

Saturday, May 5, 2018

Harmonie Hall

509 W FM 389

Round Top, TX 78954

Registration: Postmarked prior to April 16, 2018 - \$15.00 per person

Postmarked after April 16, 2018 (must be received by May 4th) - \$20.00 per person

(Please print the name/names wanted on name tag)

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Chapter or indicate if visitor: _____

Title if applicable (i.e. President, etc.): _____

Please indicate:

_____ Number of people **before** April 16 x \$15.00 = _____ amount enclosed

_____ Number of people **after** April 16 x \$20.00 = _____ amount enclosed

_____ Number of people paid at door x \$20.00 = _____ amount paid

(not guaranteed food)

_____ Number of students ** x \$10.00 = _____ amount enclosed

_____ Booths for vendors x \$25.00 = _____ amount enclosed

(Submit by April 16, 2018) x \$10.00 for noon meal = _____ amount enclosed

**Under 22 years of age and enrolled in an accredited school, college or university.

Make checks payable to: TGS

Return form and money to: Peggy Schulin, TGS State Treasurer

PO Box 1242

Katy, Texas 77492-1242

Questions on Registration may be directed to: Peggy Schulin @ 713.582.5210

Families with same last name and address may use the same form but please list first names separate for name tags

2018 Texas German Society State Convention Vendor Exhibitor Rules

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Place: Harmonie Hall
509 W FM 389
Fayetteville, TX 78940

Cost of space is \$25.00 paid in advance for profit booths. Non-profits booth rental is FREE. Please make check payable to **Texas German Society** and mail check and application to: Peggy Schulin, PO Box 1242, Katy, TX 77492-1242. For questions you may call Peggy at 713-582-5210 or email peggyschulin@comcast.net.

1. Booth size is approximately 10' x 12'
2. Booth site will be assigned inside convention hall and each exhibitor will be provided with one (1) table and two (2) chairs. The Texas German Society will not be responsible for any loss, damage, or injury.
3. Booths should be set up by 8:30 am and remain until the end of the convention which will be approximately 3:30 pm. Hall will be open for setup at 7:30.
4. Limited electrical outlets are available, but arrangements need to be made in advance.
5. Each participant is responsible for collecting and reporting STATE SALES TAX. You sell directly to the public.
6. Deadline for submission of application is April 16, 2018.

7. A catered meal will be available at lunch for \$10.00 per person (payable in advance).

Booth Application

Due April 16, 2018

Booth Name: _____

Profit _____ (\$25.00)

Non-profit _____ (no charge for booth)

Lunch: (\$10 per person) _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Items to be sold:

Signed Agreement:

I hereby release The Texas German Society of any responsibility for loss, theft, or damage to any work shown at the 2018 Convention. I agree to abide by the rules included with this application. I also agree that my booth name and items to be sold may be used to advertise the 2018 convention.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**TEXAS GERMAN SOCIETY
Organized September, 1983**

**ATTENTION: High School German
Language Instructors and students**

FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2017– 2018

The Texas German Society (TGS) is offering an annual essay contest to high school senior students interested in German language and culture.

One to three scholarships will be awarded for qualifying essays. The first place scholarship is \$1,000.00, the second place scholarship is \$750.00, and the third place scholarship is \$500.00. The presentation of these scholarships will be made at the annual Texas German Society Convention held on May 5, 2018.

REQUIREMENTS: Applicant must be a United State citizen and a resident of Texas. Applicant must submit an essay of 500 words (two pages double spaced) on the topic: “My Present and Continued Interest in the German Language and Culture.”

Applicant must have language instructor sign the bottom of the essay. On a separate sheet of paper, applicant must include full name, complete home address, telephone number, email address, name of German language instructor, and name and address of school. Attach a copy of driver’s license and high school transcript. On this same sheet we require that you briefly demonstrate your ability to write in the German language a thirty to fifty word profile of yourself.

**JUDGING CRITERIA AND
SCHOLARSHIP MONEY**

The essays will be judged on meaningful, specific, and organized content with focus and depth of development that is distinctive due to originality and effectiveness of expression. Judges will also consider correct and effective grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

The scholarship money will be paid directly to the college or university when the winners enroll in the college or university of his/her choice. Scholarship money will be used for tuition fees only. If the winner does not enter a college or university one year from the date of graduation from high school, the scholarship will be forfeited. Previous essay winners are not eligible to participate a second time.

Essay submission deadline and submission address:

Essays must be submitted and postmarked by April 5 to the address below:

Texas German Society Scholarship Committee
Grace Holtkamp, Chairman
1452 South Circle
Telephone Number: (979) 885-2169
Sealy, TX 77474
email: graceholtkamp@att.net

For scholarship money:
Christa Prewitt (TGS Treasurer)
P.O. Box 992
Telephone Number:(512) 281-1916
Elgin, TX 78621 email: christaja@prodigy.n

**In Memoriam Form
From March 2017 through March
2018**

Name: _____
Date of Passing: _____
Age at Passing: _____
TGS Chapter: _____

Please send or email information by April 16, 2018 to:

Peggy Schulin
PO Box 1242
Katy, Texas 77492-1242
713.582.5210
peggvschulin@comcast.net

Harmonie Hall and the History of Shelby, Texas

According to the wooden sign that hangs above the entrance to the hall's pavilion, Harmonie Hall was established by the German population in 1875. It would be remiss to say it's not one of the main features of the small community. Shelby boasts a population of about 44 (tentatively). Though small, Shelby has a rich history.

Shelby Historical Marker

“Town of Shelby

Named for 1822 settler David Shelby, this town grew up at the mill of German pioneer Otto Von Roeder. The Ohlendorfs, Vogelsangs, Rothermels, and Vanderwerths arrived in 1845; other Germans came in ensuing years. The post office opened 1846 with Shelby as postmaster. A school (1854), an agricultural society, a singing society and a band were started. Mission work, begun in 1876, led to founding of Peace Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran churches. By 1900 there were at least a dozen businesses here. Decline of farming led residents to live on ancestral land and work in cities. (1974)”

Gruene Hall in New Braunfels, Texas claims itself to be the oldest dance hall in Texas, but it was founded in 1878 while Harmonie Hall was founded in 1875.



DIRECTIONS: Shelby is at the junction of Farm roads 389 and 1457, twenty-four miles northwest of Bellville in extreme northwestern Austin County. It is about 17 miles from Brenham via FM 389 W.

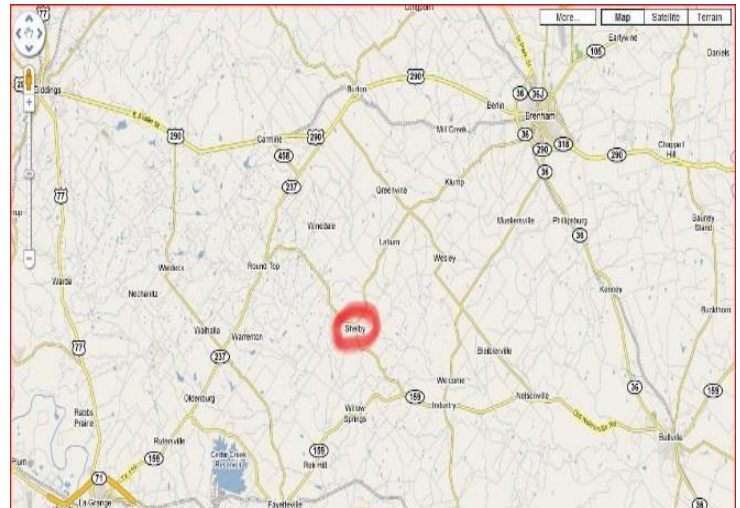


Photo from Harmonie Hall's Facebook page.



Shelby Store, Photo by Madison Luetge

President Donald Trump Proclaims October 6, 2017

German-American Day

Released in the Federal Register, Vol. 82 No.195, president Donald Trump proclaimed October 6, 2017 German-American Day.

“NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2017, as German-American Day. I call upon all Americans to celebrate the achievements and contributions of German Americans to our Nation with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.”

The president included a personal note to this proclamation by mentioning his own German heritage. He goes on to spotlight some of America’s greatest citizens who have made great contributions to our country. The proclamation was published Wednesday, October 11, 2017 and is available on the internet.

Did You Know?

Donald J. Trump was inducted into the German-American Hall of Fame in 2012.

German-American Hall of Fame

Inductees

(In Order of Induction)

Günter Blobel

Adolphus Busch

Walter Cronkite

Walter Percy Chrysler

Albert Einstein

Dwight D. Eisenhower

John Kluge

George Michael Steinbrenner III

Levi Strauss

Babe Ruth

Carl Schurz

Siegfried & Roy

John Augustus Roebling

Donald J. Trump

Heinz C. Prechter

Louis Joseph Freeh

Dr. Henry Kissinger

Amelia Mary Earhart

John Peter Zenger

Eric Braeden

Doris Day

Henry Steinway

Lou Gehrig

Dr. Ruth Westheimer

REVISED CONSTITUTION

Of the

TEXAS GERMAN SOCIETY

(Adopted _____, _____, 2018)

(This constitution replaces the constitution adopted on April 17, 1993)

organization which would accept the Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum and associated property and cemetery for the purpose of preserving German artifacts.

ARTICLE I

Name: Texas German Society

ARTICLE II

1. Purpose: The purpose of the Texas German Society is to preserve and promote the German heritage, culture and language.
2. Local chapters and members will engage in a broad range of activities: academic, literary and educational, and social and recreational through participation in genealogical workshops, historical projects, speeches and films, meals featuring German ethnic foods, and German songs and music.
3. The Texas German Society is a nonpolitical, non-profit, German ethnic organization. No member shall at any time receive a profit from the organization. However, any member or officer shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in accordance with approval of the board. In the event the organization is terminated or dissolved, any assets remaining after payment of all outstanding debts shall be assigned, in accordance with Article Ten (10) of the Articles of Incorporation, to an

ARTICLE III

Membership: All persons who become members of the Texas German Society are expected to abide by the constitution, by local chapter bylaws, and by any duly approved resolution.

Expulsion: No member can be expelled without a hearing before the local chapter and by a majority vote of 2/3 members in attendance. Expulsion must be for the good of the society, for misconduct, or disruptive agitation. A member expelled by one local chapter may be given "at large" membership by the state or any other local chapter by majority vote with 2/3 members in attendance of the governing body of each. An appeal can be made to the state board.

ARTICLE IV

Dues: Initial state dues are set by the organizational founders. Any increases must be approved by majority vote with 2/3 of the state board present at a State meeting. State dues must be collected by local chapters and forwarded to the state treasurer by March 1 of each year. An individual who applies for membership in more than one chapter would pay all applicable chapter dues, but state dues are paid only once annual

ARTICLE V

Governance

1. The governing board of the Texas German Society shall consist of the following nine officers/directors: president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, treasurer, publicity director, program director, newsletter editor, webmaster, and five additional directors. Other officers may be added by constitutional amendment. All state officers (9) must be elected annually by the general membership at the annual Convention. However, in the event a Convention is not held, state officers may be elected at a special meeting called by the state president. Directors (5) will serve a term of two years, with two elected in even-numbered years and three elected in odd-numbered years. All officers and directors must be dues-paying members of the Texas German Society and be willing to uphold the constitution of Texas German Society.

2. Duties of State Officers

President is expected to conduct society business, preside at society meetings and activities, take an active part in programming society activities, organize new chapters, recruit new members, appoint a nominating committee annually, appoint other committees as needed, and fill by appointment vacancies within the State Board that occur between elections.

First vice-president will perform the president's duties in the absence of the latter, support special projects as they develop, and support the society in general.

Second vice-president will help to organize new chapters where possible and help the president with special activities and projects.

Secretary will record the minutes of business meetings and may also record attendance at meetings.

Treasurer will handle all financial transactions of the society, keep an updated membership list, collect state dues by April, keep a record of income and expenses, handle the society bank account, and make an annual financial report. The treasurer will furnish chapters with a tax identification number for bank accounts. The president signs as co-owner on all transactions.

Publicity director will handle news release to the news media and seek as much favorable publicity as possible for the state society and local chapters.

Program director with assistance from the president, will plan programs and activities on own initiative or as directed by the State Board.

Newsletter editor will publish the TGS Reporter at least two times a year with scheduled printing dates known to all members. Newsletter will include information about the state convention, German Christmas program, other state and local chapter activities, informational news items on ethnic German communities in Texas, etc.

Webmaster will operate and maintain the website of TGS (www.texasgermansociety.com).

Directors (5) do not have specific duties but are encouraged to promote the interest of the society and the German heritage and are

expected to attend all board meetings with the same voting rights as state officers.

Immediate past president will serve in an advisory capacity to the State Board.

Lifetime advisory director is an honorary recognition conferred upon a person who shall have rendered notable service to the society with privileges to attend all meetings of the society including board meetings, but no State Board voting privileges will be accorded. Lifetime directors are determined by the board's recommendation at the annual meeting. As of April 17, 1993, the lifetime directors are Alfred Drescher, Alex Wied, Glenn Roy Guettler, Edward Wachholz and Eldor Speiss.

Local Chapter Presidents attend board meetings as representatives from their chapters with all voting privileges.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings and Activities

The state governing board will hold at least two board meetings per year. Meeting announcements will be sent to elected board members, immediate past president, lifetime advisory directors and chapter presidents.

There will be an annual convention held during the Spring of each year. Upon invitation from chapters, the state board will decide the location for the state convention and host chapter. Other German ethnic organizations and institutions may be invited to attend but will not participate in business sessions.

An annual German Christmas program may be held the first Sunday in December at the

Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum.

German American Day, October 6, shall be observed or recognized by the society.

ARTICLE VII

Local Chapters

1. There should be at least (6) founders for the organization of a local chapter. The sponsor will notify the state president of intent to establish a chapter. The state president or second vice-president will assist in organizing new chapters.
2. Local chapters will hold a minimum of four business meetings annually. Generally, major decisions will require a vote of approval by 2/3 of the members in attendance.
3. Chapters will collect state dues and send dues with each member's name and address to the state treasurer.
4. Chapters will serve as host for state convention when held in local area. Also, chapters will serve as host for annual German Christmas program at the Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum.
5. Local chapters can be dissolved by the state board for not operating in accordance with the constitution.
6. The Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum Commission operates under its own by-laws. Members are volunteers supporting the museum project.

ARTICLE VIII

Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum

The management of the Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum shall be entrusted to a commission of at least eight (8) members. The state board with majority vote of 2/3 members in attendance shall accept or reject commission candidates selected.

Commission officers including director of museum, assistant director of museum, secretary, memorial donation secretary and treasurer. Commission members will actively pursue means for preservation and promotion of the museum. Meetings shall be held at the museum with state officers as often as necessary.

ARTICLE IX

Texas German Society will cooperate with other German ethnic organizations, institutions and agencies for the benefit of the ethnic German community in Texas. TGS, however, will attempt to avoid competing with or duplicating other ethnic activities.

ARTICLE X

State headquarters are Texas German Society; Texas German Society Witte-Schmid Haus Museum; 2650 Witte-Schmid Road, New Ulm, Texas 78950.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments can be made by majority vote of 2/3 State Board members in attendance but will also require a majority vote of the general membership at the state meeting.

ARTICLE XII

Enabling clause

This constitution shall take effect upon approval by the general membership at the state meeting.

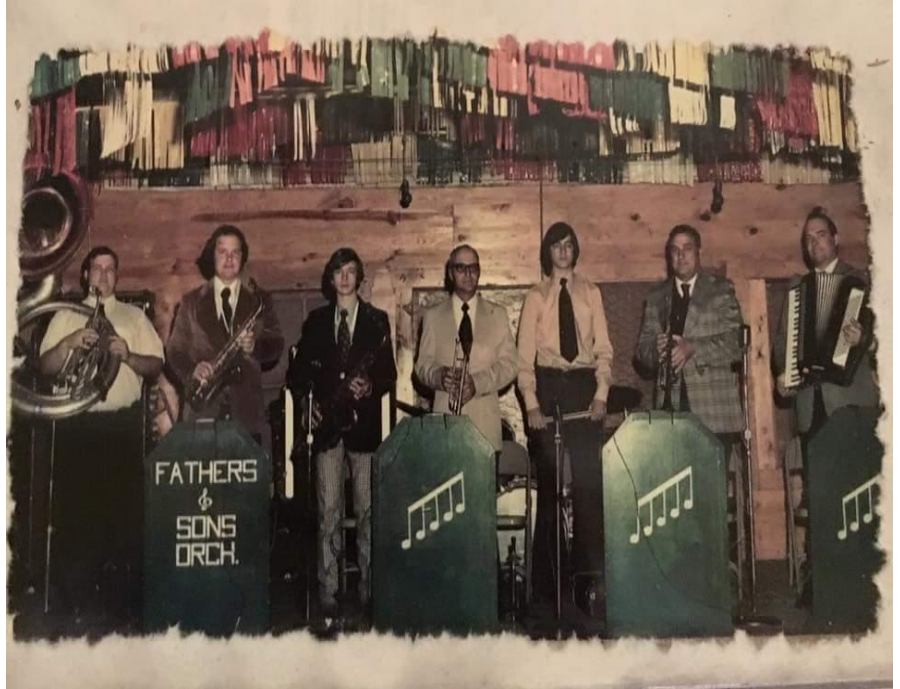


A Brief History of “The Fathers and Sons Orchestra”

Written by Branch Luetge and
Madison Luetge

Branch Luetge is a third (at least) generation Luetge musician. He is preceded by his father, Otis Luetge, Uncle Lester Luetge and his grandfather Hilton Luetge. Hilton instilled the love of music in Otis at the age of 12 by appointing him the drummer of the “Happy Cousins Orchestra” while Lester picked up trumpet. Hilton, Otis and Lester formed the core of the “Houston Playboys”. In 1966, Hilton passed away and the “Houston Playboys” were no more.

Branch’s musical endeavor began in 6th grade when he joined the school band program. A party was thrown at the old S.P.J.S.T. hall in Bleiberville Texas and the Luetge family was invited. The hosts requested that Otis bring his accordion and Lester, his trumpet. Otis asked Branch to bring his old sousaphone along. Lester’s oldest son Rocky (a year younger than Branch) had a natural talent for playing the drums and joined in the jam session. The party went well into the night and Otis and Lester were struck with the idea to form their own band with their sons. They played a few venues in 1969 and were eventually hired for a public dance. Naturally, advertising became a factor and they needed a name. How about the “Fathers and Sons Orchestra”? There you have it!!!



Pictured from the left: Branch Luetge, Barnell Marek, Derrell Krebs, Calvin Krebs, Rocky Luetge, Lester Luetge and Otis Luetge.

In Branch’s own words:

“It didn’t take long for us to catch on. My dad and uncle were very well known and popular individuals, plus people always enjoy seeing kids (literally) play. Anyway, it wasn’t too long before Rocky got hired by a country/western band. His mom, Nora Dell, usually went along with him because he was under age to play in a lot of the venues, plus he needed a ride! This led to Calvin Krebs joining the band as drummer and with Calvin, came his son Derrell to play 2nd cornet – another Father and Son! Somewhere along the way, Barnell “Boots” Marek joined the band playing alto saxophone and singing. Barnell was a welcome addition to the band as a longtime family friend! Within time, Rocky came back to the band. So Calvin moved to 2nd cornet and Derrell had taught himself to play a tenor saxophone. Derrell also picked up playing guitar and I had started playing some electric bass.

This particular group remained intact for a while. By 1974, my dad and uncle had become weary of running a band, so they decided that New Year's Eve was going to be the last of the "Fathers and Sons Orchestra". "

Derrell left the band and formed "The Variations" based out of Fayetteville. In '74 Branch was hired on as the first tuba player for Harry Czarnek and The Texas Dutchmen, but only joined with the stipulation that he could finish his commitments with the "Fathers and Sons Orchestra". Somewhere along this timeline, Barnell and Calvin decided the Fathers and Sons had too good a thing going to shut down, so they took over band administration. The last official performance of the **original** group was at Coshatte Hall outside of Bellville in January of 1975.

The band continued with the addition of Harley "Buck" Strickler playing guitar and singing. Rodney Luetge, Rocky's younger brother and Lester's youngest son, joined and had honed his natural musical abilities into teaching himself the bass guitar. This group had a LOT of chemistry and got to the point where they were playing virtually every Saturday night, if not Sunday too. Derrell and Branch occasionally joined them whenever scheduling allowed.

As Branch recalls:

"Again I'm not exactly sure, but the "grind" of having a weekday job and playing weekends took its toll. The Fathers and Sons played there last official dance at Shelby's Harmonie Hall Homecoming Feast – probably in '82 or '83. A petition was circulated that day in an effort to prevent the disbanding, to no avail. That petition is "on file" somewhere and contains literally hundreds of signatures! Although they were officially through playing,

they continued to play a fundraiser or two a year AND the Harmonie Hall Homecoming Feast."

Unfortunately the "Fathers and Sons Orchestra" officially ended when Lester unexpectedly passed away in 1987. As of this writing, Barnell, Rocky, Rodney, Derrell and Branch are the only members left to tell the unbelievable stories that were accrued through their years with the Orchestra. Additionally, ALL of the sons are still active musicians today.



Included as "proof of lineage" is a photograph of "The Happy Cousins Orchestra". I'm not sure of the date of the photo, or the location, or the members, other than my grandfather Hilton Luetge on the left with the trombone.

Chapter News

I don't intentionally leave any chapter news out but there are times items get misplaced and overlooked (even with email). So I apologize upfront to any chapter/person if your news is overlooked. I would really like to have news from every chapter. Any special events or stories you want to share would also be appreciated. Please put TGS in your subject line on email. (Editor)

Austin County

Fayette County Record-Nov. 19 Issue
The Shelby Area Historical Society and Austin County German Society met in a joint meeting on Sunday, Nov. 19, at Das Haus, the German Museum located at Schoenau Road off 1457 beginning at 2 p.m. A program was presented by Gesine Koether on the early schools of Fayette County. The public was invited.

Bluebonnet Chapter

The Bluebonnet Chapter of the Texas German Society meets six times each year. The meetings are held at the Hill Center in Sealy beginning at 7:00 p.m.

2017 was a busy year for the chapter. Some of our programs dealt with secrets of the Millheim community, review of the beginning of the Cat Spring Agriculture Society and our Annual German meal with lots of German food and ice cream social in July. The chapter has a scholarship program for a senior graduating from any high school in Austin County who expresses an interest in the German language and heritage. Plans have been made to present interesting programs for 2018. The dates and programs are: January 24, 2018 – special Guest Richard Keen and his bagpipes
March 28 – Jim Woodrick will review a book he and Steve Engelking (a resident of Germany) wrote about early Cat Spring pioneers
July 25 – Ice Cream social
November 28 – annual German meal and

social

Austin County Judge Tim Lapham will be our speaker at one of our meetings.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings so please join us

Fort Bend Chapter

On October 16, 2017, the Fort Bend Chapter of the Texas German Society visited the J.P. Bryan Museum, located in the historic Galveston Orphans Home. The beautiful brick landmark in the heart of historic Galveston Island served as an orphanage for nearly 100 years, surviving massive damage from the 1900 Hurricane, and now serves as a sanctuary for the extensive Bryan Collection. With approximately 70,000 items in total, the collection includes rare books, documents and maps; saddles; antique firearms; spurs; art; and many other amazing items too numerous to mention. The Bryan Collection presents a chronological history of Texas and the American West through one of the world's largest collections of historical memorabilia. Pictured are Delbert and Carol Niemann, Jeannette Mathews, Theresa Schultz, Cathy Hanzik, and Loyce Anderson, A meal at Fisherman's Wharf followed an enjoyable day in Galveston at the Bryan Museum.



FORT BEND CHAPTER
2018 SCHEDULE

January 30, 2018-Planning ~ Albert George Library

March/April 2018-House of Blue ~ Needville High School

May 5, 2018-TGS Convention ~ Shelby - Harmonie Hall

July 10, 2018-Ice Cream Social & Movie ~ Albert George Library

September 11, 2018-Washington on the Brazos

November 13, 2018-Houston Museum of Natural Science

January 8, 2019-Planning ~ Albert George Library

GOLDEN CRESCENT CHAPTER

Aug.3- President Dennis Boehm gave the opening prayer and we all gathered to share our meal. After we ate Dennis proceeded to lead us with our regular meeting. Harvey Spies gave us a report on the 2018 convention as he will be going to a meeting soon concerning this convention.

Dennis noted that we had a wonderful time at our June picnic meeting. Played games, visited and ate (favorite pastime for many of our members.)

Dennis gave us a report on the exchange student program which has some German students involved. The group (Academy Year in America) is looking for sponsors for the students. Ann Heinrich said she has reserved the same caterer as we had last year for our Christmas Party this year. She said we could have our party catered for \$15.00 per person or we could just bring covered dishes like we always do. Dennis and

Dorothy Boehm offered to cook the traditional turkey meal.

Dennis asked our guest, Robert Null, to tell us about his upcoming trip. Robert is going to Florence, Italy to study interior design. Robert is Ann Heinrich's grandson.

Dennis asked the group to think about program suggestions for our meetings. He suggested that even the members would be welcome to give a report on their German ancestors, nothing fancy, just what was known about the trip coming to America and what their lives were like after they arrived.

Dec.7-Dennis thanked Ann Heinrich for a wonderful job on the decorations with assistance from some of the members. Ann had hired the same caterer we used last year since we all were very pleased with his service. Ann brought poinsettias for the table decorations and they were given as door prizes as well as leftover food plates.

Dennis went over the names of our members who are ill or have not been attending due to health reasons and/or just do not drive at night any longer.

Dennis gave us a report on our membership and we had eleven members drop their membership during this year. Some are just having health issues, some are not driving at night any longer, and others have gone to the great beyond.

Dennis had invited the German exchange students to join us for our party. There were two students along with their sponsor, Diane Dabney. Everyone enjoyed visiting with them and hearing about them talk about their home in Germany.

As in the past Dennis downloaded Germany songs and we all sang along with the words being displayed on the screen to give us some idea of what we were singing. The German exchange students seemed to really have fun with the sing along.

Feb.1- Diane Dabney and Lynn Hughes brought their two German exchange students to present a program which included photos of their hometown in Germany. It was an excellent program with a short question and answer period to follow. The program was done first so the students could leave since this was a school night. Their presentation was nicely done, very interesting, and enjoyed by the members.

We are now down to twenty-two members. Leslie Fuhrman a former member recently passed away. Prayers were asked for Mary Frances Schaar who fell and is currently in rehab. We had one new member join last month and she has already called informing us that she would not be attending meetings due to other obligations.

Dennis asked if the members wanted to go on another field trip to Beeville, Texas and eat at the authentic German food restaurant. The restaurant is owned by a couple from Berlin, Germany and the food is delicious. About nine persons were interested in the outing and March 03, 2018 at 11:00am was set for the occasion.

Harris County Chapter

For its November meeting, the Harris County Chapter held its end-of-the-year holiday banquet. Forty members gathered to socialize and share a turkey dinner with participants who brought many German-inspired dishes to enjoy. Entertainer Vince Ramos, dressed in lederhosen, provided music including popular favorites as well as German songs. Governor Clements provided grace, and after dinner, numerous door prizes were awarded to the lucky winners. President Jeff Lindemann thanked the officers and all their good work over the last year: Roy Whitney (Vice President), Twila Rodgers (Treasurer), Ruth Froebel (Secretary/Program Chair) and Delores Bentke (Refreshments Chair). Lindemann recapped a year of outstanding speakers.

For the January 2018 meeting, Linda Gorski, President of the Houston Archeology

Society and a Texas Historical Commission Archeological Steward, spoke on her topic: "The Happy Hollow: Emergency Salvage Archeology Project." Happy Hollow was Houston's turn-of-the-century red-light district. According to Gorski, "For three short days at the end of January 2016 Texas Historical Commission Archeological Stewards from Harris County and members of the Houston Archeological Society participated in an emergency salvage archeology shovel testing project at a unique site in downtown Houston, Texas. Owners of the historic Lancaster Hotel were forced to demolish two equally historic adjoining buildings to provide parking spaces for the hotel. The owners of the hotel including Miki Lusk Norton graciously allowed the Texas Historical Commission to examine the site before it was paved over. These historic buildings in the 500 block of Louisiana Avenue were built in 1907 and replaced earlier structures on the lots that were originally 'female boarding houses' – aka brothels. The shovel testing revealed early cisterns, brick and concrete piers that supported the pier and beam building, an historic gulley and a privy. Approximately 1100 artifacts were recovered including many complete bottles that originally contained female medications and tonics providing clues as to what was going on at the site in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and lending credence to the site's original name – 'Happy Hollow'!"

Heart of Texas Chapter

June-Dec 2017

January 2018

May - The Heart of Texas Chapter met at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center. For our program Helen Miller read some letters from the late 1800's that her great-grandfather sent to his family that were still residing in Germany at that time.

They described what life was like back then. The letters eventually got back to the U.S. During the business meeting, treasurer Betty Hubbard reported the following donations and gifts that were voted on and paid: Texas German Endowment, Whitney HS German Classes, Das Haus, St. Paul Lutheran Church-Aleman, Crestview Church of Christ, and Christ Lutheran Church.

June- The HOT Chapter met for an evening of fun and food at Jay Thiele's Museum on June 27 at 6 p.m. Many thanks to Jay and his son, John, for being such gracious hosts.

July- Several members traveled to Copperas Cove to dine at the German Imbiss Restaurant.

Aug- Final plans were made for our Oktoberfest to be held on September 23. Betty Hubbard read thank you notes from the Witte-Schmid Haus Museum, two from the Bosque Museum and two from the University of Texas for donations made. LaNell presented information about the City of Crawford's 150th Anniversary on October 21. Jay Thiele made a motion to donate \$100 to Crawford's 150th Anniversary celebration. The motion passed. Helen Miller presented a comical program as a news lady on German, U.S and Canadian News.

Sept- Oktoberfest was the order of business. This Oktoberfest was dedicated to the memory of deceased member Irene Schulze. Jay Thiele was asked to be MC and tell about our Memorial to Irene Schulze and introduce her children who would be present.

Oct- We were happy to have Keith and Janie Niemeyer as guests. Betty Hubbard reported Dorothy Leyendecker of the Colorado Chapter and a longtime member of TGS

passed away recently. Betty and Andrea Baker had a TGS table at the Genealogy Lock-in at the Waco-McLennan Co. Library on Bosque. Enzian Baum has been booked for our 2018 Oktoberfest for September 22. Nov- Betty Hubbard gave the treasurer's report and read a letter from the Crawford 150th Anniversary Committee thanking us for our contribution. The election of officers did not occur for lack of attendance. It was rescheduled for December.

Dec- Our annual Christmas party was held at Zion United Church at Womack, which is near Clifton. During a short business meeting the following officer were elected for another term: President, LaNell Mueller; Treasurer, Betty Hubbard and Programs, Helen Miller. Betty and LaNell will share the secretary position. We were entertained by members of the church's choir. Members shared some fabulous food dishes. Fun was had with a Chinese gift exchange. Members also brought food for the Clifton food pantry.

KATY TRI-COUNTY Chapter

The members of the Katy Tri-County Chapter of TGS met in May and enjoyed a beautiful slide show presented by members Karen and Louis Palermo. They detailed their trip to the countries of Germany, France and Austria.

In October ten members met at the Kings Bier Haus in the Heights and enjoyed a great German lunch together. Christmas brought our annual gathering at our meeting place of Carriage Inn in Katy.

January -Keith Williams presented a program on Germanic Peoples and the Roman Empire and the Shaping of the West.

Lavaca DeWitt Chapter

The Lavaca DeWitt Chapter meets on the second Thursday of the month on a bi-monthly basis. Meetings are held at the historical Hochheim Prairie Schoolhouse.

During the last half of 2017, our June meeting was an annual "Beat-the-Heat" indoor picnic and game night. After sharing traditional picnic goodies, we socialized, played dominoes, Skat, or board games. As the final business meeting of the year, our August meeting focused on concluding any outstanding issues and clarifying future plans for the rest of the year. Betty Rathkamp presented our cultural program on the shipboard logistics and hazards faced by German families which migrated to the New World. She shared slides of ships and information about shipboard life.

In October, members celebrated the signing of the German Day Proclamation in both Hallettsville and Cuero. We celebrated Oktoberfest at Kloesel's Steakhouse in Moulton.

To end our year, our Weihnachtsfest was held on December 14. The Schoolhouse was festively decorated with an elegant Tannenbaum and authentic Steinbach nutcrackers. Chef Heinz Braun started our holiday feast with an array of assorted cheeses. He then presented roast pork, mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, Rotkohl and a mélange of winter vegetables. Everyone then helped themselves to the delicious varieties of Nachtisch, including authentic Lebkuchen. The evening ended with the group caroling in both English and German. The highlight and the favorite of all was "Stille Nacht".

The first business meeting of 2018 is scheduled for Thursday, February 08, at

6:00 pm. Visitors and guests are always welcomed.

N. Harris County Chapter

May 2017

For our May 2017 meeting, Mr. Mike Vance with the Heritage Society at Sam Houston Park presented "Houston - 100 Years Ago", which paints a full picture of life in the Bayou City at that time. The talk covered a complete overview of what Houston was like 100 years ago including the economy, living conditions, social and ethnic makeup and much more. Also, covered was the biggest story of 1917 - the Camp Logan Riot.

The Heritage Society (THS) is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to tell the stories of the diverse history of Houston and Texas through collections, exhibits, educational programs, film, video, and other content. Founded in 1954 by a number of public-spirited Houstonians to rescue the 1847 Kellum-Noble House from demolition, The Heritage Society has since saved an additional nine historic buildings, moved them from various locations to join the Kellum-Noble House in Sam Houston Park, and restored them to reflect their respective eras. These ten buildings, along with the Museum Gallery, serve as historic reference points and exhibition spaces for more than 23,000 artifacts that document life in Houston from the early 1800s to the mid-1900s.

July 2017-We enjoyed a visual trip to Washington D.C. as chapter member Butch Theiss presented to us his trip to our Nation's Capital this past winter. He showed us the various interesting sites and discuss the purpose and history of each location. As he made his trip in the winter,

we received a visual relief from the heat of summer as the photos show the snow and cold Mr. Theiss and his family encountered during their trip.

September 2017-We celebrated our chapter's 22nd anniversary with fun and music at our party on Monday, September 25th. Our entertainment was provided by Enzian Buam, with our own past state president, Robert Herridge, and Jason Keepers. A good time was had by all.

November 2017-We got ready for the Christmas Season as we watched the episode of Rick Steves' Europe entitled "Germany's Romantic Rhine and Rothenburg. Cruising the Rhine River, we dodged riverboat traffic and the legendary Lorelei. After climbing castles and descending into dungeons, we relaxed with Rhine wine. We toured Burg Eltz — a lived-in castle where the noble lady still puts out fresh flowers. Then we entered the walled town of Rothenburg for Germany's best wood carving, a vivid dose of medieval punishment, and a tour with the night. Also, we saw a year-round Christmas decoration store with its own Christmas decoration museum.

Tarrant County Chapter

Our Chapter's meetings are held in Arlington, Texas. We meet each month at All Saints Lutheran Church on SW Green Oaks Blvd. When we do not have a speaker or presentation, we meet at a local restaurant. We send e-mail meeting notices and call the members who are not on e-mail.

In May we attended the annual Spring Concert of the German Band of North Texas. They performed at Orchestra Hall in Fort Worth. The band played very well and more people are coming to this event each

year at this very nice auditorium. Our club served refreshments at intermission which Dr. Lobb, the founder and conductor appreciated very much.

In June we met at David's Barbeque Restaurant on Park Row and enjoyed barbeque and Gemuetlichkeit.

In July we met at J-J's Cafe' on Little Road and enjoyed American cuisine and our fellowship.

In August we met at Red Lobster Restaurant on S. Cooper Street for fun and conversation.

In September we were invited to the annual Oktoberfest of the Sister Cities of Arlington organization. Many of our members are also members there. Arlington is Sister City with Bad Koenigshofen in Germany. The meeting took place in the BK Pavillion in Stovall Park in South Arlington. The weather was nice and the German Band of North Texas, under the direction of its founder, Dr. Edward Lobb provided German music for the evening. We sang German songs with the band "und haben geschunkelt". There were many food trucks where people could buy many different kinds of foods and drink. A good time was had by all.

In Oktober we met at our usual meeting place in the Fellowship Hall of All Saints Lutheran Church in Arlington. Our president informed us of many upcoming events such as the Christkindle Markt in Arlington. Also of the news about the TGS State Convention next year. We made plans for our upcoming potluck dinner and election of officers and our upcoming Christmas Party. Dr. Lobb was present and handed out a list of German Christmas songs for us to choose which ones we wanted to hear and sing at the Christmas Party.

In November we had our annual potluck dinner and installation of officers we gained two new members and all the officers accepted another term.

In December for our Christmas Party the German Band of North Texas came and they played many of the famous German Christmas songs. Some of them we sang along. Also our member, Johanna Fandler, who was an opera singer some time ago, sang "Stille Nacht" in Solo. After the program was over we enjoyed the members of the band staying with us for food and fellowship. We had a very nice Christmas Party.

Washington County Chapter

1846—First permanent German Settlers in Washington County, TX. Henry Eichholt arrived in spring of 1846 and settled in Cedar Hill with 50 cents in his pocket. He was born in Brocken near Berlin, Germany. In 1847 he married Louise Roehling and they built a 2 room cedar log cabin. Being deeply religious Henry and Louise helped Rev. Geiger organize William Penn Lutheran Church, the third Lutheran Church in Washington. Eichholt died in 1900 and his wife died in 1899. Both were buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery on Cedar Hill Rd.

1850—Washington Co. Census listed 68 Germans from Germany.

1855—Berlin Lutheran Church

1855—Salem Lutheran Church

1860—Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1861—German Baptists, first German Baptist Congregation in Texas. State Historical marker.

1867—Rocky Creek held Methodist services in a log cabin. A cemetery remains at Rocky Creek with early German records at Methodist Church in Brenham.

1868—Washington County Fair organized with Germans becoming involved by 1870-

1872 as stock holders in the Fair Association. 1870—Catholic Church
1875—Rev. Urbantke had German Methodist Congregation in Brenham.
1875—Brenham Public Schools—oldest in Texas. Earlier schools were held in churches. Rev. Urbantke was authorized to establish a school in the city. The first session was in March 1883 with the name of Mission Institute. Its purpose was to train young men for the ministry. Later it became Blinn College with "Old Blinn Building" intact. 1870—Texas Volksbote newspaper was published for 40 years in German language. 1874—Maifest was organized as Brenham Volkfest Association and was held each May. Now it is the first weekend in May with parade and celebration at Firemen's Park in Brenham. The park also has a Maipole or May Pole as well as an old carousel (Hoppy Horses) and is still functional. Labahia Dance Hall, a community recreation center, was organized by Germans and still is in its original condition.

A number of business buildings in downtown Brenham were established by Germans. Brenham Heritage Museum—on display is a meal chest dated 1881 as an award for top team of mules. The museum has a collection of German Heritage memorabilia.

Kate Smith



Interesting bit of history.

Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time, and said that when he and a million other guys first heard her sing "God Bless America" on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two.

Here are the facts.... The link at the bottom will take you to a video showing the very first public singing of "GOD BLESS AMERICA". But before you watch it, you should also know the story behind the first public showing of the song.

The time was 1940. America was still in a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans.

This was the era just before TV, when radio shows were HUGE, and American families sat around their radios in the evenings, listening to their favorite entertainers, and no entertainer of that era was bigger than Kate Smith.

Kate was also large; plus size, as we now say, and the popular phrase still used today is in deference to her, "It isn't over till the fat lady sings".

Kate Smith might not have made it big in the age of TV, but with her voice coming over the radio, she was the biggest star of her time.

Kate was also patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring. She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American song-writer, Irving Berlin (who also wrote "White Christmas") and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country. When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her. He went to his files and found a song that he had written, but never published, 22 years before - way back in 1917. He gave it to her and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from God Bless America. Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years, the Boy Scouts have received millions of dollars in royalties from this song.

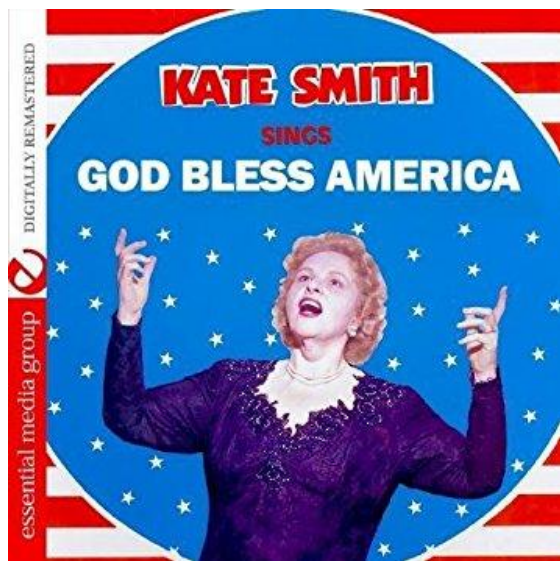
This video starts out with Kate Smith coming into the radio studio with the orchestra and an audience. She introduces the new song for the very first time, and starts singing. After the first couple verses, with her voice in the background still singing, scenes are shown from the 1940 movie, "You're In The Army Now". At the 4:20 mark of the video you see a young actor in the movie, sitting in an office, reading a paper; it's Ronald Reagan.

To this day, God Bless America stirs our patriotic feelings and pride in our country. Back in 1940, when Kate Smith went looking for a song to raise the spirits of her fellow Americans, I doubt whether she realized just how successful the results would be for her fellow Americans during

those years of hardship and worry..... And for many generations of Americans to follow.

Now that you know the story of the song, I hope you'll enjoy it. Many people don't know there's a lead in to the song since it usually starts with "God Bless America "!

Please take the time to search Kate's performance on YouTube!



Obituaries



Lydia Dozler

February 28, 1934-December 21, 2017

Lydia Marie Dozler passed away peacefully on the morning of the winter solstice, December 21, 2017. She was born in Galveston, Texas on February 28, 1934, the first child of John Leonard Becker and Marie Sophie Becker.

She attended Milby High School in Houston, graduating early. Always adventurous, she attended Midland College in Fremont, Nebraska, where she earned her teaching degree. Her first teaching job was in Omaha, where she lived the young singles life until she met her husband, John Joseph Dozler, who happened to live on the floor below in the same apartment building.

Lydia taught school for over 40 years, many of those as a 3rd grade teacher at Franklin Elementary School in Houston, Texas. While teaching school and with daughters still at home, she earned a Master's Degree in Education from University of Houston-Clear Lake. She was an enthusiastic science and math teacher and helped train and

pioneer computer technology in Houston schools.

Lydia loved genealogy research, gardening, helping others, and most of all, outings and meals with family and friends. Active in many clubs and organizations, she participated as a leader or member of the Clear Creek Retired Teachers Association, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the Hugs Group, the German Society, Friends of the Library, Bay Area Genealogy, Fun Bunch, among others.

Lydia is preceded in death by her husband, John Dozler; her sister, Elsa Louise Becker; and grandson, Danial Joseph Kinney.

Lydia is survived by her brother John Leonard Becker, her daughters Patricia Ann Dozler and Pamela Marie Dozler and husband Stephen Philip Bayer; grandchildren: Alana Ali and husband Muhammad Ali, Delia Dozler and Ian McGuire, Christopher Kinney, and Melissa Kinney; Ellen Bashaw and her husband, Brandon Bashaw, Max Bayer, Leo Bayer and his wife, Miku Nishiyama, and Albert Bayer; great-grandchildren: Raja Waleed, Raja Aaryan, and Liyana Ali, Lydia and Emmett Bashaw.

Lydia Marie Dozler, also known as Lydia Becker Dozler, is often referred to by friends and family as a great person with immense positive energy.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00am Tuesday, December 26, 2017, with visitation one hour prior to the service at Niday Funeral Home – Beamer Chapel. Interment will follow at Forest Park East Cemetery.



Dorothy Leyendecker

January 11, 1947 - October 19, 2017

Dorothy Leyendecker, 70, passed away on October 19, 2017 in Columbus, Texas. She was born on January 11, 1947 to Paul and Meta Wiecker Schomberg in Brenham, Texas.

Dorothy was baptized at Welcome Lutheran Church in Welcome. She served as organist of the church, helped teach Sunday School, and was a member of Luther League, playing volleyball every Friday night and Sunday afternoon.

Dorothy attended eight years of school at Welcome and graduated from Bellville High School in 1965. After high school, she attended Blinn College and graduated from Southwest Texas State College, now known as Texas State at San Marcos. She grew up on a farm near Welcome, learning to drive a tractor and pickup at an early age for she was an only child. Her mother did manage to teach her to cook and sew. She was active in all aspects of 4-H at Welcome, Austin County, District and State. Also, active and served as an officer in the Luther League, FHA, and 4-H. Her first job was teaching homemaking at Hallettsville High School.

Then she moved to Columbus, Texas to serve as Extension Agent-H.E. for Colorado County, Texas. In 1978, she studied and passed the test to become a Real Estate Agent. In 1980, she married Crockett Leyendecker and became partners of Leyco Real Estate and shortly thereafter moved to Broker Status. Dorothy and Crockett were also partners in the Pecan and Cattle business. She could ride a horse, drive a Mule or Polaris, and make you shut your eyes, “hopefully no accident”.

Dorothy was instrumental in organizing the Colorado County Chapter of Texas German Society where she served as local president and state president, served on the City Council of Columbus, TX, member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus, served as a reader, usher, council member and call committee.

For fun, she was a photographer, particularly “wildlife”, and Longhorn cattle. Her comment always was “when one asked about buying a Longhorn, you will have to talk to Crockett about that”. She hunted deer, elk, bear, and hogs; but her real love was animals especially dogs. She told them her troubles and they understood everything. Cried as she buried each, always would insist in digging the grave herself with a shovel and cried as the dirt was put over them. They were her friends and placed rocks or a wooden monument marking each grave.

She was part of the German singing group each time they reorganized and started over. She could speak more German than she ever admitted. You might not have liked her, but you always knew where she stood and how passionate she was about a particular subject. Her favorite saying “I’m not scared of the DEVIL himself”. She would always tell you that Crockett taught her how to fish for bass, make wine and work cattle. She grew up tight line fishing at the coast at

Matagorda and Palacios with friends and relatives.

Dorothy is survived by immediate family members, many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Meta Schomberg, her husband, Crockett Leyendecker, and her stepson, Karl Leyendecker.

Visitation will be held Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, and Sunday from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus. Also, visitation Sunday from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus. Funeral services will be held Sunday, October 22, 2017, 3:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus with Pastor Alan Kethan officiating. Burial will follow in Odd Fellows Rest Cemetery in Columbus. Serving as pallbearers are Ross Johnson, Luke Carden, James Luedecke, Smokey Leyendecker, Mannie Leyendecker, Cole Zajicek, Jane Luedecke, and Marlene Bradford.

Her family would like to thank sitters, Mary Williams, Odessa Thomas, Carlene Upson, and Deborah Coleman; and Brenham Hospice Brazos Valley for the loving care given to Dorothy. In her memory, memorials are suggested to Hospice Brazos Valley, 302 E. Bluebell Rd., Brenham, TX 77833; or charity of your choice. Obituary Provided By: Henneke Funeral Home



Louis William August "Gus" Look
1929-2017

Louis William August Look, Jr. was born on June 27, 1929 to Minnie Letz and LWA Look Sr. at home on Look Road (now Bunker Hill Road) and died November 12, 2017.

He attended the one room school house which was the only Spring Branch Independent School location. His parents helped found the Spring Branch School District, beginning with the first teacher living in their home. After graduation from Lamar High School, he joined the Navy. After his tour of duty, he returned to Houston working for TAPCO (now Triten Industries) and then opening Look Precision. He met and married the only love of his life Mary Alice. They were joyously married for 56 years as soul mates. He loved his family, his dogs, flying, hunting, fishing, and had a great love for the land. In 1997, they retired to Punta Gorda, FL where they enjoyed flying, boating, and the Florida sunshine. They then built a new retirement home on the golf course in Rockport, TX enjoying the same Gulf, but under Texas sunshine.

In 2009, they moved to Eagle's Trace in Houston, where they have truly enjoyed life, friends, their faith, and being near their family, including their daughter, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters Ethyl and Dorothy, his niece Sharon, and great grandson Quint.

He is survived by his devoted wife Mary, daughter Sheryl Johnson-Todd, son Beau Bolton, nephew Chuck Taylor, grandchildren Clay and Chris Bolton, Rob Johnson (wife Erin), Meredith Look Johnson Vreeland (husband Jeff), and Clark Johnson, and great grandchildren Trevor and Cordell Bolton; Liv and Rhett Johnson; Jack, Caroline, and Collins Vreeland; and Clark Johnson, Jr.

A memorial service will be held in the Living Room at Eagle's Trace (14703 Eagle Vista Drive, Houston, TX 77077) at 1:30 PM on Wednesday November 15, 2017. Published in Houston Chronicle on Nov. 14, 2017



Robert E. Manning

Sept. 28, 1936-September 15, 2017

YOAKUM - Robert E. 'Bobby' Manning, 80, joined his heavenly family Friday, September 15, 2017. He was born September 28, 1936 in Yoakum to the late James B. and Effie Wilcox Manning.

He graduated from Yoakum High School in 1955 and went on to Southwest Texas State, graduating in 1960. He lettered in football and was a member of T associate (a T-man). He completed his masters from Prairie View A&M in 1973 and eventually became the Yoakum High School Principal. He served his community with his dedication to education for over 40 years. He coached at Yoakum, Yorktown and Stroman and he never met anyone that he did not take under his wing and treat them as his own family.

Survivors are his beloved wife of 62 years, Joyce Soehnge Manning; daughter, Jan Mascheck (Brent); sons, Michael Manning (Kathy) and Kevin Manning (Carolyn); 9 grandchildren, Jenna Einem (Andy), Scott Manning, Brittany Grahmann (Brian), Brooks Sitka (Elizabeth), Kori Mascheck, Parker Manning, Blake Mascheck, Ty Manning and Trey Manning.; 3 great-grandchildren, Harleigh Grahmann, Landon Grahmann and Luke Einem; brothers, Don Monk and Jim Manning.

Preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Edward Monk, Mary Adams, Marjorie Wasserman, J.D. Manning, Helen Foxell, Royal Manning, Joyce Benbow, Wayne Manning and Neiland Monk.

Memorial Service 11 a.m., Monday, September 18, 2017 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church with Rev. Ansel Wenzel and Rev. Sarah Shanks officiating. Memorials may be given to Bobby Manning Memorial Scholarship Fund or Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Arrangements by Thiele Cooper Funeral Home, 361-293-5656.



Lucy Lynde (Brazzel) Micklitz
(May 30, 1940 - September 20, 2017)

LUCY LYNDE (BRAZZEL) MICKLITZ, wife of retired Judge Karl Micklitz (they married over 60 years ago) from Brookshire, Texas passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at home. What a beautiful lady with many friends. Lucy was born on May 30, 1940, in Kansas City, Missouri. She attended St. Agnes Academy in Houston. Karl and Lucy were married on February 23, 1957 and had four children, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Karl and Lucy moved to Brookshire/Pattison in 1970 to open a law office which Lucy managed with extreme ability.

Lucy was very active in her community. She currently served as Secretary on the Board of Directors of the Pattison Volunteer Fire Department. Lucy was also on EMT and helped organize the Brookshire/Pattison Area Volunteer Emergency Ambulance Corps. She was also very active in her church and a Eucharistic Minister and performed secretarial duties at various times.

Survived included son: Karl “Buddy” Micklitz and his wife, Sandra, and their son,

Leo, of Bryan, Heidi Gross and her husband, Ernie, and their sons, Karl and Royce Gross of New Ulm, Christa Molloy and her husband, Cliff and their daughters, Mairin and her husband, Jeff Griffith, and daughter, Maeve, Caitlin and Elora Molloy of Brookshire and Lucy L. Micklitz and her husband, Billy Ledsinger and their children, Christopher Micklitz and his wife, Laura and their son, Otto and Lucy Aleman and her husband, Christopher and their son Brody and Dax of Galveston; two brothers: Michael and Thomas Brazzel, In addition she leaves behind many family and friends.

Pallbearers are the members of the Pattison Area Volunteer Fire department. Friends who wish may make memorial gifts to the: Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department.



CHARLES SOEHNGE
August 26, 1938- July 30, 2017

YOAKUM - Charles Soehnge, 78, joined his heavenly family, Sunday, July 30, 2017. He was born August 26, 1938 in Cuero to the

late Ernest Charles and Corrine (Rabke) Soehnge.

Charles was the owner/operator of Soehnge-Do-It Center in Yoakum. He was a home designer, artist, pianist for the Golden Nuggets Church Group for 17 years, choir member and director, President of Rotary Club twice, President of Bluebonnet Youth Ranch and Board member, original board member of Yoakum Heritage Museum, and served on the church council of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. He loved his community and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

He was married for 58 years to his greatest love, his childhood sweetheart, Judy Fawcett Soehnge of Yoakum. He is also survived by, daughter, Christie Riojaz (Michael) of Cuero; sons, Charles Lee Soehnge (Kristi) and David Soehnge (Tomi) all of Yoakum; grandchildren, Eric Soehnge (Amber), Nick DiGiacomo, Karli Stegeman (Tyler), Darby Hale (Mike), Camille Soehnge, Paige Soehnge, Alyssa Riojaz, Cayden Riojaz and Jordan DiGiacomo; great-granddaughter, Olivia Stegeman; sister, Joyce Manning (Bobby) of Yoakum; niece, Jan Mascheck (Brent); nephews, Mike Manning (Kathy) and Kevin Manning (Carolyn); Special Cousin, Carol McAmis of New York.

Preceded in death by his parents and step-father, S.A. Parker.

A Celebration of Life will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, August 5, 2017 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church with Rev. Alsen Wenzel and Rev. Sarah Shanks officiating.

Memorials may be given to Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Arrangements by Thiele Cooper Funeral Home, 361-293-5656. Courtesy of the Victoria Advocate.



NEVILEE WEAVER

1928-2017

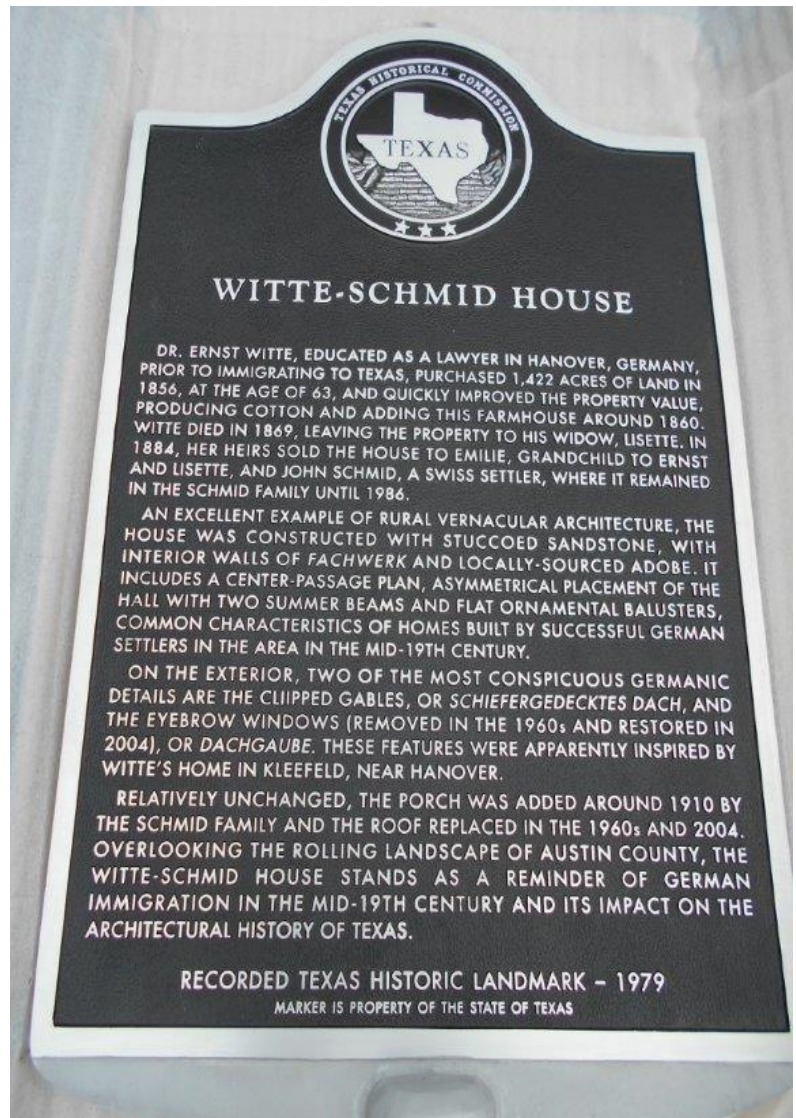
Nevilee Weaver passed away peacefully at home on September 1, 2017. She was born in Burton Texas, and graduated from the University of Houston. She was a teacher and published author. She is survived by sons Donald and Perry Weaver, grandchildren Ray Weaver and Tracy Pratt, and great-grandchild Anderson Weaver. Visitation will be from 5:00-8:00pm at Klein Funeral Home in Tomball on Tuesday, September 5, and her funeral service will be held at 1:00pm Wednesday, September 6, at Salem Lutheran Church, 22601 Lutheran Church Rd., Tomball, TX.

Published in Houston Chronicle on Sept. 5, 2017

A TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER FOR THE WITTE-SCHMID HAUS

The long awaited Texas Historical Marker for the Witte-Schmid Haus has all been approved and has now been sent to the foundry. We should receive it in a month or two, and it will be installed in front of the house. The Witte-Schmid Haus is located off Schoenau Road in Austin County. A dedication ceremony and in honor of Mr. Sanford Schmid is planned as soon as possible when the weather warms up. As this is a very important event and achievement, all Austin County dignitaries will be invited to the celebration. The dedication will be March 18 at 2 pm at the Witte-Schmid Haus. Please mark this upcoming event on your calendars and plan to be part of this great achievement to celebrate our ancestors' accomplishments

.-Verena Aeschbacher, Member Museum Commission, Austin County Historical Commission.



Netflix Original: The Polka King

Released in January, *The Polka King*, a biographical movie about Jan Lewandowski and his polka career. Jan is a Polish-American who allowed people to invest in his polka band, subsequently running a Ponzi scheme. Famed polka musician Alex Meixner assisted in the musical production of this film and even accompanied Jack Black performing on a promotional tour. Alex Meixner is a Grammy nominated musician who frequently tours the U.S. and makes several stops in Texas.

Jan Lewan (as he is known) is also a Grammy nominated musician. Alex had the pleasure of performing with him after the movie was released.



Pictured: Jan Lewandowski and Alex Meixner



Pictured: Jack Black and Alex Meixner recording the soundtrack for *The Polka King*.

Alex will be performing at
the **TOMBALL GERMAN
HERITAGE FESTIVAL**
Downtown Tomball, near
201 S. Elm St., Main St. (FM
2920) and Market St.,
Tomball, TX.



Top 25 German Adverbs of Time

	Adverb	English
1.	abends	in the evening
2.	bald	soon
3.	damals	at the time, back then
4.	dann	then
5.	erst	only, not until
6.	früh	early
7.	gestern	yesterday
8.	gleich	straight away, in a moment
9.	heute	today
10.	immer	always
11.	jetzt	now
12.	manchmal	sometimes
13.	mittags	at noon, at lunchtime
14.	nachmittags	in the afternoon
15.	nachts	at night
16.	nie	never
17.	noch	still
18.	nun	now
19.	oft	often
20.	schon	already
21.	selten	seldom
22.	sofort	immediately
23.	spät	late
24.	täglich	daily
25.	morgen	tomorrow

 Learn German Coach



Betty Crocker's Slow-Cooker Pork Roast and Sauerkraut Dinner

1 package (32 oz.) refrigerated sauerkraut, drained

2 medium apples, peeled, sliced

1 teaspoon caraway seed

¼ cup apple juice or water

1 boneless pork roast (2 1/2 to 3 lb.), string removed, trimmed of fat

6 small red potatoes (about 18 oz.), cut in half

1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

Mustard Sauce= 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard,

2 tablespoons packed brown sugar

Directions: In 5- to 6-quart slow cooker, lightly mix sauerkraut, apples, caraway seed and apple juice. With spoon, make indentation in center of mixture; place pork roast in center.

2 Arrange potato halves around roast on sauerkraut mixture. Spread 1 tablespoon mustard over roast.

3 Cover; cook on Low setting 7 to 8 hours.

4 In small bowl, mix sauce ingredients. Remove roast from slow cooker; place on serving platter. Cut roast into slices. Arrange potatoes around slices. With slotted spoon, remove sauerkraut mixture from slow cooker; place in serving bowl. Serve roast slices and potatoes with sauerkraut mixture and mustard sauce.



www.bettycrocker.com

Bellville
Lions Club
AND THE
Bluebonnet
Chapter of the Texas
German Society

2018

Free Admission
Free Kids Activities



Activities
begin at
11am

**BBQ
Chicken
& Sausage
Dinner**

\$10 per plate - serving starts at 11am
PLATES TO GO

Sausage & Sauerkraut • Homemade Desserts
Cake Walk • Vendors of German & Handmade Crafts

German Music & Concerts:

- Bellville High School Polka Band
- Concordia Gesang Verein
- Enzian Buam
- Houston Liederkranz
- Houston Saengerbund
- O'Bryant-Concordia KinderChor
- Round Top Brass Band • Shanty Chor
- Winedale Der Froehliche Gesang Verein

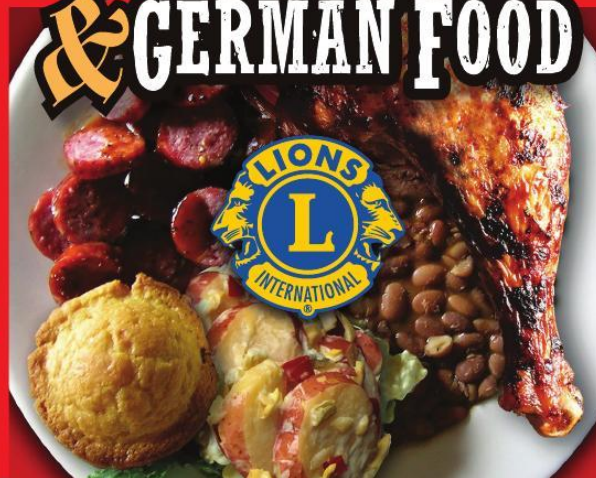
Bier Garten Music
Free Dance & Singalongs mid-afternoon

For more information:
BellvilleLions.org TexasGermanSociety.com
Bellville Chamber: Bellville.com 979-865-3407
Sealy Chamber: SealyChamber.com 979-885-3222

Concordia Hall
952 South Tesch
Bellville, Texas

Sunday, April 22

**GERMAN MUSIC
& GERMAN FOOD**



Calendar of Events 2018

MARCH

March 23-25, 17th Annual Tomball German Heritage Festival
www.tomballsistercity.org,
www.tombalgermanfest.com

APRIL

April 22- 16th Annual Frühling Saengerfest, sponsored by Bluebonnet Chapter of TGS & Bellville Lions Club, Bellville, Concordia Hall, 936 S Tesch, Bellville 11 am.-3pm

MAY

May 5, 2018 2018 Texas German Society State Convention Hosted by TGS Executive Board. Harmonie Hall, Shelby, TX

May 4-5 – Brenham Maifest, Washington County Chapter, Brenham, TX
www.maifest.org

SEPTEMBER

Sept 1-3- Westfest, West, TX
http://www.westfest.com

Sept 8 - 34th Annual Caldwell Kolache Fest
http://www.burlesoncountytexas.com/kolache-fest

Heart of Texas German Fest – Crawford, TX
Sept. 22, 2018

Oktoberfest Houston - Houston, TX – Sept. 29, 2018

OCTOBER – Look for all the October festivals around our area.

Sep 29-Nov 25, 2018 9 weekends
Texas Renaissance Festival Oktoberfest -
Location: 21778 FM 1774, Todd Mission, TX 77363

Southlake Chamber of Commerce
Oktoberfest Oct. 5-7, 2018. (Melinda Corder
Email: melinda@encoreproductions.ws)
972-675-0176

Oktoberfest Fredericksburg -
Fredericksburg, TX - Oct 5 to Oct 7, 2018

Oct 20-21 - Fayetteville Licksillet
<http://www.fayettevilletxchamber.org/>
(3rd full weekend of October)

DECEMBER

Dec. 2, 2018 Witte-Schmid Christmas Party
- all members welcomed - Bring your favorite dish/snack

Dec. 7-9, German Christmas Market
“Weihnachtsmarkt Texas Style”, Tomball, TX
The Market is sponsored by the City of Tomball, Tomball Sister City, and German Heritage Festival
www.tomballsistercity.org
. www.myspace.com/tgchristmas

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If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please send me an email at marie@herridgeconsulting.com and you will be added to the database. The newsletter will be sent in a PDF format, which if you do not have Adobe Reader on your computer it is a free program to download and I will include instructions for you. If you are willing to receive it by email, it will be helpful on the cost of printing and mailing our newsletters. Let me know if you have any questions or suggestions. Thanks.

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