

# vonRosenberg Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

DECEMBER 2009

## *Letter from the Secretary*

Dear Family:

It seems like yesterday that my immediate family and I attended our first reunion. Where has the time gone? I want to apologize for the delay in getting my first newsletter out—I promise I'm not always this tardy. I thought I might take a few minutes to introduce myself. I am the great granddaughter of Charles Gordon Bissell who was the son of Lina vonRosenberg. I was so fortunate to have my great grandparents until I was in high school and my grand parents until recently. Family is so very important to me and now I've discovered a whole new wonderful family of vonRosenbergs. I have to be honest though, unfortunately I don't know much about our heritage but hope that will change soon as I get more involved in my new role and get to know each of you. I'm so excited about this new undertaking and would greatly appreciate all help and suggestions. I have lots of ideas too and look forward to working with my fellow board members on next year's reunion. But in the meantime, Hello—Nice to meet you all and Thanks so much for your support and confidence in me. I can't wait to get to know my new family.

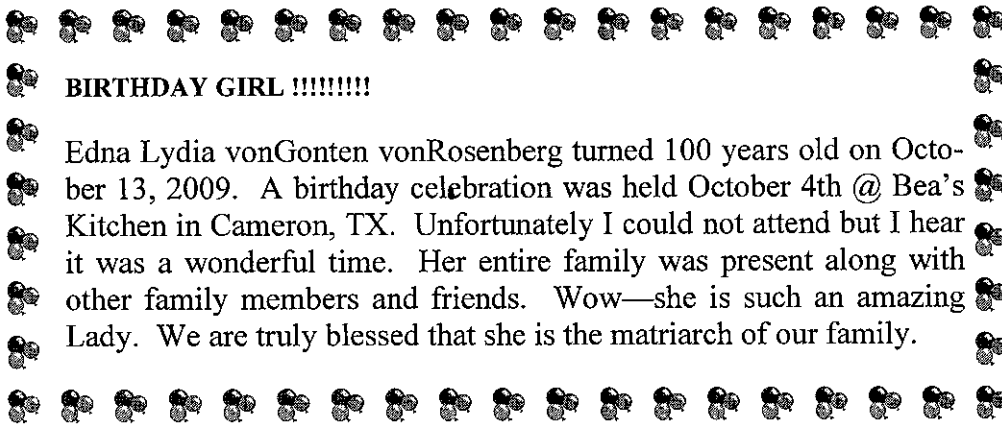
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !!!!!

Debbie

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# SPECIAL NEWS



## BIRTHDAY GIRL !!!!!!!!!

Edna Lydia vonGonten vonRosenberg turned 100 years old on October 13, 2009. A birthday celebration was held October 4th @ Bea's Kitchen in Cameron, TX. Unfortunately I could not attend but I hear it was a wonderful time. Her entire family was present along with other family members and friends. Wow—she is such an amazing Lady. We are truly blessed that she is the matriarch of our family.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW OFFICERS:

Neale Rabensburg, President

David vonRosenberg, Vice President

Debbie Smith, Secretary

Forrest Campbell, Treasurer

*The Officers of  
The von Rosenberg  
Family of  
Texas*

*Wish everyone  
A  
Blessed Christmas  
And A  
Very Happy New Year*

## Updates

### Births

Tyler Bunnell Morris was born Sept. 29, 2008. Grandson of Susan & Bill von Rosenberg (Branch I)

### Marriages

Melissa Suzanne Lytton married Micah Donahue May 9, 2009 in Las Cruces, NM. Granddaughter of Oscar & Sherrie Lytton (Branch V)

Lauren Reid von Rosenberg married Johnny Hawk Vandier June 20, 2009. Daughter of Susan & Bill von Rosenberg (Branch I)

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

### SPECIAL REQUEST:

Please send Debbie Smith your email address if you have one. We are trying to update our files so that email can be used for distribution purposes as well as regular mail.

## *Minutes of the last reunion*

The meeting of the 68<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the vonRosenberg Family of Texas was called to order by Pam Peters, President, at 1:00 p.m. on July 18, 2009. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the President welcomed everyone.

Reeves Meerscheidt traveled the farthest distance, coming from Wyoming. Edna vonRosenberg, at 99 years of age, was the oldest family member present. The youngest member present was Rylie Dewhitt, three months old.

Graduations, births, marriages, and special wedding anniversaries were among the family achievements reported. Clois & Nettie Green celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in June; Oscar & Sherrie Lytton celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June; and Robert & Sue von Rosenberg will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August.

Self-introductions were made. There were approximately 90 members in attendance for the business meeting.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from last year's meeting. Forrest Campbell read the Treasurer's Report, showing an ending balance of \$5,087.95. Forrest also informed the Family that there will be an increase in the cost at the camp next year. The new charges will be included in the spring newsletter.

Historian's Report: Arthur vonRosenberg, Chairman of the Historical Committee, gave some interesting information regarding the family connections back in Germany. Arthur also announced that Ann Barnes has sent all the historical records to him.

### Old Business:

There was a review of the book inventory. The remainder of the tee-shirts we had made a few years ago is here and on sale; sizes are limited.

### New Business:

Election of Officers – the following officers were elected by acclamation: President - Neale Rabensburg; Vice President – David von Rosenberg; Secretary – Debbie Smith; Treasurer – Forrest Campbell.

Pam Peters told the members how much she has enjoyed being the President and thanked Shirley Meerscheidt for being her Secretary. She was thanked with a standing ovation.

Motion made, seconded, and carried to hold the 2010 Reunion here at Camp Lone Star at the same time as this year.

The President announced that at 3:30 pm this afternoon, we will have a reading written by Ray von Rosenberg, with a large cast of readers/entertainers. At last year's Reunion, Part One entitled "The Trip" was presented. This is Part Two, entitled "Life in Texas". It will bring to life the Immigration Letters written by Amanda to her sister in Germany, giving a view of what life was like in Texas back then.

Neale Rabensburg was thanked for the tour of the Train Depot and Museum, which was taken this morning.

Neale invited everyone to the Meerscheidt House tonight at 7:00 p.m. for a dessert reception. We will again have live music by Pam's sister Pat and her polka band from Austin.

Pam Peters encouraged everyone to participate in the silent auction, as this is one way we pay for the expenses of the Reunion.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Shirley Meerscheidt  
Secretary

(continued ...)

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Reunion Minutes (Continued)

Sunday, July 19, 2009

The Memorial service was held at 10:00 am, led by Clois Green. The following deaths have been reported since last we met:  
Mary "Pug" Noll died November 30, 2007 (Branch VII)  
Richard Arthur Scheneck died July 11, 2008 at the age of 88 (Branch I)  
Stanley L. Helmke died January 8, 2009 (Branch V)  
Helen Esslinger von Rosenberg died May 3, 2009 (Branch IV)  
Dorothea Helen Schenck Terrell died June 3, 2009 at the age of 91 (Branch I)

Following the memorial service, Darryl Green led the singing and devotional, which closed with the singing of the Doxology.

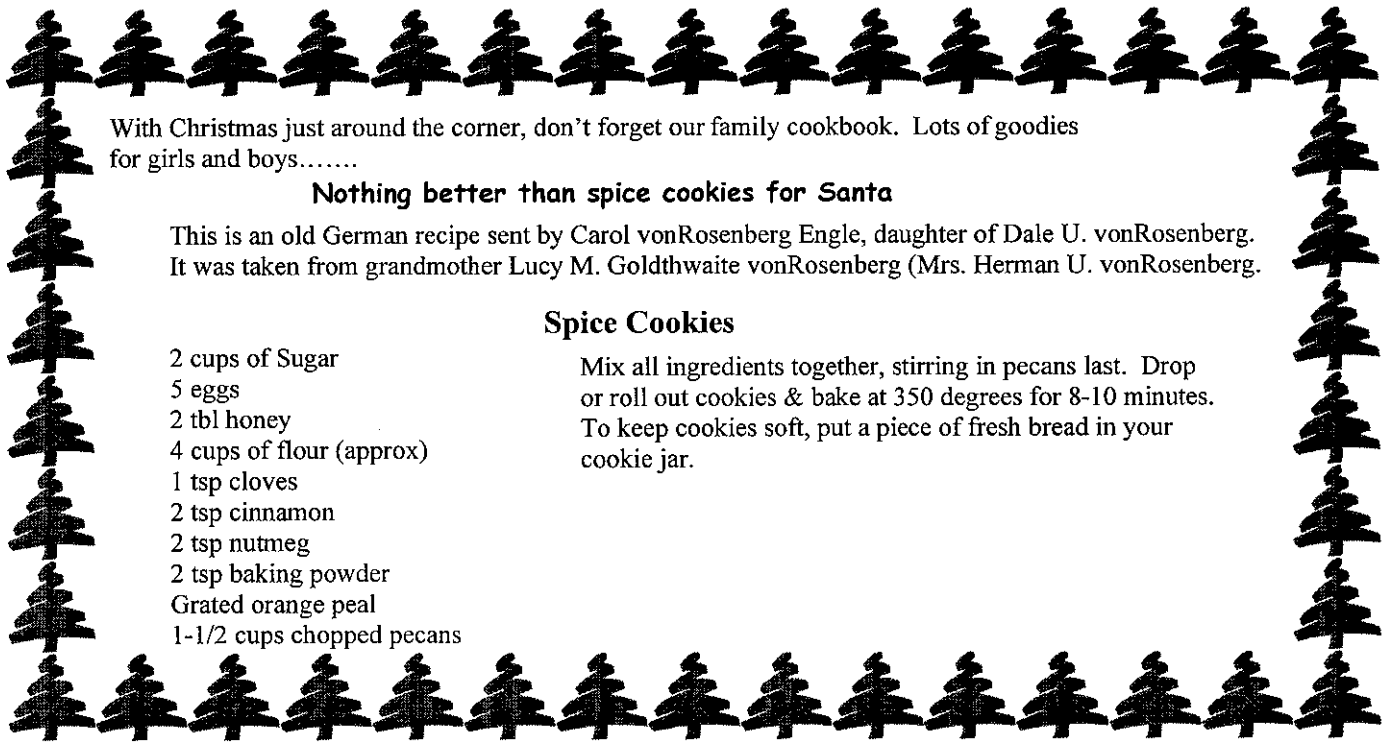
Shirley Meerscheidt  
Secretary

Family Website

Don't forget to check out our Website at [www.vonrosenbergfamily.com](http://www.vonrosenbergfamily.com). We appreciate the efforts of our webmaster, Steve Hornberger, a member of Branch I.

*Do you have your copy of the Family Cookbook?*

This is a 300-page book of wonderful recipes, both old and new. Plus photographs and interesting history of the von Rosenberg Family. Even if you don't cook, or collect cookbooks, this is one you should have in your library.



With Christmas just around the corner, don't forget our family cookbook. Lots of goodies for girls and boys.....

**Nothing better than spice cookies for Santa**

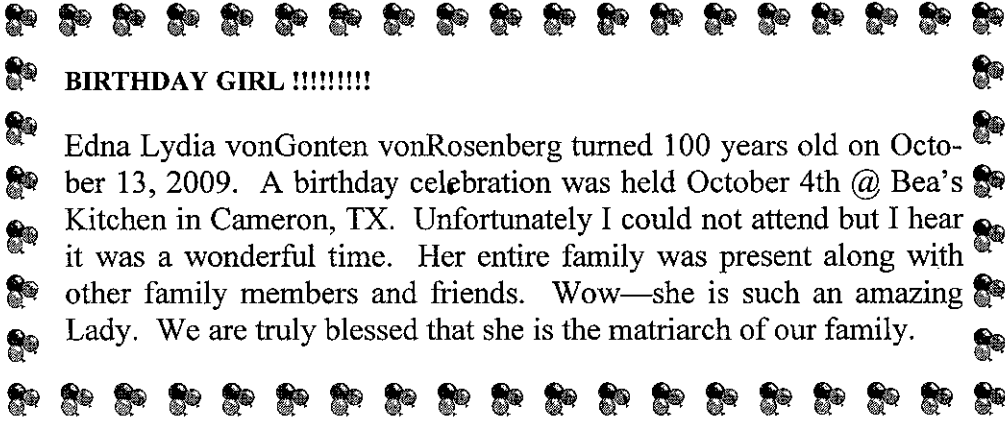
This is an old German recipe sent by Carol vonRosenberg Engle, daughter of Dale U. vonRosenberg. It was taken from grandmother Lucy M. Goldthwaite vonRosenberg (Mrs. Herman U. vonRosenberg).

**Spice Cookies**

2 cups of Sugar  
5 eggs  
2 tbl honey  
4 cups of flour (approx)  
1 tsp cloves  
2 tsp cinnamon  
2 tsp nutmeg  
2 tsp baking powder  
Grated orange peel  
1-1/2 cups chopped pecans

Mix all ingredients together, stirring in pecans last. Drop or roll out cookies & bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. To keep cookies soft, put a piece of fresh bread in your cookie jar.

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