

*“Greetings from the von Rosenberg Family of Texas.  
Start making your plans now to attend Reunion 2013 scheduled for July 19-21, 2013”*

# The von Rosenberg Family of Texas



## NEWSLETTER



La Grange, Texas & the World

March 2013

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*The von Rosenberg Family of Texas*

### NEWSLETTER



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## Branch VII Generation Two



Battle of Calcasieu Pass

Auguste Fallier

Ernst Soergel

**Walter von Rosenberg  
& Elisabeth Spengler  
(Spangler) Soergel**



# HEADLINE NEWS

## *The von Rosenberg Family of Texas*



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### Walter von Rosenberg "A Brief Life Story"

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Walter von Rosenberg was the youngest surviving child of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg & his second wife Amanda Fallier. He turned ten years old when he departed Eckitten Estate with the rest of his family in the fall of 1849. In 1861 as a young adult, he was thrust into the conflict of an American Civil War and joined the Confederate cause with other members of his family. He served with honor during the entire four year conflict with only one known furlough to visit his family back in Round Top. Toward the end of the War, he rose from the rank of Corporal to that of Captain for his courageous actions during the Battle of Calcasieu Pass. Little, however, has been written about Walter's life following the War and as landowner and business man.

Walter & his wife Elisabeth played an influential role in the Round Top area for many years before moving in 1880 to Ellinger, Texas and then again in 1886 to Milam County and the community of Sharp. In the Round Top area of Fayette County, Walter von Rosenberg was perhaps the largest property owner of all of the von Rosenbergs who remained in Fayette County during the 19th Century.

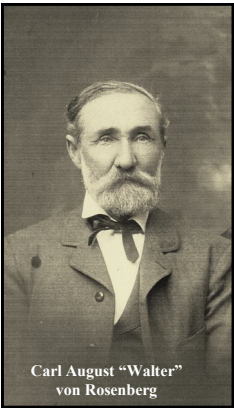
He owned many hundreds of acres in both the rural area surrounding the community of Round Top as well as within that town's incorporated limits. Walter may have farmed himself, but he probably took the advice of

his father-in-law/uncle, Ernst Soergel, and leased much of his land to tenant farmers who made improvements and provided him with a steady income as a percentage of the profits.

Walter & Elisabeth von Rosenberg moved into a large two-story limits of Round Top near Boggy Creek on the Brenham/Shelby Road (Live Oak). The family had previously been living outside of town in a small house, probably an early Texas "dog trout" design. The new house in Round Top was large enough to accommodate Walter's entire family plus Ernst and Auguste Soergel, who were in advancing years & had come to live with Walter & Elisabeth when the house was completed.

Ernst Soergel died in Walter's home in April 1880 suffering from complications of pneumonia. Later that same year, Walter and his family along with Auguste Soergel moved to Ellinger where Walter partnered with or worked for Arthur Meerscheidt in the cotton business. Arthur died abruptly in Boerne, Texas in 1887 as did the cotton venture. Walter, who had become somewhat physically debilitated as a result of an accident moved his family in 1887 to Milam County and the community of Sharp. Alex von Rosenberg, Walter's oldest son, was sent to La Grange to finish his high school education & most likely lived with his aunt and uncle, Arthur & Lina Meerscheidt. Later, Alex (Branch VII) would again come to live in La Grange & worked for a few business concerns before working for his first cousin C. J. von Rosenberg (Branch III) in the von Rosenberg Company.

In his final years, Walter & Elisabeth, left Sharp, Texas in 1900 and joined there eldest son, Alex von Rosenberg, in La Grange. Walter died in La Grange in 1903, but Elisabeth survived another forty years mostly living in San Angelo among several of her other children (Edgar, Frank and Louise Becker) & many grandchildren. Elisabeth was the last of Generation II of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas & died in 1943 in San Angelo but was buried in La Grange next to husband Walter.



Carl August "Walter" von Rosenberg



Seated L to R: Elisabeth Spangler (Spangler) & Unknown Person  
Standing: Amanda Caroline "Lina" Meerscheidt nee von Rosenberg  
Round Top, Texas; ca. 1867

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Gifts that keep on giving  
Shop the Family Store online at:  
[www.vonrosenbergfamily.com](http://www.vonrosenbergfamily.com).



"Books are eternal,  
But T-Shirts are nice too"



Email: [addresses](mailto:addresses), Please!

"A New Way to Communicate"  
See Story on Page 6



# HEADLINE NEWS



## *The von Rosenberg Family of Texas*

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NEWSLETTER

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### Walter von Rosenberg

*The Founder of Branch VII of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas*

### A Courageous Civil War Hero

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Carl August "Walter" von Rosenberg & his older brother Carl Alexander "Alex" von Rosenberg served together throughout the duration of the Civil War in

Creuzbauer's Battery of the 5th Texas Artillery. Both had enlisted in San Antonio on January 18, 1861 along with their 1st cousin, Gustav Froelich, who had only arrived in Texas from East Prussia the previous year.

Walter & Alex, managed the heavy cannon of Creuzbauer's Battery, which protected the Gulf coastlines from Union boat invasion. It was vital that the coastal trade supply lines between Mexico & the Confederacy remain open due to the Union naval blockade. It was the actions of a twenty-four year old Corporal Walter von Rosenberg during the May 6, 1864 Battle of Calcasieu Pass that resulted in the surrender of the two Union gunboats, the Wave & Granite City, to their Confederate counterparts. Walter & a few of his Round Top area German comrades manned the large cannons that hurled a relentless volley of shot that rendered the two Union gunboats inoperable. Almost two hundred sailors & soldiers were taken prisoner. The two captured gunboats yielded needed arms & ammunition. Later, both vessels were repaired & put back into naval service but this time for the Confederacy. Walter was promoted to the rank of Captain following the Battle. His written description of the battle has been quoted in a number of historical accounts.



### Von Rosenberg Historians Run Counter to 'Official' Viewpoints of the Round Top Historical Society

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

In recent years, the Round Top Historical Society, which is made of a few hundred members, officially identified the location of the house and property for which the town of Round Top received its name. The house, or at least a portion thereof, still exists on Leonhardt Road located about two miles northeast of Round Top on a table-top promontory. Leonhardt Road connects FM 1457 (to Shelby) with 237 that intersects with State Hwy 290.

The story goes that during the mid-19th Century wagoners arriving from the direction of Winedale along what is now FM 1457 would shout "round top" as the house came into view. The house had a distinctive defensive copula built on its roof to ward off Indian attacks. Stagecoach service in the early days would reportedly stop at the round top house for mail delivery and pickup and for a change of horse teams.

Billye Beth Baker & Neale Rabensburg, two historians for the von Rosenberg Family of Texas along with Gloria Miele of Branch VII, have been working with former Round Top historians including past President and founder of the RT Historical Society, Georgia Tubbs, who, unfortunately, recently passed away in Round Top. Georgia had made it perfectly clear to members of the von Rosenberg family that it had become "official" with the RT Historical Society that the Leonhardt house was the "round top" house for which the town received its name. Neale Rabensburg for the past year has been arguing the point that the RT Historical Society has it wrong with regards to the location of the "round top" house & was trying to drive this point home with Georgia Tubbs when her health took a turn for the worse. However, Neale Rabensburg has been asked to speak before the Round Top Historical Society this fall

where he plans to address this subject again & challenge the accepted "official" viewpoint.

The reason for challenging this official view of the RT Historical Society lies with Branch VII of the von Rosenberg Family & its connections with the "real" round top house and property. In 1846, Alwin Soergel bought 100 acres & its improvements near Round Top adjacent to what is now the Richter(s) Cemetery where Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg is buried. Amanda was the second wife of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg & is affectionately referred to as the "pioneer mother". Peter Carl and Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg's youngest son, Carl August "Walter" von Rosenberg, married Elisabeth Spengler (Spangler), the adopted daughter of Ernst Soergel & Auguste Fallier, sister to Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg. Ernst Soergel was apparently a first cousin to Alwin. After Alwin's sudden departure from Texas back to his homeland of the Kingdom of Prussia only after residing in Texas a brief year and half, left his cousin Ernst in charge of his 100-acre estate. This 100-acre property & its improvements apparently became the first home for Ernst & Auguste Soergel and their adopted daughter Elisabeth. Prior to Ernst Soergel's marriage to Auguste Fallier in 1853, he supposedly lived alone on the 100-acre tract of land & in the house that Neale Rabensburg contends was the real "round top" house for which the town of Round Top was named. This 100-acre tract would later be deeded to Walter von Rosenberg in 1875.

It is interesting to note that upon his arrival in the Round Top area in 1850 & prior to his marriage to Amanda Caroline von Rosenberg, Arthur Meerscheidt lived with Ernst Soergel in what would have been the true "round top" house.



# HEADLINE NEWS



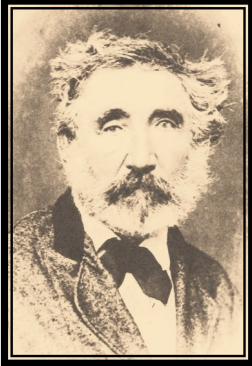
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### Who Were Ernst and Auguste Soergel, And How Do They Connect with the von Rosenberg Family?



#### Ernst Soergel & Auguste Fallier

**“Adopted” Parents of Elisabeth Spengler (Spangler), Wife of Walter von Rosenberg. Both Father & Mother-in-Law & Uncle & Aunt to Walter von Rosenberg.**

#### BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Ernst Soergel was a lone figure in the beginning but married in 1853 Auguste Fallier, a spinster sister of Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg, the second wife of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg. Within a few weeks of her arrival in Texas, Auguste Fallier, became engaged to Ernst Soergel and after a short courtship married in what appears to have been a prearranged match by both her sister and brother-in-law.

Prior to his marriage to Amanda Caroline “Lina” von Rosenberg, Arthur Meerscheidt, who lived with Ernst Soergel for a number of months in 1850, expressed caution concerning the forthcoming marriage but was told by Auguste Fallier in no uncertain terms to mind his own business. Arthur’s initial worries were proven wrong over time, and Ernst turned out to be a loving husband, guardian and grandfather as well as a close

relation to many of the von Rosenberg and Meerscheidt family members.

Auguste Fallier Soergel was the blood related aunt to the children of Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg by his second wife Amanda Fallier. Among Auguste’s favorites were her nephews Alex and Walter von Rosenberg and her niece Lina Meerscheidt. Alex died tragically during the Civil War, but Lina was able to maintain a close relationship with her aunt even when they were miles apart.

Walter von Rosenberg, however, was Auguste’s most endearing nephew because he married her adopted daughter, Elisabeth Spengler (Spangler), and took care of both she and Ernst in their old age. Ernst and Auguste Soergel came to live with Walter and his family in 1875 while living in Round Top and stayed with them until each of their deaths in 1880 and 1891, respectively.

#### Ernst Soergel Establishes a New Life In the Round Top Area

#### BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Ernst Soergel, who was born in Prussia in 1805, assumed the role of an intellect after attending reportedly the universities of Munich and Berlin. There he studied both philosophy and theology and may have gone into the ministry. Dissatisfied with his chosen career, he made the decision to depart his homeland for America and make a new life for himself at the advanced age of 41 years. He chose Texas as his destination and landed at Galveston on November 1, 1846, about ten months after the arrival of his cousin, Alwin Soergel, who had settled near present-day Round Top. Alwin, who had initially tried his hand at the creation of a farming commu-

nal on a 100-acre tract, decided to give up the agrarian lifestyle for a more white collar vocation working for the German Emigration Company, the Adelsverein.

Ernst Soergel came to live in the Round Top area as well and initially worked as a caretaker of Farm Nassau. It is believed that Alwin turned over the operations and management of his 100-acre tract to his cousin Ernst. Both tracts of land, that is, Farm Nassau and the 100 acres, were conveniently located and abutted each other along their east/west boundaries where the Jack and Winn Leagues adjoin.

Ernst may have established an unsavory reputation early on with some in the Round Top community when he was indicted for murder following a gun battle at Farm Nassau in October 1847. There were two casualties when the smoke finally cleared. Ernst was acquitted of any wrong-doing, however, it may have been this incident that contributed to Arthur Meerscheidt’s attempt

to dissuade his aunt-in-law, Auguste Fallier, from proceeding forth with her marriage to Ernst Soergel in 1853.

When Ernst’s cousin Alwin suddenly returned to Prussia in September of 1847 due to a death in his family, Ernst was undoubtedly given continued authority over the management of his cousin’s 100-acre Texas estate. Ernst would eventually make this tract of land his home base. Auguste Fallier came to live with Ernst in 1853 following their brief courtship and marriage. The middle aged couple soon adopted a young girl, Elisabeth Spengler (Spangler), of the nearby “Chicken Grove” community and soon became a real family.

Elisabeth Spengler was raised alongside the von Rosenberg and Froelich family members and married in 1868 at the age of 17 to a more mature Walter von Rosenberg. Walter and Elisabeth made a life for themselves that included both Ernst and Auguste Soergel in their senior years.



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### **The “Old” Town of Round Top, Soergel Hill Cemetery & Other Burial Locations for von Rosenberg Family Members**

**BY NEALE RABENSBURG**

Approximately 1.7 miles northeast of the incorporated town of Round Top along FM 1457 to Shelby lies the Richters Cemetery. In earlier times, this community cemetery was referred to as the “Soergel Hill Cemetery”. The land around the cemetery slopes off abruptly to the south and west towards Round Top. It would seem that several area residents were speculating during the mid-19th Century that this location would develop into a town site on the flatten plain of Soergel Hill where the Round Top Academy and Church (established in 1853 and built in 1854) once stood. The site for the RT Academy and Church is now a part of the expanded Richters Cemetery, which was also within a stone’s throw of the “round top house” (now the location of the “Light Unto My Life” Retreat Center). Member historians of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas contend that the Round Top Academy and Church was named for this nearby landmark house with its distinctive defensive tower on its roof top. The “round top house”, located on a 100-acre tract, was most likely built by John York prior to its sale in 1845 to a gentleman named McMillan, who held onto the property for only a few months before selling it to Alwin Soergel in February of 1846. The house and the northern portion of the property’s 100 acres would have been at the heart of the original town plot for the community of “old” Round Top, at least, according to one survey map stored in the archives of the RT Historical Society.

The RT Academy and Church and its community cemetery, which had been known as the Soergel Hill Cemetery (and later in its expanded configuration as the Richters Cemetery) was the burial location for Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg, the “Pioneer Mother” and the second wife of our common ancestor, Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg. She died

on April 22, 1864 and is one of the earliest of identifiable graves in that cemetery. It is presumed that two of Amanda’s grandchildren are buried there as well, and that the graves of these two, which are outlined in rocks, are located immediately to the left (south) of her stone monument. Amanda’s grave monument was erected and dedicated in 1949 by the von Rosenberg family. It is unfortunate that the children’s graves are without identifying tablets. However, the two grandchildren in question should be those of Arthur and Lina Meerscheidt. One, Emma Meerscheidt, who died on October 1, 1861 at the age of three, would be the first vR Family member to be buried at this cemetery. Amanda, the grandmother, would be buried next to her 2 1/2 years later. The other grandchild, Gerhard, was a four month old infant at the time of his death in June of 1864. He was probably buried to the left (south) of his sister Emma and, therefore, two graves removed from his grandmother, who was interred there only two months prior.

Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg would have been buried to the right (north) of his wife Amanda at Soergel Hill Cemetery if circumstances at the time of his death allowed. Peter Carl had only recently moved to La Grange from the town of Round Top in 1865 and was living with Arthur and Lina Meerscheidt located in the 300 block of W. Crockett Street between S. Water and S. Main. This is where he died. The time of death for Peter Carl, which was a sudden tragedy for the Family, was during the depriving and humiliating years of Reconstruction following the Civil War. Arthur Meerscheidt happened to be in Austin at the time of Peter Carl’s death and heavy rains in the County had made it impossible to cross Cummins Creek into Round Top. Lina Meerscheidt was thus given the task of burying her father, probably the same day, due to the lack of

proper embalming procedures following the War. The Old Town Cemetery in La Grange was her only choice for burial.

Peter Carl’s burial location became an official burial spot in La Grange for other family members as well. Buried at the feet of Peter Carl are two of his grandchildren. They are the 12 month old twin babies of Arthur and Lina Meerscheidt, Lina and Walter, who died in La Grange within one month of each in 1869. Also, at the feet of Peter Carl but to his right is another grandchild, Arthur Meerscheidt, who was another child of Arthur and Lina Meerscheidt. The younger Arthur was sixteen years old when he died in La Grange of unknown causes. Buried beside Peter Carl and to his immediate right is the seven to eight year old daughter of Judge Hans Teichmueller. Hans was a first cousin to Arthur Meerscheidt, the elder. The death date for Hans’ daughter was approximately 1870 or 1871.

Ernst Soergel, who died about April 26, 1880 at the home of his son-in-law and-nephew, Walter von Rosenberg in Round Top, was very likely buried in the Soergel Hill Cemetery, however, his actual grave location remains elusive. His wife Auguste, sister to Amanda Fallier von Rosenberg, also died within the home of Walter von Rosenberg, but when all were living near the community of Sharp, Texas in Milam County. Auguste was buried in the Sharp Community Cemetery, west of the town of Rockdale.

Walter and Elisabeth von Rosenberg are buried in La Grange in the “New” Town Cemetery. Walter and Elisabeth had returned to La Grange from Milam County around the turn of the 20th Century to be near their eldest son Alex. Walter died in La Grange on September 7, 1903, but Elisabeth lived for another forty years among her children Edgar and Frank von Rosenberg and Louise Becker of San Angelo and Wall, Texas in Tom Green County. Elisabeth died on January 9, 1943 in San Angelo, Texas. Memorial services were held for Elisabeth both in San Angelo and La Grange. Her body was taken to La Grange where she was buried next to her husband Walter in the “New” Town Cemetery.



# Miscellaneous Matters



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## The President's Message

Dear Cousins,

It is time again to make plans to attend this summer's von Rosenberg Family of Texas annual reunion in La Grange to be held once again at Camp Lone Star. Please set aside the dates of July 19, 20 and 21, 2013 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday).

Last summer's 2012 Reunion was another momentous occasion that celebrated our European History going back a thousand years. A Saturday mid-afternoon lecture series, which included visual accompaniments, was conducted by von Rosenberg Family Historians Arthur von Rosenberg (Branch I), Jon Todd Koenig (Branch IV) and Art Green (Branch V).

The 2012 Reunion was marked again by three days of fun and well planned events. A favorite event among many was the Saturday morning tour of the internationally acclaimed "Texas Quilt Museum" in downtown La Grange. The tour also featured the Museum's gardens and the National Bank & Trust Building across the street. This architecturally significant structure was designed and built in 1884 by Axel Meerscheidt of Branch V, Generation III.

Immediately following Saturday's lunch and Business Meeting, reunion attendees were delighted by the "Champagne Reception and Dessert Party" that was held for hour in the Main

Assembly Room at Camp Lone Star. Members were able to commingle and converse with their relatives for an hour prior to the commencement of the European History Fair and Lecture Series that started mid-afternoon also in the Main Assembly Room. During and following dinner, members were entertained with live music (and dancing) offered by the Austin Polka Band and the country/swing band "Made in the Shade". Cooper Bechtol (Branch VII) acted as DJ during intermissions and into the night following the departure of the bands. Sunday morning marked the conclusion of the Silent Auction and the Devotional Service. After the conclusion of lunch, everyone began the arduous task of last minute packing and loading of vehicles for the return home.

Departure can be a downer following such a fun and eventful weekend, but the recall of the past few days during the trip home often acts as a pacifier and helps to offset any post reunion blues.

I hope to see all of you this July at the 2013 Reunion of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas.

Sincerely,  
Neale Rabensburg  
President, The von Rosenberg  
Family of Texas

Email: [addresses](#), Please!

*"A New Way to Communicate"*

BY NEALE RABENSBURG

Commencing with this newsletter, **The von Rosenberg Family of Texas** will communicate with its membership via the Family website at: [www.vonrosenbergfamily.com](http://www.vonrosenbergfamily.com) and the email addresses of individual members.

With the change to email addresses, members will, of course, be responsible to keep the vR Family updated for any email address modifications as well as for postal mailing address changes.

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 of Texas publications, CD's and personal accessory items.

To add other members of your family to our email roster, please contact Pati Dukett, Secretary, at [patisue17@yahoo.com](mailto:patisue17@yahoo.com). Please include full names, Branch affiliation, email and postal mailing addresses and whether or not vR communications are to be limited to newsletters only. Please keep your email and postal mailing addresses current at all times with the vR Family.

Thank you

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

Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg	.....	Johanna Dorothea Froelich	→	Carl Wilhelm	Branch I	(Active)
	⋮	(1st Marriage)		Johanna Carolina	Branch II	(Active)
	⋮			Johannes Carl	Branch III	(Active)
	⋮					
Amanda Fallier	→			Carl Eugen	Branch IV	(Active)
(2nd Marriage)				Amanda Karoline	Branch V	(Active)
				Carl Alexander	Branch VI	(Extinct)
				Carl August Walter	Branch VII	(Active)



# Miscellaneous Matters



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## MINUTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE 2012 REUNION SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2011 CAMP LONE STAR, LA GRANGE, TEXAS

### BY PATI MEERSCHIEDT DUKETT Announcements & Officers Reports:

The Business Meeting for the 2012 von Rosenberg Family of Texas Reunion was called to order at 1:15 pm, Saturday, July 21, 2012 in the large dining room of the Johnson Retreat Center at Camp Lone Star. Attending the meeting were sixty-three members, mostly adults. (The children and young adults are rarely present at Business Meetings so the number attending did not reflect total attendance for the 2012 Reunion, which was closer to the hundred mark.)

Neale Rabensburg, President, opened the meeting and welcomed returning members and new guests and noted that the 2012 Reunion marked the thirtieth year at Camp Lone Star. Neale also pointed out that 163 years will have passed in December 2012 since the arrival of our common ancestor, Peter Carl Johann von Rosenberg and his family, who came to Texas from East Prussia. All attendees were then asked to stand and pledge allegiance to our nation's flag.

Next on the agenda was the introduction of all of those present for the meeting. Each person was asked to stand and state his/her Branch and any pertinent family information that they might wish to share. Recognition was given to the youngest and oldest attendees as well as the one who traveled the farthest. The youngest was only six weeks old. The most senior was 93 year old Clois Green, and JT Koenig was recognized as the one who traveled the greatest distance coming from Washington State.

A special tribute was given to Edna von Rosenberg of Cameron, Texas, who died at the young age of 102 in Jan 2012. Her great grandson, Daniel Green, gave a short talk about Edna's devotion to the family, mentioning that more than 200 people attend-

ed her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party in Cameron.

Current Board Offices and Family Historians were recognized at the meeting. A motion was raised and seconded to dispense with the reading of the 2011 Reunion Minutes. The motion was carried and accepted. Darlyn Cartwright, Board officer and Treasurer, urged members to provide email addresses in order to save postal mailing costs.

The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted. Arthur von Rosenberg, Chairman of the Historians made an announcement of the European History Fair that would be following the Business Meeting and Champagne Reception that afternoon. Arthur also noted that he was stepping down as Historian Chairman and suggested that his position be filled by active Historian Jon Todd "JT" Koenig of Branch IV.

### Old Business:

Glenn von Rosenberg recognized the Board of Officers for their excellent work on the reunion.

### New Business:

Susan von Rosenberg presented an original piece of artwork by Ross von Rosenberg that depicts the vR Family Branches. The artwork would be up for auction during Silent Auction of Reunion 2012. Ross is known for his modern style of artwork.

Art Green, Historian for Branch VII, announced that Branch VII's original vR Family scroll depicting several hundred years of family descendants has been restored at a cost of \$2,500.00. The scroll, which had been donated a number of years ago to the vR Family Archives, has been up until recently in the possession of Ray von Rosenberg. Donations to help offset the cost for restoration are being accepted. Copies will be available for sale at a later date. Arthur von Rosenberg

noted that he has the original von Rosenberg Family scroll for Branch I. A copy of that scroll will be available for viewing during the European History Fair. Neale Rabensburg noted that each male child of Peter Carl was given a handwritten family scroll prior to the vR Family's departure from East Prussia for Texas in 1849. Each scroll to be handed down to each new generation was encased in a lead tube that protected it from the elements. Branch III scroll's was also known to exist because it was presented at an early vR Family Reunion by Charles von Rosenberg in association with Alma Tomlinson.

Robert Barritt gave a short talk on the creation and use of a genealogy chart to help the Family keep track of its members.

Arthur von Rosenberg reported that Ann Barnes wrote a book on the vR family, which is available on Amazon for \$16.00.

JT Koenig published last year (2011) a post card history book on Fayette County. JT is currently working on another book about Peter Carl von Rosenberg ancestors on his maternal side.

Neale Rabensburg noted that the next vR family history publication will be about Generation VI and should start now. The next vR family history publication will probably take the form of an e-book and be available online as well as the von Rosenberg Family website. There was also discussion of a possible museum location to house family artifacts and archival material. Robert Hein of San Antonio reminded the Family that the vR Reunion has a "reunion song and suggested that it be sung at next year's reunion. Darlyn Cartwright urged members to make family talent known. Neale Rabensburg announced forthcoming activities for the remainder of the reunion. The Business Meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.



# Notices & Novelties



## The von Rosenberg Family of Texas

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NEWSLETTER

March 2013

### Family Notices

#### In Memory of James "Jack" Pike



#### James "Jack"

**Pike**, age 72, died in Southaven, Mississippi on October 5, 2012. Jack had attended the 2012 von Rosenberg Family Reunion in La Grange only a few months prior to his death. The vR Family will certainly miss his presence in the future.

Jack served both in the National Guard (4 years) and the Air Force (8 years) and worked for CSX Railroad for 20 years. He was an umpire for the local softball league and volunteered for ten years as a driver for the Veterans Administration Hospital. Jack was also an active member of First Baptist Church of Southaven.

Jack married his wife, Joan Trenckmann (Branch V), on February 16, 1963. They would have celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary this year in February had he lived. Jack and Joan had three children.

A funeral service for Jack was held on Monday, October 8, 2013 at Forest Hill South with interment following in Forest Hill Cemetery East. Jack was survived by his wife of 49 years, Joan Lucile; two daughters, Sharryl Ann and Melissa Rene; one son, James Kevin; one sister, Peggy Clifton; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

It was requested that memorials be sent to the Benevolence Committee at First Baptist Church of Southaven.

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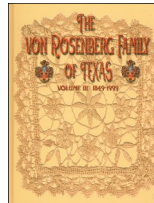
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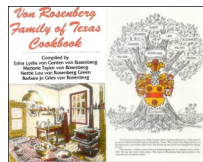
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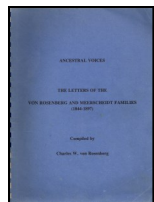
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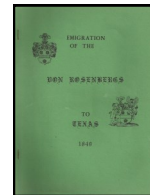
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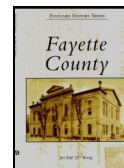
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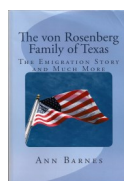
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*"A New Way to Communicate"*  
See Story on Page 6

### Ann Barnes Publishes New vR Family Book

BY NEALE RABENBURG

Last year Ann Barnes, Historian Emeritus of the von Rosenberg Family of Texas, released her new publication titled the

**"The von Rosenberg Family of Texas, The Emigration Story and Much More"**. Copies can be purchased online through Amazon.com for \$15.99 plus the cost of shipping.