

The Braeutigam News

A Newsletter for the Descendants of John Wolfgang and Christine Kensing Braeutigam
Published by David William Braeutigam

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1991 Emil Braeutigam Reunion

The 3rd Annual Emil Braeutigam Family Reunion will be held again at the LBJ State Park in Stonewall, Texas on August 17, 1991.

The Reunion will start at 11 AM and continue until approximately 7 PM that night. This year the reunion is starting earlier and several games (volleyball, horseshoes, cards, etc.) and activities are planned throughout the day. The meal will be around noon with everyone to bring all the food and drinks for your family. Ice Tea, ice, coffee, paper plates and utensils will be provided. Prizes will be given for the farthest to travel, the oldest and the youngest to attend. There will be a miscellaneous prize given out also. There is no cost for the reunion, but we ask families to give a small donation to cover the cost of the park rental, the cost of coffee, tea, etc. and of the gifts.

Walter C. Braeutigam Passes Away

(from the Fredericksburg Standard)

Walter Christian Braeutigam, 90, passed away at 4:05 a.m., on Thursday, February 14, 1991, in Knopp Nursing Home Number 2 in Fredericksburg, Texas.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, February 16, at 10 a.m., in Bethany Lutheran Church with Rev. Paul Appel officiating. Mrs. Victor Stahl was the organist and the congregation sang. Interment was in the Greenwood Cemetery.

His body lay in state in the chapel of the Schaeffer Funeral Home until 8:30 a.m., on Saturday and from 9 to 10 a.m., in the church.

Walter Braeutigam was a native of Gillespie County and was born on June 7, 1900, on a farm, three miles east of Fredericksburg at the junction of U.S. 290 East and the Old San Antonio Road, the son of Emil Braeutigam Sr.

and Anna Stoffers Braeutigam. He married Cora Olfers in Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, on November 22, 1925, and she survives.

He, for 25 years, worked for the Farmer's Grain Company, in their grocery department. He also worked for the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation, and operated a filling station and grocery store before working at Farmer's Grain.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four sons and their spouses: John Henry and Rita Braeutigam of Fredericksburg; Buddy Braeutigam of Sante Fe, New Mexico; Fritz and Ann Braeutigam of temple; and Gerald and Jenny Braeutigam of Austin.

Also surviving are a brother and a sister: Emil Alfred Braeutigam of San Antonio and Dora, Mrs. Alex Behrends of Fredericksburg, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son Calvin Braeutigam; and the following brothers and sisters: Max Henry Braeutigam; Udo Braeutigam; Antonio, Mrs. Otto Eckhardt; Frieda, Mrs. Henry Eckhardt; and Sophie, Mrs. Arthur Gold.

Pallbearers were : Melvin Olfers, Butch Ruston, Charles Meyer, David Braeutigam, Karl Braeutigam and Raymond Gold.

Arthur and Mary Danz and nephews, nieces and grandchildren were honorary pallbearers.

Little Known Braeutigam Facts

Even as late as the 1870s, Fredericksburg and the rest of the Hill Country was having trouble with Indians. So the citizens of Gillespie and Blanco Counties signed a petition requesting Texas Ranger protection from the Indians. This petition was sent to a Captain McNelley of the Texas Rangers and was signed

by John Wolfgang Braeutigam as well as many other citizens of the area.

After learning of this petition, David wanted to obtain a copy of it. He called the Texas Archives in Austin and the Texas Ranger Museum in Waco. Neither place was aware of the petition. While doing research in the Fredericksburg library, David was reading a book off the shelf while waiting for the microfilm reader, which was in use. David found a book written by a Mr. Lindig which told of his remembrances of his life in Gillespie County. An article about John Wolfgang Braeutigam was written by his granddaughter for this book. At the end of the article, the granddaughter mentions the petition her Grandfather signed to request Indian protection. Then she mentioned it was located at the San Jacinto Monument! I called the San Jacinto Monument Museum and they said they shouldn't have an article like that (they only cover events from the Texas Revolutionary War) on file, but would look. After a week of looking, they found a box donated to the museum from the McNelley family with that petition in the box. The box was in the attic! They were kind enough to send a copy of the letter to David which will be published in the new family history.

Richard Valentin Brautigam's descendants contacted

David Braeutigam has located quite a few members of the Richard Valentin Brautigam family in various parts of the United States. He has talked to Jean Brautigam Farley in Oregon, her brother Don Brautigam in California, and visited Norma Kott Collins in Ft. Worth and Mr. and Mrs. R. Carl Price and family in Waco, Texas. Norma was kind enough to loan some photographs of the Richard Brautigam family taken in Fredericksburg in the early 1900's and in front of their large home in Jewett, Texas taken about 1913 or 1914. These will make excellent photographs for the new family history. David has also talked to Richard Brautigam in Kentucky, Mary Brautigam Loe in

Santa Barbara, California, and Christine Brautigam Evans in Sebastopol, California. All have expressed a great interest in the Braeutigam family history.

He has learned that the Richard Valentin Brautigam family has a reunion every two years in Nacogdoches, Texas with 1992 being the next reunion scheduled. The one surviving child of Richard and Bertha Brautigam is Bertha Alma Brautigam Swearingen who lives in Cushing, Texas.

Several of the Richard Valentin Brautigam family members expressed interest in obtaining copies of the photographs I now have of the family in Fredericksburg and of their home in Jewett. Please write me if you would like copies made. I have already made negative of the photographs and would only need to have prints made.

New information on the August Braeutigam family in Kerrville, Texas

During the last week of April, David Braeutigam stayed with his great-aunt Dora Behrends in Fredericksburg, Texas. After going through some old photographs and newspaper clippings, he found a 1976 article on August Braeutigam who lived in Kerrville, Texas at the turn of the century. August was a Blacksmith and City Council member. This newspaper article showed a picture of August and also a picture of his Blacksmith shop. David Braeutigam has contacted the Kerrville Historical Society to locate someone who might have these and other photographs of the August Braeutigam family (there are no surviving members).

David was able to do some research himself at the local library where he obtained copies of the funeral announcements for August Braeutigam, his wife, their daughter and their son-in-law. David also visited their grave site in Kerrville.

If any family members have photographs of the August and Nellie Haddock Braeutigam family (including the Pampells) please contact

David so they may be included in the new Braeutigam family history.

50th Wedding Anniversary Photo of Otto and Minna Braeutigam

During David Braeutigam's stay in Fredericksburg recently he also came across a photograph that Dora Behrends had of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Otto and Minna Braeutigam taken outside the old Nauwald building in Fredericksburg in 1937. Dora's photograph had some damage to it, but her neighbor, Lillian Braeutigam Wisseman, also had the same photograph but in much better shape. The local photographer did not want to try and duplicate it for David so Mrs. Wisseman was kind enough to allow David to take it back to Arlington to get it duplicated. This has many members of the Braeutigam family, not just of the Otto and Minna Braeutigam family.

Charles C. Schuchard's descendants contacted

David Braeutigam has located descendants of the Charles C. and Anna Braeutigam Schuchard family. David recently sent out Family Group Records to various Schuchard family members and also visited with Robert D. Schuchard in Ft. Worth. David visited for several hours with Robert and his wife LeEtta updating the records of the Schuchard family. A couple of days later David called Robert's brother, James, in Lubbock, Texas. James told David he has some photographs of Anna Braeutigam Schuchard when she was older and a photograph of Charles Schuchard when he was young. No family photographs of the Charles C. and Anna Braeutigam Schuchard family have currently been located.

Gillespie County petition donated to the Historical Society

David Braeutigam recently donated a framed document to the Gillespie County Historical Society. This photographic copy of

the original petition to form a new county out of Bexar County was signed in December of 1847 by the men of the Fredericksburg area. David read about this document while reading a book on early German immigration to Texas. He then went to the Texas State Archives in Austin and was able to locate the document. He later had the Archives make negatives for him to reproduce for the Gillespie County Historical Society.

David then had a photographer make up prints from the negatives while David printed the translation of the document. This was all mounted inside a frame.

This display shows all four sides of the petition with the petition and all the signatures typed so the observer may read the petition and read the signer's names easily. It will be on display at the Veriens Kirche in Fredericksburg.

Marktplatz

David Braeutigam is interested in the number of people out there interested in purchasing stones at the Marktplatz in Fredericksburg for our ancestors. David would like to purchase one for John Wolfgang Braeutigam (1829-1884) but would rather not pay all the \$150 myself. All those interested in purchasing a memorial stone for Marktplatz please contact David Braeutigam at the address on the front page.

David Kensing's Immigration Contract

David Braeutigam recently was in Austin and obtained a copy of the Immigration contract of Georg Christian David Kensing, father of Christine Kensing Braeutigam. David Kensing signed this document in Bremen on 17 October, 1845. David Kensing, his wife Henriette Brehmeyer Kensing and their children sailed on the Gerhard Hermann from Bremen in October, 1845 and arrived in Galveston in January, 1846.

If the Richard Valentin Brautigam family is interested in obtaining an Immigration contract of the Weyrich family from the General

Land Office in Austin, let David Braeutigam know and he will research it. Ironically, Johann Carl Weyrich came over on the same ship as the Valentin Braeutigam family did in 1845!