

# The Braeutigam News

A Newsletter for the Descendants of John Wolfgang and Christine Kensing Braeutigam  
Published By David William Braeutigam-4th Generation Texan

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## David Vacations (?) in Austin and Fredericksburg to do Family Research

David recently took a week off to do some more research on the family history. He first went to Austin where he stayed with his sister Valerie Waldo. Valerie is attending San Marcos State to become a Sports Nutritionists. I always thought you went to San Marcos to party-that just what I always heard! Dave and Valerie were able to catch up on alot of gossip since they haven't seen too much of one another since the early 1970's.

David spent all day Saturday and Monday doing research at the Barker Texas History Center, Lorenzo de Zavala Texas State Archives, and the General Land Office. On Sunday, David drove to Fredericksburg where he visited with Ted Hollingsworth of the Ft. Martin Scott Historical Center (see the article later on Ft. Martin Scott). They visited for 2 or 3 hours.

David left Tuesday morning ,the 27th of March, for Fredericksburg where he stayed with Walter and Cora Braeutigam.

## Fredericksburg Citizens petition the State for a new county-December 15, 1847

David went to Austin to find a petition sent by the citizens of Fredericksburg to the Texas Legislature on December 15, 1847 to request a new county. The citizens of Fredericksburg had to do all official business with the state in San Antonio because San Antonio was the county seat of Bexar County and Fredericksburg was still in Bexar County. So the citizens of Fredericksburg decided to petition the state for a new county.

John Wolfgang Braeutigam was one of the 150 signers of this petition. David was able to

find the original document at the Lorenzo de Zavala Texas State Archives. He is also the proud owner of a copy of that petition. He also obtained a copy for the Gillespie County Historical Association and one for the Fredericksburg Genealogical Society. A copy of this document will be on display at the Family Reunion in August.

## How Can I Help with the Family History?

I am sure lots of ya'll out there have information that should be recorded about the Braeutigams, Kensing, Eckhardts, Golds, Luckenbachs, etc. but don't know what to do with it. This information must be recorded and preserved for the generations in the future to enjoy. Some of ya'll can start by recording your memoirs. Just start writing down things you remember about growing up in the 'good ol days.' You can type it, write it in long hand, put it on a computer disk, but just do it and send it to David Braeutigam for filing and future use.

We also need to gather pictures of all the generations of families, make copies and *label* all the information needed to complete the 'picture'. With these pictures and an update of the family history we could have a very nice family history that could be published.

## German Emigration Company

When Valentin Braeutigam and his family left for Texas in 1845, Valentin signed a contract with the Republic of Texas for 640 acres of land in the Fisher Miller Grant. This contract, along with alot of the other original settlers of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg ,is located in the General Land Office in Austin, Texas. David has obtained a copy of this

document and it will be on display at the Braeutigam Reunion in August.

David also obtained lots of other various documents pertaining to Valentin and Wolfgang Braeutigam's original land grants, land surveys, etc. Included in this is the land awarded to Marie (widow of Valentin) and to Wolfgang that was located in McCullough County, just north of Gillespie County. Marie was awarded 640 acres and Wolfgang was awarded 320 acres. Both were sold in 1850 and 1853 respectively(?).

### **More on John Wolfgang Braeutigam and the Texas State Troops during the Civil War.**

David obtained a copy of a letter dated 16 August, 1862 sent to the State of Texas giving the results of an election for the Brigadier General for the 31st Brigade of the Texas State Troops. It lists the thirteen names of individuals who voted. W. Bräutigam's name is listed as number 12. David found this letter in correspondence from the 31st Brigade of the Texas State Troops at the State Archives Building in Austin.

### **Braeutigam Reunion 1990**

Time for everyone to start planning for the Emil Braeutigam Reunion for August 18, 1990. The Steering Committee will be meeting in June to discuss what will happen at the August 18th Reunion.

There has been an interest in opening it up to all the Braeutigams and not just the Emil Braeutigam family. This would mean more space and very careful planning for the number of people that might attend. Remember we had almost 100 people with just the Emil Braeutigam family!

The current plans call for the Reunion to be held at the LBJ State Park just outside Stonewall, Texas (just like last year) on Highway 1-just off Highway 290. A detailed map with times and activities planned will be mailed out soon.

### **Little Known Braeutigam Facts**

Did you know that John Wolfgang Braeutigam came over on the Johann Dethardt with his Mother and Father. It left Bremen, Germany on September 25th of 1845 and landed either late December 1845 or early January 1846. The ship list (from Chester W. Geue's book-*A New Land Beckoned*) shows Valentin Braeutigam (Wolfgang's father), Marie Pfeifer Braeutigam (Wolfgang's mother), Anna (Wolfgang's sister), Elis (Wolfgang's sister) and finally Wolfgang himself as passengers on the ship. But the list also shows Anton Braeutigam on the same ship with Valentin and his family. Anton is listed as 30 years old and single.

Also listed in this book is an Edward Carl Braeutigam (Johann Dethardt early 1845) and an Andreas Braeutigam (Garrone 1845). David has not run across any of the other Braeutigam's names on any of the early Census in Texas.

### **John H. Braeutigam in Hospital**

John H. Braeutigam of Fredericksburg, recently had a hip replacement and then turned around and had a kidney removed-all in the span of one month! He is getting around pretty slow right now, but will soon be up and dancing (that's what he tells me!). If you would like to send him a get-well card just mail it to:

John H. Braeutigam  
612 Peach Street  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

### **Walter Braeutigam turns 90 years old!**

Walter Braeutigam, a life-long resident of Fredericksburg, will turn 90 years old on June 7th of this year. Walter was born to Emil and Anna Braeutigam on June 7, 1900 just outside Fredericksburg on the Emil Braeutigam farm. Walter attended school at the Meusebach Creek School until the 7th grade and then went to work on the family farm.

On November 22, 1925 Walter married Cora Olfers of Rheingold, Texas. Walter and Cora have had 5 boys--John Henry of Fredericksburg, Calvin of Kerrville, Franklin (Buddy) of Sante Fe, New Mexico, Frederick James of Temple, and Gerald Wayne of Austin.

Walter is the oldest living member of the Emil Braeutigam family. Emil Alfred Braeutigam of San Antonio who turned 81 on June 1st and Dora Behrends of Fredericksburg are the other surviving members.

Please send birthday greetings to:

Walter Braeutigam  
108 N. Olive St.  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

### **I Need Info about Your Family!**

Please send me information on what's happening in your family (eg. a new baby, a vacation, graduation, etc) so the rest of the clan can hear about it. Also I need to start receiving corrections to the Braeutigam History that was printed by Ms. Alice Braeutigam Sauer.

Just send it to the address below and I'll try to get it out as soon as the next newsletter is printed.

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