

State of Texas *
County of Comal *

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING GERMAN PIONEERS IN TEXAS

A TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION MARKER AND RE-DEDICATION

WHEREAS, Canyon Dam was started in 1958 to provide water, power and recreation resources for the county and to tame the often unruly Guadalupe. The dam was completed in 1964 and began holding back the Guadalupe River water that would become Canyon Lake. The lake was at conservation pool level in 1968. The mission is to provide flood damage reduction to the Guadalupe River Basin below Canyon Lake, supply water to local municipalities and offer some of the best water recreation in Texas; and

WHEREAS, in 1968 a Texas Historical Commission marker was placed at the Canyon Dam Overlook honoring the German Pioneers in Texas. It read: IN THIS AREA, NOW COVERED BY CANYON LAKE, GERMAN EMIGRANTS WERE THE FIRST SETTLERS. A SOCIETY OF NOBLES (MAINZER ADELSSVEREIN) SPONSORED THE EMIGRATION OF 7,380 GERMANS TO TEXAS FROM 1844 TO 1847. THEY FOUNDED NEW BRAUNFELS IN 1845. MOVING WEST, THEY ESTABLISHED FREDERICKSBURG IN 1846. THEIR COMANCHE INDIAN TREATY OPENED 3,800,000 ACRES BETWEEN THE LLANO AND COLORADO RIVERS TO PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. FARMERS AND ARTISANS, SCHOLARS AND SCIENTISTS, THEY TRIUMPHED OVER EPIDEMIC AND PRIVATION TO HELP BUILD TEXAS AND THE WEST; and

WHEREAS, Canyon Lake would cover areas of the valley where the towns of Cranes Mill and Hancock existed along with numerous family ranches. Many graves from this area were relocated to surrounding public and private cemeteries. Records of these re-locations were saved and were recently scanned by members of the Comal County Historical Commission coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This valuable information will be available at the Sophienburg Museum and Archives; and

WHEREAS, at an unknown date, the original German Pioneers in Texas marker had been vandalized and removed. On March 28, 2015, at 11 a.m. at the Canyon Dam Overlook, a new marker will be dedicated. Sponsoring the marker are the German American Society of New Braunfels, Helgard Suhr-Hollis, John & Cindy Coers, the Canyon Lake Rotary Club, the Canyon Lake Noon Lions Club, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, GBRA, the Comal County Historical Commission and the Texas Historical Commission. Installation of the new marker was provided by Don and Jean Koepp, Bob Warnecke, and John & Karin Brooks with Danny Zunker of Brooks Stone Ranch.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Comal County Commissioners Court duly convened and acting in its capacity as the governing body of Comal County, and the Comal County Historical Commission wish to commend you on your work towards receiving this marker and your dedication to historical preservation and recording the history of Comal County.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 26TH day of March, 2015.


Sherman Krause, County Judge


Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct 1


Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct 2


Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct 3


Jen Crownover, Commissioner Pct 4



Attest: 
Bobbie Koepp, County Clerk



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