

# FYI on Texas History by Bob Heinonen

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## WHERE WE ARE GOING

Last month, I accidentally e-mailed the wrong newsletter to you; what I first sent you was a weekly newsletter intended to keep **Texas Heroes** performers up-to-date on bookings received in the last week. What surprised me was the number of you that wanted to know more about the performances that were listed. It seems that where we are going to be is of interest to you, so, as an experiment, I am listing all of our August performances for you. Please let me know what you think.

## CURRENT AUGUST BOOKINGS

Atria Collier Park Retirement Community, Beaumont  
Atria Westchase, Houston  
Bay Area Heritage Society, Baytown

Belmont Village at West University, Houston  
Independence Hill, San Antonio  
Meadow Lakes Community, N. Richland Hills  
Meadowstone Place, Dallas  
Parkwood Retirement Community, Bedford  
Remington Park at Baytown, Baytown  
The Continental, Austin  
The Court at Round Rock, Round Rock  
The Terrace at Clear Lake, Webster  
The Terrace at First Colony, Sugar Land  
The Terrace at Willowbrook, Houston  
The Towers at Park Lane, San Antonio  
Westminster Manor, Austin

The most current list of bookings is on our website. See [www.TexasHeroes.net](http://www.TexasHeroes.net)

## LEGENDS OF TEXAS

Legend: *San Antonio has always been a Spanish/Mexican city*

The King William Area just south of downtown San Antonio belies this notion. Ernst Hermann Altgelt came to Texas from Germany in 1854 at age 22. In 1866, he moved to San Antonio from Comfort, which he had founded in 1854. A lawyer and a surveyor, he platted the King William Area and gave the area its designation by naming the main street after the King of Prussia, Kaiser Wilhelm I. Altgelt built his first home in the area in 1866 (it still exists) and had his second home built in 1878.



The home shown above, built in 1876, is the Steves Homestead at 509 King William. Having originally settled near Comfort in about 1848 at the age of 20, Edward Steves, Sr. started a lumber business in San Antonio in 1866. In addition to the house, there is a carriage house, a servants' quarters and an indoor

swimming pool (the first in the city).

As with several prominent citizens of the area that built homes for their progeny, Edward Steves, Sr., built a home across the street as a wedding gift to his son in 1884.

The home below is the George Kalteyer House built in 1892 at 425 King William by the prominent local druggist. It was designed by James Riely Gordon who is known for having designed many Texas courthouses including the courthouse in Bexar County.



There are approximately 45 preserved homes in the King William Area built by these German immigrants not the least of which is the Carl H. Guenther House at Pioneer Flour Mills. The oldest continuously operating flour mill in Texas, Pioneer Flour Mills was established in 1859 and can be toured today. A restaurant is located in the old family home.

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