

**Fredericksburg Marketplatz**  
**Weekend Musing by Carol King**  
**SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 19, 1998**

I can't begin to tell you what an outstanding experience I had among the German descendants in Fredericksburg the past two weekends. First of all, since this was the very first time for me to get out there and sell my first book, "The Blanco River Tour", I was extremely nervous. After a year in the making and putting so much of myself into the book, I felt vulnerable to the public opinion. Well, it turns out that there wasn't a thing to worry about!

When we arrived at the Marketplatz that was taking place around the symbolic Vereinskirch (or "coffee-mill church") in Fredericksburg we were immediately greeted by smiling, ready-to-help people that were very patient with first time vendors such as ourselves. The atmosphere was one of holiday cheer and good old German and Texan hospitality. After some trial and error on our part about how to set up a booth, we managed to decorate with the appropriate Christmas trimmings and even look like we might know what we were doing. I donned my red Christmas Texas hat and I was ready to sell!



And we did sell! I was overwhelmed with the response to the book. There are a lot of people out there who love Texas and want to see more of it! They liked the concept of having something to follow that would take them out there on the back roads to see and experience things they may not find on their own. The book received compliments from everyone who looked at it and I was told that I would sell "a ton of them"

So, thank you to the people of Fredericksburg who made this possible. I feel inspired and encouraged to persevere in this pursuit of bringing the fun of the Texas back roads to everyone.