



AOSHS

Quarterly

Vol. X, No. 2, Spring 2005

The American Overseas
Schools Historical Society
A Kansas Nonprofit Corporation

In this Issue

A Piece of the Wall	1
Archive Info	2
Board of Directors	2
Volunteers	2
President's Corner	3
Board Bulletins	3
New Facility Opens	4
News Updates	4
Membership Program	5
Asmara School	7
Memorial Funds	8
Memorial Program	10
No Longer with Us	10
Berlin American H.S.	11
Archive Alumni Form	13
Pick a Donation Project! ..	15
Western Europe Schools ..	16
Reunion News	18
Members Survey	19
Overseas Reps	19

The AOSHS *Quarterly* is published in February, May, August, and November by the American Overseas Schools Historical Society to enhance public understanding of the human effort, service, reward, and sacrifice in educating our American children and youth abroad.

AOSHS
P.O. Box 4133
Scottsdale, AZ 85261
<http://aoshs.wichita.edu>
overseasschools@aoshs.org



AOSHS

AOSHS Acquires Section of Berlin Wall

Although school rivalries abound when they are students, overseas "Brats" become one giant alumni force after graduation. It was brought to the attention of the Berlin American High School Alumni Association by the Stuttgart /Ludwigsburg Association that a section of the Berlin Wall was being auctioned by a private owner. The Berlin Brats went into action. After interviewing the owner, they consulted with the Berlin Wall Documentation Center, the Haus am Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the Allied Museum Berlin and the City of Berlin Construction Office to verify the slab's authenticity. With a final visual inspection of the piece itself at a storage facility in Maryland and a comparison to known sections of the Wall at Freedom Park in Arlington, Virginia, an offer was made, and the artifact acquired. AOSHS was contacted by Jeri Polansky Glass, '72, Director of the Berlin Brats, to notify us the alumni group was donating the Wall to the AOSHS archive and future museum.

The Berlin Wall is the most recognizable symbol of the Cold War. Early on Sunday morning, August 13, 1961, the German Democratic Republic (GDR) began to block off East Berlin and the GDR from West Berlin, to stop the flood of refugees (over 200,000 prior to this date) fleeing from East Berlin. Train and subway travel between East and West Berlin were cut off. Some 60,000 East Berliners who worked in West Berlin could no longer go to their jobs. Anti-tank obstacles were built, streets were torn up, and tanks were stationed at major crossroads. On August 17, an 18-year old East German was one of the first shot when he attempted to escape. In the days to come, construction of a solid wall 96 miles long replaced the temporary barricades. By September 20, East Berliners who lived along the border were forced to move out of their homes and anyone who lived near the border had to register with the authorities. In June of 1963, President John F. Kennedy visited the city and gave his famous "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech, strengthening our nation's commitment to all Berliners.



A 12-foot high section of the Berlin Wall, donated to AOSHS by the Berlin Brats, awaits transport to its new home in Wichita.

(Continued on page 4)

About the Historical Society Databases

AOSHS has three separate personnel databases listing educators, administrators and students.

Educators: The second attachment in every other *Quarterly* is an Archive Registration Form. The educator form will alternate with the student form noted below.

Students: The Alumni Archive Registration Form will be available in every other issue of the *Quarterly*.

Deceased: All readers are encouraged to notify AOSHS of those deceased by writing to:

AOSHS Archives, P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS, 67201-1500, or via e-mail to: archives@aoshhs.org



AOSHS Board of Directors:

Ann Bamberger	President	overseasschools@aoshhs.org
Scarlett Rehrig	Vice President	vicepres@aoshhs.org
Dode Thorson	Secretary	secretary@aoshhs.org
Charles Willis	Treasurer	treasurer@aoshhs.org
Diana Kempton	Newsletter Editor	dkempton@aoshhs.org
Margaret Palmer	Memories	mpalmer@aoshhs.org
Les Burch	Schools List	lburch@aoshhs.org
Jan Mohr	Capital Contact	jmohr@aoshhs.org
Dick Nell		dnell@aoshhs.org

AOSHS Volunteers:



Membership	Tina Calo	membership@aoshhs.org
Alumni Database	Margie Kugler	alumnidata@aoshhs.org
Memorial Program	Carolyn Wilber	memorialprog@aoshhs.org
Webmaster	Dorie Parsons	webmaster@aoshhs.org
Archive Manager	Tom Drysdale	archives@aoshhs.org
President Emeritus	Tom Drysdale	fundraising@aoshhs.org

American Overseas Schools Historical Society Addresses:

Official AOSHS address:	AOSHS, P.O. Box 4133, Scottsdale, AZ 85261
Membership address:	AOSHS Membership, P.O. Box 15861, Surfside Beach, SC 29587
Memorial Program:	AOSHS Memorial Program, P.O. Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261
Archives addresses	
<i>Memorabilia:</i>	AOSHS Archives, 704 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67203-6401
<i>Educator Registration Info:</i>	AOSHS c/o Carolyn Wilber, 9291 E. Windrose, Scottsdale, AZ 85260
<i>Alumni Registration Info:</i>	P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Wichita Office Address:	AOSHS, 704 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67203-6401

~~ President's Corner ~~

By Ann Bamberger



Following some renovation, painting and the addition of a new wall partition, the AOSHS office and archives were relocated to our new building this past March.

In April, the board meeting was held in Wichita, and we took the opportunity to hold an official ribbon-cutting ceremony (see story on p. 4). AOSHS has joined the Wichita Chamber of Commerce as well as the Delano Business Association and the Delano Neighborhood Association. We are pleased to get to know our neighbors.

I am pleased to note that some members have begun to send their stories to be included in the "Memories" section of our website. This is especially important for those of you who served in places long since closed such as Labrador, Newfoundland, Midway, Morocco, Libya, Saudi Arabia or Ethiopia. Following the break-up of the Soviet Union, large-scale closures began. With facilities continuing to close each year, I could continue the list to the end of the page, but I'm sure you get the idea. The importance of the bases in those locations and the often unique situations of living there make for great storytelling and great reading. Your story is important and is a part of our history – write it!

AOSHS is establishing a brokerage account for those wishing to donate stocks or mutual funds as part of their annual giving, or who have included investments as a part of their legacy to AOSHS. Full details of this will be provided in the August issue of the *Quarterly*.

The DoDDS Reunion Committee has done a great job in promoting the event to be held in Scottsdale, AZ, on July 21 – 24, 2005. Over 600 are already signed up, and we would like to see all of them at the **AOSHS annual meeting** to be held **Friday, July 22, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** Members present will constitute a quorum. Remember to bring sunscreen...

—Ann

To accomplish great things we must not only act but also dream. Not only plan but also believe.

—Anatole France

BOARD BULLETINS

Board Bulletins

- AOSHS acquires section of Berlin Wall
- Official ribbon-cutting ceremony opens new facility
- AOSHS survey distributed to 600 members
- Letter sent to retiring educators
- AOSHS to open brokerage account

(Continued from page 1)

To anyone who traveled to Berlin from 1961 through 1989, the Berlin Wall was the focal point of the trip. Visits to East Berlin clarified the inherent differences between Communism and Capitalism. No one could visit Berlin and come away unaffected.

In June 1987, President Ronald Reagan visited the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin and, in his speech, appealed to the Soviet Premier to, "...open this gate, Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" On November 9, 1989, after more than 28 years, Communist East Germany opened its borders to the West, including the Berlin Wall. West and East Germans climbed to the top of the wall to greet each other and celebrate. Some began to chip pieces out of the wall, and we know that many members have a piece that they treasure and display. The details on our section of the wall are as follows: Size: 3.60 meters high (almost 12 feet) by 1.70 meters wide (5.5 feet); Weight: 3.75 metric tons (8,267 pounds).

Similar pieces can be found in the Nixon, Reagan and Bush Presidential libraries, several military museums, at Freedom Park in Arlington, Va., as well as at the CIA headquarters and the U.S. State Department. Eight sections are at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., where Winston Churchill gave his momentous "Iron Curtain" speech.

Upon arrival in Wichita, our section of the Wall will be on loan to the Museum of World Treasures until the AOSHS museum is built. AOSHS member Eugene Brown, then a teacher at Berlin American High School, took his students to the Wall to film the East Berliners as they came through. A DVD of this film, along with a film co-produced by the NDR International Weltvertrieb and East German Television Aktuelle Kamera, "Ode to Joy and Freedom," now in the AOSHS archives, will run on a monitor adjacent to the Wall on display.

AOSHS is gratified to have this donation to the museum; it has great meaning to all of our members and the public in general.

Official Opening of New Facility

Following the April meeting in Wichita, the AOSHS Board of Directors was joined by members and invited guests to officially open the new office facility at 704 W. Douglas Avenue. Ann Bamberger, AOSHS president, officiated at the 4:00 p.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony, which was followed by a tour of the facility and refreshments. Among the forty-six attendees were Robert Nolan and Cathy Yager, staff members from Representative Todd Tiahrt's and Senator Pat Roberts' offices respectively, as well as City Councilwoman Sharon Fearey, Museum of World Treasures Director Jon Kardatske, the presidents of the Delano Business Association and the Delano Neighborhood Association, and representatives from the other museums on the river. We hope that many of you will come to Wichita in the next few years.



AOSHS President Ann Bamberger cuts the ribbon during the April 29, 2005 ceremony opening the new offices of AOSHS in Wichita's Delano District.

News Updates

- **Silent Auction Canceled** - Due to logistics concerns at the host hotel, the silent auction will not be held this summer. If you have selected an item you were considering donating, keep it in mind, as we may revisit this idea for the reunion in 2006.
- A thank you to Paul and Lily Thom who purchased a brick to commemorate the 1990 DoDDS II reunion in Orlando. Only the DoDDS VII reunion held in Monterey is still seeking a sponsor. To contribute a brick to commemorate this event, please send a check for \$100 to: **AOSHS Memorial Program, P.O. Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261**

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society, Inc. Nonprofit
Membership Program, P.O. Box 15861, Surfside Beach, SC 29587

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Printed full name _____

Address				
Street or Box No.	City (APO/FPO)	State	ZIP	

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

I am a Former _____ Current _____: Educator _____ Student _____ Other _____

Check Enc. I__I or VISA / Mastercard I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I__I

Exp. Date: _____ 3-digit code (from signature strip on back of card): _____

Name as it appears on your Credit Card: _____

Individual Life Membership (See reverse) or \$25 for annual dues and 4 issues of the newsletter \$ _____

Donation for the AOSHS Endowment/Building Fund. \$ _____

Donation for the Drysdale Archive Endowment Fund. \$ _____

! Donation for the AOSHS Operating Fund. \$ _____

I have included AOSHS in my estate planning. I__I

Signature _____ Date _____ Total: \$ _____
Thank you!

Referred for membership by (if applicable): _____

<http://aoshs.wichita.edu>

OverseasSchools@aoshs.org

**The American Overseas Schools Historical Society, Inc. Nonprofit
Membership Program, P.O. Box 15861, Surfside Beach, SC 29587**

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Printed full name _____

Address				
Street or Box No.		City (APO/FPO)	State	ZIP

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

I am a Former Current : Educator Student Other

Check Enc. I__I or VISA / Mastercard I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I I__I

Exp. Date: _____ 3-digit code (from signature strip on back of card): _____

Name as it appears on your Credit Card: _____

Individual Life Membership (See reverse) or \$25 for annual dues and 4 issues of the newsletter \$

Donation for the AOSHS Endowment/Building Fund. \$ _____

Donation for the Drysdale Archive Endowment Fund. \$

! Donation for the AOSHS Operating Fund. \$ _____

I have included AOSHS in my estate planning. I

Signature _____ Date _____ Total: \$ _____
Thank you!

Referred for membership by (if applicable): _____

<http://aoshs.wichita.edu>

OverseasSchools@aoshs.org

AOSHS Individual Life Membership Program

The Individual Life Membership Program (ILMP) offers convenience, as you no longer have to remember to pay annual dues, there are no future dues increases, and you can pay in up to three installments over three years.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>ILMP</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ILMP</u>
21 – 30 _____	\$ 735	61 – 65 _____	\$ 295
31 – 40 _____	615	66 – 70 _____	250
41 – 50 _____	520	71 – 75 _____	210
51 – 55 _____	435	76 – 80 _____	170
56 – 60 _____	360	81 + _____	130

Please Note: The mailing address used on the front of this form is for **tax-exempt**
MEMBERSHIP DUES, ILMP, AND DONATIONS ONLY.

For all other correspondence please write to:

American Overseas Schools Historical Society
P.O. Box 4133
Scottsdale, AZ 85261

AOSHS Individual Life Membership Program

The Individual Life Membership Program (ILMP) offers convenience, as you no longer have to remember to pay annual dues, there are no future dues increases, and you can pay in up to three installments over three years.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>ILMP</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ILMP</u>
21 – 30 _____	\$ 735	61 – 65 _____	\$ 295
31 – 40 _____	615	66 – 70 _____	250
41 – 50 _____	520	71 – 75 _____	210
51 – 55 _____	435	76 – 80 _____	170
56 – 60 _____	360	81 + _____	130

Please Note: The mailing address used on the front of this form is for **tax-exempt**
MEMBERSHIP DUES, ILMP, AND DONATIONS ONLY.

For all other correspondence please write to:

American Overseas Schools Historical Society
P.O. Box 4133
Scottsdale, AZ 85261

ANOTHER IMPORTANT COLLECTION
IN THE
DoDDS COMPONENT OF THE AOSHS ARCHIVES

By Tom Drysdale, Archive Director

One of the most interesting and historically important collections in the DoDDS Component of the AOSHS Archives was donated by the Asmara American School Alumni Association. Asmara? Where is that? On a plateau, high in the mountains on the Horn of Africa, peeking out of the clouds at the Red Sea, sits the Capitol City of Asmara in Eritrea.

The first American military presence in Asmara was Radio Marina. It was established shortly after Asmara was wrested from the Italian Army during World War II. An American military base was later built at the site and named Kagnew Station. While visiting there in 1971, General William Westmoreland observed, "I do not believe we have a more remote station of our Armed Forces than Kagnew Station."

In 1998, Gary Gordon, Asmara School alumnus, began looking for his school yearbook and determined it was lost. In an attempt to find one, he contacted Kagnew Station folk who had either been there as children, or had children while stationed there. After many months, one was found, photocopied and sent to him.

We first met Gary at a 1997 Overseas Brats Homecoming in Covington, KY, and again in 1999 at the Homecoming in Dallas/Fort Worth. After much discussion, we convinced him that Asmara was one of those small, almost forgotten schools, the history of which should be recorded and preserved in the AOSHS Archives. He then spent two years contacting dependents and former teachers, borrowing, scanning and returning yearbooks, then converting them to CDs.

Early in 2004, Gary sent a letter and the CDs to the archives in Wichita, stating: "I never thought I would be able to get all the yearbooks, convert them to discs, and mail them to the archives. But I did it and early this year, 2004, nearly four years later, I finally was able to keep my promise to AOSA." In closing, he said, "On behalf of all the alumni, students and teachers alike, I would like to make this donation to the archives, consisting of eleven CDs containing all eleven yearbooks ever done at Asmara American School. This is our history of a small school on the 'Horn of Africa' and we dedicate it to all who were there."

The 1973-74 School Year was the last one for the Asmara School. Kagnew Station closed a short time later.

Following are excerpts from "A History of Kagnew Station and American Forces in Eritrea," a special publication supervised by the Commander, US Army Garrison, Kagnew Station:

The first dependents arrived in Asmara on September 11, 1946. To accommodate them, four barracks were converted into quarters for married officers and NCOs. The first American birth recorded in Asmara was in July 1948. All personnel arriving or departing traveled on Military Air Transportation Service (MATs) aircraft. The immediate connection was Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

When dependents first arrived in Asmara, school age children were enrolled in the British School in Asmara. On April 1, 1951, the Radio Marina School began its first year. It had one room, one teacher (a dependent wife), 13 students grades one through five, no books nor supplies. The curriculum was for an 11 month year with September for vacation. As the population increased, the school outgrew the one room facility. When the school's first teacher departed, a security guard took over.

In January 1952, a supply building was converted into a two-room school and another dependent wife was hired. The security guard taught the first three grades in the morning, and the fourth, fifth and sixth grades received distaff attention in the afternoon. The first civilian contract teachers arrived September 16th, 1953. The enrollment was 75 students in eight grades.

By the summer of 1955, the \$60,000 Robert E. Lee Dependents School was nearly finished and a perimeter wall was halfway completed. The school, having priority, was remodeled from an old Italian building, and had five classrooms, a science lab and a library. On July 1, 1959, it became affiliated with the US Army Dependents Education Group in Europe, and included grades K-12. To become accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, it had to add 12 new classrooms by FY 1961.

MEMORIAL FUNDS

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Gloria Lynch Ushida 1944 - 2005

Born Hiroko Watanabe on April 22, 1944 in Dairen, Manchuria, she became Gloria Hiroko Lynch in 1952 upon the marriage of her mother, Setsuko, to Edward J. Lynch, an American DoD civilian stationed in Tokyo. Gloria became a US citizen in 1956 and began attending American overseas schools, starting at Tachikawa Elementary and graduating from Yamato High School in 1963. Her intelligence, beauty, charm, and all-encompassing friendliness won the hearts of every classmate and she was elected "Miss Yamato" in her senior year.

Gloria earned a B.A. in English from Tokyo's Sacred Heart University in 1967, and then took a job in San Francisco as a customer service interpreter for American Airlines. In 1972 she moved to Los Angeles, and in 1978 Gloria married Randy Uchida of Santa Monica, California, and continued to be active in the life of her church and her community. She was diagnosed with cancer in 1998, and continued her life with courage, grace, and cheer, and made it a point of honor to attend the 40th anniversary reunion of her Yamato Class of '63 where she shined brightly among her friends of long ago.

Gloria passed away on March 2, 2005. She is missed by her family and friends more than she, in her true modesty, would ever have believed.

Theresa Sandoval 1946 - 2005

Teaching was never just a profession to Tere, but rather a way to empower others by sharing her skills and talents. Having come from a large, caring and religious family, she understood the importance of accepting personal responsibility. Tere started her teaching career in Colorado and then joined the Peace Corps and ran a nutritional clinic in El Salvador. Her career with DoDDS took her to the Philippines, Korea, Iceland, Azores, Crete, and Italy.

In the Azores, Tere was recognized as one of the base's outstanding women. Her dry sense of humor, fascination with gadgets, wealth of trivia information, facility with languages, keen math ability, and curious nature blended into a very remarkable woman.

After retiring and returning to Colorado, Tere became licensed as a pharmacy technician. Unfortunately, illness prevented her from seeking work. Always true to her family roots, she spent the last weeks of her life as a volunteer through her church, teaching children of migrant workers.

Kenneth Poverud 1937 - 2005

Born and raised in Minnesota, Ken began his profession life in 1958 at Sleepy Eye, MN as a social studies teacher and librarian. It appears that the dreaded wanderlust began around 1960 when Ken moved to Oklahoma City as Director, Instructional Materials Center at Central Junior High School. He joined DoDDS in 1968 as a librarian in Iceland and transferred to Lakenheath Junior High School in England the next year. In 1978, Ken quit DoDDS and moved to Orlando, Florida, working at the Sunland Center. He returned to England in 1981 as Information Specialist at Fairford ES. Ken became Assistant Principal at Greenham Common School two years later. In 1985, he moved to the Atlantic Region Office as Coordinator for the Video Library/Host Nation program and continued with the UK District Office after the 1995 reorganization. In August of 1997, Ken moved to Washington, D.C., to become a Presidential

Technology Team Member and switched to Information Center/PTS Audio Video, Print Technologies Coordinator when the other project ended in 1999. He retired in September of 2004.

Everyone has so many wonderful "Ken" memories. He was one of a kind. One superintendent described him as his most expensive budget item, as Ken was always trying to buy the Information Centers new or better technologies. He was our advocate and will be missed by his family, his DoDDS family and his many friends.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

Mary Elizabeth Etter

1915 – 2004

In an era when most women stayed close to home, Mary Elizabeth Etter left her hometown of Palmyra, Pennsylvania, and headed for Wisconsin. She knew no one there and knew nothing about the area except what she had read about the Hillcrest School for Girls, where she had accepted a teaching position. This was just the beginning of a fascinating life.

After a tour of duty with the Navy during World War II and the Korean War, as well as several civilian jobs in the United States, Mary learned about an opportunity to teach in Japan with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. In 1960 she took what was intended to be a year's leave of absence from her job in Pennsylvania. Soon she realized what a good thing she'd found – a way to reconnect with the armed services while having the chance to see new places. Subsequent assignments took her to England, Germany, Libya, Spain, Okinawa, and finally to Clark AFB in the Philippines, where she stayed until her retirement at age 71.

Family and friends were real treasures to Mary. She made new friends everywhere she went and kept in touch with most of them throughout the rest of her life. But what gave her the most pride was serving the country she loved so very much.

Fred Welch

1927 – 2004

Fred was born in 1927 and grew up in the hills of West Virginia. The family eventually moved to Maryland, where Fred attended the University of Maryland. After serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, he began his teaching career, which eventually led to the Department of Defense schools in Germany (USDESEA), where he taught industrial arts and worked as audio-visual coordinator. In 1967, Dr. Joe Mason called him to Karlsruhe, Germany, to serve as a media specialist in the Directorate. When DoDDS reorganized in the early 1980's, Fred moved to Wiesbaden, where he finished his career as Media Coordinator for the Germany Region.

Fred and his wife Emilie retired in Karlsruhe, but made several trips to the U.S. to visit family and friends. Fred enjoyed good eating, good cars, his computer, and golf. His last day was a happy one, playing golf with American friends at the Heidelberg course.

— Closed Funds —

Kathleen Wagoner-Sullivan

Bernadine Burk

Paul Von Hendy

Ceramic Paver

Med. Polished Granite Paver

Ceramic Paver

The AOSHS Memorial Program

Memorial Program – You may purchase a brick or paver in your own name, as a gift, in memory of a friend or loved one, or a school. Write to the Memorial Program address or the e-mail address below for the correct order card(s). You may include a 300-word biography and a photo along with the check when you submit your order.

Memorial Fund – You may organize a fund for a deceased friend or loved one. The fund will be announced in two issues of the *Quarterly* so that others may contribute. When the fund closes in six months, you will receive an accounting and determine which item the fund will purchase. Write to the Memorial Program address to request a Memorial Fund Form, or go to www.aoshs.org/kiosk, click on Memorial Program and print the form.

Donate – You may donate to a fund already established by sending a check payable to the AOSHS Memorial fund at the address below, and note the honoree on the memo line.

AOSHS Memorial Program, P.O. Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261
e-mail: memorialprog@aoshs.org

Following is a selection list of bricks and pavers offered in the program:

Type	Size	Characters per line	Max lines	Total Characters	Cost
	(inches)	(including spaces)		(including spaces)	
Ceramic brick	4 x 8	15	2	30	\$ 100
Ceramic paver	8 x 8	15	5	75	\$ 250
Med.Granite paver	8 x 8	15	5	75	\$ 500
Large Granite paver	16 x 16	25	11	275	\$ 1000
Premium Granite paver	24 x 24	35	17	595	\$ 2500

Those No Longer with Us

Many people wish to remember a friend, but don't want to begin a memorial fund nor perhaps purchase a brick. We have a polished granite paver established which will be engraved **In Memory of Those No Longer with Us**. Friends have sent us donations of various amounts, usually \$20 to \$50, in honor of the deceased person. The donor's name is listed as one of the purchasers, and the honoree's name is included in alphabetical order on the kiosk page, which can be viewed by going to www.aoshs.org/kiosk, then clicking on the Interactive Kiosk link, and follow directions – this paver is listed under the letter T.

The idea for this paver came from John Dal Santo, and we thank him for initiating the project. To remember someone using this method, send a check payable to:

AOSHS Memorial Program
P. O. Box 4312
Scottsdale, AZ 85261

Please list the honoree's name on the memo line, and include a note requesting that this person be honored on the **Those No Longer with Us** paver.



Berlin American High School's History

By Jeri (Polansky) Glass, with excerpts from a Berlin Observer article and quotes from Diana (Green) Kempton

From humble beginnings in a German girls' school in 1946, to its final home on am Hegewinkel, Berlin American High School and its students enjoyed a rich history.

In United States history there was no precedent for establishing a dependents' educational system in a former enemy country, but soon after our troops arrived and starting restoring facilities, wives followed. Then came the children. Overnight it became necessary to open schools.



The Getrauden Schule, on Im Gehege in Dahlem. This recovered German girls' school housed the first school for American school children from 1946 to 1953.

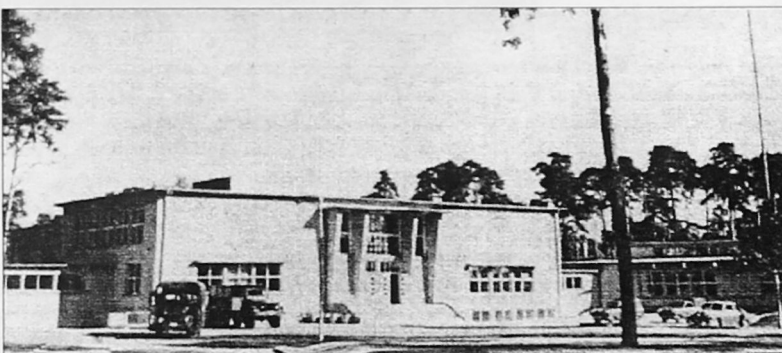
The original school for American children in Berlin in 1946 was the Gertrauden Schule, a well known German girls' school. The school was renamed the Thomas A. Roberts School, in honor of the lieutenant colonel who was the first American to lose his life in the Battle of Berlin. For seven years, the former Gertrauden Schule provided both elementary and high school facilities for American dependents in Berlin.

During its first year of operation, the Thomas A. Roberts School (or TAR) saw a total enrollment of 60 students and a faculty of 20: 12 Americans and 8 Germans. By 1947, the enrollment had jumped to 107. The Berlin Blockade of 1948-49 forced enrollment down to 22 students in 1948. As an interesting note, in 1947, a polio epidemic forced the

school to close down and classes were conducted through AFN-Berlin radio. By 1953, the TAR school had a total enrollment of 146 students.

In the early days, supplies were obtained anywhere they could be found. The Signal Corps made available films, film strips and audio visual aids. The Quartermaster provided paper, notebooks, pencils, ink, brooms, mops, and perhaps even a kitchen sink for the chemistry lab. Some laboratory equipment was made available by the Medical Corps.

On September 9, 1953, teachers, students and school equipment were moved from the former German girls' school to a new school building on Huettenweg. Miss Velma Reilly, the school principal at the time, stated that the school was equal in all aspects—and in some cases superior to—stateside schools, boasting at least four teachers who held Master of Arts degrees. A center wing addition to the school was added in December of 1957. The final building phase was completed in September of 1960. The new wing, the front wing of the school, housed 11 classrooms, two cafeterias and some special subject rooms. In all, a total of \$1,132,200 was spent to build and expand the Thomas A. Roberts School.



This is how the Thomas A. Roberts School looked in 1953, when it opened on Huettenweg for the fall term. At that time, the long curved wing in what is now the rear of the complex, was the entire school.

From the beginning, Thomas A. Roberts School had accommodated both an elementary school and a high school. The increased number of school age dependents in Berlin made it apparent that a self contained high school was a necessity. Ground was broken for a separate new high school in May of 1964. The new

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

school—Berlin American High School (BAHS)—opened on August 25, 1965, before a gathering of German and American guests. Approximately 580 students in grades 7 through 12 enrolled for the 1965-66 school term in the new \$2 million structure. Many of the classrooms in the new high school featured sliding walls so that classes could be broken down into various sizes to suit the occasion. The school library held 7,000 volumes, 3,000 magazines, 300 record albums and 600 film strips. The school contained 26 general purpose classrooms, and specialty rooms for arts and crafts, home economics, mechanical drawing, general science, music, biology, physics, chemistry, industrial arts and typing. The school's cafeteria opened a few weeks later and the gymnasium/auditorium opened in December of 1966.



Berlin American High School's final building opened its doors for the fall semester of 1965-66 in a state-of-the-art facility faced with sky blue ceramic tile.

As the Berlin Observer (Berlin's military newspaper) mentioned at the time: "...the new high school, eager to keep up with new teaching methods, will, in a few weeks, launch an attempt to teach advanced mathematics with calculators as a teaching tool. It is hoped the calculators will increase students' interest in advanced math and help them concentrate on the higher workings of mathematics. This will be the first time that a dependent school has attempted this experiment." Then Principal Paul LeBrun stated that 85 percent of Berlin American High School students went on to further academic study in colleges.

After the Wall's demise in 1989 and the eventual draw-down that followed, the story of sons and daughters of U.S. Forces personnel being educated in Berlin came to a close in 1994.

BAHS has since been given to the German government. Presently, it operates as *Wilma Rudolph Oberschule* (a German high school). Interestingly, Wilma Rudolph was an American Olympian and later a teacher and coach. As well as seeing their old school living on as a high school, the Berlin Brats (*the alumni association for BAHS*) will no doubt learn how this name was chosen for the school when they return to Berlin next year for their all schools/all years Berlin American High School Reunion. Generously, those operating the school now have promised us the cafeteria for one last dance.

The Thomas A. Roberts Elementary School was in Dahlem, a medieval village. AOSHS Board member and Berlin Brat from 1965-72, Diana (Green) Kempton, remembers when a classmate kicked at something shiny in the ground during recess, then dug up a metallic-braided sword handle from Roman times. The school was all abuzz as the Dahlem Museum studied this artifact, buried for centuries under the sand "It was an interesting place to go to school, to say the least," Diana recalls. "When huge, rumbling tanks from Company F, 40th Armor would roll past the school on concrete-paved Huettengeweg, all instruction came to a stop. I remember Michael Blue, a fellow sixth-grader in the class taught by John Aliano (SY 1965-66), looking up from drawing pictures of jet fighters just long enough to study the tanks as they passed. About twenty years later, she saw his name again, in the credits for the movie "Top Gun," in which he piloted a MIG. Soon afterwards, she spotted him again, this time being interviewed on Phoenix, Arizona's mid-day news, as he brought a squadron of fighters into nearby Luke A.F.B. I will never forget those times at TAR and BAHS. We arrived in Berlin only four years after the Wall went up. Our life was one of contrasts. Berlin was touted as being "the Showcase" as well as "The Outpost of Freedom," being 110 miles behind the iron curtain. Quartermaster provided us with Persian rugs and Rosenthal china as part of government-issue furnishings, and we boarded brand new Mercedes buses to go to school. Yet there we were, washing all vegetables in bleach or iodine solutions, doing our homework by AFN Berlin radio dramas instead of TV, and keeping a supply of black clothing in the closet, in case dependents had to be evacuated out ahead of fathers and husbands. Those years were the happiest of times, and perhaps their being punctuated by moments of uncertainty and fear made us appreciate our circumstances more. A routine girls' slumber party in the basement during August 1968 was interrupted with the news that Soviet tanks were heading toward Berlin. It was hours until we heard that they'd turned towards Prague instead, and best friend Laurie Hanley was devastated as much as relieved, having moved from Prague to Berlin a few years prior and holding fond memories of that city. Her dad, a State Dept. official, came for her right away. Then there was our bomb of a senior prom, when...yes...a real bomb was planted under a VW parked in front of the Tempelhof Air Base's Officers' Club, the scene of the event. We spent most of the night in the cellars of Hitler's former airplane factory, awaiting the bomb squad to do its work. Other than that, it was a normal high school life."

The American Overseas Schools Archive Alumni Registration Form

For all alumni, American and foreign, who attended DoDDS, DDESS and DoS Schools at any grade level.

Name: First _____ MI _____ Last _____ Sex: M ___ F ___ Citizenship (incl. both if dual): _____

Maiden Name: _____ Date of Birth: M ___ D ___ Y ___ City and Country of Birth: _____

Current e-mail address: _____

After graduation from high school, I: Entered the work force _____, Entered the military _____, Attended Trade/Technical School _____,

Attended a 2-yr. College _____ (Graduated: Yes ___ No ___), Attended a 4-yr. College _____ (Graduated: Yes ___ No ___),

Attended a Military Academy: Army _____, Navy _____, Air Force _____, Coast Guard _____ (Graduated: Yes ___ No ___)

Highest Degree Attained: HS Diploma _____, AA _____, Bachelors Degree (list type) _____, Masters Degree (list type) _____

Doctorate (list type) _____

Listings may be continued on the back, as well as sibling information.

I understand that the information I provide will be available for research in the AOS Archives.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send to: AOSHS Archive Registration
P.O. Box 1500
Wichita, KS 67201-1500

Department of Defense Overseas Schools and Private Overseas Schools Attended

Year or Years Attended	Grade Levels (e.g. K, 3-6, etc.)	Name of School(s)	Military Base or City	Country

Names of Siblings
Who Attended
Overseas Schools

Pick a Donation Project !

People often want to know how their donations to the operating fund are used, and our usual response would be, "To cover expenses for the office (which are many), printing, mailing, insurance, equipment and the like". Recently, a member asked about donating to a specific need or project. In thinking about that idea, it made us realize that board members do that, and perhaps the general membership would like to do it also.

As an example, when we moved into our first office a year ago, one board member donated money to cover the cost of new chairs, another donated to purchase a new desk, and still another donated to cover the cost of cleaning the office. When we purchased our building in January, again, board members rose to the occasion. Following the quote on painting, one member donated 1/3 the cost of the painting, while another contributed to the partial cost of the bathroom renovation, and so on. Your dues and operating fund donations from the past year covered the major portion of those costs.

If you would like to have a say on exactly where your donations to the operating fund go, we have set out a few ideas below. You might pay the cost, or the partial cost, of the following recurring expenses (all amounts are rounded to the nearest \$5.00):

Monthly mortgage payment	\$1030
Monthly office phone/internet	80
Print & mail one issue of the Quarterly	660
Approx. monthly gas bill (heat and a/c)	120
Approx. monthly electric bill	70
Quarterly Security Service alarm	110
Annual Insurance cost	1360
Letterhead stationary	460
Envelopes	395

The following are one-time costs incurred due to getting the new facility ready for occupancy and moving the office and archives to the new facility:

Moving office and archives	\$1660
Painting of foyer, office and archive	1200
Cost of paint	240
Legal fees	235
Additional archive shelving units	510
Office display units 3 @ \$200 each	600
Move phone service to new office	270

There are, of course, many other expenses, but these are the most important, and the ones that keep us functioning. Your generous consideration is always appreciated.

Western Europe Schools List

By Les Burch

In this issue of the *Quarterly*, I am listing schools that are or were located in several countries in Western Europe. I am interested in collecting information on when the listed schools opened and closed. Readers will note that the schools in Austria were among the earliest to open after the end of War II. When U.S. Forces ended its occupation of the country in 1955, students whose parents worked for the State Department or other U.S. agencies in Austria attended non-DoD schools. High school students had the option of attending a DoD school that had a resident hall. This was also the case for high school students in Norway and Denmark. Frankfurt High School had a substantial number of students who lived in the resident halls seven days a week. For many, travel back to their homes occurred only two or three times during the school year, Christmas and Spring breaks, and possibly at Thanksgiving.

Please write or e-mail me with corrections or additions to the following list, as well as the dates when a school was open. My home address is as follows:

**3460 Sam Houston Circle
Fort Collins, CO 80526**

AUSTRIA

Schools in Austria opened in October 1946 and closed in 1955 when the occupation by US Forces ended.

Linz ES

Salzburg ES

Vienna Dependent School (originally Vienna Community School)

Vienna HS

Vienna HS Dormitory

BELGIUM

Brussels ES (also called John F. Kennedy ES)

Brussels HS (also called John F. Kennedy HS)

+Brussels ES/HS

Florennes ES

+Kleine Brogel ES

+SHAPE ES, Mons

+SHAPE HS, Mons

DENMARK

Copenhagen American School

ICELAND

+Iceland ES, Keflavik (also called A.T. Mahan ES)

+Iceland HS, Keflavik (also called A.T. Mahan HS)

NETHERLANDS

+AFNORTH ES, Schinnen (formerly AFCENT International ES, Brunssum)

+AFNORTH HS, Schinnen (formerly AFCENT International HS, Brunssum)

AFCENT International HS Dormitory

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Coevorden ES

Eindhoven ES

Soesterberg ES/JHS

Soesterberg HS

Uden ES

+Volkel ES

NORWAY

Oslo ES

Oslo JHS

PORTUGAL

+Lajes ES, Azores

+Lajes HS, Azores

SPAIN

Aranjuez ES

Benidorm ES

Figueras ES

Irun ES

Majorca ES

Madrid American School, Generalissimo (ES/HS)

Moron ES

+Rota ES

+Rota HS

Royal Oaks ES, Madrid

Royal Oaks JHS, Madrid

Santa Clara ES, Seville

+Seville ES

Torrejon ES

Torrejon MS

Torrejon HS (formerly Madrid HS)

Torrejon HS Dormitory

Zaragoza ES

Zaragoza HS

AOSHS Membership Meeting

The AOSHS tenth annual membership meeting will be held on Friday, July 22 at 9:00 a.m. at the Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort during the DoDDS XVII reunion. Attendees will be apprised of the latest news regarding fundraising, through both legislative and private means. The membership will be asked to ratify actions of the board, and for the approval of Charles Willis, A. Margaret Palmer and Jeff Martin to the Board of Directors, Scarlett Rehrig as president and Jan Mohr as vice president. Willis and Palmer will be serving their second terms on the board; Martin is a new member to the board. The current president, Ann Bamberger, is retiring after serving nine years on the board in various capacities.

Dr. Eugene Hughes, President Emeritus of Northern Arizona University and Wichita State University, and a long-time AOSHS supporter, will attend and say a few words to the group. Dr. Hughes has been very influential in helping AOSHS as we work towards our fundraising goals.



A short video showing glimpses of taped interviews will be available to view. Attendees are encouraged to sign up to have their story videotaped by Linda Sekiguchi and Bruce Mitchner. These personal stories add a wonderful dimension to the history of our time abroad and the unique adventures we all shared.

Presentation of the Volunteer of the Year and the AOSHS Flame awards will conclude the meeting. All reunion attendees and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend.



WHO ?



- Who will pay homage to American overseas educators and their students?
- Who will record and preserve the history of American elementary and secondary education abroad?
- Who will preserve the legacy of American overseas schools?
- Who will archive the memorabilia of American overseas schools?

If AOSHS doesn't do it, who will?

AOSHS IS YOUR LEGACY

JOIN TODAY!

Reunion News

Send your reunion news to Ann Bamberger at:
AOSHS, P.O. Box 4133, Scottsdale, AZ 85261
Or e-mail to: OverseasSchools@aoshs.org
It will be published on a "Space Available" basis.

Karlsruhe HS: June 30 – July 3 at the Hilton Antlers Hotel, 4 South Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903, telephone 1-866-299-4602 and mention Karlsruhe Alumni Reunion. Rates are \$79 per room per night. For registration information go to the KAHS website at: <http://www.kahsknights.org/>

AFCENT- AFNORTH HS: July 22-23 at the Imperial Palace Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. Rates are \$95 per night for Fri/Sat, and \$59 per night for Thurs. and Sunday, if you choose to stay those nights as well. Registration fee for the reunion is \$100. For specific information re how to register contact Jane Jones Bates at: Batesinco@hotmail.com

Madrid HS – Torrejón HS: July 21 – 24 at the Hyatt Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Contact the Madrid/Torrejón HS Assn., P.O. Box 5925, Vallejo, CA 94591 (Tel: 707-558-9955)

Nürnberg H.S. (Early Years): Sept. 29 – Oct. 2 at the Quality Inn Airport, 600 S. Holland, Wichita, KS. Rates are \$55 + tax per night - includes free continental breakfast. Alumni from 1946 – 56 are included. The group will tour the AOSHS office and archive on Sept. 30. For further information and registration, contact Joan Adrian '49 via e-mail at: JAdrian49@aol.com or telephone 502-223-3000.

AOSHS Members Receive Survey

In April, 600 surveys were sent out to various members to provide input to the AOSHS board concerning priorities and to aid in future planning. These were mailed to a sampling of members in various categories: life members and annual members; members overseas, both actively working and retired abroad; educator and alumni members. If you received a survey, we hope you have returned it in the reply envelope provided to our consultant, Richard Bradford of Bradford Development. We are aggressively taking a long-range view of our work, resources and areas of focus. Your candid opinions concerning the organization and its future will be deeply appreciated.

AOSHS Overseas Regional Coordinators and Representatives

EUROPEAN AREA:

Bob Lykins	robert.lykins@eu.dodea.edu	<i>European Coordinator</i>
Sebastian Michelena	sebastian.michelena@eu.dodea.edu	Mediterranean Reg. Rep. - Vicenza
Terry Emerson	terry.emerson@eu.dodea.edu	Heidelberg Reg. Rep.
Scott & Carolyn Davis	gasthausdavis@hotmail.com	K-town area Reg. Reps.
Jeff & Shelley Pellaton	pellatons@yahoo.com	Wurzburg Area Reg. Reps.

PACIFIC AREA:

TBA	xxxxx.xxxxx@pac.dodea.edu	<i>Pacific Coordinator</i>
Maria Rubio	maria.rubio@pac.dodea.edu	Guam Area Reg. Rep. - Agana
Peter Grenier	peter.grenier@pac.dodea.edu	Japan Area Reg. Rep.
Irene Lee	sahsbandmom@hotmail.com	Korea Area Reg. Rep.
Mark Honnold	maestro@kconnect.net	Okinawa Area Reg. Rep.

AOSHS membership is \$25.00 annually and includes four issues of the newsletter. To join, send dues to **AOSHS, Box 15861, Surfside Beach, SC 29587.**

Donations to help preserve the *American Overseas Schools Archives* (AOSA) for posterity and historical research are appreciated and are tax deductible as allowed by the IRS. Donations may be sent to the above address.

Readers are encouraged to submit short, factual articles of human interest regarding their experiences overseas. Articles printed may or may not reflect the opinions of AOSHS.

Please submit articles to: **AOSHS, P.O. Box 4133, Scottsdale, AZ 85261.**

AOSHS Policy

The Directors realize that to obtain all AOSHS objectives: 1) the strong support of the membership is absolutely essential and must be recognized; 2) that although the Society greatly appreciates and recognizes all donations and gifts, it will neither recommend nor encourage its members to obtain the services or products of any company; and 3) the Society will not discriminate on the basis of lifestyle, race, sex, religion, or political affiliation.





AOSHS

PO BOX 1500

WICHITA KS 67201-1500

#5 S1 P1*****3-DIGIT 672
NORMA FAY DRYSDALE

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
WICHITA KS
PERMIT #1536