



AOSHS Quarterly

Vol. X, No. 4, Fall 2005

The American Overseas
Schools Historical Society
A Kansas Nonprofit Corporation

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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 1285
Blakeslee, PA 18610
<http://aoshs.wichita.edu>
overseasschools@aoshs.org



BERLIN WALL EXHIBIT OPENS IN WICHITA

By Diana Green Kempton

There are two events in the past sixteen years I regret that I've missed. The first was seeing the Berlin Wall come down in person. Having lived in West Berlin from 1965—1972, I stared in joyous disbelief at national television coverage in November 1989. Berliners smashed it with sledge hammers, framing hammers, tire irons...anything they could to destroy that worn-out relic of injustice to humanity. They swarmed the Wall and tore pieces from it with their bare hands, like molten metal from a cauldron obliterating the very crucible that had held it captive. And the Wall came down, amidst cheers from onlookers and participants alike, who jumped up and down and hugged strangers in the streets, reminiscent of the end of World War II. Watching this event provided a sense of closure, in that the sacrifices our families made during the Cold War, as the free world worked toward that wall coming down, had all been worthwhile.

The second event I wish I could have attended was the unveiling of the Berlin Wall Exhibit at the Museum of World Treasures in Wichita on August 12, 2005. Donated to AOSHS by the Berlin Brats, Berlin American High School's alumni group, the 12 ft. high, 4½ ton section of the Wall (heavier than initially estimated) made its way from Maryland to Wichita on a flatbed truck in July, arriving on August 1st. It is on loan to the Museum by AOSHS, pending construction of our own AOSHS museum.

Former AOSHS President Ann Bamberger sent me her thoughts after the opening ceremonies, which were attended by city dignitaries and a group of about 50 visitors. "I just returned from Wichita and the formal opening of the exhibit...it was a nice crowd. Dr. Kardatske, director of the Museum of World Treasures, spoke on



Opening Day: AOSHS founder Tom Drysdale, Ann Bamberger, Norma Drysdale, Margaret Palmer, Glenna Harrison, and Dr. Jon Kardatske, founder and director of the Museum of World Treasures, in front of the section of the Wall on loan to the museum.

(Continued on page 17)

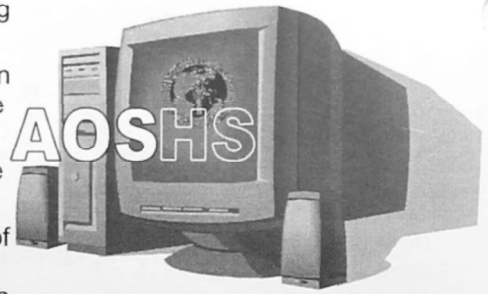
About the Historical Society Databases

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

Educators: Included in every other issue of the *Quarterly* is an Archive Database Form. The educator form will alternate with the student form noted below.

Students: The Alumni Archive Database 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@aoshs.org



AOSHS Board of Directors:

Scarlett Rehrig	President	overseasschools@aoshs.org
Jan Mohr	Vice President	vicepres@aoshs.org
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Membership	Tina Calo	membership@aoshs.org
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American Overseas Schools Historical Society Addresses:

Contact the President:	S. Rehrig, P.O. Box 1285, Blakeslee, PA 18610
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 Database Info:</i>	AOSHS c/o Carolyn Wilber, 9291 E. Windrose, Scottsdale, AZ 85260
<i>Alumni Database Info:</i>	P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Wichita Office Address:	AOSHS, 704 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67203-6401

~~ President's Message ~~

By Scarlett Rehrig



In September 2005, Ann Bamberger stepped down at the end of her term to pass along the position of President of AOSHS to me. I have some very large shoes to fill. Ann has left a legacy that we can all be proud of. Our Board of Directors met in September and developed a focused list of what we would do during our term of office and what we might leave to others to do when we leave. This means that we have taken a narrow focus on a list of items that I will report progress to you with every *Quarterly*. This list of goals includes:

1. To support and help with fundraising initiatives
2. To design and install our bricks, blocks, and pavers
3. To create a filing system and numbering of all forms used
4. To ensure all donated collections have summaries and narratives with a technology-based retrieval system
5. To increase our membership with a focus on the alumni
6. To offer more options on our website
7. To co-produce the 60th Anniversary Video with DoDEA
8. To increase our oral interview collection and make them available to the public
9. To increase the number of stories published on our webpage: Memories
10. To have available traveling artifacts for reunions, celebrations, colleges, museums, and schools
11. To recognize and celebrate our volunteers

Having given you this list, we now become accountable to our membership. With the Board and help of our fine membership, I know "We Will go Places."

I want to direct your attention to our website at www.aoshs.org. It is here that we have two significant new programs. First, our homepage will, from time to time, have some pictures that have been taken from our historical yearbooks. Secondly, when you click on our logo it will take you into a page called "The Fall of the Wall". Dorie Parsons, our webmaster, has energized how we might enter our stories of history. She developed this website to make it interactive. Go explore and enter your story on where you were and what your feelings were when the Berlin Wall came down in 1989. Seeing this new feature, I know many of you have ideas for your stories that can be included. You may also email your thoughts to either Dorie or me.

Also in this issue of the *Quarterly*, you will notice a focus on people using our archives to do research. Tom Drysdale has connected with a German student who is using our collection to publish her dissertation. This is wonderful news, and should give many of you ideas about what items you might send to our archives in Wichita.

I close leaving you with this message: Apart from annual reunions, there is no touchstone or central facility to retain the historical archives and stories of our Department of Defense Schools like the organization you belong to—and that is AOSHS!

Cheers,
Scarlett

Postwar Nuremberg Alumni Hold Wichita Mini-Reunion

By Fred Evans, based on a submission from Joan Adrian

Nuremberg alumni from 1946-1956 held a Golden Oldies Mini Reunion September 29 through October 2, 2005, in Wichita, Kansas. The event was hosted by Joan Kay McCarter Adrian and Betty Thomas. Thirty one alumni attended, with fourteen spouses and guests. Former AOSHS President Dr. Tom Drysdale and his wife, Norma, and AOSHS Board Member Margaret Palmer—all local residents—joined the group.

One afternoon was spent at the archives where Dr. Drysdale explained the process AOSHS uses for recording and cataloging items donated.

Many alumni brought items to be donated. Bob Guiliano included a 1949 yearbook, one in which all the American High Schools in the American Sector of Germany were combined. Gaylord Long brought large photographs depicting Bavarian scenes from that era. Joan Adrian brought a collection of books on the Nuremberg Trials, dedicated to her by people she met at the Tribunal reunion held in Washington, D.C., in 1996. Her album included pictures, papers, correspondence and books from Tribunal members—a prosecutor Drexel Sprecher, author Joseph Persico, and court reporter Vivien Spitz. Spitz's book "Doctors From Hell" reflected upon her two years of work during the medical and industrial trials. A photo book by Raymond D'Addario, an official photographer for the trials, was donated, showing immediate post war Nuremberg scenes contrasted with the same views taken in 1982, about ten years after reconstruction. One yearbook produced included an autographed photo of a DoDDS sophomore named Norman Schwartzkopf, signed later for the owner after his Desert Storm leadership.

The group shared their experiences at a round table discussion Saturday afternoon, Oct. 1st, at Wichita's Museum of World Treasures. Unique experiences for students from 1946 to 1949 included field trips to the trials and viewing films of the concentration camps, used as evidence in the trials. Other discussions recalled the mounting tension with Russia at the beginning of the 1948 Berlin Blockade. They remembered emergency evacuation orders. They also had the unique experience of all the seniors from the seven high schools in the American Occupied Sector of Germany traveling to Wiesbaden to board Hitler's River Yacht for a senior trip. This was continued annually for several years following the war. The yacht had been taken over by Special Services as a recreational Rhine River tour boat for American personnel and their families only.

Many members of the group were the first latch key children during the war, with fathers in the military and mothers working days. They were independent, decisive, and confident American teenagers who found themselves a part of a unique time and place in history.

"These years were perhaps the most rewarding, most maturing, most fun, most interesting times of our lives, and they remain vivid even after all these years," remembers Adrian.

School T-Shirts Still Needed



We are still looking for donations of alumni group/school T-shirts for historical recording, preservation and display, to add to the Overseas Brats collection in the archives. All-class reunion shirts, and school sports/band/club T-shirts are examples of other types you might donate. Please mail your alumni association or school t-shirts to: **AOSHS Archives, 704 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67203.**

**AOSHS IS YOUR
LEGACY ~~~
JOIN FOR LIFE!**



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 | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _

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**](mailto: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**

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American Overseas Schools Historical Society

P.O. Box 4133

Scottsdale, AZ 85261

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P.O. Box 4133

Scottsdale, AZ 85261

German Graduate Student Receives Assistance from the AOSHS Archive

by Dr. Tom Drysdale

Doctoral student Simone Gutwerk at the University of Wuerzburg in Germany is researching the history of the DoD Dependents Schools System, with a special focus on two schools in Bavaria and Hessia. The study hopefully will result in a published dissertation approved by the university, and the granting of a doctor's degree to Ms. Gutwerk.

With the help of two university professors, a systematic survey and search of German scientific, historical, and educational fields has produced inadequate historical, organizational and operational information regarding the DoD Dependents Schools system. This has resulted "...in the recognition that DoDDS is a very unique school system that finds no equivalent, even in a worldwide comparative radius, and this uniqueness has legitimized the major goal of the study by the university."

The failure of the German literature search identified the need to request help from American educators, and a formal request was made to Dr. Candace M. Ransing, Deputy Director of DoDDS Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany, and a Life Member of AOSHS.

Following an investigation of Ms. Gutwerk's pre-doctoral studies at the university, the title and hypothesis of her dissertation, which will also be published in English, DoDDS Germany, and the DoD Education Activity in Arlington, VA approved providing assistance to Ms. Gutwerk, recognizing the dissertation could be of future benefit to DoDEA.

Dr. Ransing, knowing the Mission of AOSHS is to collect, record, and preserve the history of educating American children and youth abroad, contacted the AOSHS Archive in Wichita last September and requested help for Ms. Gutwerk.

Since September, the archive has been providing Ms. Gutwerk with appropriate excerpts from its sizeable collection of doctoral dissertations, master's theses and graduate papers, focusing on the history of the DoD Dependents Schools System worldwide and regionally, as well as information on the DoDDS curriculum and Host Nation Program.

As of October, 2005, appropriate extracts from the following list of AOSHS Archive historical documents have been sent to Ms. Simone Gutwerk, Universtät, Würzburg, Germany:

Hqs. US Army, Europe Historical Division. "The Dependents' Schools Program of the US Army, Europe 1946 - 1956." Kenneth E. Lay, Colonel Infantry, Chief, Historical Division, APO 164, Sept. 1958.

Master's Thesis: "A History of the Department of Defense Overseas Dependents' Schools 1946 - 1969." Elizabeth S. Francis. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

Master's Thesis: "Foreign Language Teaching in the United States Army Dependents' Elementary schools." University of California, Los Angeles, February 1961.

Dissertation: "A History of the Department of Defense Dependents' Schools 1965 - 1980." William F. Delaney. Catholic University of America, Wash., D.C., 1981.

Dissertation: "Overseas Dependents' Schools of the Department of Defense: Their Origin, History and Unification." Anthony Cardinale, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 1965".

Dissertation Abstract: "Foreign Language / Intercultural Education in the DoD Dependents' Schools: A Descriptive Study of the Host Nation Program in the Federal Republic of Germany." Karen J. Kroon. Miami University of Ohio.

(Continued on page 18)

MEMORIAL FUNDS

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Bernice "Betty" Brooks

1934 - 2005

Bernice E. "Betty" Brooks, was born in Pomona, California, attended Pomona High School, Mt. San Antonio College, and San Jose State University, where she received her teaching credential. She taught physical education at Los Altos High School and Pomona High School before going overseas to teach at Kubasaki HS in Okinawa and Kaiserslautern HS in Germany.

Upon her return to the states, she reunited with the Pomona School District, teaching at Ganesha HS, Pomona HS, and Simons MS. Betty was also an active member of the Association of Pomona Teachers.

Betty was an enthusiastic and energetic teacher – she sponsored cheerleaders and pep clubs, supported theater groups, and could always be found at school activities. She will be remembered for her sunny smile, bubbly personality, and her wealth of stories.

Wally Waterstreet

1924 – 2004

Wally left Milwaukee, WI, in 1956 to begin his career with DoDDS. His first assignments were in Scotland and England, which he loved. When asked why he left, his reply was "I wanted to see the world." And so he did. He had tours in Ethiopia and Libya before transferring in 1968 to the Pacific area. He remained there until his retirement in 1992, teaching in the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, and Okinawa. He treasured his special students that made his teaching career worthwhile.

Wally loved travel, old movies, fine food and wine, and sharing gourmet dinner parties and conversation with his friends. He had traveled to every continent, but his favorite destination was always Broadway, to take in as many shows as possible. He often went several times a year, depending on what was showing, and it was not unusual for him to fit 10 –12 shows into a week's visit.

Wally succumbed to bone cancer in December, 2004 and is buried in Milwaukee. He is greatly missed by all the lives he touched.

Evelyn Trevino

Evelyn, a dedicated DoDDS teacher, was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, where she earned degrees in both education and nursing. She taught with DoDDS from 1965 – 1968 at Misawa AFB, Japan, Clark AFB, the Philippines, and Hanau Army Post in Germany. She returned to San Antonio and completed her career in administration with the San Antonio Schools.

Evelyn had many passions: rock hunting, bird watching, and gardening were only a few.. She was killed in an automobile accident while traveling during the summer of 1998.

Leon Brashier Jr

1941 – 2005

Leon was born in Victoria, Texas. He met his future wife, Glenda, at age 14, and they became junior high sweethearts who later enjoyed 44 years of marriage.

Leon had a wonderful career with DoDDS, where he served 25 years as teacher, coach and administrator in Japan and Korea. As a coach and teacher at Johnson HS, and later Zama HS, he touched the lives of thousands of students. His love of children was evident by his long hours coaching football and track teams to numerous championships. He completed his DoDDS career as an Assistant Principal at Seoul American High School from 1985 – 1994.

Upon retiring from DODDS, Leon returned to Texas and became principal of Como-Pickton HS and later

Refugio Middle School. He was a true educator, and his legacy will live on in the many lives he touched.

In the last few years, Leon and Glenda lived at their beloved Yellow Creed Ranch in Texas. It was, for Leon, a wonderful, peaceful place where he enjoyed being with his wife, reading, and receiving visits from his children and grandchildren. He passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

Second Announcement

Ana Marie Davila

1949 – 2005

Ana was born November 3, 1949 in Hidalgo, Texas. She grew up in Hidalgo and received her BA from Texas State University and an MA from National-Louis University in Heidelberg, Germany. Her first teaching experiences were in Kyle, San Marcos, and Houston, Texas.

Ana's first DoDDS assignment was in 1981 at Wetzlar Elementary School in Baumholder, Germany. From there she moved to Japan where she worked in Misawa at Sollars ES and Yokosuka at Sullivan's ES with an intervening tour in Karlsruhe ES, Germany. Her last assignment was Argonner ES, Hanau, Germany. Throughout her professional career she was committed to working with children with special needs, who benefited greatly from her love and dedication.

In her later years, her life was a profile of courage as she continued to enjoy life at its fullest despite her final struggle. She taught us to celebrate life.

Eleanor Fuller

1940 – 2004

Eleanor was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, and graduated from Trenton State University in 1962 with a B.A. in primary elementary education. She taught three years in New Jersey before joining DoDDS in 1965.

Her first assignment was at Nürnberg Elementary School, where she taught 1st and 2nd grades for the next five years. It was there that she met and married Jake Fuller, a social studies and PE teacher at Nürnberg HS. In 1970 the Fullers transferred to Heidelberg where Eleanor taught 1st grade at Patrick Henry Village for the next three years. In 1973, they welcomed their daughter Beth to the family and, for the next five years, Eleanor became a full-time mother. During that time she had open-heart surgery and completed her MA from Boston University in counseling. She returned to DoDDS as an elementary school counselor at Mark Twain in Heidelberg and remained there until her retirement in June 2000.

Eleanor passed away on November 22, 2004, after returning from a wonderful trip to California.

Georgie Henrietta Richard

1942 - 2005.

Georgie was a native of Thibodaux, LA, and a resident of Houma, LA, at the time of her death. She taught in Goose Bay, Labrador, and in Germany at Hahn and Patch High Schools.

She was a member of the Krewe of Aphrodite and AARP. She loved books, movies, teaching, and travel.

— Closed Funds —

**Fred Welch
Mary Etter**

**Polished Granite Block
Ceramic Paver**

You may donate to a memorial fund by sending a check payable to AOSHS Memorial Fund to the address below, and noting the honoree on the check's memo line.

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

E-mail: memorialprog@aoshs.org

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

In Memoriam – Alumni

We have had many names added to our Those No Longer with Us paver, where friends or loved ones have sent a donation to remember a special person in their lives, but did not wish to purchase a brick or start a memorial fund. Though this began as an educator remembrance, several of those recognized are alumni. Because of the increase in donations for this fund, we feel it appropriate to create a second paver specifically to recognize alumni. If friends wish to

remember a deceased former student, send the honoree's name, school, and year of graduation (if appropriate), and it will be 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 following directions. This paver is listed under the letter A.

To remember an alumna/alumnus 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 check's memo line, and include a note requesting that this person be honored on the Alumni Memorial Paver.



What Are *THE* Three Things I Couldn't Live Without?

By Allison Steffen – Blythe

What are three things I couldn't live without? *Tomorrow*, because I have many dreams yet to be fulfilled... *Today*, because I experience the exhilaration of my teaching job...and *yesterday*, because the moments and times I spent growing up helped to make me the person I am today. My "yesterday" was especially significant. The people I met, the sights I saw, the experiences I had—all left an imprint.

I've ridden a camel in Lebanon, traveled in a bullet train in Japan, sailed in a hovercraft across the English Channel, clung to chair lifts while skiing in Bavaria and Austria, been serenaded by gondoliers in the canals of Venice, and ridden a jeep through the Great Rift Valley of Ethiopia.

I've swum through collapsed Roman ruins now covered by the hot waters of a mineral spring in Turkey, been mesmerized by Buddhist priests in Japan walking over burning coals, been amazed by the Whirling Dervishes in Turkey, and enjoyed an outdoor production of *Aida* in Verona, where live elephants were part of the cast.

I met Betty Ford and Ronald Reagan in Riverside, Lady Bird Johnson on a Seine River cruise in Paris, and King Hussein of Jordan at a hotel in Turkey. I sang with my high school choir for the man who is now Emperor of Japan, and for soldiers being treated in a hospital for wounds received in Vietnam. I have been blessed by two Popes in Italy.

I've gazed at the Sistine Chapel ceiling in Rome, admired tile designs in mosques in Istanbul, kissed the Blarney Stone in Ireland, cheered my brother as he ran with the bulls in Pamplona, and stood on my head in front of the Leaning Tower of Pisa—a family tradition.

I've climbed to the top of Mt. Fuji, looked down from the top of the Eiffel Tower, gazed across the White Cliffs of Dover, and been attacked by monkeys at the Strait of Gibraltar. I spent a night at a hotel in Ethiopia where our guard "dog" was a guard "lion," and I stayed in a hotel in Athens, not realizing it was next to a "red light district."

I've ordered beer in the Hofbrau Houses of Munich, sipped coffee on the Champs Elysees in Paris, had too much sangria in Barcelona, and gambled in casinos in Greece and Monte Carlo. I've seen Shakespeare's house in Stratford-on-Avon and the Virgin Mary's house in Ephesus.

I stood where Hitler spoke to frenzied masses in Nürnberg; where Jesus gave sermons in Lebanon; on the steps of the Parthenon at the Acropolis; where President Kennedy gave his "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech at the Berlin Wall; and in Christian churches in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, gazing at crucifixes of a black Christ. I've wandered through rooms where Anne Frank hid in Amsterdam and have been silenced by the gas chambers and oven rooms of Dachau.

I have experienced Kabuki theatre, tea ceremonies, and Sumo wrestling in Tokyo, become lost on the Metro in Paris, learned to speak French, German, some Turkish and Japanese; and found that a smile works wonders if all else fails.

As a child on an American military base in Europe, I experienced the magnified fear of nuclear war during the 13 days of the Cuban Missile crisis. I felt the kindness of the Japanese at Peace Park in Hiroshima where I saw the shadowy silhouette of a child who had been sitting on concrete steps when the atomic bomb went off, incinerating her.

How have these experiences affected who I am? I've learned to be adaptable and resilient. I am open to change and willing to take risks. These experiences have also given me an even greater appreciation of my parents. Without them, the opportunities I had when younger would not have

(Continued on page 13)

EYE ON YOU: DODDS SCHOOLS PERSONNEL

By Linda Hiebert Sekiguchi

Thank you to all who have taken the time to sit down and be interviewed for the AOSHS archives! We appreciate your efforts and willingness to share.

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of sharing a permanent version of your stories before it is too late! One of my most valued treasures is a 1978 audio tape of my mother telling stories of her childhood. In spite of limited finances and difficult schedules, in October of that year I had flown from Hawaii to visit her in Idaho during her short remission from cancer. Five months later, she had passed on. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to have spent this valued time with her and to have recorded her stories.

Oral histories have long been a source of pleasure, research, and unique perspective. Many archives, historical libraries, and research centers now include audio and video recordings as an integral portion of their documentation.

In his visionary wisdom, Dr. Tom Drysdale started a videotaping project during the infancy of the AOSHS collection at Northern Arizona University. Tom realized that important historical and personal experiences would be lost without this valuable tool. Of course, Tom's schedule was heavily impacted with the many aspects of beginning and maintaining an archival library. Therefore, he was able to devote limited time to the project.

He began recording DoDDS personnel with his new shoulder mounted camcorder at the Chicago reunion (ODDSARA III) in 1991 and continued recording in the Bremerton, Flagstaff, Las Vegas, Monterey, Washington, D.C., San Antonio, Minneapolis, and San Diego reunions. In his words: "(I wanted) to record the histories of the old timers, before they passed on." He said, "We are so fortunate to now have on tape some of the original overseas school teachers and administrators some of the original overseas schools teachers and administrators like Ruby Anderson."

As time marched on, the torch was passed on to Dr. Lucille Hansen, who was serving on the board of directors. In her role as a vice president of AOSHS, Lucille continued videotaping interviews of DoDDS personnel. She has been most dedicated to the cause of recording people's stories and is committed to preserving this important resource. She, too, has realized the

importance of our personal involvement and perspective as individuals share their overseas experiences. Through Lucille's appeals and enthusiasm, my partner, Bruce and I felt that interviewing AOSHS folks in person was one way we could contribute to this fine organization.

Over the years, we have developed a system that appears to work well for us. Bruce sets up the equipment and does the video-taping. I have the pleasure of sitting down with the interviewee who has consented to be recorded. In the process, a basic outlines for interviewing has emerged. Depending on the particular individual, I may ask only a few questions, and the person talks the remainder of the time. I may interject to clarify acronyms, the sequence of events, or to move the conversation along. In other instances, the speaker may instigate more questions about the circumstances he/she describes. In addition, I have a reserve of possible questions, should the conversation need added interest. Again, each



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—Eye on You

interview is unique. In the meantime, Bruce varies the filming by shifting from speaker to speaker, zooming in on the face of the interviewee, or showing items being spoken about. Generally, sessions have a duration of 20-50 minutes.

Our main opportunity for videotaping DoDDS personnel is at the summer reunions. We were most pleased with the response to signing up in Scottsdale. We were able to do only a smattering of interviews during other reunions. Plan to visit with us in Pittsburgh! How privileged we have been to be able to interview Dr. Ann Bamberger, Dr. Scarlett Rehrig, Joe Conlin, several brats, and a number of DoDDS school personnel. Each interview has been fascinating!

- We feel that EVERYONE has interesting and important stories to tell. Your unique perspective is priceless. You have experienced overseas schools, travel, and friendship in a way no other person has. We need your stories!
- We cannot do this important task alone! We also need your help in interviewing. We have thousands of AOSHS members and thousands more who are eligible. You, too, can have the fun of listening to the wonderful experiences of your colleagues.

To volunteer or tell your story on tape, contact Linda Sekiguchi at: sekiguchilindas4@juno.com.

(Continued from page 11)

—What Three Things

been possible. And these experiences have given me a huge appreciation of the United States of America, which is—hands down—the best country I know.

How have the people I've met affected who I am? I've learned the world is made up of all kinds of wonderful people, and if I don't take the time to talk to them, I won't learn their amazing stories. I'm comfortable in most all situations, from talking to important dignitaries to chatting with strangers.

How have the sights I've seen affected who I am? They have provided amazing experiences and a broad foundation to teach students about the wonders of this world. They've also made me appreciate the marvelous accomplishments of human beings.

From Africa to Asia, to Europe, to the Middle East...my yesterdays were amazing. But tomorrow...new experiences, new people, new sights.

—Excerpts from a Riverside, CA Toastmasters' speech by Allison Steffen-Blythe.

Allison is the daughter of Joseph and Helen Steffen. She attended DoD schools in France, Germany, Japan, and Turkey from 1958 to 1970, and is a graduate of the University of California at Riverside. She has been teaching high school history classes for the past 30 years in Riverside.

Reunion News

Send your reunion news to Scarlett Rehrig at: P.O. Box 1285, Blakeslee, PA 18610-1285
Or e-mail to OverseasSchools@aoshs.org Notices will be published on a "Space Available" basis.

Berlin HS: July 27 – 30, 2006 at the Hotel Steglitz International on Albrechtstrasse in Berlin. For registration information, go to the Berlin HS website at www.berlinbrats.org

DoDDS Reunion XVIII: Pittsburgh, PA July 20-23, 2006. (Contact info to follow)

Overseas Brats Cruise to Bermuda and Eastern Caribbean: Sept. 11-21, 2006. (See below)

Overseas Brats Homecoming: Dallas-Fort Worth, Aug. 2-5, 2007. Contact Joe Condrill for OSB events: joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net or visit the OSB website: www.overseasbrats.com

Vicenza HS 50th Anniversary: Oct. 17 – 21, 2007. Plan ahead so you can enjoy this grand event. Register online at www.vhsalumni.com starting June 2007, when final costs are verified.

Saudi Arabia, Panama, Okinawa Schools Lists

By Les Burch

In this issue, I am listing schools from countries that couldn't be more geographically dispersed. The schools in Panama and Saudi Arabia have been long closed. Less than half of the schools listed for Okinawa are still in operation. If present plans to reduce the number of military installations with accompanied families continue, the number of DoD schools outside the U.S. will be limited to only a few places. It is very important that our archives have as much information as possible on overseas schools. I thank so many of you who have contacted me, other Board members, and Carolyn Wilber to help us. I ask readers who have been in Okinawa to review the list and let me know of any corrections or additions that I should make. I will make them known in the next *Quarterly* issue.

Recently I came across the name of a school in Italy that was not on my list. I would like to know where Decimomannu ES was located. My information indicates that it opened in 1991. It is not listed as being currently open. Any information would be appreciated.

In 2006, I will provide names of the schools in Japan, and start the long list of schools in Germany.

SAUDI ARABIA

Dharan ES

PANAMA

Balboa ES
Balboa HS
Coco Solo ES
Cocoli ES
Cristobal JHS/HS
Curundu ES
Curundu JHS
Diablo ES
Fort Clayton ES
Fort Davis ES
Fort Gulik ES
Fort Kobbe ES
Gatun ES
Howard ES

Los Rios ES

Margarita ES

Panama Canal Junior College

OKINAWA

Adams ES, Naha (formerly Naha ES)

+Amelia Earhart IS, Kadena (formerly Amelia Earhart ES)

Awase ES

+Bechtel ES, Camp NcTureous

+Bob Hope PS, Kadena

Camp Boone PS

Camp Hague ES, Kadena

Eisenhower ES, Naha (formerly Naha PS)

+Kadena ES

+Kadena MS

+Kadena HS

+Killin ES, Camp Foster

+Kinser ES, Camp Kinser

Kinser JHS, Camp Kinser

+Kubasaki HS, Camp Butler (formerly Okinawa American HS)

Kue PS (also Kuie) (formerly Kubasaki 9, grades K-9)

+Lester MS, Camp Lester

M & K PS, Kadena

Makiminato ES (formerly Machinato ES)

Makiminato MS

Mercy ES (formerly Mercy IS, grades 4-8)

Naha MS (formerly Port Wheel JHS)

Okinawa University Dependents School, Fort Howard

Pacific MS (formerly Kubasaki JHS)

Port Wheel ES, Naha

+Stearley Heights ES, Kadena

Tyler ES, Naha

+Zukeran ES, Camp Butler (originally Sukeran)

Zukeran JHS, Camp Butler



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

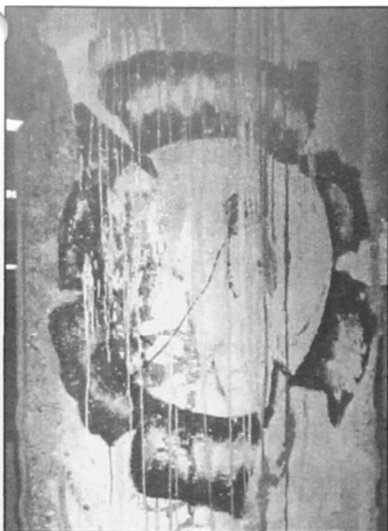
Wichita, KS 67201-1500

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

(Continued from page 1)

—Berlin Wall Exhibit



Historic Graffiti: It is painted to look like a hole was blasted in the wall, such that you are looking "through" to see a string in the lower left corner; the string leads up to a red kite, with cross-hatches on its tail.

the Museum's behalf; Glenna Harrison, former Berlin educator, spoke on behalf of the Berlin Brats; and I spoke on behalf of AOSHS. The wall is *much* more impressive in person than in any photo I could send. I am including one photo...so you can clearly see what is being viewed as you look through the "hole" painted on the wall. It is a kite. The string starts in the lower left corner and leads up to a red kite, partly obliterated by some of the paint, and then a tail hangs down from the kite with some crosshatching on it. It is my understanding that (the Berliners) would send messages over the wall using kites."

A contributing factor during the authentication process of this section of the Wall was that graffiti only existed on one side of it—the West-facing side. Anyone attempting to get close enough to the wall from the East would have been shot by their own countrymen who were border guards...had they made it through the barbed wire, tank traps and mine fields first. What luck to obtain this section with the blasted hole and "view" of the kite, a small symbol of hope of reunification—a reminder that communication between people is a precious freedom.



Checkpoint Charlie display gives viewers a glimpse of the military and political hoops one had to jump through to simply pass from West to East.

Next to the Wall section on exhibit, a video about the Wall runs continuously. There is also a display on Checkpoint Charlie, the American checkpoint between East and West Berlin. Each ally had its own checkpoint along the city's border. Standing nearby, almost as unmoving as the real life versions I remember, is a life-size East German border guard in uniform, holding his Russian-made rifle.

Groups of school children have already visited the exhibit and stood solemnly as they were asked to imagine a roll of barbed wire being strung through the middle of their own city within a matter of hours; to imagine seeing guards along the barbed wire with rifles drawn and military vehicles patrolling the streets. Then, as quickly as the barbed wire rolls are strung, a wall begins to go up, one brick at a time, and the city is isolated from the rest of the world for the next 28 years. Imagine.

As a German school child visiting Checkpoint Charlie wrote beneath his drawing of the Wall that was seen taped to the stairwell in the Berlin museum dedicated to those who lost their lives trying to escape from East to West:

"The worst thing about the Wall is that people can get used to anything."



Above: An East German Border guard uniform.



School students listen intently while Dr. Jon Kardatske, director of the Museum of World Treasures, points out the significance of the Berlin Wall section and the graffiti painted on it by West Berliners.

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!

AOSHS Contact Addresses

In the past three issues of the *Quarterly*, we announced the closing of P.O. Box 777 in Litchfield Park, AZ. Some are still sending letters and information to that address. The forwarding feature will expire this month, so any mail sent to that address will be returned to you.

P.O. Box 4133 in Scottsdale, AZ is now also being closed. Please do not send any letters, packages or information to that address.

Correct contact information for all programs is listed on page two of each issue of the Quarterly. Please use only the regular mail addresses and e-mail addresses listed. Sending checks, archive materials and inquiries to the incorrect address causes late responses and additional mailing costs to AOSHS. Your cooperation is appreciated.

(Continued from page 7)
—Grad Student Research

Miscellaneous Papers:

"A Historical Perspective." DoDDS, Hal Haggard, 1993.

"The Chance of a Lifetime." Alfred W. Beerbaum – no date.

"Amerikanische Schulen in Deutschland." German newspaper article. Alfred W. Beerbaum – no date.

"Silver Schoolbells." USDESEA 1946 – 71, Warren Carlson, Editor, Pages 12, 15, 16, 56.

"Amerikanische Schulen in Deuthschland." (In German), Hqs. US Army Dependents Education



Wishing You
Joyous Holidays
and a Happy New Year



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Korea Area Reg. Rep.
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 1285, Blakeslee, PA 18610.**

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

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