



AOSHS Quarterly

Vol. XI, No. 4, Winter 2006

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 1500
Wichita, KS 67201-1500
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overseasschools@aoshs.org



Berlin Brats celebrate Homecoming

By Maggie (Ellithorpe) Stafnes '63

The only thing higher than the temperatures and humidity in Berlin July 27 – 30, 2006, were the spirits of the Berlin Brats attending the first Brats Reunion held in Berlin. For many it was the first time they'd returned to Berlin since school days. It took no time at all to reconnect with classmates even though for some over 40 years had past since they'd last seen each other. Squeals, hugs, huge smiles, and laughter rang through the lobby of the Steglitz International Hotel as friends recognized others who were registering for the exciting weekend of festivities.

Over 230 students who had attended one of three schools established for children of military personal and government stationed in Berlin from 1946 – 1994 came to the reunion. Twenty-eight former faculty member, family members and friends brought the total attendance up to 401. Jean (Crews) Derry '48, who told about being driven to school in an ambulance, was there along with Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50, who told about ambassadors' children coming to school in limousines. There was at least one representative from every class of the '60's and '80's. The class of '85 had the most attendees with 23. The last class to attend school in Berlin in '94 was represented by Stephen Rippelbeck.

Many of the stories circulating during the three days had a similar ring – arriving in Berlin feeling lost, missing friends and former schools, and having no idea of what was facing their fathers. Upon entering Berlin American High School they immediately became members of a family of teenagers with vagabond lives just like theirs and discovering that friendships made during their years at BHS and their time there were some of their fondest memories. How easily the years in between their last encounters melted away and how vividly the memories of school years in Berlin came flooding back.



Photo by Bryan Duckett '84

Continued on Page 12

About the Historical Society Databases

AOSHS has 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*.



AOSHS Board of Directors:

Scarlett Rehrig	President	overseasschools@aoshs.org
Jan Mohr	Vice President	vicepres@aoshs.org
Patricia Hein	Secretary	secretary@aoshs.org
Charles Willis	Treasurer	treasurer@aoshs.org
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Les Burch	Schools List; Albums	lburch@aoshs.org
Dick Nell	Membership	dnell@aoshs.org
Jeff Martin	DoDDS Overseas Rep	jmartin@aoshs.org

AOSHS Volunteers:



Alumni Database	Leslie Hicks	alumnidata@aoshs.org
Educator Database	Carolyn Wilber	memorialprog@aoshs.org
Memorial Program	Carolyn Wilber	memorialprog@aoshs.org
Webmaster	Dorie Parsons	webmaster@aoshs.org
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Special Projects	Marilynn Taylor	Marilynn.taylor@aoshs.org
Communications	Glenn Greenwood	glenn.greenwood@aol.com
Deceased List	Kay Hosie	springs2003@yahoo.com

American Overseas Schools Historical Society Addresses:

Contact the President:	S. Rehrig, AOSHS, PO Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Advisory Chairperson	Jackie Grey, PO Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Membership address:	AOSHS Membership, PO Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Memorial Program:	AOSHS Memorial Program, P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Archives addresses	
<i>Memorabilia:</i>	AOSHS Archives, 704 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67203-6401
<i>Educator Database Info:</i>	AOSHS Educator Database, Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
<i>Alumni Database Info:</i>	AOSHS Alumni Database, Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201
Wichita Office Address:	AOSHS, 704 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67203-6401
Archive manager:	Nancy Hampel, aoshsoffice@sbcglobal.net , Phone: 316-265-6837

~ President's Message ~

By Scarlett Rehrig

**ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF AOSHS**

It is a rather warm November day here at the AOSHS headquarters at 704 West Douglas Avenue in Wichita, Kansas. Nancy Hampel, our Archive Manager, has just cleared a space for Jim McGrath who has driven from New Mexico to donate his first phase of artifacts to AOSHS. Jim was the first art coordinator in Europe from 1958-62. He later was the first art coordinator in the Pacific from 1973 through 1985 when he retired (check Tom Drysdale's article on Jim in this Quarterly, page 17). Margaret Palmer, one of our Wichita residents on the AOSHS Board, just drove Jim to the Museum of World Treasures (MWT) to talk to the director and see the AOSHS items that we have on display there. Jim has offered to create a design for a changing display that will rotate every six months at the MWT. He has come up with a map of the world showing the locations where our teachers and students have taught and learned. On the side panels we will display artifacts from the schools in each area and this history of DoDDS in those areas.

Tom Drysdale, our Archive Director and AOSHS founder, was here last month to organize the institutional collections that arrived at AOSHS Archives. Pusan Schools won the prize for 800 plus pounds of artifacts that arrived in early fall in a Land/Sea container. Other schools that closed and sent collections were West Ruislip Elementary School, Sportfield Elementary School, Kitzingen Elementary School, and the two A.T. Mahan schools in Iceland.

Brant Tryon has sent the Hinterbrand Lodge collection to the Archives. However when Nancy opened the box, she was not sure what some of the items were since this collection includes our DoDDS Outdoor Education Facility where thousands of students have experienced that "step beyond" in the out-of-doors. It was easy for me to label an ice ax, cross country skis, hiking boots, cow bells, a knot board and many other items that brought back fond memories of my 21 day adventure in "Project Bold".

We are preparing a traveling show of student artwork and find that we have plenty to show from the Pacific and Germany schools. We are in a hunt for student artwork from Iceland, United Kingdom, Bahrain, all Mediterranean schools, and France. If you have any student artwork from the above listed schools and are willing to donate them to the archives, please send them to AOSHS, Attn: Archives, 704 West Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67203.

I also checked out our visitor book while here to find names of people recorded from all over the United States. They learn about AOSHS from a pamphlet in their hotel room about the Delano area of Wichita. AOSHS and its mission are listed in the pamphlet. That brings people to our office/archives/museum/library who page through yearbooks of an overseas school that they attended some years back. How exciting to have these folks come by and see our operations. Of course we try to get them to join AOSHS at that time.

I must close for we are purchasing frames for the traveling student artwork show (which will be at the next DODDS reunion and available for other reunions, lectures and events on request from our office). We are also updating the school list notebooks where as we continue to find new information. At the DODDS Reunion in Pittsburgh, we learned that several names of Charter Members had been left off the Charter Member Plaques. Another of our tasks this trip to Wichita has been to correct and update the lists. We had to revise our Charter Member listing notebook after finding a few names of people we had missed when we put our Charter Member Plaques on display at the DoDDS Pittsburgh reunion.

So ends one day here in the Life of AOSHS.

Cheers,

Scarlett

Reunion News

Send your reunion news to Scarlett Rehrig at: P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201

Or e-mail to OverseasSchools@aoshs.org Notices published on a "Space Available" basis.

George Dewey H.S. Reunion Dec. 27, 2006- Jan. 5, 2007 at Subic Bay, PI. Contact Sue Gage at phone: 843-442-4621

DoDDS Florida Reunion, May 18-20, 2007, Hyatt Hotel, Sarasota, FL. Contact Barbara Cooper barbc@hotmail.com or call 941-358-5886 or write 4281 Cascade Falls Drive, Sarasota, FL 34243

Stuttgart/Ludwigsburg American High School All-Classes All-Faculty Reunion in Breckenridge, CO. Jazz Festival weekend of June 22-24, 2007 featuring an "Oktoberfest" on Friday night and Dinner/Dance on Saturday night. Contact Patricia Hein at Stallion76@aol.com

DoDDS Reunion July 26-29, 2007, Salt Lake City, Utah Contact JoAnn K. Johnson, DoDDS Reunion XVIII, PO Box 1277, Burnsville, MN 55337

All BRATS Homecoming Aug. 2-5, 2007 at Hyatt Regency, Dallas-Forth Worth, Grapevine, TX. Contact Joe Condrill at joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net

Vicenza HS 50th Anniversary: Oct. 17-21, 2007. Register online at www.vhsalumni.com **starting June 2007**, when final costs are verified



Pictured are Patricia Hein our new secretary (right), Jackie Grey, our Advisory Chairperson (left), and President Scarlett at the BRATS Gathering in Kentucky, Oct. 29, 2006, hosted by Joe Condrill. Photo by Scarlett Rehrig

All Brats Homecoming Information

Many special reunions are planned for former students, alumni and educators at the All Brats Homecoming, August 2-5, 2007. Reunions for the following schools are listed below. Unless the years are listed, the reunions are planned for all school years.

The schools are: Ansbach HS/Germany, Baumholder HS/Germany, Berlin HS/Germany, Burtonwood/England, Forrest Sherman/Naples HS/Italy, Frankfurt HS/Germany, Hahn HS/Germany, HH Arnold HS/Wiesbaden/Germany (late '90's and early 00's), Kaiserslautern HS/Germany ('60's), Kubasaki HS/Okinawa, Madrid HS/Spain (Class of '65), Mannheim HS/Germany, Oslo American School/Norway, Rhein Main Brats/Germany, SHAPE HS/Belgium, Tehran American School/Iran, Verdun HS/France, and Woodbridge HS/England,

For more information on these reunions, please contact OVERSEAS BRATS, P.O. Box 47112, Wichita, KS 67201 (Tel): (316-269-9610), joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net or visit www.overseasbrats.com.



[illegible]

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society, Inc. Nonprofit

Membership Program, P.O. Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201

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 ☐ 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 ☐

Signature _____ Date _____ Total: \$ _____

Referred for membership by (if applicable): _____

<http://aoshs.org> 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>
21 – 30 _____	\$ 735
31 – 40 _____	615
41 – 50 _____	520
51 – 55 _____	435
56 – 60 _____	360

<u>AGE</u>	<u>ILMP</u>
61 – 65 _____	\$ 295
66 – 70 _____	250
71 – 75 _____	210
76 – 80 _____	170
81 + _____	130

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

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71 – 75 _____	210
76 – 80 _____	170
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American Overseas Schools Historical Society

P.O. 1500

Wichita, KS 67201

Department of Defense schools celebrate 60 years of teaching

By Dennis K. Bohannon, DoDDS-Europe Public Affairs Office, October 11, 2006 News Release

WIESBADEN, Germany – October marks the 60th year that Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Europe have been teaching America's military students overseas.

On October 14, 1946, thirty-eight elementary schools and five high schools, under the newly established Dependents Schools Service, opened their doors to 1,297 American military students. The night before the grand openings the Stars and Stripes newspaper carried a report on the first PTA meeting to be held in Berlin. The American Forces Network supplemented school music programs with their broadcasts during the weeks that followed.

The Dependents Schools Service eventually evolved into the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Europe. In the heyday, DoDDS-Europe had more than 200 schools, and hundreds of thousands of students. Today, DoDDS-Europe has 98 schools, and about 40,000 students. But, the 60-year effort has not been without its trials and tribulations, as well as successes.

In the spring of 1946, under the headship of Major Virgil Walker, two supporting Army officers, an enlisted admin specialist, four American civilian educators, teachers were recruited, curriculums planned, budgets developed. Initially, according to the history books, each child was to pay a yearly tuition of \$10. Before school started, however, tuition was limited to the top three enlisted ranks, and was lowered to \$4 per student. That was significant in view of the fact that school budgets were originally derived from profits on beverage sales in the Class VI stores.

Schools initially consisted of a few modern buildings, but many were requisitioned houses, unused utility buildings, and empty barracks. According to historian, Dr. Allen D. Olson, installation commanders provided the facilities, pot bellied stoves, and other bare essentials. "Empty shell cases in the career ed courses were made into ash trays, lamps and jewelry boxes. One faculty had only red chalk. Powdered, it made tempera when mixed with water, with varnish it became enamel, and with starch it became finger paint."

Check out more information about DoDDS graduates by Dennis Bohannon, "Sixty Years of Influencing Personalities" at <http://www.eu.dodea.edu/medadv/60YearsofGraduates.pdf>

As with parents today, accreditation and knowing how their children would "fit in" when they returned to the States was a concern. Olson wrote, "Because Major Walker had been a school superintendent in Minnesota before the war, the NCA (North Central Association), asked him to run an accreditation visit to the five high schools...." Walker's report read, "I found a satisfactory degree of efficient instruction. The schools have high morale and an intellectual tone." Walker noted in his report that although there were supply shortages, and that there was a problem in accurately projecting student enrollments, all was going well. By the end of the first year, student enrollment had doubled to 2,992 students.

Today DoDDS-Europe with an annual budget of more than \$700 million, educates 40,000 students in 98 schools located in nine countries. All schools are fully accredited by the NCA, and help produce some of the smartest students in the American pool, with test scores that have consistently been higher than national averages. Classes today include digital art, automotive mechanics, journalism, video production, culinary arts, and advanced algebra. It is possible for students to obtain high school credits as early as the 8th grade, and college credits in high school through advanced placement.

In a letter to student parents, Diana Ohman, who is the present day Director of DoDDS-Europe, said, "We have come a long way since those early days of simple reading, writing, and arithmetic. It is exciting to realize that our parents and military partners have been by our side for well over half a century."

Ohman invited the parents to join in the celebration of these partnerships. She said, "Through a variety of events and news stories we will be revisiting some of our students and our history during this anniversary year." (See Related Story/Sidebar) "I look forward to many more years of teaming with our parents and with our military communities. Be assured that DoDDS will continue to offer educational programs that help us accomplish our goal of "Highest Student Achievement" for every child," Ohman said.

MEMORIAL FUNDS

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

JULIA EASTMAN

1930 - 2006

Her lifelong mantra was, "I can do it" and she did! Born in El Paso, Texas, Julia Williams Eastman was a graduate of Radford School in 1948 and from Texas Western College in 1952. She also earned a Masters of Fine Arts degree from the University of New Mexico. As a scholarship recipient in New York, she studied with some of the great figures of theater including Stella Adler, Marcel Marceau and Martha Graham.

Arriving in Japan in 1967, Julia began a 35 year career teaching in DODDS all in Japan. Her assignments included Sullivan ES and Ikego ES in Yokosuko and Byrd ES in Yokohama. She taught first, second, and third grades and especially enjoyed the challenge of ESL students.

She also volunteered to teach a poetry club class that met after school and, at Ikego ES, she enjoyed teaching art classes. She loved her life in Japan and found it difficult to leave.

In July 2005 she retired to El Paso, Texas. She spent many days renovating her new home and unpacking her treasures. Living near the college, Julia immediately enrolled at UTEP in printmaking, theater and yoga class, in addition to her weekly Tai Chi sessions.

Julia passed away peacefully in her home on August 27, 2006, surrounded by good friends.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

RICHARD CARY STRICKLAND

1925 - 2006

Richard was born in Honolulu, HI, son of Cmdr. John and Louise Strickland. He served for four years in the U.S. Navy during World War II in the Pacific Area. He earned his BA in philosophy from Loyola University in Los Angeles in 1949, his MA in Educational Administration from the University of Southern California in 1958, and a PhD in sociology from Miami University in Ohio in 1971. His mastery was in K-12 education, and he was well known for his interest in students without regard to nationality, gender, or race.

Richard taught for 4 years in Los Angeles, California, before joining DoDDS. His first overseas assignment was as a 6th grade teacher at Generalissimo ES in Madrid, Spain, in 1955 and the following year taught at Ramstein ES in Germany. For 15 years he was principal at Generalissimo ES and Royal Oaks ES in Madrid and Ramstein ES and Pirmasens ES in Germany. In 1972 he became the Curriculum Coordinator for the North Sea District and in 1977, the Curriculum Coordinator in the Atlantic region. His accomplishments were well recognized and appreciated.

Dick retired in 1991 to Steilacoom, WA. His passions included meeting people and traveling, including family trips all over Europe and Asia. He passed away of a heart attack on July 9, 2006, while visiting in England. He is survived by his wife Beverly, and their children Andrew, John and Sally and their families.

Ronald Roy Voeller

1938 - 2005

Ron was born in Rugby, ND, and graduated from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. He received a master's degree in education from St. Thomas in 1964.

Ron began his teaching career in 1962 as a music teacher at a high school in Charlotte Amalie on St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. His first DoDDS assignment was from 1964 - 1966 at Ramey Air Force Base in Puerto Rico. From there he went to Karlsruhe, Germany, as a music teacher and became Music Coordinator for DoDDS-Germany Region in 1970. While in Germany he sometimes conducted musical productions, including 22 performances of "Jesus Christ Superstar". For seven years, he led seminars for German and American music students.

In 1980, Ron moved to Alexandria, Virginia, to become the Coordinator of Music, Visual Arts, Humanities, and Gifted and Talented programs. He conducted three two-week institutes at the Kennedy Center for humanities teachers in DoDDS schools. After retiring in 2000, Ron turned to writing and his two books, one of short stories and the other titled "Full Glass Half Empty: Public School Education - An Inside Look", are scheduled for publication. Ron passed away in Alexandria, VA, of a brain aneurysm.



James (Jim) Richards **1931 - 2006**

Jim died in his beloved Naples, Italy, one week after his seventy-fifth birthday. He was buried from his neighborhood church in Naples and interred in the family gravesite of his longtime friend, Ciro Guida.

After a long career with DoDDS schools and dorms in seven locations in Asia and Europe, Jim retired in Naples; he was a true expatriate.

Known for his upbeat, bubbly personality, his enormous zest for life, his unique parties, his funny correspondence, his fresh fruit pies among so much else that made him legend, he shall be greatly missed by many.

Ada 'Perk' Simmons

Ada Louise proclaimed that she always wanted to be a teacher. Even when she was "slinging hash" at Hampton Beach during the 30's, she did it to get herself through school so she could teach. And what a teacher she was! Starting in a one-room schoolhouse where she taught (and fed) her ragtag class, up to the time when she expounded on the wisdom of the ages on her lanai overlooking the Santa Barbara harbor, her extraordinary life was an inspiration to all.

She came to DoDDS in 1976 as an exchange principal at Mainz elementary school in Germany. She had assignments in Okinawa and spent 8 years as a fifth grade teacher at Sullivan's Elementary School in Yokosuka, Japan, where she retired in 1989.

Perk was a traveler. She gained knowledge of the world and its people and she shared her love of life with people on every continent. As she learned, she imparted that knowledge to all of her family, friends, colleagues and students. Her adventures are legendary-- the Borneo longhouse where she was kicked by a granny and returned the favor, being carried up the stairs in a sling to the temples in Kyoto, tipping so much to the rickshaw driver in Katmandu that he tossed aside his vehicle and ran shouting through the narrow streets. She danced in the discos of Zermatt, drank in the Peninsula in Hong Kong, dined at the Del in San Diego, and laughed at the antics of the monkeys in India as she rode the rails. She thought she found one of her former selves in a crocodile well in Egypt, and she was sure Machu Pichu was a previous residence.

In her 93 years Ada Louise (Perk) Simmons touched so many lives in such a positive way that everyone who knew her is sure that on the day she died, a wonderful soul reentered the world and some very lucky baby will grow up to be a guru or the next Dali Lama. This faith in her return sustains all of us who loved and revered our greatest teacher.

Marcy Yanoff **1945 -2006**

Marcy was born in New York and began her teaching career as a kindergarten teacher. She always loved her New York roots and one of her favorite places was her apartment on Coney Island.

After joining DoDDS in 1971, she taught at Bad Kreuznach and Kassel, Germany. In 1978 she returned to the states for four years and obtained her Library of Science degree. She then went back to Germany as a media specialist at Aschaffenburg, Germany, and Brindisi and Vajont elementary schools in Italy. She returned to Germany and worked in Babenhausen and Gelnhausen.

Marcy passed away in 2004 while serving as Gelnhausen's media specialist. She loved introducing students to using many multiple resources and information formats in learning.

She was an educational leader and was a participant in DoDDS media task forces, the European Parent Teacher Association Board, the American Association of School Librarians organization, and the Library Media Association of Germany. After her death, a special memorial collection of children's books was given to the Media Center at Gelnhausen.

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.

To remember an alumna/alumnus using this method, send a check payable to:

AOSHS Memorial Program

P.O. Box 4312

Scottsdale, AZ 85261

E-mail: memorialprog@aoshs.org



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.

Continued from page 9

Fayette J. Fowlston **1933 – 2004**

Fayette (Skip) Fowlston was born in Oneonta, NY, grew up in Franklin, NY, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Library Science from Genosea College.

Skip began her teaching career in New York and then continued in Texas, Maine, and San Diego, California, before joining DoDDS in 1970. Her first assignment was as a first grade teacher at Wurtsmith Elementary at Clark Air Base in the Philippines. Later that same year she became the kindergarten librarian and for the following two years, the high school librarian.

In 1973, Skip received a transfer to Frankfurt, Germany, as the middle school librarian. During her 16 years in Germany, she developed many friendships within the international community, traveled throughout Europe, tended to her vegetable garden, and enjoyed Christmas vacations in Austria. In 1988 she transferred to Okinawa, Japan, where she was the librarian at Zukeran Elementary. There she enjoyed new as well as renewed friendships with DoDDS colleagues.

Throughout her DoDDS teaching career, Skip fought a courageous and determined battle against cancer but in 1994, it became necessary for her to retire and seek medical care in the States. Sadly, Skip passed away on March 3, 2004, and was laid to rest in Franklin, NY.

Robert "Bob" Kaufmann **1924 – 2006**

Robert William "Bob" Kaufmann was born Feb. 29, 1924 in Jersey City, N.J. He was a graduate of North Bergen High School and North Texas University, where he received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Before attending college, Bob served in the United States Army during World War II in Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland Campaigns. He received the European Service Medal, World War II Victory medal and Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

In 1953, he joined DoDDS as a classroom teacher. During his 32-year career he served as an elementary and secondary principal. While working in Japan, Spain, Germany, Bermuda and England, Bob and his family were afforded the opportunity to enjoy wonderful travel experiences, some of his favorites being Russia, Morocco, Greece and France. On Dec. 12, 1971, he married Martha "Marti" Hollander in Aviano, Italy.

Bob was a man of many interests and talents. He sang and performed in theater and musicals. His favorite roles include "The Crucible" for which he won a Best Actor award in a European-wide military competition and "The Diary of Anne Frank," in which he played the father of Anne Frank. He loved music. He played the drums and was the vocalist in a group called the Melotones who performed in and around Ruidoso, N.M. He played golf around the world and, in Sherman, loved being a part of the 'Noon Game' at Woodlawn Country Club. He was an enthusiast of all sports.

Patricia Carolyn Marsh **1934 - 2006**

Patricia Marsh, was born in Fort Riley, Kansas – the first of many homes that Pat, her sister and three brothers would know as "army brats". In 1946, at the end of WWII, Pat attended the DoD school in Mannheim in Occupied Germany. Her classroom was located in what had been a private home right around the corner from her family's housing quarters in a suburb of Mannheim called Feudenheim.

Pat graduated from Chico State University in California and received her master's degree from Michigan State University. Although Pat's early teaching was in California, Alaska and Hawaii, she spent more than thirty years as an outstanding first grade teacher at M&K and Bob Hope Primary Schools on Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. Her classrooms were structured in a marvelous array of learning centers where her students loved to read and to learn. Among her many awards, Pat was named a Distinguished Teacher by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars in 1991 and received an invitation to the White House where she accepted the award.

Pat's love of teaching and her love of children continued to the end. She inspired and motivated us and will always remain a part of our fondest memories.

Closed Funds

Wally Waterstreet

Ceramic Block

Ron Leckrone

Ceramic Block

Berlin Brats celebrate Homecoming *(Continued from page 1)*

For many, the first activity was a bus tour of Berlin. Memories poured forth in excited voices as classmates road by familiar places in Dahlem, the Kurfurstendamm, the Kaiser-Wilhelm Memorial Church, the Victory Column, the Reichstag, and then the Brandenburg Gate. For many, the Wall, a symbol of the cold war which stood from 1961 to 1989, had prohibited them for entering East Berlin. Walking freely through the gate and into a reunited city was a tremendously emotional experience, and sharing that in the presence of former classmates was too good to be true. Seeing the extensive rebuilding of East Berlin and development of a united Berlin into one of the most impressive international cities in the world was thrilling to observe. Visiting Checkpoint Charlie, where many had solemnly observed world history as it unfolded, filled the hearts of many former students with pride for the dedication of their parents and a renewed sense of patriotism.

Later, while watching the documentary, "Brats: Our Journey Home", memories again poured forth as Berlin Brats were taken back to their childhood. Discussions continued throughout the weekend about how the film did or did not relate to their Berlin experiences. Almost everyone agreed that their lives were deeply affected by these experiences and were a big factor in determining their direction in their adult years.

The first day ended with a "Welcome Reception" at the hotel. The noise level was well above recommended decibels as groups of former classmates got higher on memories, each other, good food and great German beer. Teachers were honored and the newly remade school flag was presented. Diane (Green) Kempton '72, who won the design competition as a 7th grader, explained the contest, her win and the design, and Bill Planz '71, who was featured in the yearbook parading the flag in to see the Astronauts at Templehof back in '69, paraded the flag into the reception. There was also a 20 minute Berlin Wall Presentation about the Wall's purchase, transport and donation to AOSHS last spring. After the reception many Brats headed off to the Brandenburg Gate for pictures, or went out to dinner with long lost friends, or headed to bed to try to recover from jet lag.

Friday, July 28th was "School Spirit Day" and the Dahlem area of Berlin was inundated with the Berlin American High School colors of maroon and white. For many the return to their former high school was the highlight of the reunion. Although the names have changed, the schools are very much like they were 12 – 60 years ago. Voices could be heard ringing in the halls once again, but instead lots of teenagers there were lots of adults finding their former lockers, remembering assemblies, the rooms of favorite and not so favorite teachers, lunchrooms, locker rooms, athletic events, ad infinitum. The memories were further enhanced at the opening of a new exhibit at the Allied Museum, the former military "Outpost Theater" entitled "Berlin American High School 1946-1994".

Continued on Page 13

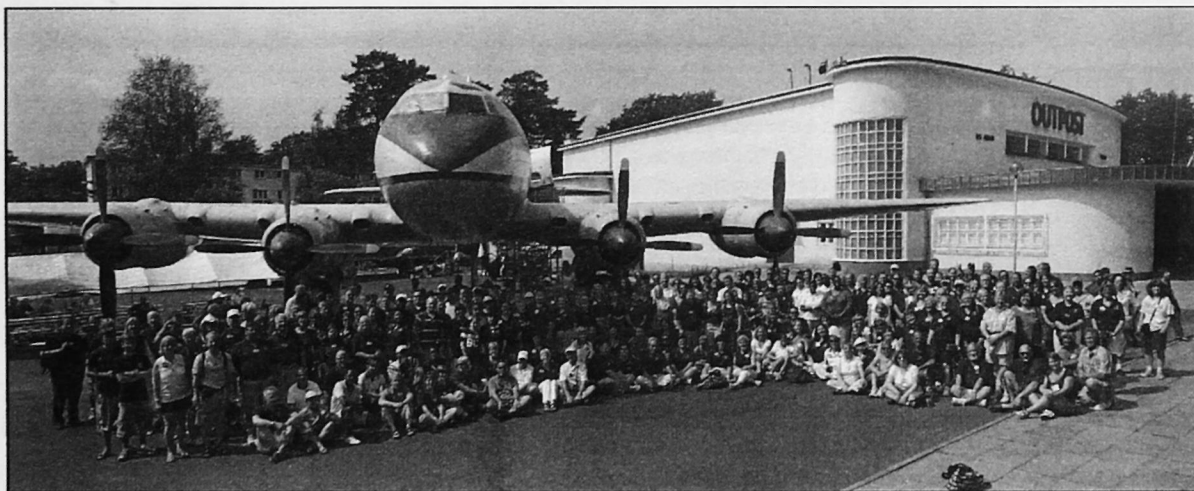


Photo by Bryan Duckett '84

Berlin Homecoming (Continued from page 12)

The special exhibition of memorabilia collected from former teachers and students was designed like a class room, with photos, yearbooks, letter jackets, documents, and other items covering the walls and desks. Many recognized themselves and their classmates and the stories and memories continued. The official opening began with speeches by Florian Weiss (American Curator of the Allied Museum), Karin Schubert Vice-Mayor of Berlin), Peter Claussen, (Cultural Attache of the U.S. Embassy), Diane (Green) Kempton '72 (AOSHA Board Member), and Katrin (Lindroth) Planx '71 (Berlin Brats Project Leader for the Exhibition) and then the official ribbon was cut. Two panel discussion made up of a teacher and a student from each decade allowed everyone to fill in the blanks of the years they were not in Berlin – a devastated city that had 65% of its buildings destroyed in WWII and the Berlin Airlift in the 40's, the workers' strikes in the 50's, the building of the wall in the 60's, the terrorist bombings in the 70's, the opening of the wall in the 80's, and the end of the American military presence in the early '90's. Just before the second panel began, Jasper Kump '87 gave an impromptu singing of the National Anthem, and emotions soared. The day ended at the German-American Volksfest which has been held on the same ground (the former post football field) since it was introduced as a fundraiser for the AYA in 1961.

The culmination of this incredible reunion was a cocktail party and dinner/dance in the hotel's banquet room. Seated at the big round tables were friends who no outsider could have imagined had not had been together for decades. Gleaming faces, cameras flashing, endless chatter, and then the music began and the dance floor filled with "teenagers" dressed like adults, the dances of each decade returning to Berlin one more time. The classmates of Berlin American High School had come "home" at last. Their time in the "Outpost of Freedom" would be remembered by all of them until the end of their lives and documented forever in history books.

A very special thanks to Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Director of the Berlin American High School Alumni Association, Katrin (Lindroth) Planx '71, Cate Speer '85, and Florian Weiss for their incredible efforts to provide 60 years of Berlin Brats with the reunion of a lifetime!

Who said you can't go home again?

Interviewees wanted for book

Mary Edwards Wertsch, author of the non-fiction book *Military Brats: Legacies of Childhood inside the Fortress*, is looking for DoDDS/DoDEA teachers to interview for an upcoming book.

Wertsch, who founded a publishing company (www.brightwellpublishing.net) specializing in books that explore military brat cultural identity, plans to write a book aimed at current educators and counselors whose work with military children would be easier if they understood more about this unique group. The book is not a history of DoDDS. It will be focused on military brat traits, needs, strengths, and issues.

Wertsch would like to hear from teachers, current and retired, who have stories to tell shedding light on any of those things. She has a list of questions she can send as well. Teachers living within reasonable driving distance of St. Louis, and in a few other locations, can be interviewed in person; others are invited to write up their responses or, in some cases, be interviewed over the phone.

"The goal," Wertsch said, "is to make available a book that will be of real assistance to teachers, counselors, and—most especially—to the military children who can benefit from mentors who truly understand them."

If you are interested, please contact Mary by e-mail at publisher@brightwellpublishing.net, by phone at 314-662-2736, or by mail at Brightwell Publishing, P.O. Box 16171, St. Louis, MO 63105.



Curtis Carter, parent of Betty, class of 1972, and graphic artist, Susan Sams, class of 1985, created the Berlin Postage Stamp by incorporating the Berlin High School mascot with the Berlin City Flag.

Germany Schools Lists - List 2

By Les Burch

In the Fall Issue, I started the first of 4 lists of schools in Germany. After the last issue, I received word that I had omitted Bremen ES from the list. I have now added that school. I always appreciate hearing from readers with new information. In this Quarterly my list starts with Fritzlar Dependens School and ends with Kieselbronn.

Please note that schools preceded by a + are presently open. I don't have opening or closing dates on all schools. I would appreciate hearing from any readers who can help me with these dates.

GERMANY (continued)

Fritzlar Dependens School

Fulda ES

Fulda JHS/HS

Furstenfeldbruck ES -1960

+Garmisch ES/MS

+Geilenkirchen ES

Gelnhausen ES -2006

Germersheim ES

+Giessen ES

Giessen MS (formerly Giessen JHS)

+Giessen MS/HS (formerly Giessen HS)

Göppingen ES/JHS -1992

+Grafenwöhr ES

+Grafenwöhr MS

Greven ES 1971-1978

Hahn ES 1953-1993

Hahn JHS 1953-1993

Hahn HS 1953-1993

+Hainerberg ES, Wiesbaden (formerly called Vandenberg, Hoyt S. ES)

Halvorsen/Tunner ES/MS, Rhein/Main (formerly Halvorsen, Gail S. ES) -2005

Hanau ES

Hanau MS

+Hanau MS/HS (formerly Hanau HS) 1976-

Handorf ES 1971-1978

Heidelberg Primary Center 1973-1982

+Heidelberg MS 1976-

+Heidelberg HS (formerly Heidelberg Jr/SrHS) 1946-

Heidelberg HS Dormitory

Heilbronn ES/JHS

Hemer ES

+Henry, Patrick ES, Heidelberg (formerly Heidelberg ES #2) 1955-

Herbornseelbach ES

Hessich Oldendorf ES -1991

Höchst ES

Hof ES

+Hohenfels ES

+Hohenfels HS

Idar Oberstein ES

+Illesheim ES/MS (formerly Illesheim ES)

IP-Zeppelinheim School, Rhein/Main

Jever ES

+Kaiserslautern ES (formerly Kaiserslautern ES #1)

+Kaiserslautern MS (formerly Kaiserslautern JHS)

+Kaiserslautern HS (formerly Rhine HS)

Kaiserslautern HS Dormitory

Kalb, Johann ES, Nürnberg (formerly Nürnberg ES #2)

Kalkar ES

Karlsruhe ES -1995

Karlsruhe HS -1995

Kassel ES

Katterbach ES

Kaufbeuren ES 1951-1960

Kitzingen ES (formerly Kitzingen ES/JHS) -2006

Kitzingen IS 2005-2006

Kerpen ES

Kieselbronn ES (formerly Pforzheim ES)

The American Overseas Schools 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 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

MCGRATH DONATES STUDENT ARTWORK TO AOSHS ARCHIVES

BY Tom Drysdale



In the photo above, Jim is preparing a traveling exhibit of student artwork that can be used at future reunions. *Photo by Scarlett Rehrig*

The AOSHS Archives in Wichita, Kansas have recently received a collection of more than 500 items from Life Member James A. McGrath, retired DoDDS art-health-science teacher, poet, writer, sculptor, and administrator among other things, who lives in an adobe house he built on a nine acre ranch on the outskirts of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

This is one of the largest and historically significant collections in the archives and should be of continual interest to all active and retired DoDDS personnel, alumni, Americans of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and those in many foreign countries. This collection of a lifetime of service to others, including ten boxes and seven portfolios of student art work and a trunk of curriculum resources, was personally delivered to the archives by Jim on November 6, 2006, each item meticulously described and annotated.

Jim served at Hanau Elementary and Middle Schools, Frankfurt High School and DoDDS-USAEUR from 1955 through 1962, then received a lateral transfer to the US Department of Interior, Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, NM as a teacher and assistant art director until 1973. He was then laterally transferred back to DoDDS, but this time as the Pacific Arts and Humanities Coordinator from 1973 to 1981, then as Intercultural Studies Coordinator to 1985 when he retired from federal service.

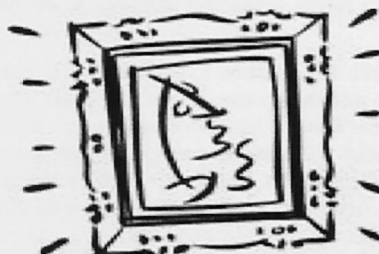
Many readers will remember him as the USAEUR Industrial Arts Coordinator and as Co-ordinator for the *Erinnerungen* Yearbook for all high schools in Europe prior to each high school publishing their own yearbooks. Many will also remember him as Co-editor of *SUN*, a journal of self expression for the Pacific Region from 1975 to 1985. *SUN SEVEN*, the 1981 issue includes the work of 564 teachers and students.

Jim's career began in 1948 when he focused on international and intercultural art projects that took him around the world. He attributes his initial interest in different cultures to a full-blooded Native American uncle with whom he spent summers.

In addition to a 30 year career with the Departments of Defense and State, his other accomplishments are too numerous to describe in one issue of the Quarterly. For example and to list only a few, he has taught at every level from the disabled to very talented artists in Mexico, Argentina, Chile, the Congo, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and other countries.

Of particular note is his work and research with Native Americans as Museum Director and Dean of the College, Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe and with the Museum of Native American Contemporary Art also in Santa Fe. He has also been a consultant with several US cities and states including the New Mexico Arts Division and State Department of Education, and many foreign countries.

Jim's book of poetry, *AT THE ENGLISHNESS OF LIGHT*, was published in 2005 by Sunstone Press of Santa Fe. His newest book, *SPEAKING WITH MAGPIES*, is due to be published in late 2006 also by Sunstone Press. Hopefully the Archives will receive signed copies.



SCREEN PRINTING BECOMES A LIFETIME PASSION

By Vitabeth Bensen



Years ago, before we even thought about going overseas, I was looking for an anniversary gift for my parents. I came across a beautiful block printed calendar made in Japan, bought it for them, and made them promise to give it back to me after the year was over.

When we moved to Okinawa in 1966 I could not find any calendars like that one, so I decided to print my own. Using sketches that I made from my surroundings, I created my first silk screened calendar in 1969. Thinking it would be a one time gift for friends and relatives in the States, I didn't think about calendars again until a couple of years later in Germany when I ran into a teacher who had bought one of my calendars on Okinawa. She asked if I had made any more calendars. The following year I created a new calendar using sketches from my surroundings in Germany. I have continued making calendars to this day. 2007 marks the 36th calendar I have hand printed.

The sketches I made in the countries in which we lived and traveled provided wonderful subject matter for my art. Not only did I print calendars – I made original prints of many scenes from Turkey, Germany, Morocco, Japan, and Korea. Calendars are still the favorite of many people who collect my artwork as each page is an original print suitable for framing. I still turn to sketches and prints from the past for calendar subject matter but also use some of the abstract themes with which I am working now.

In Heilbronn, as principal of the elementary/junior high school, my husband, David, instituted a "Helping Hand" program. Silk screened posters were placed in the windows of many in the apartments in the housing area. Children with problems on the way to or from school knew they could turn to the occupants of those homes for help if needed. Printing on commissary bags was another way to advertise the program and school activities.

When we lived in Morocco I worked for the US Information Service at the American Center in Rabat. I silk screened posters and invitations for the US Embassy and had two exhibits of my prints and paintings at the American Gallery.

Back in Germany, I found myself working for MWR in Giessen, printing posters, flyers, and T shirts for over 40 facilities in the Giessen Military Community. One of the most popular things I instituted during that job was a large silk-screened calendar that I made for each recreation center, arts and crafts center, etc. Facilities could fill in their own activities for the month.

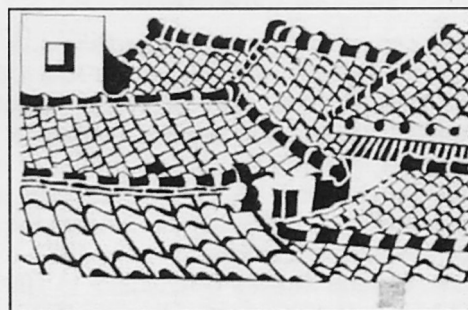
David as principal of the school, encouraged the teachers to take advantage of me as a volunteer to print T shirts for their classes and activities. One of the biggest activities in Giessen was to design and print T-shirts with a "Foxy" design that the school Librarian initiated. Every child in the school (over 700) brought in a shirt and we printed them in the library.

When we moved to Japan I returned to teaching art at Yokota HS and instituted a screen printing program in my classes. My students loved printing and we started an after school art club. They designed and printed T shirts to sell when the Far East Basketball tournaments were at Yokota and also made program covers and shirts for all kinds of activities. We even got orders from other DODDS schools. The money they earned was used to buy more supplies and when I left for Korea nine years later there was a sizeable sum of money in the School Activity fund. In Japan, I also worked for the University of Maryland, making posters and flyers for the Far East Division. An annual calendar was another Maryland project that I undertook. I printed "The Sun Never Sets on the University of Maryland" poster that still adorns many Maryland facilities. Japan offered me magnificent scenes for my prints and I have boxes of sketches to which I still turn for subject matter.

Since our return to the States, I have actively participated in the art scene in the Chapel Hill area of North Carolina where we live. I teach workshops in screen-printing all over the country and have returned to Germany, Turkey, England, and Japan to teach in DODDS schools for the past nine years. I was also an artist in residence for the Durham, NC schools for eight years. Designing and printing T-shirts for the DODDS Florida reunions has been another fun activity for me. DODDS teachers continue to be the most appreciative collectors of my artwork.

The AOSHS archives have been the recipient of most of the T shirts I have designed and printed for DODDS schools and activities over the years. In the future, I plan to donate samples of many of my prints depicting scenes from the countries in which we have lived to the archives.

When I started silkscreen printing in college I never dreamed how far my printmaking would take me. My motto is "Have silk screen, will travel."



View more of Vitabeth's prints, T-shirts and calendars at www.houseoflifeprints.info/index.html

Sandra J. Ebert Fund established

A special fund has been set up in memory of Sandra J. Ebert for the purpose of providing shelving units to display yearbooks that have been donated to AOSHS. If you desire to donate to this fund, please state on the check or in a letter that it is to be put into the Archive Fund in memory of Sandra J. Ebert.

Panama Canal Zone info needed

AOSHS is in need of someone to work on a narrative of the Panama Canal Zone Schools. We have school lists for Panama, but no history. If you can help, please contact Lee Davis at le-davis@juno.com or Bruce Taft at btaft@cox.net

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AOSHS membership is \$25.00 annually and includes four issues of the newsletter. To join, send dues to **AOSHS, Box 1500, Wichita, KS 67201**.

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 membership 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 1500, Wichita, KA 67201**.

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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