

The  
**AMERICAN OVERSEAS  
SCHOOLS HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY, Inc.**

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**VOLUME III, No. 2, SPRING 1998**

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**THE AOSHS QUARTERLY**

is published by The American Overseas Schools Historical Society Inc., and is designed to enhance public understanding of the human effort, service, reward, and sacrifice in educating American children and youth abroad. AOSHS membership is \$10.00 annually and includes four issues of The Quarterly published each February, May, August, and November. **To subscribe, send \$10 to AOSHS, Box 777, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340.**



Donations to help preserve the American Overseas Schools Archives (AOSA) for posterity and historical research are appreciated.



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 the AOSHS.



The AOSHS exists mainly for the preservation of  
**The American Overseas  
Schools Archives.**



The  
**AOSHS  
QUARTERLY**

*A Journal for All Past and Present American  
Overseas Schools Personnel, Students, and Families*



The American Overseas Schools Historical Society is an organization whose purpose is relevant to the needs of the community it serves—American overseas schools, students, parents, educators, those who preceded and those who will follow. Its purpose is also relevant to the needs of the community in which it will locate its corporate headquarters and Historical Park—A Global Village for American Educators and their Students from every State and Territory in the Union.

The mission of the Society is to collect, record, preserve the unique history of educating American children and youth abroad; and to enhance public knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the contributions made by American educators and their students in the advancement of democracy around the world.

Following the Annual Meeting of Members on July 11, work will begin on the identification of short and long range goals, and a plan of action. This will be a joint venture involving representatives from the city in which the park will be located, the Society, American Overseas Schools and Alumni Associations. Following this, AOSHS ad hoc Committees—Budget, Membership, Publicity, Architecture, Communication, and Governmental Relations, with some members already appointed, will swing into action.

The future of the Society appears to be a bright one, ensured by the efforts of hundreds of dedicated members involved since the establishment of the American Overseas Schools Archives in 1989 on the campus of Northern Arizona University.

The Society though, is not optimistic to the point of making serious mistakes. Aesop's tale has taught us that slow and steady wins the race. Our success will best be achieved with a well defined, realistic purpose, mission, and plan.

This issue of The Quarterly, among other things, summarizes on pages 4 and 5, vision and mission accomplishments of the Society in preparation for the next Annual Meeting of Members during the DoDDS X Annual Reunion in Minneapolis next July.



**AOSHS POLICY**

AOSHS, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religious or political affiliation.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATABASES



The AOSHS has two personnel databases maintained by John Brokaw and Helen Close for past, present, and deceased overseas schools educators. Both databases contain information regarding AOSHS members and non-members.

If you have been, or are an overseas educator, and have not already done so, please send your name (including maiden); mailing address; telephone number; fax number; e-mail address; countries, schools, and above school level offices where worked; years at each location, including grade levels, subjects, and positions to John Brokaw.

JOHN BROKAW  
8727 PEMBERTON CIRCLE  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46260  
<jbrokaw@aol.com>  
Fax: (317) 228-9446

All members are also encouraged to send information regarding deceased overseas educators to Helen Close.

HELEN J. CLOSE  
227 BA-WOOD LANE  
JANESVILLE, WI 53545



**BOARD AND REGIONAL NOMINATIONS:** Donna L. Gillis of Goodyear, AZ and Susan B. Schubert of Phoenix, AZ as board members. Michael F. O'Brien of Waikoloa, HI as a Regional Representative. To be ratified at the next annual meeting during DoDDS X in Minneapolis, July 9-12, 1998.

## AOSHS REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

- Region 1.** *APO, FPO - AP-PACIFIC* - SCOTT DAVIS, - Kadena HS, PSC 80 Box 16482, APO AP 96367, Tel 634-1216/1712 and JEFF PELLATON, - Kubasaki HS, PSC 557 Box 455 FPO AP 96379-0455, Tel 645-3728/4876. MICHAEL F. O'BRIEN, P.O. Box 384899, Waikoloa, HI 96738. Tel 808-883-8002. <onggi@aloha.net> For former American overseas schools students and educators.
- Region 2.** *WA, OR, NV* - MARIE O. ESPINOZA, - 3930 Swenson, Apt. 904, Las Vegas, NV. Tel 702-792-3803. <espinoz@nevada.edu>.
- Region 3.** *CA, - MIDDLE/NORTHERN* - BETTY LOU ST. GEORGE, - 3313 Estates Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533. Tel 707-421-0783.
- Region 4.** *CA, - SOUTHERN* - GRANT & ELIZABETH SMITH, - 950 Mayo St, Los Angeles, CA 90042. Tel 213-258-7323.
- Region 5.** *AZ, NM* - DODE THORSON, - 19503 143 Drive SW, Sun City West, AZ 85375. Tel 602-584-1654. <dthorson1@aol.com>
- Region 6.** *WY, CO, KS, MO, OK* - TAWNIA KUMARAKULASINGAM, - E-102 Cornish Square, Lawrence, KS 66049. 1 913-331-2055. <marie@falcon.cc.ukans.edu>.
- Region 7.** *TX, LA, MS* - JOY HARPER BRYANT, - 4329 McFarlin, Dallas, TX 75205. Tel 214-528-6368. <overcbrat@aol.com>.
- Region 8.** *MN, WI, MI* - GORDON ROBERTSON, - 4007 Forest Rd, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Tel 612-925-6136.
- Region 9.** *IL, IN, OH, WV, MD, DC* - KERMIT LONG, - Box 106, Middlebourne, WV 26149. Tel 304-758-2801.
- Region 10.** *TN, KY, AL, GA* - RICHARD & ELISABETH COSS, - 1411 17th Ave, Columbus, GA 31901. Tel 706-327-6147. <cossuno@juno.com>
- Region 11.** *FL* - SUNNY TAYLOR SCHWENTNER, - 7864 Autumn Wood Drive, Orlando, FL 32825. Tel 407-249-4188 (work: 249-4310) <khsdragon@aol.com>.
- Region 12.** *VA, NC, SC* - TINA CALO, - P.O. Box 15871, Surfside Beach, SC 29587. Tel 803-293-5835.
- Region 13.** *PA, NJ, NY, MA, NH, ME, CANADA* - FRANK & JOYCE VAHOVICH, - 345 Rothermel Blvd, Reading, PA 19605, Tel 610-929-2367.
- Region 14.** *APO, FPO - AE NORTHERN EUROPE* - BILL KILTY, - 72 Westbourne Terrace, London W2 6QA, England. Also PSC 821, Box 119, FPO AE 09421 Civ: (44171) 723-2532 DSN: 226-3712/2925.
- Region 15.** *APO, FPO - AE SOUTHERN EUROPE, GERMANY / MEDITERRANEAN* - ROBERT LYKINS, - PSC 5, Box 214, APO AE 09050. Civ: 49-6122-8376. <Robert\_Likens@ccmail.ododedea.edu>
- Region 16.** *NORTHERN EUROPE / ICELAND (NORTH OF GERMANY)* - RUTH VAN OOSTRUM, - Oude Tempellaan 6A, 3769 JB Soesterberg, The Netherlands. Tel 31-346-353428. For former American overseas schools students and educators.
- Region 17.** *SOUTHERN EUROPE / GERMANY, FRANCE, MEDITERRANEAN, AFRICA* - WERNER PRIGGE, Goethestr 25, D-10625 Berlin, Germany. Tel 030/313 7687. Fax 02661/91316 39215. <prigge@informatik.hu-berlin.de>. For former American overseas schools students and educators.

## AOSHS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Drysdale, President; Lee Davis, First Vice President; Lucille Hansen, Second Vice President; Norma Drysdale, Secretary Treasurer; Additional Board Members: Ann Bamberger, Donna Gillis, Susan Schubert, and Bruce Taft

# ★ FLASH ★

The Winter 1998 issue of *The Quarterly* announced that the Board of Directors had received 146 entries from around the world for the *AOSHS LOGO COMPETITION*. Since then, the Board received another entry, too late to qualify, but nonetheless a beautiful design from a high school teacher at The American School of Sao Paulo, Brazil. She had the assistance of her son who was visiting Brazil at the time.

The entries from 22 locations in the US and abroad included creative designs from individuals, past educators, alumni, students, and school classes. Schools represented are Lahore American School of Pakistan; International School of Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Damascus Community School, Syria; Kyiv International School, Kiev, Ukraine; DoD High and Elementary Schools in Aviano, Sigonella and La Maddalena, Italy; and the DoD High School in Hohenfels, Germany.

Copies of the entries, with names and other identifying marks removed, were sent to an ad hoc Logo Selection Committee of overseas schools alumni, a retired college professor, an ex-overseas school board parent, and a current educator in Germany.

At the time the last issue of *The Quarterly* was published only the first place winner had been identified.

Now, after much deliberation by the Logo Selection Committee, the winners are:

**First Place:** John Lopes of Black Mountain, NC, retired art and industrial arts teacher.

**Second Place:** Jennifer Tate of Bowie, Maryland, army brat, currently a graphic arts student.

**Third Place:** Shamaila Kahn, 12th grade student, Lahore American School, Pakistan.

**Honorable Mentions** - listed alphabetically:

**Vidabeth Bensen** of Pittsboro, NC, retired art teacher.

**Jim Louwers** of Wellington, FL, retired math teacher, coach and principal.

**Richard Randolph** of Sebring, FL, retired art teacher, coach and principal.

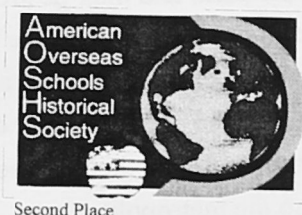
Winners, schools, and participating classrooms will receive plaques and certificates. The logo designs of first, second, third, and honorable mention will be framed and displayed during the DoDDS X Annual Reunion, July 9-12 in Minneapolis. All other entries will be permanently bound and also on display.

The winning logos will be reproduced in various appropriate colors for use on clothing, stationery, and other objects. The originals will be recorded and preserved in the American Overseas Schools Archives.

Three of the six winning logos are in splendid color. Unfortunately they do not reproduce well in black and white. Regardless, here they are, scanned for your review.



First Place



Second Place



Third Place

Hon. Mention, V.B.



Hon. Mention, J.L.



Hon. Mention, R.R.



## Updated Plans and Projections for THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL PARK

As reported in previous issues of *The Quarterly*, The AOS Historical Society has investigated 14 US metropolitan areas during the past two years, in an attempt to identify the most suitable site for an **American Overseas Schools Historical Park**. That number was reduced to three, last December—the Phoenix, AZ West Valley Area, where Litchfield Park and the AOSHS office are located; Wichita, KS; and Orlando, FL.

A Site Visitation and Evaluation Committee (SVEC), composed of four board members and five ex-overseas schools educators and alumni, visited and evaluated Wichita on March 12-15 and Orlando on April 6-9. Members of this ad hoc committee were: Ann Bamberger, Scottsdale, AZ; Joe Condrill, San Antonio, TX; Lee Davis, Mesa, AZ; Norma and Tom Drysdale, Goodyear, AZ; Jeri Glass, Breckenridge, CO; Glenn Greenwood, Austin, TX; Doris Talbutt, Boise, ID; and John Walker of Berea, KY. John was unable to accompany the committee to Orlando.

The eight member board of directors (including two nominees) is well acquainted with the pros and cons of the Litchfield Park Area, having worked there since the nonprofit AOSHS was incorporated in July of 1995.

All members of the SVEC used the same, site selection criteria, and independently rated the three cities.

### The criteria:

1. City and community interest in the park, and their desire to become involved;
2. Colleges and/or universities, and their desire to become involved;
3. Volunteers in the area including ex-overseas educators and students;
4. Military bases and federal retirees in the area, and their desire to become involved;
5. Foreign-involved US industry, business, and their retirees in the area;
6. Ease and cost of transportation to the metropolitan area.

Each criterion was rated on a scale of 1 to 49 points.

**The highest rated city was Wichita. The second was the Phoenix West Valley Area and Orlando was third.**



**Six additional factors regarding Wichita, add considerably to the desirability of locating the park there:** (1) Dr. Eugene Hughes—who was President of Northern Arizona University and who initially approved and supported The American Overseas Schools Archives on the NAU campus from 1989 to 1993—has been President of Wichita State University since July 1, 1993. Dr. Jon Engelhardt—who was the Director of the Center for Excellence in Education at Northern Arizona University and a strong supporter of The Archives—is now Dean of the College of Education at Wichita State University; (2) The City of Wichita has made five or more acres available for the Historical Park in the center of its "Museums on the River" district in downtown Wichita. This river site is across the street from the Wichita Art Museum, which had 150,000 visitors in 1996; (3) the Wichita Public School System Museum, occupies the first elementary school built in the city—a beautiful, classical, three story stone structure. The school system has offered immediate free space in the school building for the AOSHS Archives to operate temporarily for the time required until our own facility can be built; (4) Wichita—the geographical center of the 48 states—is accessible to more people; (5) Wichita is known worldwide as the "Air Capital of the World." McConnell Air Force Base has B-1 Bombers and a support group of 58 refueling tankers. Beechcraft, Cessna, Learjet, and Boeing 737 aircraft are manufactured in Wichita; and (6) the Wichita/Sedgewick County area has the best ratio of high-paying jobs to low-paying jobs in the nation and the overall cost of living is somewhat below the national average.

**As a result of these findings the Site Visitation and Evaluation Committee has unanimously recommended to the board that the Historical Park be located in Wichita.**

**The Board of Directors unanimously endorses the Committee's recommendation and will solicit the approval of the members at the July 11, 1998 Annual Meeting of Members in Minneapolis.**

**The Committee's findings regarding all three cities will be discussed and explained in detail at the Annual Meeting.**

Members who do not attend the Annual Meeting and do not concur with the recommendation of the Board of Directors should mail the enclosed **AOSHS COVER SHEET** with an attached **Letter of Explanation** to AOSHS, postmarked not later than June 15, 1998.

At any meeting of members, a member entitled to vote may vote by proxy executed in writing by the member or by his/her duly authorized attorney-in-fact. *By-Laws, Article Two, Section 7.*

**Members not attending the Annual Meeting, but who approve the SVEC findings endorsed by the Board of Directors, need do nothing. Their silence will be their approval to locate the AOSHS Historical Park in Wichita, KS, and their silent votes will be counted.**

Members needing additional information are encouraged to contact the Board of Directors and/or the SVEC prior to the Annual Meeting.



Announcement of an Important New Book



# AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS: 2000

A review of American education enterprises in foreign nations is underway at the **Appalachian State University College of Education**. Dean Charles Duke stated, "This report will take two years to develop and draw from various educators who have worked for the Defense Department, the State Department and other schools supported by the United States overseas."

The Coordinating Editor will be AOSHS member **Dr. Robert Simpson, Dean-Emeritus of the University of Miami School of Education** who was recently honored by election to the International Education Hall of Fame by the **Association for the Advancement of International Education**. AAIE is one of the supporting agencies for this project, as are the overseas schools offices of the **Departments of State and Defense**.

Besides Drs. Duke and Simpson, a **General Editorial Committee (GEC)** will consist of: Dr. Tom Drysdale, AOSHS President; Ms. Marilee Fitzgerald, DoD Education Activity Associate Director; Mr. Richard Iselin, DoS Office of Overseas Schools Special Projects Coordinator; and Dr. David Wilcox, Assistant Vice President for the Association of Christian Schools, International (ASCI). The book however, will not be an official publication of any agency.

An **Editorial Advisory Board (EAB)** for policy matters will consist of Drs. Drysdale and Wilcox; Dr. Lillian Gonzalez, DoDEA Director; Dr. Keith Miller, Director DoS Office of Overseas Schools; and Dr. Lew Grell, AAIE Executive Director. Mr. Donovan Walling, Special Projects Editor for **Phi Delta Kappa (PDK)**, the book's publisher, will also serve as ex officio on procedural matters.

Drs. Drysdale and Gonzalez will coordinate the recruitment of current and past DoD Overseas Dependents Schools educators, students, and alumni for written contributions. All are encouraged to contribute to any chapters in which they have an

interest. The chapters are (1) Recruitment, Applications and Screening; (2) Orientation and Culture Shock; (3) Host Nations and Communities; (4) Governance, Boards and US Interests including the Military; (5) Management of Overseas Schools; (6) Stewardship; (7) Programs and Activities; (8) Students, Parents and Other Clients; (9) Personnel Administration; and (10) Miscellaneous (such as non-K-12).

The book will have an introduction giving brief histories of the different organizations, plus an index of contributors. **The AOSHS Archives will be a source of historical perspectives regarding the Departments of Army, Navy, Air Force Overseas Dependents Schools, and the military schools later administered abroad by the Department of Defense (DoDDS).**

The book will provide information for the general public, overseas schools, above-school-level offices, current and past educators, students, and parents. **PDK's and the editors' target date for publication of the book is January 1, 2000.**

Again, current and past overseas schools educators, students, and parents are encouraged to submit anecdotes, essays, and articles of any length to AOSHS. Contributors are requested to include a brief biographical sketch and a statement that any embarrassing anecdotes will not be personally identifiable nor violate any copyright laws. Writers' rewards will be the professional contribution and recognition; no royalties will be paid.

**The suggested target date for contributions is September, 1998.**

**For more information on this historically important "MILLENNIAL" book, please contact the AOSHS Board of Directors or any of its 17 Worldwide Regional Representatives listed on page 2 of all issues of *The Quarterly*.**

## *The Largest School District in the World—Literally*

by Thomas R. Ellinger

The Department of Defense Turkey/Spain/Bahrain/Azores School District spans two continents, Europe, Asia, and four countries. It is 6,200 miles, east to west, the distance from New York to Honolulu.

My first DoDDS overseas assignment was Okinawa, an 18 day journey by ship across the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco, with a one night stop-over in Yokohama, Japan in August of 1960. I will never forget that first year, residing in a small bachelor officers' quarters overlooking the South China Sea and experiencing glorious sunsets, still etched in my mind. My assignment was teaching fifth grade to a spirited group of youngsters of Army and Air Force families. Two years later, I was transferred to Germany, my childhood home during the terrible days of World War II and where, in the seventies, I served as elementary, junior high, and high school principal. In 1980, I was offered the position of Superintendent of DoD Schools in Korea, with headquarters in Seoul. In spite of frequent stress and turmoil connected with the North Korean threat, my tour there was a most rewarding professional experience.

March 26, 1996, our director in Washington, Dr. Lillian Gonzalez, phoned me in Korea with an offer of the Turkey/Spain/Bahrain/Azores District headquartered in Adana, Turkey, two hours from the Syrian Border. I accepted immediately and was thrilled with the thought of a challenging new assignment with its

promises of experiencing new cultures and travel.

My wife and I arrived in Adana on a hot, 100 degree, afternoon in early August. We remember the Muezzin calling the faithful to prayer from a mosque minaret that evening, bringing us to the realization that we had arrived in the Middle East. Adana is a sprawling metropolis of approximately 1.3 million people in an agricultural area one hour from the Mediterranean in the shadow of the 12,000 foot snow-capped Taurus mountains. Our office is located on the Incirlik Air Base, staging area for the NATO sorties over Northern Iraq. The base is under frequent alert, as the US has officially named the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), which operates in this area, a terrorist group. The staff consists of an assistant superintendent, a business manager, a budget officer, and curriculum liaisons in the core subject areas. Ten schools comprise our district: Bahrain on the Persian Gulf; Incirlik Elementary and High Schools next door, Izmir American School on the Aegean Sea, Ankara School in the Turkish capital; Rota Elementary and High Schools and Seville in southern Spain; and two schools on Lajes Field in the Azores, a group of tiny Portuguese islands in the Atlantic Ocean.

To cover this huge geographic district, it is not uncommon for me to average only one week at home during the month. There are no direct connections to any of our

locations. My first excursion was to visit the schools in the western area of the district. To reach the Azores the route took me from Adana to Istanbul, Paris, Madrid, Lisbon, and then a three hour flight across the Atlantic. I arrived to find the islands a beautiful rural setting of emerald green pastures and picturesque villages. The tour begins with a courtesy call on the military commander and the local school advisory committee. I visit each classroom and bond with our dedicated teachers who are eager to share their concerns and aspirations and school improvement initiatives. As the Air Portugal plane back to Lisbon lifted off in heavy winds on Saturday evening, I asked myself whether I REALLY enjoy this whirlwind travel. The following morning, I departed for Madrid and on to Jerez, where I was met by our Rota High School principal who drove me to the large Rota Naval Base located on the Mediterranean. Because of its location and great climate, Rota is a choice assignment for our teachers. The schools and base pride themselves in an excellent school-home partnership initiative. All classes are sponsored by navy or marine units.

The next stop was the tiny K-8 school near Seville on Moron Air Base which tracks our space program in this area of the world and serves as an emergency shuttle landing site. Here, also, our students receive many unique cultural opportunities from seeing the sights of ancient and modern Spain, to meeting astronauts who visit the base. The return flight home routed



me to Madrid, Barcelona, Istanbul, and Adana. Upon my return, I was home four days, including a weekend, which I spent reading the paper and answering e-mail just in time to embark on a trip to our national superintendents' conference in Orlando.

The school year commenced with a district principal's conference in Istanbul, in the Kalyon Hotel overlooking the Marmara Sea in the shadow of the magnificent Blue Mosque. Such meetings provide us the rare opportunity for collegial bonding and professional sharing. A week later, followed a trip to Wiesbaden, Germany, the site of our Area Headquarters and a meeting with our European superintendents. From Frankfurt, I flew on *Gulf Air* to Bahrain, our most unique educational institution, across the Persian Gulf from Iran. It is one of the few DoDDS schools that have a majority of international students, many of whom are the children of Bahrain, US, foreign embassy and business families, in addition to US Navy dependents. Ninety-two percent of the graduates attend prestigious four year colleges in Europe, the Middle East, the United States, and Canada. In addition to the traditional US curriculum, the school boasts outstanding International Baccalaureate and Arabic language programs. The students attend the school on Saturday and Sunday and have the weekend break on Thursday and Friday, the Moslem Holy Days. The principal is responsible for providing educational leadership for the children of 50 nationalities and a dedicated faculty. He is in frequent contact with various ambassadors, and the Admiral of the US 5th Fleet. I always look forward to my

meetings with the local school advisory committee chair, Dr. Dhafer Ahmed Alumran, always dressed in traditional Arab robes. His primary duty is Minister Plenipotentiary in the Bahrain Ministry of Foreign Affairs, however he finds time in his busy schedule to advise the school and insure its continued excellent local support. On a recent visit, I had the good fortune to have an audience with the Amir of Bahrain, His Highness, Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifi, who was the original sponsor of the school. He greeted me in his official reception hall joined by the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Minister of Justice, other sheiks and dignitaries. The Amir is a very warm and pleasant gentleman and a great friend of the United States. He conversed with me about his hopes for world peace, peace in the Middle East and reiterated his pride and support for our school.

The Bahrain school recently hosted a district men and women's basketball tournament. Although it was a wonderful athletic and intercultural event, it was quite costly. A month ago my business manager placed a contract on my desk requesting my signature. After signing, I realized that I had just approved a charter plane to take our athletes to Bahrain. These unique experiences, including athletic, music, drama, science-research, Model United Nations, and leadership events in such places as Egypt, Turkey, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Bahrain, and the Netherlands, are just some of the numerous educational experiences our students will remember for a lifetime.

Our district emphasis has been on extensive staff development for

teachers, which, although vital to the mission, is an additional challenge in this large geographical district. Math, science, social studies, and language arts district conferences have been conducted at the local sites or in Istanbul. A second district focus, tied to the System's School Improvement Plan, is on evaluation and assessment in relation to our DoDDS priority benchmarks.

Life in this exotic district is never dull. It is not uncommon for our staff to fly back here to Adana on an all-night flight from Bahrain through Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, arriving at 0530 in the morning and then spend the day in the office catching up with immediate curriculum, teacher or parent concerns.

We are proud of our educators, students, military commanders, and parents who face numerous unusual challenges of living and working in these isolated areas, often in line of danger, stress, and less-than-satisfactory environmental conditions. I treasure this unique opportunity to serve with them in the largest school district in the world.

*Note: Dr. Ellinger, a Charter Member of the AOSHS, has a file in the AOS Archives containing other interesting articles he wrote while serving as Superintendent of DoD Dependents Schools in Korea. The above are excerpts from an article, reprinted with permission, in American Secondary Education, Vol. 26, No. 2, Ashland University, Ohio.*





## INTERESTING COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES

Ms. Turkan Baydar, Host Nation Teacher Extraordinary, for US Military Dependents Schools in Turkey, and later Host Nation Coordinator for the Mediterranean District, not only exposed American students in the classrooms to local languages, the performing arts, customs, and mores, she introduced them to the natives, took them into the villages, and the countryside, by auto, bus and train, and even to the sea in ships.

Of course Turkan wrote the Host Nation Programs, and published them in the schools, because appropriate curriculum guides, texts and materials for this sort of instruction simply were not available.

What makes her collection so interesting—educationally, and so valuable—historically, is that it contains on-the-scene teacher-made curriculum materials for extended field trips, three of which we describe below. All this was done, of course, under her supervision and guidance for many years, making her the extraordinary Host Nation Teacher she was.

For example, there is a 20-page guide specifically written and illustrated for 14 Ankara Elementary School fifth grade students who spent eight days at the Yukselis Koleji CAMP SCHOOL at Lake Abant in 1973. With the guide is a letter to parents which says, "Dear Parents: During the week of 19-26 May, 14 fifth grade students will be given the opportunity to attend school at Lake Abant, a two-hour drive northwest of Ankara. Fourteen Turkish children from the Elementary School of Yukselis, Koleji will also attend. This camp trip can be one of the high spots of your child's educational experiences, for included will be nature lore, hiking, conservation, ecology, camp crafts, weather study and exploration. Group living in the camp environment offers opportunities for character development, social adjustment, inter-cultural understanding and healthful living. The facilities consist of a new Bavarian Alpine style chalet with kitchen, bedrooms on two floors, lavatories, large living room with fireplace, a small cabin with two bedrooms, and three tents for 'roughing it.' Meals will be cooked on alternate days by Turkish and American staff members." The letter goes on to explain that two American educators and two American high school students will assist as aides. The guide covers all day and night time activities.

Another guide has the title "School on Rails, Incirlik High School, Seyhan Isik Lisesi, 21-29 March, 1976." The train had three cars—a Multi-Purpose car with a conference room and showers, a Sleeping Car, and a Restaurant Car and Classroom. Twenty girls and twenty boys from Incirlik HS attended school that week on the School on Rails. On page 3 of the guide is a note to the students by Ms. Baydar, who had worked with the Turkish Ministry of Transport in the annual establishment of this School on Rails for American high school students. It says, "Dear Students: You are privileged to be participants of the annual 'TRAIN SCHOOL' of the Seyhan Isik Lisesi. Your booklet (curriculum guide) covers most of the information that you will need during the trip. You will be traveling about 3,000 kilometers during the eight days by train, and buses: It is nearly the same distance from the East Coast to the West. I hope that in addition to learning the rich history and interesting geography of Turkey, you will also have a pleasant, enjoyable and rewarding trip with your friends. Insallah, The Train School will not only be one of the most unforgettable experiences of your stay in Turkey, which you will cherish and remember all your lives, but also you will pass it on to your next generation." The eight day route was from Adana to Ankara to Izmir to Denizli to Konya and back to Adana.

Another 46-page booklet, as Turkan calls it, is entitled "T.E.D. Ankara Koleji and Karamursel Dependent School - THE SEA SCHOOL, 8-16 May, 1976." It is a comprehensive teacher-made 24-hour study and leisure time curriculum guide. On page 2 Turkan writes to 20 girls and 20 boys accompanied by five teachers including herself, "Dear Students: You are lucky not only to be the pioneers of the first Karamursel Sea School, but also to be the participants of the first Black Sea School. In your Sea School booklets you will find all the information about the places that you are going to visit and study, including guidelines for observation, units, follow-up work sheets, your daily schedule and a list of cabin arrangements. Do you realize that you are going to cover more than 3,500 kilometers during your Sea School from Karamursel to Hopa and back by ship and buses? That is about the same distance from New York to San Francisco. I hope that in addition to learning the history and geography of Turkey, you will also have a pleasant, enjoyable and rewarding trip with your friends. Insallah, the Sea School, will be the most unforgettable experience of your life that you will always remember with happy and pleasant memories."

We all know that Host Nation Programs in overseas schools continue to add immeasurably to the cultural understanding and sophistication of American students and teachers, and that exceptional Host Nation Teachers, such as Turkan Baydar, will continue to provide incomparable educational experiences for them.

*Note: Turkan's name is now Turkan (Baydar) Byars, and in addition to her native Turkey, she lives part time in Daytona, Florida.*

## ✍ MAIL ✍ BOX ✍

**1/21/98 From Catherine Burdette Stolzer in Farmington Hills, MI.**

In 1970, at the age of 54, I began a new career as a Department of Defense Dependents' School teacher, answering a St. Louis newspaper ad, and receiving Okinawa, Japan as my first assignment. I had been widowed while in my 30's, receiving my degree after nine years of night school while teaching full time and raising three small children. Adventures in Japan, Germany, Spain and Turkey awaited me, while teaching for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

**Some highlights were:**

Seeing the Taj Mahal by moonlight	Staying at the St. Moritz Ski Lodge	Running with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain
Kissing the Blarney Stone in Ireland	Crashing a party for Bob Hope at the Cha Pia Hotel in Bangkok	Shopping in Hong Kong
Riding a camel in Morocco and an elephant in Nepal	Experiencing the bombing of the American Cultural Center from my apartment in Turkey	Being in Bethlehem on Christmas Eve
Worshipping at the first Christian church in Antioch	Viewing Semana Santa in Spain	Climbing the Great Wall of China
	Attending the Swan Lake Ballet at the Bolshoi in Russia	
	Visiting the birthplace of Paul of Tarsus and going via taxi to the outskirts of fighting in Beirut	Witnessing crucifixions in the Philippines on Good Friday

**Now as a growing girl of 81, I recently became engaged to a good and caring man. So, you "youngsters of 50", there's still hope!**

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**4/07/98 From Pauline E. Lowell in Pensacola, FL.**

As promised, I will give you an up-date on the "Turkish Opportunity" I experienced as a result of the notice published in The AOSHS Quarterly in the spring of 1997.

You will recall that I traveled to Istanbul, Turkey in October, and returned to Pensacola in December 1997. An in-depth Case Study was conducted and an Educational Plan was developed to meet the needs of the little Turkish girl, (ten years old at the time).

I lived in the home with the family for 5 weeks. I made many visits and did numerous observations as the child attended classes and meetings with various therapists.

In December I returned to the US to write my Case Study Report in preparation for her medical evaluation in Atlanta, Georgia in February.

In February I met the family in Atlanta and accompanied the Dad to help with English Language interpretation during the child's medical evaluations.

Evaluation results were positive. The Educational Plan we developed in November is working. The child is happy and making satisfactory educational progress. An English speaking, Turkish tutor will be found locally to start English language instruction as soon as possible. The plan is for Secondary education to take place in the US -- a few years off.

I expect to return to Turkey in October of this year or early in 1999 for an annual Case Study Review and Educational Plan Revision.

**This has been an interesting and rewarding professional experience for me. I have made wonderful new friends.** In my opinion, we have had a great deal of success to date and I anticipate continued improvement and happiness for the child in the future.

Thanks so much to AOSHS for publishing the notice that made my "Turkish Opportunity" a reality. Special thanks for the overseas DoDDS contacts and support prior to my departure. Also thanks for the follow-up inquiries through Jim during my

## ALUMNI/EDUCATOR REUNION NEWS

1998 UPDATE 1998

Information regarding twenty-four 1998 Alumni Association Reunions for the following overseas high schools is in the Winter 1998 issue of The OASHS Quarterly - (Vol. III, No. 1).

H.H. Arnold, Bamberg, Bad Kreuznach, Bangkok, Bitburg, Forrest Sherman, Goose Bay, Itazuki, Izmir, Kaiserslautern, Karlsruhe, Kubasaki, London Central, Ramey, Seoul, Taipei, Tehran, Wainwright, Wheelus, Yokohama, Yokota, Zama and Zweibruecken.

### Six more reunions to add to the list are:

#### Fontainebleau American High School, France

For those who taught or attended the school at the Caserne Lariboisiere  
from 1962 to 1967

A reunion will be held August 21-23, in Fontainebleau, France

Contact: Bob McGurkin, PSC 50 Box 844, APO AE 09494

Tel: U.K. (44) 1993 811126, or contact Bill Henderson at

8357 Yucca Trail, Hollywood, CA 90046. Tel: 213-654-4821 Fax: 3671

#### Kodai and Woodstock International Schools, India

Celebrate Kodai, July 31-Aug 2, at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, MN  
and

The 13th Annual Reunion and Annual Meeting of Woodstock

July 10-13 at Beloit College, Beloit, WI

For either school reunion, contact the KodaiKanal-Woodstock Foundation

159 Ralph Gill Blvd., NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Tel: 404-524-0988

<kwi@mindspring.com>

#### Schutz American School, Egypt

Thirty-fifth Annual Schutz Reunion. Sunday, July 26 at the

Walton-Mayne Student Union Building, Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA

Contact Jean Stultz at 326 Lincoln Ave., Pittsburg, PA 15237-1949.

Tel: 412-364-7217. After July 22 call 724-285-4950

#### DoDDS - FLorida Reunion

For current and past DoDDS students, educators, parents and friends.

Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at the Langford Hotel in Winter Park, FL

Contact Paul Thome, 449 Stonewood Lane, Maitland, FL 32751

Tel: 407-331-4828

#### Karlsruhe American School, Germany

The 1959-60 faculty is holding its Fourth Reunion.

Oct. 14-17 in the Hershey/Lancaster area of Pennsylvania,

(and trying to find more 59-60 faculty members).

Contact Ruth Seibert at 155 N. Maple St. Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Info: Tel: 717-367-1667

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Third Annual Meeting of AOSHS Members will be held in The Delux Marquette Hotel in downtown Minneapolis, MN, at 9:00 a.m., July 11, 1998, during the 9-12 DoDDS X Annual Reunion. All members, and interested non-members, are invited to attend.

"The members actually present at any regularly called meeting of the members of the society shall constitute a quorum at such meetings for all purposes." - By-Laws: Article Two, Section 6.

### The First Purpose of the Meeting: The Past.

To ratify actions and activities of the Board of Directors since the Second Annual Meeting, July 7-10, 1997 in San Antonio, TX, - specifically:

1. Attendance of two board members, at no expense to AOSHS, to represent AOSHS at the 11th Gathering of Overseas Brats, (attended by representatives of 58 overseas schools alumni associations), in Covington, KY, Oct. 23-26, 1997.
2. The appointment of a nine member Site Visitation and Evaluation Committee, (in compliance with AOSHS By-Laws), to visit or evaluate, at no expense to AOSHS, the three finalists of 14 metropolitan areas interested in locating the proposed AOSHS Historical Park in their communities, namely: The Phoenix, AZ West Valley; Wichita, KS; and Orlando, FL.
3. The acceptance of the nominations of Leland "Lee" Davis, Donna L. Gillis, Susan B. Schubert, and Michael F. O'Brien, qualified to run for three year terms as 1st. Vice President, two additional board members, and a third Pacific Regional Representative respectively, beginning July 1, 1998. Mr. Davis is the current 1st. Vice President, whose term expires June 30, 1998.
4. The acceptance of other member nominated, write-in, nominees for the above positions.
5. A worldwide contest for AOSHS Logos and the selection of an athletic supply company.

### The Second purpose of the Meeting: The Present and Future.

1. Accept nominations from the floor for the office of 1st Vice President, two additional board positions, and a third Pacific Regional Representative, for the period of July 1, 1998 to July 1, 2001.
2. Elect a 1st. Vice President, two additional board members, and a third Pacific Regional Representative.
3. Present and discuss the findings of The Site Visitation and Evaluation Committee and the Recommendation of the Board of Directors regarding the location of the AOSHS Historical Park. See article on pages 4 and 5 of this issue of The Quarterly).
4. Approve/disapprove Board of Directors Recommendation for Pemanent Site for the AOSHS Historical Park. "At any meeting of members, a member entitled to vote may vote by proxy executed in writing by the member or by his/her duly authorized attorney in-fact." - By-Laws Article Two, Section 7.
5. Discussion regarding the procurement and proper use of AOSHS Logos on clothing and stationery.
6. Discussion, and recommendations for the next fiscal year.
7. Discussion, and recommendations for a five year plan of action.
8. Discussion and solicitation of anecdotes and articles for the book "American Overseas Schools: 2000 A.D.
9. Following Other Business, **THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES.**

## DoDDS X Reunion

*For all former and current overseas educators, students, families and friends.*

*July 9-12 at The Deluxe Marquette Hotel off the famous Nicollet Mall in downtown Minneapolis.*

*Contact: Walter Peik, 597 Main Street South, Hutchinson, MN 55350-2901 (320)-587-5380*

*Registration fee is \$69 per person and includes a Thursday evening reception, a Friday evening banquet, and a Sunday Morning farewell breakfast.*

*A Saturday evening "BASH"- A dinner cruise on the Mississippi, including transportation from and back to the hotel is \$30.*

**WE'LL SEE YOU THERE**

**NOTICE:** TO THE RIGHT OF YOUR NAME ON YOUR *QUARTERLY* ENVELOPE ADDRESS LABEL IS A NUMBER. IF THE NUMBER IS 10 OR LESS, THIS IS A REMINDER THAT YOUR DUES ARE DUE, UNLESS OF COURSE YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID THEM. PLEASE SEND \$10 TO AOSHS. TAX DEDUCABLE DONATIONS ARE ALSO MUCH APPRECIATED.