

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

An Arizona Non-Profit Corporation

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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
QUARTERLY**

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



This issue of The Quarterly was mailed later than usual in the quarter to arrive overseas shortly after educators and students had begun the 1998-99 School Year.

The Society has made considerable progress since incorporating just three years ago. Starting with the donation of the American Overseas Schools Archives by Northern Arizona University in December 1995, plans were finalized in July 1996 to relocate the archives to a larger metropolitan area.

By July of 1997 the concept of a single archives building was expanded to the vision of a historical park with a visitors' center, archives, and a museum. This was accomplished with the help of 38 overseas schools alumni associations' representatives.

A search was then started to identify a metropolitan area that not only met the society's relocation criteria, but—most importantly—recognized the future importance of an American Overseas Schools Historical Park and eagerly wanted to be involved in its development and success. Such a city was identified and selected by the membership in July 1998. This followed a long process of reducing the list of cities to 14, then to three, and finally to the best qualified—Wichita, Kansas, in the geographic center of the 48 contiguous United States.

It is hard to believe that all this took place in three years. The board of directors appreciates and recognizes the important contributions by those in the society and in the City of Wichita who made it happen.



AOSHS POLICY

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

HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATABASES



The AOSHS has three personnel databases maintained by: JOHN BROKAW for past and present educators; TINA CALO for deceased educators; and MARGIE PRATER KUGLER for the alumni of all overseas schools. The three 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 and fax numbers; e-mail address; countries, schools, and above school level offices where worked; years at each location, including grade levels, subjects, and positions to JOHN.

JOHN BROKAW
8727 Pemberton Circle
Indianapolis IN 46260
<jbrokaw@aol.com>
Fax: (317) 228-9446

MARGIE PRATER KUGLER
141 N Vine St
Abilene KS 67410-2472
(785) 263-3019
<mkugler@access-one.com>

If you have been, or are an overseas student, and have not already done so, please send your name, (including maiden); mailing address; telephone and fax numbers; e-mail address; countries, schools, and grade levels attended to MARGIE.

All educators and alumni are encouraged to send information regarding deceased educators to TINA.

TINA CALO
P.O. Box 15871
Surfside Beach SC 29587
(803) 293-5835
<tc.calomc@mcione.com>



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.
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- 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.
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- 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.odedodea.edu>
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- 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

AOSHS BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Donna Gillis**, Goodyear, AZ and **Susan Schubert**, Phoenix, AZ were appointed to serve as board members at the Third Annual Meeting of Members in Minneapolis on July 11, 1998. Also, **Tina Calo**, Surfside Beach, SC was appointed to serve as Database Manager for Deceased Overseas Schools Educators, replacing **Helen Close** of Janesville, WI.
2. The board has selected **Margie PRATER Kugler**, Abilene, KS, near Wichita, to be the manager of a new AOSHS database for all American Overseas Schools Alumni. Margie is the current manager of the H. H. Arnold HS (Wiesbaden, Germany) Alumni Association database of approximately 26,000 names.
3. Due to the steady increase in the number of members, district boundaries will be realigned, new districts will be established and announced in the November issue of *The Quarterly*.
4. The State of Arizona Corporation Commission has changed the beginning date for fiscal years from January 1 to July 1 for corporations, including nonprofits. The AOSHS Fiscal Balance Sheet for July 1998 was: Luke AFB Credit Union Accounts for Checking \$1,078.00, Savings \$11,985.68, Building Fund \$6,107.19. Total Cash Assets \$19,170.87. Liabilities-None.
5. DoDDS-XI 1999 Reunion will be in San Diego, CA. Contact John and Barbara Williams at 23271-128 Alipaz St., San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675, (714) 443-9709, Fax (714) 496-8521. More info in the Nov.'98 issue of *The Quarterly*.

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WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE THEY ?

By Ann Bamberger, board member

The recent DoDDS-X Reunion in Minneapolis had a record attendance of over 490. While many there joined the AOSHS, several made the comment, **"I hadn't even heard about the historical society until now."** It is easy to assume since we know about AOSHS that everyone does—**NOT SO!**

We have no way of learning the addresses of former educators or students to tell them about the organization unless we hear from you. This is true for those educators and students who worked in, or attended, private overseas schools as well as DoDDS.

You may or may not know if your various friends around the world have joined, but if we have a name and address, we can easily check against our current rolls. Can you take five minutes to go through your address book and make a quick list? If the names we receive are not members, we will send an information letter and membership application inviting them to join. This could allow us to double, or triple, our membership. The size of the organization and the detailing of contributions becomes important as we seek corporate and government grants and other monies to make the vision of the museum and archives a reality.

Our membership fee of \$10 per year, including four quarterly newsletters, is purposely low to allow the inclusion of all. Please send the names and addresses of your friends to me at:

Ann Bamberger
c/o AOSHS, Box 777, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340
or to my e-mail at: <abamberger@juno.com>

UPDATED PLANS AND PROJECTIONS FOR THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL PARK IN WICHITA

As reported in the last issue of *The Quarterly*, the Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the recommendation of the AOSHS Site Visitation and Evaluation Committee to locate the AOSHS Historical Park in Wichita, KS and would solicit the approval of members at the Third Annual Meeting of Members in Minneapolis, MN on July 11, 1998.

The Committee's findings regarding Phoenix, Wichita, and Orlando, previously identified as being the three most desirable sites selected from 14 metropolitan areas in the US, were presented to the members at the meeting. The 138 members present, constituting a quorum, approved the board's recommendation that Wichita be the location of the historical park. The 584 members who did not attend the meeting, with the exception of one, had all previously voted and approved Wichita.

SHORT TERM PLAN OF ACTION

(Dates Approximate)

A coordinated Plan of Action by the AOSHS Board of Directors and the Wichita City Manager's Office includes the following: **1.** During the month of September 1998, the board will begin moving the American Overseas Schools Archives to Wichita; **2.** By the end of September 1998, the board will involve the AOSHS Fund Raising Committee in the recommendation of a comprehensive fund raising plan and the further study of the writing of proposals. The board has already identified a number of corporations and foundations that provide start-up funds (seed money) for qualifying nonprofit corporations; **3.** By November 1998, complete a survey of all AOSHS members, overseas schools, and alumni associations to obtain suggestions as to what the historical park should consist of (see *Urgent Request* on next page). Suggestions will also be solicited from those who attend the DoDDS-FL Reunion in Orlando next October and the Overseas Brats Gathering in Kissimmee, FL in early November; **4.** By December 1998 these suggestions will be given to the AOSHS Architectural Committee to identify the feasible and practical and make a recommendation to the board of directors and the City of Wichita; **5.** By January 1999 the board will start writing and submitting proposals for start-up funds; **6.** Following the receipt of start-up funds, the board and the City of Wichita will publish information regarding what the park should consist of, and solicit bids from architectural firms for the design of the historical park and the construction of a 4 x 8 foot model.

SUMMARY

September	1998	Move Archives to Wichita Begin development of AOSHS Fund Raising Plan.
November	1998	Complete survey of suggestions for the historical park.
December	1998	Deliver suggestions for the park to the AOSHS Architectural Committee.
January	1999	Board writes proposals for start up funds. Begin Fund Raising Program.
May - Dec	1999	Following receipt of start up funds, solicit architectural bids for historical park. Continue Fund Raising Program.
Jan - Dec	2000	Display model of historical park at DoDDS Reunion, and Annual Meeting of Members. Continue Fund Raising Program.
Jan - Dec	2001	Start construction of the Historical Park.

LONG TERM PLAN OF ACTION

(Dates Approximate)

Jan 1999 – Jan 2000 With a clear idea as to what the park will consist of, begin a fund raising program including as many of the following as possible: (1) Unrestricted Gifts and Individual Contributions, (2) Direct Mail, (3) Unrestricted Income Through Events, (4) Local Business Giving, (5) Corporate Support, (6) Foundations and Public Agencies, (7) Government Funding, (8) Endowments, (9) Deferred Giving - Bequests (wills), Life Insurance, (10) Trusts - Charitable Remainder and Charitable Lead, and (11) Pooled-Income Funds eventually—maybe.

Jan 2000 – Dec 2001 Begin construction. Each increment paid for.

NOTICE

Plans are to locate the American Overseas Schools Historical Park in the middle of the Museums on the River District in downtown Wichita. The site (see next page—outlined in black) is approximately 800 feet wide on the north, across the street from the Wichita Art Museum and shared museum parking; approximately 490 feet on the east, facing Seneca Blvd. and across the street from the Indian Center Museum and Mid-America All-Indian Center; approximately 246 feet on the southeast facing the Seneca Blvd. River Bridge; approximately 700 feet on the south-southwest facing the Big Arkansas River; and approximately 370 feet on the west, a short distance from Old Cowtown Museum and Botanica - The Wichita Gardens.

Within this somewhat rectangular/wedge-shaped parcel of land are two concrete slabs totaling 197,840 square feet. The one on the west—89,600 square feet—will support a one-story building. The one on the east—108,210 square feet—will support a three-story building.

Surrounding these concrete slabs are many large trees. On the east and south sides of the parcel, along the river bank, is a surfaced walking-jogging-bike path with lampposts about every 200 feet.

AN URGENT REQUEST

We are now requesting that members carefully study the illustration of the site on the next page and submit ideas and suggestions to AOSHS by November 15, 1998.

Suggestions so far are to have: (1) flag poles around the site, flying the flags of the foreign countries where the overseas schools have been and are located; (2) a visitors' center with small auditorium and library; (3) an archives and museum building or buildings; (4) generic statuary of students and teachers in the buildings and on the grounds; (5) inscribed bricks, with names of schools, students and educators, on walks, walls, patios and buildings; (6) monuments recognizing schools and alumni associations; and (7) a picnic area for visitors, etc.

*Now is the time to be creative. Your ideas and suggestions will receive the full attention of the AOSHS Architectural Committee and eventually a professional architectural firm. **Think only of a first-class historical park.** We don't want anything less.*

WICHITA ART MUSEUM

AOSHS
HISTORICAL PARK SITE
Wichita, Kansas

STACKMAN

Museum
shared parking

EXISTING
FLOOR

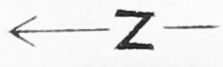
320 x 280 sq ft
1 story restriction
89,600 sq ft

264 x 410 sq ft
3 story restriction
108,240 sq ft

SENECA

INDIAN CENTER

BIG ARKANSAS RIVER



AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL PARK

ANNOUNCEMENT

MONDAY JULY 13, 10 AM
BOARD ROOM, WICHITA CITY HALL

REMARKS BY
MAYOR BOB KNIGHT

Below are extracts from the announcement made by Wichita Mayor Bob Knight during a televised interview in the City Hall:

I have some very exciting news to tell you about, this morning. News of international importance which promises to make Wichita the centerpiece of a worldwide organization.

I am pleased to announce that Wichita has been selected as the new home for the American Overseas Schools Historical Park and Archives Museum. The organization's board of directors selected Wichita over 14 of the largest metropolitan areas in the United States. This list included Phoenix, Orlando, and San Antonio.

The Historical Park and Archives Museum will be a tribute to millions who attended overseas schools, many of them while family members served their country in the US military. The facility will also honor the educators who taught at those overseas schools. Plans call for the site to include a landscaped historical park, a visitors' center, archives, and museum filled with memorabilia and artifacts. The likely site for the Historical Park will be near the Wichita Art Museum. It will be a wonderful addition to our Museums on the River District.

The American Overseas Schools Park and Archives will make Wichita "Hometown USA" for millions of "military brats," as they like to call themselves, and who don't really have an established hometown. It is estimated that as many as four million children have attended 900 American overseas schools. There are about 130 active overseas school alumni groups. About 50 of those schools hold class reunions every year and Wichita will be the "adopted hometown" for many of them. Besides bringing visitors to town for the class reunions, the Overseas Schools Historical Park and Archives will attract numerous military-related conventions and conferences. People who want to research the wealth of information stored in the archives will be coming to Wichita as well.

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MORE INFORMATION ON THE CITY OF

**WICHITA**

THE CITY THAT WANTS TO BE OUR HOMETOWN

*During the March 12-15, 1998 visit to Wichita, the nine-member evaluation committee received a breakfast briefing by the Wichita City Manager, Chris Churches and his staff, in the boardroom of their offices on the 13th floor of the City Hall. Following much discussion, questions and answers, Mr. Churches said "WE WANT TO BE YOUR HOMETOWN." Following is more information on the city that wants to be our hometown:*

Wichita is a two-time recipient of the prestigious All American City award—first in 1962 and again in 1993. It is in the geographical center of the US where the Big and Little Arkansas Rivers converge. The city's boundaries encircle 110 square miles, yet the rivers remain the principal gathering point. Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Tulsa, and Oklahoma City are all within a driving time radius of seven hours or less. Chicago, Houston, Las Vegas, St. Louis, Seattle, Los Angeles, Miami, and Boston are all within a flying time radius of three hours and 45 minutes or less. Twelve commercial airlines serve Wichita.

The Wichita Indians gave the city its name. Settlers discovered this land of beauty, good earth, water, and an abundance of wildlife. It is the state's health services center, with four general and seven specialty hospitals, and the U of K - Wichita School of Medicine.

In mid-1997 the cost of living in Wichita was below the national average. The median sales price of single family homes was \$81,500—about 35% below the national figure of \$124,900. The city also has the best ratio of high-paying jobs to low-paying jobs in the nation. Wichita-Sedgewick County, one half million people, has a crime rate of less than half the average for cities in its size range according to official FBI crime statistics. The Convention center, a circular facility of 16 ½ acres, is one of the 10th busiest in North America.

The arts prosper in Wichita. The Wichita Symphony, founded in 1994, is one of only a few in the nation which is financially sound. Theater thrives, playing to packed houses ranging from experimental theater to music and professional Dinner Theater, which every summer showcases Broadway talent. Stage One is the only full-time theater for new Broadway musical show development in the nation outside of New York. Music Theater of Wichita has alumni performing in nearly every musical now playing on Broadway and on national tours.

Eighteen museums are scattered throughout the city. The Art Museum's collection of American art is the largest in a five-state region. The Center for the Arts is a diverse art center, fully equipped with classrooms and studios. Old Cowtown Museum is a frontier town of more than 30 authentically furnished buildings featuring hands-on experiences with the past including a working blacksmith shop, drug store, and newspaper office. The Mid-American All-Indian Center showcases the contributions and heritage of America's Plains Indians.

Wichita is full of things to see and do. The Zoo has been selected by Jane Goodall as a chimpanzee research training site. Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, is a haven of beauty. The Omnisphere and Science Center and Children's Museum provide activities for all ages. Wichita is the world headquarters for the Society of Decorative Painters.

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains 136 parks, 11 community centers, 12 swimming pools, 83 tennis courts, 60 sports fields, five miles of dirt bridle paths, and more than 100 miles of bike paths along rivers and landscaped picnic areas. There are 18 public and private golf courses.

Near the AOSHS Historical Park site, is rising an exciting new sixty-four million dollar attraction—*Exploration Place*—scheduled to open in early 2000. It will be a 95,000 sq. ft. new science center; children's museum; informal learning center; community gathering place; programs and resources about people, places and technology of the world; all on 20 acres on the bank, and partially in the Arkansas River.

Every May, the Wichita River Festival, a ten-day extravaganza of some 80 events, draws a quarter million visitors and citizens together for parades, music of all kinds, fireworks, athletic contests, concerts and food. The event receives national exposure each year by ABC, CBS, and NBC.

Wichita is known as the "Air Capital of the World." More than 60 percent of all general aviation aircraft are produced in Wichita by Cessna, Raytheon, and Learjet. Boeing builds the 737 in Wichita and employs more than 22,000 people in high-tech positions. McConnell Air Force Base B-1 Bombers are refueled by a large fleet of tankers flown by the Kansas Air National Guard, the CO of which is an overseas school alumnus.

At a distance less than the width of most US metro areas, is the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in nearby Hutchinson. "Odyssey," the original Apollo 13 command module, isn't the only incredible addition to this award-winning Hall of Space Museum. Other highlights include an SRT-71 Blackbird spy plane, authentic German V1 and V2 rockets, a full-scale Space Shuttle, Mercury Redstone and Gemini Titan rockets. The Space Center is on the way to becoming the most comprehensive space museum in existence.

Opportunities abound for undergraduate and graduate studies at Wichita State University, Friends University, Kansas Newman College and Webster University. WSU attracts students internationally for its colleges in Business, Aeronautical Engineering and Health Care. It is also the home of the National Institute for Aviation Research. The Wichita Area Technical College gives access to a comprehensive range of technical training.

**THE FLAGS ARE STILL FLYING**  
**for the recent**  
**SAMPSON SCHOOL CELEBRATION**  
**of the**  
**100th ANNIVERSARY OF CUZCO WELL**

By William T. Johnson

June 12-15 1998

The U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Cuzco Well Battle. This historical event is not well known, neither are facts and information about the W.T. Sampson Schools dating back to 1932.

During the celebration, the naval base reviewed the history of the battle and revisited Cuzco Well, as did the students and staff of the W.T. Sampson High School.

Weeks prior to the dates of the celebration, a gathering of educators assembled to hear the history of the Guantanamo Bay Schools by Mr. Jack Neil, a long time resident. Mr. Neil, the naval base chief engineer, who has lived and worked at Guantanamo Bay for over 40 years, took the group back in time with his oral and graphic presentation of the early years of the school. He and Mrs. Neil are the parents of five children who have all graduated from the high school.

Students at Guantanamo Bay have the distinction of not only attending the oldest school in DoDDS, but the only one located on communist soil. From the beginning to the present, Sampson High and Elementary Schools have been closed three times. The first was in 1942 when the U.S. entered World War II. The schools reopened after the war in 1945. The schools were closed again, for several months in 1962 due to the Kennedy/Khrushchev Cuban Missile Crisis, and reopened in December. The schools were closed for the third time in August of 1995 due to an influx of Haitian and Cuban migrants and reopened in January 1996.

The future of the Guantanamo Bay military base is uncertain, but the mission of the W.T. Sampson DoD Dependents Schools since 1932 is

certain—to provide a high-quality education for the students.

The graduating class of 1998 was a part of the memorable Celebration of Cuzco Well. The graduation took place at the Guantanamo Bay historical lighthouse which is located on the route the U.S. Marines took on the way to Cuzco Well over a hundred years ago. The lighthouse has served as a beacon for ships since then. The principal, Mr. Ron Sharik, in his remarks to the graduating class, made important references to the Battle of Cuzco Well and the lighthouse.

At the high school, a heritage room has been established in which students, parents, visitors and the community can view the history of the Sampson Schools. During the Cuzco Well celebration several former students and staff visited the school. One of the visitors is the original founder of the high school yearbook.

As we approach the year 2000, we are reminded of the contributions so many people have made in keeping the flags flying over the Sampson Schools. The schools have gone through several organizational changes during their history, beginning as a Unit School in the early years, then made into elementary and secondary schools. The Sampson School is currently a K-12 unit, with two separate locations or complexes.

*Note: William T. Johnson, the author, is Assistant Principal of the W. T. Sampson School.*



## ✍ MAIL ✍ BOX ✍

**5/26/98 LETTER FROM DOUGLAS P. HOWARD IN SURFSIDE BEACH, SC.**

Everyone that associated with me in my 16 years of overseas assignments was keenly aware of my passion for tennis. This included positions in Spain, Thailand, Australia, Costa Rica, Korea, Philippines, and Japan. It was in Thailand in 1968 that I had my most memorable experience.

The Australian Davis Cup Team dominated the tennis world from 1964 through 1967. Normally powerful U.S. Teams did not even make the finals during those years. In 1968, the Australians once again looked invincible, with the finals being held on their home turf (grass courts). The U.S. vowed to make a good effort when they ventured down under with their young team, consisting of Arthur Ashe, Stan Smith, Bob Lutz, Charlie Passarelli, and captained by Donald Dell.

The world was shocked and America was jubilant when the U.S. crushed Australia, 4-1.

The President of the United States and his staff had already decided, before this event occurred, that Arthur Ashe was to receive the award for most outstanding young man in America for 1968. The presentation was scheduled to take place at the White House, immediately after the Davis Cup Finals, regardless of the event.

The rest of the team was relishing their victory when they stopped in Bangkok on their return trip home. As the Assistant Superintendent and Tennis Coach of International Schools, Bangkok. I was invited to a reception at the U.S. Embassy in honor of the Davis Cup Champions. During the reception I talked to Donald Bell and mentioned that the student population of our four schools had grown to over 3,000 with approximately 85% being American Dependents. We did not have a tennis court, but I guaranteed him I would get one rigged up in our gym if his team would come and put on a demonstration for the student body. He agreed, and we set the day for two days hence. Arthur Ashe was not expected to return from Washington, D.C. to rejoin the team in Bangkok, but he telephoned the team and learned of our plan. He arrived on the

morning of our assembly, insisting on being part of an effort that involved the children. In addition to participating in the demonstration, Arthur conducted a clinic at the National Stadium Courts that afternoon for my teams and Thai High School tennis players.

What a marvelous memory for me, to be able to spend time with a tennis legend, a fine teacher and a wonderful human being. No wonder they named the new U.S. open stadium after him. The enclosed photo shows Arthur with my team captains, Jonathan Downs and Gina Doggett.

**5/27/98. EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER FROM NAN LOCHER IN PANAMA CITY, FL.**

This is a story that has captured all of my attention lately. About two years ago, while walking the shores of Crystal Lake, FL, located about 25 miles north of my home in Panama City, I found a man's high school ring from Stuttgart-American, '69. The initials inscribed inside were WLG. I asked all of the locals that have cottages as we do, but none knew who might have lost the ring. So, not knowing what to do next, I laid it aside and basically forgot about it.

About two weeks ago, while at the lake, I found the ring where I had stashed it. The thought occurred to me that maybe I could find the owner. Now that I am trying to become computer literate, but still a novice, it never entered my mind that this could be a monumental task!!!!

The quest began. I used the search engines and located the Stuttgart-American Alumni group. The president responded immediately and the search picked up a notch. I communicated through bulletin boards, message centers, military brats, The American Overseas Schools Archives, new friends, on and on.

Looming in front of me was a large wall, that being the Privacy Act. About all I was able to find out was that Stuttgart-American was closed in 1992 due to downsizing and Patch American High

School was established in its place. I found Seth Poppel's Homepage. He collects yearbooks of famous people. He replied with another dead end, but wished me the best.

From there I found a list of class members. Several responded and offered help. My main source was Al Muehlke from Washington. At first I sent him only the first and last initials. I guess I wasn't very trusting. Then he responded with four possibilities. Finally I gave him the middle initial, "L"!!!! I was really getting excited!! He had two guys with the initials that I needed, WLG. Now to find these guys. They were not listed in the current database.

I looked high and low for Wendell L. Garner. There were a few in the U.S. When I began searching for William L. Graham, I nearly choked! There were over a hundred in Florida, plus more in Alabama and Georgia. Most of them had no e-mail, so I could see a roll of stamps disappearing quickly. My smile was not as big that day!

Finally Al responded with an address for William L. Graham. Class of '69, who lives in Alabama. The next night I spoke with Bill's wife Martha. She was so pleasant and cooperative. At 10:15 that evening, I received the call from William Lee Graham. Yes, he had been to Crystal Lake when he attended Troy State—as the guest of Ricky Everitt whose relatives had a cottage at the lake. He had taken a bar of soap to the lake that Sunday morning to bathe before dressing for church. The ring slipped off his finger and was not found. This happened in 1971. I don't know who was the most excited, Bill or me!! The ring is now back with Bill Graham.

But, there's more to this saga. I discovered after talking to Ricky Everitt, that the cottage where they spent this weekend belonged to my brother and my cottage is right next door!! Talking about coming full circle!

Maybe it was a lot of perseverance, intrigue, fun meeting so many new friends, a computer challenge, or a combination of the above, I'm not sure. The one thing I am sure of is—I find myself smiling throughout the day as I reflect on my bazaar story and look forward to the future when I may just meet Bill Graham or some of you who were so very helpful in making a lost ring a found ring.

 REPORTS ON TWO NEW IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS 

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**THE EMERGENCE OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR
ADULTS WHO WERE CHILDREN IN
MILITARY FAMILIES**

By LisaMarie Liebenow Mariglia

**A master of science thesis submitted to the Department of Family and Consumer
Sciences and****The Graduate School of The University of Wyoming
December, 1997**

Editor's Note: Below are excerpts and quotes from this high quality, timely research project. Our compliments to LisaMarie: She can be contacted at 459 Kendrick 231, Laramie, WY 82072.

The main purpose of this study was to explore why some adults who were children raised in military families were interested in Brat organizations. What made them seek out Brat organizations and made them active in these organizations as adults.

Individuals in all parts of the world are finding impetus to join Brat organizations and spend their time communicating with each other. Although this study did not analyze the stages of development, acknowledging their significance is fundamental. In part, attachment issues may be at the heart of adult interest and participation in Brat organizations long after affiliation with the military has ended.

One basis of this study was that Brat organizations play a large part in the life of today's adult Brat. To understand the influence of the military culture on the family, comprehending the structure of the military became critical. This allowed me to answer the question, "Why are adults who were children in military families joining Brat organizations?"

Participants in this study joined Brat associations for a variety of reasons. One of the most frequently cited was the desire to make contacts with those who had shared similar experiences. Findings suggest that these participants joined Brat organizations to share their unique lives with other Brats. They join to feel connected to those who are like them, to revisit feelings, and maybe the places too.

Those who adapted best to each new relocation site came from families who saw each move as an adventure. The family that recognized feelings associated with moves, yet involved family members in the moves, adjusted the best. It seems that many military children will grow up to feel a certain amount of restlessness when they stop moving. The problem occurs when those feelings cause a heightened sense of alienation and rootlessness. There are serious repercussions for the individuals who feels deserted, rejected, or devalued because they have never felt attached to anyone. One way to have individuals recognize that they are not alone, and that they share key similarities with others, is to connect them with other Brats who understand their past. Recognizing that individuals fit into several human groups is important. Brats accumulate their identity from the cultures they spend their youth in, and acknowledging all the parts of that identity is important.



HEIDELBERG DAZE THE RAVINGS OF A BOY-CRAZY EIGHTH GRADER

HEIDELBERG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 1956-1957

By Mary Williams Schaller

**AN 82-PAGE, SPIRAL-BOUND BOOKLET WITH PHOTOS AND MEMORABILIA
FROM THE AUTHOR'S COLLECTION**

Editor's Note: This book is about a young girl, educated up through the 7th grade in a private Catholic girls' school in Virginia, and who suddenly became an eighth grader, with boys, in Heidelberg, Germany. She then returned to a private school for grades 9 through 12. It is factual, hilarious, and must reading for those who have taught 11-14 year olds, and those who enjoy observing the self-conscious physical, psychological and emotional interplay of adolescents discovering the opposite sex. Below are a few quotes from the book which she has dedicated, "With deepest gratitude and love to the best teacher I ever had, Mr. William L. Churchman." We wish we could print the whole book for you. Mary can be contacted at 5845 Parakeet Drive, Burke, VA 22015.

This book relies on several sources—biased in the author's favor. First and foremost are the sporadic entries from my diary. Only events gloriously wonderful or utterly horrible were recorded. Aiding and abetting the diary are two small scrapbooks from that super year in Heidelberg.

Finally, the author was thirteen years old at the time—a wretched age of adolescence. For nineteen years I was educated and cocooned in private, Catholic, all-girl schools—with one Technicolor exception. At thirteen, a twist of fate and the US Army thrust me into the eighth grade at Heidelberg Junior High School in Heidelberg, Germany. Elvis Presley ruled instead of Reverend Mother.

Living in post-war Germany added an extra flavor to this pivotal episode. Weekend trips to Garmisch or Paris were commonplace. The senior prom was held in the courtyard of an ancient castle on the mountainside. Everyone spoke pet phrases in two languages. Hiding my insecurities behind borrowed feathers, I joined this flock of exotic beings and savored life beyond the convent walls. It was a year that forever changed my life.

The Army aspect of my life had been muted. Ever since my war-widowed mother re-married in 1949, I had enjoyed a civilian lifestyle. I had no experience living on an Army post. I was in for a multi-level cultural shock.

July found us at Fort Hamilton in New York where we awaited our less-than luxurious transportation to the Old World—a troop ship named the USNS GENERAL SIMON B. BUCKNER. We arrived in Bremerhaven. I hated it. I didn't like the sound of spoken German. I didn't like the way people dressed. We stuffed ourselves and our luggage into two tiny compartments on a train, then clickity-clacked off into the night.

We moved into a barracks-like building located in a mud hole called Patrick Henry Village. The construction was only half finished. I was unimpressed and dreadfully homesick. There was no one to talk to. My mother immediately went on a house-hunting expedition. She picked the most phenomenal one of the lot. "We will never live like this again," she announced. Number 10 Grimburgweg was an enormous mansion that hung off the side of the mountain overlooking the oldest part of Heidelberg. It is even visible on panoramic postcards of the Altstadt.

August sparkled with a fresh adventure almost daily. My homesickness for Virginia faded. Germany wasn't too bad. They had much better chocolate than in America. I started teaching myself German with the help of Josephine our maid, and Micki Maus comic books. A favorite place to spend my Deutschmarks was a wonderful toy shop. I had never seen anything quite like it in the States.

Things changed the day school started.

Diary: Monday, September 10: Today I started to a new school (Heidelberg Junior High)—a boy and girl school. My teacher is Mr. (William) Churchman. I looked over the boys. They are a motley lot. I sat down behind a girl and I found I was sitting next to a boy (Ralph Becker) and in front of a boy. I was scared. There is a boy in the third row, the last seat. He has blond hair and a green shirt. I don't know what his name is yet, but I like him. "I was scared" is a vast understatement. My first day at Heidelberg Junior High packed more novel experiences into six hours than I would ever want to repeat. It was a quantum leap in my schoolhouse career.

Gone now was the security of a predictable wardrobe. My Dutch-boy haircut refused to cooperate, my acne had tripled overnight and, for the first three hours of that God-awful morning, I thought I was going to throw up. Mr. William Churchman turned out to be the best teacher I ever had, but I didn't know that at 8:30 in the morning of September 10, 1956.

The firsts go on and on. I had never had a locker before. I had never changed classrooms before. Most of all, I had never been in the same classroom with those strange life forms that share our planet—boys! My prior traffic with boys was minimal and of the I'll-wipe-your-face-in-the-mud variety. None of them had made my heart flutter. Somehow, while crossing the Atlantic, my emotional puberty arrived. Now I sized up the boys with whom I would spend the next eternal, nine months. The prospect looked daunting. Over half of them were taller than me, another new and discomforting experience.

Diary: Friday, September 28: That boy (see September 10) is named Bill Haines. He lives in Little America. I don't know where yet. I never did find out where in Little America he lived. As it was I would stalk poor Bill for the entire school year. I had never lost my heart to anyone before, so on this first go-around I fell hard and fast.

For reasons known to God and my mother, I was allowed to attend my first live football game. I had never had a football team to drench with my undying loyalty. Now I swelled with pride to sport the school's blue and gold colors. At home I chanted: "I am a Lion born and a Lion bred. And when I die, I'll be a Lion dead." That cheer tickled my stepfather. More than 40 years later he still recited it.

(Editor's Note: The story, month by month, gets better between Sept. 28 and July 15, the last quoted diary entry below.)

Diary: Monday, July 15: Yesterday, I said good-bye to Ann and climbed aboard our plane at 10:00 p.m. We sat on the wing section. Mom was nervous and sick. I didn't get much sleep and I went for almost 48 hours without sleep. We are in Fort Dix, NJ. It is breezy. We returned to the States on a hellish twenty-three hour flight in a fully-loaded MATS transport plane. Peter was air sick most of the way. Mom was a nervous wreck and eventually made herself sick. My stepfather doped himself up with air-sickness pills and catnapped. I read a book, looked out the window at nothing, tried to sleep amid the wailing babies and ate whatever the stewardess put in front of me. I was lonely, heartsick and depressed.

In early September I found myself back in the Washington, D.C. area, back in an all-girl Catholic school and back in uniform. With a sigh of relief, my mother had returned me to a safer world—one of predictability and stability. She didn't have to worry about me losing my virtue or enduring slipshod academic standards. All my new little friends were entirely acceptable because they were from our social class. Mom breathed easier.

Initially, I hated it, but as the weeks multiplied into months, the memories of my one year of freedom slipped into the far recesses of my mind. My days in Heidelberg took on a golden glow. I am forever thankful for all the lessons I learned there, both in and out of the classroom.

During my first week at Stone Ridge Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, one of my new classmates asked me, "Aren't you the girl from Germany?" I brightened. "Yes," I replied, hoping we had a kindred experience. She gave me a patronizing smile. "You certainly speak English well," she said. ☐

REUNION UPDATES

Rochefort Rocket Rendezvous September 25 – October 3, 1998

By Pat Riley Blackwell, 118 Fox Trail NW, Cleveland TN 37312, (423) 476-6050

Approximately 50 alumni, spouses, and friends have registered for the Rendezvous. Half are traveling as a group and the other half as independent travelers who will meet the group in either Paris or Rochefort.

After departing from three Gateway Cities—Atlanta, New York, and Chicago, our Delta planes arrive in Paris within 15 minutes of each other the morning of September 26 and a private coach will take us to the Sofitel Forum Rive Gauche Hotel for the day and night. On Sunday the 27th, the private coach will take us to the Rochefort Corderie Royal Hotel. On Monday we will meet with the Mayor and other city officials and present them with goodwill *Franco-American* gifts. Each person will bring a small item representative of where he/she lives. An appropriately engraved plaque, commemorating our visit and acknowledging the 40th anniversary of the closing of our school in 1958, will be presented to the city.

The mayor has made arrangements for us to visit our old Rochefort American High School Building—which is now being used by an airplane manufacturing company, and is not usually open to the public.

On Tuesday the group will make a private one-day excursion to Cognac, Angouleme and Brantome, and also visit the Remy Martin Winery.

The city of Rochefort is rebuilding the frigate "Hermione," in which LaFayette sailed to America to inform the colonies that France would be their ally and send military assistance. The rebuilding of the frigate will be an authentic tribute to LaFayette, and maintain the memory of a great adventure of solidarity between men. The Rochefort American High School Alumni Association will make a monetary donation to the rebuilding effort.

Wednesday evening will culminate the visit to Rochefort with a farewell dinner at which the Mayor and the City of Rochefort Webmaster (who has been of great assistance in making preparations), and their spouses will be our guests. There will be plenty of free time for everyone to explore their old haunts and visit their old homesites.

On Thursday the group will return to the Paris Hotel and city site-seeing, then on October 3, return to the states.

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DoDDS - FLORIDA REUNION

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

October 30 – November 1 at the Langford Hotel in Winter Park, FL

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

Telephone 407-331-4828

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Change of Hotel BRATS GATHERING Change of Hotel

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

October 22 – 25 now at the Ramada Inn Resort Maingate

2950 Reedy Creek Blvd. Kissimmee, FL 34747 (Just off US Hwy 192 West, a mile from Disney)

To register, **contact Joe Condrill**, PO Box 29805, San Antonio, TX 78229 <osbpres@aol.com>

Call 1-800-365-6935 to book your hotel reservation. Booking Code: MID#OV1021

\$70/night, single or double

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