

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*



Following the First Annual Meeting of AOSHS Members in Washington, DC in 1996, Jean C. Derry of Mill Valley, California realized the special meaning and purpose of AOSHS; she had a grasp on its potential and wanted to be a part of it! Before leaving, she donated \$100 for the first inscribed brick to be installed "... in an American Overseas Schools Historical Park-somewhere." This was long before the vision of a historical park was agreed upon.

Since July of 1998, when Wichita, Kansas was selected by the membership to be the site of an American Overseas Schools Historical Park, the possibility of such an achievement has increasingly motivated and driven thousands of overseas educators, students, families, and friends towards the realization of this goal. Articles in this issue of The Quarterly point in that direction.

Based on the research of two board members and suggestions from the Architectural Advisory Committee, a Beautification Program for the historical park was announced in November 1999. Since then, inscribed bricks, blocks, and polished granite pavers honoring live and deceased individuals, schools, and alumni associations have been selling beyond expectations. This is atypical for such a project, especially prior to groundbreaking.

Fundraising for Phase One of the Historical Park—beginning in January 2001—is announced, starting on page five. There is also a strong request that all members donate to an Endowment Fund, the interest of which will pay staff salaries, utilities, and maintenance in perpetuity. With an adequate endowment fund, park administrators will not have to rely solely on annual fund drives.

This issue also reports on four interesting collections in the archives, one of which is about a pre-WW-II US Army Dependents School on Corregidor in the Philippines during the late 1930's.

An abstract and a report regarding "Unofficial Ambassadors": American Military Families Overseas and Cold War Foreign Relations, 1945-1965, a dissertation by Dr. Donna Alvah, will be interesting reading for all members, particularly those who were interviewed or participated by survey in the study.



AOSHS POLICY

The Trustees realize that to obtain all 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 not recommend nor will it 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.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATA -



The AOSHS has three personnel databases maintained by: **JOHN BROKAW**, **TINA CALO**, and **MARGIE PRATER KUGLER**. If you have been, or are an overseas educator, 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**. If you have been, or are an overseas student, please send your name, (including

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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**.



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AOSHS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Drysdale, President and Editor; 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. Brian Drysdale, Desktop Publishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

⇒ AOSHS Membership Dues At the Fifth Annual Meeting of Members in Boston, MA on July 17, 2000, members voted to increase dues from \$10 to \$20 per year. Members not present who have a personal concern about the increase should contact AOSHS individually. To date, operational costs have exceeded revenue from dues, requiring reliance on donations by members to the Operational Fund. Further justification is based on increasing costs of printing, postage, and the need to publish professional quality promotional brochures and materials for potential funders beginning in 2001. The increase will be implemented beginning the fourth quarter of 2000. Example: A member, who joined AOSHS during the fourth quarter (Oct-Dec) of any year, will have a dues increase from \$10 to \$20 during the fourth quarter of 2000. The increase will take place during your renewal cycle over the next year.

⇒ AOSHS BYLAWS AMENDED At the Fifth Annual Meeting of Members in Boston, MA on July 17, 2000, members voted to change the wording of ARTICLE FOUR, SECTION 1, Paragraph 4 from "Officers must reside in the State in which the Archive is physically located." to "Officers may reside in any state or territory of the United States of America."

Of 131 US Dependents Schools teachers in Europe in December 1946, seven are members of AOSHS and were honored during the Fifth Annual Meeting of Members in Boston, MA on July 21, 2000. They are Faye Abrell, Alfred Beerbaum, Eunice Chute (recently deceased), Rex Gleason, Claris and Marie Glick, and Gay Long (recently deceased).

The five living members were unable to attend, but they and the families of Eunice and Gay have received letters of commendation and recognition from AOSHS. The Society is also recognizing the service of these seven members, with the purchase of a 24x24-inch polished, granite paver, which will be placed in the forecourt of the historical park. The paver will be inscribed with their names and the following:

*"Do not follow where the path may lead,
go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."*

Emerson

*These AOSHS members were in the first
group of educators to be assigned to the
military's schools overseas in 1946. They
left a well-marked trail to follow.*

⇒ AOSHS WEBSITE: {<http://aoshs.wichita.edu>} The site, courtesy of Wichita State University, provides a wide range of information and web links of interest to current and former American overseas schools students and educators including the American Overseas Schools Archives (AOSA) and the future Museum and Historical Park. Some of the areas contained in the site include AOSHS and AOSA information; onsite AOSHS membership registration; a directory of schools with school and alumni group contact information; links to resources for locating former friends and classmates; information on upcoming AOSHS related activities; and updates on construction plans for Phase I of the Historical Park—the Visitors Center. The AOSHS Webmaster, Lyn Baskett Fort, is President of the HH Arnold High School Alumni Group and webmaster for the HH Arnold Alumni HS website.

⇒ Volunteer of the Year The announcement of the Annual AOSHS Volunteer of the Year Award was made at the DoDDS-XII Reunion in Boston. The selectee was Marie Espinoza, AOSHS representative for Region 2. Marie demonstrated outstanding dedication to her representative responsibilities. She has created and diligently maintains

a list of all known DoDDS'ites in her region; represents AOSHS at Alumni Association Reunions held in Las Vegas, and is active in support of the AOSHS memorial and membership programs. Marie is one great volunteer!

⇒ AOSHS Boater Totes, and Smaller Tote Bags are Available The "AOSHS Little Red School House" logo design Boater Tote Bags that sold out at the recent DoDDS-XII Reunion in Boston are again available. Two new sizes are also available. All sizes have the full "AOSHS Little Red School House Whose Windows are the World" logo by Jim Louwers (Honorable Mention winner in the logo contest) printed in seven brilliant colors and is made of heavy canvas.

Large Boater Tote	(19½ x 14½ x 5")	with outside pocket & handles	\$20.00 each
Smaller Boater Tote	(16 x 12 x 5")	with outside pocket & handles	\$17.00 each
Small Gusset Tote	(10½ x 14 x 5")	with hand-shoulder straps	\$13.00 each

Shipping to the same address: One bag \$3.00; two bags \$4.00; three bags \$5.00; four bags \$6.00 All profits after cost, printing, and shipping go into the AOSHS Building Fund.

NOTE: \$422.45 went into the Building Fund from the sale of the first order of 72!

Send check/money order payable to "AOSHS" to cover the cost of your order to:

Pat Taft, 8153 E. Madero Ave., Mesa, AZ 85208-5238. E-mail <btaft@dancris.com>.

⇒ AOSHS has a Supply of T-shirts, Caps, and Patches AOSHS logo patches are \$5.00 and AOSHS caps are \$16.00. Basic white or ash-gray T-shirts, with an AOSHS logo on the upper-left, front are \$16.00 and are available in sizes M, L, XL, XXL, and XXXL. These items make great gifts for your current and past overseas friends. Make checks payable to AOSHS and send your order to Lee Davis, 2224 Periwinkle, Mesa, AZ 85206.

⇒ The address for The American Overseas Schools Archives (AOSA) is 539 South Water Street, Wichita, KS 67202. Send historical items and memorabilia to this address. The address for The AOS Historical Society (AOSHS) remains the same: PO Box 777, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340. Send correspondence, membership and renewal applications to this address. E-mail sent to the <OverseasSchools@Juno.Com> address is received at both locations.

⇒ New School in Greece Minutes of the Joint Labor-Management Committee Meeting, printed March 28, 2000 by the Overseas Federation of Teachers in Verona, Italy report that the new Larisa Elem School has 9-10 staff members, and is in a remote area of Greece, mid-way between Thessalonika and Athens. The school, located at a new sub-regional NATO headquarters, near Larisa, is 60 kilometers inland from the Aegean Sea.

⇒ The First Annual Seminar of the Academy for International School Heads was held June 27-July 1, 2000 in Warrington, Virginia. The Academy is the first institution created solely for the professional and personal growth of international school heads. It is an independent, non-profit institution founded by several international school organizations. Dr. Niall Nelson, Headmaster of the Jakarta International School in Jakarta, Indonesia (and an active AOSHS member) was recently elected as Board President of the new Academy. *From The International Educator, official publication of The Overseas Schools Assistance Corporation, a private non-profit corporation chartered in Massachusetts.*

⇒ Ambassadors Visit Kansas A group of foreign ambassadors and other dignitaries from 40 countries recently toured the state and visited Wichita. The tour's purpose was to highlight Kansas' products and services to the world and strengthen the state's relationship with foreign countries by fostering international trade and investment. The goal was to show that Kansas is more than sunflowers and wheat. The ambassadors were served dinner one evening at Exploration Place, the new hands-on science museum on the river that opened April 1st.



WHY AOSHS?

Quoting from the AOSHS Mission Statement—to establish an historical park to collect, record, display, and preserve the history, memorabilia, and contributions of students, educators, support personnel, and organizations promoting American ideals and education for students worldwide.

Who believes this?

The dues paying members of AOSHS! They are the strongest believers. Many have donated large amounts of their time and money since the beginning of the Archives in 1989 and the Historical Society in 1995. They are convinced that there is a need for AOSHS.

Others who believe, and are strong supporters of AOSHS, are (1) the city of Wichita, Kansas which is providing eight acres for the historical park in the middle of its Museums on the River District; (2) Wichita State University, which is hosting an AOSHS Web Site linked to hundreds of schools, alumni associations, and other organizations; (3) the Departments of Defense and State, the Federal Education Association, the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the American Association of School Administrators; and (4) overseas schools alumni associations, from which we have letters of endorsement, support, and encouragement.

Why are we raising these questions?

A number of potential funding sources for the American Overseas Schools Historical Park have already been identified. Potential? Yes, because we need first to convince them that their money will be well invested; and that AOSHS has a future—one with which they can become involved. There are many funders who want to contribute to nonprofit organizations that are capable of meeting the needs of society, or a particular society such as American overseas schools' students and educators.

We have learned that in the fundraising process, the needs of AOSHS must be determined first. This we have done and articulated in our need statements. This is then followed by the identification of funders who will want to help, and with whom we can develop partnerships—dynamic collaborations wherein AOSHS will be assisted in meeting its needs, and donors can monitor the success of their investments and also be recognized.

During the past two years we have visited with the leaders of many museums and historical parks. They have shared their successes and failures and volunteered to be of assistance in the years ahead. Based on their progress, trials and errors, they have consistently recommended that we establish now, not later, an endowment to pay for the salaries of staff, utilities, and maintenance of the historical park in perpetuity. This we plan to do.

We are now involved in writing proposals that will request potential funders to contribute to an AOSHS Endowment Fund of \$2,500,000. In doing so, we will need to present them with evidence that members of AOSHS are dedicated, supportive, and also contributing to the fund.

Therefore this is an urgent request for all members to donate to the AOSHS Endowment Fund. Our goal is a donation from every member. We want to show potential funders that our membership is involved 100%. We ask you to give only what is comfortable to give, but please do give, and help AOSHS meet its need to exist. Many members have given generously in the past. Now we have something for all to focus on.

Following is the official announcement of the Funding Program for Phase One of the Historical Park. Please read it carefully, and then please send a check to *The AOSHS Endowment Fund*.

ANNOUNCING THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL PARK PHASE ONE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

Fundraising for Phase One of the American Overseas Schools Historical Park in Wichita, Kansas will officially begin on January 1, 2001.

Preparation for the fundraising program has been “in the works” since July 1998 when Wichita was selected by the membership, from 13 other metropolitan areas. Quoting Mayor Bob Knight—*“The Historical Park and Archives Museum will be a tribute to millions who have attended overseas schools, many of them while family members served their country in the US military.”* and *“... 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.”*

Prior to this official announcement of a fundraising program, important “groundwork” had to be accomplished. We will continue “groundwork” activities indefinitely, but enough has now been done to begin the exciting activity of raising funds for Construction of Phase One of the Historical Park. Some examples of “groundwork” are as follows:

For seven months following Mayor Knight’s press release, the Society was a “beehive of activity,” accomplishing...

- ✓ *The appointment of an Architectural Advisory Committee* Alumni: Diana Jean Kempton, Chairperson; Pat Riley Blackwell; Joy Harper Bryant; Linda Yetter Irvine; Irene Keller Phillips; John Walker; and Educators: Leslie Burch; James Louwers; Walter Peik; and Linda Heibert Sekiguchi.
- ✓ *The shipment of 20,000 pounds of archives* from Goodyear, AZ to 539 South Water Street, Wichita, KS, a building provided at no expense by the city.
- ✓ *An Architectural Advisory Committee survey of the worldwide membership for suggestions* regarding the design of buildings and grounds for the Historical Park.
- ✓ The review of applications from architectural firms nationwide, and *the February 1999 selection of Schaefer Johnson Cox Frey, PA of Wichita, to be architects for Phase One of the Historical Park.*

Groundwork increased during 1999 including...

- ✓ *Multiple spreadsheets of member suggestions for the Historical Park, prioritized* by Architectural Advisory Chairperson, Diana Jean Kempton, and delivered to SJCF architects in Wichita.
- ✓ *A three dimensional domed model and renderings of the Historical Park*, designed by SJCF architects, displayed at the Nürnberg (Germany) High School Alumni Reunion in Breckenridge, CO; the DoDDS-XI Reunion and Annual Meeting of AOSHS Members in San Diego, CA; the Madrid/Torrejón (Spain) Schools Alumni Association Reunion in Scottsdale, AZ; a DoDDS Leadership Conference for Administrators in Phoenix, AZ; and the Overseas Brats Homecoming '99 in Dallas, TX.
- ✓ *Historical Park, Phase One Beautification Project established*—Memorials for living and deceased students, educators, school personnel, and families.
- ✓ *Distribution and installation of six (of nine) computer stations*—computers, printers, scanners; laptop computer and printer—in Arizona, Kansas and Texas to improve an already established communication network of board members in AZ, volunteers in KS, and the AOSHS Director of Communications in TX. (Donated by INSIGHT, a global marketer of brand name computers, hardware and software, in Tempe, AZ).
- ✓ *Guidance and planning assistance for the Historical Park, obtained* by Lee Davis, 1st Vice President, in visits with administrators of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum in Savannah, GA; the Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, NC; the Naval and Maritime Museum Foundation in Charleston, SC; the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, FL; the Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile, AL; and the D-Day Museum (Amphibious) in New Orleans, LA.

...and, continued in Year 2000 to date, such as...

- ✓ **An expansion of the Memorial Fund Program** in Scottsdale, AZ, following work sessions with the designers of the Plaza of Heroines at Wichita State University, by board members Lee Davis and Memorial Program Director, Ann Bamberger.
- ✓ **Continuing guidance and planning sessions** (since 1998) by Tom Drysdale, President; with Jeanne Goodvin, Special Projects Director, Wichita City Manager's Office; Joan Cole, Council Member, Wichita District 6 (the location of the Historical Park); SJCF Architect, Sam Frey; Bob Puckett, Director, Wichita/Sedgwick County Historical Museum; and Eric Keys, Director, Wichita African American Museum. Additional visits with directors of Museums on the River District—Kay Blair, Society of Decorative Painters; Barbara Yarnell, Botanica Gardens; Gloria Campbell, Old Cow Town Museum; Charles Steiner, Wichita Art Museum; and Phil Frick, Exploration Place.
- ✓ **An AOSHS Web Site**, sponsored by Wichita State University, following several months work by Michael Erickson, Assistant Director, WSU Computing; Webmaster Lyn Baskett Fort, President H.H. Arnold HS Alumni Association (Germany); assisted by Fred Rae, Ramey HS Alumni Association, (Puerto Rico); and Glenn Greenwood, Ramey HS Alumni Association, and AOSHS Communications Director.
- ✓ **Helping leaders of several Military Brat organizations** hold a Memorial Day Weekend open house on May 28, to thank the City of Wichita for offering to be the Hometown for Brats, and to thank AOSHS for establishing archives and a future museum. About 150 Brats and friends attended the event, from Kansas and neighboring states. The organizations and their leaders were: Operation Footlocker, Reta Jones Nicholson, and Gene Moser; Military Brats Registry, Marc Curtis; TCK World (Third Culture Kids), Sam Britten; Schools Without Walls, Gary Gordon; and Alt.Culture.Military-Brats News, Anne Manning Christopherson.

It is important to mention that it would have been impossible to initiate or become involved in the above important groundwork activities, had not the other volunteer members of the Board of Directors kept the AOSHS "ship on course": A. Lucille Hansen, 2nd Vice President—Early Days Book; filing; audio and video recordings; historical records; newsletter assistance. Bruce Taft—Computer assistance; INSIGHT liaison; T-shirts, caps, logos, tote bag sales; and newsletter assistance. Donna Gillis—Mail collection; filing; correspondence; and newsletter assistance. Susan Schubert—Correspondence; overseas students research; filing; newsletter assistance. And, a dozen or so other volunteers who helped keep costs down by stuffing *AOSHS Quarterly* envelopes each February, May, August, and November.

PHASE ONE FUNDRAISING SPECIFICS

The two most frequent recommendations from directors of the above museums were "... do not be in a hurry," and "... in the beginning, raise funds for an endowment to pay salaries, utilities and maintenance." It was stated by at least half of the directors, that what we are doing now, they wish they had done 10–20 years ago. We have learned that some large and important museums exist month-to-month, raising money to pay for salaries and utilities. A number of them are at this late date playing catch-up trying to raise funds for an endowment. We also learned of other museums, which built first, then had to close their doors, due to a lack of revenue.

So, following the advice of those who have gone before, some of which have learned the hard way, we will not build first then try to exist entirely on annual fund drives. What we will do is establish an endowment fund, regardless how long it takes, to pay utilities, maintenance and salaries in perpetuity. This will make the archives, museum and Historical Park more attractive to funders who will want to invest in an organization with a guaranteed future.

In a recent meeting with Sam Frey of SJCF, PA we received their latest estimate, below, of the cost to build Phase One of the Historical Park:

CONSTRUCTION:

SCOPE OF WORK	AREA	COST/SF	ESTIMATED
LAND	FIVE ACRES	DONATED	\$ 0,000,000
SITE DEVELOPMENT *	150,000 SF	\$ 5.00	750,000
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	7,000 SF	150.00	1,050,000
FURNISHINGS AND EQUIP	7,000 SF	20.00	140,000
MISC. EXPENSES **			200,000
CONTINGENCY			250,000

TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:

2,390,000

***SITE DEVELOPMENT:**

Landscaping, Parking
Plaza Development,
Sculpture,
Flagpoles etc.
Utilities Extensions

****MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:**

Architectural / Engineering Fees
Insurance / Surveys
Soil borings
Geo-technical Analysis
Contract Administrative Expenses

Based on consultations with the directors of the Wichita/Sedgwick Historical Museum, the Society of Decorative Painters, Wichita Botanical Museum, and the Wichita Art Museum, beginning salaries for three persons, who will be on-hand during the construction of Phase One:

PERSONNEL:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / DEVELOPMENT	\$ 35-39,000
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	26-29,000
BUILDING SUPERVISOR / MAINTENANCE (\$9-11 PER HR)	<u>10,000</u>
TOTAL ANNUAL PERSONNEL EXPENSE	<u>61-78,000</u>

Based on a meeting with Kay Blair, Director of the Society of Decorative Painters—the museum most comparable in size to Phase One of the Historical Park—we can expect utilities to be approximately as follows. (Maintenance costs will be low for several years because the building will be new):

UTILITIES / MAINTENANCE EXPENSE:**UTILITIES**

WATER / SEWER	\$ 513
ELECTRIC	8,500
GAS	<u>2,050</u>
TOTAL ANNUAL UTILITIES EXPENSE	<u>11,063</u>

MAINTENANCE:

HEAT / AIR	\$ 1,625
CLEANING	3,750
TRASH	375
SECURITY	300
PEST CONTROL	250
LAWN / PLANTS / SNOW	1,265
MISCELLANEOUS	<u>750</u>
TOTAL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE EXPENSE	<u>8,315</u>

TOTAL ANNUAL UTILITIES/MAINTENANCE EXPENSE 19,378

The interest from an endowment fund of \$2,500,000 will pay for the salaries of personnel, utilities and maintenance. The principal will not be touched, but will grow in future years when Phases Two, Three and Four are constructed.

(Endowment funds generate income through the prudent investment of the principal. Because only the interest is used, endowment funds last in perpetuity.)

Repeat! This is an urgent request for all members to donate to the AOSHS Endowment Fund: Our goal is a donation from every member. We need to show potential funders that our membership is also involved, 100%!

The AOSHS Memorial Fund

PO Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261

INDIVIDUAL REMEMBRANCES

Your personal donations of remembrance should be made out to the AOSHS Memorial Fund with the honoree designated on the memo line of the check. Please remember to include an order card, which shows what you would like inscribed on the memorial. If you need an order card to do this, just request it when you send the check, and one will be sent with the receipt. Send your check to the AOSHS Memorial Program, PO Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUNDS

Following are both first and second (last) announcements for memorial funds that have been established. If you choose to contribute to one or more of these funds, please make your check payable to the AOSHS MEMORIAL FUND, with the honoree designated on the memo line of the check. Mail to AOSHS Memorial Fund, PO Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

THE DR. DONALD DEAN FENWICK (1938-1999) MEMORIAL FUND

Don is a native of Grant, Nebraska and he received a Master's and a Doctorate degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska. He joined the Department of Defense Dependents Schools in 1967 employed as a psychologist in England and Germany. Accepting the position of Coordinator of Pupil Personnel Services for the Mediterranean District in 1973 he moved to Athens, Greece and Naples, Italy. He then worked as an assistant principal in Zama High School in Japan before accepting a position as Special Education Coordinator for the Far East Region based in Okinawa. He retired after 27 years of service in 1994. Don's dedication and concern for those with and for whom he worked earned him the love and respect of his colleagues, teachers, parents and community.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

THE SHIRLEY ISAACSON (1932-1994) MEMORIAL FUND

From Clarinda, Iowa, Shirley received her BA degree from the University of Iowa and MA from Michigan State. After teaching three years in her home state, she began a 30-year career with DoDDS, taking her first assignment in Germany in 1961. Successive transfers took her to France, England, Japan, Okinawa, and The Philippines. Shirley retired in 1991 due to terminal cancer, and returned to Clarinda to be near her family and many friends. She was an extremely conscientious and generous person who loved a good joke, and infected us with her hearty laughter. Fruende, Amie, Tomadachi, Kaibigan, FRIEND.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**THE GAY ALTA LONG (1908-2000) MEMORIAL FUND**

Gay Long, a founding teacher of Army Dependents Schools in Germany, passed away January 6, 2000. Arriving in Germany in 1946 she enjoyed a career as teacher of arts and crafts in Frankfurt then Supervisor, Arts and Crafts with 7135th School Group in Wiesbaden that took her to Air Force Dependents Schools in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Gay was beloved in overseas school communities for 27 years. She produced combined yearbooks for Army and Air Force high schools in Europe and the Middle East, which still give pleasure to thousands of former students. After retiring to Kingston, TN she enjoyed visits from former colleagues and family at her beautiful home on the Clinch River.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**THE WILLIAM "BILL" LUTZ (1921-1999) MEMORIAL FUND**

Bill, a native of New Jersey, joined the Marine Corp immediately following Pearl Harbor, and was a veteran of the crucial Guadalcanal Campaign in 1942-1943. Following World War II, he attended Seton Hall where he earned a Bachelor's degree and later a Master's degree. He received his Doctorate from the University of Southern California. His career as an educator began as an elementary teacher in his home state and his first teaching assignment overseas was at Paris Elementary School. From there he served as a Teacher/Principal in Poitiers and Garmisch. He was Principal at Würzburg, Heidelberg, Incirlik, and Torrejón before becoming the Administrative Officer for the Mediterranean Region. Bill retired in 1985, and lived in Englewood, Florida.

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**THE ROBERT J. PLATENBERG (1921-1998) MEMORIAL FUND**

Born in Iowa, Robert received BA and MA degrees from the University of Iowa. From 1942 to 1945, he was in the US Army in Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines. He was a high school teacher and superintendent in Iowa before joining DoDDS in 1957 as a high school teacher in Bremerhaven, Germany. He then served as Principal, Würzburg High School; Assistant Principal, Frankfurt High School; Principal, Poitiers, France High School; Principal, Mannheim High School; Principal, Darmstadt Elem and Junior High School; and completed 35 years of overseas service to American boys, girls, and teachers as Principal of the Darmstadt Elem School. Bob was loved and respected by all and was known to his faculty as "Papa P".

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**THE HAZEL MARIE YOUNGMAN (1909-1995) MEMORIAL FUND**

Hazel was born to George and Mary Youngman on a farm near Hecla, SD, and was a beloved and respected teacher and administrator at the Nürnberg American High School, 1954-1977. At the beginning of WW-II she was a foreign language translator for the government in San Antonio. After the war, she worked in the Department of Navy Education Office in Long Beach. She was then employed by the Department of Army Overseas Dependents Schools System and served in Japan, France, Marburg and Wiesbaden, Germany prior to arriving in Nürnberg in 1954. She died in Fullerton, CA.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**THE DR. JOSEPH H. BLACKSTEAD (1924-2000) MEMORIAL FUND**

Born in Minot, ND, Joseph Blackstead was raised on Standing Rock Indian Reservation. He served in the Navy during WW-II as Executive Officer of an LTC. Following military service he completed his BA and MA degrees, and later received a doctorate from the University of Arizona. Joe's 42-year career with the DoD Dependents Schools began in 1952. Assignments included Teacher/Coach at Nürnberg and Madrid High Schools; Principal, Johnson HS; Superintendent in Japan and Korea; Deputy Director, Pacific Region; Director, Germany Region; and Director, DoDDS Europe. The memory of "Dr. B's" love of life, courage, compassion, integrity, and humility will remain a source of strength and inspiration for those who knew him.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**THE ALEXANDER H. KYRIOS (1917-1988) MEMORIAL FUND**

Alexander (Al) Kyrios arrived in Berlin in 1948 and stayed involved with the overseas schools in Europe and Africa until he passed away in 1988, with 40-years of service in Europe, which was the longest at that time. Al started as teacher and coach in Berlin. In 1953, Al and his bride moved to Rochefort, France for his first assignment as a principal. Then he moved to Bremerhaven for two years, followed by Heidelberg as principal from 1955-61. Al then was assigned to the overseas schools headquarters in Karlsruhe as secondary curriculum coordinator. In this position, he traveled to every high school in Europe (about 40) every three years. He is fondly remembered by all of his students.

INTERESTING COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES

The American Overseas Schools Archives (AOSA), now located at 539 South Water Street in Wichita, Kansas continues to grow with the establishment of new individual, school, and above-school-level collections. Additions to existing collections are often received.

AOSA consists of three separate, but cross referenced archives: DoD Overseas Dependents Schools; Department of State supported and other international schools; and Section 6, PL 81-874 schools for military dependents in the US, Puerto Rico and Guam, now referred to as Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS).

More educators and alumni are finally realizing that it is wise to send their memorabilia to the archives, where each item is classified, recorded, and preserved in their names, in their own collections. We have learned that saving items for loved ones under the bed, in the attic, garage, closet, office or storage facility, is not wise. Frequently books, photographs, artifacts, personal papers and memoirs, saved for descendants, are lost, damaged, trashed, and even sold, after they pass on. Many misplace or lose their treasures while living.

Members, frequently inform us that they have items to donate to the archives, and ask if we would be interested, or if we already have identical items. Our answer is always an emphatic *yes*, regardless of any duplication! These inquiries usually come from those who assume the archives operate similar to a library, with a filing and storage system such as Dewey Decimal or the

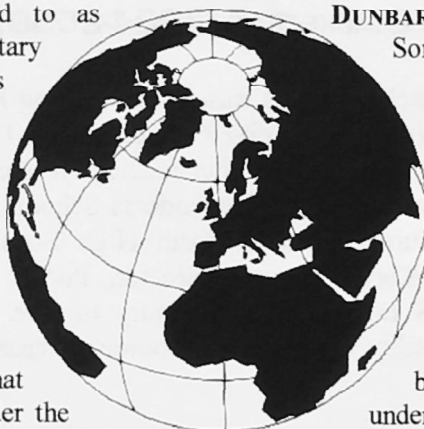
Library of Congress. We are also frequently asked if we would like to have a certain item for *our* archives, not realizing that the archives are a repository for *their* memorabilia.

Following guidance from the National Archives, after classifying an item (e.g., book, trophy, set of orders, curriculum guide, official paper, train ticket to Tokyo, etc.), we record it in the AOSA computer and backup catalogue. It is then filed intact with other items in the collection under the donor's name, e.g. **THE HELEN (ALONZO) DUNBAR COLLECTION.**

Some donors prefer to have their collections identified with a school or above school office, such as **THE JOHN F. BAUMAN - OSLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COLLECTION.**

Initially it was very frustrating to have unopened collections on hand that had not been classified, recorded, and filed under the names of the donors. Upon asking Frank Evans, then Deputy Director of the National Archives in Washington, DC how best to get caught up, he informed us the first indication that an archive is important and meeting a need, "... is a large backlog of work." He further stated that the first indication an archive is not important and not needed, "... is being caught up on work to do." He then said, "We should start worrying if we ever get caught up."

We have a sign in the archives of a cartoon many readers have seen before. It's of a funny little character with a frown on his face, beside which are the words, "God put me on earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now, I am so far behind, I will never die."



An item in the archives, donated by AF Colonel (Ret) Ransom McBride of Cary, NC to the

THE AMERICAN POST SCHOOL FORT MILLS, CORREGIDOR, PHILLIPINE ISLANDS COLLECTION

is of particular interest to elementary school teachers

The item is a student delinquency report form with his name written in at the top-left corner by the teacher M.B. Keeler. The date of the report is Jan. 20, 1938. The delinquency reported was for "Flying a paper airplane," and the action taken was a Demerit. The teacher signed the form, which was also approved and signed by the Post School Officer Major Canable.

This collection of the American Post School at Fort Mills, Corregidor, though small, is important historically. Donated by Col. McBride, it contains articles in the Manila Bulletin regarding drama school programs and a student honor roll, two photographs of the 7th and 8th grades with Ransom and teacher Miriam Keeler. All 15 students are identified, except two.

Also Included is a program for Graduation Exercises of the Eighth Grade, on March 25, 1938. Ransom is listed as Co-Valedictorian. Excerpts from his Farewell Address follow:

Major Canable, teachers, and friends of the Post School: We the students of the eighth grade graduating class, stand before you as products of the first unit of our educational system. This is a suitable time to stop and inventory our education. What good has our training done us? What have we learned? Perhaps you would like to hear what the eighth grade pupils have studied during their years in grade school ... In addition to continuing the studies begun in past grades, we have studied social science. Social science introduces young Americans to world civilizations and their historical development. We have learned economic life in the United States today and in other lands ... we have studied in detail the historical development of the United States. As people who will be voting citizens of the United States very soon, we have tried to understand the problems which face the nation, problems apparently more complex than those in any previous period in American history ... I feel sure that the present eighth grade will all go to high school ... we will continue the studies for which our first eight grades have prepared us. In four more years, some of us will be trying to find work, some of us will be going to colleges or universities and some of us may be in West Point or Annapolis ... no matter where we are, we shall be somewhat influenced by the school from which we are now graduating. We owe sincere appreciation to the teachers, parents, and all of you who have helped make the American Post School what it is. As spokesman for the Class of 1938, I thank you.

Note: It wasn't long after Colonel McBride learned to fly paper airplanes in Miriam Keeler's class in 1938, that he was flying North American P-51 fighters at the end of WW-II.

The AOSA is fortunate to have this collection of a pre-World War-II school operated on an army post in the Philippines. The only other collection in the archives of a school operated for military dependents on foreign soil prior to WW-II, is the Sampson School on the naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, which began operations in the middle 1930's.

<u>Ransom McBride</u> <small>(Name)</small>	<u>Jan. 20, 1938</u> <small>(Date)</small>
Report of delinquency: <u>Flying a paper airplane</u>	
Action Taken: <u>Demerit</u> JAN 26	
<u>M.B. Keeler</u> <small>(Signature of Teacher)</small>	
APPROVED: - <u>M. Canable</u> <small>Post School Officer</small>	
The Post School System of demerits and detentions is as follows:-	
Number of demerits required to receive a detention slip:	
3 in Study Hall 9 in 3rd & 4th Grade room 7 in 5th & 6th " " 5 in 7th & 8th " "	
Offenses - { whispering { disturbance { disobedience	
Automatic single-offense detention slips:	
Marked disobedience Misconduct Chewing gum Rudeness Throwing erasers, chalk, or books Going into rooms without permission Running in rooms and on porches.	

THE CARTER P. JOHNS/DAVID GLASGOW FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION is huge and also historically important

Classification and recording all items in The Carter P. Johns/DFG HS Collection is not yet finished. It contains: (1) an almost complete set of DGF HS yearbooks for the 60's, 70's, 80's, and into the 90's; (2) scenic and old faculty photos; (3) copies of all locally published literary anthologies and student art work from 1982 to 1994; (4) student sketches of Rota, Spain; (5) three-ring notebooks of materials, e.g. proms, homecomings, menus, graduations, award assembly programs, tickets, napkins etc.; (6) North Central Association accreditation reports, materials used in preparation for NCA visits, and minutes of NCA committee meetings; (7) OFT local union files covering eight years; (9) records of OFT social events in the mid 80's; (10) AOSHS archives registration files of DFG HS teachers; (11) curriculum materials and student work sheets; (12) discard copies of textbooks; (13) DoDDS materials for workshops in art, humanities, and drug abuse prevention; (14) student and faculty handbooks and student newspapers; (15) and, personal papers and ratings of Carter P. Johns, NCA School Chairman and local OFT union representative.

Carter spent most of school year 1994-95 carefully packaging and preparing the above collection for shipment to the archives. He solicited the help of a select group of students to help him with the project. He retired soon after, and now resides in San Francisco.



THE MIDWAY ISLAND / GEORGE CANNON DEPENDENT SCHOOLS COLLECTION

Following are excerpts from a 10 June 1998 e-mail for the collection from Rick Carpenter:
(<Midway70@aol.com> is his e-mail address where he awaits your questions about the US Navy's
best-kept secret—Midway).

My wife and I consider the four years from 1970 to '74 that we spent on Midway as our best assignment in our 30 years of DoDDS. There was a spirit of friendliness on Midway, and this camaraderie continues even today. In the past several years since we retired, we have been contacted by over a dozen of our former students on Midway, as well as several navy personnel. Here is an article about Midway that I hope you can use:

The pilot lowered the wheels of the C-141, but all we could see was sky and water. We got lower until we were just a few feet above the water and still no land in sight. Then we caught a glimpse of a coral reef and a few seconds later we were taxiing on the longer of the two runways on Green Island, the larger of the two main islands of Midway Atoll.

My wife Karen, our three-year old son Brian, and I got off the plane to a small crowd of people who had come to meet the "log flight" (short for logistics), not so much to meet us as to get the first crack at the Honolulu Advertiser and the Pacific Stars and Stripes that were the main attraction of the twice-weekly flights from Honolulu to Midway.

Our first impression was the beauty of the island. The interior was dominated by large Australian pines, brought in by the Pan American company to help shelter the Pan Am employees who serviced the flying boats when they landed on round-the-world flights. But most impressive were the pristine beaches: bright, white sand that sloped gently towards the clearest water you could imagine. It was a paradise for skin divers.

The main attraction though, were the birds of Midway. Surprisingly the most famous Midway birds, the Laysan albatross—known as the gooney—were not on the island when we arrived in August, but they would arrive in October and November in the hundreds of thousands to participate in their rituals of dancing, nest building, breeding, and raising the new chicks.

(Continued on page 15)

However, my main focus was the George Cannon School. As the new secondary English teacher and counselor, I was not the only faculty member unfamiliar with the school. Almost everyone on the staff, including the principal Nolan Adams, was new that school year of 1970–71.

The Cannon School was a large two-story concrete structure, built in a U shape. The bottom of the U was used for admin offices, the left wing devoted to the elementary school, and the right wing for secondary classes and the library. The center of the U was the playground. It was a good looking school with only one flaw—the builders had used local sand in the concrete and the residual salt in the sand attacked the metal bars used for reinforcement. The result was that pieces of concrete had a disconcerting tendency to fall off onto the walkways.

Most of us in the secondary school had a large number of preps, but small class sizes were very welcome. I was responsible for English grades 8–12, and counseling 350 students K–12. My afternoons were spent cutting off locks for students who had lost their locker keys, scheduling, finding paper for the restrooms, calling parents for conferences, finding lost bicycles, and even counseling.

Soon we began to experience some of the challenges of living on Midway. Water was a problem. Each kitchen had two faucets—one for drinking water gathered from rain, and one for other purposes. I only filled the tub once finding the opaque brownish water not the kind I wanted to soak in. But it was fine for showers. There was a commissary and a small NEX, but they were frequently out of what was needed. We had one channel on our TV. Many who lived on the island felt confined. The two islands had less than one square mile of land.

But despite the disadvantages of living on a small island, there were many compensations. Teachers felt a real part of the community. The main complaint was that there was little free time to relax. My activities included bowling, teaching night school for the U of Hawaii, working after school counseling sailors, dinners for teachers and Navy personnel, biweekly poker parties, monthly bridge games, golf on the 9-hole course, tennis, fishing for wahoo and tuna, diving for sea shells, beach walking, monthly book club, and nightly free movies.

Midway had a custom of having a Hail and Farewell celebration every several months. The teachers combined with the Navy Public Works as hosts once a year. The typical Hail and Farewell menu: spoof everyone, including the school. And a good time was had by all.

In that close environment, many of the female teachers found that they were quite popular, and romances were common. Several ended in marriage. Kay Sakahara met her husband Glenn on Midway, and Dwight and Gerry Bowen found each other right at the school.



THE DAVID M. BENSEN COLLECTION

has a beautifully illustrated 9 x 12 booklet:

“The Picture Story of a New School”—The Branch School of Casablanca

The Branch was organized in the winter of 1973 by parents in the community with the help and guidance of the Board of the Rabat American School to provide an educational and recreational facility for the children of the English-speaking community of Casablanca, Morocco. The Branch opened its doors in September of 1973 with a staff of three teachers and an enrollment of thirty-three students. It operated under the direction of a three-member committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the Rabat American School.

The Branch provided for instruction in English as a second language and French as a foreign language. The staff was aware of the levels of achievement in British and American schools and the objectives of the Branch school were similar.

Illustrations show all of the children, of lower elementary age, individually and in groups, in various learning and recreational situations, in and out of the school. The structure was white stucco, modern Moroccan, two stories, and had a swimming pool. On a grass play area stood a small non-operational French car for the children to play in.

The last page of the booklet lists the names of 22 US and foreign companies and organizations, including the US Department of State Office of Overseas Schools, which provided financial support for School Year 1973–1974.

David found the booklet in a Japanese tea box along with hundreds of photos of his and Vidabeth's years in Morocco. They now live in Pittsboro, North Carolina.

"UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADORS": AMERICAN MILITARY FAMILIES OVERSEAS AND COLD WAR FOREIGN RELATIONS, 1945-1965

A New Dissertation by Dr. Donna Alvah of Davis, California

Many members of *The Society* are already aware of important historical research conducted recently by one of its members, Dr. Donna Alvah, at the University of California in Davis; her investigations have personally, and impersonally, touched their lives. Since February of 1998 the *AOSHS Quarterly* has reported on her progress, and successfully solicited the involvement of members to assist her.

We are now pleased to report that Donna has completed her studies with highest honors, and last June received a Ph.D. in History.

As promised, Donna has added a copy of her 336-page dissertation to an impressive collection of doctoral dissertations and masters theses in the *American Overseas Schools Archives*. We are also pleased to announce that she plans to publish *Unofficial Ambassadors* in book form in the near future. It is a significant, historical report on the lives of military wives and their families during the Cold War. The book will be popular with Army, Navy, and Air Force personnel, the Departments of Defense and State, and DoD Dependents Schools.

An Acknowledgements Section of the dissertation, pages ii-v, recognizes those who were of help including members of AOSHS. Donna states, "I am indebted to the American Overseas Schools Historical Society for support of 'Unofficial Ambassadors,' and for crucial assistance with the questionnaire project. The historical society publicized my study in its newsletters and solicited questionnaire respondents. As the deadline for completing questionnaires neared, several former service children and educators who had lived in Okinawa contributed accounts of their experiences there. The AOSHS members and others who participated in the study or gave me their memoirs—former service personnel, educators, and service children—generously invested their time and energy in providing detailed, thoughtful responses for my study. They, as well as the many others who told me that they had lived overseas in a military family or served in the military abroad, frequently reminded me of the significance of this population and motivated me to carry on with the work."

Following is an abstract of the dissertation that Donna wrote last June¹, and a report last May by her Dissertation Committee Chair, Dr. Karen Halttunen, Professor of History, Office of Graduate Studies, University of California, Davis².

¹ After World War II, the United States continued to maintain bases around the world. The government allowed family members to join military personnel overseas in 1946. By 1960, over 600,000 service personnel and 460,000 family members resided abroad. This social and cultural history of foreign relations and the military examines the internationalist ideal of service families as "unofficial ambassadors" in the two decades following the end of the Second World War.

To those who viewed service wives and children as representatives of the United States, the postwar

occupations and opposition to the spread of world communism required not only military might—overseas bases, personnel, and weapons—but also demonstrations of American goodwill toward residents of occupied and host nations, and understanding of those countries' cultures and customs.

While projecting friendliness and respect in their encounters with non-Americans, model military family members—also were expected to help wage the ideological war against communism by conveying

(Continued on page 17)

the superiority of American ideals and institutions through their deportment, family relations, and homes.

Prescriptive literature, accounts of encounters between Americans and non-Americans misbehavior, reveal that service family members were caught in an ideological double bind between promulgating the ideal of international understanding and cooperation and demonstrating the supremacy of American values and Cold War objectives. Service wives who embraced and expanded the ambassadorial role attempted to guide other military families in encounters with non-Americans in a variety of venues, including homes, charitable activities, excursions into occupied and host communities, women's clubs, youth clubs, and schools.

Chapters that focus on West Germany and Okinawa illuminate how interpersonal contacts and American perceptions of cultural commonalities and differences bolstered American military and foreign relations goals in each different context. Sources analyzed include military documents; published and unpublished accounts from service wives, children, and servicemen about their contacts with residents of host and occupied nations; fiction; and illustrations.



² Donna Alvah's doctoral dissertation is a beautifully crafted, deeply researched, lucid and well-organized fascinating study of a major topic in recent US history: the role of American military families stationed overseas during the first two decades of the cold war. Employing prescriptive literature, government documents, personal papers and correspondence, and questionnaire results, it examines both the military and diplomatic objectives of this practice, and the personal experiences of servicemen's wives and children living on (or near) military bases around the world. The result is an impressively balanced combination of diplomatic, social, and cultural history, resting on a quiet but strong gender analysis of the role—both prescribed and practiced—of women and children in American Cold War policy.

One of the strengths of this study is its combination of a horizontal survey of families stationed overseas around the world, with two

vertical case-studies of specific overseas locations. Germany is treated as the "best-case" scenario of a relatively welcome US presence; Okinawa is represented as the "worst-case" scenario of an openly unwanted US presence. What unites Alvah's treatment of both locations, however, is her central thesis: that the women and children of these military families were caught in an ideological double bind, requiring that they both show respect for the cultures and practices of the host people, and display the superiority of the American Way of Life. Her study carefully traces how a military policy that arose initially from practical considerations—the need to keep military personnel stationed overseas reasonably content, and to enlist families in the effort to sustain military discipline—gradually evolved into an articulate public policy of using families to implement the larger goals of Cold War policy—to show the kinder, gentler side of American military force, and to win the hearts and minds of both allies and former-enemy peoples and defeat the Communist threat by showcasing the finest qualities of American life, including advanced technology, personal freedom, American plenty, the pleasures of American entertainment and consumerism, and the presumed sexual equality of American family life.

Though I have no criticisms to direct at this dissertation, I have a few suggestions for its revision into a book manuscript. The more detailed material this work can offer about the experiences of American military wives and children, the stronger and more fascinating it will become. The dissertation has done a superb job of situating its central subject in a larger military and diplomatic context. That framework is strong enough to bear more stories, more personal experiences, more of the details of daily life and interactions of these people. Another month or two in the archives should generate significantly more material to enrich the published book.

In my judgement, this manuscript should be ready for submission to a major academic press as early as the fall of 2000. It represents an exceptional achievement for a young cultural historian, a truly first-rate piece of work, a pleasure to read, and a major contribution to the field of 20th-century US history. Donna Alvah is to be congratulated for producing an outstanding piece of historical scholarship.

Our AOSHS Family

Overseas relationships are as strong as blood relationships for many AOSHS members. Adventure, service, experiences, camaraderie, and memories are but a few of the intangibles, which describe the AOSHS, life.

Leaving a Legacy

Planned Giving can enable donors to realize substantial income and estate tax savings and may actually increase their lifetime income flow and that of their beneficiaries.

A planned Giving Program is a sensible way for individuals who want to make charitable gifts during their lifetime, or by their will to do so prudently and with maximum benefit to both the charity and themselves.

There are many ways for you to leave a legacy. Some have significant tax advantages, both while you are alive and following your death. We suggest that you talk with your attorney about the best options for you and your heirs.

Here are six steps you can take to leave a legacy:

- 1) Prepare or amend your will or living trust naming AOSHS. Your bequest can be a flat dollar amount, a percentage of your entire estate, specific assets or the residue of the estate.
- 2) Change a portion of the beneficiary designations of your retirement plans and tax-deferred annuities to AOSHS. This is easy to do and you don't need to amend your will or living trust. ***This is the single most tax-efficient way to leave a legacy.*** AOSHS can receive this tax-free, but your heirs can not.
- 3) Give an unneeded life insurance policy, or purchase a new one, naming AOSHS as the beneficiary. Depending on how you structure it, you might also get a charitable income tax deduction.
- 4) Consider giving appreciated assets to AOSHS while you are living. You can get a tax deduction and avoid capital gains.
- 5) Remember a loved one with memorial gifts.
- 6) Encourage family and friends to leave a gift to AOSHS in their wills.

A planned Giving Program is a sensible way for individuals who want to make charitable gifts during their lifetime, or by their will to do so prudently and with maximum benefit to both the charity and themselves. ***Planned Giving can enable donors to realize substantial income and estate tax savings and may actually increase their lifetime income flow and that of their beneficiaries.***

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society's Planned Giving Program will greatly strengthen our ability to educate future generations on the heritage of, and services performed by all those students, parents, educators associated with American Overseas Dependents Schools, worldwide, both military and private.

YOU can make a difference. Plan TODAY to CREATE A LEGACY FOR TOMORROW. The type of gift that is best for you will depend on your personal circumstances. We encourage you to include AOSHS as one of your chosen charitable beneficiaries.

REUNION NEWS

Boston Unfurls its Hospitality—and Tall Ships—to Celebrate DoDDS-XII in its Second “T” Party!

By Bill Hobbs of Tyler, Texas

Boston, July 18

To the strains of “There’s no people like DoDDS people, like no people we know,” some 400 present and former members and friends of the DoD teaching fraternity climaxed the annual DoDDS Reunion Monday night, July 18, in Boston. It was a “good time was had by all” fete and doubtless no one felt disappointed.

It was hailed as the Boston “T” Party and held amidst the Boston 2000 celebration (which included the Tall Ships display) and all the other American Revolution bits and places. Or as one attendee remarked “I saw all the historical artifacts there, otherwise known as DoDDS retirees!” That aside, the historical setting of Boston, Mass. lent a strong backdrop to the order of the July 15–18 observance—getting together with friends and colleagues of glorious days of yore, recalling countless anecdotes of here and there, and catching up on what’s happened to whom since! The lobby of the Park Plaza Hotel was in a constant buzz from Thursday night on (many arrived early) until Tuesday afternoon.

Naturally, it was a virtual “who’s who” of DoDDS personnel, dating back to the inaugural year of those fantastic (and fantastical) overseas adventures! And Monday night’s banquet certainly climaxed the festivities, although the Reunion was not officially over until Tuesday’s farewell breakfast was served.

Getting together in this fashion has a particularly appealing allure, as, of course, there are no people like DoDDS people! It was fascinating listening to

our colleagues recollecting the early days of these educational adventures, whether it was dodging revolutionary bullets in Pakistan or Panama, sweeping the sand out of the classrooms in Ethiopia, drying out the Quonset huts following a typhoon in Okinawa, or closing up the schools in France in the late Sixties, each story was a prize winner in itself. Indeed, DoDDS educators have been, and still are, real troupers!

But this July, it was Massachusetts. Known as the “Cradle of the American Revolution,” Boston provides more than excitement for history majors. Sampling the various tours in and around the city, climbing on board the Tall Ships, (one trio of former Nürnberg teachers were visiting the U.S.S. Constitution when Sen. Ted Kennedy showed up!), relaxing the many excellent restaurants (and a few pubs), and doing some New England shopping—all were part of the DoDDS-XII package!

It was the “Spirit of 2000” for all who attended, and most have already pencilled in next year’s combined celebrations—the DoDDS-XIII Reunion (July 20–23), and an Overseas Brats Homecoming of many alumni associations (July 19–22), in Wichita. On July 21 dedication of the site of the American Overseas Schools Historical Park, in the middle of The Museums on the River District in Wichita, will take place.

Kansas should be rocking because this likely will be the largest combined overseas student/teacher event ever.

“Official” info and updates on DoDDS-XIII and the Overseas Brats Homecoming will be forthcoming in the months ahead.



DoDDS-FLORIDA REUNION MELBOURNE, FLORIDA OCTOBER 20-22, 2000

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JO MIDDLETON (321) 242-7058 <JMIDDLETON@AOL.

Homecoming 2001 Registration Available

Registration information for the next all-Overseas Schools/all-Military Brats Reunion called, Homecoming 2001, is now available by contacting: *OVERSEAS BRATS P.O. Box 47112 Wichita, KS 67201 Telephone or Fax: 316-269-9610. E-mail: <JoeOSBPRES@aol.com>. Web Site: {http://www.overseasbrats.com}*. Presently 32 overseas schools or alumni groups have advised that they are participating in Homecoming 2001, and this includes the next DoDDS Reunion, which primarily involves teachers and administrators. Join us as we unite the whole community of Military & Overseas Brats, our beloved educators, our families and friends, and participate in the AOSHS Historical Park site dedication, which will promote, share, and showcase OUR unique heritage to the whole world!

DoDDS XIII Reunion In Wichita

The next DoDDS Reunion will be held in Wichita, KS, July 20-23, 2001 in conjunction with the American Overseas Schools Historical Park site dedication and OVERSEAS BRATS "Homecoming 2001," the next all-Overseas Schools/Military Brats Reunion. If you did not receive registration information that was distributed at the DoDDS-XII Reunion in Boston, nor the update letter/e-mail about the event in late July, please contact: *Joe Condrill PO Box 47112 Wichita, KS 67201. Telephone or Fax: 316-269-9610. E-mail: <JoeOSBPRES@aol.com>.* Join us as the teachers and administrators join former elementary, middle, junior high, high school, and college DoDDS students and Military Brats at what will be truly a landmark event in all their lives!

* **AOSHS MEMBERS:** TO THE RIGHT OF YOUR NAME ON THE *
* ENVELOPE ADDRESS LABEL OF THIS ISSUE IS A NUMBER. IF THAT *
* NUMBER IS 19 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 DEDUCTIBLE DUES AND *
* DONATIONS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED. *

