

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 \$20.00 annually and includes four issues of The Quarterly published each February, May, August, and November. To subscribe, send \$20 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*



Put on your Ruby Red Slippers and follow the Yellow Brick Road to Wichita, the main focus of this issue.

Next July 20-23 the Annual DoDDS Reunion will be in the Hyatt-Regency Hotel, on the Arkansas River. At approximately the same time, July 19-22, Overseas Brats Homecoming 2001, representing more than 50 overseas schools and alumni associations will convene, with connecting free bus transportation, in six other hotels—the Broadview, Clarion, Airport Hilton, Sheraton, Four Points, and Marriott. The Hyatt is connected to the Century II Convention Center, which is across the street from the Broadmore, also on the river and Headquarters for Homecoming 2001.

Past and current overseas schools educators and alumni will commingle Saturday morning July 21 during the Annual Meeting of AOSHS Members in the Hyatt, and that afternoon during dedication of the site for the future American Overseas Schools Historical Park in the middle of the Museums on the River District.

There will also be ample opportunity for educators and their students to reconnect during the homecoming reception and dinner dance at Century II, Friday evening, July 20, and the DoDDS Reunion reception and dinner in the Hyatt Sunday evening, July 22.

We are also very pleased to report in this issue that Wichita—geographical center of the USA and the city that wants to be Hometown for all American Overseas Schools students and educators—is leading the way nationally to end racism. As a consequence, Mayor Bob Knight, President of the National League of Cities, recently received The Municipal Leader of the Year Award from City and County Magazine, the #1 source for local government information and news.

**The AOSHS Board of Directors extends Happy End-of-Millennium
Holiday Greetings to all members, their families and friends.**

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,

JOHN BROKAW
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(785) 263-3019
<mkugler@access-one.com>

and positions to **JOHN**. If you have been, or are an overseas student, 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**.



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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

⇒ **SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2001 – Site Dedication Day for the American Overseas Schools Historical Park in Wichita, Kansas** Weather permitting, dedication of the site of the future AOS Historical Park, in the middle of The Museums on the River District in Wichita, Kansas, will take place on July 21, 2001.

Planning for this important event is being coordinated with the offices of the mayor and city manager. Being considered, in addition to the dedication ceremony, is a picnic under the trees in the park, near the bank of the Arkansas River on the south side of the future Historical Park.

The AOS Historical Park could not have a more convenient nor better location. The Wichita Metropolitan Area is the most central of all metro areas in the 48 states, and the park site is surrounded by other interesting, diverse, historical and cooperating museums. West of the site are the Wichita Botanical Gardens and the Old Cowtown Museums. North, across the street, is the Wichita Art Museum. Across the street to the east is the All American Indian Center and to the south is the Society of Decorative Painters and Exploration Place.

⇒ **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 had personal concerns about the increase were requested to contact AOSHS individually. To date, no concerns have been reported. Reasons for the dues increase are: (1) operational costs exceeded revenue from dues, (2) increasing costs of printing and postage, and (3) the need to publish professional quality promotional materials for potential funders beginning in January 2001. The increase was implemented October 1, the beginning of the fourth quarter of 2000.

⇒ **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 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.

⇒ **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. The number of visitors to the site average 50 per day. The AOSHS Webmaster, Lyn Baskett Fort, is President of the HH Arnold High School Alumni Group and also Webmaster for the HH Arnold Alumni High School website.

⇒ **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.”

⇒ **AOSHS Representatives for Florida** – John and Joann Middleton have volunteered to represent the large concentration of current and retired overseas schools educators who live full- or part-time in Florida. Sunny Schwentner will continue as a representative for overseas schools alumni in Florida. The Middletons have been appointed by the board, and are listed on page two of this journal. This action will be ratified at the Annual Meeting of Members in Wichita next July.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS, cont. from page 3)

⇒ **To: Members in or Visiting Arizona** – Lucille Hansen, AOSHS 2nd Vice President, is anxious to make a video recording of your overseas experiences. She lives in Mesa, AZ. Call her at (480)898-8671 or leave a message. She prefers that you arrive at an appointed time at her home. If you would like to have a copy, bring a blank VCR tape. This is an opportunity to record your overseas experiences for posterity in the American Overseas Schools Archives in Wichita, KS <lucieh@Juno.Com>.

⇒ **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 and were a hit at the Overseas Brats Gathering of Alumni Leaders in Wichita October 19–22, are again available. Two new sizes are also available. All 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 are made of heavy canvas.

Large Boater Tote	(19½ x 14½ x 5”) with outside pocket & handles.....	\$20.00 each
Smaller Boater Tote	(14½ x 15 x 6¼”) with shoulder straps & bamboo 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 or 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. Think Christmas: order through AOSHS and have your gifts sent direct. Make checks payable to AOSHS and send your order to Lee Davis, 2224 Periwinkle, Mesa, AZ 85206.

⇒ **Planning for the 30th Anniversary of the Wichita River Festival next May**, includes a Museums/Attractions Day on Friday, May 18 with museums/attractions open to the public with River Festival Buttons. Friday will encourage people to come to Wichita for the weekend. There will be no sponsor fee or charge to the museums for the event, and all will be listed, along with the hours of operation in the official Festival Guide. Marketing the Festival on a more regional, rather than a local basis, supports the idea of a weekend visit to Wichita. The River Festival attracts several hundred thousand people each year.

⇒ **Memorial Bricks for Reunions, etc.** – Personnel attending school reunions may want to take up a collection or consider as part of the registration fee, allocating \$100 for the purchase of a Memorial Brick commemorating your Reunion or meeting. Contact: Memorial Program, PO Box 4312, Scottsdale AZ 85251 E-mail: <abamberger@juno.com>.



 * **AOSHS MEMBERS:** TO THE RIGHT OF YOUR NAME ON THE ENVELOPE ADDRESS LABEL OF THIS *
 * **ISSUE IS A NUMBER. IF THAT NUMBER IS 20 OR LESS, THIS IS A REMINDER THAT YOUR DUES ARE** *
 * **DUE, UNLESS OF COURSE YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID THEM. PLEASE SEND \$20 TO AOSHS. TAX** *
 * **DEDUCTIBLE DUES AND DONATIONS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED.** *

Wichita Mayor tells America: End Racism

Bob Knight takes his message to the nation at the "Undoing Racism Day" rally in Washington, DC

Excerpts from an Associated Press article in *The Wichita Eagle*, Sept. 21, 2000

Speaking at a rally in his role as president of the National League of Cities, Mayor Bob Knight called for a national effort to end racism on September 20, 150 years to the day after Washington, DC's city fathers passed the first laws devised to end its slave trade.

The rally, held blocks from the U.S. Capitol, was part of the League's Campaign for Racial Justice.

Knight said more than 400 cities had signed on to the campaign as active participants, issuing proclamations to promote September 20 as "Undoing Racism Day."

Joining Knight at the rally were other mayors

from around the country and White House representatives, including Ben Johnson, director of the President's Initiative for One America, and Debra Carr, chairwoman of the White House Task Force for the World Conference Against Racism, among others.

Back in Wichita, Knight asked the local chapter of the National Conference of Community and Justice, formerly known as the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to lead efforts in his hometown.

On October 13, Wichita kicked off a community wide effort with a free lecture by Cornell West, author of "Race Matters." A five-week series of focus groups talking about race issues followed.



Mayor Bob receives Municipal Leader of the Year

American City and County magazine, the #1 source for local government information and news, has announced that Mayor Bob Knight of Wichita, Kansas is the recipient of its annual Municipal Leader of the Year Award. Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young, Orlando Mayor Glenda Hood, San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros, and Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, among others have won this award in the past.

Knight is not exactly Mayor Feel-Good. "He doesn't shy away from unpopular or difficult tasks," says Wichita City Manager Chris Cherches, who has worked with Knight for 15 years. Tenacity, Cherches says, is the driving force. "He is a strong-minded individual, and if he feels something is good for the community, he'll fight for it."

The crown jewel of his efforts is Exploration Place, a \$62 million science center and museum that represents the largest public/private partnership ever undertaken in Wichita. In that, as in everything else, Knight credits cooperation. "You have to have a lot of people behind you," he says. "You can't do anything by yourself."

Knight's absolute belief in that statement prompted him to reach out to local governments around Wichita to bring them together in a regional council of governments.

Being president of The National League of Cities offered Knight the opportunity to take the principle of Building Bridges national. "He told me that racism was the issue he wanted to take on (as NLC president), says

Chris McKenzie, former director of the Kansas League of Municipalities and current director of the California League of Cities."

The NLC presidency gave Knight a forum, and he used it to bring the problem of racism home to America's cities and counties. "At the inner core of Bob Knight is a gentleman who tries very hard to be a community builder," says Greg Lashutka, former mayor of Columbus, Ohio.

"He wants to make a contribution to what is right," says City Manager Chris Cherches who quickly points out that Knight is no one-trick pony. "Racism may be at the top of the list, but it's not his only concern. He's taken on a full plate."

AOSHS ENDOWMENT FUND

~ UPDATE ~

In the last issue of the *Quarterly* is an announcement of the establishment of an Endowment Fund for Salaries and Maintenance of Phase One of the American Overseas Schools Historical Park in Wichita, and an urgent request for all members to donate to the fund. Fundraising for Phase One will begin in January 2001.

Due to the request, donations for the Endowment Fund are arriving daily, and we are well on the way to achieving our goal. This is encouraging, but the involvement of 100% of the membership is yet to be realized.

Our goal is to receive a donation from every member of the society to show potentially large donors that all of our members are dedicated and have contributed first.

This is the last quarter of the year 2000, and we urgently request once again, *of those who have not yet contributed*, please do so. We ask you to give only what is comfortable to give, but please do give, and help your society meet its need to exist.

**Send your check to the address on page one, made out to:
THE AOSHS ENDOWMENT FUND**

~ BACKGROUND ~

The establishment of an endowment to pay, in perpetuity, salaries of three employees, utilities and maintenance of the Phase One Facility follows the advice of Directors 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. This is also the advice of six Directors of the Museums on the River District in Wichita where the historical park will be located.

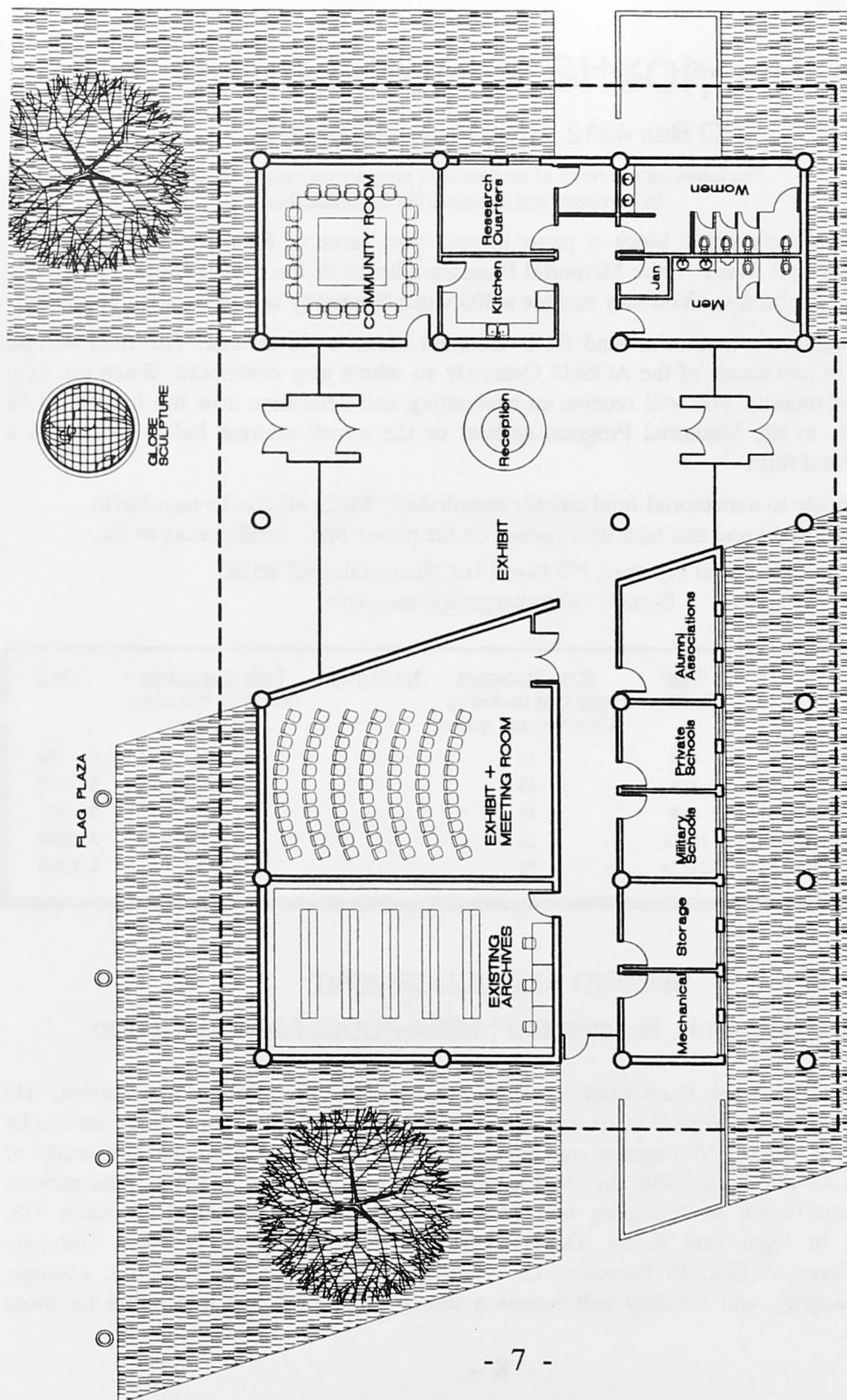
When the endowment is funded, recruitment for experienced career personnel, board members excluded, will begin. Initially, an Executive Director/Development, an Administrative Assistant, and a Building Maintenance Supervisor will be employed.

Phase One includes the construction, equipment and furnishing of a 7,000 square-foot Visitors Center with a Memorial Program Computer Kiosk; and coordinated with later phases, the installation of inscribed memorial bricks, blocks, and pavers on a 150,000 square-foot site at the southeast corner of the five-acre future historical park (see architects' rendering of Phase One on the next page). The park will be constructed in four phases or less when funds become available.

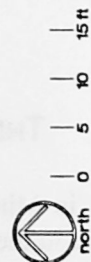
Initially the Visitors Center will have three offices, kitchen, research room, board/community room, two large rooms—one for classified and recorded archives, and the other a beginning exhibit/meeting room.

Unpacking, acknowledging, classifying, and recording archives will continue at the AOS Archives Building, 539 South Water Street in Wichita until construction Phase Two is completed at the park. About 20 to 30% of the archives will be used in permanent and rotating museum exhibits. The other 70 to 80% will be used for graduate level research for the benefit of writers, historians, and the general public.

SCF
SCHAEFER
SONNEN
FREY
AND ASSOCIATES P.A.



PHASE ONE FACILITIES



AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL PARK Wichita, Kansas

The AOSHS Memorial Fund

PO Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261

The following is a recap of the memorial program currently available.

All purchases and donations are tax deductible.

1. You may purchase a brick, block or paver in your own name or for a friend or loved one, living or deceased. Write to the Memorial Program address or the e-mail address below for the correct order card(s). You may include a 300 word biography and photo with your order.
2. You may organize a memorial fund for a deceased friend or loved one. The fund will be announced in two issues of the AOSHS Quarterly so others may contribute. When the fund closes in six months, you will receive an accounting and determine how the funds will be used. Write to the Memorial Program address or the e-mail address below to receive a Memorial Fund form.
3. You may donate to a memorial fund already established. Make all checks payable to AOSHS Memorial Fund and note the honoree on the memo line. Send checks to the

Memorial Program, PO Box 4312, Scottsdale, AZ 85261.

E-mail: <abamberger@juno.com>

<u>Type</u>	<u>Size</u> (inches)	<u>Max Characters</u> <u>per Line</u> (including characters and spaces)	<u>Max Lines</u>	<u>Total Characters</u> (including characters and spaces)	<u>Cost</u>
Ceramic Brick	4x8	15	2	30	\$ 100
Ceramic Block	8x8	15	5	75	\$ 250
Granite Block, Polished	8x8	15	5	75	\$ 500
Granite Paver, Polished	16x16	25	11	275	\$ 1,000
Granite Paver, Polished	24x24	35	17	595	\$ 2,500

SECOND 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.

SECOND 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.

There are no First Announcements for Memorials in this issue.

Closed Memorial Funds

Following is the final disposition of memorial funds which closed in May and August of this year. They are listed alphabetically.

- Ray Babineau - 4x8 ceramic brick, excess \$ donated to Building Fund.
- Joyce Dion - 8x8 polished granite block
- Dr. Harry Heiges - 8x8 ceramic block
- Dr. Harold (Hank) Henry - 24x24 polished granite paver
- Alta R. Norris - 16x16 polished granite paver
- Dr. John Steele - 8x8 polished granite block, excess \$ donated to Endowment Fund
- Duncan Weir - 8x8 polished granite block, excess \$ donated to Endowment Fund

Thanks to all of you who supported these funds.



The American Overseas Schools Archives AOSA

Many good ideas die a-borning. This almost happened with AOSA. For a period covering 35 years the concept of an American Overseas Schools Archive(s) was discussed repeatedly, from the lowest to the highest levels of the federal government. Most frequently it was thought to be a good idea, occasionally it was thought to be too difficult, not important, or not necessary.

An idea with good potential for a large number of people will get nowhere unless someone with insight, authority and power takes action and follows through. Then others, recognizing the good, and the potential, will usually join the effort.

This was the situation with AOSA. In 1989 Dr. Eugene M. Hughes, then President of Northern Arizona University

recognized the potential and not only talked, but did something about it—provided a fully equipped facility for the archives on the NAU Campus in Flagstaff.

Then, important others with authority and influence, joined the effort. In sequence, they were: John Stremple, Director of Department of Defense Dependents Schools; Ernest Mannino, Director of Department of State Office of Overseas Schools; Keith Geiger, President of the National Education Association; Albert Shanker, President of the American Federation of Teachers; Richard Miller, Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators; and Frank Evans, Deputy Assistant Archivist for Records at the National Archives, all in Washington, D.C.

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society AOSHS

That was 10 years ago. Now the archives (30,000 pounds and growing), administered by a nonprofit historical society formed in 1995, are located in Wichita, Kansas. The archives and historical society are part and parcel of another good idea—an American

Overseas Schools Historical Park—with potential for the good of hundreds of thousands of past, present, and future American overseas students, and educators, from every state and territory in the union.

The American Overseas Schools Historical Park AOSHP

The idea of a historical park with buildings for a Visitors Center, Archives, Museum, and Auditorium, also required the action of a recognized and respected leader, one with influence, who could do something, not just talk about it. Once again, this time in 1996, it happened to be Gene Hughes, then President of Wichita State University. And again, important others with authority and influence joined the effort, namely Wichita Mayor Bob Knight; Wichita City Manager Chris Chermes and Special Projects Director Jeanne Goodvin; City Council Member Joan Cole; and Don

Beggs, now President of Wichita State University, which hosts a web site for the historical society.

Fundraising for Phase One of the Historical Park will begin in earnest in January 2001, and members of the society in every state and territory, and many foreign countries will always be thankful and remember their indebtedness to those mentioned above who not only recognized two good ideas, but took the risk and acted upon them. Without them, the archives and future historical park, would be nothing other than just a couple of good ideas.

Interesting Collections in the Archives

The Archives play a crucial role in the Mission of The American Overseas Schools Historical Society which is to collect, record, and preserve the unique history of educating American children and youth abroad, and to enhance public knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the contributions made by American educators and their students in the advancement of democracy around the world.

Advancing democracy, compassion and concern for others less fortunate, was on the minds of two teachers, Mary Brockmann and Hazel Westervelt, in Germany in 1946. That might have been the reason they were tasked by the Dependents School Service, HQ United States Forces, European Theater (USFET), in Frankfurt, to write the First Philosophy of Education for Army Dependents Schools in Europe. USFET was informed in February 1946 that the War Department "... assumed no obligation for schooling of dependent children while overseas." The Office of Military Government for Germany (OMGUS) also had no responsibility for the education of Army dependents, but was concerned with obtaining locations for boarding schools, sharing German university and college facilities, and finding tutors for high school level students.

As part of the occupational policy of democratization, democratic education was fundamental to democratic development. OMGUS therefore, was the first to suggest that the Army dependents' schools should serve as models of democratic education to teach the Germans by example.

Unfortunately, AOSA and AOSHS have not been able to locate nor find relatives of Brockman and Westervelt, but their names appear on the first list of teachers in Germany. Mary was in Bad Nauheim and Hazel in Frankfurt. The Philosophy of Education they wrote, to guide teachers in Germany following World War-II, is a priceless, one-of-a-kind, historical paper in the AOSA Collection of Dr. Alfred Beerbaum of Pacific Grove, CA. It was sent to all schools in Germany prior to the opening of school on October 14, 1946. A framed copy hangs on a wall in the AOS Archives Building in Wichita, Kansas. It has been suggested that a brass plaque copy of the philosophy be mounted on a wall in the Visitors Center of the future AOS Historical Park in Wichita.

Providing a copy in this issue is timely because it coincides with the time of year that it was first released—just prior to the end-of-year holiday season. There is a tendency for tears to well in the eyes of those reading it.

DEPENDENTS SCHOOL SERVICE
HQ USFET APO 757

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS TEACHERS IN GERMANY

1. What are the responsibilities of an American teacher in Germany? To the people of Germany? To the children we have come to teach? To our fellow countrymen in this strange land? To our school and community back home and to ourselves?
2. Since we are uninvited "guests" in this land let us first explore the possibilities of creating good will, understanding and cooperation with its people, of commanding their respect for us and for our democratic ideals. We may do this through:
 - a. discovering the needs of the German children in our community and helping meet them. For example to meet their physical needs, let us find through the Church, Red Cross or other organizations specific needy children; then write to our own school and community and let them share in perhaps a Christmas for these youngsters or help clothe them.
 - b. We should make every effort to get an understanding of the culture, the customs and language of Germany, so that we can communicate with its people with understanding.
 - c. We should conduct ourselves personally that we will be of greatest credit to our American ideals and principles.
3. Our responsibility to the children and youth we teach is more obvious. In addition to giving them a basic varied program which will have unity enough to meet their needs as they move from community to community in Germany, it must meet the educational standards of the schools in the United States. It is of equal importance that we give them more than a superficial understanding of their environment and the German people, help develop in them humanity, understanding and wisdom in all their associations with these people. We must help them realize that each of them is an ambassador for democracy and just what their responsibilities are as such.
4. We have a responsibility to the lay group of our own countrymen in Germany. It is comparable to our responsibilities as teachers in America – to encourage their active interest in the schools, to develop an understanding of our aims and goals and to gain their co-operation. But it is more than that. We must prove to them that we aren't the isolated provincial group that many seem to think, but we can be – are – the builders of tomorrow's bulwarks of the World. The Eleventh yearbook of the Department of Supervisors makes this statement – "The status of any culture is mirrored in its religion, its science, its literature and its educational system." Our work is surely the foundational building for tomorrow's world.
5. We have an obligation too, to the school and community back home that released us for this work. We should return with enlarged concepts of living, with understanding that should help us and our community to think in bigger international terms. As the prophet Isaiah says we have "enlarged the places of our tent" and "let them stretch forth the curtains of our habitation".
6. Lastly we have a responsibility to ourselves. This experience must enrich every one of us. Because we are humanitarians we are deeply touched by the desolation, the broken homes, the twisted lives. We have come in to this country, the fortunate people, the conquerors. Let us humbly, and often evaluate our principles and aims and endeavor to live and work by them to the best of our ability, to "build more stately mansions" of our own lives.

M. Brockmann
H. Westervelt

DoDDS and DDESS SUCCESS ATTRACTS NBC

By Peggy Hoffman-Schmidt

Excerpts from TIE—*The International Educator*
Vol XV, No.1, October 2000

How would you react if your boss told you that the NBC *Today* Show wanted to film your family having breakfast and then follow your child through the school day? Sgt. Jacoby Jones, stationed in Baumholder, Germany, had that experience.

When the DoDDS Public Affairs Officer called to confirm the time of the visit (5:30 a.m.) Sgt. Jones asked "Why are you making this up?" But when the film crew arrived at that early hour on the designated day with cameras in hand Sgt. Jones, his wife and daughter knew the story was for real.

During the month of February the NBC film crew traveled to Baumholder High School, Neubruecke Elementary School in Germany, London Central High School in England, and Camp Lejeune DDESS (DoD Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools) in South Carolina. The *Today* program interviewed families, school staff and military leaders for their story on DoDDS and DDESS students' outstanding performance on the National Assessment of Educational (NAEP) tests.

DoDDS students scored well above the national average on the California Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) and registered remarkable scores on the 1997 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading and the 1998 NAEP Writing tests. DoDDS 4th grade students ranked 5th in the nation on the reading test, well above the national average. On the NAEP 8th grade writing assessment, DoDDS students ranked 2nd only to DDESS schools and Connecticut.

Of great interest is this other fact: DDESS and DoDDS African American and Hispanic students

ranked first in the nation on the national test. The producer kept asking parents, teachers, military leaders, and students interviewed, "What is happening here that makes it possible for African American and Hispanic students to perform so well, and how can that be translated into public schools in the United States?"

WHAT DID NBC LEARN?

From Mr. Darryl Levin, a 3rd grade teacher at Neubruecke: "Expectations are high for all to achieve. If a child has a learning problem, we devise plans so that he or she can be successful. We have a high parent involvement, Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) evenings packed with programs and dinners for interactions as a school community. Teachers' efforts are enhanced by parents attending our in-service and having an active voice on our School Improvement Committees. Parents and teachers work closely together to provide the best educational opportunities possible."

From Tieasha Coleman, a Baumholder High School senior: "This is a more supportive environment. The teachers want you to succeed and they do everything to help you ... when they see you drop, they pull you in so that you live up to their expectations."

From Senior Shannon Alexander: "Everyone has the same opportunities and everyone has something in common. Everyone moves and has parents involved with deployments. It is a culturally diverse school. At this school, everyone hangs with everyone, not just your own."

From Mr. Ron Lundy, chorus and Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) teacher: "The community works together for all kids. The students see teachers at all of the activities. There is a strong rapport

supported by a code of ethics, mandated behaviors which are a part of the expectations.”

From Baumholder High School parents, Sgt. and Mrs. Jenkins: “Teachers work with the parents and with the kids. Kids feel this is ‘our’ school and they care about me. This is one family here. There is no nonsense here ... All the kids and teachers know one another ... There is zero tolerance for misbehavior. This is a safe school and a safe community.”

From another parent: In North Dakota, we were real minorities. Here, there’s diversity. The kids are more relaxed ... They learn better because they are accepted for what they are. Everyone is treated the same even though there is a rank structure.

The military community and military leadership play a key role in the success of students in DoDDS schools.

The US Air Force and US Army support education in other ways. A letter and directive to all military sponsors (parents) that their place of duty is the school during parent-teacher conference time has impacted active parent involvement. All schools have been assigned an active partnership unit.

The Army and Air Force support discipline in the schools. The chain of command is used to make sponsors take an interest. All military service branches have a full time community schools liaison officer to interface on a variety of issues.

The military supports the intern program that creates an applicant pool of talented teachers who are already knowledgeable about the overseas system, military kids, etc., and who will come back to work with DoDDS. Additionally, monthly luncheon briefings and breakfast meetings between military leaders and school principals provide “heads up” on deployments, incoming and outgoing units, and other issues that can have an impact on the school. Welcome back luncheons and brunches for teachers and administrators are also held.

Partnership Unit Commanders attend School Advisory Committees, provide assistance to the school and the principal, and attend the

Installation Advisory Committees in Army communities. In all military communities the commanders participate in socials that honor teachers.

Lt. Col. Mark McAlister, Commander of the 8th Finance Battalion and partnership leader to Neubruecke Elementary School stated, “It’s with expectations. All students will perform and achieve. It’s not a handicap to be a minority. These schools give students the tools to be successful.” Reflecting back on his own childhood in inner-city Philadelphia, Lt. Col. McAlister explained, “This was not an expectation of my neighborhood. People didn’t expect us to achieve.”

Brigadier General Michael Maples also spoke to the values and caring the army places on education. “In collecting my thoughts on why DoDDS kids do better, I have to say, caring teachers, smaller schools, military support, military community uniqueness, a faculty and administration who have empathy for lives of students external to the school play a key role. Military professional development to include military and civilian education, and academic opportunities all have an effect on the education of the students.” He went on to say that military students who transfer within Europe have it easier than those transitioning to the States because DoDDS teachers and administration and the military communities work together for the benefit of the military student.

Mrs. Kathy Snyder, PTSO President of Neubruecke Elementary School stated, “Our community school is important in a high deployment area. The school is the focal point with evening potluck dinners, student performances, and special entertainment. Fundraising dinners bring all families in and are critical social opportunities for families when sponsors are deployed or in the field. The parent involvement greatly enhances the school community.”

Peggy Hoffman-Schmidt is the Language Arts Liaison and Public Affairs Officer for the DoDDS Kaiserslautern District.

MAIL BOX

THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Mr. J.S. Williams, retired DoDDS schoolteacher has told me that a museum will be established by your organization to preserve the history of what has contributed to our country.

Well, in my small way, I would like to add to what has to be a great amount of data, facts, and significant information. Furthermore, what I have to say comes from the hearts and minds of the hundreds of thousands of military dependents you have educated. Of this I am sure. While those of lesser ability may not be able to tell you, those many more of greater gifts know and show it every day of their lives.

What it is all about is leading useful, productive lives in a very, very complicated world. While that may not be your bureaucratic "mission statement" that is what you have, are, and will continue to accomplish. Certainly not an easy task, but that is what you did for me. Through 12 years of education I attended 13 schools. Except for the first, seventh, and sophomore years, all of my primary and secondary schooling was by way of DoD Dependents Schools. From Fort Richardson, Alaska through numerous schools at Fort Knox, Kentucky and Germany to my alma mater in Nürnberg, Germany (now closed) I have been your dependent. My university experience was much more stable—only three colleges in four years.

Because of the strong educational foundation and knowledge you provided me, I am accomplishing my life's mission:

- My faith in God is strong.
- I am the father of an intelligent and beautiful daughter.
- I have contributed to the betterment of the world.
- When I die, I will be remembered fondly, by most.

Knowledge, one of the three components of wisdom, is the gift that you have provided me. For the times I ignored your teachings, please forgive me. Experience and intelligence, the other two, now have shown me the value of your efforts.

From one of "yours" who hopefully will always be seeking wisdom, thank you, thank you very much.

From Joseph C. Kopacz, Col, Ar, USA (Ret) – Class of 64, Nürnberg American HS.

JOSEPH TAFOYA NEW DODEA DIRECTOR

Joseph Tafoya, 54, Deputy Director for DoD Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS) during the past year, became Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) on September 24. "The past 10 months," he says, "have given me the opportunity to understand the mission we are about. In some ways, the system is getting what is called a 'two-for.' I'm new enough to the agency to be bringing an outsider's perspective and have fresh views, ... and at the same time, I've been in the system for 10 months and have been briefed on a number of things." Interim Director Ray Tolleson preceded him in the position.

Tafoya has 31 years of educational experience. Prior to assuming the directorship of DDESS he was a teacher and principal with San Diego City Schools, and Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction in the Santa Ana, California public school system.

Tafoya, a Native American, received a Bachelor of Arts in math and physical education, and a Master of Arts in educational administration from San Diego State University. In 1983, he received a doctorate in educational administration from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.

From *Stars and Stripes*, Washington DC, Saturday, September 16, 2000.

REUNION NEWS

Homecoming 2001

All-overseas schools & brats reunion

JULY 19-22, IN WICHITA, KANSAS

Celebrating the AOSHS Site Dedication, Our Educators, &
Our New Hometown, Wichita!!!

AOSHS WILL BENEFIT FROM HOMECOMING 2001

In order to assist AOSHS, OVERSEAS BRATS is contributing the following from Homecoming 2001:

- 1) A portion of each person's registration fee.
- 2) A portion of each raffle ticket sold.
- 3) When a Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express Credit Card is used for any Homecoming 2001 or Overseas Brats purchase, AOSHS will receive 3%.

As a result of Homecoming '99, AOSHS received \$13,000 from OVERSEAS BRATS in 1999.

~ ~ ~ HOMECOMING 2001 OVERVIEW ~ ~ ~

Homecoming 2001 will be well attended given the number of responses already received, the number of alumni groups/overseas schools planning activities, and the AOSHS Site Dedication. It's possible the number of attendees could match or exceed 3,000 (according to the Associated Press) who attended Homecoming '99, in Dallas, TX.

There is no hotel in Wichita that can accommodate this number, so six hotels will be used for the event. They are the Broadview (Headquarters for Homecoming 2001), Clarion, Airport Hilton, Sheraton, Four Points, and Marriott. Banquet functions will be held in Wichita's Century II Convention Center. Courtesy bus shuttle service will be provided those registered with OVERSEAS BRATS for Homecoming 2001.

All hotel room rates are \$75 a night, July 16-23, including shuttle services to/from the airport.

Reservations must be made through the Wichita Convention and Visitors Bureau

Attn: Pam Mowery/Homecoming 2001 100 S. Main, Suite #100, Wichita, KS 67202 (316) 265-0162.

<debbie@wichita-cvb.org>. Reservation form at {<http://www.wichita-cvb.org>}.

For Homecoming 2001 events information, contact:

Overseas Brats, PO Box 47112, Wichita, KS 67201 (316) 269-9610

<JoeOSBPRES@aol.com> and {<http://www.overseasbrats.com>}.

~ ~ ~ TRANSPORTATION ~ ~ ~

FLYING? {www.priceline.com} for great airfares to Wichita. DRIVING? KC-three hours, Dallas-5½ hours, St Louis-7 hours, Denver-8 hours. TRAIN? Amtrack east/west at Newton, KS 30 miles north of Wichita.

As of November 15, the following schools/alumni groups, were planning an event at Homecoming 2001:

Ansbach,	Hahn,	Narimasu,
Augsburg,	Hanau,	Nürnberg
Bamberg,	Heidelberg,	Brown ES-Nouasseur, Osterholz,
Bangkok,	Itazuke,	MC Perry-Iwakuni,
Baumholder,	Johnson,	Stuttgart,
Berlin,	Kaiserslautern,	Taegu,
Bonn,	Kubasaki,	Yokota,
Brindisi	Lajes,	Zama,
Eta Jima-E.J.King,	Ludwigsburg,	Zaragoza,
Frankfurt,	Munich,	Zweibreucken.

DoDDS XIII REUNION

PUT ON YOUR RUBY RED SLIPPERS AND FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO WICHITA
FOR THE DoDDS XIII REUNION JULY 20-23, 2001 AT THE HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$80.00 PER PERSON UNTIL DEC. 31

\$85.00 FROM JAN 1 TO MAR 31

\$90.00 AFTER JUNE 1

\$95.00 "AT THE DOOR"

TO REGISTER, WRITE TO BARBARA OR JOHN WILLIAMS AT:
PSC 76 BOX 5688 APO AP 96319 OR SEND AN E-MAIL TO:
<john_williams@pac.odedodea.edu>

DoDDS XIII Price at the Hyatt:

\$95 per night for a single or double. \$115 for a triple or quadruple.

Rates good from July 18 to 25.

Phone number for reservations is 1-800-223-1234

Say you are with DoDDS XIII to get the special price

The Hospitality Room will be open from 0900 to 1200, and 1400 to 1700 daily except
Saturday, during the Annual AOSHS Meeting in the Hyatt, and the
Historical Park Site Dedication on the bank of the Arkansas River.

Pick up your Registration Packet in the Hospitality Room, and sign up for seating at the
Dinner on Sunday, July 22. Activities included in the Registration Fee are:
Friday, July 20 – Reception with No Host Bar from 1800 to 2000
Saturday, July 21 – AOSHS Meeting and Historical Park Site Dedication
Sunday, July 22 – No Host Bar 1800. Dinner 1900 to 2200
Monday, July 23 – Farewell Breakfast 0800 to 1000

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AOSHS MEMBERS: To the right of your name on the envelope address label of this
issue is a number. If that number is 20 or less, this is a reminder that your dues are due,
unless of course you have already paid them. Please send \$20 to AOSHS.
TAX DEDUCTIBLE DUES AND DONATIONS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED.

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