



# aoshs QUARTERLY



704 West Douglas Avenue  
Wichita, KS 67203



316-265-6837



office@aoshs.org



<https://aoshs.org>



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR. GAYLE VAUGHN-WILES

As the President of the AOSHS Board of Directors, my term will come to an end this month. Like **Scotty McCreery**, I can say, "This is it!" As I reflect on my years as President, I see many constructive changes. **Tina Calo**, my predecessor, ended her term by paying off the mortgage for our AOSHS office and the adjacent real estate property in Wichita. As I transitioned into my current position, I remember **Tom Smith** saying, "I want a specific project to focus on." At that point I realized that we needed to review our mission statement and goals. That simple review energized our purpose and direction.

The Board has been made up of highly skilled self-starters with different areas of interests. Because of their professionalism we moved forward. As **Stephen Covey** would say, "Begin with the end in mind." At first, I was concerned with fundamental issues, for example, the **Bricks and Pavers Program**. We had collected money years earlier based upon the expectation that the bricks, ceramic blocks, and

granite pavers would provide the foundation of the courtyard that was planned as part of the **AOSHS Historical Park Complex** in 2000. When that development did not become a reality, we needed to find a new solution to display these commemorative pieces and finally found a company in Naples, Florida who could manufacture quarry brick tiles, quarry beige tiles, and granite tiles at the same cost as the original bricks, blocks, and granite pavers purchased in 1999. These could then be mounted on the walls within the AOSHS headquarters. As a result of focusing on this area, the Bricks and Pavers Program was renamed the **Commemorative Tile Program**, and you can now visit our **Commemorative Wall** area where all the tiles are now displayed. We also brought samples of each tile to display at the DoDDS Reunion. Soon, a virtual program will be introduced on our website, and you will be able to view them anywhere.

As I reflect, I was paranoid about another fundamental issue—the possibility of a fire at our archives. In my first term the board agreed that we had to do something to protect our most valuable possessions. We researched, discussed, and debated the various fire suppression systems. Thanks to your donations, we purchased a fire suppression unit that serves our

safety needs and will maintain the integrity of our archives.

As I leave office my reflections are overwhelming. Many of the members have donated money and they continue to do so. The donations help us with regularly incurred expenditures as well as special projects. I cannot express my gratitude often enough to all of you who support us financially. Thank you so very much and please continue to do so.

DoDEA established a strong partnership with AOSHS which enhanced our progress as we moved toward preserving our history, legacy, memorabilia, artifacts, and goals, as developed initially by **Dr. Thomas Drysdale**, our founder. We worked to update the membership database, the website has been upgraded, the *AOSHS Quarterly* is now online as are all previous issues, 2200 yearbooks have been digitized, all of our financial information is published regularly, the scope of the Historical Books has been broadened, and three scholarships were given this year in 2020.

When I received the gavel in 2014 our Wichita office was essentially a storage facility, but as I pass the gavel to **Linda Connelly**, the construction and reconfiguration of that office now represents the

*Continued On Page 2*

**AOSHS Museum and Archives.** Due to the pandemic, the “Grand Opening” had to be rescheduled from September 2020 to April 2021.

This is it, and my time is up! I thank and appreciate the AOSHS Board of Directors—a volunteer board that made significant advancements during my tenure as President. The progress was made due to the generous contributions from the members and the dynamic partnership with DoDEA. I am indeed thankful to all of you. The next time I see you all, I will be among the members at the reunion, looking on with pride at all we have done. — Gayle

# MOVING FORWARD



AOSHS has come a long way since **Gayle Vaughn-Wiles** assumed the Presidency. Our entire organization is indebted to her perseverance and her leadership. And now we look ahead. The **AOSHS Museum and Archives** is scheduled to celebrate its official opening on **Thursday, 15 April 2021**. The opening is the culmination and the generosity of so many DoDDS educators and overseas students located all over the globe who have shared their stories, mementos,

yearbooks, and yes...funding...to make this possible. **DoDEA** leadership has been both helpful and instrumental in helping us to reach this milestone. It is our hope that the current health conditions that are so troubling, will be mitigated in time for many of you to visit *YOUR* museum in Wichita. Thank you for your service and your continued support of AOSHS! We have so much to celebrate...and so much yet to accomplish! I look forward to serving you as the new AOSHS President.

— Linda Connelly

# financialMATTERS

RON HARRISON

**AOSHS FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF 31 JULY 2020**

AOSHS Assets (Not including building and furnishings) .....	\$ 469,983.13
Reimbursable support .....	\$ 141,504.16
<b>NON-FENCED ASSETS (Available for operations and unpaid obligations) .....</b>	<b>\$ 328,478.97</b>
Unpaid Obligations (Museum furniture and building façade) .....	\$ 36,000.00
<b>NON-FENCED ASSETS AFTER OBLIGATIONS ARE PAID .....</b>	<b>\$ 292,478.97</b>
Projected expenses to 12/31/2020 (Office Manager & 20% of operations) .....	\$ 22,000.00
<b>PROJECTED NON-FENCED ASSETS AS OF 12/31/2020 .....</b>	<b>\$ 270,478.97</b>

*NOTE: Physical Assets (Buildings 704 and 708) estimated value of \$188,000.*

**A note on reimbursable support:** The American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) collects, displays, and preserves DoD Education Activity (DoDEA) artifacts, memorabilia, and additional materials on behalf of the DoDEA. This includes operating and contract costs to archive and digitize the DoDEA portion of the inventory in the current AOSHS collection. AOSHS submits an invoice annually to DoDEA for cost of reimbursable support done on behalf of the DoDEA. Qualifying expenses are reviewed and approved by DoDEA. This revenue generated for reimbursable support performed enables AOSHS to provide a much needed and ongoing contribution to the legacy of schools, students, and employees who have served the nation around the globe.



# AOSHS WEBSITE UPDATE

KELLEY GERMAINE

Busy, busy, busy... AOSHS has been even during this COVID-19 pandemic! Please visit our website as soon as you can at [www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org). Normally, the volunteer **Board of Directors** presents the Society's **Annual Report** at the **DoDDS Reunion's** AOSHS meeting open to members and all reunion attendees. Of course, this year's Reunion did not occur, so it was determined that our news should be provided on our website. On the homepage there is a link:

## AOSHS 2020 SLIDESHOW

We have displayed a multitude of pictures that tell the story of our past year of reconstruction, plus written reports on our Financial Status, Memorial, and Membership Programs. President **Gayle Vaughn-Wiles** introduces the slideshow, and closing remarks are made by her as the outgoing President and our incoming President, **Linda Connelly**.

Our goal is to collect and preserve all relevant American Overseas Schools' memorabilia and historical documents and establish exhibits to share the unique overseas school experience.

Wait... that's not all to see on the website. Under the **'COLLECTIONS'** heading, go to the **"Artifacts/Memorabilia"** sub-page. Clicking on the **"View the Collections Database"** (see below) will take you to the separate site of the AOSHS artifacts and memorabilia that have been digitized. Please read the important information on accessing the Artifacts and Memorabilia Collections Database Homepage. There are numerous tips for searching this library of items. The site will be updated on a weekly basis as we continue to add more of our treasures.

## ARTIFACTS & MEMORABILIA

[VIEW THE COLLECTIONS DATABASE](#)

At the top and bottom of the Homepage there is a link to take you back to our AOSHS website.

The Board will hold their annual meeting via teleconferencing this month. Be sure to continue to access the website for updates as well as any outcomes that emerge from this official board meeting.

As always, we welcome your comments and hope everyone is staying safe. We all look forward to a better 2021.

## WANTED



AOSHS wants your **FACULTY PHOTOGRAPHS** from elementary and middle schools for our Archives. They may be donated or loaned to our archives. Whether donated or loaned, they will be scanned and available for viewing through the AOSHS website. If donated, they will be scanned, placed online and placed in the archives. If loaned, they will also be scanned, placed online and returned to you.

AOSHS WANTS YOUR PHOTOS TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF  
DoD SCHOOLS AROUND THE WORLD!!!!

Please send your photographs to:

AOSHS  
704 W. Douglas Ave.  
Wichita, KS 67203

For further information, please contact **Doug Kelsey** by text at **404-664-9128**  
or by email at [dskelsey@hotmail.com](mailto:dskelsey@hotmail.com).

# ARTIFACTS, MEMORABILIA, PUBLICATIONS, YEARBOOKS & PHOTOGRAPHS

DOUG KELSEY

AOSHS continues to seek donations of artifacts, memorabilia, publications, yearbooks, and photographs from students that attended DoDDS schools and from teachers and administrators that worked in these schools. I would like to share with you our *good news* of how AOSHS continues to complete the gaps in our archives.

As you know, AOSHS has over **2,200 yearbooks** available on our website and will add an additional **1,000 yearbooks** soon.

The first **1,000 digital photographs** showing the **artifacts and memorabilia** at the **AOSHS Museum and Archives** are now

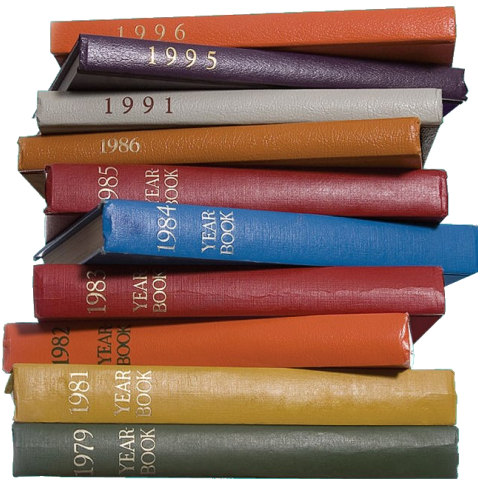
online through our website, and we have over **30,000 more artifacts** to digitize and place online.

*None of this is possible without your efforts to provide us your artifacts, memorabilia, publications, yearbooks and photographs.*

Please help AOSHS accomplish its mission to have a comprehensive collection for these initiatives. Check your closets, your garages, your attics and your storage areas to see what you might have that would be a valuable asset to the AOSHS archives. Also, please contact your friends and former colleagues to see if they can assist in these efforts.

Please send your items to: **AOSHS, 704 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67203** along with the **Property Donation Form** near the end of this newsletter. This is all that is necessary if you would like to donate the items. **If you prefer to loan them to us, please enclose a note with your return address, telephone number, and email address stating you would like them returned.** You may also enclose a note with your items to explain what they represent if it is not immediately clear.

For questions, please contact **Doug Kelsey** at **dskelsey@hotmail.com** or text him at **404-664-9128**.



## EXCESS YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE (For A Small Donation)

The AOSHS Archive has 100's of extra yearbooks that are now available to sell due to our limited storage facilities for a donation of **\$35.00 per book**. For any one yearbook, AOSHS keeps and preserves the two best copies in our archives and any additional copies are considered surplus. **We are now offering these excess yearbooks to you!**

Once purchased, our office will then mail you a receipt with the yearbooks you ordered.

To know which yearbooks are available, you may:

- Contact AOSHS through our website at **www.aoshs.org/contact/** to inquire and request yearbooks for a particular school or year.
- Email our office directly at **office@aoshs.org**.
- Email **Doug Kelsey** at **dskelsey@hotmail.com** or text him at **404-664-9128**. The list is huge, so this method will be the most expedient.



# SYSTEMATIC SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVE

FRANK ROEHL

AOSHS is initiating a major publicity campaign through social media and other avenues. We hope to reach a much larger audience than our current 800+ AOSHS members. AOSHS has utilized social media for the past four years with good results. A systematic approach will be implemented to provide opportunities for all and blanket publicity across all spectrums of groups (BRATS, alumni, system-wide retired teachers, regional retired teachers, retired administrators). Secondly, when the need arises for pinpoint targeting of specific groups.

When we have a message for our broad audience, we will utilize as many social media groups as possible. When we have a specific request, we can pinpoint the targeted audience. For example, we just received forty-eight years of the Naples High School's yearbooks from a donor that saw us through social media. With what we had in our archives coupled with

his donated yearbooks, we now have every year from the opening date of the school in 1958 through 2016 except for 1967, 1969, 1990, 1994, 1995, 1995, 2003, 2006 and 2007. We will place a message on the social media sites that are directly related to Naples to request copies of the missing yearbooks.

The first stage of this initiative is to identify as many DoDDS/DoDEA-related social media sites as possible. This is where you may assist us. If you are aware of any DoDDS/DoDEA-related social media sites, please send them to **Frank Roehl** at [frankroehl@yahoo.com](mailto:frankroehl@yahoo.com) or to the **AOSHS Office** at [office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org). If possible, please include the website or social media name and a point of contact if you know it. Your assistance will greatly expand the breadth of our audience and further the mission and goals of AOSHS.

## WANTED



AOSHS wants your **CLASSROOM PHOTOGRAPHS** from elementary and middle schools for our Archives. They may be donated or loaned to our archives. Whether donated or loaned, they will be scanned and available for viewing through the AOSHS website. If donated, they will be scanned, placed online and placed in the archives. If loaned, they will also be scanned, placed online and returned to you.

AOSHS WANTS YOUR PHOTOS TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF  
DoD SCHOOLS AROUND THE WORLD!!!!

Please send your photographs to:

**AOSHS**  
704 W. Douglas Ave.  
Wichita, KS 67203

For further information, please contact **Doug Kelsey** by text at 404-664-9128  
or by email at [dskelsey@hotmail.com](mailto:dskelsey@hotmail.com).

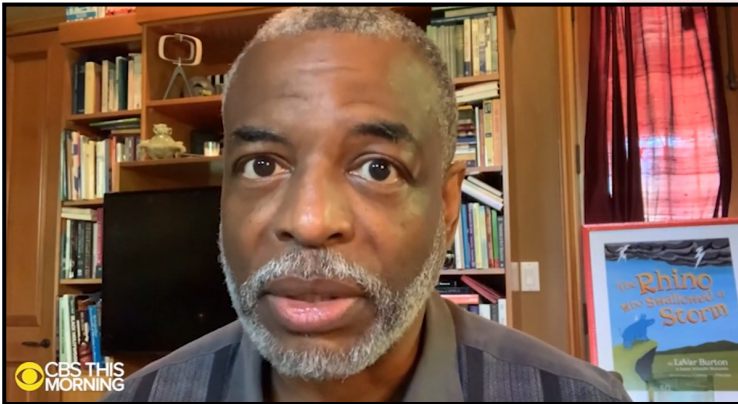


## THE NEW NORMAL SCHOOL MATTERS

### AOSHS ARCHIVES ASSIST “CBS THIS MORNING” SHOW

DOUG KELSEY

The “CBS This Morning” show on August 24 featured a piece on Teacher Appreciation. Bill Gates, Chelsea Clinton, Josh Groban and **LeVar Burton** were interviewed and asked to tell about a teacher that made a significant difference in their life.



LeVar Burton talked about the teacher he had at **Hanau Elementary School** in Hanau Germany. Her name was **Mrs. Twiggs**. You may see the entire clip at: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/bill-gates-josh-groban-levar-burton-and-chelsea-clinton-shout-out-their-favorite-teachers/#x>

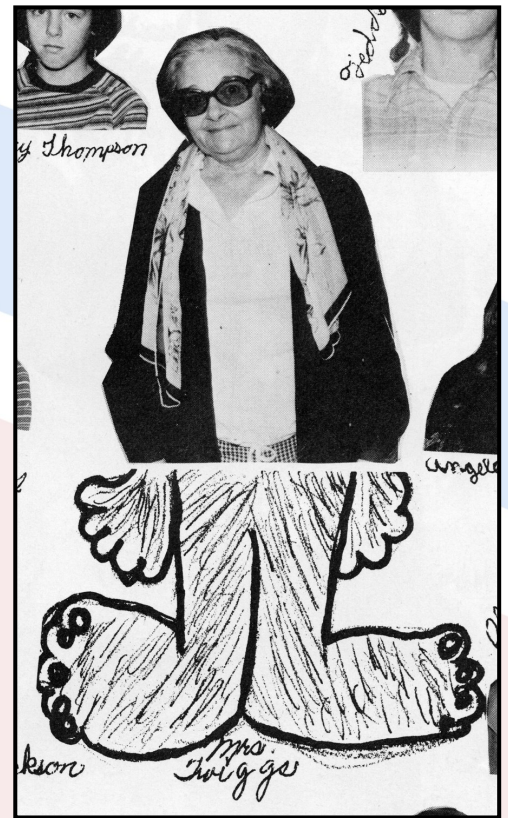
(NOTE: If this link does not function for you, Google: “CBS News Morning Show LeVar Burton Favorite Teachers”).



The photographs prior to and during LeVar’s remarks were compliments of the **AOSHS Archives**. A gentleman from CBS contacted AOSHS to see if we had any pictures of LeVar Burton and his teacher, Mrs. Twiggs, in our

archives. There were no pictures of LeVar, but there were pictures of Mrs. Twiggs and pictures of the school. The staff at the AOSHS office in Wichita worked with CBS to provide the pictures you can see in the segment.

LeVar Burton is an actor who has starred in several venues. He is best-known for his role as Lt. Commander Geordi La Forge in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. For many years, he was the host of *Reading Rainbow* on PBS. LeVar was born at the U. S. Army Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany, in 1957.



AOSHS wants to thank everyone who contributes to the Archives, whether through financial donations or the donation of memorabilia. Thanks to you we were able to provide CBS with incredible photos, which helped to create a quality show.





# Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund

CHRIS KYRIOS

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) has awarded three \$1,500 **Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund** to Overseas Brat seniors **Letycia Lynch** of **Guam HS** and **Celine Liptrot** and **Cheska Caranto**, both of **Ansbach HS**.



**Letycia Lynch of Guam High School**

The winners are excellent students and demonstrated good broad character with volunteer work and were active in school activities and sports. The awardees' applications, along with those of a record number of other highly qualified applicants, were reviewed by a scholarship committee from AOSHS and Overseas Brats. (A third of Ansbach's seniors applied, driven by the Lakenheath alum who is the counselor there!)

Ms. Lynch will be attending the University of Oregon. Ms. Liptrot will be a freshman at the University of Maryland and Ms. Caranto will begin her college education in



**Celine Liptrot of Ansbach High School**

Indiana. We wish the scholarship winners and the other applicants the very best in their academic endeavors. All three scholarship winners, by coincidence, are the daughters of E-7/8/9s ... the first time this has happened.

Funding for this AOSHS scholarship was initiated by Brats attending the **Overseas Brats Gathering** in 2013. The fund has since grown and been adopted by donors of the **Karlsruhe Alumni Association**, the **Colorado Brats Club**, and merchandise sales online & at the annual **DoDDS Reunions** and Overseas Brats events. Funding this year also came from a Facebook fundraiser in 2020 for which over 60 brats & educators made generous contributions.

For the 2020-2021 school year, AOSHS plans to award another \$3,000 in scholarships to Brats at smaller overseas schools and for

that, we **NEED TO REPLENISH THE FUND**. We are striving to award these scholarships annually, so developing on-going funding is critical. Please help us in this endeavor by making a tax-deductible donation to the **Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund**. If you have an upcoming school reunion or regional you might consider collecting donations at that event!



**Cheska Caranto of Ansbach High School**

Please make checks payable to: (or call 316-265-6837 to donate by credit card)

**AOSHS**  
**Attn: Scholarship Fund**  
**704 W. Douglas Ave.**  
**Wichita KS 67203**

*Continued On Page 8*





For further information please contact AOSHS Board Member, **Chris Kyrios** at [kyriosc@yahoo.com](mailto:kyriosc@yahoo.com). We look forward to hearing about any fundraising ideas you or your school may have.

Thank you for preserving the memory of Dr. Drysdale who was the visionary behind the American Overseas School Historical Society. AOSHS' mission is to collect and preserve the historical archival memorabilia of the entire American overseas school system, a unique chapter in the history of American education. Visit AOSHS on our website at [www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org), and if you are not already a member of our AOSHS Facebook group, you can request to join us here at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/169980156354700/>.

## MEMBERSHIP *Update*

JOEL HANSEN

As you know, the Grand Opening of the AOSHS Museum and Archives has been postponed until next spring. This, however, has not dampened the excitement or the enthusiasm of the AOSHS team as they gather artifacts, photos, and yearbooks for the collections. It has been truly amazing seeing the website grow and develop new ways of communicating these memories. Our intent is to spread the word far and wide to as many viewers as possible and your help is needed. As a member, your participation in sharing this information through social media or word of mouth is a critical component of the future success of AOSHS. If you are not a member yet, please consider the \$25.00 membership fee and join us. If you have already joined, help us share the story of the American

Overseas Schools Historical Society.

Working with the Aviano Schools in Italy, brought our family to San Foca, a little farming community up near Venice, not unlike the one near which we live now in Charlotte, Iowa (without the Venice part, of course). It was common to see the farmers drive their tractors into town and park in front of the local bar for an espresso or cappuccino in the morning or perhaps some vino, a birra, or grappa in the afternoon. On Tuesday evenings, the "pizza truck" would show up in the town square and it was always a treat to walk the two blocks from our house and order the quattro stagioni, capricciosa, fra diavola and calzone. They were the best pizzas and chatting with the ladies in the truck

was always a hoot. I was known as the "Americano con capelli bianco"—the American with the white hair. In my best Italian, with a Sicilian dialect, we carried on an interesting conversation. I'm not sure I was understanding their part of the dialogue nor did I know if they understood what I was saying, but we always had lots of laughs.

These memories of the little things in our travels as overseas educators really make our experiences come alive every time we reminisce with family, friends or just in a moment of musing as we sit with a nice cup of coffee. Sharing them is important and if you can share your memories and become a member or continue to be a member of AOSHS it will help expand and fulfill its mission. Thanks for your consideration and support!



**REMEMBER, WE NEED  
YOU!  
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN**



# RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO

DONATE

# TO AOSHS

NANCY BRESELL

AOSHS wishes to recognize this quarter's donors who support the Archives and our Operating Fund, below. While membership fees are definitely the backbone of our funding, member donations are vital to carrying out and expanding the work of the Society.

The annual recognition program runs from the current DoDDS Reunion (Cancelled Reunion XXXII in Omaha) to the beginning of the DoDDS Reunion the following year (Reunion XXXIII—July 14, 2021). Due to the cancellation, donations through this period were extended through July 31, 2020 for the July 2019 - July 2020 year, with later donations beginning August 01, 2020 for the upcoming July 2020 - July 2021 year.

Donors within the Support Levels have their names published in the *AOSHS Quarterly* the quarter that their donation was received, or if missed, the following newsletter. **All donors for the year will be recognized for a final time in each Fall Issue (see Page 9),** and to all of you who found it in your hearts and pocketbooks to support the AOSHS mission, ***WE THANK YOU.***

## DONOR SUPPORT LEVELS

### Supporters

Those who donate from \$25.00 to \$99.00

### Pacesetters

Those who donate from \$250.00 to \$499.00

### Patrons

Those who donate from \$1,000.00 to \$1,999.00

### Friends

Those who donate from \$100.00 to \$249.00

### Sponsors

Those who donate from \$500.00 to \$999.00

### Benefactors

Those who donate \$2,000.00 or more

## SUPPORTERS

Helen (Scotty) Govaars  
David Heath  
Joyce Holland  
Mia Lee  
Karen Pearce

## FRIENDS

Patricia Currie  
Martha (Marty) Dickey  
Scott Driver  
Mike Hull  
Winnane Murray

## PACESETTER

Ann Bamberger

## SPONSORS

Les Burch  
Carol Haines

## PATRON

Marcia Johnson

## BENEFACTOR

Dottie McCarthy

*Continued On Page 10*



JULY 2019 - JULY 31, 2020 DONORS

SUPPORTERS

Mary Allen  
Susan Brandt  
Elizabeth Bridges  
Scott Brown  
Roy Clason Jr.  
Ruth Dengrove  
Ray Fleischmann  
Joan Frey  
Charles Hendryx  
Abby Jo Kern  
Michelle Lame  
Linda Long  
Isis Martinez  
Lourine Massie  
Maxine Mehlhaff  
Alice Murray  
Bernard & Gertrude O'Neill  
Linda Owen  
Karen Pearce  
Joseph Peha  
Jerry Penningroth  
Jeanne Radcliff  
Frank Roehl  
Ronald & Sandra Sacco  
Jim Sains  
Elke Scheller  
Kathy Sweeney  
Karolyn Tomasic  
Sharyn Van Epps  
Alyson Ward  
Barbara Waters  
Janet Yell

FRIENDS

Edgar Bergmann  
Ann Bradley  
Martha Brown  
Daniel Coberly  
Patricia Currie  
Kathleen Dobrzycki  
Horst Goede  
Ruth Herrman  
Barbara Holman  
Mike Hull  
Susan Jackson  
Norma LeDé  
Nelson Lutey  
Robert Lykins  
Ronald Malooley  
Gerald Manley  
Judith McDonald  
Douglas McEnery  
Virginia Miles  
Sarah Nowlin  
Jim Onoprienko  
Margaret (Peggy) Varshock  
Arnold Watland  
Mary Wileman

PACESETTERS

Kathy Z. Brown  
Peggy Bullion  
Dee & Ted Edwards,  
Michael & Marilyn Fitzgerald  
Marcia Johnson  
  
Paola Meimaris & The  
William Penn Foundation  
Matching Gift Program  
  
Linda Nary  
Joan Sprague  
Michael & Jo Karen Werner

SPONSORS

Les Burch  
Steven Gamble  
Patricia Hein  
Albert Schertzing

PATRONS

Rebecca Dunn  
Susanne & James Lenz

BENEFACTORS

Eleanore (Lani)  
Allanson Donoho  
  
Jeanne Leach

*We Thank You!*





# AOSHS Memorial Program

JACKIE KELLY

## **CURRENT COMMEMORATIVE TILE MEMORIAL PROGRAM**

**Lin Nary**, among many former DoDDS teachers and personnel, initiated a memorial for **Linda Hiebert Sekiguchi** this past year on behalf of Linda's sister **Ruth Ann Hiebert** and several friends. The process took almost the whole year. Finally, just this past week the group will complete the forms and a tile will be engraved. This particular memorial is significant because it honors the memory of Linda Hiebert Sekiguchi. She is one of the first group of DoDDS teachers who joined AOSHS and the Memorial Program by donating funds for a memorial plaque in 2005. The Memorial Program has been one of the backbones supporting funds that preserves our AOSHS legacy. These Commemorative Tiles are mounted on the inside walls of our AOSHS Headquarters in Wichita, Kansas.

## **AOSHS VIRTUAL COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM**

The AOSHS Virtual Commemorative Program is now becoming a reality. This Program will resemble the previous Memorial Program that intended to place bricks and pavers at the planned Museum site. The Virtual Commemorative Program will also have a similar system of donations but will be posted on our AOSHS website. (See below for the different price categories.)

The new site will include:

- **Original Kiosk (preserved)**
- **Visuals of the existing Commemorative Tiles at the AOSHS Museum and Archives**

- **Those No Longer with Us** - \$25 per name listed with date
- **Virtual Commemorative listings of:**
  - ♦ Tier 1 - Three lines, 36 letters per line (\$100)
  - ♦ Tier 2 - Six lines, 36 letters per line (\$250)
  - ♦ Tier 3 - Picture, three lines, 36 letters per line and link to a 250-word biography (\$500)
  - ♦ Tier 4 - Video, pictures, collage, or slideshow, 25 MB (\$2000)

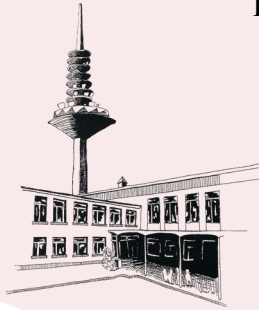
One of the advantages of the Virtual Commemorative Program is that you can now begin with an initial Tier 1 donation (\$100) and then as friends and family gather donations, you could progress to another Tier and add a picture or biography.

There are also many other ways to make donations to the Virtual Commemorative Program. Perhaps you had a friend whom you taught with for many years who has passed. You can make a donation (\$25) and have their name placed in the "Those No Longer with Us" section. Retirees, graduation groups, and reunion groups both past and present can record their milestones with a commemorative listing. The possibilities are endless and because it is virtual, timeless.

More details of the new AOSHS Virtual Commemorative Program will be forthcoming as we develop the necessary paperwork and electronic files. The remaining available Commemorative Tiles are still for sale but only while they last. For a short time, you will have a choice of purchasing one or the other but once the Commemorative Tiles have been sold out, they will no longer be available. So, don't wait, and help to continue *'Preserving Our Legacy'* to the world.

# Overseas MEMORIES

REBECCA DUNN



## Memories From Frankfurt Elementary School

When Frankfurt Elementary School in Frankfurt, Germany closed in 1995, the staff compiled a booklet of memories. AOSHS is very fortunate to have a copy of this booklet. The school was open from 1946 to 1995. The booklet is forty-one pages. The memories will be posted on our website as I am able to transcribe them. Below are a few samples from the booklet. I selected memories from a student and two teachers.

### Jennifer Nelson

A student from 1979-81

Upon hearing that Frankfurt Elementary School was closing its doors this year, I felt that a tribute needed to be paid to all the teachers of F.E.S.#1. So, on behalf of all the former students, I am writing this. I feel that some of my fondest memories of my school years were in the very building that is being closed. But it is not the building that I would like to pay tribute to, rather the teachers. In many ways I feel that this is a long overdue celebration—A celebration of learning which was truly inspired by the teachers of F.E.S. #1!

Frankfurt Elementary was special because of Miss Berry, who helped me learn my times tables so that when I got to Miss Ebbert's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class, Professor Math (the highest and hardest of all 5<sup>th</sup> grade challenges—so went the rumors on the playground) was not impossible. F.E.S. was special because the very day I arrived, which was in mid-October 1979, Mr. Smith invited me to join the fall production of Wizard of Oz. F.E.S. was special because in 5<sup>th</sup> grade I got to invent my own space rocket and drop it off the fire escape. (This was legal then.) F.E.S. was special because I got to participate in the Wild Cat Press; in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade I got to go to Wegscheide where I won the last place in a compass game. I still don't know which way is

North . . . but I'm still looking! F.E.S. was special because in 6<sup>th</sup> grade Ms. Haynes helped me learn to play recorder after school; Mr. Bushemi called my mother to make sure I was alright as he noticed I was having a bad day.

The list goes on and on. I challenge anyone of you to find an elementary school where the students can honestly reflect upon such positive learning experiences. But I suppose the greatest testimony of the effect my teachers had on my life is the fact that I now stand in front of a classroom aiming to affect my students' lives as my teachers affected mine. All of you, in some way, have helped us, your former students, to grow into what we are today. Your interest in us, your dedication, and your belief in our abilities have inspired us to reach our goals. There is a saying that suggests "If you can read this, thank a teacher." But to all of you, I can do more than that, so thank you.

### Dottie Guthrie

1978-95 5th and 6th Grade Teacher

In 1978 I left F.E.S. #2, because of declining population and transferred to F.E.S. #1. Q-4 became home for about 8 years. You learned to adapt to the Q's and dress according to the season. Heavy shoes and sweaters were great for winter. You also learned to adjust to the noise on the playground on



one side and the, often used, German soccer fields on the other. While teaching 6<sup>th</sup> grade I teamed with Tom Mosesso and Corrine Strand. Both were great teammates. We even had our own tulip field in a little plot of ground behind the Q's. The tulips continue to bloom.

A most memorable time was the 6<sup>th</sup> grade train trip to Trier, when Trier was celebrating 2000 years of civilization. Approximately 230 students went on this trip, organized by Diane Patrick. Other 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers present at the time were Al Biagas, Vince Buscemi, Audre Haynes and Julie ???, who had been a student in my 6<sup>th</sup> grade class in Ramstein in 1970-71.

When F.E.S. became a K-5 school, I moved into the building and began teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade in room 230. It was a pleasant change, being warm, having hallways and "facilities" nearby. I was fortunate to continue team teaching with Lawrence Morta, Mary Fran Clune and Jan Pressley.

Thanks to Paul Tremi, F.E.S.'s Zoo Coordinator, for giving me Buster, the guinea pig. What a delight! He spoke to me every morning as soon as I closed the refrigerator door. The children took great care of him. Buster is in the 1995 class picture. And believe it or not – Kathy McCarthy told her kindergarten class that I was her mother, and they believed her!

### **Doreen Jankovich**

Teacher, 3rd through 6th Grades, Special Education

There are so many memories of my time at F.E.S. between 1987-1991 that I could write a book. I do know one thing, the good memories far outweighed any bad memories. As I look back on my bad memories, they now seem comical in nature. My arrival time in Frankfurt somehow was mixed up and no one was there to greet me. I was near panic when I recalled the words of my interviewer, "There will be lots of little tests along the way – you've got to show them you're flexible." So, I did. I was picked up after a three hour wait (in a very

warm library) and brought to F.E.S. to meet Dr. Bresell. Had I not waited; I would have remained more alert. As it was, I was sinking fast, due to jet lag. I struggled mightily to stay awake during my first interview with my principal and while nodding off and on, I heard my first words of greeting from Sherry Templeton, EPM. "E-w-w-w . . . this one doesn't look like she's going to make it! "

Somehow, even though the Auto-Messe was going on, they found me a small room. Small is an understatement! I could lie on the bed and not open my suitcase, or open my suitcase and stand up, but I couldn't do both. Martha Powers-Nosal rescued me and booked Mary Fran Clune and me into the Holiday Inn at Main Taunus Zentrum. We spent 77 wonderful days at that hotel. There I learned the hard way, that even if you call from the lobby of a hotel, they charge you triple. That was my first hundred-dollar ten-minute phone call, and last!

I have never in my life had to be so dependent on others for so much, so after three days into my stay at the hotel, I decided to catch the train into Frankfurt. I caught an "IC" train, whose speed scared me half to death. You know that vacuum swishing sound when two trains pass each other, I grabbed the person sitting next to me thinking this was the end! When the train finally stopped, I had no idea where I was. I just saw high ceilings and lots of glass. I thought I was in France. I called the school number, hoping someone would know where I was. The person on the other end of the line tried to stem her laughter, but the dam broke and she and whoever else was there, laughed hysterically. So much for independence!

Mary Fran and I decided to shop at the Zentrum one day and had to cross several roads and railings to get there. Only after we had done this several times, did we realize that we were crossing the autobahn. We had misinterpreted the honking and waves as friendly gestures.

Settling into a school routine took the greatest amount of flexibility I could muster. I was put outside, the first few days in the Q next to Meg's.

No desks, no materials, and told to hang out there. I was moved a few more times, until I landed upstairs in the fifth-grade wing. I called it my eagle's nest, because I had a great view of the playground, Q's and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade wings. Once I had a classroom and students, life seemed better.

I was inspired by Dr. Bresell's language skills to study German at the Volkshochschule for Auslanders. While learning German, I had another language to learn. . . military language. I recall dragging my laundry from building to building, trying to locate the laundromat. DMP next to the XYZ . . . finally I walked into a building, tossed my bag down, and said I wasn't leaving until somebody told me in plain English, how to find the laundromat. Luckily for me, it was a Social Service/Counseling Center. I guess they recognized a person on the edge, a lot quicker than most.

There are also overpowering memories of kindness bestowed upon me from the staff of F.E.S. I was still wearing summer clothes in October, because I couldn't get my hold baggage. Audrey Haynes gave me a jacket and a coat to keep me warm. She said she was tired of watching me shiver. Meg and Martha took me to an ENT German doctor for my ear infection. Cindy and Bernd helped me read the want ads for an apartment. I learned the local lingo so well in that area, that when I inquired in German about this or that, I was greeted with rapid fire German responses. (Sometimes a little knowledge can go too far.) Joy and Barbara helped introduce me to great coffee shops, and were there to help me join ADAC when my car blew up its radiator. Sue and Ceil showed me a charming Italian place to eat, not far from school. Elizabeth, Barbara D. and Doris always shared words of wisdom. John would spoil me by making me coffee every morning and if I became too busy, would bring it to me. Such tender, simple acts really touched my heart. Cindy, Paul and Bonnie always had great stories to tell, and kept me laughing. Lawrence helped me buy some great rugs. Cheryl Guffy, secretary and fellow Nebraskan, was always there for me. Also, Bobbie

and Chip Grammer, and Kris Maxwell who were there in my final weeks at Frankfurt.

I remember Herr Klar's fun filled bicycle trips; traveling adventures with many staff member; Nancy and Egypt; dancing at a Polish disco; ski trips with Becky and others; Russia, Turkey and chipping away at the Berlin Wall.

The toughest memory was working under the extra security of the Kuwaiti war. The staff really kept things going for the students and community under great duress. We had to keep an even keel and provide support and continuity for all during that stressful year, with little or no recognition for the efforts.

The most amazing memory was when we had a fire drill and we cleared the building in less than three minutes, only to go back and see real smoke pouring out of the kindergarten room. Fifteen hundred students, all safe and out of the building in less than three minutes. That has to be a record.

The most fun filled memories – holding Cindy Lee's luggage for ransom, which we turned into quite a lesson. A first I believe for F.E.S., was putting together "The Mother of All Flea Markets". One huge yard sale for F.E.S. staff to get rid of their excess treasures. It was great, although think I bought more than I sold.

As an elected leader for the Association, I worked with some excellent leadership. Dr. Nancy Bresell and Ardelle Hamilton, both very different leaders, and both very supportive in their own ways. I enjoyed Mike Diekmann and his sense of humor; Lee for his gentle ways and his precision reviewing of the evaluation process.

I know I've not mentioned everyone by name, but suffice it to say, the staff at F.E.S. was the cream of the crop. They were selected for their true talents to serve the military community and have left an indelible mark on my heart.





# AOSHS

American Overseas Schools Historical Society

## MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Life ☐ Donation Only

Printed full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street or Box City/APO State/AA/AE/AP/Country Zip Code

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Educator ☐ Student ☐ Other

\$25 for 1-year dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$45 for 2 years dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to the AOSHS Operating Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit our website at [www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org) and click directly on "Quarterly" to access our membership newsletter.

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



Name on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Make check/money order payable to AOSHS)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
AOSHS  
704 W. Douglas Ave  
Wichita, KS 67203-6104

THANK YOU!

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Tier/Category \_\_\_\_\_

Quarterly Issue \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Renewal Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_ ☐ LIFE Logged: ☐ Database ☐ Spreadsheet

☐ Letter of Receipt Sent



# AOSHS

American Overseas Schools Historical Society

## PROPERTY DONATION FORM

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the person who had these items: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of item(s) and/or overseas location(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Description of item(s) being donated:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

*If more room is needed, please use the backside of paper.*

**NOTE: Photographs should have LOCATION, DATE TAKEN, DESCRIPTION (Names of individuals/groups), ACTIVITY if applicable, SCHOOL, NAME OF ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHER, SOURCE OF PHOTO (if not original photographer)**

Restrictions, if any:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated value of item(s) – if applicable:

- |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |

**The signature below indicates release of the donation(s) to AOSHS to be used at its discretion for safe keeping and historical longevity of the American Overseas Schools Historical Society.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Receipt of item(s) to be donated to AOSHS will be confirmed after review and documentation is complete.**

Send to: AOSHS | 704 W. Douglas Ave. | Wichita, KS 67203



AOSHS reserves the right to refuse the engraving of any material it deems inappropriate.



**\$250.00**

**or**

**\$500.00**

## Tax Deductible

NAME OF PERSON ORDERING

STREET

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

(H)

(C)

TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

**Mail To:**  
**AOSHS MEMORIAL PROGRAM**  
**704 Douglas Ave.**  
**Wichita, KS 67203**

**AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**8" x 8" Beige Quarry Tile OR Granite Tile**

[illegible]

Up to six (6) lines.

Up to twenty (20) squares per line for each character, which includes a letter, punctuation mark, numeral or blank space.

AOSHS reserves the right to refuse the engraving of any material it deems inappropriate.



AOSHS reserves the right to refuse the engraving of any material it deems inappropriate.

# aoshs DIRECTORY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### AS OF SEPTEMBER 2020

Gayle Vaughn-Wiles	President (Outgoing)	gayle.aoshs@gmail.com
Linda Connelly	President (Incoming)	llcmkc@yahoo.com
Doug Kelsey	Vice President	dskelsey@hotmail.com
Nancy Bresell	Secretary	nancy.aoshs@gmail.com
Ron Harrison	Treasurer	pelleting@aol.com
Joel Hansen	Membership	breezypt20@gmail.com
Jackie Kelly	Memorial Program	jackiekellyvt@gmail.com
Rebecca Dunn	Historian/Collections	simplydunn@comcast.net
Kelley Germaine	Records/Tech Liaison	kelley.aoshs@gmail.com
Chris Kyrios	BRAT Representative	kyriosc@yahoo.com
Bob Germaine	Fiscal Advisor	bob.aoshs@gmail.com
Frank Roehl	Future Board Member	frankroehl@yahoo.com
Martha Brown	Future Board Member	marthahbrown@hotmail.com
Allen Haymon	Future Board Member	connieandallen@verizon.net

## STAFF, CONTRACTORS and ASSISTANCE

Monica Maack Tiller	Operations Manager	office@aoshs.org
Ron Harrison	Archive Associate	
Adam Gossman	Contracted Archivist	
Kevin Frutiger	Contracted Digitization/Webmaster	
Chris Limes	Contracted Photographer	
Pete Lundrigan	IT Consultant	
Eric Engstrom	Lawyer	
Monica Lange	CISR	
Lesley McLeary	CPA/	
(with Walter Pikul)	Personnel Accountant	
Joe Condrill	OVERSEAS BRATS	joeosbpres1955@gmail.com

## KEY VOLUNTEERS and WICHITA CONNECTIONS

Tina Calo	Past President
Scarlett Rehrig	Advisor
Ann Bamberger	Advisor
Jan Mohr	Advisor
Linda McCauley	Deceased List
Richard Nell	Overdue Memberships
Les Burch	Schools List Historian
Winanne Murray	Donor Recognitions-\$100-\$499
Myrna L. Margraf	Wichita Volunteer
Chrystie Limes	Wichita Volunteer
Monica Maack Tiller	AOSHS Quarterly Editor

## OVERSEAS CONTACTS

EUROPEAN AREA	Buddy Leavitt	buddy.leavitt@eu.dodea.edu
PACIFIC AREA	Todd Schlitz	todd.schlitz@pac.dodea.edu
HAWAII	Linda Connelly	llcmkc@yahoo.com

## FOUNDER EMERITUS

Thomas T. Drysdale, May 4, 1921 - February 28, 2013

## The AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (AOSHS)

**AOSHS** is a Kansas non-profit organization that collects, records, preserves, exhibits, and provides research opportunity about historical memorabilia of the American overseas schools. Members promote global knowledge and understanding of this unique endeavor, thus adding a critical chapter to the history of American education.

This **AOSHS Quarterly** is published four times a year by the Society to enhance public understanding of the human effort, service, reward, and sacrifice in educating our American children and youth abroad.

**AOSHS MEMBERSHIP** is \$25.00 annually, or two years for \$45.00. To join, either send dues to **AOSHS, 704 West Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67203** with the membership application form provided in this newsletter for your convenience, or visit our website at [www.aoshs.org/membership/](http://www.aoshs.org/membership/).

**DONATIONS** to help preserve the American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) Archives for posterity and historical research are appreciated and are tax deductible as allowed by the IRS. Donations may be sent to the above address.

**READERS** are **ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT** short, factual **ARTICLES** of human interest regarding their experiences overseas. Articles printed may or may not reflect the opinions of AOSHS. Please submit articles preferably by e-mail to [office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org), or by snail mail to: **AOSHS, 704 West Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67203**.

### The AOSHS Policy

The Directors realize that to obtain all AOSHS objectives:

- 1) the strong support of the membership is absolutely essential and must be recognized;
- 2) that although the Society greatly appreciates and recognizes all donations and gifts, it will neither recommend nor encourage its members to obtain the services or products of any company; and,
- 3) the Society will not discriminate on the basis of lifestyle, race, sex, religion, or political affiliation.

## AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ADDRESSES

Office Manager/Archives Assistant  
  
Web Site  
Educator Database Info  
Memorabilia  
Contact the President  
Membership  
Memorial Program  
Email & Change of Address

AOSHS, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104  
[office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org) Phone (316) 265-6837  
[www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org)  
 AOSHS Educator Database, [office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org) Phone (316) 265-6837  
 AOSHS Archives, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104  
 President, [office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org) Phone (316) 265-6837  
 AOSHS Membership, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104  
 AOSHS Memorial Program, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104  
[office@aoshs.org](mailto:office@aoshs.org) Phone (316) 265-6837