

AOSHS QUARTERLY

GRAND Opening ISSUE



704 West Douglas Avenue
Wichita, KS 67203



316-265-6837



office@aoshs.org



<https://aoshs.org>



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LINDA CONNELLY

April 15, 2021 was a significant day for many in Wichita, Kansas, and for many around the world. At 10:00 on this sunny Thursday morning, the AOSHS Museum and Archives was officially opened. Thanks to the significant contributions of many thousands of people around the world, this museum...OUR museum...is a significant piece of history. Contributions took many forms: physical items, written memories, time, and monetary contributions...to name but a few. Days, months, and years of foresight and planning culminated at 704 West Douglas Avenue, Wichita, Kansas, in a facility **Tom Drysdale** would be proud to call our own.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, those attending, participating in, and celebrating the opening of our Museum and Archives was a relatively small number. That did not diminish the significance of the event. Invited folks included some special guests, which included the **Commander of McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita Vice Mayor,** and the **Historic Delano District President.** Additionally, individuals who have assisted AOSHS over the

years in a variety of ways were also present: the **Museum of World Treasures President and staff, Lee Media Group,** and two **AOSHS Past Presidents.** The **American Legion Magazine Assistant Editor** came from Indianapolis, Indiana, to cover the opening for her organization's publication. One AOSHS member from a neighboring state made the drive to be there for "the historic event". (He had seen the opening date and time on our AOSHS website and felt it was important to attend. We couldn't have agreed more!). Significantly, spouses of the AOSHS Board Members also attended and were a tremendous help in the days leading up to the Grand Opening. Lastly, the AOSHS staff, volunteers, and AOSHS Board Members were in attendance.

The program was designed to give an overview of the significance of AOSHS in preserving the history and legacy of DoD schools. AOSHS Historian, **Rebecca Dunn,** gave an interesting and detailed description of the history of AOSHS. **Doug Kelsey,** Vice President, explained the significance of the partnership of AOSHS and DoDEA. Due to DoD travel restrictions on non-essential travel, DoDEA Headquarters personnel were unable to attend the Grand Opening. However, **Mr. Tom Brady,** DoDEA Director, had been awarded the prestigious

AOSHS Flame Award, earlier in the month. His unwavering, on-going support of AOSHS has had a significant and positive impact on our organization's ability to succeed. (You can find information on Mr. Brady's Flame Award elsewhere in this edition of the *Q*). Further, DoDEA personnel were significantly involved in setting up the web broadcast of the Grand Opening. AOSHS Board Member **Nancy Bresell** made closing remarks, followed by AOSHS Board Member **Ron Harrison** "ringing the bell" to indicate that the AOSHS Museum and Archives was officially open!

For those unable to make April's Grand Opening, AOSHS is planning an Open House during the third full week in September. Dates will be published on our website and announced at the DoDDS Reunion in July.

While many folks ask, "Why Wichita?", there is absolutely no doubt that if you find yourself in middle America, the AOSHS Museum and Archives is well worth a visit. For DoDEA students, faculty, staff, and families...there could be no better destination for you to plan a trip. I promise...you *won't* be disappointed.

Sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the AOSHS Grand Opening a success!

GRAND Opening ISSUE



Dr. Thomas T. Drysdale, Founder



DoD Schools Worldwide, Past and Present



Board Members Martha Brown and Bob & Kelley Germaine



Setting up live video, with Margy & Frank Reehl and Doug Kelsey



Guests Mike Noller, Museum of World Treasures President, Wichita Vice Mayor Brandon Whipple, and Col. Robert Kelly, Commander, 22nd Mission Support Group, McConnell AFB



President Linda Connelly with Lee Media Group's Tabytha Rourke, Mia Lee, and Julie Hannemann

GRAND Opening ISSUE



Linda Connelly Opens Ceremony



DoDEA Director Tom Brady congratulates AOSHS via video



Nancy Lawrence, Historio Delano President, visits with Martha Brown.



Museum of World Treasures' Keistin Martin & Mike Noller with Ron Harrison



*AOSHS Board Members
Gayle Vaughn-Wiles, Ron Harrison, Nancy Bresell, Bob Germaine,
Kelley Germaine, Doug Kelsey, Linda Connelly, Rebecca Dunn,
Joel Hansen, Martha Brown, Frank Rehl, and Allen Haymon*



AOSHS Presidents, Gayle Vaughn-Wiles, Ann Bamberger, and Linda Connelly

GRAND *Opening* ISSUE

OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS

AOSHS HISTORY

**Focusing on a Vision through Perseverance
and the efforts of Volunteers**

REBECCA DUNN

“The past seventy-five years of **DoDDS** has seen millions of students and educators who attended our schools form memories about their lives overseas, their lifetime school friendships, their cultural experience, and the different lifestyle of attending schools in a military community. Although some individuals have written about their experiences and they are shared whenever DoDDS educators and students gather, from 1946 to 1989, no attempt was made to record the history, growth, and success of this educational program. The history of **AOSHS** is one of vision, perseverance, volunteers and achieving goals.

THE VISION

More than thirty years ago, **Dr. Thomas Drysdale** had a vision to record the memories of our experiences and develop an archive, museum, library, and memory program. Although, a tremendous

amount of history had already been lost, he hoped that with the help of BRATS and educators, the task would be accomplished.

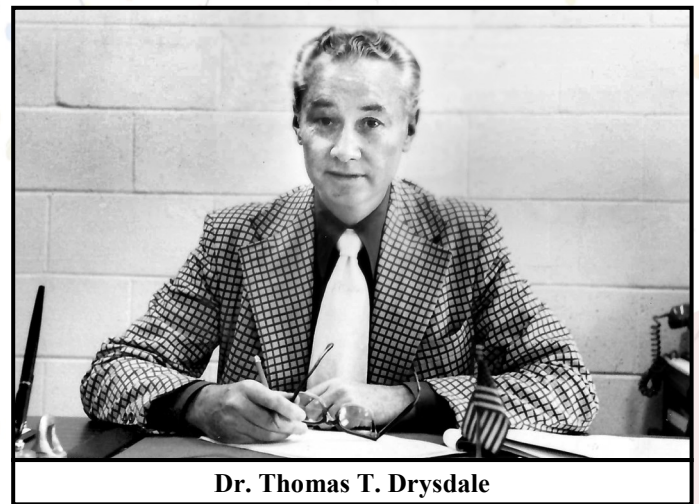
As a result of his efforts and the support of the president of **Northern Arizona University**, the first steps toward Dr. Drysdale’s vision were taken. The **American Overseas Schools Archives (AOSA)** were opened on the Northern Arizona University campus in **Flagstaff, AZ** in 1989. AOSA began with an office and storeroom.

In 1993, AOSA, the parent organization of AOSHS, held its first membership meeting at the annual meeting of DoDDS administrators in Flagstaff AZ.

In 1995, the **American Overseas Schools Historical Society** was established with Dr. Drysdale as president. A year later, AOSHS was incorporated as a non-profit organization by the **Arizona Corporation Commission**, and the overseas archives became a reality. **Charter Membership** began. A list of our charter members can be found on the plaque in the front office and in our **Historical Books**.

PERSEVERANCE

Due to the closure of military bases primarily in Europe, **Dr. John Stemple**, then Director of DoDDS, issued permission for schools to send memorabilia to the archives at government expense. The memorabilia received soon exceeded the storage space available. A notice was sent world-wide to halt sending memorabilia to Flagstaff until more space was made available. The trials of finding a permanent location and enough storage space began.



Dr. Thomas T. Drysdale

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OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS AOSHS HISTORY -continued

A change in administration at the UNA necessitated the removal of all materials from the university. Would this be an end to the vision?

All memorabilia were moved to Dr. Drysdale's residence in Goodyear, Arizona, in 1996. The moratorium on sending memorabilia was lifted. Within three years, the Drysdale's three-car garage, basement, patio, and storage sheds in his yard were at capacity.

The next year a campaign to find a new location for the archives was begun and the **Wichita, Kansas** presentation exceeded all expectations. Five acres of land located at the center of the Wichita's **Museums on the River** complex was selected. Knowing that funds were not available at the time, the city also provided a one-story brick building available for immediate occupancy in 1997. The only expense for AOSHS was for utilities. We were heading toward the vision again.

In early 1999, 33,000 pounds of memorabilia were transported to Wichita from Arizona; however, no visitors could be accepted and no displays could be maintained at that original location. Another obstacle in our way to the vision.

In the year 2000, the city of Wichita requested that they be allowed to use the front offices of the AOSHS building as a Police substation. This request was readily accepted by AOSHS as it provided security to the building and its contents. Additionally, city paid for all utilities.



In 2001, a **Site Dedication Ceremony** was held at the DoDDS/AOSHS reunion in Wichita with more than 500 educators and over 400 alumni in attendance. Life memberships to AOSHS were offered. AOSHS was getting closer to its vision. AOSHS was reorganized and incorporated in the state of Kansas with all assets taken over by the Kansas corporation. After seven years as President, Dr. Drysdale resigned to devote his energy to the archives and to securing Federal funding. **Dr. Ann Bamberger** was elected the second President of AOSHS.

AOSHS faced another setback in 2003 when the city of Wichita condemned the AOSHS storage building. Now over

50,000 pounds of memorabilia had to be moved at AOSHS expense to three rented climate-controlled storage units. The AOSHS office was relocated to Dr. Drysdale's basement at his home in Wichita.

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OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS AOSHS HISTORY -continued

The office was relocated again in 2004 to a rented facility in West Wichita. This building provided space for processing material and an Archive Associate was employed half time for office duties. One step forward!

AOSHS purchased this building, located in the historic **Delano District** of Wichita, in 2005. The building consisted of two commercial spaces. AOSHS was able to open an office with a small display area, work processing area, and space for storage of all memorabilia. The other space in the building was rented to create additional funds until needed.

In 2005, a **Memorandum of Agreement** with DoDDS was initiated to support AOSHS efforts in overseas schools. Dr.

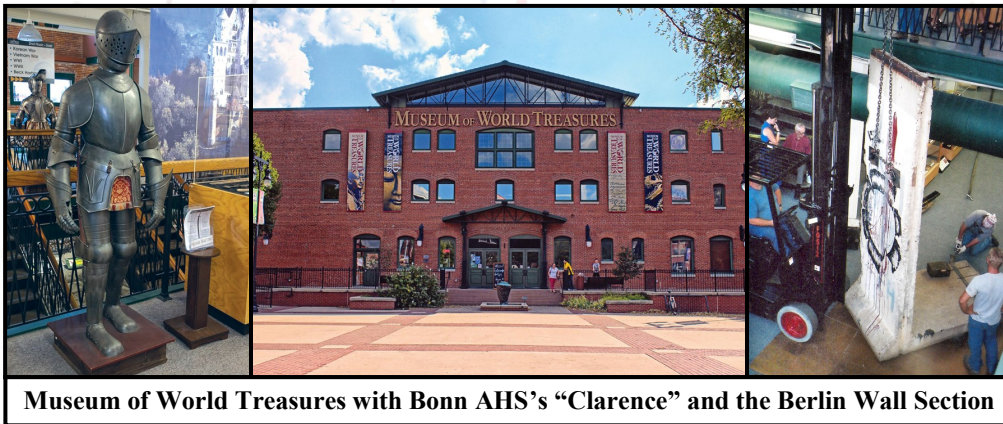
Bamberger completed her term as president and **Dr. Scarlett Rehrig** was unanimously elected as the 3rd president of AOSHS at the annual meeting. Individuals began using the archives for research and additional employees were needed.

Jan Mohr served one year as the fourth president. **Tina Calo** became the 5th President of the AOSHS Board of Directors in 2009. In 2013, needed repairs to the current building were made to maintain the facility.

Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles became the 6th president of the AOSHS Board of Directors in 2016.



Buildings 704 and 708 West Douglas Avenue, 2004



Museum of World Treasures with Bonn AHS's "Clarence" and the Berlin Wall Section

Commemorative Tiles now displayed in the Wichita reception area of AOSHS, and a new virtual program has started. A new website was designed and contains over 2500 digitized yearbooks and almost 9000 photographs of items in the archives. This website has increased our visibility immensely.

In 2018, AOSHS entered into an agreement with the **Museum of World Treasures** to exhibit our large and highly valued artifacts. Two items include a 4½ ton section of the Berlin Wall and a replica of a 15th century German knight. We had our first items displayed in a museum, not our museum, but a museum. The **Bricks and Pavers Program** that was to be part of the originally planned museum became the

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OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS AOSHS HISTORY -continued

Since 2018, the **Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)** and American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) have collaborated to pursue their common goals of preserving the history of the school systems.

As a result of this partnership, we began a new chapter in our journey to share the history of our schools with the opening of the AOSHS museum and archives.

In 2020, our current president, **Linda Connolly**, became the seventh president of AOSHS.

VOLUNTEERS

From the beginning of our organization to the present day, our achievements have depended on the efforts of volunteers. The first office at Northern Arizona University was manned by volunteer students and volunteer retired DoDDS personnel.

The officers and board of directors of AOSHS are all volunteers. The number of hours our volunteers provide to AOSHS are priceless. Without their help, we could not have reached our current status.

MEETING OUR GOALS

The American Overseas Schools Historical Society Museum and Archives is a non-profit organization that collects, records, preserves, and exhibits historical memorabilia of the American Overseas Schools. Members promote global knowledge and understanding of this unique endeavor, as well as providing the opportunity to research a significant chapter in the history of American education. Through the efforts of our volunteers and the current collaboration, we have overcome many obstacles to reach our goals and to open this museum. At our board meeting in April, one of our new board members, **Frank Roehl**, stated that by just looking at the map of past and present schools, it is very obvious why we need to preserve the history of our schools.”

DoDEA PARTNERSHIP RECOGNITION

DOUG KELSEY

“It is an honor to tell everyone about the successful partnership between **DoDEA** and **AOSHS**. This partnership has been in existence for many, many, years which has enabled AOSHS to amass a significant collection of memorabilia and artifacts from DoD schools around the world.

In July 2017 at the DoDDS Reunion, this partnership began a new level of interaction between AOSHS and DoDEA. During our Board of Directors’ meeting in Tulsa, attended by **Mr. Tom Brady**, the DoDEA Director, a commitment was made to support AOSHS. AOSHS went from being a storage facility for memorabilia and artifacts to an organization able to touch many individuals and groups throughout our worldwide audience.

This partnership has provided tremendous opportunities to expand the reach of AOSHS. From building a new website to the opening of this



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GRAND Opening ISSUE

OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS DoDEA PARTNERSHIP RECOGNITION *-continued*

museum, the impact of this partnership can be seen everywhere. Please check out the AOSHS website at www.aoshs.org to see the exciting things happening. In addition to the website and museum, AOSHS will have 3,000 yearbooks and 10,000 digital photographs of memorabilia and artifacts online through our website by the end of this year. Our goal is to have 50,000 photographs online by the end of 2023 and an additional 3,000 publications from elementary and middle schools.

This dynamic partnership has given AOSHS the opportunity to preserve the history of DoD schools from 1946 to present. As an anomaly, did you know the Department of War had schools in Panama as early as 1907, while overseeing the building of the Panama Canal? The oldest yearbook we have is the 1911 yearbook from Balboa HS in the Panama Canal Zone. The first school in Cuba was opened in 1936. These are just two of many, many interesting facts you can learn through the AOSHS website.

AOSHS would like to thank DoDEA for their tremendous support the past 32 years. The enhanced support AOSHS has received the past four years has enabled us to become a very dynamic organization. Thank you, DoDEA, and thank you, Mr. Brady.”

AOSHS FLAME AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

LINDA CONNELLY

In April, AOSHS was proud to present AOSHS’ **Flame Award** to DoDEA Director, **Mr. Tom Brady**. Please read below the presentation comments that were made to honor Mr. Brady and his contributions to AOSHS during his tenure as DoDEA Director.

“As most of you are aware, AOSHS presents an award to recognize superior support of this organization. The Flame Award spotlights those individuals who have gone above and beyond expectations in the advancement of the goals and mission of The American Overseas Schools Historical Society.

This year’s recipient of The Flame Award has promoted this organization at every possible level: school, community, headquarters, and the Department of Defense. Through his on-going support and his belief that the work of DoD educators and our schools should be preserved and supported, we celebrate here today the opening the AOSHS Museum and Archives. He has experienced first-hand the significance of our DoDEA Schools, having served in the military, and having had his children attend our schools.

With gratitude, I am pleased to present this year’s Flame Award to DoDEA Director, Mr. Tom Brady. AOSHS applauds and thanks Mr. Brady for his unwavering support.”



GRAND *Opening* ISSUE

CLOSING REMARKS

DR. NANCY BRESELL



“It is my pleasure to bring this Grand Opening of the **AOSHS Museum** to a close. Thank you for joining us as we give birth to a dream so many of us have had for a long time. Wow! It’s hard to believe we made it to this day. When **Dr. Tom Drysdale**, in whose honor we named the Gallery, came to Wichita, he started the ball rolling. It was picked up and carried further by the several presidents of our organization who followed in his footsteps. **Dr. Ann Bamberger**, whom you met earlier, has been one of the staunchest supporters of the vision you have seen brought to life today. Ann, we thank you for your work as a past president, and for the terrific support you gave this board as we finalized the plans for the museum. We could always count on you.

Most of the former presidents of AOSHS have been unable to join us today, but we do have **Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles** with us. Gayle ably led the organization through the past six years as we began the renovation of the building and organized the contents. She had the vision and the leadership skills to bring us within sight of the goal. Gayle passed the gavel to **Linda**, our current president, who has seen the project through to completion with a calmness, commitment, and dedication we all valued.

While most of our board members over the years have been retired DoDDS teachers and administrators, we have also had some former BRATS (students) on the board. Regardless of whether you were an employee or a student, we all wanted the same thing—to find a way to capture and display the history of these overseas American Department of Defense schools. With the opening of this museum and archives, we’ve been able to do that. So many people have offered their time, energy, and even money to move this project closer to the finish line. While we can’t honor all of you at this time, please know that your efforts have led to this day, and this time, with all of us here to say, YAY! We did it!

Ladies and Gentlemen, your participation in this ceremony is deeply appreciated. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us as we celebrate seeing our dream come true.

It is now time to ring the school bell!”



Ron Harrison, end of Ceremony

ESTEEMED GUESTS

LINDA CONNELLY

April 15, 2021 was an important day for the American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS). The AOSHS Museum and Archives was opened on that sunny Thursday.

As President of AOSHS, it was my distinct honor to meet **Wichita Vice Mayor Brandon Johnson** and to serve as his guide through our Museum. Vice Mayor Johnson was genuinely interested in the museum and our collection, the AOSHS mission, and our membership. He shared that his father was a military veteran, but that he had never been a DoDDS student. He was very interested in why our museum was housed in Wichita...isn't everyone...and was quick to share that he would make it his mission to bring his dad to the AOSHS Museum and Archives. Further, he hopes to bring additional publicity to our Museum in the historic **Delano District** of Wichita through his position as Vice Mayor.

It was a genuine pleasure to meet Vice Mayor Johnson and to introduce him to all that AOSHS has to offer.



DOUG KELSEY

As Vice President of AOSHS, I had the privilege to accompany **Col. Robert Kelly, Commander, 22nd Mission Support Group at McConnell Air Force Base** during the Grand Opening. Col Kelly was representing **Col. Richard Tanner, Commander, 22nd Air Refueling Wing**. Col. Tanner was most recently the Vice Commander at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa.

Col. Kelly was impressed with the AOSHS Museum and Archives. He had no idea there was a museum of DoD schools' artifacts and memorabilia in Wichita. As we walked through the Archives, he was truly amazed at the amount of items that have been collected over the years.

As Col. Kelly was leaving, he shared an idea he had while touring the museum with me. New families coming to McConnell Air Force Base are provided a tour of Wichita. He shared that after seeing our facility, he thought that the tour should include a stop at the AOSHS Museum. It is hoped that idea comes to fruition.



financialMATTERS

RON HARRISON

AOSHS FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

	30-Apr-2021
AOSHS Assets (Not including building and furnishings)	598,172.36
Fenced Operating Funds (Fenced for contractors, 80% of non-personnel costs, Scholarship Fund, and Endowment Fund)	450,404.75
Non-Fenced Assets (Available for operations & unpaid obligations)	147,767.61
Unpaid Obligations (Yearbook scanning)	12,000.00
Non-Fenced Assets (After obligations are paid)	135,767.61
Projected Expenses to 12/31/2021 (Office Manager & 20% of operations)	36,000.00
Projected Non-Fenced Assets (As of 01/31/2021)	99,767.61

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 **dkelsey@hotmail.com**.

MEMBERSHIP *and* DEVELOPMENT

JOEL HANSEN

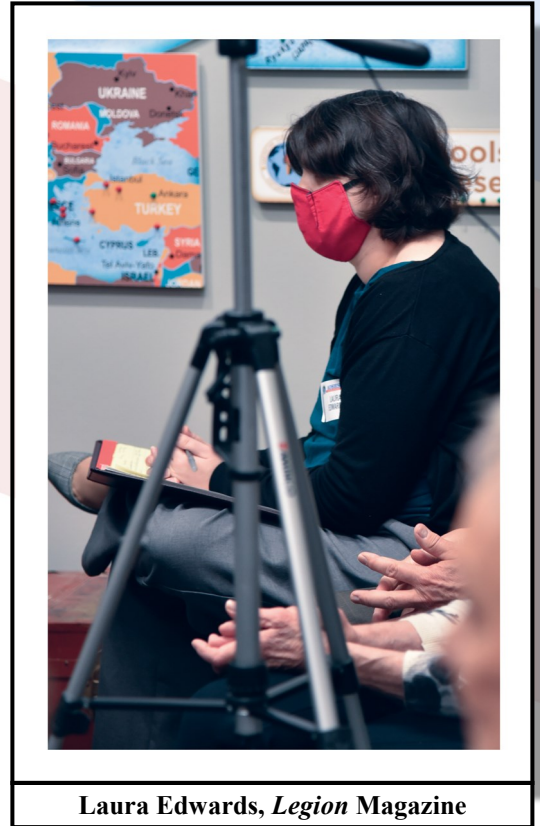
During the last meeting of the AOSHS Board of Directors, it was determined that the organization was in need of a board position that would direct future developments of the society. Therefore, the Membership Chair position has now been re-named to **Membership and Development**. Membership will always be a part of the position; however, we have discovered there are many more things that need to be accomplished in order for the museum to thrive.

With the Grand Opening of the Museum, AOSHS has now moved into a much more visible establishment. World-wide recognition of who we are and what our mission is has created a need for several things. An endowment fund has been created, a business plan framework is in the works, and there is a concerted effort to locate donors and contributors to the organization. Publicity through multiple channels is being explored to expand our audience of interested parties. It will be an exciting future for AOSHS.

Laura Edwards, a representative of the *Legion Magazine* was present at our Museum's Grand Opening in April. In addition, a photographer was hired by the *Legion* to take photos of the event and the exhibits. Laura wrote a very nice article for the *Legion's* weekly newsletter and a related, larger article will be published in a future edition of the *Legion Magazine*. Here is the link to the article:

www.legion.org/fodpal/252320/overseas-defense-schools-honored-kansas

Obviously, being a member indicates your interest in AOSHS and the important mission that was created so many years ago. Being a member also makes you a part of the team. Your help in sharing information about AOSHS with others is truly appreciated. It creates new members, locates donors, and assists us in finding those who can contribute to the archives. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** With the new museum, an ever-expanding archive collection, and an increasing amount of publicity, the future of AOSHS is bright and **Dr. Drysdale's** vision is becoming more of a reality. Thank you for continuing to help us grow.



Laura Edwards, *Legion Magazine*



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. AOSHS's goal is to have 3,000 yearbooks/publications and 15,000 digital photographs accessible through the AOSHS website by the end of 2021.

Please help AOSHS accomplish success in 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.

It is becoming more and more critical that AOSHS obtains items from the late 40's and the 50's. A fifteen-year-old student in 1953 would currently be eight-three years-old. A thirty-year-old teacher in 1953 would be ninety-eight-years-old today. The window or opportunity to collect items from this era is quickly closing.

Please send your items to: **AOSHS, 704 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67203.** This is all that is necessary if you would like to donate the items. If you prefer to loan them to us, all you need to do is enclose a note with your return address stating you would like them returned. For questions, please contact **Doug Kelsey** at **dskelsey@hotmail.com** or text him at **404-664-9128.**

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:

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Wichita, KS 67203**

For further information, please contact **Doug Kelsey** by text at **404-664-9128** or by email at **dskelsey@hotmail.com**.



Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund

PLEASE SUPPORT BRAT SCHOLARSHIPS

CHRIS KYRIOS

In 2021, AOSHS is again awarding scholarships to overseas brats. This year, seniors at **Lakenheath, Alconbury, EJ King (Sasebo), and Edgren (Misawa)**, are competing for two or three **\$1,500 scholarships**.

Funding for the scholarships, named in honor of **Dr. Tom Drysdale**, initial visionary of AOSHS, was started by Brats at an **Overseas Brats Gathering**. The fund has since slowly grown and been supported by former brats and educators. AOSHS, as a non-profit, has managed this scholarship program from the beginning. AOSHS began offering scholarships in 2015 with a focus on small schools with limited community support.

In 2020, AOSHS awarded three \$1,500 scholarships to seniors from **Ansbach** and **Guam**. Recent other winners were from **Vicenza, Daegu, Hohenfels, Ramey**, and **Antilles**.

We are striving to continue to award these scholarships annually, so developing ongoing funding is critical. Please help us in this endeavor by making a tax-deductible donation to the **Dr.**

Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund. Checks can be mailed, payable to "AOSHS", to the address below, or you can call the AOSHS office at **316-265-6837** and speak with **Monica Tiller** to make a donation with a credit card. Thank you for your consideration.

AOSHS
704 W. Douglas Ave.
Wichita KS 67203

Attn: Scholarship Fund

For further information, please contact AOSHS Board Member, **Chris Kyrios** at kyriosc@yahoo.com. AOSHS looks forward to hearing about any fundraising ideas you or your school may have. Thank you for preserving the memory of Dr. Drysdale. 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 at www.aoshs.org.

Previous Scholarship Awardees



2018
Antilles HS, Puerto Rico
GENESIS JUSTINIANO



2018
Ramey HS, Puerto Rico
ONELIS CARDONA



2019
Daegu HS, Korea
JASMINE LITTON



2019
Vicenza HS, Italy
KURT METZGER



2020
Ansbach HS, Germany
CHESKA CARANTO



2020
Ansbach HS, Germany
CELINE LIPTRÓT



2020
Guam HS, Guam
LETYCIA LYNCH



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 in Jacksonville—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**, 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

Friends

Those who donate from \$100.00 to \$249.00

Pacesetters

Those who donate from \$250.00 to \$499.00

Sponsors

Those who donate from \$500.00 to \$999.00

Patrons

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

Benefactors

Those who donate \$2,000.00 or more

SUPPORTERS

Judy Corbett
Joyce Holland
Grace Johnson-D WILES
John "Buddy" Leavitt
Lourine Massie
Elizabeth Miller
Dick Nell
Jan Nisewaner
Gregory Partridge
Nancy Pittman
Judy Pritchard
Ruth Reynolds
Brian Sobel
Martha "Marty" Steinman
Eleanor Stoll
Johanna Stulginsky
Barbara Waters

FRIENDS

Nancy Bresell-D WILES
Kay Davies-D WILES
Mary Deheck and
Terry Fuqua
John Fuller
Ruth Herrman
Sandra Hope
Robert Lykins-D WILES
Candace Ransing-D WILES
Janice Rhicard
Elke Scheller-D WILES
Margaret Varshock
Mary Wileman
Tari Wright and
Jerry Smith-MULTIPLE

PACESETTERS

Ted and Dee Edwards

SPONSOR

Steven Gamble

PATRONS

James and Susanne Lenz

BENEFACTOR

Theresa Barba

RAFFLE RAFFLE RAFFLE

It's Time For Our AOSHS Raffle!

REBECCA DUNN

Will this be the year you win the use of a villa in Italy or a beautiful handmade quilt?

AOSHS will have its annual raffle this July at the DoDDS reunion in Jacksonville, Florida. We hope everyone who attends will visit our raffle table in the hospitality room. We plan to have lots of items for you to bid on. Our generous members, **Carol Cressey** and **Myrna Margraf**, have again donated a week at a villa in Italy and a handmade quilt respectively. **Gayle Vaughn-Wiles** will donate lobsters from Maine again. You may need to buy lots of tickets for these items.

The raffle depends on the items that you donate. The more items we

receive, the more money we can earn for AOSHS. You just need to bring your donations to the raffle tables in the hospitality room by Thursday morning and we will do everything else. This is a great money maker for AOSHS and with your help we will have lots of items to tempt your friends to buy tickets. In Albuquerque we made over \$2000 and, of course, we would like to exceed that amount this year. You can buy your raffle tickets in the hospitality room, place them in the bag for the items you want and then cross your fingers that you will win. The more tickets you buy, the better your chances are to win. We hope everyone is a winner.

This event is only as successful as you make it. Remember AOSHS'

mission is to preserve the historical significance of the overseas schools. We are dedicated to preserving the history of our schools, the students who attended them and the staffs who made our schools excellent. We need your donations to help us continue to accomplish this mission.

Please don't forget to include your raffle donations when you pack your bags and bring a few extra dollars to try to win a few treasures. If you have a few hours to help sell tickets at the raffle table, please contact **Rebecca Dunn** at **443-783-3181** or email her at **simplydunn@comcast.net**.

Thanks for your continued support of this fundraiser for AOSHS.

COMMEMORATIVE TILE PROGRAM

MARTHA BROWN and JACKIE KELLY

The Commemorative Tiles are for living, deceased, groups, teachers, students, administrators and staff who were a part of DoDDS and want to be remembered in its history.

The Tile Order/Inscription Forms for each two remaining tile size is located near the end of this issue.

20 4"x8" Red Quarry Tiles \$100.00 each

18 8"x8" Beige Quarry Tiles \$250.00 each

Order your tile now while they last!

WILLIAM J. COANE

8/31/1934

9/7/2002

4"x8" Red Quarry Tile

CAROLYN L. WILBER

1938-2014

PHILIPPINES, GERMANY

OKINAWA, HOLLAND

1969-1993

8"x8" Beige Quarry Tile



IN MEMORIAM

MARTHA BROWN and JACKIE KELLY

JOHN "JACK" DIBENEDETTO

January 27, 1939 - March 21, 2021

John "Jack" Peter DiBenedetto of East Falmouth, MA, passed away after a short illness on March 21, 2021 at the age of 82.



He was the son of the late John DiBenedetto and Catherine (Picciotto) DiBenedetto. He is survived by his sisters Frances Halbrooks and Catherine Morse, both of East Falmouth, and many nieces and nephews.

Jack was born on January 27, 1939 in Boston, MA. He grew up

in West Newton, graduating from Newton High School in 1956 before going on to earn degrees at Boston University (BA English) and the Boston State College (MA Education). While in high school, he joined the

National Guard and attained the rank of sergeant before launching his career with the Department of Defense in the mid 1960's; first as an English teacher and then as a principal at DoD schools in the Philippines and Japan. Shortly after his retirement, he joined the Peace Corps for two years where he taught English in Yemen. He was among the last of the U.S. citizens to leave that country before the start of the Gulf War in 1991.

In retirement, Jack settled in East Falmouth a few doors down from where his family spent their summers. He was active in the Falmouth Artists Guild, the Academy for Lifelong Learning at Cape Cod Community College, and the Quahog Poetry Group of Falmouth.

According to one of his colleagues: "Jack once told me that he was the great-grand-nephew of A. DiBenedetto who was the artist that designed the Statue of Liberty and was instrumental in its construction in New York Harbor. I have never been able to confirm that."

Sponsor: Robert Lykins



HATSUE "HATTIE" HIGA

January 06, 1934 - October 14, 2020



Hatsue "Hattie" Higa was born on 6 January 1934 and died on 14 October 2020 at the age of 86. She taught in Ethiopia, Germany, Okinawa, and Korea. She was a long-time educator at Seoul American Elementary School but left to get her counselor's certificate. When she

returned, she was stationed in Pusan for a while.

Hattie was very interested in antiquing and acquired valuable Korean chests and Korean art. She went on many bird watching excursions and was a friend of Dr. George Archibald, co-founder of the International Crane Foundation.

She retired to Hawaii in 1992. Her last several years were at a Care Center in Kaneohe, Hawaii

Sponsor: Sandra Lim

Continued On Page 18



IN MEMORIAM

-continued

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Beaudoin currently has \$25.00 in his account. This account was opened in January 2021. The initial donation was made by Jackie Kelly who is also the account sponsor.

Sharon Carter's account was opened in February 2021. Shirley Sweetwine is her sponsor. There is \$25.00 in the account made by Shirley Sweetwine.

Joan Frey's memorial is sponsored by Jack deVille and Mary Swinehart. The account was opened in January 2021 and currently has \$100.00 donated by Jack deVille and Mary Swinehart.

Coach **Byron Smith**'s account was opened in January 2021. His sponsors are Jeri Glass for the Berlin Brats and Ron and Glenna Harrison. There is \$1,015.00 in his account donated by Ron & Glenna Harrison, Randy Smith, Kimberly Jones, Kenneth Moseley, Sean O'Day, Keith Smith, Kevin Lindroth, Michael Rosinus, Michael Givler, K. Rose-Ray for Billy Jordan, Gary Robinson, James Wright, Daniel Sinnard, Lezlie Hartsough, and Jeri Glass.

In Memory

BEVERLY "BEV" WINKIE

August 11, 1933-January 16, 2020
(*Was not in DoDDS 2020 Memorial*)

PATRICIA M. WHITE

April 17, 1929-April 12, 2020
(*Was not in DoDDS 2020 Memorial*)

NANCY "JUDY" NORRIS

August 07, 1937-May 24, 2020
(*Was not in DoDDS 2020 Memorial*)

MARY RUTH OVERSTREET

March 13, 1935-July 10, 2020
(*Was not in DoDDS 2020 Memorial*)

HELEN SMARSH

1926-January 20, 2021

BARBARA KAY HILL

December 25, 1940-January 30, 2021

ELLEN MURPHY

July 30, 1974-February 10, 2021

DEANNA BLUMENFELD

June 27, 1947-February 16, 2021

ROBERT "BOB" PETERSON

1943-February 23, 2021

RICHARD JAMES MCGOWAN

August 29, 1934- February 25, 2021

LARRY BURDEN

1928-March 06, 2021

FRANCES "FRAN" NELSON

-March 13, 2021

KAY WALLS

January 31, 1945-April 2021

NANCY MASTERS EBORN

January 27, 1945-April 13, 2021

ROGER POMMERER

June 09, 1944-April 23, 2021

MARY HARTMANN

July 09, 1945-April 27, 2021

GLEN "TERRY" GILES

-April 29, 2021

BARBARA PALMER

August 12, 1929-May 01, 2021

ELIZABETH "BETTY MAE"

BUCKLEY

August 03, 1929-May 24, 2021



AOSHS

American Overseas Schools Historical Society

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Life ☐ Donation Only

How did you hear about us? ☐ Friends ☐ Facebook ☐ Web Search ☐ Other _____

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 \$ _____

Other _____ \$ _____

Please visit our website at 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!

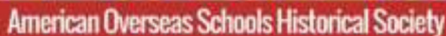
OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Tier/Category _____

Quarterly Issue _____

Dues Renewal Date ____/____/20____ ☐ LIFE Logged: ☐ Database ☐ Spreadsheet

☐ Letter of Receipt Sent



Martha Brown, AOSHS Memorials Chair Email: marthahbrown@hotmail.com



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.

Mail To:
AOSHS Commemorative Tile Program
704 W. Douglas Ave.
Wichita, KS 67203

aoshs DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AS OF JUNE 2021

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Jackie Kelly	Memorials & Communications	jackiekellyvt@gmail.com
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Pete Lundrigan	IT Consultant	
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(with Walter Pikul)	Personnel Accountant	

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Tina Calo	Incoming Obituaries
Richard Nell	Overdue Memberships
Winanne Murray	Donor Recognitions-\$100-\$499
Myrna L. Margraf	Wichita Volunteer
Chrystie Limes	Wichita Volunteer
Monica Maack Tiller	AOSHS Quarterly Editor

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/.

DONATIONS to help preserve the American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) Museum and 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, 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

Operations Manager
Web Site
Memorabilia
Contact the President
Membership
Memorial Program
Email & Change of Address

AOSHS, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104
office@aoshs.org Phone (316) 265-6837
www.aoshs.org
AOSHS Archives, 704 West Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67203-6104
President, 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 Phone (316) 265-6837