



aoshs QUARTERLY



704 West Douglas Avenue
Wichita, KS 67203



316-265-6837



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https://aoshs.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LINDA CONNELLY

Fall 2022—How did we get here? I remember as a little girl hearing my parents and my grandparents often talking about “how fast time goes.” I always wondered what they were talking about... Now I know.

DODDS REUNION

Just thinking in terms of the DoDDS Reunion... As I write this, that was a month ago! It was great to see so many friends in **Kansas City** and to establish new acquaintances. The common bond we all share as educators with **DoDEA** is one we will always carry with us.

KANSAS CITY

While I grew up in the **St. Louis** area, I had never visited Kansas City before. I found it to be impressive! The people were friendly and welcoming, which is so common in the **Midwest**. A further positive point... KC is relatively close to **Wichita**... The home of **AOSHS**. It was wonderful to learn that a number of **Reunion** attendees stopped by the **AOSHS Museum and Archives**. Some stopped on the way to Kansas City, while others took advantage of the fact that the **Museum** had special opening hours on the **Sunday** after the Reunion to

accommodate anyone wanting to visit on the drive home. As **AOSHS** members, we should all be proud of the Museum and the myriad of items on display there. Items that we can all identify with. Items that mean so much to so many.

AOSHS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Especially important at the Reunion was “getting the word out” about the mission and accomplishments of **AOSHS**. The PowerPoint presentation at the **AOSHS Annual Meeting** summarized what’s been done during the past year. **The AOSHS volunteer Board of Directors** did an exceptional job of laying out the path that our organization is taking. Please be sure to read the articles found here in the **Q**, written by our **Directors**, this month.

SUPPORT OF AOSHS

Thanks to everyone who supports **AOSHS** and especially to those who attended the DoDDS Reunion. Whether you supported the organization through attendance at the Annual Meeting; by renewing your membership or joining **AOSHS** for the first time; through donation to the **Scholarship Fund**; or through any number of other ways, our story is important... Both individually and collectively. The success of **AOSHS** is because of you... Because of **US**. Together we’re a powerful group of educators and our story is on-going. There is no end to the stories we

can share. Let’s keep telling our stories to all who will listen.

Next year’s DoDDS Reunion is scheduled for **12-16 July** in **Omaha, Nebraska**. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your on-going support!

REMEMBER,
WE NEED
YOU
TO HELP
MAKE IT
HAPPEN



financialMATTERS

RON HARRISON

AOSHS FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

	31-July-2022
AOSHS Assets (Not including building and furnishings)	692,664
Fenced Operating Funds (Fenced for contractors, 80% of non-personnel costs, scholarship fund and Endowment Fund)	552,630
Non-Fenced Assets (Available for operations & unpaid obligations)	140,034
Unpaid Obligations (Ozark Scanning & scholarships)	12,424
Non-Fenced Assets (After obligations are paid)	127,610
Projected Expenses to 12/31/22 (Office Manager & 20% of operations)	27,000
Projected Non-Fenced Assets (As of 1/31/2022)	100,610

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**.

MEMBERSHIP *and* DEVELOPMENT

JOEL HANSEN

We HAVE SURPASSED THE **1000 MEMBERS MARK!!!** CONGRATULATIONS! The number of **AOSHS members** has increased by **6%** this past year. An increase such as this indicates that it is not only **DoDDS-specific** individuals who are joining. Because those from the DoDDS era are getting older, it is important to continue to encourage those outside of DoDDS to join.

We must remember that AOSHS represents all **DoDEA**, including **DoDEA Pacific, DoDEA Europe, AND DoDEA Americas**. The legacy of the **DoD overseas schools** is intertwined with the DoD schools in **CONUS**. The stories that employees and students have to tell as they think of their experiences in multiple locations are a vital component in preserving the legacy.

We continually strive to increase our membership and have a goal to show an increase of **30%** by **2024**. Please help us in spreading the word to those you know! Don't forget that anyone who donates items to the archives receives a **complimentary one-year membership** as well.

The **AOHS Board** continues to focus on the new and improved **AOSHS Business Plan** as the driving focus for our way forward. The specific eight goals and objectives are our guideposts, and we aim to be diligent in establishing and executing plans to address them by the ascribed dates. There is much work to be done.

One goal—a letter writing campaign focusing on potential donors – has the potential to garner support from individuals, business, and corporations who are not currently familiar with AOSHS and our mission. By the end of **2022** we expect to have identified and contacted at least **50** entities whose support we believe could benefit our **Museum and Archives**. The Board is committed to following through with this goal and excited about its potential impact.

Another goal—increasing our exposure and visibility in specifically identified venues—is one the Board is grappling with. On the “to do” list is strategically identifying locations, which items to show and share, how to best showcase them, and logistically how to share. We are mindful that a digital presence will be a major focus when identifying different sites for sharing our legacy.

There are many things in the works in AOSHS so stand by as we notify you of further developments.



Visit DoDEA's videos about AOSHS from their Communications Department on YouTube,



https://youtu.be/cSnXu4_FFAs



<https://youtu.be/BS0G6IGPSZo>



<https://youtu.be/xH0Blk4qtDQ>

ARTIFACTS, MEMORABILIA, PUBLICATIONS, YEARBOOKS & PHOTOGRAPHS

DOUG KELSEY

HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK INITIATIVE

AOSHS has access to over 4400 school yearbooks or publications. Over 3400 of these can be viewed online through the AOSHS website. We are continuing to scan these resources and expect to have the additional 1000 yearbooks online by 2024.

The initiative to obtain yearbooks from existing high schools began almost 18 months ago. As a result, of the 40 high schools that exist today, we have received yearbooks from 27 of them. We hope to obtain 200 to 300 more yearbooks by the end of the summer when the push for this initiative will end.

Beginning this fall, DoDEA and AOSHS will begin a similar initiative to obtain and place on-line yearbooks or publications from existing elementary and middle schools. Today there are 95 DoDEA elementary and middle schools throughout the world. We expect to receive more than 2000 yearbooks/publications from these schools for this initiative.

With the current inventory of 4400 yearbooks, the additional 300 from the current initiative and the projected suc-

cess of the elementary/middle school initiative, AOSHS should be nearing 8000 publications online within the next two to three years.

These two initiatives focus on existing schools. We are still missing yearbooks or publications from hundreds of schools that have closed. Dating back to the 1946, there have been more than 725 DoDEA schools. There are currently 135 schools. This means there are almost 600 schools that have closed.

THIS IS WHY WE NEED YOU (STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS) TO PROVIDE AOSHS MATERIALS FROM THESE 600 SCHOOLS. The window is quickly closing on the opportunity to obtain materials from the late 40's and the 50's. With your support, it is possible to make the AOSHS collection more complete.

If you can help in this endeavor, please contact Doug Kelsey via email at dskelsey@hotmail.com or via text at 404-664-9128. He will be more than happy to assist you.

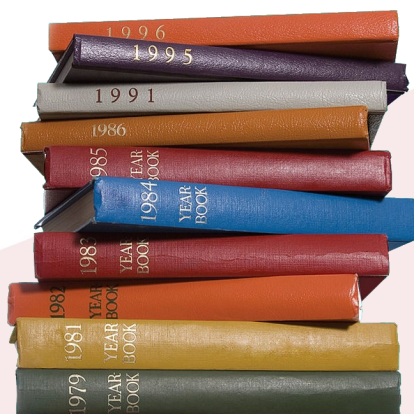
Continued On Page 5



INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE AOSHS BOARD?

Does serving on the **AOSHS Board of Directors** appeal to you? If you are interested, contact **Martha Brown** at martha@aoshsboard.org to learn more about Board responsibilities and commitments.

SAMPLE OF YEARBOOKS STILL NEEDED			
HIGH SCHOOL	COUNTRY	YEARS OPENED	YEARBOOKS MISSING
Brussels ES/HS	Belgium	1967 - Present	1968, 1970, 1975, 1982, 1996, 2007 to 2021
W. T. Sampson	Cuba	1950 - Present	1951 to 1954, 1956, 1957, 1961, 1965, 1969, 1970, 1993 to 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2008, 2010, 2017
Alconbury	England	1971 - Present	1972 to 1981, 1993, 1995 to 2000, 2002 to 2021
Woodbridge	England	1973 - 1993	1974 to 1992
Orleans HS	France	1952 - 1967	1953
Ansbach HS	Germany	1973 - Present	1978, 1979, 1984
Bad Kreuznach HS	Germany	1960 - 2001	1968, 1981, 1991, 1992, 1998
Giessen HS	Germany	1985 - 2007	1990, 1994, 2004, 2005
Nuernberg HS	Germany	1946 - 1995	1991 to 1995
Sigonella MS/HS	Italy	1981 - Present	1982 to 1986, 1989, 1990, 1995 to 2010, 2014 to 2021
Itasuke HS	Japan	1952 - 1972	1972
Edgren HS (Formerly, Misa-wa HS)	Japan	1953 - Present	1954, 1955, 1980, 1982, 1986, 2002
Nousasseur HS	Morocco	1951 - 1963	1952
Wainwright ES/HS	Taiwan	1958 - 1975	1959, 1963, 1970, 1972



TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!

The resources for AOSHS to obtain publications, memorabilia, and artifacts from the 40's, 50's, and 60's are quickly disappearing. (See the chart below). If you or anyone you know has resources from these eras, please contact **Doug Kelsey** at dskelsey@hotmail.com or text **Doug** at **404-644-9128**. Your assistance in preserving the legacy of DoD schools worldwide is invaluable.

	STUDENT AGE 18 in 1950	STAFF AGE 40 in 1950
AGE IN 2022	91	113
	STUDENT AGE 18 in 1960	STAFF AGE 40 in 1960
AGE IN 2022	81	103
	STUDENT AGE 18 in 1970	STAFF AGE 40 in 1970
AGE IN 2022	71	93

WANTED



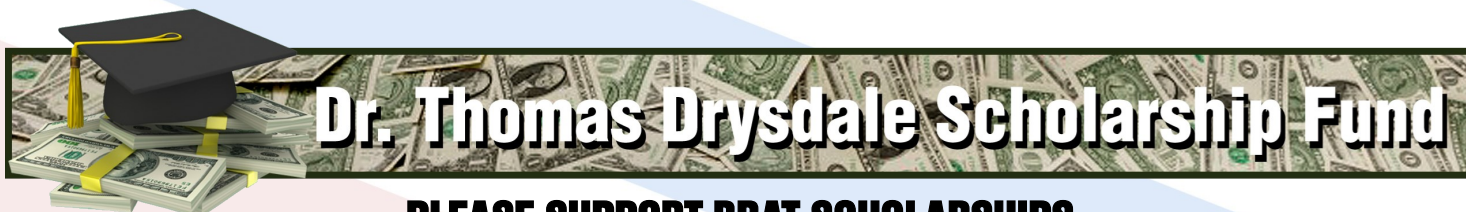
AOSHS wants your **CLASSROOM PHOTOGRAPHS** from elementary and middle schools for our Archives. They may be donated or loaned to our archives. Whether donated or loaned, they will be scanned and available for viewing through the AOSHS website. If donated, they will be scanned, placed online and placed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

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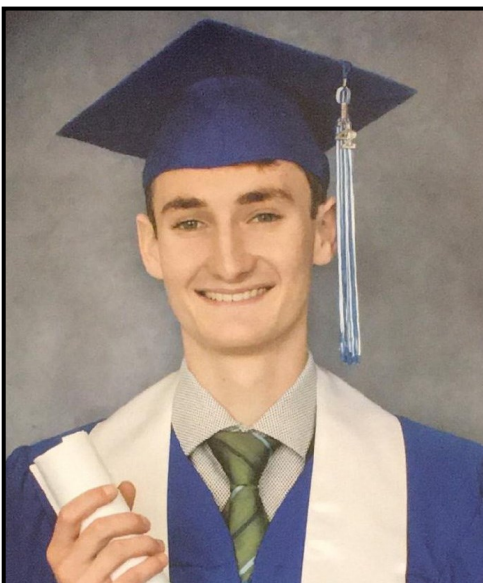
Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund

PLEASE SUPPORT BRAT SCHOLARSHIPS

CHRIS KYRIOS

The **American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS)** has awarded **\$7,500** in **scholarships** to **2022** graduates of the **DODEA** education system.

THREE \$1,500 Dr. Tom Drysdale Memorial Scholarships went to overseas small school seniors **Nathan Pierce (Brussels HS - Belgium)**, **Arianna Bedard (Osan HS - S. Korea)**, and **Mollie Quill (WT Sampson HS - Cuba)**. Additionally, working with **Kaiserslautern alumni**, **TWO** additional **\$1,500** scholarships were awarded to **K-Town** seniors: **Kiera Kelly & Alex Price**.



Nathan Pierce
Brussels 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

were among a record number **(16)** of highly qualified applicants, and were reviewed by a **scholarship committee** from **AOSHS**, **Overseas Brats** and for the **K-Town** scholarships, their alums. This year's winners are the **sons** and **daughters** of **enlisted** and **officer military members** and **DoDDS** educators.



Arianna Bedard
Osan High School

Mr. Pierce will be attending **Appalachian St. - NC (Int'l Relations)**.

Ms. Bedard - **University of Texas, San Antonio (Chemistry)**.

Ms. Quill - **(History/Library Science)**.

Ms. Kelly - **Rochester Institute of Technology (Data Analysis)**.

Mr. Price - **Weber St. - Utah (Business)**.

We wish the scholarship winners and other applicants the very best in their academic endeavors.



Mollie Quill
WT Sampson High School

In 2013, **BRATS** attending the Overseas Brats Gathering decided to begin funding a scholarship, now known as the **Drysdale Scholarship**. Since its inception the fund has grown as the initiative has been adopted by donors from the **Karlsruhe Alumni Association**, **Colorado BRATS Club**, **Berlin BRATS Alumni Association**, and **Kaiserslautern Alumni**. Merchandise sales online, at the **DoDDS Reunion**, and at other Overseas Brats events also continue to contribute to the scholarship fund. Additionally, this year we conducted a successful Facebook fundraiser. Over 50 **BRATS** and educators contributed!



Dr. Thomas Drysdale Scholarship Fund -continued

For the **2022-2023** school year, AOSHS hopes to award another **\$6,000** in scholarships to Brats at overseas schools and for that, we **NEED TO REPLENISH THE FUND.**



Kiera Kelly
Kaiserslautern High School

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. Tom Drysdale Scholarship Fund.**

If you have an upcoming school reunion or regional, you might consider collecting donations at that event!

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



Alex Price
Kaiserslautern High School

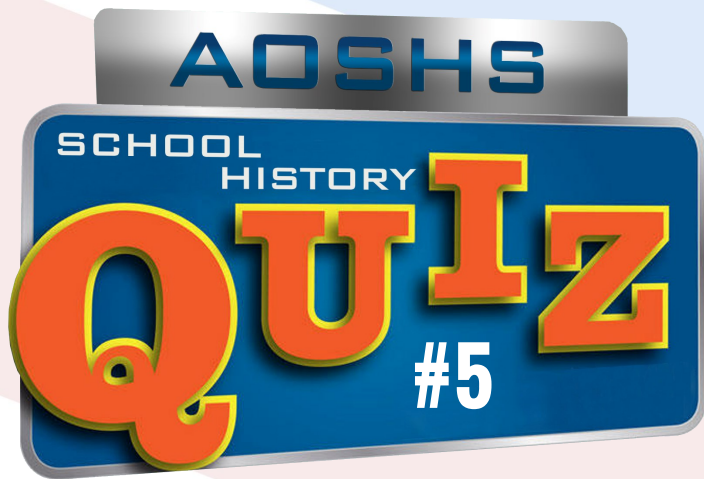
AOSHS
Attn: Scholarship Fund
704 W. Douglas Ave.
Wichita KS 67203

For further information please contact **AOSHS Board Member, Chris Kyrios** at **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 @ aoshs.org.

If you are not already a member of the **AOSHS FB group** you can request to join here: www.facebook.com/groups/169980156354700/about/





REBECCA DUNN

We have posted histories for 66% of our overseas schools. Currently, we are working on the schools in **Belgium** and the **Netherlands**. Then, we will make our final push to complete the schools in **Germany**.

Please check out the posted histories on our website, www.aoshs.org. You can find the school histories under “**Collections**”, then “**School Histories**”, then by country and finally by city.

If you find a history of your school, and we missed an important event, please let us know. If we haven’t posted a history for one of your schools, please help us create a history that reflects the richness of your school experience. You can send any school history information or school memories to **Rebecca Dunn**, simplydunn@comcast.net.

Here are a few more trivial questions regarding the unique histories of our schools.

Questions:

1. What was the original name of the Asmara American School located in Ethiopia?
2. What was the name of the small, two-teacher school in Sardinia, Italy that was opened by a teaching couple in 1986?

3. Which school in southern Spain was named for an American writer?
4. Kindley Elementary School in Bermuda was opened in 1947 with grades K-8. What was the new school renamed when it was dedicated in 1969?
5. What year did women’s sports become part of the DoDDS competitive sports program?
6. What was the name of the first school for American students in Ankara, Turkey?
7. What school in Turkey was located in the housing area of a base that served as an American Air Base, a Turkish Air Base and the commercial airport for the nearby city?
8. The school mascot for Incirlik High School was the Hodja. What is a Hodja?
9. Why were the SHAPE schools established in Belgium in 1967?
10. What elementary school was located in a 1985 addition to a Dutch elementary school?

Hope you enjoy these questions and it piqued your interest to read a few of our school histories online at www.aoshs.org.

You can find the answers to these questions on page 15.



RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO

DONATE

TO AOSHS

AOSHS wishes to recognize this quarter's donors who support the Museum and Archives and our operating fund. 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** (Reunion XXXIV in Kansas City, June 14, 2022) to the beginning of the DoDDS Reunion the following year (Reunion XXXV in Omaha).

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. Please let us know if we missed including your donation so we can correct that error. **All donors for the year will be recognized for the 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

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Those who donate from \$500.00 to \$999.00

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

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Those who donate \$2,000.00 or more

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JULY 2021 – JULY 31, 2022 DONORS

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JULY 2021 – JULY 31, 2022 DONORS –continued

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We Thank You!



IN MEMORIAM

CHRIS LIMES



MARILYNN RUTH AYERS TAYLOR

June 4, 1935 – October 18, 2021



Marilynn Ruth Ayers Taylor, born on June 4, 1935, in Marion, Indiana, passed away on October 18, 2021, at her home in San Antonio, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents, Martha Helen Tormohlen and John Howard Ayers. She is survived by her beloved husband Terrell Taylor; her sister Patricia Ayers Burd and her husband John of Gainesville, Georgia; her stepchildren Kent Taylor and his wife Yvonne of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Melora Taylor Magill and her husband Bryan of San Antonio; and her nieces Catherine Burd Davis (husband Jeff) of Charlotte, North Carolina and Emily Burd Webster (husband Daryl) of Gainesville, Georgia and their children Jeffrey, John, Stephen and Tristen Davis; Elizabeth, John and Rebecca Webster. She is also survived by step-grandchildren Andrea Hynson, TJ Hodges, Deanna Aldridge (husband David), Shawn Magill, Kayli Magill, Zachary Hughes, Cassandra Hughes and Rachele Whalen (husband Patrick), as well as thirteen great grandchildren.

Marilynn grew up in Greenville, Illinois graduating from Greenville High School in 1953 and Greenville College (now University) in 1957. She taught in Beloit, Wisconsin and St. Louis, Missouri before following her urge to travel by joining

the Department of Defense Dependents Schools System as a librarian/media specialist. She worked in schools in Japan, the Philippines, Germany, and Turkey and took full advantage of the opportunities to explore Europe, Asia, Australia, and Africa. The best discovery in all her travels was finding Terry. They were married on Dec. 20, 1971, in Greenville. Wherever they lived, their home was always open to friends and family. Her warm hospitality made guests feel welcome and special. They loved sharing their part of the world with visitors, taking them to historic locations and to special out-of-the-way shopping places. Marilynn was the ultimate great guide; she could find her way through winding, unmarked streets in cities or villages and back roads in the countryside.

Besides work, travel, and entertaining guests, Marilynn also managed to be involved in elected positions in the Overseas Education Association and sang in German church choirs in Kaiserslautern and Osterholz.

Retirement in 1993 meant moving again, this time to Boerne, Texas. Marilynn immediately became involved in the community. She joined the First United Methodist Church of Boerne and quickly became part of the choir. She volunteered in the church office and at the Boerne Public Library. The transition to their home at the Villa de San Antonio was no different. She and Terry provided hours of work in the library. Marilynn served in leadership roles at the Villa, and when she wasn't doing volunteer work, she was probably reading or watching the Spurs. Her positive outlook on life and willingness to be of help to others endeared her to residents and staff alike.

Guided by her faith and motivated by her love for her family and friends, Marilynn has left a meaningful legacy to all who knew her.



IN MEMORIAM

-continued



BRUCE DERR

February 28, 1944 – May 6, 2022

Bruce John Derr, age 78 of Bellingham passed away peacefully on Friday, May 6th. Bruce was born in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania to parents Mary and John. He had the courage to pursue a career in education overseas in Japan. He spent 40 years in Japan with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS). He started as a P.E. teacher / coach and worked his way up to becoming the Superintendent of the Japan School District. As an educator, he had a positive impact on thousands of administrators, teachers, and students. Bruce is survived by his sons Mike and Chris as well as his grandchildren Brennan, Finnegan, Keelan, and Shinnosuke. His spirit will continue to live through his children and grandchildren. He will be missed but never forgotten. "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood...and I, I took the one less traveled by and that has made all the difference".

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Sarah Todd Milner's fund was opened in April 2022 by John (Buddy) Leavitt who is the sponsor. The fund now totals \$50.00.

Gilbert Fooks' fund was opened in April 2022 by John (Buddy) Leavitt who is the sponsor. The fund now totals \$25.00.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Lawrence (Larry) Philpot's** fund was opened in January 2022 by Dana Pope who is the sponsor. Rebecca Dunn has also contributed to the fund. It now totals \$50.00.*

Although this is the final announcement, AOSHS will continue to accept donations to the Memorial Virtual Remembrance fund in his honor.

Below are the latest notices we have received of those recently deceased. While we are pleased to provide this service to our membership, we realize that we may not know of other colleagues who have passed. You can help us by informing the AOSHS office when you learn of the passing of others. If you would like to purchase a Memorial Virtual Remembrance in honor of one of these or other colleagues a Memorial Virtual Remembrance Form is located at the end of this newsletter.



In Memory

VIOLY CARSLIN

_____ – August, 2022

TAWNIA CHAMBERS

October 11, 1957 – June 13, 2022

NANCY ELIZABETH EARL

September 10, 1940 – June 18, 2022

WILLIAM (BILL) MAHONEY

_____ – June 22, 2022

AMY LOUISE NEY

_____ – June 17, 2022

HARRY LEGETTE "PUNKY"

OWENS

_____ – July 22, 2022

SUSAN RUSSELL

_____ – July 25, 2022

ANNE MARIE SCHAFER

_____ – June 10, 2022

CAROLYN SCHOLTEN

_____ – June 21, 2022

HARVEY SHANE

_____ – May 31, 2022

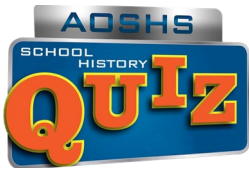
JEAN TAYLOR

June 7, 1927 – July 22, 2022

RAFFLE RAFFLE RAFFLE

ANNUAL RAFFLE SUCCESS

Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's raffle at the DoDDS reunion in Kansas City a success. We had more than sixty items donated and sold lots of tickets. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors! We look forward to the raffle in Omaha next year.



From page 8.

ANSWERS: 1. The first year that Asmara American School was open, it was named Robert E. Lee Dependent School. The next year the school was referred to as Asmara American School. The school was located on an Air Force installation in Asmara, Ethiopia. The area where the school was located is now in the country of Eritrea. **2.** Decimomannu Elementary School was located on the island of Sardinia, Italy. In 1986, Gary Flannery and his wife, Diane, were hired to open the small two teacher school for the Americans. **3.** Seville Ameican High School was originally part of Seville Dependents School. Its original name was Washington Irving School after the American writer who had been an American ambassador to Spain. After one year the school was renamed Seville School and then Seville High School. **4.** Originally, the elementary school in Bermuda was known as Kindley Elementary School which opened in 1947 with grades K-8. In 1969, a new school was dedicated as Robert B. Chaffee Elementary School. Often when a base changed from one branch of service to another the school was renamed. **5.** Women's sports become part of the DoDDS competitive sports program for school year 1973-74. Prior to that time, the Girls' Athletic Association was the only venue for girls' sports, and events were only at the local level. The change was due to the passage of Title IX legislation that prohibited sex-based discrimination in any school or any other education program that received federal funding. **6.** The first school for American students in Ankara, Turkey, was the Ankara American Education Association which opened for its first session of school on October 16, 1950. The school had one hundred twenty children, ranging from kindergarten through ninth grade with eight teachers, one of whom served as the principal. **7.** Çiğli Elementary School was located in the housing area of Çiğli Air Force Base. The air base served as an American Air Base, a Turkish Air Base and the commercial airport for Izmir until a new airport was constructed. **8.** The Turkish meaning of the Hodja is teacher. The people around the world know him as the man who rode his donkey backward to see the world from a different light. He can see where he has been, rather than where he is going. The Turks know him as a hero. According to a school yearbook, the students of Incirlik High reflected the Hodja through their individuality and their humorous outlook on life. In spite of constant change that goes with being a military member, lasting friendships were formed, and the prestige of being a Hodja would never be forgotten. **9.** The SHAPE schools were established as a result of the move of SHAPE from France to Belgium in April 1967. The schools derive their organizational structure from an agreement between the Belgium government and the Supreme Commander Allied Forces Europe. This agreement provides for an international school board responsible for the organization and adminsitration of the SHAPE schools. The board is composed of one representative from each of the NATO nations with children in the schools. National school units are sponsored by Belgium, Canada, Holland, Italy, Norway, United Kingdom, United States and Germany. **10.** Coevorden American Elementary School was located in the city of Coevorden, The Netherlands, six kilometers from the German border in the northeast province of Drenthe. The school was in the center of the city and occupied a 1985 addition of four classrooms to Parkschool, a Dutch elementary school which shared its gymnasium, library and art room with the Americans. The staff for the 1987-88 school year consisted of four classroom teachers, one of whom is also the special education teacher, an educational aide, a secretary and a principal.

Adam Hildenbrand — Part II

BELOVED TEACHER

BY MAJOR GENERAL RICK MARTIN

(Retired) BAHS '77

Adam Hildenbrand—Lifelong student and educator. A teacher in the classroom and educator in the lessons of life.

Many Berlin American High School students remember Mr. Hildenbrand as a math teacher from the late 1960's to 1994, where he taught Algebra, Trigonometry, and Calculus. Later he also taught the Cooperative Work Experience program. His passion in the classroom and personal interest in his students defined the man who is both a teacher and a friend.

I enjoyed many long conversations with Mr. Hildenbrand over the years during Berlin American High School reunions and periodic phone calls. We share a kindred spirit that became an encouragement to me. Mr. Hildenbrand is an inspiration as a young man who persevered under hardship in Yugoslavia after WWII, before his emigration to the United States with his family in 1952.

Mr. Hildenbrand spoke with heartfelt mourning recalling his family hardships in the Yugoslavia Concentration Camp “Rdolfsgnad,” located in what is

now northern Serbia. Rdolfsgnad translates as “Rudolph’s grace, although Adam said it certainly wasn’t anything like heavenly grace that he knew. Rdolfsgnad was the largest of the eight liquidation camps for ethnic Germans during 1944-1948 under the communist leadership of Emperor Tito, who invaded the area after the Nazis were defeated at the end of World War II.

Adam also spoke of his passion for learning and his degree in mathematics and education from Bradley University in 1962. He recalled his training in the Army as a Medic where his expertise in math was also recognized and how he eventually transitioned to positions in base finance and accounting offices at posts in Virginia and Korea.

This testimony from Joe Koffley, BAHS’70-72 is a fitting tribute to his significant and lasting impact in the classroom and in our lives: “I met Mr. Hildenbrand in 1971 having moved from Miami, Florida to Berlin. He was my Algebra I and Geometry teacher. In actual point of fact, he was far, far more than that and he has been much in my thoughts after I left Berlin only two years later.

To be perfectly clear, before arriving in Berlin, I was not a stellar math student (third string to be sure) and I had an abysmal lack of self-confidence. In the short span of two years, Mr. Hildenbrand saw potential in me and instilled a true love of mathematics that has carried me throughout my engineering career for nearly forty years.

His encouragement took me from academic ignominy to the National Honor Society, and later, serving as his teaching assistant. Mr. Hildenbrand inspired me to look far ahead to the future when many others lived for the moment. I left Berlin with a confidence and determination to succeed, no matter the degree of adversity. Make no mistake, the life lessons he instilled in me extended well beyond simply mathematics.

Mr. Hildenbrand and I traded some emails in the early 2000s. In 2019 I finally got to see him again at the Columbus, Ohio regional reunion. To say it was an emotional moment for me would be a terrible understatement. Words cannot adequately express the depth of my gratitude to him.

Continued On Page 17

ADAM HILDENBRAND -continued

An old phrase comes to mind that success is having the good fortune to stand on the shoulders of giants. I have stood upon many giants' shoulders; however, Mr. Hildenbrand ranks as the first giant to me.

I raise my glass and offer multitudinous "huzzahs" to Mr. Hildenbrand! To a most bountiful life of friendship, sincerity, and heartfelt understanding—Three cheers and a tiger!"

Joe Koffley

It's an honor and pleasure to call Mr. Hildenbrand a friend. He provided over four decades of service to the American families and students in Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Korea, France, England, Berlin, and Sicily.

While he is proud of his career as an educator, he is equally inspired by his love of the Lord. Adam is a personal friend and student of Pastor Alistair Begg. In one of our conversations about Alistair Begg's book, *Brave by Faith*, Mr. Hildenbrand shared a challenge and a blessing with me regarding the life of the Prophet Daniel. We discussed Daniel's testimony before King Nebuchadnezzar—to be more about believing than being. He said we should dare to be a Daniel. We should dare to stand alone. We should dare to have a purpose firm. We should dare to make it known. Thanks for

blessing me with this powerful message.

Adam Hildenbrand's life as an educator extended well beyond the classroom. He led a life of significance! To that we express our good cheer and gratitude—Huzzah! Well done good and faithful servant.

Adam and his late wife Mary Ellen (Higgins) had two daughters—Kathleen and Mary. Mary Ellen taught at TAR Elementary school in Berlin. Kathleen graduated from BAHS. She is currently a beautician in Columbus, Ohio. Mary has a PhD in Psychology and is a counselor in Cleveland, Ohio. Mary is married and has two children.

In Tribute to Adam Hildenbrand:
Composed by Rick Martin '77,
BAHS

Limerick

Superb teacher—Adam
Hildenbrand

Yugoslavian heritage grand

Students sometimes out of whack

His patience deserves a plaque

An amazing man, we clap and
stand

Hildenbrand—Berlin High
School name

Teacher and gardener we acclaim

A man of faith as well

We certainly do tell

A life lived well, we do
proclaim!

Haiku

Adam Hildenbrand

Marvelous educator

Life of fulfillment



Mary Ellen, Mary, Adam, and
Kathleen Hildenbrand



Adam gardening near Rittman,
Ohio with his grandchildren



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American Overseas Schools Historical Society

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American Overseas Schools Historical Society

VIRTUAL REMEMBRANCE FORM - MEMORIAL

To establish or donate to a Virtual Remembrance MEMORIAL Fund, complete the form below and send it with your payment and required information to:

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Telephone (____) _____ E-mail _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

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TO THOSE WISHING TO ESTABLISH A VIRTUAL REMEMBRANCE MEMORIAL FUND:

Check those items below which apply. **Numbers 1 and 2 are mandatory.**

- ___ 1. Enclosed is a 100 to 250-word biography to be used as an announcement in the next issue of the *AOSHS Quarterly* newsletter.
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- ___ 3. Enclosed is a photo of the honoree (cannot be returned).
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After this form is received, the fund will be announced in the next two issues of the AOSHS newsletter. Others may donate to the fund. When the fund closes, you will be notified as to the amount collected. If the amount collected reaches level 2 or higher, you will be asked to provide information for the additional printed lines on the Virtual Remembrance.

If you have any further questions regarding establishing this fund, please email office@aoshs.org, or write to:
AOSHS Virtual Remembrance Program, 704 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67203.



If you have any further questions regarding establishing this fund, please email office@aoshs.org, or write to: **AOSHS Virtual Remembrance Program, 704 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67203.**

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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.

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