



Berlin Brats Alumni Association Newsletter

July 2009

Volume 6, Issue 3



Berlin American High School Reunion Scottsdale, Arizona 2009

The following pages are but a snapshot of our fun-filled-4-day Reunion in Scottsdale (ie: Phoenix), Arizona, July 9-12, 2009. This year's Reunion was like no other with soaring temperatures in the three digits. Yes, it reached 116! AND we thought Berlin was hot in 2006! At least Scottsdale was a "dry heat"(I'm told to say that as a resident of these parts) & had plenty of air conditioning. Our property also had two pools – one – the larger back pool, was totally dominated by the '80's, which you will see in the upcoming photos. The rest of the Class Years (the sane ones) chose to stay inside with "cool air" and a cold libation. Come to think of it, I never did see anyone on the tennis courts?!

Our attendance was a far cry from our all time high of 401 in Berlin with 197.....but with the bleak economy... we still fared quite well. (Lots of other schools cancelled their Reunions altogether this year OR saw their numbers in double digits). That said, those in attendance didn't hesitate to sign up for the optional activities offered. We're talking Hot Air Ballooning, Jeep Desert Adventure, a day at the Spa or our Golf Outing! This year saw our first ever Silent Auction & Raffle with entire proceeds being awarded in the form of 3 Scholarships at the Saturday Night Banquet. (note the article featured on page 7)

The Class of '85 was knocked off their throne....with the Class of '87 inching by with the "Most Attendees" this year. AND WOW!the Class of '80 was the most improved and came on real strong thanks to Co-Class Contact, Peter Stein.

Five teachers joined us this year:

Mr. Hildenbrand FAC '69-'94, Mr. Echeveste FAC '66-'69,
Sharon Lowson FAC '66-'68, Lois Vandagriff FAC '68-'70,
Dr. Jerre Vandagriff – Asst Prin TAR '68-'70.

AND we had a surprise appearance by Dr. Tom & Norma Drysdale – Founder & President Emeritus of the American Overseas School Historical Society (AOSHS). The pictures in this issue will tell part of the story but many people need to be THANKED for making this Reunion so successful and shall we say in many ways just a touch above previous Reunions. *Thank YOU's continued on page 2 and page 3.*

By: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72

Registration

Below:
Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50,
Barbara (Schmick) Edwards-'60's K-town Brat,
Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 and
Victor Lopez '73 man the Registration Tables.



Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72
Oversees Registration



Silent Auction and Raffle
Kim (McLean) Hunt '77 (in the middle),
Doris (Sandoval) Dettmer '76, and
Penny McLean '88 Queens of the Raffle



Gary Robinson '74,
his wife Susan, and
Marianna (Lieurance)
Mounsey help at the
BAHS' PX



Thank You to Our Volunteers

Registration / Welcome Desk / PX:

Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 Chair
and a host of Volunteers to include:
Gary & Susan Robinson '74, Susan (Kennedy) Dixon '72,
Diana (Green) Kempton '72, Victor Lopez '73,
Paul & Wanona Greer '72, Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50,
Barbara (Schmick) Edwards '60 K-town Brat,
Maggie (Ellithorpe) MacPherson '63,
Michelle (Virgin) Waters '88.



Silent Auction & Raffle: Kim (McLean) Hunt '77 Chair,
Assts: Penny McLean '88, Doris (Sandoval) Dettmer '76,
Jolene (Shriver) Heller '76 and Billy Jordan '76

Major Donors of Auction: Bryan Duckett '84,
Greg & Myrna (Medina) Orbock '76, Mike Friedrich (Berliner),
GermanDeli.com, and the German Embassy in Washington, DC.

Scholarship Committee: Jenni (Hewitt) Shaw '85 Chair,
Jim Branson '64, & Billy Jordan '76

Hospitality Suite Hosts:

'50's/'60's: Jim & Brenda Branson '64:
'70's: Jim Wright & Jackie '72;
'80's/'90's: Yoshekia (Loftin) Lowe & Ivan '83 and
Pleshetta Loftin '86

MC of Movies: Jim Branson '64 and Bob Orozco
(spouse of Diane (Shaw) Orozco '66)

Golf Outing: Billy Jordan '76 Chair

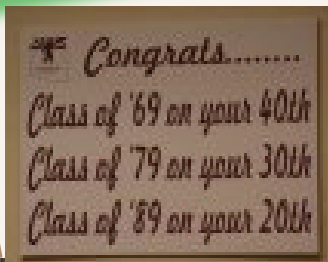
Performer: Larry Speer '86

Graphics Brat: (Logo designer) Susie (Sams) O'Neill '85

Invitations/Table Signage & WebBrat: Cate Speer '85

Security: Billy Jordan '76 & Stephen Dussetschleger '76

Newsletter Brat: Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71



The Stuffing Party: Jim & Brenda Branson '64,
Billy Jordan '76, Cate Speer '85, Natalie (Asp)
Reader '85 and Angie (Arnold) Doyle '85.

....and on a lighter note, **Karaoke standouts:** Mike Cramer '64, Jasper
Kump '87, Tracy Terrell '88, Lee Angel '64, Schiela (Murdock) Pena '89,
Ben Hilger '89, the '60's Gals, the '70's Gals and the '80's Gals.



Larry Speer '86 makes us "Proud to Be an American"

60's Hospitality Suite

Hosts: Jim Branson '64 and wife Brenda



70's Hospitality Suite

Hosts: Jim Wright '72 and Jackie



Above: 60's Faculty and Alumni share BAHS memorabilia



80's Hospitality Suite

Hosts: Yoshika Loftin Lowe '83 with husband Ivan, and sister Pleshetta Loftin '86

Below: Pete Murphy '84 with Cate Speer '85



The Class of '87 had the most attendees. A close 2nd was the Class of '85



Special Guests Thursday evening were Dr. & Mrs. Drysdale...(Tom & Norma) Founder and President Emeritus of AOSHS pictured here with Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72



Cate Speer '85 speaks with Faculty member Mr. Hildebrand '69 -'94



Sam McCuskey '71 joins Brats from the 70's



Skip Jira '64



Chuck Hewins '63, the Berry Sisters and Suzanne McGurk '66



Michael Pollard '85



Karen Reilly '80

with Husband Jim and mother Barbara



Jim Wright '73

David Wright '75



Tracy Terrell '88

Lance Srp '88



Toni Yarbrough Combs '71

Pamela Krimming Harper '71



Terry (Moorman) Ballard

Connie (Phillips) Buynar

Gals from the '80's

Karen "Paige" (Sellers) Wilt

Danica (Charlton) Lehner



Michelle Estes '90

Tamara Dunham '90



Pictured are Ivan & Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe, Pollard kids, Laura & William Pollard '83





Linda
Hewins

Chuck
Hewins
'63



Mike Rodgers
'75
with wife
Sherry



Wanona
Greer

Paul Greer
'72



Leigh Ann
(Nakai) Hilger
'88

Ben
Hilger '89



Couples



Kathy
Sullivan

Steve Sullivan
'71



Vince
Lingner '82

Rachel
Grundy



Kevin
Smart

Stella
(Rathjen)
Brumley
'77

Cindy
(Churavy)
Garrett
'75



Diane (Shaw)
Orozco '66

Bob
Orozco



Lee Angel '64
with Friend

Joanne
Truxton



Mike Cramer
'64

Lennard
Cramer



Steve
Tunnell

Veanne "Kaye"
(Stewart)
Crawford '62



80's Girls Rule



60's Girls Croon Loves Tunes



The Swinging 60's



DJ's grandson John Opens Our Karaoke Night with a Moonwalk as he Impersonates Michael Jackson



Karaoke



Dancing

Larry Bad Hair Day?

70's "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"



Tracy Terrell '88 Sings "She's A Lady"

Our Faculty Attendees



*Dr. Vandagriff - FAH Asst. Principal '68-'70
Mrs. Vandagriff - L. B. '68-'70 Mr. Hildenbrand '69-'94*



*Mr. Echeveste - FAC '66-'69
with wife Berta*



Mr. Hildebrand with Scholarship Recipient Jessica Bee, her mother Kim (Graves) Bee '77, and her grandmother Betty



View the Silent Auction and Raffle Items behind these lovely ladies.



BAHS flags wave on the tables Saturday evening in front of these '80's attendees.

A highlight of this year's Reunion Banquet in Scottsdale Arizona was the presentation of the Berlin Brats Reunion Scholarship Awards. These awards were the first of their kind for the Berlin Brats Alumni Association and were deemed by those in attendance to be a raging success. The intent of the awards was to further the success of the Berlin lineage. Scholarship applications were emailed to the class contacts and posted on the Berlin Brats Website (www.berlinbrats.org) this past Spring. The initial intent was to award a minimum of (3) \$500 awards to be made available to the following persons:

A Berlin Brat and/or their dependents (children, grandchildren or spouse) and/or A faculty (teacher or administration) member and/or their dependents (children, grandchildren or spouse)

Application forms were completed and submitted to the three-person Berlin Brats Scholarship Committee (berlinbrats.scholarship@gmail.com). This committee consisted of Jim Branson ('64), Billy Jordan ('76) and Jenni (Hewitt) Shaw ('85). In an attempt to make the evaluation process as bias free and as objective as possible, the committee reviewed each application package in its entirety multiple times and rated each package against an exhaustive set of evaluative criteria. Follow-up questions were submitted to the candidates if necessary and three outstanding packages rose to the top. There was however, one package that stood out from the rest and this package was awarded a larger portion of the scholarship total. Proceeds from the first ever Silent Auction, Raffle and various other donated items from the PX and private donations were used to fund the scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank Mr. Curtis Carter, parent of Betty Carter '72 and Mr. Billy Short '78 for their private donations to the fund.

The following students received the first three Berlin Brats Reunion Scholarship Awards.



Marc Somers Bullock, son of Donna (Berry) Bullock '65

Marc's package was that of a student with clear career and educational goals with dual degrees, one obtained internationally. Having started working at the age of 14 and with an impressive resume already in his back pocket at the age 21, this student aims to be the best in the uber-competitive field of real estate. Marc's understanding of a Berlin Brat as "a person who has made a connection, shared a memory or lived a moment in life with another person in a similar situation". He is the kind of person who will leave you with the feeling of "money well invested." For his outstanding application package, Marc received \$764 from the Berlin Brats Alumni Association Reunion Scholarship Award.



Jessica Bee, daughter of Kim (Graves) Bee '77 and granddaughter of Reunion attendee Betty

Jessica's package was the complete package. It was well thought out and you felt like you knew her personally when you were done reading her essay. Her philanthropic commitments to Relay for Life and the youth and the seniors of our society are commendable but what really touched us was she got it. She knows what it means to be a Berlin Brat and as such she is an "ambassador" for the Berlin Brats. We trust Jessica will use this scholarship to continue her education and the ROI will be triple-digits as she attains her dreams of becoming a brilliant research scientist at the CDC. For her poignant application package, Jessica received \$573 from the Berlin Brats Alumni Association Reunion Scholarship Award.



Nathan Lowe, son of Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83 (his father Ivan accepting)

Nathan's package was the fresh start package. The young freshman entering his first official year of college. Wide-eyed and full of anticipation, we believe in his dream of earning a medical degree and practicing Psychiatry and believe he fully understands the time, emotional and financial commitment that career path requires. His commitment to his church and furthering the beliefs of the youth of the church are paramount to the core of who Nathan Lowe is. His understanding of what a Berlin Brat is "about never forgetting a special and proud time and place in our nation's history. It is about the love not only of the people but of the culture of Berlin". For his exceptional application package, Nathan received \$573 from the Berlin Brats Alumni Association Reunion Scholarship Award.

The Berlin Brats Scholarship Committee would like to thank all the applicants for their efforts and we wish each of them success in their future educational endeavors. Look for Scholarship Application packages on the website and/or from your class contact Spring 2012 for the next round of awards. Interested in donating privately, please contact us at berlinbrats.scholarship@gmail.com and we'll get you the information you need.





Poolside



Angela Ott Lamb '80 with her daughter Jessica



80's Ruled the Pool!



Chaparral Suites



Clubhouse



Breakfasts



Spa Bar



Sitting Room



Barbara (Schuck) Edwards '60's K-town Brat



Liz Wood '85, Cate Speer '85, Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Jean (Hewitt) Shaw '85, Leigh (Love) Roper '85, Barbara and Elizabeth Jordan



Lopez Ladies



Our "private luncheon room"

Joyce (Riddick) Perkins '66



Pam Erickson (spouse of Chris '86)



Myrna (Medina) Orbock '76, Terry (Moorman) Ballard '80 and Danica (Charlton) Lehner '82



Karen (Sellers) Wilt '80, Kim (McLean) Hunt '77, Penny McLean '88, Jolene (Shriver) Heller '76



Pam Erickson (spouse of Chris '86) and Cate Speer '85 getting their pedicures



Janet (Bozarth) Silver '66



Elizabeth and Barbara Jordan (daughter & spouse of Billy '76) getting their peds

At the Spa

Golf Tournament

**1st Place • 60's Team
65**



*Mike Cleveland '61,
Raymond Good '62,
Steve Tunnell,
"Kaye" (Stewart) Crawford '62*

Shortest drive minus 20 yards
Mike Cleveland,
Most balls in the sand
Kaye 'Stewart' Crawford

**2nd Place 60's Team
66**



*Don MacPherson,
Donna (Berry)
Bullock '65,
Mike Jiru '63,
Mike Cramer '64*

Longest Putt
Mike Jiru

**3rd Place 80's Team
72**



*Tracy Terrell '88,
Tim Shaw '85,
Janet Silver '66,
Michael James '87*

Closest to the Pin
Janet Silver,
Longest drive
Tim Shaw

**4th Place 70's Team
72**



*Billy Jordan '76,
Randy Wiggins '77,
Jim Wright '72,
Rick Martin '77*

Most Balls in the
Water
Randy Wiggins

**5th Place 70's Team
78**



*Mike Rodgers '75,
Sherry Rodgers,
Kevin Smart*

Most Balls in the
Water
Kevin Smart
Most Balls Lost
Mike Rodgers

How did Janet (Bozarth) Silver '66
end up with the 80's guys?



".....are we in Texas or Arizona with these Horns?"

Jeep Tour

7:30 am Jeep Loading



"...they were told NO open toe shoes!"



The Lead Jeep

is Kicking up dust....



The Gang Trail Blazing.....



Our Guides



Juice for "Prickly Pear Margaritas?"



"The Murph"
Pete Murphy '84



Appetizer Anyone?

Blooming desert



HOT AIR BALLOON TRIP



Certificate of Ascension
En Machine Aerostatique
Pam (Thurston) Moratzka '79



Jocelyn Moratzka and
Hannah Elizabeth Jordan
with their Certificates of Ascension
in a Hot Air Balloon



Ready for Lift Off



Champagne Breakfast in the Desert



Balloons are Expanding and we wait excitedly



Over the Desert



Friends



Brat Sisters



Sisters

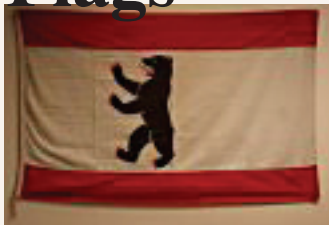


Families





Berlin Flags



Billi Cooper LeRoy and her adidas!



Fountain outside the "Old Town Tortilla Factory" in Scottsdale, Arizona where early arrivals had Mexican Buffet on Dutch Treat night

song lyrics by **James Taylor**
come to mind

I've Seen Fire and I've Seen Rain

*I've Seen Lonely Times when I could not find a friend
I've Seen Sunny Days that I thought would never end
But I Always Thought That I'd See You Again...*

Upcoming Events:

30 October
through
Nov. 1, 2009

**New Braunfels, Texas
The WurstFest**
Contact: Roo Moran '73
for more details.
rupertlee73@yahoo.com

Regionals:

**Washington, DC Regional
November 7, 2009**

View Flyer at
www.BerlinBrats.org
or Contact:
BerlinBrats@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

Reunions:

2012 Berlin Brats Reunion TBD

Contact Information:

American Overseas School Historical Society

Contact: Tina Calo, President
email: tcalo@aoshs.org
Website: www.aoshs.org

Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, President
Email: joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.overseasbrats.com

Berlin Brats Alumni Association

41630 N. Rolling Green Way
Anthem, AZ 85086
623•764•1105 tele
623•551•1398 fax
BerlinBrats@gmail.com
WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org
www.berlinbrats.org
Newsletter Brat:
traecombs@gmail.com

Early 60's Site

By invitation only
Contact: Jim Branson '64
jbranson01@hotmail.com
for an invite

Brat Attack A Berlin Chat Room

By Invitation Only
Contact: Janine Fisher at
guitarlady61@yahoo.com