



Wall Acquisition Presentation Slide Show *Can***NOW** be seen on You Tube

In 2005 we, the "Berlin Brats" Alumni Association purchased a section of the Berlin Wall. At the 2006 Berlin Reunion in Berlin, Germany (with 401 in attendance) we presented a slide show to the attendees on the find, purchase, transportation and installation of the Wall at the Museum of World Treasures in Wichita, KS. Now the show can be seen on YouTube. Stay tuned to the very end as you might see your Name listed!!!

Be sure to hit the "Like" button after viewing!!!

If ever in Wichita, KS.....stop in to the Museum of World Treasures and visit our Wall!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0W40VO7m0gE>

The Berlin Brats Alumni Association And The Wall

Ironcate



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15 videos

THE BERLIN BRATS
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
AND
THE WALL



From Berlin to ebay to Wichita, KS. The Berlin Brats' story of acquiring a piece of the Berlin Wall.

January 30, 2012

Dear Magnificent Berlin Brats Alumni Association:

An appreciative thank you from the hearts of all members of AOSHS for this historical rendering and record of finding, buying and donating a section of the Berlin Wall to the American Overseas Schools Historical Society, then moving it to the Museum of World Treasures in Wichita, Kansas where it will be on loan indefinitely for the benefit of all Americans and visitors from around the world.

Dr. Tom Drysdale,

BBAAdmirer and

Founder of AOSHS.

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Charlotte Regional: Komen Walk and Oktoberfest

By
Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72

On Saturday, October 1, 2011 Berlin Brats attended their 2nd Annual Race for the Cure 5K Walk in Charlotte, NC ...and then later that evening had our Oktoberfest regional.

Deb (Brians) Clark, Class Contact for '74, was once again our host.

As we did in 2010, Angela, Jessica, Deb, Toni, Joyce and myself (pictured here in our Race t-shirts) set our alarms to get up at o'dark thirty, boarded the Charlotte Lynx light rail and headed to downtown Charlotte to participate in the Susan B. Komen Walk.



Left to Right: Angela (Ott) Lamb '80, daughter Jessica, Deb (Brians) Clark '74, Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71, Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 & Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72.

We all enjoyed the Walk so much in 2010 we were back for more!!!

Our reward: watching the breast cancer survivors unleash their balloons in the Parade of Survivors. Each survivor was given a pink balloon for every year they've been cancer-free. All at once, they released their balloons, and the Charlotte skyline became pink with hope against a backdrop of city skyscrapers and a perfect Carolina blue sky.

Later that evening we joined other Berlin Brats at our Oktoberfest regional at the famous Waldhorn German restaurant in Pineville, NC. The Waldhorn is consistently rated year after year in the Top 10 of U.S. German restaurants. We celebrated an authentic Oktoberfest, complete with beer tents, oompah band, wiener schnitzel, and sauerbraten! The German band (...okay, along with the beer too!) made us feel like we were back "home" in Berlin!

Gary Robinson '73, Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71, look at scrapbooks from Gary's Athletic Days at BAHS, at the home of Deb (Brians) Clark '74. In Gary's scrapbooks, Gary had a paper football that all the cheerleaders had signed and given to the players before a game.



We had great teams AND great school spirit.

Guys do you remember "this bag" in the picture below? This one belongs to Gary. Evidently in the '73-'74 time frame the bag was given to players for their overnight trips on the duty train to play other schools in the Zone.

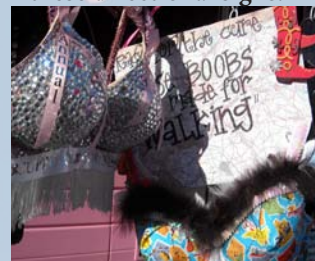
Let us know
if you remember this
Bag!!!



.....And Yes
that is an
authentic
Letter Jacket from 1973.



In the park distances to cities all over the US and overseas were written on these directional signs.



These boobs were made for walking or we could say these Brats were made for walking!





Gary Robinson '74 and his wife Susan



Deb Clark, Jeri and Jim Branson '64 and his wife Brenda



Brats in attendance and not mentioned previously:



Mark Bergly '79 and his wife Beth



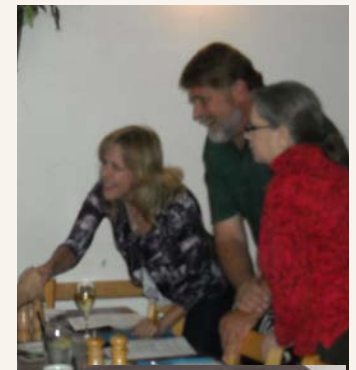
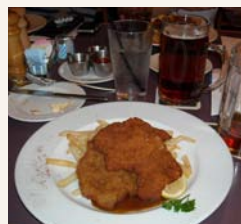
Angela (Ott) Lamb '80, daughter Jessica



Mike Briens '78



Jim Liptak '77, Tina (Rash) Liptak '77, Jim McLean '78 and his wife Becky, Diane (Westrom) Allen '79 plus fiancé Mike Mock



Deb Clark's Mom and friend pictured above wearing lederhosen and dirndl. Michael Clark husband of Deb Briens Clark also drank from a stein from Munich that belonged to Deb Clark's grandfather to hold his German beer! He is pictured above in the white shirt.



Jason Sprankle '78 wearing a Berlin Hard Rock Cafe shirt.



Hanging up the Berlin Flag outside the tent



Crossing The Atlantic In 1963



Long before the jet age, many of us were sent to Europe on troopships or if you got lucky, on an ocean liner.

In August 1963 my father had orders that sent us to Stuttgart, and the mode of transportation was a troopship, specifically the USNS Upshur. The Upshur had transported troops during World War II and the Korean Conflict and for several years was picking up troops and families in New York and taking them to Bremerhaven, (then) West Germany.

This was a new adventure for an 8 year old Brat, being at sea for 10-11 days and going to a country I only knew from the TV series Combat! So I was a wide-eyed Brat when I boarded this BIG ship.

Traveling with me besides my parents was my 16 year old sister, Mary Beth, and 2 year old brother, Steve.

Brats are naturally out-going, so I quickly made friends with other Brats my age. There were no cruise staffs onboard, so all the ship had for kids my age were board games such as Monopoly, Battleship, and others. My sister also made friends quickly and easily, and within a day or two had her own entourage. They developed their own activities, I'm sure. <Smile!>

My memory of the crossing is of a storm that had the ship pitching and rolling for a number of days. Troopships were built then to get as many forces from Point A to B as quickly as possible. These ships were not built with comfort in mind or with stabilizers. Consequently many onboard (including my parents) got quite sick. The Upshur got the nickname, the Upchuck. But since I loved roller coasters (then), I thought this to be the coolest of experiences.

After we disembarked from Bremerhaven, the Upshur would see some service in the mid-1960s transporting troops to Vietnam before it became mothballed.

Fast forward to the 1990s. I'm now involved with OVERSEAS BRATS and one of the focuses of the organization is to involve our Educators. One of these responded to one of my updates.

"Are you related to the Mary Beth Condrill I knew on the Upshur?" he asked.

"Yes!" I shared. The Educator shared he never forgot my sister from that crossing! That Educator turned out to be Ross Calvert, who after leaving the Upshur went on to Berlin where he was in the Class of 1965 from Berlin High!

(Postscripts:

-Ross's Brat experience, which included his time as a Berlin Brat, lead to his 32 year career as Department of Defense Dependents Schools Educator teaching at AFCENT, SHAPE, Bitburg and Incirlik, Turkey.

-In my father's career, all his troop ship experiences (1943 to Alaska, 1946 back to the U.S., 1950 enroute to Germany, 1954 returning from Europe, and the Upshur crossings) were bad ones for him. Near the end of his career, now a senior Army officer, he was handed a question: Should the military continue to transport personnel overseas by ship? It took him less than a minute to respond NO.

-The experience on the Upshur began my experience with the cruise industry. Now - in addition to my responsibilities with OVERSEAS BRATS - I serve as an independent contractor with Royal Caribbean.)

By: Joe Condrill
Overseas Brats President

We contacted Ross Calvert for his recollection. Herewith:

Crossing The Atlantic In 1963*Too*

Joe's account is pretty much factual. I actually had sort of a crush on Mary Beth, his sister, during that crossing. Unlike the board-games that Joe was left with, I recall that some sort of a ship's official gathered a few high schoolers together and gave us an assignment. We were to develop and write a newspaper that he would print up for distribution. It was a pretty clever way of getting us involved and, perhaps, keeping us out of any kind of mischief. I have no copies of that paper and do not recall what we named it but it provided a constructive outlet only partially counter balanced by endless card games...something I have avoided playing ever since that voyage.

My parents view of the value of the old MSTS ships was similar to that of Joe's father. My dad used to sneak a pretty well filled portable bar aboard to make the trip more easy to take. It was not permitted to consume (or possess) any alcohol aboard a military transport. Whereas families and officers were placed in cabins above decks, the troops were kept below decks in pretty rugged accommodations and they were frequently spread out lying or sitting on the open deck to get away from the more claustrophobic surroundings below. In that same area, there were small cages into which were placed the dogs and cats, pets of the families traveling aboard the ship. It was my job to accompany my younger sister to that area so that we could communicate with one dog and cat combination that were our family's pets. Encouraged to get them out of the confined cages to clean the cages and to give them some contact with people, on more than one occasion, one or the other would make a break for freedom and the troops were only too happy to help corral the escapee...or to just sit and enjoy laughing at the spectacle.

Travel aboard the MSTS ships was a privilege reserved for the members of the US Army and their families. Those associated with the Air Force generally were flown from CONUS to Europe and back during the 60's. Having made at least three crossings aboard these seaworthy crafts, I can say that I really envied the Air Force folks as the USNS Upshur (and the Rose and the Patch and the Buckner, etc.) were pretty boring modes of transport for a kid.

In an apparent attempt to leave its passengers with a kind hearted memory of the entire voyage, the pretty mediocre fare served during most of the voyage was replaced with lobster and baked Alaska for the final dinner. It might be an indication of the low level of excitement endured by most of the passengers, that excited discussion of this wonderful last meal was the major topic of discussion for several days before it was served!



Joe Condrill from a couple yrs ago

Ross Calvert '65



"Ross in '65"

BERLIN BRATS AT THE OSB REGIONAL AT DFW!

January 28th saw the Berliners (to the right) at the Overseas Brats regional in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area - at Joe's Crab Shack.

A good time was had by all...especially when the Brats who own GermanDeli.com showed and brought all of us those little white bags (featured in the pic) full of Gummi Bears and German Chocolate!

Ross shared with the attendees that after graduating at BAHS he went on to become a DoDDs teacher - for 32 years!!!! Teaching Brats at Afcen, Shape, Incirlik and Bitburg.



Front row: Graham Beachum '65, Ross Calvert '65 and his Kay.
Back row: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72

You Asked.....

You've asked about our Yearbooks over the years.....
See what The Introduction to the 1967 Yearbook says:



Peter Hughes

Yearbooks

Chronicle of our Annuals/Yearbooks

In 1947 and 1948, BERLIN published softbound annuals entitled "Gateway".



1949 was the first year that the Dependents School Division (DSD - the predecessor to DoDDs) published the multi-school hardback Annuals. Entitled "Erinnerungen" (Memories) they included the regional shields of each school's area. Notice the gradual increase year by year as new schools opened.



BERLIN broke out from the multi-school Annual in 1961 and once again published BERLIN editions.



Introduction

The year 1967 is one of anniversaries. It is the year for USAREUR's twentieth anniversary. It is also the year for Berlin's twentieth yearbook.

The post-war years of 1946/47 brought the U.S. Military Schools to Europe. Teachers and students did not leave their habits and customs at home. So it was with the traditional yearbook—work on it began as soon as the schools opened.

For the first two years we had individual yearbooks, later a combined effort by all, produced "Erinnerungen 1949." Each participating school was allowed one section of the book. Emblems of the German cities, in which the schools were situated, ornamented the cover and surrounded the title.

In 1960/61 for the second time, the schools in Germany were allowed to publish their own books. Because of the political situation, in Berlin, our school was allowed to keep, and continue using the title "Erinnerungen."

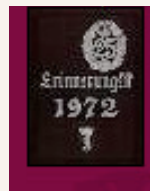
The Berlin Senate granted BHS the permission to use the official emblem of the Berlin Bear.

On entering a new school building we were preparing our first own yearbook.

1967 is the second year in this building. It is also the year for the seventh edition of our individual yearbook. It is therefore understandable that Berlin High will always hold our atmosphere and our moods.

I hope that the pages of this book will bring back the many happy memories, remind you of your friends and help you think happily of your year at Berlin High—"Erinnerungen 1967"

Peter Hughes
Junior



Frau Pietsch, the BAHS Art teacher and Yearbook Advisor for over 20 years, kept the same "Erinnerungen" cover, but after the 1972 Silver Anniversary edition and her retirement, the cover format "funkified".

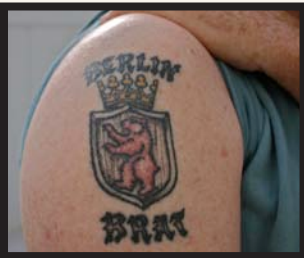


BBQ Get Together on the Beach

by Frank C. Danesy (JFK '74)



Last August saw a Brats Get Together of a slightly different kind when a group of alumni from Berlin American High School met with John F. Kennedy School alumni. Many readers will remember John F. Kennedy School or 'JFK' as the other American school in Berlin. The Brat contingent consisted of Bob Saba ('66), Bob "Rusty" Widger ('71), and Carl Samples ('76). The alumni were pleased to meet Donald Horner and his wife Irene. Don was a faculty member from 1960 to 1962. The Honers arrived early and made sure that everyone would find their way by pinning a large Berlin flag to the wall of the meeting place. JFK was represented by Debby Cole Acosta ('75) with her husband Andrew, Evelyn Gubbins Irvin ('75) and Linda Scarr Hajash ('75) as well as the organizer of the event, Frank Danesy ('74) with his wife Dorothea.



Rusty's tattoo

In a fun filled afternoon and evening marked by lots of humor and the exchange of stories from the good old days in Berlin it quickly became evident that the JFKers are every bit as much Berlin Brats as the BAHS alumni are. While enjoying their barbequed hot dogs, and hamburgers, soft drinks and beer, the group spent hours remembering fellow students, teachers, places and events. "Rusty" Widger took everyone by surprise with his remarkable dedication to his 'alma mater' by brandishing a BAHS tattoo on his right upper arm.



Bob "Rusty" Widger '71

The get together took place at an oceanfront location at Vero Beach called the Moorings. The Moorings is a premier boating, golfing and tennis community on Vero's barrier island. The venue was a privately owned tiki hut and BBQ facility just paces away from the beach. Vero Beach is a beautiful town located right on the Treasure Coast of Central Florida. Apart from its natural beauty, Vero also offers other points of interest: It is the home of the Disney Beach Resort, the Piper Aircraft Corporation and it was the spring training home of the Los Angeles Dodgers for sixty years.

Roberto Medal ('75) was looking forward to joining the party but unfortunately had to beg off in the end. Other alumni from Florida and nearby states wrote before the event to say that they would not be able to make it this time, but that they would be interested in coming in 2012. Those present all agreed that they would like to get together again next year. The date for the next event in Vero Beach has been set for Saturday, 21 July 2012 and will be announced on the Berlin Brats website.



Dorothea Hasson Danesy
& Linda (Scarr) Hajash '75



Linda (Scarr) Hajash '75,
Frank Danesy '74 JFK,
Evelyn (Gubbins) Irvin '75 JFK &
Debby (Cole) Acosta '75 JFK



Left to Right: Bob "Rusty" Widger '71, Andrew Acosta,
Debby (Cole) Acosta '75 JFK,
Evelyn (Gubbins) Irvin '75 JFK,
Donald Horner FAC '60-'62, Irene Horner, Bob Saba '66,
Frank Danesy '74 JFK & Linda (Scarr) Hajash '75

How many of you have driven yourself through East Germany from Checkpoint Bravo to Checkpoint Alpha at Helmstedt?



A copy of Flag Orders. These papers were needed by every individual moving outside of West Berlin in any manner. They took up to two weeks to prepare, and had to be exactly right!

I made this trip myself and with friends numerous times heading down to the Alps on mountaineering and skiing trips and had a few scary adventures between the years '71-'73.

There were certain procedures to be followed at each checkpoint. Leaving Berlin through Checkpoint Bravo you stopped for your briefing with the MPs (military police). From there you went to the East German Checkpoint where they checked your paperwork. Once passed, you moved on to the Soviet Checkpoint. This is where it got tricky. At Bravo you were required to GET OUT OF YOUR CAR and carry your paperwork into the Soviet Checkpoint and hand it over to the officer in charge. At Alpha you were instructed to STAY IN YOUR CAR and the Soviet would come to take your paperwork from you. These directions were to be followed to the letter.

As the son of the Provost Marshal my parents and I occasionally attended "parties" with our Soviet, British and French counterparts. I met twice with Dad's Soviet counterpart and his family. Once in East Berlin and once in West Berlin. I was always cautioned (as were many of us) by the Old Man to be aware of Soviet spies, intelligence gatherers, etc. In my "all knowing" teenage naiveté I always thought, "Oh yeah, right. Like anybody on the Soviet side is keeping tabs on me." Little did I know.

On one of my many trips through these two checkpoints I reported to the American Checkpoint Bravo to receive my briefing and instructions before crossing through East Germany. I then went through the East German Checkpoint and reported to the Soviet Checkpoint where I GOT OUT OF THE CAR and took my flag orders and paperwork into the Soviet officer on duty. Everything was in order and I was passed through to make the trip to Checkpoint Alpha at Helmstedt-Marienborn.

It was 104 miles across East Germany and I arrived at Alpha a couple of hours later. Not thinking, when I got to the Soviet Checkpoint, I proceeded to GET OUT OF THE CAR and take my paperwork into the Soviet officer on duty. As I walked through the door I realized my error, but decided rather than trying to get back to the car I'd brazen my way through it. I walked up to the officer (a hardcore looking Soviet Major) at his desk and handed him the paperwork like this was what I was supposed to be doing.

He sat back and gave me a very cool, appraising look. He then told me to stay right where I was and left the room. At that point I broke out into a cold sweat and thought, "Oh boy, am I in deep S#!& now." After about 15 minutes he returned to his desk. He then proceeded to ask me how my Dad the PM was doing? I said he was doing fine, and did he happen to know him? His comment was, "Oh, we know your father very well." He then proceeded to question me about Mom. "Did your Mom enjoy her recent trip to Spain?"

"Why yes," I said, "she had a great time." At this point I'm sure I was visibly sweating and it was obvious he was enjoying my discomfort. He then began to question me about my current trip and asked where I was going climbing. I'm sure my eyes bugged out right about then, but I managed to respond we were heading to Berchtesgaden to do some climbing in that area. After a bit more conversation he sat back and said, "Ron, you realize you screwed up don't you?"

I smiled with resignation and said, "I realized I screwed up the moment I walked through the door."

He gave me a very hard look for a few moments then said, "Good thing I'm feeling generous today. Now get your a\$! back to your car and have fun on your trip."

I said, "Thank you, Sir" and beat feet out the door. I was so happy to get to the American side again I d@mn near kissed the ground.

Ron Rathnow, Class of '71



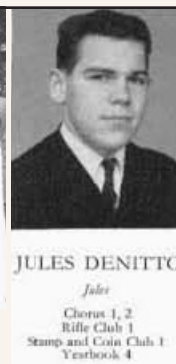
So I'm hanging out at the Smithsonian at "The Price of Freedom: Americans at War" exhibit and there's an '85 on the BERLIN WALL! Oh yeah! And the pieces have been donated by the Allied Museum (Berlin, Germany)

Pictured: Cate Speer, co-Class Contact for '85 and our webBrat.



Gary Carpenter '72, in front of the Berlin Wall section in San Bernardino, CA.

Gary writes: Why they chose the location they did is beyond me. It's on the northern edge of the 'city', about 15 miles from Redlands, just south (and a bit east) of the Cajon Pass off I-15, near Devore. It's actually a neighborhood park, and not likely to get the visitors, nor protection, it deserves. And, on that note, I will complain and request it be moved!



June 26, 1963 John F. Kennedy spoke in front of the Outpost Theatre on ClayAllee. Following his speech he came down from the podium and shook hands with some who were there to hear him speak.

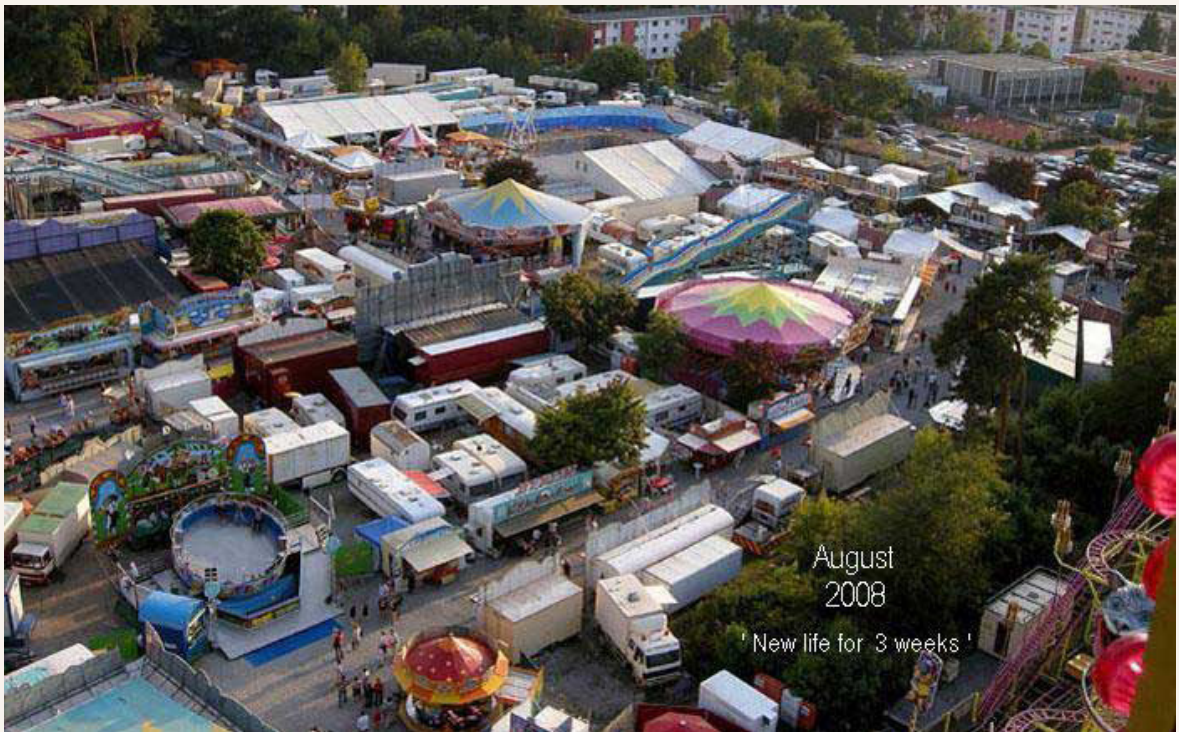
Berlin Alumnus Knew Kennedy

President John F. Kennedy knew Berlin Class of 1963 alumnus Jules DeNitto. Jules' connection with the President stemmed from the fact that in the last five months of the chief executives' life, he met Jules coincidentally three times.

The first time was on **June 26, 1963** when Jules met the President during his visit to Berlin, having the privilege of shaking his hand and sharing a few words.

The second time was on **November 19, 1963** when Jules was enlisting in the Air Force in Tampa, FL, at a recruiting station the President was visiting.

The last time was on **November 21, 1963** during Kennedy's historic visit to Texas, which included a visit to Lackland AFB in San Antonio where Jules was beginning basic training. As the President walked by Jules in a formation, he suddenly stopped, turned, and said to Jules, "DeNitto, nice to see you again. How is the Air Force treating you?" (Photos courtesy of Jules DeNitto.)



Volksfest --Aerial View 2008



Check out this site:

["http://www.berlin-brigade.de/us-ins/us-ein21.html"](http://www.berlin-brigade.de/us-ins/us-ein21.html)

Make sure you scroll to the end, as it has pictures from how Truman Plaza used to look, to how it looks now in Nov 2011!

Truman Plaza ---How it looks in 1950



Truman Plaza ---How it looks in 2011 November



Mobile food company found on Facebook. Check em out.

The latest restaurant-on-wheels to crash the Orange County food truck scene is a bratwurst truck. The founder of Fullerton-based Crepes Bonaparte, one of the county's best known mobile food trucks, has launched "Brats Berlin" German bratwurst truck in July 2011. The truck offers authentic German sausages and fresh cut Belgian fries served in a funky-looking truck hand painted by local street artist Evolve.

"Designed to be reminiscent of East Side Gallery in Berlin, Germany, the exterior of the truck will be redesigned every few months to feature a new artist's work," Brats Berlin said.

Menu lowdown:

Sausages: Traditional Bratwurst, Beer Bratwurst, Cheddarwurst, Spicy Keilbasa, Cajun Andoulie, Chicken Apple, and Chicken Jalapeno & Onion. (Danielle Murcia, co-founder of Crepes, said Brats will use a "local" distributor for its sausages, but declined to discuss the specific brand.)

Three mustard varieties: yellow, dijon and stone-ground mustard.

Toppings: sauerkraut, onions and bell peppers.

The truck will serve Orange and Los Angeles counties. It debuted in July. Stay tuned to their site for more details, or follow the new truck on its Twitter page. (twitter.com/#!/bratsberlin). Crepes Bonaparte was one of the first food trucks to enter the Orange County market in early 2010. Soon after launching their truck, the crepe-making couple (Danielle and Christian Murcia) auditioned for Season 1 of the Food Network's "Great Food Truck Race." The truck made it halfway through the competition.

First "BRATS Club" Formed in Virginia Beach Middle School!

As Brats Without Borders has traveled the country with the [BRATS film](#), we've continuously encouraged audiences to form "BRATS Clubs" at their middle schools, high schools, colleges, even whole cities! That way, brats and TCKs will have a place to "belong" and interact with others who have had shared experiences. A couple weeks ago, 6th grade teacher [Christy McAnally](#) let us know that she did just that! She formed the first known "BRATS Club" at [Landstown Middle School](#) in Virginia Beach, VA, and 30 brats attended the first meeting! That's a lot of brats for a new club. Christy wore one of our [BRATS buttons](#) at the meeting and all the kids wanted one, so we sent her a box right away! Christy has also volunteered to help BWB develop our new ["BRATS Workshop for Teens!"](#) We'll let you know how the club develops. If you know of any other BRATS Clubs popping up around the country (for teens or adults), [write us!](#)



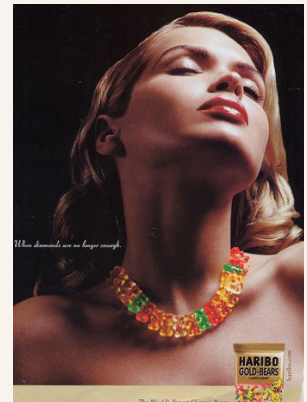
From Brats Without Borders/Spring Newsletter

Introducing "Among Worlds" - A Magazine for BRATS & TCKs

One thing BWB enjoys doing is introducing our supporters to other groups who are "encouraging and empowering" brats and TCKs. *Among Worlds* is a beautiful magazine published by Interaction International. They print all sorts of touching, humorous, and informative articles about adult brats and TCKs. Their March edition included a laugh-out-loud story by Stephanie McDermott about trying to interpret the famous Indian "head wobble" while ordering a birthday cake for her son in India. Here's the message on the cake she eventually received: *"Thank you so much for your kindness and your quick response to help: the following is the greeting I wish to have on the birthday cake. "God Bless Matt on his 16th Birthday!" Thank you once again."*

From Brats Without Borders/Spring Newsletter

"WHEN DIAMONDS ARE
NO LONGER ENOUGH"



"The World's Finest Gummi Bears"

Our 2012 Reunion Logo is here....



The destination of the Washington D.C. area for our 2012 reunion was set awhile ago via a Vote from our official Membership. Now we are proud to announce the development of our 2012 reunion logo. Our 2012 logo development committee worked with our resident graphic designer, Susan (Sams) O'Neill '85, to design a logo that denotes the Washington D.C. feel but stays consistent with the Berlin Brat reunion logos of the recent past.

A big thanks to the development committee, which included one member from each of our active decades, they are:

Don Drach, Class Contact for '67
Deb (Brians) Clark, Class Contact for '74
Peter Stein '80, Co-Class Contact for '80

Keep an eye out for the logo in the coming months and at the reunion itself!
See you in D.C.!

by: Susan (Sams) O'Neill '85

2012 REUNION

July 5- 8, 2012

Fairview Park Marriott

Falls Church, VA

(a bedroom community of Washington, DC)

Come join us at our next ALL CLASSES – ALL YEARS REUNION!

RSVP LIST

Has been started on the website....over 250 names already.....

get your Name added by emailing us at:

webBrat@BerlinBrats.org

Include Full Name to include (maiden) and Class Year!

HOTEL BOOKING PAGE IS NOW “LIVE”

Our special discounted rate of \$95 per night is available 3 days before and 3 days after the Reunion.

Visit our website for the direct LINK!

REUNION ITINERARY AND REGISTRATION FORM IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE SITE.

Come early and see your Nation’s Fireworks!

OR

Stay late and visit all the Smithsonian’s and your our Nation’s Memorials!

Thought I would pass this photo along to the Brats. Brenda and I got together with a group of '70s Heidelbergers yesterday (New Year's Day) for lunch at a local Raleigh area German restaurant. Food was terrible but the company was great! We really enjoyed it.

They made us feel like "honored guests", since we were the "old folks" and had been in Berlin when the Wall went up. I met Mike Cannon (pictured on the right) when I emailed Dennis Campbell after hearing Mike call in to BratCon radio and mentioned that they would be getting together over New Year's weekend. Mike's practically in my backyard here in NC. He invited us to their New Year's Eve bash, but we had already made plans.

Jim Branson Class of '64



Berlin Reunion.....for two Brat Moms!!!!

March 25, 2011

**Barbara Schule
Berlin**

It was Class Reunion time for the mothers of two Berlin Brats, and Deb (Brians) Clark '74 wrote to Pat (Martel) Little '72 to inform Pat of the reunion taking place in Berlin.

Just another "small world moment." Both Berlin Brats....Deb and Pat are the respective Class Contacts for their years. Here we are some 38 years later... both Brats are reuniting their classmates.....and their Mothers (both of German nationality) attended the same school together in Berlin.

Pat,
Just wanted to let you know and would you please pass this on to Jutta, (*Pat's mother*) that her former school is holding its 60th class reunion in Berlin. They've locked in the date, but not the location - typically at a restaurant somewhere in Berlin. My mom is 75 and is starting to realize that "I'll wait until tomorrow" may no longer be the way to approach life. Although she is in excellent health (knock wood), she is realizing that she needs to start looking at her "bucket list" and spending time with her old classmates from the Barbara Schule is one of them. I know that sometimes you meet or accompany Jutta on her trips to see your Omi. Just wanted to let you know I will be going with my mom to her reunion. We don't know our exact travel dates yet but I told Christa (*Deb's mother*) I would go to Berlin with her for the week. **I still think its such a small world that your mom and my mom went to school together in Berlin!**

I am sending this email hoping perhaps you and Jutta will also attend the reunion? Jutta should receive a letter in December with all the details. Let me know if you think Jutta (or yourself) would be interested in attending the reunion.

If I don't see you in Berlin in 2011, I hope to see you in DC in 2012.

Love,
Deb

**Barbara Schule
61st Class Reunion
March 2012**

TAR

Mildred Neale FAC '46-'47

Mildred Neale was in the first group of teachers at Thomas A. Roberts 1946-1947.

***Sailed from U.S. on September 26, 1946
aboard U.S. Army Transport
"The George Washington."***



Arrived Bremerhaven October 6, 1946 having studied German on the way over from the German Language Guide (approx 4 inch high brown 66 pg pamphlet, published "for military personnel only," 1943).

Major Mary Bell came aboard and got us 26 teachers off, piloted us to the train. The next day we boarded Hilter's yacht for a memorable trip up the Rhine. Hilter's yacht was the last word in yacht design with all glass front and map of Germany in inlaid wood.

It was the first meeting of all U.S. teachers in Europe aboard the yacht.

And it was the first time I ever saw beer – all you could drink and more – served at a teacher's meeting. Next day I learned my assignment – Berlin.



Left to right: Helen Macon, Major Mary Bell & Mildred Neale



14 October 1946

1st Thomas A. Roberts School

First Day of School.



December 2011 - School still in use.

Mary Curran - Mildred (Neale) Baltz's daughter
55 years later

*"We were thrilled to find the TAR school is virtually unchanged!
We walked from the subway through the leafy neighborhood, turned the corner and -- boom! -- there it was
just like our picture in hand from the first day of school in 1946!"*



*Donna Musil,
Operation Military Brat Director
installing a library.*

Operation Military Brat

Operation Military Brat donated four more Military Brat Libraries, a one-of-a-kind collection of books and films that celebrate and explore the life of a military child.

The lucky recipients were the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Chaplain's Office, Kaiserslautern High School, and libraries in Landstuhl, Eglin AFB, and USAG Vicenza. Thank you to all who made this possible, including The Sprint Foundation, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Bryan and Marlene Hawley (and their sons Scott and Chad), the Berlin Brats Alumni Association, and the Karlsruhe American High School Alumni Association.

Previous libraries were donated by retired DoDDS teacher and principal Marlene Knudson Koenig and BWB to public libraries in Washington, DC, Providence, and Shreveport. Of course, none of the Libraries would be possible without the talent and generosity of the authors:

Mary Wertsch, Michael Ritter, Scott Hawley, Sarah Bird, Steve Dickenson, Ruth Van Reken, and Patricia Stallard.

Want To Help?

Operation Military Brat would not be possible without the support of generous individuals and organizations. If you're a brat politician, artist, journalist, musician, athlete, or business executive - we'd love for you to join us at one of our screenings, workshops, or townhall meetings. Please **email us** ahead of time, so we can let everyone know you're coming.

If you can't make it, but still want to make a difference, you can also **sponsor a screening, workshop, or Military Brats Library**. Your name and/or institution will be featured prominently in or on the program you support!

To find out more about Operation Military Brat, please contact us:

Brats Without Borders
Office: 478.968.0102
info@bratsfilm.com

Military Brat Libraries Donated

Columbus Metropolitan Library - Columbus, GA (donated by The Sprint Foundation)

Eglin Air Force Base Library - Eglin AFB, FL (donated by Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Bryan and Marlene Hawley, and their sons Scott and Chad)

Landstuhl Community Library - Landstuhl, Germany (donated by Berlin Brats Alumni Association)

Providence Public Library - Providence, Rhode Island (donated by Marlene Knudson Koenig)

Shreveport Public Library - Shreveport, LA (donated by The Sprint Foundation)

USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Chaplain's Office - Kaiserslautern, Germany (donated by The Sprint Foundation)

USAG Vicenza Base Library - Vicenza, Italy (donated by the Karlsruhe American High School Alumni Association)

West End Neighborhood Library - Washington, DC (donated by Marlene Knudson Koenig)

***Note: Donna Musil, Director of Operation Military Brats will be in attendance at our Reunion in July - holding a General Session....catch her on Saturday, July 7th at 1:00pm.

Our Heartfelt Thanks to All the Folks Who Have Made Operation Military Brat Possible!

Individuals

Susan Allenback
 Faye Arrington
 Denise Bafti
 Sarah Bird
 Major General Floyd L. Carpenter, Commander, 8th
 Air Force, Barksdale Air Force Base, LA
 Melissa Carpenter
 Steve Dickenson and Todd Clark
 Jeri Glass
 Glenn Greenwood
 The Major General Bryan G. Hawley, Rtd., Family
 Scott Hawley
 Sylvia Kidd
 Christian Kyrios
 George Marshall
 Dr. Rebecca Powell, Director of Religious Education

USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Chaplain's Office
 Michael Ritter
 Sunny Schwentner
 Patricia Y. Stallard
 Ruth E. Van Reken
 Mary Edwards Wertsch
 Shelly Wilson
 Timothy Wurtz
 Dr. Grace C. Yeuell, Director of Religious Education, USAG
 Vicenza, Italy

Businesses and Organizations

Abilene Bed & Breakfast (Marcia Cox)
 Arlington Cinema 'n Drafthouse (Tim Clark)
 AUSA (Association of the United States Army)
 Barksdale Air Force Base
Berlin Brats Alumni Association
 Brattle Theater on Harvard Square (Ned Hinkel)
 Cameron University (Von Underwood)
 Dorothy Bramlage Public Library
 Rose State College Training Center
 (sponsored by Rose State College,
 Midwest City Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Del Schools,
 and Tinker Federal Credit Union)
 Slayton House Theater at Wilde Lake (Linda Stevens)
 Southfork Hotel
 The Sprint Foundation

USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Chaplain's Office, Germany
 USAG Vicenza, Italy
 West End Neighborhood Library (Bill Turner)
 Williams Middle School (Dr. Avis Williams)

Eglin Air Force Base Library (Dorothee Bennett)
 Glenwood Arts Theater (Brian Mossman)
 Hirschi High School
 Karlsruhe American High School Alumni Association
 National Liberty Museum (Kathleen Lee)
 New World Stages (Jennifer Jones)
 Overseas Brats (Joe Condrill)
 Providence Public Library Theater (Lisa Miller)
 Redstone Arsenal (Barbara Williams)
 Robinson Film Center

OPERATION MILITARY BRAT

In the United States of America, an estimated 5% of its citizens are military "brats":

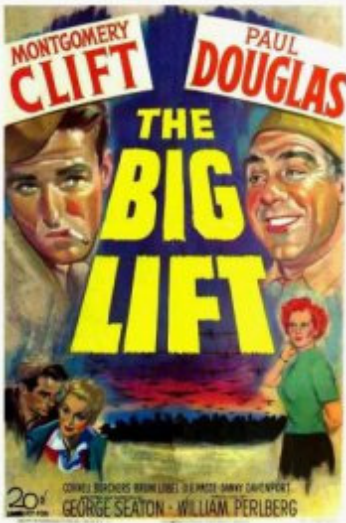
15 million adult military brats with at least one career parent

1.5 million current military brats with at least one parent serving in the uniformed services

4.5 million adult brats whose parents served overseas in a capacity other than the uniformed services



"Brats" is an historic and time-honored reference to military children based on the acronym, "British Regimental Attached Traveler." Brats are every age, race, religion, and class, but most Americans don't even know they exist, except peripherally, as silent appendages to their parents. Operation Military Brat hopes to change that.



The Big Lift is a 1950 drama film shot on location in the city of Berlin, Germany, that tells the story of “Operation Vittles”, the 1948-1949 Berlin Airlift, through the experiences of two U.S. Air Force sergeants (played by Montgomery Clift and Paul Douglas).

The film was directed and written by George Seaton, and was released April 26, 1950, less than one year after the Soviet blockade of Berlin was lifted and airlift operations ceased. Because the film was shot in Berlin in 1949, as well as using newsreel footage of the actual airlift, it provides a contemporary glimpse of the post-war state of the city as it struggles to recover from the devastation wrought by World War II.

Plot: Off-duty American airmen of the 19th Troop Carrier Squadron in Hawaii are ordered to report to their squadron in July 1948. What is briefed as a temporary “training assignment” in the United States becomes a flight halfway around the world to Germany for the C-54 Skymasters of the 19th, where the Soviets have blockaded Berlin in an attempt to force out the Allies by starving the city. Tech Sgt. Danny MacCullough (Montgomery Clift), flight engineer of a C-54 nicknamed The White Hibiscus, is immediately ordered to fly with his crew from

Frankfurt into Tempelhof Airport to deliver a load of coal. His friend Master Sgt. Hank Kowalski (Paul Douglas), a Ground-Control Approach operator, hitches a ride with them to his new station. Hank, a POW during World War II, resents the German people and goes out of his way to be rude and overbearing to them. Danny on the other hand is frustrated by not being able to leave the airport because of the necessity of quickly offloading and returning to Frankfurt.

Berlin’s Allied Museum seeks new home

Berlin- Berlin’s Allied Museum, commemorating almost 50 years of the city’s occupation after World War II, is hoping to find a new home after outgrowing its premises. The [museum](#) was opened in 1994 by then-chancellor Helmut Kohl, when the last of the four occupying powers - US, Britain, France and the Soviet Union - left Berlin.

Museum officials have now unveiled plans for the museum to move from its current home in Zehlendorf, in the former American Sector, to the old Tempelhof airport, which was shut down in 2008.

Helmut Trotnow, who has been director of the Allied Museum throughout its 15-year-history, said Tempelhof offered an historically “ideal location.”

In 1948-49, Tempelhof Airport played a famous role in the Allied airlift, rescuing West [Berlin](#) from starvation when the Russians severed land, rail and inland waterway links to the city at the height of the Cold War. Trotnow said the airlift won the hearts of the West Berliners, who realized they were not alone.

“The British, French and US troops in the city were out there helping them and were no longer their occupiers, but their protectors,” Trotnow said.

“The Berliners never forgot that,” he added. “In that sense, there could hardly be a more apt location for the Allied Museum than Tempelhof.” The government has already allowed the museum to rent [space](#) at the former airport for some of its bigger artifacts.

An old British Hastings reconnaissance plane is kept in one of its hangars, along with a French spotter plane.

The Allied Museum attracts upwards of 70,000 visitors annually. But it has become a victim of its own success in recent years.

Facilities are limited, and museum artifacts are spread across two buildings, including the converted Outpost Cinema which the US Army had built for its troops in 1952.

Larger objects are kept outside the museum buildings, subjecting them to corrosion and Berlin’s harsh winter weather. Two years ago, it cost 250,000 euros (350,000 dollars) to restore one old plane.

Exhibits include a French military train which travelled daily through communist territory to Strasbourg for military personnel and family members seeking a break from life in the divided city. There is also a US helicopter which regularly flew across the border to the “cut-off” western enclave of Steinstuecken, south of Berlin. The museum also has an East German watchtower, a section of the Berlin Wall, and a British Army Ferret Scout car which once patrolled the British sector border.

One of the museum’s most popular exhibits, however, is the old Allied control hut which stood at Checkpoint Charlie for years, and which greeted foreigners allowed to visit East Berlin after the Wall went up. There is a treasure trove of [travel](#) documents, permits and copies of initial military laws, imposing restrictions on local citizens in war-ravaged Berlin. Early postwar documents threaten drastic punishment for possession of firearms, execution for carrying a kitchen knife, and stiff fines for flying kites above certain heights.

Trotnow, who is to retire shortly, pointed out that the museum would need more staff if it does re-locate to Tempelhof, to cope with the large hangar premises, the building of a new annex and maintaining the exhibits.

The museum currently employs six people and runs on a budget of 1.2 million euros, paid by the government.

THE BERLIN AIRLIFT

AN ODE TO

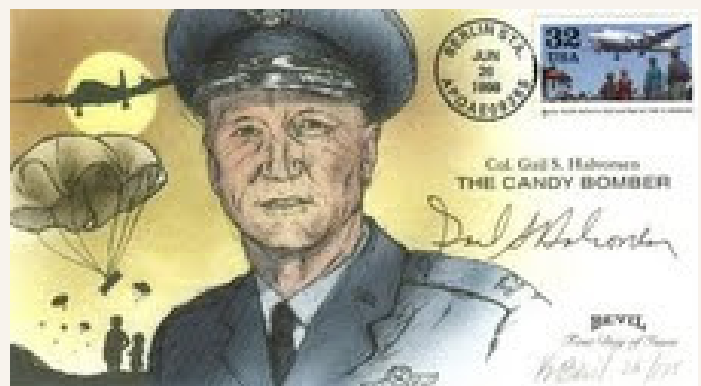
T'was 1948 and in Germany, the winter was cold
 The Russians had blockaded, a move that was bold.
 The Americans, the French, and of course the Brits,
 Had met the challenge, and gave Russia the fits.
 Their plan was to force the Allies to retreat,
 And leave Berlin City for them to mistreat..
 The roads had been closed, bridges destroyed,
 Railroad tracks dismantled, and totally void.
 But their move was too quick, and poorly planned
 For the Allies flew over with supplies to land.
 They came from all over, the cargo planes,
 C-47s, C-54s, and all with great names,
 Like "Floozie" and "Dolly", Marilyn" and "Dames".
 Shoulder to shoulder Germans and West Allies
 Unloading cargo, and caught the Russians by surprise,
 Who would have thought former foes would share
 The love for a city, for which they all care.
 Day and night the airplanes would fly
 Twenty-four seven, but spirits were high.
 They carried supplies, food, fuel, how dandy
 One pilot alone even "bombed" children candy!
 The word spread so fast, everyone tried
 Bombing candy too, so no child cried.
 Yes, food, fuel, and coal and especially salt
 They'd fly in fly out, with no thought to halt.
 One glorious day, in May '49, the news was here

The Russians "gave in" after almost a year.
 Celebrations exploded, happiness and good cheer,
 The blockade was over, Hoorah and hear hear!
 To all who took part, or gave the ultimate price
 The gratitude a hundred fold, a thousand and thrice,
 For a city was saved and paved the way
 For a united Berlin, to be realized one day.
 So here's to the Heroes, they know who they are
 Berliners remember, they're never too far.
 They're always remembered with joy and love,
 Berliners remember, they're never too far.
 They're always remembered with joy and love,
 With praise and Thanksgiving, for the gifts from above!

Dr. Daniel L. Bunting Ph.D

Class of '49 and a "student" airlift veteran

(Dan, was proud, pleased, and humbled to
 have his father "enlist" his help
 to unload planes of the Berlin Airlift
 while he was attending high school in
 Berlin).



1st day cover

courtesy of Mr. Curtis Carter, parent of Betty Carter '72

A Tale of Two Countries and Three Boys

It was a dark and stormy night!

O.K., Now that I have your attention, let's get to the real story. In 1952, Don Gray, Bob Partain and Talmadge (Gillie) Gilliam were seniors at Thomas A. Roberts (TAR) American Dependents High School in Berlin, Germany. They had arrived in Berlin in 1950 with their parents who were in the U.S. Army stationed in Berlin. The three played sports for TAR under Coach Alexander Hamilton Kyrios-- a terrific teacher and coach. The highlight of their sports career was in 1951 when their team won the European 6-Man football championship. They had also become the best of friends and seldom went anywhere without each other. This involved chasing girls, drinking beer and other matters I can't list because of self-incrimination possibilities.

However, they were in a dilemma! Upon graduation, should they go back to the States for college or find a job, stay in Germany and do what? Or try something else? Well, their parents couldn't afford to send them to college; they had no job skills since there wasn't a big demand for beer drinkers or girl chasers in the States. They then discovered that the U.S. Air Force had created a basic training facility for Americans in Europe. They had taken over an inactive Royal Air Force Base (RAF) in Wales, England. (Go figure right?) After a short conference the three guys decided to give the Air Force a try! So, the three of them traveled to Wiesbaden to enlist in July, 1952. This was a four year enlistment with an additional four years in the reserves.

Their first day at Wiesbaden they were sworn in, issued uniforms and other gear and assigned to temporary billets to await orders for Wales. They were so excited they dressed in their first class uniforms and went walking around the base hoping to come across an officer so they could practice saluting. (Real nerds right?) Soon they were on their way to Wales. By train they went to The Hook in Holland where they boarded a ferry to take them to England and eventually to Wales by train. I won't say exactly which one suffered sea-sickness during that epic voyage, but believe me, one of them spent most of the night either hanging out in the bar or on deck due to the temporary illness.

During their sojourn they discussed the upcoming "adventure" that awaited them. How tough could it be? After all, hadn't they grown up as "army brats? How much worse could it be? Boy, were they in for a surprise! Arriving they found a fairly large group of other Americans who had also decided to join up. Among this group was a guy named Larry Hagman who later went on to star in the television series "I Dream of Jeannie" and, more famously J.R. in "Dallas". It seems his mother, the famous Broadway musical star, Mary Martin, was then appearing in "Peter Pan" at the Palladium in London.

Upon arrival at the RAF Base, they were immediately informed that they were the lowest species to walk the face of the earth and that they didn't stand a chance of completing basic training. Thus inspired, they began their epic journey.

During the next several weeks they were introduced to such subjects as military courtesy, atomic, bacterial and chemical warfare, (ABC) military history (specifically the U.S. Air Force) chain of command, firearms and other methods of killing the enemy, kitchen police (KP), plus numerous other subjects too many to mention.

Of course basic training proved more difficult than they had imagined. However, relying on each other, the three managed to survive. Soon they were granted their first weekend passes. They decided to venture to a small town called New Brighton to catch up on their beer drinking and girl chasing. After several “brews” they worked up the courage to get the mandatory “tattoos” at a little tattoo joint in New Brighton. Since there were several of them, Gillie decided to linger behind and check out the results.

They all decided to have a small yellow duck tattooed on our shoulder. (A ruptured duck we decided) After about an hour it came Gillie’s turn. Fortunately for Gillie the time delay had sobered him up so he declined the tattoo.

After basic training they were given the option by the Air Force to either (1) Go back to the States or (2) return to Germany. The three chose Germany of course! They were sent to three different bases. Gillie went to a small base in Erding, Germany while Don and Bob were assigned to two different ones. This was the first time in almost three years that the three were separated and they didn’t like it one bit although they did manage to meet several times during the next three years.

They were then rotated back to the U.S. and lost contact with each other for many years. Don and Bob made a career of the Air Force. Gillie took the G.I. Bill and attended college at Tennessee Tech University in 1960. He tried to re-enlist for pilot training but his eyesight had deteriorated to the point where he failed the eye examination. So, that was out! Instead he pursued a career in health care administration. Thanks to an organization named “Classmates” Gillie and Don managed to get back in contact with one another and still correspond quite frequently.

Both Don and Bob served in Viet Nam. Don suffered exposure to Agent Orange and, as a result, has some permanent disability. Don now resides in Washington State with his lovely wife Linda. Bob lives in Arizona and Gillie in Corpus Christi, Texas with his wife Sally. The three are now retired and doing well.

Thus ends the saga of “Two Countries and Three Boys.” It has been a terrific trip and, hopefully, has a long way to go.



1952 - Gillie’s send off by two well-wishers as he departs for Air Force basic training.



Gillie, his sister Jerri Lee and his mother atop Obersalzberg in Berchtesgaden, Germany. (The Eagles Nest)

John “Gillie” Gilliam ’52



Gillie, his sister and mother.



DODEA teachers step into war zone

to teach English to Afghans

By T.D. FLACK

Stars and Stripes

Published: December 30, 2010

Pamela Tucker, a teacher from Misawa Air Base, Japan, is leading a mobile training team that teaches English to security forces personnel in Afghanistan.

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan -- When Pamela Tucker last deployed to Iraq, she wore a uniform and carried a weapon. On her current deployment to Afghanistan, she's armed only with the language course curriculum that she uses to teach Afghans English. Tucker — a Department of Defense Education Activity teacher from Misawa Air Base, Japan — leads a small team of Civilian Expeditionary Workforce employees who teach Afghan military, police and government employees at oftentimes Spartan locations across the country.

She says it's a difficult and daunting task, but that she volunteered "because it will empower them to be able to communicate globally ... and it puts them in a better position to defend themselves and to take care of their country."

Tucker's Mobile Training Team — including four other DODEA teachers and nine Defense Language Institute employees — is augmented by about 50 Afghan instructors. They run language courses at five sites across the country — including Kabul and Kandahar — and are looking to add three additional sites in the near future. The team is part of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan's Education Division, tasked with providing English instruction to Afghan security forces with a 70 percent rate of illiteracy.

Though Tucker's a staff sergeant in the Army Reserve, she's in Afghanistan in a strictly civilian role. Her military background and two deployments to Iraq meant she had a pretty good idea of what to expect in terms of living conditions during her yearlong volunteer assignment.

"The environment is very austere and you have to be prepared for that ... so it takes someone who is both physically and mentally tough," she said during a phone interview.

Steve Osborne, a teacher from Naples High School, Italy, said he volunteered because he's getting ready to retire after 30 years and "wanted to end my career with an adventure."

Osborne called the deployment the most challenging, yet rewarding, teaching experience of his career.

"I feel like I am really accomplishing something of value; establishing a lasting line between these young Afghans and Americans," Osborne wrote in an e-mail. "Though they admit to the difficult political and military situation at the moment they are very optimistic about the future of the country."

Judy Ryan, from the Fort Knox Community Schools in Kentucky, is now teaching at a small, remote camp high in the mountains of Afghanistan, surrounded by a commando training camp.

"I have taught in four other countries and have always adored my students," Ryan wrote in an e-mail from Afghanistan. "But with these students, I know how critically important it is for them to learn English and watching them succeed in this effort is beyond any teacher's dreams for her students."

Thomas Wigglesworth, who normally teaches at Andersen Elementary School on Guam, is working in Kandahar, home to "frequent rocket attacks."

Wiglesworth said he hears success reports from American advisers who say the Afghans are “motivated by the English classes” and are “using the language more frequently.”

He said he would highly recommend the duty to other teachers.

“I have done few things in my life that have provided such a great sense of pride and contribution this opportunity has provided,” he said in an e-mail. “The Afghan soldiers, many who have lost parents and loved ones to the Taliban, deeply love their country and want to see freedom established.”

As team leader, Tucker visits all the sites, some of which have limited resources.

“You just have to resort to grass-roots teaching,” she said. “You have to teach in a manner that can get the lesson across without the added support technology.”

Marilee Fitzgerald, the acting director of DODEA, said the teachers who deploy are “high performing ... ready and available to step in and assume the instructional responsibilities.”

“We look at their service in Afghanistan not as a loss, but as an opportunity for them to expand their horizons and bring back some of what they learn to their classrooms,” Fitzgerald wrote in an e-mail.

Tucker said she’s just glad she’s getting the chance to help.

“I would just say that this is a daunting and challenging experience,” she said. “But I believe wholeheartedly in the U.S. mission and I feel fortunate to have a chance to lend to this process.”

POSTER OF THE YEAR???

.....with Daddy or Mommy facing so many deployments



A MILITARY BRAT

This ‘brat’ has more courage in her pinky than most people will ever muster in their lifetime.

***Listen to: Marilee Fitzgerald -
Acting Director of DoDEA
(Dept of Defense Educational Activity)***

***LIVE via her appearance on BratCon radio:
WEEK FORTY-THREE 1 Sep 2011
at: <http://www.bratcon.com/archives.htm>***

Celebrity Polar Bear Knut Is Dead



Knut, the polar bear who was born in captivity at the Berlin Zoological Garden and rejected by his mother at birth, and was raised by zookeepers has passed. He was the first polar bear cub to survive past infancy at the Berlin Zoo in more than 30 years. He was a huge tourist attraction and commercial success. Knut became the center of a mass media phenomenon dubbed "Knutmania" that spanned the globe and spawned toys, media specials, DVDs, and books. Because of this, the cub was largely responsible for a significant increase in revenue, estimated at about five million euros, at the Berlin Zoo in 2007. Attendance figures for the year increased by an estimated 30 percent, making it the most profitable year in its 163-year history. On 19 March 2011, Knut unexpectedly died at the age of four. His death was caused by drowning after he collapsed into his enclosure's pool while suffering from encephalitis.

December 4th, 2006 - March 19th, 2011

Good Bye Dear Knut. RIP and God Bless Your Bear Soul.

Contact Information:

BRATCON radio
can be found at:

BRATCON.com

Listen to a whole year's worth of the
LIVE weekly broadcast
at:

<http://www.bratcon.com/archives.htm>

Upcoming Events:

OUR REUNION

July 5-8th, 2012

All Classes-All Years Reunion
Fairview Park Marriott
Falls Church, VA (DC area)

WurstFest

9-11 November 2012
New Braunfels, Texas
Hosted by Roo (Eargle) Moran '73.

Gathering

25-28 October 2012

Overseas Brats
All Schools - All Years
Sheraton-Reston Hotel
Reston, VA

Hosted by
OVERSEAS BRATS

American Overseas School Historical Society

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for an invite

Find us on Facebook:

"Berlin Brats Alumni Association"
(the official Fan Page site)

"Berlin American High School (BAHS)"
(an Open Group chat page)