



## 65 Years Ago this Month!

### The Freedom Bell in the Tower of Schöneberg Rathaus Arrived in Berlin - Bell of Freedom and Peace

Below: from Visitberlin.de



Modelled on the "Liberty Bell," the 10-ton "Bell of Freedom and Peace" arrived at Schöneberg Town Hall on October 21, 1950, having travelled from the United States via Bremerhaven and the military train station in Lichterfelde-West. 16 million Americans had donated money for the casting of the bell and signed a "declaration of freedom."

The bell's inauguration by General Lucius D. Clay was transmitted on all stations of the free world on October 24, 1950. Every day at noon, its chime serves as a reminder of the value of freedom.

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#### *The below description from Teague:*

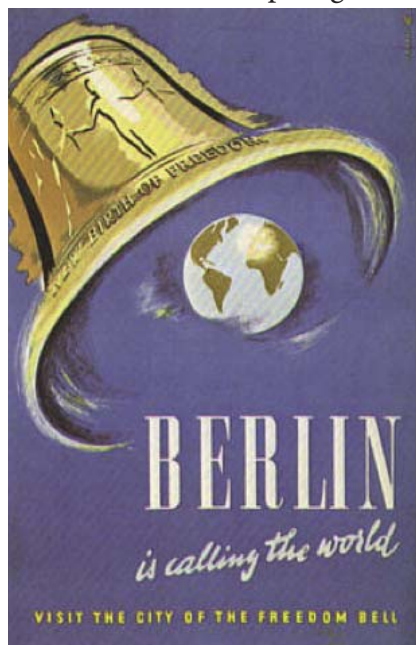
the design firm whose founder designed the Freedom Bell

Above the bell's inscription was a depiction of "the five races of man" who stood "with arms outstretched passing from hand to hand the touch of freedom until one day it shall light the whole world."

Representing the free people in the countries behind the Iron Curtain, the Bell's ring in West Berlin was broadcast throughout America, Europe, and over the Armed Forces Network, thus heard by the largest radio audience to date.

*view more photo gallery at [Teague.com](http://Teague.com)*

Radio Free Europe logo



<http://coldwarradios.blogspot.com>

There is a bronze plaque to the right of the entrance to the City Hall that reads in German and English:

THAT THIS WORLD UNDER GOD  
SHALL HAVE A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM

So speaks the Bell of Freedom from the  
Rathaus Tower to all Mankind

Gift to the steadfast Citizens of Berlin  
From their Friends, the American People

Dedicated October 24, 1950  
By Governing Mayor Ernst Reuter  
And General Lucius D. Clay  
In the Presence of more than 500,00 Berliners  
From Both Parts of the City

*Below: text from Wikipedia - <https://www.wikipedia.org>*

The initiative to give Berlin such a bell was taken by the Crusade for Freedom, a propaganda campaign sponsored by the National Committee for a Free Europe, the organization which operated Radio Free Europe. The campaign was launched by U.S. General Dwight D. Eisenhower on Labor Day, 1950, with General Lucius D. Clay, later known as the “father of the Berlin airlift”, as its chairman. The said purpose of the Campaign was to offer all Americans an opportunity to play a personal part in a demonstration of the “free world’s determination to resist Communist aggression.” The bell was conceived by Abbott Washburn and Nate Crabtree and designed by Walter Dorwin Teague.

The 10-ton bell arrived from the British foundry of Gillett and Johnston to a ticker tape parade in New York City. It carries the inscription “That this world under God shall have a new birth of freedom.” The bell subsequently visited 21 American cities, and people in every state were encouraged to sign a “Declaration of Freedom”. 16 million signatures from American citizens were collected and are enshrined in Berlin along with the bell. The bell then traveled to Berlin, and was permanently installed in the West Berlin city hall on United Nations Day, October 24, 1950. More than 400,000 Berliners filled the square before the city hall (now John-F.-Kennedy-Platz) to witness the dedication ceremonies. General Clay gave a speech and pushed the button that started the bell ringing. Its tones were heard throughout East Berlin and into East Germany. The East German Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) launched a demonstration several miles

from the dedication site, and party members denounced the bell as a “war bell”, a “hunger bell” and a “death bell”. SED central committee member Hans Jendretzky warned: “The rope of the death bell will become the gallows rope for those who ring it.”

The Governing Mayor of West Berlin, Ernst Reuter (SPD), declared that Germany “will never rest or relax until freedom will shine over the countries of Eastern Europe that are at present forced to live in slavery”.

The bell is rung daily at noon, and at midnight on Christmas Eve and on New Year’s Eve. A recording of the ringing was broadcast by RIAS, the American radio in West Berlin, every Sunday just before noon. These broadcasts have been continued by the successor of RIAS, Deutschlandradio Kultur. In the radio broadcasts, the ringing of the bell is followed by an excerpt from the text of the “Declaration of Freedom” in German, read by prominent theatre actors.

**Listen to the Freedom Bell and the German text:**

[http://ondemand-mp3.dradio.de/file/dradio/gerausch/dkultur\\_200702111158.mp3](http://ondemand-mp3.dradio.de/file/dradio/gerausch/dkultur_200702111158.mp3)

The bell was also rung on several special occasions: The Uprising of June 17 of 1953, the Hungarian Uprising of 1956, the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961 and the Reunification of Germany of 1990. In 2001, the bell was rung on occasion of the September 11, 2001 attacks, and thousands of Berlin citizens paid their respect at John-F.-Kennedy-Platz in front of the former city hall of West Berlin.

## FROM THE STARS AND STRIPES ARCHIVES

Berlin bell's toll heard by world

By Dwight Schear

Stars and Stripes

Published: October 25, 1950

BERLIN, Oct. 24 — Berlin, once a symbol of tyranny and now a symbol of resistance to tyranny, held the attention of the non-Communist world today when Gen Lucius D. Clay, at the conclusion of the most impressive ceremony in the city's postwar history, rang the world Freedom Bell. The tones of the great bronze bell were carried to millions of listeners by radio networks covering much of the non-Soviet world, and set bells throughout the free world ringing to a simultaneous salute to freedom. It was officially estimated that 450,000 Berlin residents gathered in the vast market place fronting the West-sector city hall to witness the historic ceremony. During the ceremony, the United Nations flag flew from atop the city hall.

It was the first time a UN flag had flown over a German city.

Not since the Potsdam conference of 1945 had so many ranking representatives of so many nations gathered in this city. Dignitaries from more than a score of countries were present at the bell's dedication. Just before the ringing of the bell at noon, Clay said: "In a moment, I will throw the switch that will ring the Freedom Bell. As it sends forth its message of freedom and faith, let all of us — wherever we may be — rededicate ourselves, and join together in a silent prayer 'that this world, under God, shall be free.' "

Custodianship of the Freedom Bell by the city of Berlin was accepted by Mayor Ernst Reuter, who declared in part:

"The sound of this bell will not only be heard in Berlin and throughout Germany; It will ring not only over the ocean to the great American people; it will also clearly be heard in the East.

"We know that the peoples of Warsaw, Prague, Budapest and Sofia are longing to listen to this sound of hope. Moreover, we are sure that even the Russian people would be in accord with us if they could freely express their will."

High Commissioner John J. McCloy preceded Reuter on the speakers' rostrum.

"In the name of all those who cherish freedom," McCloy said, "I have the honor to entrust this bell of freedom to the people of Berlin."

McCloy further said that, "Today, with the spectacle of Nazi tyranny still clear, we see the same techniques reapplied — concentration camps, forced labor, deportations, grotesqueries of propaganda called elections, marching youth. We hear the words peace and unity again misused."

"Those who misuse these words by applying totalitarian techniques will fail today and in the future just as the Nazis failed five years ago."

Introductory remarks were made by Maj Gen Maxwell Taylor, U.S. Berlin commander, who declared: "The days of adversity (in the face of Communist pressure) have won for Berlin an acclaim which it never achieved in the glory of empire." The pealing of the 10-ton Freedom Bell, in the tower of the Berlin City Hall, was joined by thousands of other bells throughout Europe and America, including bells in all U.S. Army chapels and installations throughout the U.S. Zone. The Freedom Bell arrived here Saturday after passing through the Soviet Zone by rail. It had just completed a tour of 26 major American cities under the auspices of the Crusade for Freedom.

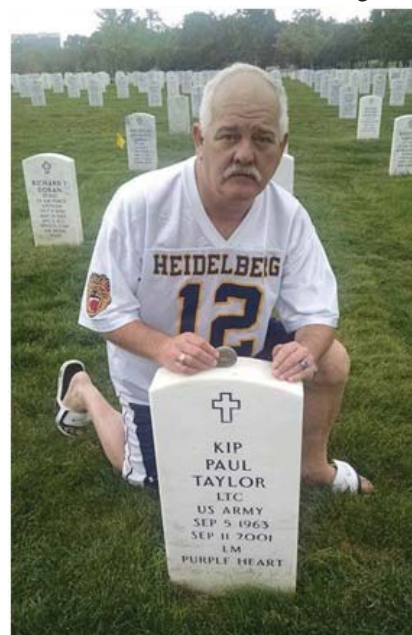
Funds raised on this tour will be used to strengthen Radio Free Europe, which broadcasts daily to the citizens of Iron Curtain nations.

"Our greatest task today," Clay said at the dedication, "is to build a world of free nations and free men, living and working together in peace. The people of the free world are dedicated to this task. The responsibility falls upon each of us.

As we approach Veteran's Day  
next month,

Heidelberg Brat, Michael Cannon,  
found himself at  
Arlington National Cemetery  
on Oct 9th and visited "Kip."

Killed on 9-11 in the Pentagon



Kip attended HAHS before BAHs.

## ***VOTE TIME***

It's that time again...

We **VOTE** in December on our "Summer of 2017 Reunion" location.

Our rotational cycle dictates that we head to "mid-country" USA in 2017!

"Active dues paid Members" will receive a Ballot in December offering a choice between two locations that have submitted proposals meeting our needs/requirements.

What is an "active dues paid Member?" you ask.

Berlin Brat Alumni Association membership is not mandatory. Members and non-members may attend ANY of our events...however dues paying Members support the Alumni Association's cost of website hosting, domain name, Newsletters, and paying deposits when required for regionals and/or reunions, maintaining a Brat Store inventory, etc. As such, Members receive some benefits: our quarterly 24 (+/-) page Newsletter and the opportunity to Vote via Ballot!

If you have never "officially joined," (remember, submitting your name on the website's Brat Guest Book only insures you are listed on the Master Alumni Database; it does not make you an official Member) and would like to receive our Newsletter and this year the Ballot then please fill out our Membership Form at:

**[http://www.berlinbrats.org/form\\_membership\\_print.htm](http://www.berlinbrats.org/form_membership_print.htm)**

Download and mail in w/check OR use PayPal.

**Must be received by December 1st to insure you receive the Ballot.**

If you'd like to check on your status, and make sure your dues are "still currently paid" then please email the Berlin Brats directly at: **[BerlinBrats@gmail.com](mailto:BerlinBrats@gmail.com)**

Remember dues are "annual." They expire a year after receipt unless you have taken advantage of the multi-year discounts we now offer. Again, if you are unsure of when your dues may expire please drop us an email!

We always look forward to hearing from YOU!

***Berlin über Alles!***



## Northern Virginia Regional Aug 16 2015



Jeri '72 and Ken Magee '88



Mike and Linda (Robinson) Talley '74  
with Cindy (Grey) Mitchell '79



Stephanie Moffett and daughter  
(wife and daughter of Ron below).



Marcia Weiss '65, Celicia Latham and Carl Fenstermacher '73



Ron Moffett '85, Lemoin Brevard '87 and Ken



Virginia Courtney '87 and Nami Huggins '88

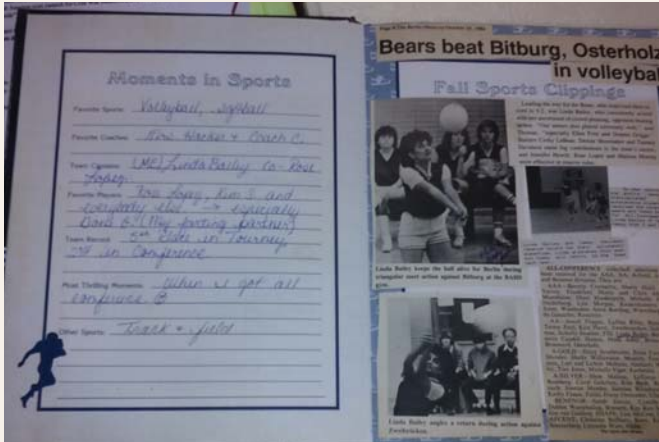




Trisha Lindsey '82 and Charlotte (Redd) Wood '82



Frank Davis '87 and Ken Magee '88

Scrapbook from BAHS days!  
Linda (Bailey) Lane's ('85)Jacqueline Bailey '84, Virginia, Nami, Darrin Jennings '86  
& Linda '85

Walter Bailey '90 &amp; Memorabilia

Seated: Robert Vazquez '92, Lori (Olivarez) Vasquez '92, Casey (Wyatt) Nichols '92,  
DeeDee (Pisoni) Broad '90 & hubby James. Trisha & Charlotte photobombing.





Kathy (Sweeney) Folk '72



John Latham '67, Glen Dunwoody '65 & wife Myra, Marcia Weiss and Cecelia Latham



Crystal Riggsbee '87, Virginia, Ken and Jacqueline



Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 with Rosie and Larry Stull '72



Darrin, Ken and Linda



Darrin and Linda were high school sweethearts!!!

***BRAT GET-TOGETHER.....SEPT 2015*****At Bands, Brews and BBQs**

Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 with Warren Knarr '77 and wife Carla.....  
notice Warren is wearing his 2003 Asheville Reunion Polo!



“Charlotte, Mark, and Trisha along with Trisha’s daughter Kaylin,  
recently got together in Ligonier, PA.  
They spent time catching up and sharing memories, and plan to get  
together again, soon.”

Charlotte (Redd) Wood '82, Mark Britton '84  
and Trisha Lindsey '82



### '83 RULES:

Steve Tussye, Rene' (Verret) Matteucci and James Miller –  
at The Ram, Lakewood, WA - 9-12-15.

Rene' was in from out of town.



Nancy Liepmann '72 (rt) in AZ for a conference linked up  
w/Jeri '72 @ Fairmont Princess, Scottsdale, AZ.



A sign seen on a Berlin sidewalk!!!!

## BERLIN FACULTY GETS AN EMOTIONAL RETURN TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CHAPEL

On August 19, 1967, Dick Cossarini and I were married at the American Community Chapel in West Berlin. A singular aspect of my wedding--for many a bride--might inspire either terror or guilty relief: relinquishing the planning of the wedding ceremony and reception to the groom.

*BB Chapel dedicated in 1957 (postcard circa 1968)*

While I, at home in St. Louis, Missouri, finished the school year and took care of the essential preparations on my end, I worried about what my fiancé was doing--or failing to do--in West Berlin.

My list of tasks was brief: (1) acquire a wedding outfit and (2) order and send both invitations and announcements. The second item was complicated by Dick's "challenging" handwriting and my uncertainty in translating the 24-hour clock into the traditional language suitable for weddings. I also could not discern--in repeated responses to letters--whether the reception was to be at the

Harnack House or the Harrack House. Naturally, I needed both time and place. In 1967, there was neither email, nor Skype. Transatlantic phone calls were exorbitantly expensive and reserved for emergencies. Because of a sympathetic printer who extended my deadline to the last day possible and a lucky guess on my part that the location was indeed the Harnack House, my share of the work was done.



Dick had other responsibilities: the military paperwork, of course, along with arranging for the chapel, the chaplain and the reception location. (His attire? No problem--the dress blues already in the closet.) Everything else was arranged after my arrival August 13: an extensive health examination at the hospital, an appointment with Chaplain John Snyder about the details of the ceremony, and a conversation with the head of the Harnack House. Both the chaplain and the supervisor at the club were very reassuring, settling any anxiety I had. I was very pleased with Chaplain Snyder's plan for the ceremony. The representative at the Harnack House was quite professional, promising the food would be very good and attractively served. Furthermore, the wedding cake would be included, topped with fresh flowers in the German tradition, a relief because finding the traditional topper with a brunette bride and a red-haired groom would have been a challenge. The last item was arranging for flowers for the wedding party--five of us--and the altar. Anna Morres (the outpatient nurse at the hospital and my Maid of Honor) and I bought long-stemmed chrysanthemums and two large vases for the altar.

But there would be another marriage ceremony before the one for which we made these preparations at the American Community Chapel. Chaplain Snyder could not marry us without our having a certificate from the German government attesting to our marriage,



the only official ceremony in Germany. Our appointment was for noon, August 18, at the Zehlendorf Rathaus. Accompanied by our Best Man, Tom Thompson, and Maid of Honor, Anna, Dick and I were ushered into a room where we were seated at a conference table with the German official at the head of it. Each of us completed a form calling for (as well as I can remember) date and place of birth, citizenship, current address, etc. He read each form aloud and asked the person who had prepared it to swear to its veracity. When he had completed all four of them, (still seated at the table) he announced Dick and I were married, smiled for the first time, and then threw rice. Before we departed we had 13 copies of our marriage certificate--in German, of course.

Among the approximately 50 guests who attended our wedding, I knew only Dick and Anna (somewhat) with whom I stayed upon my arrival in Berlin. I had met another nurse, Mary Ann Mort, plus Tom Thompson and Fred Henley, the usher.

The beautiful chapel made the occasion even more special for Dick and me. I still remember how beautiful the red, white and blue stained glass struck me immediately. Also, the assurances offered by the Harnack House staff proved to be quite reliable. The food was delicious, and its presentation artfully done (in the eyes of a somewhat dazzled Midwesterner). The event was also a bargain; the cost of the reception was approximately \$92.00--even including the wedding cake and champagne. Of course, no video or professional color photographs record the occasion. But the young German Signal Corps photographer whom we hired did a fine job in black and white.



We spent August 20th touring Berlin --the Brandenburg Gate (where I wept), Checkpoint Charlie, the Russian Memorial, and the Kurfurstendam. But that evening brought a shock when we returned to our small apartment at #3 Flanaganstrasse. I had given keys to Anna, telling her how much I trusted her to deliver gifts from the wedding reception to our apartment. However, most of the furniture was gone and the sofa was wedged in the bathroom! In addition, all the eggs had been boiled. But the guilty parties put it all back together for us.

At the wonderful Berlin Brats reunion in autumn of 2014, I was thrilled that a tour to the high school included a stop at the Chapel. While there I learned that the existence of the American Community Chapel is no longer at risk. The land is so valuable that the civic authorities had been willing to sacrifice the building itself. The chapel has now been designated as a superior example of mid-twentieth century architecture and must and will be preserved. There are to be no changes in any aspect--not even colors.

*Great news for those Brats returning to Berlin for visits.  
So much has changed but this landmark of ours will remain!*



Barbara Cossinari-FAC '67-'69

# Oktoberfest Regional @ The Waldhorn Pineville (Charlotte), NC Sept 26, 2015



L to R (back row): Mrs. Westrom, Jim Liptak '77, Bryan Duckett '84, Mike Hannah '77, Kenny Morphis '77, Jason Sprinkle '78, Diane (Westrom) Mock '79, Lisa (Gore) Randle '75, \_\_\_\_\_, Gary Robinson '74, Ellen Morphis '73, \_\_\_\_\_, David Bourbo '78, Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71, \_\_\_\_\_ Deb (Brians) Clark '74 w/License Plate & our Hostess, Margaret Sisk '81, Mike Sisk '79, Carl Fenstermacher '73, Joyce (Curran) Stanford '51, Brenda Branson spouse, Jim Branson '64, spouse & son then Rusty Barnett '95, Candance Wyman '73, Chris Salas '90 & hubby, Greg DeCicco spouse, Mike Brians '78

Front Row: Dale Westrom '78, Jim "Jammer" McLean '78, Michael Brians spouse, Mrs. Brians, Toby West '61 and Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72

Fill in the Blanks with: Bill Bourbo '77, Mike Cole '77, Tina (Rash) Liptak '77, Patty Perullo '78



Festivities continued outside and inside the Bier Garten at the Waldhorn.



## Home is Where the Heart Is

By Deb "Brians" Clark BAHS '74

In November 2009, I wrote an article for the Berlin Brats Newsletter (it also appeared in the Nürnberg Trichter Newsletter, Spring 2010) about how the Berlin Wall separated my family when it went up overnight on August 13, 1961. My mother's side of the family lived in various areas of Berlin and outlying areas, only to be separated in an instant that fateful evening in August. I was five years old when the Wall went up, and it would be another 50 years before I would see some of my family members again. As an American and an Army Brat, Berlin was not only my birthplace, it was my "rock"...a place I always called home when asked where I was from. Growing up a Brat and moving every couple of years, the one constant that didn't change was my grandparents homestead in Berlin. Though often located so far away from our other military assignments, we tried to visit Berlin as often as time and money would allow, but then two things happened: The Wall went up, and I grew up.

My family received the news of the Wall going up during our assignment in Anchorage, Alaska. Living in the U.S., my Dad put in for orders for Germany as often as he could, and was granted four tours – one in Nürnberg, and three in Berlin. In 1964 when my Dad got orders for Korea, my mom, brother and I all went to live with my grandparents in Berlin for a year. Although my mother enrolled me in JFK Schule, I didn't like it, and she transferred me to Thomas A. Roberts (TAR) Elementary. Thus began my preparation for BAHS on a later assignment to Berlin!



Home is not  
where you are from,  
it is where you belong.  
Some of us travel the  
whole world to find it.  
Others, find it in a person.

– Beau Taplin

[www.stevemaraboli.com](http://www.stevemaraboli.com)

Liese Hutchison '83- facebook submission





***Congratulations  
Cate & Jeff***

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Dynia  
AUGUST 22, 2015  
ENFIELD, CT



Kristin Carlton '85 the maid of honor,  
The Bride Cate,  
and Susie Sams '85.....



Same Brats as Susan's wedding some years previous!!!!

***ANOTHER BRAT GET-TOGETHER.....***

This time OUR WebBRAT -  
Cate Speer '85 Gets Married!!!!

Brats fly into Connecticut.....







Many of us met Jeff at the 2014 Reunion in Berlin & on the post side trip to Poland! Since Cate and Jeff had a blended Polish wedding (hence the red and white) ....the Berlin Brats proudly stake claim to providing their Honeymoon pre-wedding!!!!



Brats in attendance/back row: Jerry Rettie '84, Kimberly Keravuori JFK '85, Bryan Duckett '84, Angie Doyle '85, Art Gilfus '86, Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Pete Murphy '84, Larry Speer '83, Laura Cohen spouse, Gregg Cohen '84.

Front row: Kristin Carlton '85, Scarlett Gilfus spouse, Kelly (Murphy) Waymire '82, Richie Arnold '85 and Susan (Sams) O'Neill '85.



Kelly, Jeri and Angie



Kelly and Bryan



Bride gets a foot massage after all that dancing...by Pete and Bryan!



Richie Arnold



**HOLD THE DATE:**  
For our next "regional"

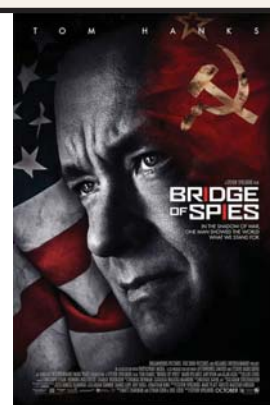
at the GermanDeli

in Colleyville, TX (a burb of Ft. Worth)

January 23, 2016 @ 11am

FLYER to be sent out soon!

### A Must See Movie:



**Bridge of Spies** - a must see for every Berlin Brat...It's currently out in the theatres. Excellent!!!!  
Made in Berlin and Poland.

### Upcoming Events:



**ANNUAL WURSTFEST  
REGIONAL**

Visit Facebook page:

Hill Country Brat

Gathering Nov 6-8th, 2015

For more INFO

Hosted by: Roo Moran '73

**Order your Brat Memoirs Book at:**

[wwwcreatespace.com/4863532](http://wwwcreatespace.com/4863532)

Just \$24.99 with \$1 of each book sold  
going to the BB Scholarship Fund

### Contact Information:

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Director: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72

[www.berlinbrats.org](http://www.berlinbrats.org)

**Find us on Facebook:**

**"Berlin Brats Alumni Association"**

(the official Fan Page site)

**"Berlin American High School (BAHS)"**

(an Open Group chat page)



**"NEW" Follow us on Twitter**  
**@BerlinBrats**

### Early 60's Site

By invitation only

Contact: Jim Branson '64

[jbranson01@hotmail.com](mailto:jbranson01@hotmail.com)

for an invite

### American Overseas School Historical Society

Contact: Gayle Vaughn Wiles -  
President

Email: [overseasschools](mailto:overseasschools@aoshs.org)

[@aoshs.org](mailto:@aoshs.org)

Website: [www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org)

### Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, President

Email: [joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.overseasbrats.com](http://www.overseasbrats.com)

### Communication Brat:

Peter Stein '80

[pstein80@msn.com](mailto:pstein80@msn.com)

### WebBrat: Cate Speer '85

[WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org](mailto:WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org)

### Newsletter Brat:

Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71

[traecombs@gmail.com](mailto:traecombs@gmail.com)

### Homecoming 2016

Colorado Springs, CO

ALL SCHOOLS REUNION

Held Every 3 years!

Aug 4-7, 2016

Hosted by: Overseas Brats

### Next Reunion

**Summer of 2017**

Mid-country location

Voting takes place in December for those actively paid up members.

Join Now or Renew Your Membership!

Ballot w/b mailed out in early December