

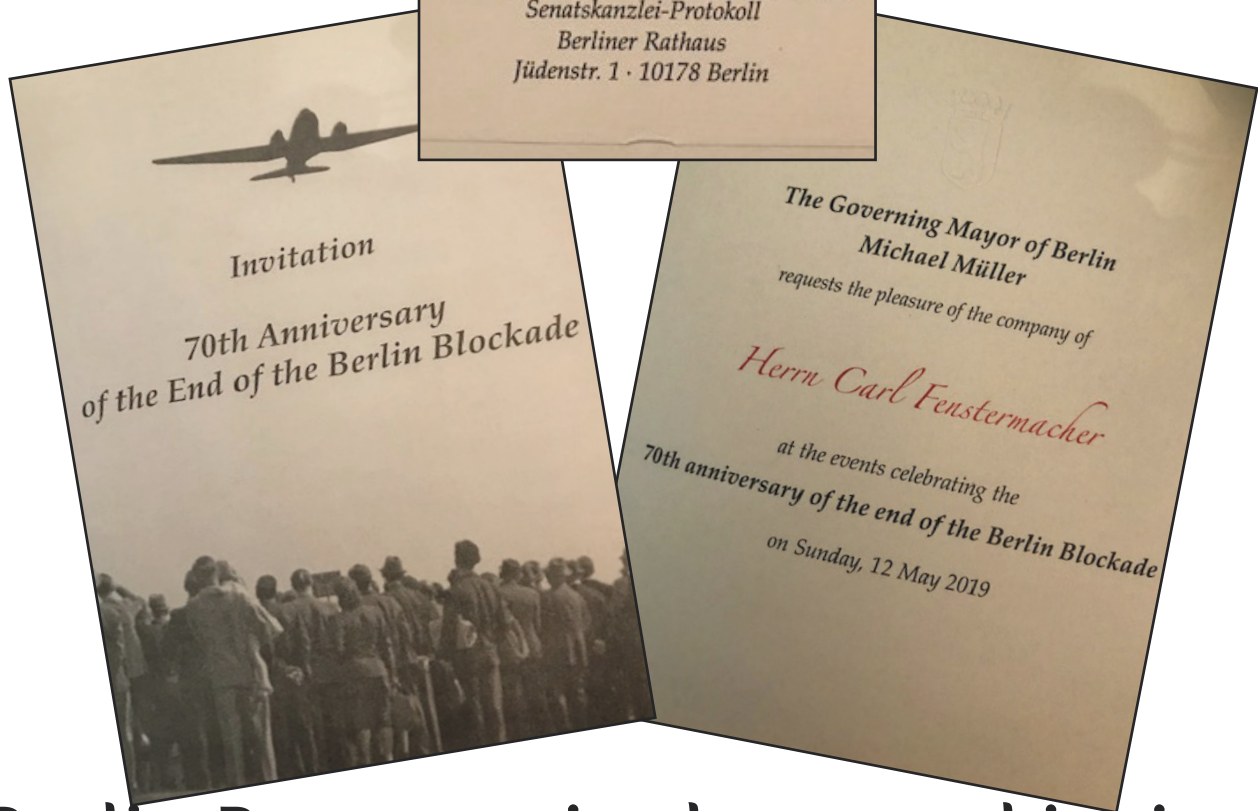


Berlin Brats Alumni Association Newsletter

July 2019

Volume 15, Issue 3

Der Regierende Bürgermeister von Berlin
Senatskanzlei-Protokoll
Berliner Rathaus
Jüdenstr. 1 · 10178 Berlin



Berlin Brats received mayoral invites Thirty Brats/FAC attended "Airbridge" wreath laying and other ceremonies paying homage to the Berlin Airlift, May 12, 2019



Col. Halvorsen (aka the Candy Bomber), now 98 years old, was the primary guest of honor. Nine blockade veterans were able to make the trip: two Americans and seven Brits. Left, Michael Müller, Berlin's Mayor (who invited us), speaking during the ceremony. Above, Gary Planz '74, one of the BBAA attendees, thanked the Colonel one-on-one.





Following the Luftbrücke ceremony, the Mayor's Office/City of Berlin hosted us at the Tempelhof Departure Hall for a plated luncheon. There, some of the 30 of us Brats in attendance met up with Colonel Halvorsen and he said, 'Let's do a "thumbs up!"' (above) (Side note: we have some 40 Berlin Brats still living in Berlin that we are aware of.)

In addition to all the dignitaries present, the BAVA Brats

(the Berlin Airlift Veteran's Association)

had 18 present and the BUSMVA (the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association) had 12 in attendance. Usually in September of each year, the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation sponsors 12 vets from BUSMVA to return to Berlin for what is called a "Welcome Home Tour" – this year they moved it up to coincide with the May 12th ceremonies.

Marilyn (Halvorsen) Sorenson '73 and Katrin (Lindroth) Planz '71 reunited at the Ceremony. Marilyn was accompanying her father – who is a spry 98-year-old – on the grueling trip from Utah.

Many of you will remember that the Candy Bomber returned to Berlin as the Base Commander of Tempelhof from '70-'74. Marilyn therefore knew many of us Brats in attendance from our BAHs days.

The Colonel (left) was the primary guest of honor, and placed the USA wreath (above) during the Ceremony.



A lifetime relationship from one act

Col. Halvorsen came to Berlin from Utah with his two daughters for the Airlift ceremonies in May.

In Berlin, a baseball field at Tempelhof airport was named after him — the "Gail S. Halvorsen Park — Home of the Berlin Braves" in honor of his help for Berliners during the Cold War.

Dressed in a military uniform, Halvorsen told Berlin's mayor Michael Müller that "it's good to be home."

The airlift began on June 26, 1948, in an ambitious plan to feed and supply West Berlin after the Soviets — one of the four occupying powers of a divided Berlin after World War II — blockaded

the city in an attempt to squeeze the U.S., Britain, and France out of the enclave within Soviet Germany.

On the ground in Berlin, ex-Luftwaffe mechanics were enlisted to help maintain aircraft, and some 19,000 Berliners, almost half of them women, worked around the clock for three months to build Tegel Airport, providing crucial relief for the British Gatow and American Tempelhof airfields.

Finally, on May 12, 1949, the Soviets realized the blockade was futile and lifted their barricades.

Halvorsen is probably the best known of the airlift pilots, thanks to an inadver-

tent propaganda coup born out of good will. Early in the airlift, he shared two sticks of gum with starving Berlin children and saw others sniffing the wrappers just for a



Col. Halvorsen distributes candy to a youth baseball team and Boy Scouts in Berlin,

May 11, 2019.

hint of the flavor. Touched, he told the children to come back the next day, when he would drop them candy, using handkerchiefs as parachutes.

He started doing it regularly, using his own candy ration. Soon other pilots and crews joined in. After an AP story appeared under the headline "Lollipop Bomber Flies Over Berlin," a wave of candy and handkerchief dona-

tions followed.

To this day, the airlift still shapes many Germans' views of the Western allies, especially in Berlin. After the Sept. 11 attacks on the U.S. in 2001, some 200,000 Berliners took to the streets of the German capital to show their support for the country that had helped prevent their city falling completely to the Soviets.

The Colonel and his daughters attended a special 70th Anniversary Reception and Military Serenade Saturday night, honoring the veterans of the Berlin Airlift from the USA, Britain, France, Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. The event was hosted by Ursula von der Leyen, Germany's Federal Minister for Defense. The Minister awarded the Großes

Bundesverdienstkreuz to General John Nicholson (US Army). Colonel Halvorsen received the same honor in 1974 at the close of his tour as Commander of Tempelhof Air Base.

About 12 days later, on May 23, 2019, back in the US, the Colonel was one of the 2019 recipients of the Silver Service Medallion, awarded by the president of the National WWII Museum to WWII veterans who have served our country with distinction and continue to lead by example.

"If [you] get outside [y]ourselves on the road of life for somebody who is struggling more than you are, then you're going to be rewarded in a way you will never [expect]."

-- Col. Gail Halvorsen



(L to R): Marilyn (Halvorsen) Sorenson '73 and Katrin (Lindroth) Planz '71 reunited.



Early arrivals to the Berlin Brats regional (not all made the picture 😞). Front row (L to R): Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Carl Fenstermacher '73, Katrin (Lindroth) Planz '71, Mrs. Katie Schmoll, Phillip Schmoll FAC '81-'94, Charlie Bluem FAC '70-'94, Herr Prigge FAC '72-'94, and MaryLynn (Schuppan) Werner-Minges FAC TAR '64-'70. Back row: David Katz '78, Steve Jennex '83, Chritiane (Moss) Richardson '84, Linda (Reed) Hinkle '84, Simone (Kornfield) Sidwell '80, Marion Janssen '80, Rick Kuhlbars '78, Eveline Planz (wife of Gary Planz '73/'74), David Jung '74, David Jasper/Meier '78, Jesse Greene '79, and Greg Mattson '77. Not pictured: Gary Planz, Kevin Lindroth '75, Jürgen Bailey '74, and Yasmine Urso JFK '02.

After the luncheon, we were treated to a very special ceremony of music and interpretive dance at Columbia Theatre while original footage of the Airlift was shown on the large movie screen. "Flying for Freedom" (above) is a stunning song!!!!

Prior to the Tempelhof Ceremony on Sunday, May 12th, the Berlin Brats held a regional at a local restaurant – recommended to us by none other than Mr. Bluem FAC '70-'94! In all, 27 attended, to include four teachers: Charlie Bluem, Herr Prigge FAC '72-'94, Phillip Schmoll FAC '81-'94, and MaryLynn (Schuppan) Werner-Minges FAC TAR '64-'70.

Our "regional" on Saturday, May 11th was planned first, but then we were brought to the attention of the Mayor's Office and secured the very coveted VIP Invites for the next day!

More pictures are on our website, www.BerlinBrats.org. Click on "Reunion" page from "Index"; look for the May 11th regional and the May 12th Airlift ceremonial pics.

The “East Berlin” BAHS guy

Perhaps one of my most fond lifetime memories pertains to the time I spent in high school at BAHS between 1974-1977 (in Grades 7-9). I am Kaveh Farrok and you folks at BAHS knew me as “Kava” – and the rest is history ... We all know of course that Berlin (East and West) at the time was an international hot spot. West Berlin, as we know, was an island of Western freedom in the middle of the heart of what was then East Germany (Deutsche Demokratische Republik).

My father (Fereydoun Farrok, known to local Canadian Canucks as “Fred”) had been posted as ambassador to East Germany by the Pahlavi government of Iran at the time (overthrown in the 1979 revolution). My father’s embassy mission in East Berlin was in place from 1973-1977.



Kava’s father, Fereydoun Farrok, Iran’s first ambassador to East Germany, being greeted by a military honour guard in East Berlin, September 1973.

I was born in Athens, Greece, during my father’s mission to Greece in the early 1960s. As we travelled from country to country with my father’s diplomatic missions, I was placed from an early age in American international schools. I actually first spoke German (after my father’s mission to Greece we soon left for West Germany where my father became de-facto ambassador in Köln when the official ambassador fell ill). I then learned English at an early age and was fully fluent by the time my father was sent to East Berlin. However, I was determined to keep going to American schools and my parents supported my wishes. It was here where my father met with the local West Berlin US forces commanders, who agreed that I could attend Thomas A. Roberts (grade 6) and then BAHS (grades 7-9) ...

Getting to BAHS in (former) West Berlin’s Dahlem district was certainly no mundane task, especially if

one’s home was in (former) East Berlin – more specifically in Karlshorst, at Stühlinger Straße. Everyday, I travelled from East Berlin, crossed the Berlin Wall, to then arrive at BAHS – and then travelled back.

So how, you must be asking, could an average teenager cross the Berlin wall, every day, as easily as walking across an ordinary street? The answer: diplomatic missions to East Berlin and their families got what was essentially a *kleine rote Buch* (little red book), a special pass you showed to the East German border guards. Come to think of it, it was pretty cool, actually.

When my dad’s mission ended in 1977 we went to Iran, but could not stay long thanks to the revolution. My family and I then went to France – I graduated from the Institut Chateaubriand International School in Cannes, Southern France. Had I stayed at BAHS, I would have been in the class of 1980. We then settled in lovely Vancouver, British Columbia. This has been our home ever since.

I did miss BAHS during all these years – the teachers, gym, and all of the students. To be honest, I felt welcomed and felt very much at home at BAHS. I still recall many of the folks there and retain several cool and vivid memories. I liked all my educators, and I can still recall many of them, such as Mr. Bluem in history (I still recall many of his cool lectures, especially the one on Mussolini), Herr Voight (our German teacher), and Mr. Pepoy of Phys ed. (and the gladiator-style “battleball” matches we engaged in).

I really look forward to seeing all of you at next year’s reunion in Seattle – which is close to my whereabouts in Vancouver. Washington and Oregon are essentially like home for us here in Canada, as we love travelling

for holidays or even just crossing the border to shop (addendum: also one of my favorite escapades is to cross the border into the border town of Blaine to then drive a few minutes on the highway to a place called “Bob’s Burgers” for some good eats and suds).



Kava (Kaveh) meandering in DC’s Georgetown district, late October 2018.

Educational Compact helps Brats transition between schools

by Maryl Ball Sellman

Oslo American School 1960-63

A common thread binding Overseas Brats together is the overwhelming, painful gut punch we felt when we left our overseas school and entered a public school in the States. Sometimes moving in the middle of the year was frustrating because students needed required courses that weren’t offered prior to their arrival and they were forced to attend an extra year of school.

Culture shock, going to school with “civilians,” trying to fit in when it seemed impossible....it’s been a constant theme, especially among those of us “regulars” at OSB functions who attended overseas schools in the fifties and sixties and had no Government advocate when we transitioned to a public school. On the

bright side, our resilience as military kids gave us the courage to suck it up and make new friends, even if they had nothing in common with us. But what about the kids in the 21st Century? There is very good news...

On average, military students transfer between six and nine times between kindergarten and 12th grade, with about two of those transfers occurring during high school, according to the Council of State Governments. One example of the problems they face can be illustrated by a family moving from Germany to Virginia. As the mother was attempting to prepare her children’s enrollment into the Virginia school system, she was overwhelmed with the hoops which students must jump through in order to satisfy the state’s graduation requirements. Because one of her daughters was going to a Virginia school system as a

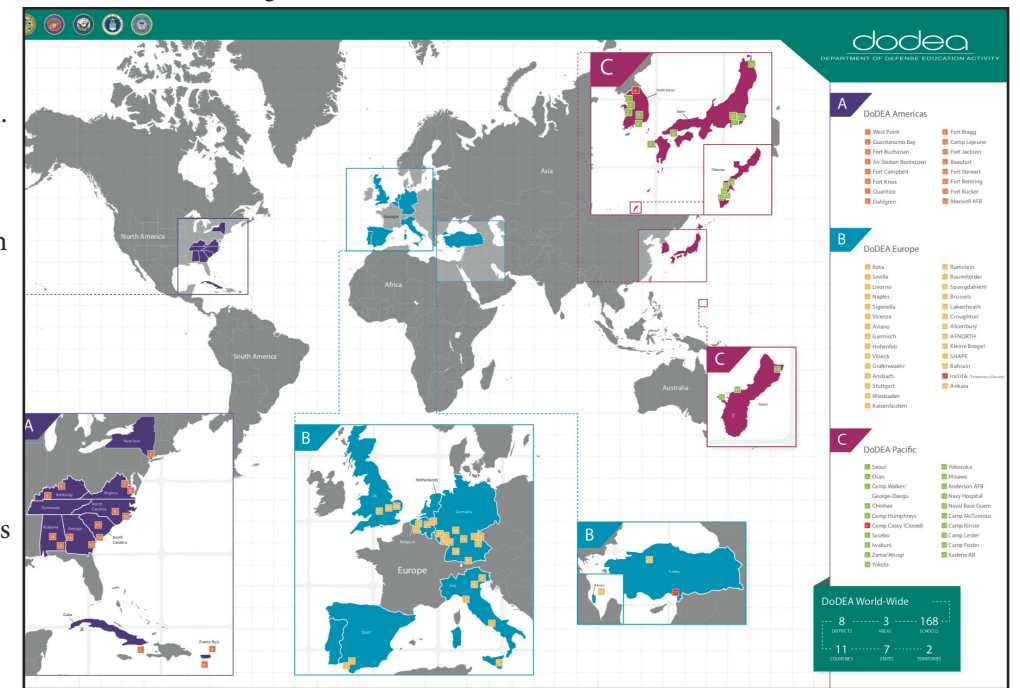
senior, she was told her daughter must complete two years of Virginia history before she could graduate. The history courses offered through DODEA did not have the Virginia component, and why would they?

Unlike their civilian peers, DODEA students face many challenges on what can be a circuitous path to high school graduation.

This came about with a Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), established in 1998. The mission of MCEC is to make certain there are inclusive educational opportunities for all military-connected children affected by mobility, family separations and transition.

As a result, DODEA also worked with the National Center for Interstate

Compacts and the Council of State Governments to develop the Military Interstate Compact to help ease the transition when school records aren’t transferred in a timely manner from overseas, or when parents have hand-carried records to the new State-side school, which often has previously denied them



There are more than 180,000 high-school-aged children of active-duty service members, and there are more than 13,000 students in DODEA high schools overseas. It’s these kids who are most at risk of coming up short on graduation requirements when their family transfers back to the States.

Fortunately, modern era DODEA students who complete 11th grade are eligible for a DODEA diploma once they transfer, regardless of individual state graduation requirements. The regulations governing DODEA allow students to receive a DODEA diploma if, “through no fault of their own, they cannot meet the requirements of the receiving school.”

Students still have to attend 12th grade in their new school to earn the required graduation credits. But if the state will not grant a diploma, the student can receive the DODEA diploma.

as not official. This action is especially critical for students with Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs), accommodations, or other special needs.

The Compact, still evolving in its implementation, has created nationwide standards with the goal of increasing uniformity or consistency on targeted transition issues and in doing so, has added to the institutional awareness of transition issues faced by children with parents on active duty.

The Compact lets the sending and receiving districts talk about conflicts and try to do what’s right. This is encouraging and beneficial to all of our Overseas Brats who now find it easier to transition into a new school environment.

More information and parent guidance are at the Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3) website at www.mic3.net.

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS

Wedding and wine in the Czech Republic



Love how these Brats go *anywhere* to support their fellow Brat classmates!



Hradislek, Velké Bilovice, is not exactly a large town, but it's the largest winemaking town in the Czech Republic. So, of course Brats would show! Rob Ahrens '87, Steve Kinzie '87, and Chris Marvin '89 -- all ready for Carl's wedding. Love Chris "Guido" Marvin's hair

Chris, Carl Marvin '87 (the groom), Steve, and Rob! Best of buds!

Arlington Beer Garden

A few local-area Brats hooked up to enjoy food, fine weather, and friends at the Beer Garden and Haus at the Westover Market, April 6, 2019.



L to R seated: Marvin Lindroth '75, Mike Ferris '75 and Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 (organizer). Back row: Son of Linda, Linda (Robinson) Talley '73, and Valerie Sellers '77.

Reunion rituals

Richard Black '72 and Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 in VA, May 7-11, 2019. Richard flies out every couple of years (from CA) to visit his parents' graves at Arlington and reconnects with good friend and classmate Joyce.



BRAT GET-TOGETHERS

Anyone recognize this biker???

'76 and '72 siblings unite. MaryAnn (Cunha) Glover and brother Raymond '72, on May 17, 2019. Ray (retired) blew through Woodland Parks, CO, on his bike and stopped in to visit still-working (to her chagrin) MaryAnn at her office.



Sean von Arx '88 showed up in Beaumont, TX, and dropped in to visit Rob Ahrens '87, en route to FL.

T
e
x
a
s

D
r
o
p
-
i
n

America celebrates its 50th with CO Brats

America (the band) celebrates its 50th year ... doing concerts all over the US and highlighting their Brat-ness to the audience at each venue. The band, Dewey Bunnell, Gerry Beckley, and Dan Peek were ALL grads of London Central High School, 1969. Their dads were all Air Force – with British moms. (Sadly, Dan passed away in 2011.)

The Colorado Brats Club were on site June 16, 2019, in Littleton, CO, for one of those concerts.

Fifty years ago on that same day, Bunnell, Beckley, and Peek all graduated from high school in London. Only a few months later, things really started taking off for the guys.

“Ventura Highway” was a very big summer song back in the ‘70s for the band that’s known as *America*.

So what are its founders up to these days?

Still traveling a familiar road, John Blackstone of “CBS Sunday Morning” reports.

With the top down and the music up, what better way to drive toward Ventura, CA, than with the guys who made the song “Ventura Highway” a hit? Bunnell and Beckley are in their 50th year making music together.

“Both of us have said, of all of the hits, that might be our favorite because it’s really such a signature *America* sound, you know?” Beckley told Blackstone.

“I think it sustained its youthful optimism and stuff, yeah,” Bunnell said. “And again, that guitar lick, as soon as you hear it.”

The two met in high school. “We actually met on the track team,” Beckley said. “We were juniors, 11th grade together. So we had the last two years together in high school.”

“So we were, you know, catch--



Hey! Brats attending, raise your hands! At the America concert in Littleton, CO, in June.

catching double-decker buses, in the tubes, and going down to the sweet shop, and being part of the British culture,” Bunnell said.

It was the late 1960s and British culture was alive with rock music. With another high school friend, Peek, they started playing some shows around London and needed a name.

“It was a way to kind of define who we were in the UK,” Beckley said. “Oh,



Two Brats rush the stage at the Littleton, CO outdoor concert. The ‘guys’ (*America*) saw their letterjacket and t-shirt and called them out ... saying, “We see our Bobcats letterjacket!!!!”

that’s those American kids, I guess. They’re called *America*. But it was a bit confusing because when we came over to the states to unveil the first album, a lot of the ads said, you know, ‘Direct from England, *America*.’”

They were not one of those bands that struggle for years to get noticed; *America* hit it big virtually overnight. “It was like a rocket ship within six months,” Beckley said.

“We met a few key people around London whose ear we caught,” Bunnell said. “We played a couple of pub things. And the songs were selling themselves.”

“Everything just seemed to be going, in our minds, according to plan,” Beckley said. “It was ... everybody around us, Warner Brothers in the UK, are going, ‘Holy God. What-- what’s happening here?’”

Things really started happening when they released a song involving a horse with no name.

“It’s a fond memory of the times I’d spent with my brother in the south-west,” Bunnell said. “And rainy, old England being what it is at times, it was nice to think about. The heat, and plants, birds, rocks, and things.”

With a number-one album in *America*, the three teenagers were suddenly rock stars.

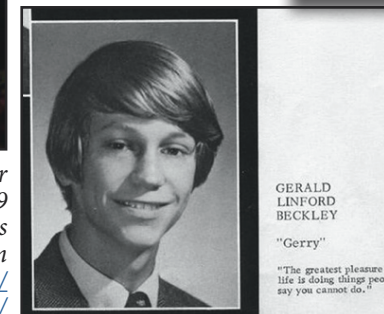
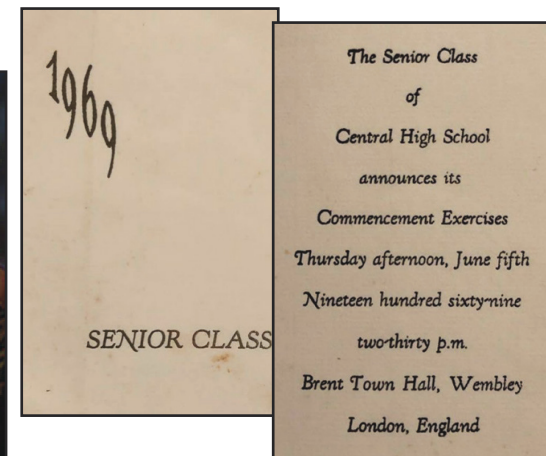
“It just seemed like everything was coming together for us. We didn’t have a big plan,” Bunnell said. “I think we just wanted to be part of our generation. You know, we were kind of Woodstock children or something. And there was this thing in the air. And these songs were coming out of us because they had to come out.”



Dewey Bunnell, Gerry Beckley, with John Blackstone (driver).



Above: The “guys” performing at the Littleton, CO, outdoor concert in June. Center right: London Central HS’s 1969 graduation pamphlet. Right: Gerry in the 1969 London Central HS yearbook. His quote, “The greatest pleasure in life is doing things people say you cannot do,” seems prophetic. Article adapted from interview with John Blackstone of CBS. You can see the CBS interview (7/7/2019) at www.cbsnews.com/video/america-the-band-still-touring-after-50-years/



Not only did they have a string of hits, they even had their own airplane.

“Oh yeah. All the excesses started piling on. And that was fun,” Bunnell said.

But by 1977, it was taking a toll on Peek; he decided to leave the band.

“And it was a difficult decision, but it turned out to be the right thing for all of us,” Beckley said. “Dan went on to redefine his life. He became a born-again Christian and started recording Christian music, which we supported and sang on sometimes.”

Bunnell and Beckley carried on as *America*.

“And within a few years, we had started having hits as a duo,” Beckley said. “‘You Can Do Magic’ was shortly

after that and, you know, chapter two.”

Chapter two has turned out to be a long one. They are still touring, playing nearly a hundred shows a year for fans of all those hits from the 1970s and ‘80s.

“We saw the advent of the disco movement and you know, sort of glitter rock and then new wave and all of those. We weren’t that great at adapting to that kind of stuff,” Bunnell said.

But their music has endured, and their relationship has too.

They sing in harmony, but they don’t go fishing together. Dewey has a home deep in the woods near Land o’ Lakes, Wisconsin.

“And it sure is away from the mad-dening crowd of rock and roll,” he said.

Since his childhood he’s been drawn to nature.

“We’d go out into the woods, or the desert, or down to the river or the creek or the lake and poke around, so it’s an extension of what I really did as a kid,” Bunnell said.

Gerry is more at home in the city. His place in Los Angeles is crowded with books and his own photographs. There is also the Grammy from 1972 he accidentally broke. *America* was voted best new artist that year.

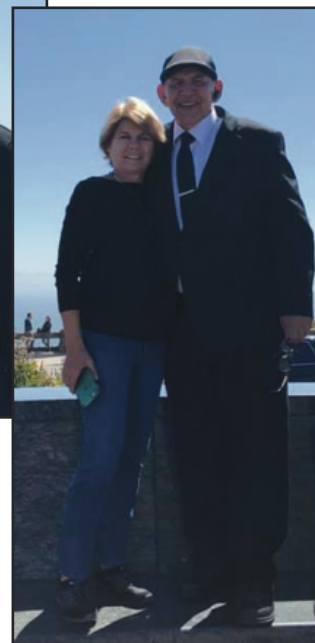
He has published books of his photographs and often wanders his neighborhood near Venice Beach, documenting whatever catches his eye.

America will play 89 concerts in the US and Europe this year.

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



Enjoying the good life



Left: (L to R) Nancy Liepmann '72, Richard Black '72, and Renate (Kolwaski) Goodloe '72, hooked up in Sonoma, CA, in April 2019.

What are the odds?

The Ahrensens (Rob '87 and Holly) were in NAPA for just a couple of days and who came out to play (no, not the giant chicken!)? Michael (Smurf) James '87, who just happened to be passing through himself!!! June 7, 2019.



Go-o-o, Brats!

Three BAHS cheerleaders spontaneously connect up in GA, May 11, 2019! Gina (Strickland) Cooper, Kim (McLean) Hunt, and Kim (Graves) Bee, all '77ers!

NOLA

'83 mini-reunion: Nicole (Naquin) Branson (L) and Liese Hutchison in New Orleans, Easter weekend.



Southern spring

Michelle Estes '90 (L) visits with Christina (Yurick) Wayne '89, April 2019.

Sure was great to meet up with Christina, one of my Berlin Brat friends, today while we were both visiting Louisiana!

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



Hot days in the city

Steve Kinzie '87 and Mr. Bluem FAC '70-'94 meet up in Berlin, July 12, 2019, and cool off with good German beer.



New facebook logo for AOSHS

(American Overseas Schools Historical Society)

In addition to the AOSHS symbol, the logo consists of the following historical images (L to R): a wooden plaque from Bad Kreuznach American High School, class of 1984; Life Magazine cover from July 21, 1947, featuring Heidelberg Brats Maybelle Davis and Jim Cash in traditional alpine fashions, post-war Germany. Accompanying story of what Brat life was like for dependents in post-war Germany was included inside

this issue; a stein that belonged to A. "Stoll" or "Itoll," Frankfurt American High School, class of 1963; Far East Drama poster from Seoul American High School; Clarence, the knight – the school mascot from Bonn American High School; a basketball autographed by Brats from Baumholder/1990 Small School Champions; and, of course, the Berlin Wall section, donated by the Berlin Brats Alumni Association, 2005.



AOSHS yearbook scanning initiative

AOSHS has scanned over 1,350 yearbooks and has obtained scanned copies of an additional 380 yearbooks from various sources. There are an additional 1,170 yearbooks in our archives to scan.

These 2,900 yearbooks will be available online for the general public to access through AOSHS' new website. AOSHS hopes to have

1,800 yearbooks online by Oct 1.

This new resource will be a valuable treasure for current and former students, teachers, administrators, and staff. AOSHS' partnership with DoDEA has enabled this remarkable step forward for the organization. No longer will the archives be a remote resource in Wichita, but they will become available to any-

one anywhere in the world.

We (BBAA) highly support this initiative....but, as a Berlin Brat, please note "our" yearbooks – every year, each page -- have been and continue to be on our website at BerlinBrats.org. In the future, they will appear on AOSHS' website as well, as part of this initiative. (www.AOSHS.org)

DoDEA supports AOSHS



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY
HEADQUARTERS
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22350-1400

Dr. Gayle Vaughn Wiles, President
American Overseas Schools Historical Society
704 W Douglas Ave
Wichita, KS 67203

HAY 0 12019

Dr. Vaughn-Wiles,

It is with great pleasure that I write to congratulate AOSHS on its 30th Anniversary. There is a lot to celebrate: the work being done towards an AOSHS museum; the forthcoming updates to the AOSHS website; and most importantly, the outstanding work of everyone at AOSHS that has made this longevity possible.

I am so glad that DoDEA has partnered with AOSHS. Ours is the best kind of partnership, in which we achieve something together that neither of us could do alone.

Since DoDEA's humble beginning, we've come a long way as a school system. Each of our organizational entities over our more than 70 years of service has a rich and proud history of service to military families. Today there are more than 73,000 students attending DoDEA schools worldwide. It is estimated that nearly 15 million students have passed through our schools around the world over the past 70 years. These numbers are a testament to DoDEA's commitment to military families and their school-aged children. The same compassion, dedication, concern, and commitment to excellence in teaching that began in makeshift classrooms in Germany and Japan continues today in our state-of-the-art 21st Century Schools across the globe.

I look forward to seeing you soon at the DoDDS Reunion. This will be a remarkable celebration of everyone who has been a part of the DoDEA system since its inception. Each and every person who has ever attended or worked at a DoDEA school brought something special to the school community and left a legacy that is long remembered.

I want to thank you again, and all of your colleagues as well, for your hard work and dedication to the very important mission of preserving our history.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Brady
Thomas M. Brady
Director

**DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
WITH YOUR OLD
BERLIN MEMORABILIA?**

**Preserve it by sending it to
AOSHS!**

Identify each item as being related to your Berlin American High School experience. The donation form is at <http://aoshs.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Property-Donation-Form-1116.pdf>.

Berlin memories preserved at AOSHS

As we mature in years we become ever more mindful to preserve our legacy. Our association (i.e. the BBAA, Berlin Brats Alumni Association) has led several actions over our history to recognize, memorialize, and preserve our history.

The largest and most memorable was our purchase of a complete section of the Berlin Wall, in 2005. We then donated the section to AOSHS and it is now on loan to the Museum of World Treasures in Wichita, KS. (Wichita is also the home of AOSHS).

In addition, we have purchased a brick every three years, documenting/preserving our Reunion history. And we send a copy of each quarterly Newsletter for addition to our "Berlin Brats Collection."



Our Berlin Wall section.

Finding Berlin



Deb (Brians) Clark '74 and her mom with one of the city bears in Berlin, May 6th.



Paola Meimaris '79 visits the Berlin Wall segment in Philly, March 2019 (see story about this segment in the Jan 2019 newsletter, pg 19). Notice her "divided city" logo polo shirt!



Recipe call for Brats cookbook

The Berlin Brats cookbook committee is requesting your help providing recipes for a cookbook available for purchase at the 2020 reunion in Seattle! Proceeds will benefit the Berlin Brats Scholarship Fund.

We envision this cookbook to include recipes from all countries, whether Spanish, Greek, Asian, American ...and of course, GERMAN, and will have sections for desserts, appetizers, main dishes, to name a few. The book will also include vintage recipes and photos from 1946-1994, otherwise known as the BAHS years.

We are looking for recipes that are special to you and your family. Ideally, we encourage you to submit a photo of your recipe with a brief statement as to why this recipe is a favorite. Does the recipe bring back fond memories? Did you find a way to take an existing recipe and make it totally your own?

We highly encourage you to submit more than one recipe and in different categories!

Due to copyright infringement issues, we cannot accept recipes/pics copied from other cookbooks. We are looking for unique and original recipes. We look forward to providing a cookbook that you, other Brats, and your family will enjoy for years to come.

Please submit your recipes **by August 1st** to Bratscook@gmail.com, in Word.doc format. Be sure to include your full name (to include maiden), class year, and years in Berlin (for example: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 ('67-'71)).

Thank you!

-- Deb (Brians) Clark '74 Co-Chair

-- Susan Robinson (Honorary Berlin Brat/Spouse of Gary Robinson '74) Co-Chair

Berlin's 39th 'Long Night of Museums' occurs in August

The Long Night of Museums in Berlin offers a unique opportunity to come into direct contact with all kinds of art and culture. The event has now been held for 21 years and with just one ticket, gives you a night's access to 80 museums and roughly 800 events. In 2019, there are once again numerous exhibitions, collections, and installations just waiting to be discovered by you!

History behind the night

The Long Night of Museums is a true Berlin original. The first event of this kind took place in February 1997, where it attracted around 6,000 visitors in 18 participating museums. The concept has proven to be a complete success to this day. The number of visitors has thus increased over the course of time and other cities have also adopted the concept: there are now 120 museum nights being held worldwide in places such as Amsterdam or Paris. Each year, the event represents the high point of the cultural sector and impresses with an extremely diverse programme: be it workshops, concerts or artist talks - at the roughly 800 events being held in just one night there is guaranteed to be something exciting for everyone. Experience a nocturnal journey through the worlds of art, history, natural science, and technology at the 39th Long Night of Museums in 2019!

This awaits you that night:

- One ticket for the full programme: discover areas of the art and culture worlds that you never even knew before!
- Shuttle buses are available to take you from museum to museum in the quickest possible

way, so you won't waste any of your precious time. The seven routes in total are naturally included in the entrance fee.

- Numerous special or express tours will take you to selected highlights.

- The neighbourhood tours in vintage buses from the 60s and 70s have meanwhile become a cult! Take a two-hour tour with highlights such as Schloss Britz (Britz castle).

- There are also special offers for young visitors, which usually start in the afternoon. The ticket is free for children up to 12 years and also includes the shuttle buses.

Tips for visiting

The cultural experience traditionally starts in the Lustgarten in Berlin-Mitte, where a musical prelude and an opening by the mayor Michael Müller will kick off the exciting event. Not far away you will find the direct route to renowned museums such as the Altes Museum (Old Museum), Alten Nationalgalerie (Old National Gallery), the German Historical Museum, and the Humboldt-Box. From here on, you can set your own agenda: the doors in the whole of Berlin are open to you from 6 p.m. to 2



a.m.! Art historians and museum directors will guide you through the rooms of their exhibitions, and artists and musicians will look forward to meeting you personally at the talks and workshops.

The Long Night of Museums is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the capital's world of art and culture.

This year's Long Night of Museums will take place on August 31, 2019.

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS

Hawaiian vacation road trip

Old friends from '72 re-unite in Hawaii, late May-early June 2019. Joyce (Clark) Mallon met up with her life-long friend Susan (Black) Sill during Joyce's Hawaiian vacation. The two hit every beach park on the north shore

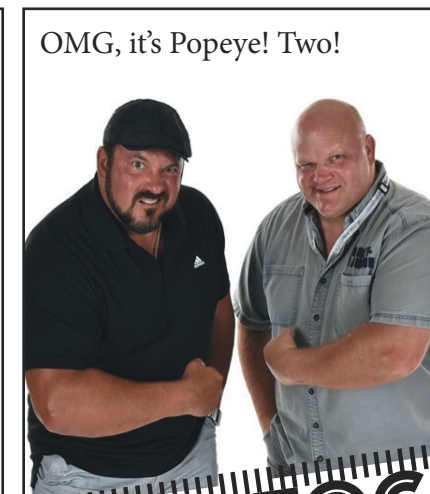
of Oahu, were followed by rainbows on their island road trip, and relaxed at a luau.



Brat families' fun in the sun

Sean von Arx '88 and family traveled from CA to FL via RV to meet up with Lance Srp '88 and family for a joint Brat family vacation. The families had a blast at Disneyworld, then on a cruise to the Bahamas, and finished out the visit with a 4th of July bash on the beach in Destin, FL!

OMG, it's Popeye! Two!



BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



SHIPROCKED!

For the second year in a row, a couple of Brats from the class of '83 -- Larry Speer and James Miller (in the hat) -- hit the high seas on a cruise known as Shiprocked; a music festival on water. This year, Larry, his wife Janice, and James wrangled an honorary Brat, Racheal Morris, to join them. The cruise took them to Mexico, with stops in Cozumel and the Yucatan, but more than anything, kept them entertained -- with 23 bands performing during the five days, most playing two sets each. The headliner was Papa Roach, celebrating the cruise's 10-year anniversary.

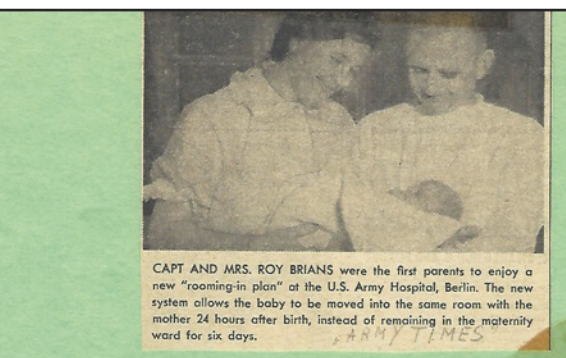




VARISITY TEAM: Mr. Rice, Thurman Nash, Douglas Caples, Gregory Baxter, David Howard, William Galloway, Larry Williams, Harry Smith, William Planz, Jay Stewart, Herbert Black, Cleo Johnson, Karl Kennedy, Willie Maryland, Steve Morasco, manager.
Cubs Capture Red Division Championship.



Top: 1970 BAHS varsity basketball team.
Above: An infamous sleepover!!! All '80 and '81ers: Back (L to R): Mary McClain, Karla Saunders, Him Hale, Brenda Lee. Middle: ???, Karen Sellers, Karen Presley, Karen Reilly, Kendra Payne, Carla Sutcliffe. Floor: Susan Ude and Connie Phillips. Below: Mr. Fenstermacher FAC (music teacher, at piano) and the "Nightingales," fall 1970.



CAPT AND MRS. ROY BRIANS were the first parents to enjoy a new "rooming-in plan" at the U.S. Army Hospital, Berlin. The new system allows the baby to be moved into the same room with the mother 24 hours after birth, instead of remaining in the maternity ward for six days.

Meet The Folks



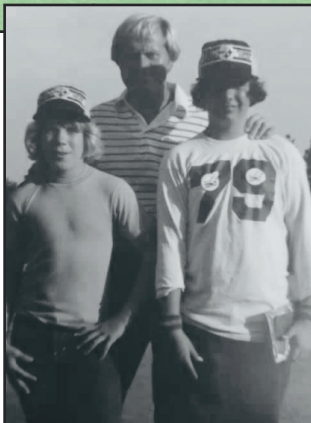
PROUD PARENTS... Capt and Mrs. Roy E. Brians, Jr., admire their newly-born daughter Deborah Lee at the USAH, Berlin. The hospital has stated a new policy by which fathers may come in contact with their off-spring 24 hours after the child is born. Also under this policy the baby will be placed in the same room with the mother to offer the parents a better chance of becoming acquainted with the care of the child.

Berlin 'Unites' Babies, Moms

BERLIN, March 31 (Special) — Capt and Mrs. Roy Brians, parents of a one-day-old daughter, were the first parents to enjoy a new "rooming-in plan" at the U.S. Army Hospital here. The plan, according to Maj. Margaret Wheeler, chief nurse, is to give the mother instruction and experience in the care of the baby, instead of remaining in the maternity ward for six days. Thus, the child earlier.

Deb 'Brians' Clark, BAHS class of 1974, was the first child born under the new "rooming-in plan" at the U.S. Army Hospital in Berlin. This made the news in The Army Times, Stars and Stripes, and The Berlin Observer.

Class Trivia: Judy Marmor was born the next day!



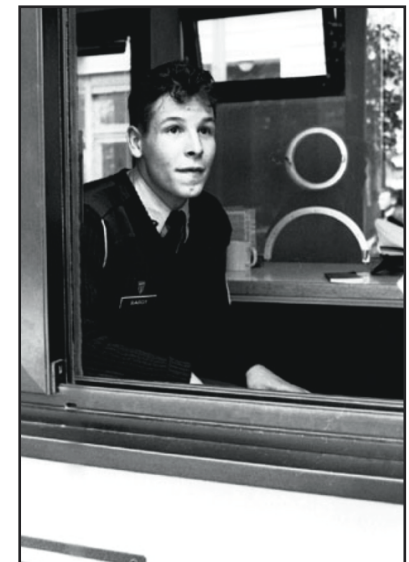
Above: 1956 newspaper clippings; Deb (Brians) Clark '74 was the first baby born in Berlin American Hospital where the father was allowed to be present, and the first in the new "rooming-in" approach that let mothers and babies be together. **Right:** The USAREUR golf championships were in Berlin July 1979, and Jack Nicklaus met up with Tim Shaw '85 (then 6th gr) and his brother Scott '83 (then 8th gr).

**T
h
r
o
w
b
a
c
k
p
h
o
t
o
s**

Checkpoint Charlie's last hours let MPs share historic moment



Left: Tourists take photos of the remnants of the Berlin Wall near Checkpoint Charlie. Right: Spec. Paul Bagoy of the 287th MP Co., on duty for Checkpoint Charlie's final day. Photos by Dave Didio/Stars and Stripes.



from the
Stars and
Stripes
archives

**T
h
r
o
w
b
a
c
k
n
e
w
s**

by Ken Clausen, Stars and Stripes
June 22, 1990

BERLIN — Spec. Wade Decker spent his first day as a military policeman being photographed and questioned by television and newspaper crews and hundreds of tourists from around the world.

The 21-year-old former Army truck driver arrived in Berlin last week and his first shift at Checkpoint Charlie on Thursday, less than 24 hours before the MP station was to be ceremonially deactivated and unceremoniously removed by a crane.

He took the questions and requests to pose for photos in stride. "It's kind of exciting," Decker said.

For 29 years, Checkpoint Charlie has been known throughout the world as a portal to West. This morning, it too will be swept aside by the tides of change in Eastern Europe and in East-West relations.

On Thursday, nearly a dozen American soldiers from the 287th MP Co in Berlin, dressed in Class B uniforms and white hats, directed traffic, posed for photos and chatted with tourists and journalists. Lone British and French MPs staffed their area in the morning, but were joined by several co-workers in the afternoon.

"People were fighting to be able

to work here today," said Spec. Paul Bagoy, 21, an MP from Anchorage, AK. "It's kind of cool to be down here today. You can't really explain the feeling, knowing you're one of the last MPs to work here."

Before the Wall cracked in November, Bagoy had met one of the first MPs assigned to the checkpoint, he said. "That was great, to meet the first guy stationed here and then to be able to be one of the last."

British Lance Cpl. Patrick Force, pulling duty at the other end of the 10-by-50-foot building in the middle of Friedrichstrasse, reflected on what he called the end of an era.

"At least I get the end of it — an extremely historic occasion," said the 25-year-old who has been in Berlin for only three months. "Before we heard they were going to remove it, it was just another point of duty, but then we became more conscious of what we are really doing here."

"Personally, I think (the building) should be removed, but it would be nice to keep it as a memorial somewhere."

Alan Wolan, a former New York advertising account executive who sells Fall of the Wall T-shirts in Berlin, said the guard building can go.

"I think the shack itself should be torn down," the 21-year-old said.

"The signs should be kept, but the building isn't really symbolic."

Pvt. 2 Larry Tague, a 19-year-old MP from Hartford City, IN, disagreed.

"It should definitely go to the Smithsonian (in Washington). I would hate to see it dismantled — it should be preserved."

Mark Driver, a U.S. Army employee in Rheinberg, West Germany, also said the checkpoint should be preserved, but in Germany. "It's part of the German heritage, not ours. It should be put someplace on the dividing line as a memorial."

U.S. officials on Thursday could not say what will eventually be done with the building. They said Wednesday that it was being moved from the area to prevent vandalism and damage.

During a brief stop at the checkpoint Thursday, Maj. Gen. Raymond E. Haddock, the U.S. commander in Berlin, called the removal of the hut a symbol of progress.

"It is an indication that freedom and democracy are certainly on the ascent, and is something that we can share together with the people of all nations. But it's something we view with joy and with a bit of caution, because the future is still uncertain — but we're optimistic."



Pins from Melissa (Chavies) Rogers '89's letterjacket.



1991 class mug belonging to
Sean Cherry '91.

Berlin nostalgia



My BAHS band jacket. In 1994, the jackets were given to the band members at the end of the school year; BAHS's last.
--Ted Aldridge Fanning '98

The "Bright Brats" (7 + 1 of them!)
Family stair-step poses over the years



communications, and beginning with London, we spent the better part of the next 15 years in Europe (eight in total). In April of 1959, Dad was sent to Bremerhaven, Germany. We remained until June of 1960 when Dad was re-assigned to Tempelhof in Berlin until June of 1962. We had a brood of children attending the DoD schools in Bremerhaven and Berlin. From grade school to high school, we ran the gamut. Many years and many tales later, and though Mom and Dad have passed, we have a pretty awesome memory in this photo.

The line-up is from oldest to youngest...Judi (13), Pamela (9), Elmer, Jr. (Sonny) (7), Nathan (6), Michael (4), Jeffrey (2), Donna (<1) and still-to-arrive Kristal (still a

couple years away and eventually born in Berlin in 1961). Wanda, my mom, is holding Donna.

The photo was recreated (plus Kristal) 61 years later, in the same order as the original (stair steps no longer) during a family reunion cruise to Alaska last fall 2018. We came from California, Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

So many stories and lives are contained in this photo.

by Pam (Bright)Nemeth '65 and brother Mike Bright '71

The original picture was actually taken by my dad, CMSGT (ret'd) Elmer Bright, in the spring of 1957 when he was stationed at South Ruislip Air Station, used by the third Air Force. We lived in the London suburb of Yiewsley, a part of West Drayton, UK. Dad and Mom were avid archers, and competed in England, and later Germany, with the US Air Force. This picture was taken after my parents returned from Bertchesgaden, Germany. Dad had competed for and won the US Air Force Archery Championships!

Always on the lookout for a good deal and mementos of places he and Mom had visited, he brought back lederhosen as a present for everyone! Must have been a good deal since they were real leather and he had to raise seven kids (then) on a Tech Sergeant's salary. My dad was also an Air Force photographer, so whenever he had the chance he lined us up for photos. The photos were always the same stair step pose, and I am sure that he took several shots before loading the camera with film.

It was the time of the Cold War, and my dad was in security service and



Remembering our Vietnam fallen

The Wall that Heals ... the traveling Vietnam wall memorial ... was at Lake Pleasant/Peoria, AZ this spring. Having been to the original Memorial in DC many times, Jeri still decided to visit. This time, specifically to do "name rubbings" of the Berlin Brats on it.

Three that we are aware of appear below with class year, branch of service, date of death, state from, and panel location:

Calvin "Bryan" Tibbett '64

(Army, Capt, 21 Nov '72, MO, 1W 92)

Frank N. Vavrin '64

(Army, Capt, 8 Sept '70, GA, 7W 48)

Douglas W. Barnitz '67

(MC, LCPL, 4 Jun '69, OH,

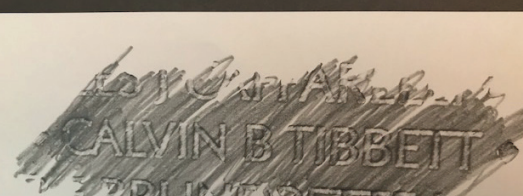
23W 61)

Last, Steele Brownlee '72's father is still listed as MIA:

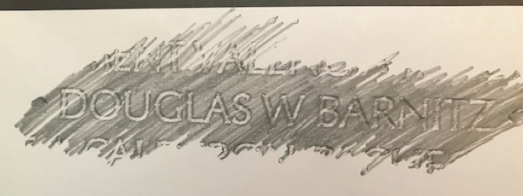
Robert W. Brownlee, Jr

(Army, COL, 25 Apr '72, IL 1W 6)

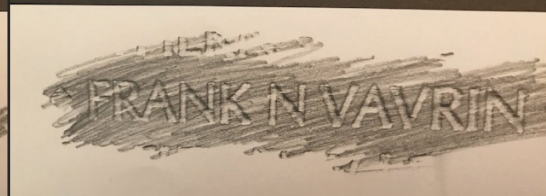
THE WALL THAT HEALS



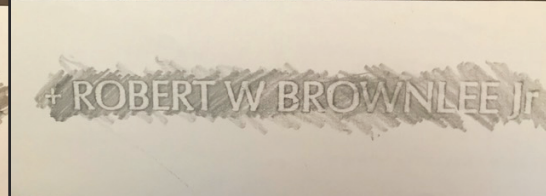
THE WALL THAT HEALS



THE WALL THAT HEALS



THE WALL THAT HEALS



Stolperstein encounter

As first-time Airbnb renters ... we were stunned to arrive at our apartment complex in Berlin on May 9th to discover that we had two *Stolpersteins* on the pathway leading to their complex's front door. (We did a whole story on *Stolpersteins* in our October 2018 issue, pg 14, at www.berlinbrats.org/newsletter/2018Oct.pdf.)

A *Stolperstein* – literally a "stumbling stone", is a 10-by-10 cm (3.9 x 3.9 in) concrete cube bearing a brass plate inscribed with the name and life dates of victims of Nazi extermination or persecution. The artist Gunter Demnig remembers the victims by installing commemorative brass plaques in the pavement in front of their last address.

-- Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 & Carl Fenstermacher '73



U.S. Ambassador to Germany Richard Grenell has "an idea."

BUSMVA (the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association – our parents' org) holds reunions in Berlin every second year. This past August during their reunion, Ambassador Grenell met with them and informed of his project idea related to the "Allied Museum, formerly the Outpost Theatre."

Ambassador Grenell wants to return the Outpost Theatre to its movie theater role by providing first-run American films to Berliners, after the Allied Museum finally makes its move to Tempelhof. He is seeking supporters to obtain rights to the theater, along with funding to provide popular US films.

He asked the vets their views. Assuredly, they all ventured to say it was a project worth pursuing.

Can you imagine if this comes to fruition..... all of us attending a "Sunday night movie" at the "Outpost" as part of our Reunion itinerary?!!!

I claim 1st row-balcony!!!!

BBAA FLASH-BACK



2001 Homecoming in Wichita, KS Berlin was the largest school attending

Eighteen years ago (already?!?), 95 Berlin Brats attended that year's Brats Homecoming, hosted by AOSHS (American Overseas School Historical Society), and were the largest contingent from the multiple schools attending. That year, AOSHS was celebrating receipt of land from the city of Wichita, KS, upon which to build their archival Brats museum.

We built the "Berlin Wall" as part of the multi-school competition One had to "graffiti" the



wall before they could walk around it to view our memorabilia table, which featured flags, trophies, letters, and yearbooks. The wall had string and opened paperclips running across the top, simulating barbed wire! WE WON best display!!!

2020 Reunion

The Berlin Brats are excited to announce the addition of an "optional 7-day ALASKAN CRUISE" to the June 2020 Seattle

reunion! Take in the beauty of Alaska and the inside passage with your fellow Berliners, enjoying everything the cruise has to offer, including a cocktail hour just for us.

We will set sail on Sunday, June 7, 2020 (immediately post-Reunion), from Seattle on board Holland America's Oosterdam, spending the next day underway, arriving in Juneau, Alaska's capital, on June 9th. The following day we cruise the Hubbard Glacier, and stop in Sitka, Alaska, on June 11th. We're scheduled to



visit Ketchikan on the 12th, and finally stop in beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, on the 13th. We'll return to Seattle for disembarkation on June 14th.

If interested in joining us you should contact fellow Berlin Brat, Rob Ahrens '87, at All Travel Advantage (409.202.6006 or rahrens@dreamvacations.com), to reserve your cabin selection – as soon as possible.

70+ of us are already registered.

Each day you wait pricing, perks & promos change – all via the Cruise Line's discretion.

Rob can answer any additional questions.

Cabins for Alaskan Cruises usually go fast. Don't hesitate to book via deposit now.

Upcoming Events

Next regional:

Columbus, OH

Saturday, Sept 21

Veterans Memorial & Museum

Homecoming 2019

New Orleans

ALL SCHOOLS REUNION

Held every three years!

August 15-18

Hosted by: Overseas Brats

REUNION

June 4-7, 2020



Seattle

Mark your calendars now!

Itinerary available Fall 2019

Group room rate good for 3+/- days of Reunion dates

Contact Information



Berlin Brats Alumni Association

Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Director

41910 N. Crooked Stick Road

Anthem, AZ 85086

telephone: 623•764•1105

email: BerlinBrats@gmail.com

website: 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)



follow us on Twitter

@BerlinBrats

Newsletter Brat: Kimberly Keravuori '85

Early '60s Site

By invitation only

Contact Jim Branson '64

jbranson01@hotmail.com

for an invite

American Overseas School Historical Society

Gayle Vaughn Wiles, President

email: overseasschools@aoshs.org

website: www.aoshs.org

Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, President

email: joeosbpres1955@gmail.com

website: www.overseasbrats.com

Communication Brat:

Peter Stein '80

pstein80@msn.com

WebBrat:

Carl Fenstermacher '73

WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org