

Whats's Been Happening since the July Newsletter?

Well....the Berlin Brats are planning on showing up in full force for this month's OSB Gathering....as we go to print 19 Berlin Brats have registered!!! We will be entering the "school spirit exhibit" on Friday and entering the school cheer competition at the Saturday night banquet. We will report on all the happenings and how we fared in our next newsletter due out in January.

Just a few weeks ago we learned that the BAHs classes of '86-'89 held a mini-reunion in Las Vegas, NV - Sept 5-6th....see inside for full coverage on that event!

AND lastly....but probably most importantly the Berlin Brats now have their own **HOMEPAGE!!!!** See inside for more details...

Berlin Brats

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Saved sections of the
Berlin Wall.....
(photos courtesy of Jeri
(Polansky) Glass)



BERLIN BRATS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1997

POLITICANS CALL for PROTECTION of GERMANY'S MOST FAMOUS SYMBOL.....

Reuters/AP, Berlin, Aug. 11th
contributed by: Diana
(Green) Kempton

TRYING TO SAVE THE BERLIN WALL.....

Berlin activists, artists and politicians called Monday for a concerted effort to protect the last remaining fragments of the Berlin Wall from property developers, trophy hunters and the weather. "There is hardly anything left of this piece of global history," said Rainer Hildebrandt, director of the Haus am Checkpoint Charlie Museum at the former Allied border crossing. "People want to be able to touch this thing that divided the world."

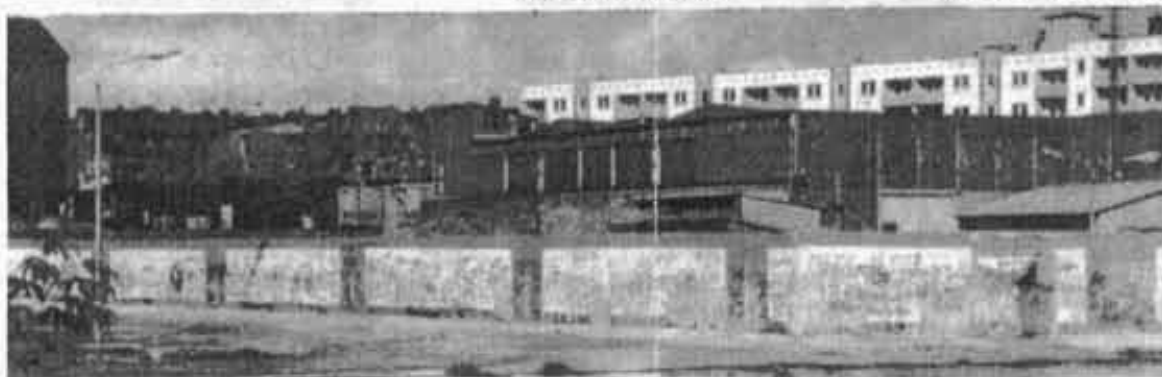
Hildebrandt told a news conference to present the annual report of the August 13 Working Group, which campaigns to make sure the Wall and its victims are not forgotten. "This Wall was not just the Wall of Berlin, but of Europe and the whole world," he said. The barricade, erected on August 13, 1961, split the city for nearly 30 years until the collapse of communism in 1989, a year before German unification, but was quickly torn down and has now almost disappeared. Just half a mile left. Many want the standing fragments adding up to little more than half a mile of the original 26-mile Wall to be preserved as a political symbol and tourist attraction. "Everybody asks us where was the Wall. But what we need to ask is what was the Wall and what happened on the Wall," Hagen Koch, an activist, told journalists. "We have to remember because of the tragedies that happened there."

Evidence gathered by the August 13 group from East German files, relatives and witnesses suggests at least 916 people died trying to flee from old communist East Germany. About 255 of them were killed in attempts to escape over the Wall from East Berlin into West Berlin, then an enclave sealed off from surrounding East Germany by the concrete barrier. Many victims were shot by East German border guards. No reliable official figures are available because East Germany did not keep records of border deaths. Hildebrandt's August 13 group are determined to protect the remaining 10 sections and mark the former route of the whole barricade with cobble stones spelling out the words "The Wall" in several different languages. The cash-strapped Berlin city government has struggled to finance renovation work on the remaining pieces and last year said it

would settle for a marker in red paint along one section until it can afford a more lasting symbol. Hildebrandt said he was even fighting to keep the famous Checkpoint Charlie sign announcing "You are Leaving the American Sector" of (West) Berlin in its original position.



"The designers of the new building next to us say it spoils the architecture," he said.



TAG.....

by Renee (Shipley) Knowles

November 9, 1989 CNN, the border crossings between East and West were opened. I sat there watching with my mouth hanging open, tears pouring down my face. For some reason I never thought the Wall would come down. As the TV cameras flashed scenes of gatherings and celebrations through out the city I watched without blinking in fear of missing even one second of what I was witnessing. My mind was racing. It was flooded with memories. Somehow I felt connected; connected to the city, the people, the overwhelming emotions, despite that it had been twenty-some years since I lived in Berlin, Germany. This history making event was very personal to me. I couldn't help but wonder if others like me, who lived in Berlin for only a short period of time, were feeling the same as I was. If you had never been to Berlin, if you have never seen the Wall, you could never understand my desire to share in the joy and excitement that was taking place in Berlin.

Suddenly all of that came to a halt and my joyful feeling faded. It was replaced with images from old films and photographs of East Berliners attempting to cross the Wall. My heart grew heavy as I paused to pay a silent tribute to those who died in their failed attempts. How sad that they lost their lives without seeing their loved ones, their families or friends, without tasting the freedom they gave their lives for. These people should not be forgotten. They should be honored. They are true symbols of man's quest for the right of freedom and liberty.



How many of you own the book "The Writings on the Wall" by Terry Tillman? I remember when I bought my copy, I could not put it down. I

carefully looked at each and every picture and when I was finished I began again. At first I had mixed feelings about the graffiti on the Wall. This no doubt comes from the vandalistic tagging associated with youth gangs here in America. When I lived in Berlin I did not see graffiti on the Wall. That doesn't mean it wasn't there, I just never saw any. Back then it was understood that the Wall was a symbol of Russian power. A perverted symbol but power never the less. And to approach it meant using caution as the East German borderguards were rumored to occa-

sionally put Westerners in the crosshairs of their rifles. A frightening thought! So to deface it, to "tag" the Wall would be at great risk.

Obviously others after me felt that the risk was worth their need to express their feelings. And what were those feelings? When I look at the pictures in Mr. Tillman's book I see a representation of several generations and many emotions. Some of the writings on the Wall are provocative and entertaining. I see fresh, rebellious energy along side old, deep wounds of hurt and heartbreak. I see deep rooted cries for help! I see comedy, disrespect and in a few cases pure hate for the Wall barrier. Were the writings on the Wall done as a protest to show disapproval of the Wall and the division it caused the Berlin people? Or is the message the purpose of the writing? I would say both of these apply as well as a thousand more meanings and reasons for the writings. And what about the artist, the taggers themselves....I wonder if they realize that the mark they left on the Wall also left a mark on history. Their writings on the Wall, although in many pieces, have been carried to all corners of the earth and will most likely be treasured for ever more. Those taggers can be proud. They were not afraid to express themselves for all to see.



Tagging.....immortality, who would have thought the two would go together?

Thanks to the generosity of a fellow alumna I have a piece of the Berlin Wall. And yes, I have it proudly displayed. And when I look at the block of concrete and paint I am reminded of Berlin and I think of a quote Mr. Tillman used in his book:

"There are only two powers in the world - the spirit and the sword; and in the long run the sword will always be conquered by the spirit."

Napoleon Bonaparte

(photos courtesy of Dan Sinnard and Jeri (Polansky) Glass)

< quick notes >

The Berlin Brats Newsletter Staff has increased. Join us with a hardy welcome to Diana (Green) Kempton and Gary Carpenter!!!!

A thank you letter was received from Joe Condrell, president of Overseas Brats for inviting him to participate in our San Antonio regional. He says, "It was a BLAST spending the time with you all and learning what makes this group special. After leaving, there was a sense of regret inside of me that I felt cheated not having spent a portion of high school in Berlin."

Check out DeeJay Richard Black's (alias Rich Berlin) website at: <http://www.kmby.com/mind.html>
OR:
<http://www.kmby.com/sai.html>

Recently reported in the Army News Service: "Military Brats keeping in touch on Worldwide Web"...check their site out at: <http://www.military-brats.com>

For those who attended JFK check out their site: <http://members.aol.com/andyhoppe/jfkinfo.htm>

ATTENTION ALUMNI: PLEASE NOTIFY US OF YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS! We stamp our newsletters with "Address Correction Requested"...this means your newsletter will be returned to us, rather than being discarded when you relocate and a new address will be provided to us by the postal system....which is good...but also cost us \$\$\$ to re-send...so please alert us ahead of time. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Ms. Betty Snyder, RN - BAHS has informed us that our inimitable "Charlie Chaplain" teacher, of electronics & computers, Mr. Ray Babineau has suffered greatly with multiple sclerosis for some ten years and is declining. She reports that his computer keeps him UP! Drop him a line at: 5070 Bent Creek Court, Sugar Hill, GA 30518 and he'll let you know how to respond to him via fax, telephone or email.

Any of you who went to Club Beyond (the Chapel outreach to BAHS) may remember Gary McCusker who was/is the coordinator of the Club Beyond Europe facilities. Gary has had to cut back

on his responsibilities and hence incurred some financial hardship. If you would like to help please contact Youth for Christ at Box 228822, Denver, CO 80222.

Ms. Betty Synder, RN, - BAHS and her husband Roy are just completing the first of several books from the detailed diary they kept of their 10 years in Berlin. For more information contact them at: 2415 NE 164th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642 or call (360)573-5038.

For those who attended Jr. Church at ACC you may remember teachers, Phil and Joan Muennig, (Phil was with General Patton's MI). They have just retired with CEF - Child Evangelism Fellowship. Due to some hefty medical expenses Phil incurred donations are being accepted by CEF, acct #69540-490, PO Box 348, Warrenton, MO 63383

WANTED: BUSINESS CARDS!

Yes, that's right. We are collecting business cards from all of you and entering in the Berlin Brats Scrapbook for 1997. Please send yours in now.....before the year is over!

REMINDER:

Dues will be coming due again in January for those who paid in the first six months of '97. In order to control our cost we will only send out statements semi-annually. Those who joined in the second half of the year will be asked to remit on July 1st. All members were brought up to date at the time of joining. Please mark your calendars....you don't want to miss out on any NEWS!!!! Our roster will be reprinted with all the updates and changes in February....so don't miss out. At last count, in July, we had picked up an additional 120 names, who knows how many more we will have by February!

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FINANCIAL REPORT (7/1/97 - 9/30/97)

Balance fwd:	\$1,046.88
Dues Rec'd:	500.00
Contributions:	100.00
Total Income:	\$1,646.88
Expenses:	
Postage	106.53
Reproduction	169.80
Supplies	35.57
Sponsorship *	25.00
Membership **	20.00
Total Expenses:	356.90

NET as of 9/30: \$1,289.98

* Co-hosting hospitality room at the OSB Gathering.

** Berlin U.S. Mil. Vet. Assn.

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BERLIN BRATS have a HOMEPAGE...

YES that's right, a homepage!!! Check us out at:

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/3328/bahs.htm>

Be sure to click on ALL the links as we have 5 pages out there. Two more of "photos" will be added in mid-November. The photos will feature our school - BAHS -, famous landmarks around Berlin and classmates attending current events held by the alumni association.

A very special thanks to **John Tulte**, our class contact for the class of '79, who developed our page and who will continue to service it for us. THANK YOU JOHN!!!

NEEDED: A picture of the school that shows the crest and the words "Berlin American High School" on the front of the building. If you have such a picture please "let us borrow it" or "make a copy of it", we will insure it gets returned to you.

RECENT SIGHTINGS OF BERLIN BRATS.....

Sam McCuskey and his sister Sandy were in Denver, Colorado on July 27th to attend a wedding/family reunion. Renee (Shipley) Knowles and Jeri (Polansky) Glass were able to meet with Sam for a short but nice visit.



Sam McCuskey
little Sammy and
Renee (Shipley) Knowles

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you have had a "re-connection" with another BAHS alumnus we would like to hear about it and feature you here. Please send in your photos along with a sentence or two describing where the connection took place and whom we are looking at. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

A business trip took Dan Sinnard to Denver on August 20th, where he had dinner with Jeri (Polansky) Glass and her husband Chuck.



Jeri (Polansky) Glass
and Dan Sinnard

Here we are 20 some years later, in the arms of Rich Berlin (known to most of us as **Richard Black**).



Renate (Kowalski) Stehr,
Richard Black and
Jeri (Polansky) Glass

Jeri and I, (Renate Kowalski Stehr) had a chance to visit with Richard in August while he was in Boulder, CO., for a convention involving the recording industry. Richard is currently a disc jockey for KMBY radio station in Monterey, CA.

MR. LEONARD...the teacher -----

Was spotted by Pat (Martel) Little on a recent trip to New Orleans. Here is what she reports: He was born and raised in New Orleans...and when he left Berlin he returned there...to his roots. Now fully retired he spends his time reading history books (what else, we didn't expect anything less), going to foreign movies, plays, walking along the docks and riding the ferry. Once a heavy smoker he reports that he gave up smoking...finally...in 1981. (You may remember he was always the first one out the door when the bell rang in class and never made it back to class on time when the bell rang again. We all knew he was going to the "puffer room"...as he called it). As fast as I

could ask the questions he was firing off the answers...the only thing missing was my notebook and pen from history class! Ohhhhh...to keep up! At 71 he's still as sharp as a tack. As we walked along the French Quarter, I found myself getting a history lesson on New Orleans....some things just never change.

He made it come alive for me just as he had in "American History," making one think he or she was actually there fighting the war. If ever in New Orleans you should look him up. He can tell you everything there is to know about the city.... and will be happy to relive some of those exciting times at BAHS.



Mr. Leonard and
Pat (Martel) Little

Viva Las Vegas

By Michelle (Shellie) Lamb, class '89

It was just over a year ago when I received my first copy of the Berlin Gazette, a newsletter intended to reunite BAHS alums. Rob Ahrens ('87) and Carl Marvin ('87) prepared the Gazette with some highlights of a recent Berlin gathering and included a list of names and addresses of those that had stayed in touch. In time, the list grew and it was clear that a reunion was in the making. This past spring, those on the mailing list received a voting ballot to select a date and destination for the reunion. On September 5, 1997 a group of 34 Berlin American High School alums, family, and friends came from all four corners to converge on Las Vegas, Nevada to reunite the classes of '86, '87, '88, and '89. First gathering poolside at the Maxim Hotel and Casino, the plans for the weekend were decided and it was not unlike our many nights hanging out at Oskar Helene-Heim before heading out to the KuDamm. Friday night, we headed for the Rio

Hotel and Casino for dinner and

entertainment. Among the slot machines and the showgirls, we found a cozy Italian restaurant that would seat all of us. We managed to create quite a stir, as we caught up on old times and reminisced about our alma mater. After visiting "The Beach", a Vegas club, we returned to The Maxim as the fun led into the wee hours of the morning - a struggle for those of us that came from the east coast! While some preferred to stay poolside on Saturday, others visited the legendary Las Vegas Strip. Strolling through the Mirage, Treasure Island, Luxor, MGM, Excalibur, Bally's, and New York New York - we dropped a few quarters in the slots and enjoyed being in the company of long lost friends. Returning to headquarters (The Maxim.), we prepared for the official BAHS reunion banquet. Everyone was in attendance as we dined and shared old yearbooks, photos, and school newspapers. Gathering the classes for a group photo proved interesting, but the Class of '89 rose to the occasion by forming a pyramid - ok, I'm a little partial. The DJ started revving us up with great 80's music and everyone was on the

floor for (what else!) the Chicken Dance, and in the end - we did The Time Warp again..... Special thanks to Carl Marvin, Chris Marvin, and Rob Ahrens for coordinating the reunion. In all, it was a weekend that will not be soon forgotten.



Class of '86: L to R - Kelly Willa and Michelle Manning



Class of '88: L to R - Erika DeVries, Tim Brandt, Dusty Marvin, Stacy Willa, Michelle Manning, Andrienne Swanson



Class of '87: L to R - Courtney Arrington, Gary Segler, Carl Marvin, Kellena Smith, Steve Kinzie, Scott Weaver, Amy Feutz, Chris Erickson, Jennifer "Nipi" Schuetz



Class of '89: 1st row - Chris Marvin, Greg Hall, Kevin Hanson
2nd row - Michelle (Shellie) Lamb and Candice Howard
Top - Keri Cutting



Chicken Dance



Dinner at the Italian restaurant in the Rio Hotel and Casino



Chicken Dance



Chicken Dance



BERLIN U.S. MILITARY VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Thanks to Dan Sinnard, class of '71, we have become aware of this unique group. If ever you were assigned to and or stationed in Berlin at any time from the end of WWII to the end of Allied Occupation in October 1994...this group is looking for you! Like us, they too hold reunions, publish newsletters, etc. They just held their second reunion this past September in Kansas City, MO. At that reunion they voted to participate in Berlin's 1998 celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift. The BUSHVA has been officially invited to be an integral part of this celebration. They will do this by marching in a special parade to the Berlin Allerten Museum and presenting a large bronze plaque to the people of Berlin after Chancellor Kohl officially opens the museum. The plaque will read:

DEDICATED TO THE
PEOPLE OF BERLIN

Who endured the pain of

war, gained hope through the Air-Lift, and experienced the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall - culminating in their newfound freedom with reunification of East/West Berlin;
AND
to the elite Military Forces of the United States, Great Britain, and France in Berlin 1945-1994 who stood tall and made it possible.

Presented by the Berlin
U.S. Military Veterans'
Association.
28 June 1998

The association will have its own color guard there. Directly behind them will be their organizational flag and the Berlin Bear flag carried by a "Berliner" vet - probably a member of the Berlin Polizei who was active in the Berlin evacuation plans, and members of "Ye Olde Honor Guard" from the Berlin Brigade. We the dependents of those who served have been invited to join them in BERLIN! (Associate membership is required.... membership dues are \$20 annually). We've been talking of a BERLIN REUNION in BERLIN...I think this may be our chance!!! For information on this organization you may contact: Thomas Griggs

at: V.P. Berlin U.S. Military
Veterans Association
305 Sutherland Court
Durham, NC 27712
tel: (919)620-0025
or
Harold Berg
P.O. Box 1622
Jackson, MI 49204
tel: (517)750-9005
and (517)750-3500

President Clinton orders new standards for Military School Children....

AP - Raleigh, NC.

3/14/97

Calling in reinforcements to raise school standards across the nation, President Clinton ordered the Pentagon to require new standardized tests in classrooms run by the military for its dependents. The Defense Department, which operates 233 schools for 115,000 dependents of U.S. Military personnel around the world, will join Maryland, Michigan and North Carolina in testing students against international standards by 1999. "We can make our public schools, just like our military, the best on Earth if - like our military - we are willing to adhere to high rigorous standards for all people, regardless of their background," Clinton said in an address to the North Carolina legislature.

Denise Borders, associate director of Department of Defense education activity, said military students already score well above the national average in existing standardized tests, even though the schools have an extremely high mobility rate compared to public schools. The average tour of duty for military personnel is two or three years. "We're looking forward to participating with the new assessment and we look forward to really seeing how our students stack up internationally," she said. In North Carolina, nearly 8,000 students are taught in military-run schools at Camp LeJeune and Fort Bragg. Clinton said education standards and tests should start with the kids of military personnel because "their families sacrifice and live far from home." Clinton said he wants the Pentagon to set an example for states and school districts across the country.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

- Dec 31'97 Deadline for article & photo contributions for next newsletter.
- Jan'98 Next newsletter to be mailed.
- Jan'98 Time to pay membership dues (\$20.00)
- April'98 Regional Melbourne, FL. Pat (Martel) Little hosting!
- May'98 Regional Austin, TX. Steve Brown hosting!
- June'98 Berlin U.S. Military Veteran's Assn.'s trip to Berlin.... many Brats attending!!!!
- Summer'99 REUNION!!!

CONTRIBUTOR(S)

We would like to take a minute to thank our contributor(s) for contributions to our alumni association. This quarter a special thank you is rendered to Jay Stewart from the class of '70!!!

THANK YOU!

Berlin

(8/24 - 8/26/97)

By Larry McCarthy, class of '83

At the end of our German vacation we spent three days in Berlin. It had been a little over sixteen years since I left Berlin and a lot had changed. As you may have heard, Berlin is a city of cranes and scaffolding. There is an incredible amount of construction and restoration going on. By the year 2000 it should be an amazing place to visit. We spent a half-day walking around the old American areas. I lived in two different areas when I was in Berlin, Sundgauer housing and then in a house on Buchsweiler Strasse. The Sundgauer housing area was easy to get to by taking the S-bahn, not allowed when we lived there, to the Sundgauer station. After spending some time pointing out where I used to live and where all my friends lived, we headed over the hill past the old DEH compound (Division of Engineering and Housing). The compound is now being used as a Casino. Our house on Buchsweiler Strasse (near the Free University) was being renovated. From there we continued along to the duck pond and into the BB housing area. The American Embassy was the

same but the Berlin Brigade compound looked abandoned and the Officers Club was not being used. It had graffiti painted on it and a fence around it. The PX and Commissary complex at Truman Plaza on Clay Allee has been torn down and there is an empty field there. The Youth Services building (Rec Center) still had the big "YS" over the door and was being used by the Germans. The Cole Sports Complex was also being used. The German-American Volkfest is no longer held, but the fairgrounds are still used for carnivals and an occasional circus. A circus was being set up when we passed by. The High School looked pretty much the same. There were a few new buildings near the Auto Shop and another new building behind the football field. More bicycle racks have been added and three basketball courts now stand in what used to be the parking lot. The football field looked nice and a track has been setup around the perimeter and the goal posts have been replaced with soccer nets. On our way back to Clay Allee we passed by the Elementary School, still in use. A fence has been erected around the Library and Outpost Theater and they are being converted into an Allied Museum.

They have moved the old Checkpoint Charlie building and some large pieces of the Wall to the lot between the two buildings. The most noticeable thing in all of the American areas was that the trees had grown so much that the open views that I remembered were obstructed and everything was very shaded. Many buildings had been painted differently and multicolored tile has been added to some buildings. The grounds are not as well maintained and the areas looked a bit run down. If you have a wonderful image of Berlin and don't want anything to spoil it, you may not want to go back. So many things have changed. I had been telling my wife what a great city Berlin was, how clean and beautiful things were, how you could go anywhere in the city for about 25 cents using the great public transportation, how you could walk around in the city day or night and not have anything to fear. Berlin is still cleaner than most large cities but not as nice as it used to be. There was a lot of graffiti on everything from buildings to the U-bahn stations and inside and out of the U-bahn cars. When I was in Berlin you rarely saw litter or graffiti anywhere. The high unemployment and the

integration of the East seem to have brought a lot of the negative elements that you find in other large cities to Berlin. Berlin was still better than most large cities but you could feel that it was slipping. On the positive side, the public transportation was better than ever, they had expanded the U-bahn significantly and integrated the S-bahn. The fare had increased quite a bit but I still felt that it was the most convenient and economical means of transportation. Wherever there was construction a sign (sort of like a billboard) was put up with details and a picture of the final product. We were disappointed when we got to the Reichstag and it was completely surrounded by scaffolding. We found the picture of what the completed building (with a new crystal dome) will look like and moved on towards the Brandenburg Gate and down the Unter Den Linden to see all of the sites we were not able to see when the Wall was up. There are rumors that the Palast der Republik (the East German Government Building) will be torn down and that the Berlin Palace will be reconstructed. There were models of the old Berlin Palace on display in several places in the city. A huge complex called the Sony Center and other

impressive modern buildings are also being built. The historic landmarks that were neglected by the East German and Soviet Governments are being restored. The German Government is certainly making an all out effort to re-establish Berlin as one of the great cities in the world.

The Hilton is an ideal location for those who wish to be in the city center. The hotel is on Mohren Strasse just inside what used to be East Berlin and is located across the street from the German Cathedral of the Gendarmenmarkt. For the real tourists there is a Planet Hollywood one block from the hotel and a Hard Rock Café off of the Kurfurstendamm. The Unter Den Linden is two blocks from the hotel and the Stadtimitte U-bahn station is located outside of the hotel. If you are in the military or civil service you can stay at the Wansee Harbor Hotel.

*Berlin
über alles!*

❖ Class of '64

Kathee (Anderson) Gladden spends a lot of time riding horses. She loves them...but not as much as her four children, Keri, Eric, Duane and Quinten... oh and let's not forgot hubby Alan! Kathee is looking for Liz Wong and Lee Angel. If you have any information please give Kathee a call at: (703) 327-4727 or email at SoloHighs@aol.com

❖ Class of '65

After Berlin Carol A. (Patterson) Hoyt obtained her B.S. degree in education, joined the Navy for four years and then met her husband, a Naval officer in Japan. In addition to their stateside assignments they have been stationed in England and Sicily. Now retired they live in the Pittsburgh area. Carol is into the "sewing arts" and is a seamstress and upholsterer. Knowing that there are certain areas of her life that can only be understood by those of us who were children of military Carol would like to hear from you. Her number is (412)733-9872.

❖ Class of '67

Mike Mahan left Berlin after 9th grade when the family was transferred to Ft. Bragg. After high school Mike attended NC State University and majored in Civil Engineering. For many years he worked for the NC Dept of Transportation...but now works at NC Baptist Hospital. Mike is a HAM radio enthusiast and his call is KB4WJA...word has it you can spot his house by the 65 foot radio tower in the backyard. Still a newlywed having only been married for four years, Cindy and Mike have two little boys. The youngest, John Michael weighed in at 11b 4oz!!! Today he is a whopping 12 lbs. A true miracle baby!!! Congratulations guys!!!

After graduation from Penn State in 1971 with a degree in political science, Don Drach served as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Liberia for two years. Following that, he went to graduate school at Boston College then moved to St. Croix, where he managed a teacher-training program for the public school system for 5 years.

◆ CLASS NOTES ◆

Onto D.C. in 1980, Don has worked since then at the U.S. General Accounting Office, where he is deputy director for GAO's international relations programs. Don married Ludy Momongan, whom he met in '88 while working in Manila (and who attended graduate school in Berlin in the early '80s!). They have an eight yr-old daughter, Mary. You can reach Don at 2226 N. Madison St., Arlington, VA 22205; tel: (703)241-2057; or by email: ddrach@worldnet.att.net Don is the class contact for the class of '67.

❖ Class of '71

Ron Rathnow has been all over the place since leaving Berlin. He and Chandy have been married for 15 years and live in Rochester, New York. Ron works out of his home and has written six whitewater river guide books. Rumor has it that if the '99 Berlin Brats reunion is held in Breckenridge an extra day might be added to the agenda so Ron can

navigate us down the Arkansas river!!! Yeah Ron!!! If you missed his Webpage in the last newsletter check him out on the water at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bpggraphics/bpgpage.htm> Menasha Ridge Press publishes Ron.

After leaving Berlin, Jim Stottle went into the US Army serving with the 2nd ACR. Discharged in '75, Jim went into the roofing industry for awhile. He has worked for Kendall/Colgate Palmolive, Tek Rap, and presently for Ahlstrom Filtration all of which have kept him on the road and in contact with his Berlin classmates. Jim likes to hunt, fish and participate in Karoke wherever, and whenever he can! So watch out... he may ask you to also sing. Visit Jim on the web at: jstottle@earthlink.net

❖ Class of '72

Bernard Beausoliel attended Jacksonville University (FL) after leaving Berlin and then went into the European antique import business, importing antiques from Berlin for 14 years. He now owns several businesses including a

coffee/cappuccino business. He also helps others develop second incomes and businesses around the world and in the U.S. Prior to all this Bernie (as he is known to all of us) became an Eagle Scout. Bernie is married to Debbie who because of her dynamite personality and attendance at Brat functions has become a true honorary Brat! They have two young children, Nathan 5 and Lauren 3.

Stephen Hoyle spent 2 years in the Army - in Germany, after leaving Berlin. He returned stateside and attended college in Nebraska. Presently living in Lowell, MS. Stephen works for the Veteran's Community Care Center. In addition to his golfing, speed walking, and photography Stephen has been most helpful in tracking down classmates. Thank you Stephen!!! Call him at: 508-452-2412.

❖ Class of '73

Judy Sinnard attended St. Mary's College in Maryland and actually sailed through 2 years of classes without really opening a book- thanks to her excellent BAHs

education! After a number of jobs she finally migrated to Miami where she went to work for the Jamaican government, promoting tourism in Jamaica. Moved to Houston, and went to work in the Oil & Gas Industry where she is today. Judy is the marketing manager for Criterion Catalyst. Judy's new endeavor is rollerblading. We hear she is looking forward to the day when she can skate backwards....on purpose!!! Go girl!!! Judy would like information on Mary Firsching and Debbie Garrels, both from the class of '73. Judy can be reached at: (281)-876-9148.

Steve Brown returned to Texas, attended college, served six years with the Navy Medical Service Corps, sailed the seven seas, returned to Austin and pursued a career in healthcare. Whew!!! Steve is a applications manager for an Austin based R & D company testing and marketing hemodynamic recording systems. He loves outdoor sports...and "beer tasting" ...I don't know, did he pick that trait up in Berlin or what? Steve is your class contact for

you '73ers. He can be reached at 1-800-966-6989.

❖ Class of '74

Deborah (Brians) Clark left Berlin and did her senior year in North Carolina. She then graduated from NC State University in '79. After many years of 60 hour weeks in the telecommunication business Deborah now works as a temp in the same field, which allows her more time with her family. Deb has an 11-year-old daughter, Jennifer, who Mom claims is smarter than she is! Deb has asked about a Berlin Brats reunion being held in Berlin...well Deb- check out the information on the Berlin U.S. Military Veteran's Assn. in this newsletter...we are thinking of joining them next June!!!

After Berlin, Kimesa (Shipley) Lindner went to Alabama and obtained a nursing degree. She then returned to her roots in Colorado and lived with big sister, Renee for awhile. After many years as an orthopedic nurse, Kimesa now does Home Health nursing, works in a sub-acute unit and for a

Developmentally Disabled company, REM. To unwind Kimesa rides her two horses, Doc & Doll, or her two jet skis, Minehis & Minehers! (How's that for names!) Kimesa has been married to her softball coach, Jim, for 13 ½ years and she has three stepchildren.

❖ Class of '75

Judy (Brown) Laube spent her junior high years in Berlin graduating elsewhere. A registered nurse, Judy is married to Steve, an anesthesiologist. (Bet they have interesting topics to discuss at the dinner table?) In addition to all this Judy has her hands full with a 16 yr-old and a 2 ½ yr-old! Judy's learning all about email and the internet so drop her a line at: JLaube@aol.com

❖ Class of '76

After Berlin, Billy Jordan attended Texas A & M and received a commission in the U.S. Army as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. Stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. with wife Barbara and their two children, Billy is known as Major Jordan these days. Billy holds the distinction

of being our 1st enrollment from our newly created HOMEPAGE! Yeah - Billy! Also, he has joined the bandwagon and taken on the position of YOUR class contact. You can reach him at: 6 Pick Ave. (no he isn't doing time), Ft. Leavenworth, KS 66027. Tel: (913)682-2924 or email: Bjordan@idm.net

❖ Class of '78

After repossessing cars for awhile, Jim Sweeney, went into the Navy for six years and lived on submarines. These days you can find him in New Hampshire working as an engineering assistant for Lockheed Martin, working on laser systems. Still single, Jim is into radio control aircraft and computers. Jim can be reached at: 34 Hampshire Dr. Apt #D, Nashua, NH 03063 or try email at: Jsweeney@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com

❖ Class of '80

Kendra (Payne) Morgan attended Southwest Missouri State University for two years and then moved back to Germany and worked in the Special Ed Dept at Bonn American Elementary School.

Married with a 2 yr-old son and a daughter on the way, Kendra is back in college attending Mary Washington College in Virginia. You might want to drop her a line as that little girl is due sometime this month. Her email address is: KMorgan@aol.com Or call (540)891-2651

❖ Class of '82

After Berlin Danica (Charlton) Lehner lived in Indianapolis, Tacoma, WA and then settled in Wolfeboro, NH. Married with one 4 yr-old, Danica is a systems coordinator and customer service rep for an insurance agency four days a week and then a developer/trainer for a software firm one day a week. As class contact for the class of '82 Danica can be reached at: PO Box 1566, Wolfeboro, NH 03894 tel: 603-569-3877 or email at: d_lehner@conknet.com

❖ Faculty

After leaving Berlin, Mrs. Judy Belt returned to San Antonio with her military husband, John. She continues to teach school...albeit these days at a private boy's school. (Actually she's in her 20th year there). Her daughter recently

graduated from Texas A & M... and rumor has it plans to go into teaching tool With 35 years of teaching...and still going strong...her strongest emotional attachments were to those of us she taught in Berlin. Mrs. Belt can be reached at: 8039 Misty Park Drive, San Antonio, TX 78250 tel: 817-684-8333. Give her a call, she would love to hear from her former students!

Kermit Long retired from Berlin in 1988 and moved to Middlebourne, WV. He still substitute teaches at the county high school but spends most of his time performing community service. He conducts tours to surrounding areas and is the chairperson for two 5K runs/walks. He still competes, winning his division in running in the WV Senior Olympics!! Way to go Mr. Long!!! Mr. Long is active with AOSHS (American Overseas Schools Historical Society) holding the state rep's position. Thank you for helping to maintain our heritage. Students may reach him at: Box 106 601 Main Street, Middlebourne, WV 26149 tel: 304-758-2801

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VOTE!!!

Members: Your input is requested on the next reunion site. Please see ballot enclosed.

Cartoon by: Paul Markey, class of '77



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