



Berlin Brats Alumni Association

# BERLIN BRATS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



October 2007

Volume 4, Issue 3

*The most impressive event of the weekend was the military flag folding ceremony as part of Saturday night's banquet. (there wasn't a dry eye in the house as the description was read aloud) Joe then asked the "Brats" that "are or were" in the military to come forward and almost all in the room walked to the front. "Brats" are a very patriotic group!!!*

*Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50*

*From the write up of the OSB Homecoming in Dallas, Texas*



## I am a Military Brat

My hometown is nowhere, my friends are everywhere.  
I grew up with the knowledge that home is where the heart is  
and the family....

Mobility is my way of life.

Some would wonder about roots, yet they are as deep and strong  
as the mighty oak. I sink them quickly, absorbing all an area offers  
and hopefully, giving enrichment in return.

Travel has taught me to be open.

Shaking hands with the universe, I find brotherhood in all men.

Farewells are never easy.

Yet, even in sorrow comes strength and ability to face tomorrow  
with anticipation....if when we leave one place,  
I feel that half my world is left behind. I also know that  
the other half is waiting to be met.

Friendships are formed in hours and kept for decades.

I will never grow up with someone, but I will mature with many.

Be it inevitable that paths part, there is constant hope  
that they will meet again.

Love of country, respect and pride

fill my being when Old Glory passes in review.

When I stand to honor that flag, so also do I stand in honor of all  
soldiers, and most especially, to the parents whose life created mine  
Because of this, I have shared in the rich heritage of Military life.

Anonymous

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# Berlin Brat Promoted to Brigadier General!!!

Berlin Brat, Rick Martin, class of '77 has been promoted to Brig General!!!

Congrats can be sent to Rick at his personal email: [martinrb@earthlink.net](mailto:martinrb@earthlink.net)  
He wrote:

Dear Family, Friends, Mentors...

Barb and I were recently notified of our move to Stuttgart, Germany where I will be assigned to the new Africa Command (AFRICOM). We're ecstatic! Heather, Heidi, Holly, and Chris are equally excited and look forward to living in southern Germany. We depart McGuire AFB on 3 Oct and fly to Germany on 4 Oct.

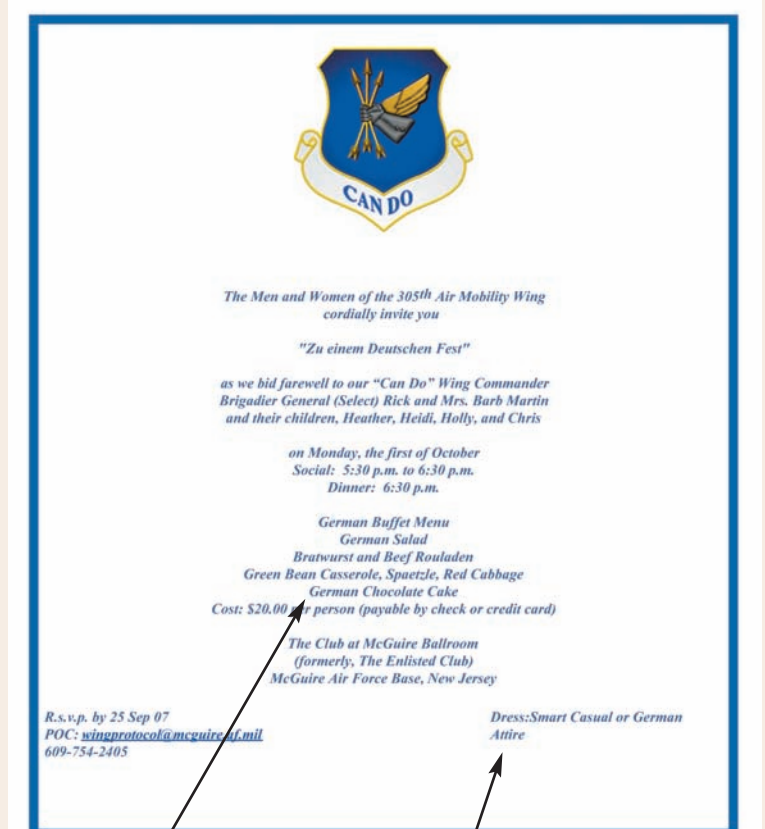
Our farewell dinner is on Monday, 1 Oct at McGuire AFB, New Jersey. The Wing Change of Command is at 10:30am on 2 Oct. And my promotion ceremony to Brigadier General is at 2:00pm on 2 Oct. Sincerely regret the short-notice.

Attached are three documents which serve as announcements, but are also sincere invitations should you be inclined to attend. Barb and I would be most honored by your attendance. However, we readily acknowledge the late notice and your understandable prior commitments. Nonetheless, I wanted to thank each of you for your support over the years. Indeed, this promotion is the result of superb support from family, friends, fellow Airmen, and supervisors!

We look forward to staying in touch from Germany.

Godspeed,

Rick Martin



Note: the German Buffet Menu and the Optional German Attire



## Colonel Frederick H. Martin's Promotion Ceremony To Brigadier General 2 Oct 07

Colonel Frederick H. Martin recently relinquished command of the 305 Air Mobility Wing, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. In this position, he was responsible for the combined efforts of all operations and support activities associated with worldwide air mobility missions. The aircraft assigned to the 305 Air Mobility Wing – 13 C-17s and 32 KC-10s – participate in air, land, and aerial refueling tasks that support national security objectives, combat operations, and humanitarian relief efforts worldwide. The colonel was responsible for more than 10,000 active, Guard and Reserve Air Force members, and a civilian force exceeding 1,700, and was the lead Commander for Joint Base McGuire, Fort Dix, and Navy Lakehurst.



Col. Rick Martin, 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, speaks to members of the 305th Communications Squadron during his visit to different squadrons Sept. 28



Col. Rick Martin's children Chris, Heather, Holly and Heidi marshal in his C-17 Globemaster III following his final-flight.



General Martin is a Command Pilot with 5,000+ hours in over a dozen aircraft and has flown numerous combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Rick hugs his family after he was given the traditional "hosing down" following his final-flights on a KC-10 and C-17.  
(U.S. Air Force photo/Kenn Mann)

General Martin entered the Air Force in 1981 as a distinguished military graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy with a degree in mathematics. He has master's degrees in International Relations and Public Administration, and has attended numerous professional military education programs, including the Army's Command and General Staff College in 1992-1993, and a National Security Fellowship at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 1998-1999.

While on the Joint Staff in 1999-2001, he worked closely with the Department of State on Korean affairs and traveled to North Korea in support of remains recovery efforts for service members from the Korean War. He deployed to Afghanistan during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in 2002 as mission commander for the first C-5 missions to Kandahar. In Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, General Martin led an airfield assessment team into Iraq during initial combat operations in March 2003 to open airfields for fixed wing operations. General Martin also deployed in 2006 as a Deputy Director for Mobility Forces in the Combined Air Operation Center for US Central Command.

He has now assumed duties with Africa Command at Stuttgart, Germany as the Deputy Director for Operations and Logistics.



305 AMW/CC frocking ceremony 10/4/2007. Maj. Gen. James Hawkins, 18th Air Force commander, watches Col. Rick Martin's, former 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, mother Geri Martin, and wife, Barbara, pin on his brigadier general star during his frocking ceremony here Oct. 2. (U.S. Air Force photo/Kenn Mann)



## MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

**General Martin is married to the former Barbara Chapman, also a 1981 USAF Academy graduate and former USAF pilot. They have lived at 13 different locations over 26 years and have 4 children ages 10 to 18: Christian, Holly, Heidi, and Heather.**

**Rick Martin also lived as a military dependent in Berlin, Germany where he graduated from Berlin American High School. He is now proud to be associated with the Berlin Brats Organization!**

Ambassador Donald Hays attended BAHS from 62-65. He left in his senior year as a result of his father being transferred to West Point in 1965, and graduated in New York from Highland Falls HS in '66. He graduated with honors from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and attended school at Georgetown University and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. Ambassador Hays and his wife, Ellen have been married for 36 years.

## What Goes Around

Donald Hays '66



*I was on the 62/63 undefeated football team, playing guard and linebacker and was a defensive back on the soccer team. I also played the part of Harry Beaton (the antagonist who dies in the final scene) in Brigadoon in our school play.*



In 1987 I was assigned with my wife and two children to the US Occupation Forces in Berlin. As a matter of fact I was assigned the same government quarters that I left in 1965 as a High School junior. I served as the US management officer to the US Berlin Brigade; so much of what I experienced was shaped by my experience 30 years before.

Let me begin at the beginning. I arrived in Berlin as a High School freshman, going to Thomas A. Roberts School (TAR). Almost from the first day I realized this was a special experience. In my basic science class I ran across Coach Fitzpatrick, anyone who had that experience will understand. He sized me up and I spent the next three years playing on sports team for him and his successors, first football 6-0 for two years and 5-2 the third year. Then off to soccer with Fitz and then Herr Longolius. Remember that name.

I shared a very special period of my life visiting Germany, Italy, Austria, France and England with the Boy Scouts and later as a tourist on a student pass. I joined the choir and got a place in the class play my sophomore year and later in the school musical – Brigadoon. We all knew we were living history. We saw John F. Kennedy and then experience the very unique emotion of mourning his death with “his” fellow Berliners.

In the summer of 1965, with laughter, love and loss, I left Berlin for West Point to finish up my high school years. It was a traumatic departure and I can assure you it marked me for years to come. So much so that when my own son was in his senior year and I was asked to come back to the US to take a very coveted position I didn't hesitate to decline the honor. I had done this before and knew the sacrifice should be mine, not his. I left behind so many friends in Berlin and was sure I would never have an opportunity to see them again.

Fast forward to 1987 and as I get off the plane with my family at Tegel Airport, I am met by Beth Jones, a fellow foreign service officer and one of my classmates from Berlin High. We had the opportunity to serve two years in Berlin side by side in the Allied Government and went on to serve in two more posts together as colleagues and confidants. TAR was now the middle grade school and there was a new High School. In addition, the US and German communities had formed an international school – JFK schule in Zehlendorf as well. Beth and I served on that school board together. I also served on the Deputy Commandant's school advisory committee for the Berlin DoD High School.

My daughter went to the DoD school while my son went to the JFK Schule. The three years in Berlin were marked with deepening memories and a true affection for the city and its people. As a matter of fact – remember Alex Longolius – the soccer coach and German instructor. Well in 1989 he lost his city council election and I hired him to direct a German American foundation we had founded to sponsor educational efforts. We reconnected then and later.

Sitting in on the Commandant's meetings, as my father had before me, was a unique and surreal experience. Dealing with the Bezirk, the city and with a host of city problems gave me an in-depth understanding and perspective. All of this would come in handy when I was chosen by the Department of State to develop a plan to move the US Embassy from Bonn to Berlin.

I left Berlin in early 1990 on a directed assignment to assist our embassy in Pakistan. But three years later I was again back in Germany this time in Bonn as the Management Counselor for all of the US civilian government presence in Germany. During this period we not only planned the move, we negotiated the property agreements, decided on the site for the future embassy, designed it and helped to create a truly bi-national school in Berlin.

One of my functions was to ensure that excess US military property was properly utilized, the military was in the process of drawing down over two hundred thousand personnel assigned in the region and bases were closing everywhere. We shipped equipment to Haiti, Palestine, Russia and everywhere in between. But we also turned entire schools, equipment and all over to authorities in the newly incorporated eastern states of the former GDR. School books, libraries, band equipment, sports equipment, class room furniture – you name it was trucked across Germany.

In Berlin our presence was coming to an end, military units were folding their guideons and barracks, PXes and movie theaters were being handed back after forty years. The US State Department was involved in extremely delicate negotiations with the German government in Bonn over property we needed in Berlin if we were to relocate to that city once the German capital was transferred. We reclaimed our site at Pariser Platz for the future Embassy. (The Embassy building is going up this year right next to the Brandenburg. A site we left in 1939 and it spent the next forty plus years in no man's land dividing Berlin.



We acquired magnificent homes in Dahlem and others residences throughout Zehlendorf. One of those was the beautiful residence near Mexico Platz on Kleist St, where my father and later I resided. To day it is the official residence for the US Defense Attaché.

The schools closed and the military left in 1994 once the Russians departed. I was contacted about the US Army's Nicholson library and TAR School. Did I have any interest in those facilities and if not could the city of Berlin have the facilities. I came up and agreed to turn back the library, no problem – but oh could we transfer the books – of no use to the city government – to the JFK Schule. After haggling over bureaucratic regulations they finally agreed to allow the books to be shipped to “their” german school – JFK Schule.

The next week TAR was on the block and that required special consideration. It was full of memories. The German government wanted it for a special needs school for the region, one now including former East German Lander. I walked slowly through the facility, filled with desks, books, and memories and signed the papers.

Later the same day I went over to the High School. I had never really walked through it in detail. The trophy case still held the trophies of long departed adolescent athletes – the two undefeated seasons ‘62 and ‘63. I thought about taking them with me, but the DoD's folks assured me they were going to Stuttgart for safe keeping. But what about the labs, the library, the musical instruments etc. The Germans wanted to know if we would leave these. I checked quickly and found that the military had no need for them, since they already had mounds of unneeded school facilities and equipment in various depots throughout Germany. So acting as the agent of the US Government I graciously transferred these to the city for use of the German children who were to occupy these halls, these class rooms and these fields after we departed.

The military is gone now from Berlin. Only memories remain of the heroic stand they made against the Soviet threat for over forty five years. There is little to remind anyone of their service except in the minds of the German people.

The US Embassy has moved to Berlin and it now resides in many of the same houses we occupied during our long watch on the Spree. But it isn't the same. I haven't been back since 1995 when I left to take my next assignment in Washington. Since then I have served at the UN in NY as Ambassador and in Bosnia as Deputy High Representative.

But my heart and soul has never left Berlin. The moment of youth, the pride of adulthood and the experience of standing against a mortal threat to our democracy – standing and overcoming. It comes but once and then passes all too quickly.

Donald Hays Class of 1966

This was my farewell event with the Commanding General in Berlin - John Haddock in February 1990. The other pictures (right) were of the events surrounding those very exciting days.

*An example of how small the world we live in really is -- General Haddock's daughter teaches swimming to my granddaughters here in Virginia. Don*



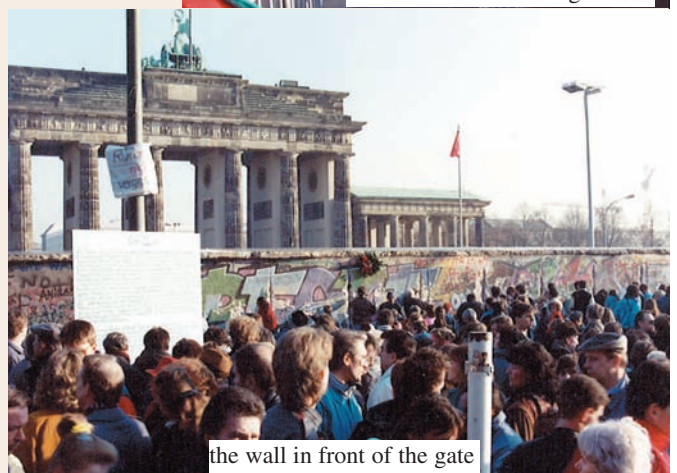
chipping away at the wall

Ambassador Donald S. Hays joined the staff of Business Executives for National Security as CEO on August 21, 2006. Prior to joining BENS he served for 33 years as a Foreign Service officer at postings around the world. In his most recent assignment, he was senior diplomat in residence at the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C. working to develop and sustain the multi-party efforts to create needed constitutional and confidence building measures in Bosnia-Herzegovina. For the four years immediately prior to this, he served as the Principal Deputy High Representative and Chief of Staff to the High Representative in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this position he acted as the coordinator for economic matters with the Bosnian Government and managed collaborative efforts with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, European Commission and other assistance organizations.

In November 1999 he was appointed by the President to serve as United States Ambassador for UN Management Reform, a post he held until June 2001. That assignment resulted in key reforms that allowed the US to pay a significant amount of arrears to the UN. Immediately prior to this posting he was director of management policy and planning at the State Department, where he developed a department-wide program that matched program activities to budgetary planning. He also served as executive secretary for a commission to review the functions, structure and size of the U.S. diplomatic presence overseas. His earlier Foreign Service assignments included positions in Bonn and Berlin, Germany; Islamabad, Pakistan; Dakar, Senegal; Freetown, Sierra Leone; Leningrad, USSR; and Saigon, Vietnam. From 1968 until February 1970, he served with the 101st Airborne Division and the 5th Infantry Division in Vietnam.



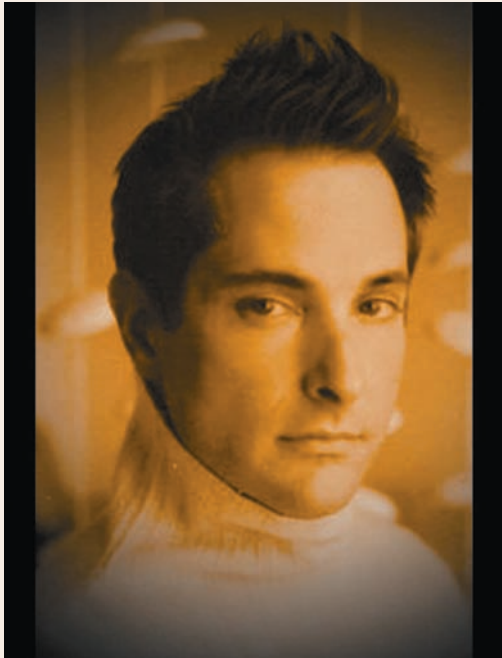
The new entry through the wall next to the Brandenburg Gate



the wall in front of the gate

## Jasper Kump '87 sings again at the Outpost Theatre

(Another What Comes Around )



20 years, 16 days and about 5 hours...that's what is going through my head as I sit on stage at the Outpost Theatre – now home to the Allied Museum in Berlin – preparing to sing for about one hundred distinguished guests at the opening gala for Tear Down This Wall. A tribute to President Ronald Reagan's now historic visit and speech given in the then 'divided city,' the exhibit which runs from June 28 through December 31, 2007 and commemorates not only his speech but all aspects of his visit and reaction to it all.

What many people do not remember is that President Reagan's true reason for visiting Berlin in the summer of 1987 was to host a party at Tempelhof Airport celebrating Berlin's 750th Anniversary as a city. A huge celebration had been planned, complete with formal invitations, food, beverage, entertainment and lots of fun surprises. His speech was supposed to be a quick stop on his way to the party.

About a year ago now, I was contacted by Florian Weiss, curator for the Allied Museum, to see if I would be willing to contribute in any way to the exhibit. As a member of the Class of 1987 he thought I might have been at Brandenburg Gate to hear the speech – or at the 750th celebration where President Reagan recognized our class. I told him that I'd be happy to participate. He asked me to write a brief essay summarizing my experiences.

After reading the essay I submitted, he learned that I had auditioned and was one of the lucky few given the opportunity to sing with Horst Jankowski and the RIAS Orchestra live on stage for President and Mrs. Reagan and their guests at the 750th Anniversary Celebration. I was slotted to sing 2 solos plus a trio and was SUPER excited!

First, "The Greatest Love of All" originally recorded by Whitney Houston. This was the song that I sang as the Class of 1987 was being introduced. Across the hall on another stage were ALL of my fellow classmates from the great Class of 1987! On a third stage, midway between us, were President and Mrs. Reagan. They greeted us and the President had some inspirational words to share. (None of us seem to remember what they were because we were all so awestruck!)

Later, I sang "Summertime" from Porgy & Bess and ended with "Happy Days are Here Again" as red, white and blue balloons fell from the ceiling along with parachutes with German/American friendship lapel pins hanging from them. It was a magical time – one that I will never forget.

After learning this from reading the essay I submitted, Florian asked me if I might be interested in performing for the gala grand opening of his new exhibit at the museum. Naturally, I was thrilled to be asked!

So 20 years, 16 days and about 5 hours later, I am sitting next to my friend and accompanist, Professor Ray Fellman and a gorgeous baby grand piano on stage at the Outpost Theatre. This is the same place where I had seen such 1980's classics as "Sixteen Candles" and "Top Gun." Today, I've been asked to begin the gala opening celebration for Tear Down This Wall with 2 songs from my CD Sunday In New York. The director of the Allied Museum looks over to me, smiles and gestures for me to take the stage and begin. I take a deep breath, stand up and head to the microphone.

I sing "Shower the People" first, a sweet and soulful rendition of the James Taylor classic, followed by a samba version of Barbara Streisand's classic "Starting Here, Starting Now" from the 1970's movie of the same name. (Ironically, Streisand was playing her first concert in Berlin that same weekend and her show opened with the same song!)

The opening was a celebration of the work and life of President Ronald Reagan, with a focus on his famous speech in Berlin. Key dignitaries, friends and confidantes of President Reagan were there to tell their part of the story as well. A very special guest was Peter Robinson who was the speech writer responsible for those now famous words.



**"Tear down this wall". U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate, June 12, 1987**

320 pages, all texts in German, English, and French  
contributions by international scholars and historical eyewitnesses  
many photos in color and b/w price: EUR 19.90

**Book orders at:**

info@alliiertenmuseum.de <mailto:info@alliiertenmuseum.de>



In between speeches, Dr. Trotnow introduced me and explained that I had actually been chosen to sing for President and Mrs. Reagan on that day over 20 years ago and that I had come back to pay tribute. I then sang "Summertime" – the same arrangement that I performed at Tempelhof two decades ago! It was an amazing moment – quite moving for me. (The acoustics in the Outpost were amazing! I later found out that it had originally been designed as a working theatre with orchestra pit and everything – with careful attention paid to acoustics.)



After the opening, I spent several days in Berlin. I went back to Dreipful (the Duck Pond) where I lived at 21 Reichoferstrasse near many of my friends and classmates. I went back to Tempelhof and visited the hall where I sang – and where my father had worked for 3 years as Director of Public Relations for the Air Force in Berlin.

It was an amazing trip and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me. I will never forget it.

In addition to all of this, the essay I wrote on my experiences during this time are immortalized in a beautiful book of the exhibit. It is also called Tear Down This Wall and is available directly from the Allied Museum.



Jasper Kump '87 (left) with Mr. Bluem  
one of his favorite teachers



Jasper Kump is a singer/songwriter/performer who lives in New York City.

In addition to his first full-length CD

*Sunday In New York*,

his new CD *Starfish + Coffee LIVE*

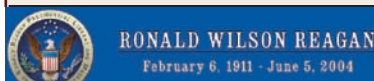
will be available on November 6,

2007. For more information visit

[www.jasperkump.com](http://www.jasperkump.com). Also you can checkout the website [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com) to buy his first CD and keep an eye out for the new one. It was recorded last winter at his shows in NYC.



I am having a CD release party and concert in NYC on November 3rd at 7pm. I know at least a couple of Brats are planning a trip out to see it.



"Whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears; to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arm steadying your way."

### Remarks on the 750th Anniversary of the Founding of Berlin

June 12, 1987

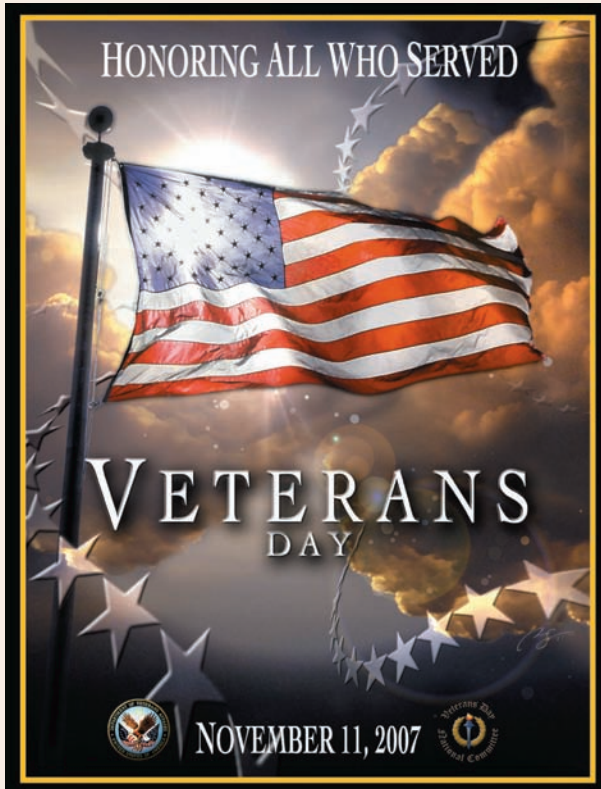
The President. Well, Chancellor Kohl and Mayor Diepgen, Ambassador Burt, ladies and gentlemen: It's an honor for me to be able to join you today at this 750th birthday party for the city of Berlin. I'm especially pleased to be here today because -- well, it's not often that I get to go to a birthday party for something that's older than I am. [Laughter]

But to subject you to a second speech here -- [laughter] -- you know, I keep thinking of a story of ancient Rome, where, on a Saturday afternoon, the hungry lions were turned loose on the little group of people there on the floor of the Coliseum, and they came charging toward them. And one individual stepped out of the group, said something very quietly, and the lions all laid down. Well, the crowd was enraged and horrified that they're going to be denied the show. And Caesar sent for the man who had spoken to the lions. And they brought him, and he said, "What did you say to them that made them act like that?" And he said, "I just told them that after they ate, there'd be speeches." [Laughter]

Well, let me begin by conveying the warmest greetings of the American people to all of you here today. While only a small fraction of the Berlin community can be here in this hall, our good wishes go to all the residents of this marvelous city, wherever they may live. And I am happy to see so many young people here this afternoon. **There are two groups of local teenagers I would like to greet in a special way -- the graduating classes of the Berlin-American High School and of the city's John F. Kennedy School. Congratulations on a job well done!**

**“I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph.  
And there’s purpose and worth to each and every life.”**

*Ronald Wilson Reagan*



Available Poster size as a free download  
from the VFW website

This year is the  
**25th Anniversary of the Vietnam Wall.**

Special/opening ceremony on  
Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

Visit: [thevirtualwall.org](http://thevirtualwall.org) <<http://thevirtualwall.org>>

Above is a silent space: for taking time to remember  
our troops and to pray for their protection.

**A veteran** - whether active duty, retired, national guard or reserve - is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount of "up to and including my life."

**That is Honor**, and there are way too many people in this country  
who no longer understand it.-- Author Unknown



*Larry Speer's New Office*

Larry Speer, class of '83, is an AF Academy graduate. He was stationed in Ramstein during the Berlin Reunion and has just retired.

He met Rick Martin at the Wichita Reunion in 2001. Both of their father's were chaplains in Berlin.....(PK kids) another connection besides both having graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Larry sends his congratulations to Rick Martin and **WE congratulate Larry on his retirement after 20 years of service in the Air Force.**

**Larry writes:** It's awesome to see a fellow brat meet with such great success. A Brigadier General in our Berlin Brat ranks now. Amazing! I retired in May after 20 years. I've been hired by a jet charter management company called The Air Group to fly a Gulfstream IV that is located in Dulles. Janice and I are settling a contract on a nice house in Ashburn, VA and are looking forward to moving there next month. Right now I'm in Morristown, NJ going through simulator training. I'm very excited about starting my new life in corporate aviation and keeping up my travels.

Larry Speer '83



# Marlene Dietrich Sings

## Ich Hat Einen Koffer in Berlin

The song Ronald Reagan referenced in his speech at the Brandenburg Gate

Please Please Check out this You Tube Video!!!!!!!

Below is a little history about Marlene Dietrich (as patriot). She also recorded an album with Berlin songs

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bW38z4CmLYU> at this site on youtube you can see a video of old Berlin before the war while Marlene's recording of **Ich hat Einen Koffer** in Berlin is playing. Sing along with the lyrics below.

1  
Wunderschön ist's in Paris auf der Rue Madeleine  
Schön ist es im Mai in Rom durch die Stadt zu geh'n  
Oder eine Sommernacht still beim Wein in Wien.  
Doch ich häng', wenn ihr auch lacht, heut' noch an Berlin:

Refrain:

Ich hab' noch einen Koffer in Berlin  
Deswegen muss ich nächstens wieder hin.  
Die Seligkeiten vergang'ner Zeiten  
Sind alle noch in meinem kleinen Koffer drin.

Ich hab' noch einen Koffer in Berlin  
Der bleibt auch dort, und das hat seinen Sinn.  
Auf diese Weise lohnt sich die Reise,  
Denn wenn ich Sehnsucht hab' dann fahr' ich wieder hin.

2

Lunapark und Wellenbad, kleiner Bär im Zoo,  
Wannseebad mit Wasserrad, Tage hell und froh.  
Werder, wenn die Bäume blüh'n, Park von Sanssouci.  
Kinder, schön war doch Berlin. Ich vergess' es nie:

Refrain: Ich hab...

Lyrics: Aldo von Pinelli - Music: Ralph Maria Siegel - Literal prose English translation by Hyde Flippo

## Marlene Dietrich

In 1937, while her film career stalled in Hollywood, she made a film in London for producer Alexander Korda. In later interviews, she claimed that, while in London to film *Knight Without Armour* (1937), she was approached by representatives of the Nazi Party to return to Germany, but turned them down flat. **Dietrich became an American citizen in 1939.**

In 1941 the U.S. entered the Second World War and Dietrich became one of the first celebrities to raise war bonds. She entertained troops on the front lines in a USO revue that included future TV pioneer Danny Thomas as her opening act. Dietrich was known to have strong political convictions and the mind to speak them. Like many Weimar era German entertainers, she was a staunch anti-Nazi who despised anti-Semitism.

She recorded a number of anti-Nazi records in German for the OSS, including "Lili Marlene." She also played the musical saw to entertain troops. She sang for the Allied troops on the front lines in Algiers, France and into Germany with Generals James M. Gavin and George S. Patton. When asked why she had done this, in spite of the obvious danger of being within a few kilometers of German lines, she replied, "aus Anstand" — "it was the decent thing to do."

**Dietrich was awarded the Medal of Freedom by the U.S. Government for her war work. She was also made a chevalier (later commandeur) of the Légion d'Honneur by the French government.**

Asked by Maximillian Schell in his documentary *Marlene* (1984) which of her own recordings were her favorites, she replied that **she thought Marlene Singt Berlin-Berlin (1964), an album featuring her singing old Berlin schlager (popular songs) was her best recorded work.**

In an interview with the German magazine *Der Spiegel* in November 2005, her daughter and grandson claim that Marlene Dietrich was politically active during these years. **She would keep contact with world leaders by telephone**, running up a monthly bill of over US\$3,000. **Her contacts included Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev.**

Dietrich died peacefully of renal failure on May 6, 1992, at the age of 90 in Paris. A service was conducted at La Madeleine in Paris before 3,500 mourners and a crowd of well-wishers outside. **Her body, covered with an American flag, was then returned to Berlin where she was interred at the Städtischer Friedhof III, Berlin-Schöneberg, Stubenrauchstraße 43-45, in Friedenau Cemetery, not far from the house where she was born.**

1  
It's wonderful in Paris on the Rue Madeleine  
It's nice to walk through the city in Rome in May  
Or a quiet summer night with wine in Vienna.  
But I'm still attached, even if you laugh, to Berlin today:

Refrain:

I still have a suitcase in Berlin  
That's why I have to go there sometime soon.  
The joys of days gone by  
Are all still in my little suitcase.

I still have a suitcase in Berlin  
It stays there, too, and that makes sense.  
In this way it's worth a trip,  
Because whenever I'm homesick, then I go back.

2

Lunapark and the wave pool, a little bear at the Zoo,  
Swimming at Wannsee (lake) with the water wheel,  
bright and happy days.  
Werder, when the trees are in bloom, Sanssouci park.  
Man, Berlin was really nice. I'll never forget it:

## The California trip - (researching for the Reagan Exhibit) October 14 through November 8, 2006

Curator Florian Weiss and Honorary member of the class of '71

The BAHS story was my favorite project in 2006. A few weeks following the Homecoming Reunion, my boss approached me and said, "Herr Weiss, we're celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Berlin Wall speech by President Reagan in June 2007. Here's a flight ticket and here are your vouchers for a hotel room and a rental car – you'll be traveling to the Reagan Library in Simi Valley (see photo) to prepare for our next exhibit ...," and presto, I had a new favorite project.



The complete collection of Ronald Reagan's presidential records is stored in hundreds of thousands of this kind of cartons. Not all are enthralling; some documents are pure sleeping pills. Thank goodness the shrill phone rings into the quiet of the reading room and Jocelyne (von Arx) Costello '85 is on the line. We arrange to meet in

West Covina, at the best "Sizzler" in the entire USA.



Enroute from LA to Simi Valley I take a detour via Malibu. I must, after all, familiarize myself with the automatic transmission of my PT Cruiser. And, in addition, I've got to acclimate myself as Berlin already has nippy fall weather.

Head of State gifts play a major role in the Reagan Library collection. This oil painting shows the Brandenburg Gate long before the Berlin Wall was built. Berlin's Governing Mayor presented it to Reagan in 1987. Two years later the Berlin Wall fell, and since then the Brandenburg Gate is open again, and the view towards the Victory Column is as unimpeded as it is shown in the painting.



The Californians I meet, here a flower vendor at LA's Grand Central Market, are all very friendly towards me. Following the splendid Soccer World Championship, which took place in Germany right before the Homecoming Reunion, my country has gained many new friends worldwide.

And off to work it is! My research in the Reagan Library begins with a tour of the Cold War Gallery, of which this Checkpoint Charlie display is a part. Reagan was also in Berlin in 1982. During that earlier tour he visited Checkpoint Charlie and gave a speech in the Charlottenburg Castle gardens. Looking out of the windows of the



On my first weekend off I have a class of '84 reunion of my old Bavarian high school. Well, the Berlin Brats don't always meet in Berlin, either! So I celebrate a reunion in Irvine, in Orange County, where Uli, my best friend from school days gone by, lives.

Which pair of shoes did the First Lady wear when she stood at her husband's side at the Brandenburg Gate? Unfortunately we don't get an answer to this question, although a slip of paper is attached to each of Nancy Reagan's clothing items, which is supposed to record just such details.



research room, the wide panorama of California's mountains spreads into view – but one's gaze is caught by a colorful, graffiti covered section of the Berlin Wall. It stands on the terrace of the library and is, along with Air Force One, the highlight of the exhibit for many visitors.



Following my two weeks at the Reagan Library I tack on some vacation time. The home of Kerry Gray '71, with his wonderful family, is one of my stops. Kerry has a very special surprise waiting for me at the Salinas Airport, and in maroon and white no less.



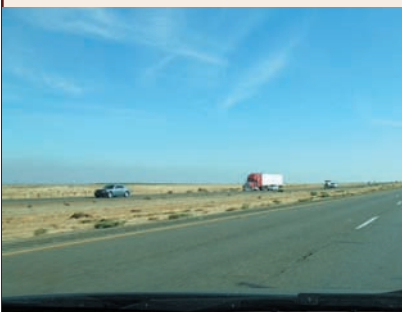
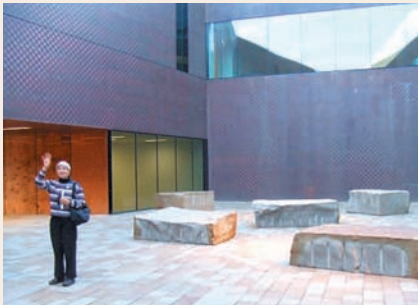
It is overwhelming to be flown over Monterey, Big Sur and Hearst Castle by Kerry in his own Cessna. Kerry already spent a lot of time on the go in Berlin: from time to time he transported items to East Berlin in his father's car. We resolve to apply for access to Kerry's East German secret service ("Stasi") file.

Though I'm used to driving on the German Autobahn, without speed limits, I find driving in California to be stressful. With a picture of St. Florian in the windshield and following a rest stop at Golden Gate Bridge, the continuation of the drive is easier. It's no longer far to Maggie (Ellithorpe) Stafnes' ('63) home in San Anselmo.



Kerry's sister serves the best apple pie. For grilled chicken I recommend stopping over at Maggie's. The welcome dinner at her and Don's lovely place, which is filled with antiques, was phenomenal.

Swimming the Golden Gate with Don and then hiking the Redwood Forest with Maggie -- these outings have to be postponed until my next visit to northern California. This time around we stayed on my terrain. The three of us visited San Francisco's newest art museum.



On the return drive to Los Angeles I'm deeply grateful to the Berlin Brats for their friendship, for their hospitality and the time and experiences we shared together. I received more invitations from Brats during my trip than I could possibly have accepted within my one week of travel.



Following the arrival at the Allied Museum of four overseas crates, filled with loans from California, the setup of the Reagan exhibit commences in June 2007. June 28 was opening day. All Brats who visit Berlin by December 30, 2007 will have an opportunity to visit the exhibit. Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 and her father have already dropped by!

The opening ceremony begins with Jasper Kump '87 "Live at the Outpost Theater." Jasper sang for the Reagans in 1987 at the "American Birthday Party" at Tempelhof Airport and now, 20 years later, the Allied Museum flew him in from New York City. Jasper sings the same songs that he sang back then for the Reagans. It is a wonderful show.



With our Reagan book in hand Bill Planz '71 is autograph hunting at the opening of the exhibit. The lady at the left in the picture, a German woman, is said to be the source for the statement "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall", which the White House speechwriter at that time (next to her on the right) picked up while visiting her home.



My good friend Katrin (Lindroth) Planz '71 is always there when something special is to be celebrated in Berlin. That's what's so great about her!

During the opening of the Reagan exhibit she listens as Gail Halvorsen, the "Candy Bomber," recounts tales from the good old democratic Harry S. Truman era.

Jasper's show continues after midnight in a tavern in Kreuzberg... His pianist, Ray Fellman, (shown here) also accompanies him during his comedy act.





Look to the right: Aren't the colors on the Germanwings plane the colors of the Currywurst logo? Does it make you hungry for a ride?



Currywurst by Herbert Grönemeyer

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBjhjBjfkV0>  
<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBjhjBjfkV0>>

here are the words so you can sing along...

gehse inne stadt  
wat macht dich da satt  
'ne currywurst

kommse vonne schicht  
wat schönret gibt et nich  
als wie currywurst

mit pommes dabei  
ach, dann gehense gleich zweimal currywurst

bisse richtig down  
brauchse wat zu kaun  
'ne currywurst

willi, komm geh mit  
ich krieg appetit  
auf currywurst

ich brauch wat in bauch  
für mein schwager hier auch noch ne currywurst

willi, is dat schön  
wie wir zwei hier stehn  
mit currywurst

willi, wat is mit dir  
trinkse noch n' bier  
zur currywurst

ker scharf is die wurst  
mensch dat gibt'n durst, die currywurst

bisse dann richtig blau  
wird dir ganz schön flau  
von currywurst

rutscht dat ding dir aus  
gehse dann nach haus  
coll currywurst

aufm hemd auffer jacke  
ker wat ist dat ne k.... alles voll currywurst

komm willi  
bitte, bitte, komm geh mit nach hause  
hörma ich kriegse wenn ich so nach hause komm  
willi, willi, bitte, du bisn kerl nach mein geschmack  
willi, willi komm geh mit, bitte willi

## GermanWings Airlines

*The Plane is Painted like a Berlin Bear*



Dear Traveler,

It's easy to assume that Europe's most worthwhile historical sights are hundreds of years old. Not so in Berlin, where only a generation or two separates today's traveler from epic events. Standing at the Brandenburg Gate, you'll face Berlin's fashionable new heart, Pariser Platz, surrounded by vivid reminders of its tumultuous recent history: the vast and poignant Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe; a smaller memorial to Hitler's first victims — 96 politicians who dared to speak out against him in the early 1930s; the glass-domed Reichstag, where on May Day 1945 Russian troops quelled a furious Nazi last stand; a "subway station to nowhere" that went unused through the Cold War and today attracts crowds as a 1930s time warp; and nearby hills created entirely from the rubble of a city bombed nearly flat just six decades ago. The newest addition to the neighborhood is the Kennedy Museum, filled with such JFK lore as a scrap of paper with hand-written phonetics for his famous Berlin speech in the summer of '63. As I read his note, I could hear his voice: "Eesh been ein Bear-lee-ner."

With the amazing story of Berlin swirling through my head — a dictator's burning body, the heroic American airlift when the Communists attempted to starve a free Berlin into submission, Kennedy's speech, followed 24 years later by Reagan's demand to "tear down this wall," the euphoria-turned-to-challenge of Germany's reunification, and the gleaming city that visitors marvel at today — I waved down a cab to get a Berliner's perspective.

I asked the driver if he was a Berliner. When he turned to me, I realized he was a Turk. He said, "I've lived here 31 years. If Kennedy, after one day, could say 'Ich bin ein Berliner' then I guess I can say I am a Berliner too." Europe's history isn't just old — it's alive and taking shape every day.

Next stop for me: Prague. Ich bin ein traveler. Happy travels,  
Rick Steves  
August 2007

## News

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -

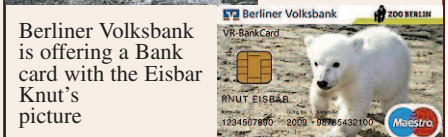
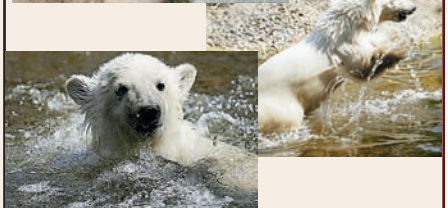
Two-thirds of the world's current polar bear population could be gone by mid century if predictions of melting sea ice hold true, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Sea ice in the Arctic might be vanishing faster than the available computer models predict, the geological survey said in a report aimed at determining whether the arctic bear should be classified as a threatened species. In January, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed listing the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

## Bear Facts:

Knut is the newest star of Berlin Zoo. The little polar bear was born on Dec. 5, 2006, the first polar bear to be born in the Berlin Zoo in over 30 years. He had to be bottle fed and you can see his photo gallery on the Berlin Zoo website. [www.zoo-berlin.de](http://www.zoo-berlin.de)



Knut has a book out







*Berlin's (Germany) Truman Hall mall,  
c. 1948. The last allied troops ceremoniously left Berlin, 8 September 1994. (AAFES-Europe Archives)*



## News

The German government has announced they plan to sell the land where the former Truman Plaza stood (ie: the PX and Commissary area on Clayallee across from Berlin Brigade Headquarters). For the past few years, the German-American Volksfest (which still goes on every year....as last year's Reunion attendees can attest to) has been set up on this site. No word (yet) where the Volksfest will go once the land has been sold and used for some kind of new development.

The McNair Museum is being forced to move out of its current location at McNair Barracks. At this point, no one knows exactly what will happen to the museum and all the "day-to-day" historical items they have collected. A new investor has bought up the McNair Barracks complex and are planning to build some 300 loft/penthouse apartments in the old barracks....which can not be torn down because it is under historical protection. The area will be named "Monroe Park" after Marilyn Monroe, and the first street will be Billy-Wilder-Promenade. The company has hired a big-name architect and plans to spend around 70 million Euros. Expected completion is 2010.

Thanks to COL Steve Bowman, USA (Ret) from the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association (BUSMVA) for this info. COL Bowman resides in Berlin.

In other News (from Steve Bowman): The city is quietly tearing down large numbers of the old Soviet-style prefab apartment buildings. So far, about 2700 apartments of those colorless monstrosities have been torn down, with more to come down in the future. So the eastern part of the city will slowly get more of its old beauty back as these relics of communism literally "bite the dust."

## Saving Of Tempelhof as an operating airfield

Flights of fancy: the Zionist and Hitler's airport

The cosmetics billionaire Ronald Lauder is a high-profile figure in the global Jewish community. He aims to take over the World Jewish Congress - but he also wants to save Berlin's Tempelhof Airport

Thursday, February 22, 2007

For a cosmetics billionaire, New York socialite and art collector who is also one of the world's most influential Jewish philanthropists, rescuing Adolf Hitler's favourite Berlin airport for posterity might seem an unlikely goal.

But yesterday, Ronald Lauder, the second son of the cosmetics-maker Estée Lauder, who died in 2004, was heading a last-ditch attempt to prevent closure of Berlin's Nazi-built Tempelhof. His suggestion is for a 350m (£235m) project to turn the relic of fascist architecture into a luxury fly-in beauty clinic for Europe's super rich.

With its vaulted ceilings and 3,000ft-long (0.9km) curved, stone terminal building, Tempelhof was once Europe's largest airport and a mammoth, even awe-inspiring, status symbol for the Third Reich. Its place in history was assured when it served as the crucial link to West Berlin during the Western Allies' Berlin Airlift in 1948.

Its almost superhuman scale prompted Norman Foster, the British architect, to dub it "the mother of all airports". "You cannot simply abandon something like this," said Lord Foster, who designed terminals at Stansted and the new Hong Kong airport, in a recent interview with the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. "It would be a loss not only for Berlin and Germany but for the entire world."

However, Berlin's cash-strapped city government has announced plans to close down the historic, but loss-making, complex located near the centre of the German capital, next year. It wants to move all flights to a new international airport in the south-east of the city when it is completed in 2011.

Yesterday, Mr Lauder, whose fortune was estimated by *Forbes* magazine last year at \$2.7bn, was leading a team of US investors in what appeared to be a final bid to save Tempelhof. In an appeal published in two of Germany's mass-circulation newspapers, he accused the country's politicians and decision-makers of allowing "short-sighted and one-sided interests to prevail over vision," for failing to keep the airport open.

## BERLIN BRATS RECEIVE VOLKSFEST POSTERS!!!!

Many thanks to Angela (Ott) Lamb '80 for contributing the 1980 thru the 1985 Volksfest Posters to the Alumni Association. We will have the Posters laminated in order to protect and preserve them. Look for them at future Reunions! We'll use them to decorate our Hospitality Suites for ALL to enjoy!

**THANK YOU ANGIE!!!!**

"It is becoming increasingly frustrating to have to fight for a project which anywhere else, particularly outside Germany, would meet with enthusiastic approval," he added. In lobbying Berlin, Mr Lauder has pointed to the success of secondary and tertiary airports in other capitals.

"Examples like London show that such airports have a great future," he argued in reference to the British capital's City Airport, which opened in 1987. It is a dispute that is pitting the city of Berlin against a man who is known not just for his great wealth, but also for his success in wielding formidable civic influence. He is a collector of paintings for sure. Most famously he recently spent \$135m (£69m) - a record at the time - on a portrait by Gustav Klimt, which is now on display in his own art museum, the Neue Galerie, in Manhattan. He is also a collector of political and intellectual causes.

Once the US Ambassador to Austria, who boycotted the inauguration of Kurt Waldheim as Austrian President because of the taint of Nazism in his past, and a former candidate for Mayor of New York City, Mr Lauder has never shied from a fight. If he has set his sights on the airport, he will not rest until he gets it.

Under his proposals, Tempelhof would be allowed to keep its runways and principal buildings while being transformed into a fly-in health spa and beauty clinic, complete with research centre and hotel for patients from abroad. The US investment group which is behind the project estimates that the complex would provide some 1,000 new jobs for Berlin. That would be good news for a city with a 17 per cent unemployment rate.

The project also has the backing of some German corporate heavyweights, including Siemens, the state railway Deutsche Bahn and Berlin's leading hospital, the Charité. He has now given Berlin's Social Democrat and reform-Communist-controlled government until early March to reconsider its closure plan, before the group withdraws its health spa offer. Yesterday several politicians were urging Berlin to adopt Mr Lauder's proposals.

Closure of Tempelhof would mark the end of a 104-year chapter of German aviation history. The flight pioneer Orville Wright was one of the first to land at the site in 1903 when he put on shows for curious Berliners. Six years later the first Zeppelin was shown off at Tempelhof.

The current complex was designed by Ernst Sagebiel, who also built Hermann Göring's Air Ministry, and it was part of Albert Speer's pre-Second World War vision for Berlin. It was intended to fill with admiration visitors arriving by air at Hitler's planned capital "Germania." During the war, plans for "Germania" were suspended and the airport was used as a factory, run by slave labour, for building military aircraft.

The Berlin Airlift of 1948-1949 lasted for 11 months when all road links connecting the capitalist western half of the city to West Germany were cut off by Soviet forces surrounding the capital. West Berliners were only kept alive by the airlift, during which more than 278,000 Allied flights, complete with supplies, landed at Tempelhof.

As Ron Lauder put it yesterday: "Tempelhof is a symbol of Berlin's struggle for survival, for German-American friendship and the city's desire for freedom."

History, particularly in relation to the Second World War, the Holocaust and the Diaspora, matters a great deal to Mr Lauder, who is 62 and lives in Manhattan with his wife of four decades, Jo Carole, with whom he has two daughters. It was his digging into the past of the late Mr Waldheim that prompted him to stay away from his swearing in as Austrian President. At the time, Mr Lauder, previously a deputy assistant secretary of defence for President Reagan, was Ambassador to Vienna, a post he relinquished in 1987.

It was on his return to the US that he began what is arguably his most serious work - supporting the revival of Jewish culture around the world and especially in eastern Europe and the former Soviet republics. Since creating the Ronald S Lauder Foundation that year, he has ploughed hundreds of millions of his own dollars into cultural programmes, schools and other institutions in countries from Austria to Poland, Romania and Russia.

His foray into New York politics was not, perhaps, his greatest hour. Running to be picked as the Republican candidate for Mayor in 1989, he was buried by Rudy Giuliani. But in the Nineties, Mr Lauder spent \$4m of his own money on campaigns to introduce term limits in New York City, a change in political culture that, for instance, obliged Mr Giuliani to step down in 2002 and make way for Michael Bloomberg, a Lauder friend, today.

When it comes to Jewish affairs in New York and the influence they have over American politics, Lauder takes second row to no one. Consider these lines in his resumé: he is a former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations and today is president of the Jewish National Fund and treasurer of the World Jewish Congress. He is also on the board of the Anti-Defamation League Foundation.

As engrossing as his battle for Tempelhof may be, Mr Lauder is currently engaged in another struggle at home. Over recent days, he has signalled his intention to wrest overall control of the World Jewish Congress from Edgar Bronfman Sr, the 77-year-old heir to the Seagram beverage foundation, who has run the body without challenge since 1980. Over recent months, the Congress has come under scrutiny for possible mishandling of funds.

While Bronfman Sr was re-elected to another four-year term in 2005, he recently signalled a desire to hand the reins to his son Matthew. It was this that prompted Mr Lauder to raise his hand. "Matthew has the ability, but he doesn't have the experience necessary," he said this week. "He doesn't know the people. He doesn't know the issues. This is not a monarchy. This is not something you can just hand over to your son, and say, 'Here it is'."



It has been Mr Lauder's commitment to nurturing Jewish culture and history that has also turned him into one of the world's pre-eminent collectors of art and the owner of the Neue Galerie, which is housed in a mansion on Fifth Avenue opposite the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Klimt he bought last year - a 1907 portrait of a Jewish Viennese hostess, Adele Bloch-Bauer - has an intriguing story of its own.

Seized by the Nazis after the Anschluss, it eventually landed in Austria's national museum. The campaign for the return of properties confiscated by the Nazis - a cause also championed vigorously by Mr Lauder - led to its surrender to a widow in Los Angeles, a direct descendent of the Bloch-Bauer family. It was she who then sold it on to Mr Lauder.

But collecting historic airports is a new departure for Mr Lauder, for sure. His interest in Tempelhof, an architectural legacy of the Nazis, may seem at first glance to be anachronistic. What Mr Lauder may see, however, are not Nazi buildings but rather the site of the Berlin Airlift and thus a symbol of the salvation of the people of West Berlin after the Reich was gone and the Soviet Union was the new threat.

That, and, of course, the potential for making money from it as Europe's most elite beauty clinic and spa.

## **Saving Of Tempelhof as an operating airfield continues.....**

### **September 2007**

**[http://www.abtn.co.uk/Tempelhof\\_battle\\_continues](http://www.abtn.co.uk/Tempelhof_battle_continues)**

Supporters of the historic Berlin Tempelhof city centre airport are making a last ditch attempt for it to remain open after its official closing date in October 2008.



A gathering of interested airlines, business aviation operators, local and national politicians, and community members met earlier this week in Berlin in order to focus attention on the proposed closure.

German Business Aviation Association (GBAA) president, Dr Bernd Gans, opened the meeting by explaining that Tempelhof constitutes the only reserve capacity available in Berlin. Local courts have granted permission for Berlin-Brandenburg International (BBI), as it will be renamed, to be created on the condition that there is "considerable need" for such an extensive development.

Tegel, Berlin's current major scheduled airport would close.

Official policy has been to let Tempelhof run down and to discourage regional airlines and business aircraft operators from any expansion or investment.

As Berliner and architect Theresa Keilhacker, stated while leading the panel discussion: "One sees this world heritage building in the context of it being an aviation facility – meaning with an operating airfield attached to it.

"The actual buildings of Tempelhof cannot be demolished because they are protected. But these buildings make no sense contextually if we cut off the reason for their being here in the first place."

European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) president, Brian Humphries, pointed to thriving business aviation activity at airports such as London City and Le Bourget, both in excellent locations.

"Business people use business aircraft primarily as a productivity tool to save time as they travel from point-to-point on high value business trips," explained Humphries. "Most executives cite close proximity to a city centre as the number one reason for flying business aviation."

"Thus with Tempelhof a short ten-minute drive to downtown Berlin, it is ideally situated to attract both business aviation and high value point-to-point airline traffic. And in Europe, it has been proven again and again that where business aviation is given sufficient access, local economies benefit immensely."

The fate of Tempelhof rests on the outcome of three public votes. For the first round last year, 20,000 votes in favour of Tempelhof were needed – 30,000 pro-Tempelhof votes were counted. Round 2 begins 15 October 2007 when voters will be invited for four months to cast pro-Tempelhof ballots, and this time 170,000 qualified votes will be needed.

"This is the toughest step," explained Dr Gans: "Voters will need to go to their regional town hall and present their IDs. It's a high hurdle because for many people this extra step might dissuade them from coming out. But I strongly encourage Berliners to make every effort they possibly can because it will prove to be well worth it for us all."



Gorbie chose the backdrop for this photo, a wall that **Ronald Reagan once challenged him to tear down**. Buoyed by a strong ruble and a booming oil business, wealthy Russians have become favored new customers for luxury brands. Pietro Beccari, director of marketing at Louis Vuitton, said the goal of the campaign was to broaden the appeal of the brand, particularly in relatively new markets like Russia and China. Mr. Beccari said Mr. Gorbachev was initially reluctant to participate, but he was persuaded when Louis Vuitton made a donation to his environmental charity, Green Cross International, which is cited in the ad.

**Photographed by Annie Leibovitz**, he is holding on to a door handle, as if the bag contained polonium 210.

## ***Gorbie PICKS THE WALL!!!!!!***

### **West of the Wall Lyrics Contributed by:**

Daryl Spiegelberg  
Goose Bay Brat

While running the Goose Bay Brats' Reunion, our director, Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, was told about this song by a Goose Bay Brat (Brats stationed in Canada) at her table Saturday night at the Banquet. Over the years the Alum had never been able to find out who the artist was or obtain the lyrics. BUT since it became THE SUBJECT of conversation at Jeri's table the Goose Bay Brats... being true Brats..... went to work for us..... Opposite appears the results of their efforts:

Artist: Miss Toni Fisher

<<http://www.lyrics-lyric.com/song/artist/2859/Miss-Toni-Fisher.html>>

### **Song Lyrics: West of the Wall**

West of the wall I'll wait for you  
West of the wall our dreams can all come true  
Though were apart a little while  
My heart will wait until we both can smile  
That wall built of our sorrow  
We know must have an end  
Till then dream of tomorrow  
When we meet again

West of the wall where hearts are free  
West of the wall your heart can come to me  
And in my arms that hold you tight  
You will forget the darkness of the night  
The world knows about sadness and we are not alone  
West of the wall that soon will fall and you'll come home

Wall built upon sorrow  
One day you will end  
Hearts true to each other  
Will not break  
They will not bend  
In our hour of sadness  
How clearly we can see  
Tomorrows gladness  
Free, free, free, free.....

Come home



## Germany Struggles to Save Berlin Wall

17 Years After Berlin Wall Fell,  
Germany Struggles to Preserve Its Remains

Story by Kirsten Grieshaber  
AP Writer August 9, 2007

When communist East Germany collapsed in 1989, Berliners were eager to tear down its most detested symbol the Berlin Wall that divided their city during the Cold War. Seventeen years later, city officials and artists are arguing about how to do the exact opposite and keep the wall's largest remaining section, now a major tourist attraction, from falling apart.

"The wall is rotten inside, crumbling away on the outside and there is not enough money to pay for its entire preservation," said city official Joerg Flaehmig adding that the planned September start of restoration work would most likely have to be postponed.

Flaehmig was referring to the East Side Gallery, a three-quarter-mile stretch of the wall in Berlin's Friedrichshain neighborhood that 118 international artists commissioned by the city covered with graffiti in 1990.

As the wall's longest remaining stretch, the East Side Gallery attracts droves of tourists, who pose for snapshots in front of the murals, where the Cold War superpowers stood nose to nose for four decades.



Markus Schreiber/AP Photo

However, car emissions, rain, ice and aging have turned famous images such as the fraternal communist kiss between East German leader Erich Honecker and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, or the East German Trabant car that appears to be bursting through the wall, into a sad sight with long cracks in the concrete and big chunks of paint flaking off.



"On top of this, people keep chipping off pieces for souvenirs or they write their names across the paintings," Flaehmig said, adding merely restoring the wall's structure would cost an estimated \$1.8 million money which is available.

But in order to get at and restore the wall's rusty steel insides, the artwork would need to be scraped off and then reapplied, which would cost even more, Flaehmig said. "We don't have that money for the restoration of the artwork yet, that's why we can't start with the reconstruction."

Kani Alavi, 51, the head of the East Side Gallery's Artists' Association, disagreed.

"We were told the euro 850,000 (\$1,172,490) needed to fly in all the artists and have them repaint their works were available," said Alavi, an Iranian-born artist who in 1990 painted a mural of East Germans crossing Checkpoint Charlie into West Berlin on Nov. 9, 1989.

The main problem is that the Berlin authorities are so slow and prefer dreaming instead of doing their job."

Whoever the culprit, the crumbling goes beyond the East Side Gallery, to 34 other, smaller parts of the wall throughout the city; all that remains of what was once a 103-mile stretch.

"Wind, weather and especially the people are leaving their traces on the wall," said Thomas Klein, a spokesman for the Berlin Wall Association, a group of volunteers that oversees a documentation center about the wall.

"Depending on the condition of a particular wall section, different methods are needed for the restoration and those can cause very different costs."

Klein could not say how much the entire restoration of the wall would cost.

Further complicating restoration planning is the question of property. While some pieces of the wall belong to private owners, others are federal property and are now under preservation as national historic monuments.

The East Side Gallery received historic monument status in 1991, but the possibility remains that parts could be removed if private investors build near the attractive site on the Spree River, increasingly likely as Berlin's real estate market recovers from a long period of stagnation.



Despite the deterioration, Sarah Company and her three friends who had come to visit from Barcelona, Spain, were impressed by the East Side Gallery.

"We arrived yesterday and right away we came to see the wall," Company,

22, said as she was taking pictures of her friends in front of a graffiti-sprayed mural. "But we really don't like that people scribble their names on this wall and chip off pieces that makes everything look very dirty."

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=3461675>



# Homecoming 2007 Dallas, Texas

## (Sponsored by Overseas Brats)

"Homecoming 2007" in Dallas was the place to be even if it was August. There were 645 attendees to talk to, reminisce with, tell stories of your adventures and get reacquainted from previous get-togethers, regionals and reunions.

We had many exciting things to do, a trip to Mary Kay Cosmetic Company, the old town of Grapevine, with lunch at Wilhoit's restaurant, Dealey Plaza, (where President Kennedy was shot and the book depository which is now a museum), a golf tournament plus the dinners and Karaoke party with SunnySoundSouth. Also Donna Musil's documentary (Brats: Our Journey Home) was shown. There were multiple seminars to attend and Emmerson Edwards' Band (that played together at Kubasaki High School back in the '60's) played throughout the weekend. Emmerson flew his former band members in to have a reunion of their own on stage, while entertaining us royally. There were many other things which I'm sure I am failing to mention here. We even had time for lunch with old friends from previous get-togethers. Berlin had a Memorabilia table (things Berlin Brats have contributed over the years) as did other schools to show off our treasures. (Unfortunately, this year Oslo American School took home the School Spirit Award; in addition to their Memorabilia Table, they dressed up in their Viking gear. Darn them! :-).

Joe Condrill (OSB President) and Jeri Polansky Glass '72 setting up registration.



Sunny Schwentner - Kubaski '62 setting up the Raffle Table



Berlin Brat Gals:  
Carolyn (Barten) Vemulapalli '58,  
Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50  
Jeri Polansky Glass '72, Angie (Ott) Lamb '80  
.....Friday's theme was Dallas Night!



Berlin Exhibit Table



Donna Musil, Brat Writer, Producer, Director setting up her table for the Brat Documentary Showing



Angie (Ott) Lamb '80 line dancing in the white shirt



Carolyn (Barten) Vemulapalli '58 and her two sisters



Above: Blinky Glasses given as a Reunion souvenir.

(Left) Saturday night the Military was honored. (Right) Attendees arrive for the optional tours.







Oslo American School &amp; the Viking Gear

It was interesting to hear the comments about the "1947" Yearbook. I didn't know the overseas schools had started that long ago. Patsy Geiger's historical quilt, handmade for the Berlin Brats for their "Homecoming 2006 Reunion" in Berlin last summer caught the eye of many. Currency, ration books (which most people were too young to remember) and other things were on display. It all brings back so many memories!

I enjoyed hearing the stories of other countries and schools that "other Brats" experienced.

The chance of a lifetime of being in Berlin, Germany in 1946 was something I won't forget and am sure other "Brats" feel the same way about the school and country they were in. It was a great opportunity for all of us and I am glad it is being remembered with these reunions.

Marianna (Lieurance) Mounsey '50

*Who would have thought that there would be another Berlin Brat in the North Carolina town of High Point? Jim Branson '64 lives in my home town. So of course we wanted to get together and I volunteered my sister Becky (Yarbrough) Bailey to be hostess for a lunch and we met on Saturday, September 29th. She was a 1969 graduate and our family was in Berlin on an earlier tour from spring of 1961-1964 during which time Jim was also in Berlin at TAR. So we had a lot to talk about! Becky's husband John is a veteran of the Vietnam war (having been in the Marines) and he and Jim shared military backgrounds. I wanted suggestions on honoring our Berlin Brats & their children who are and were in the military in our future newsletters. I think we were able to show appreciation for our military men and women in this issue too! That was my hope.*

*Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71*



Toni

Jim

Becky

## IT'S A SMALL WORLD ..... AFTER ALL.

I'm sure that you've been looking for old classmates or friends from your past, as I have, and at times it's gotten rather frustrating not being able to locate someone with whom you may have had a special bond or that very "best friend" that you left them behind never to be heard from again. Well, I'm here to tell you that finding old friends can be a lot of fun and pretty easy once you have the tools.

Sometime in the mid 1990's I decided that I wanted to find some of the people that I had run around with in high schools in Indiana, Berlin, Stuttgart and Lawton, Oklahoma. Most of my searching was done via a computer software program I'd purchased off of a K-Mart clearance table called "88 Million Households Phone Book." I managed to find a few people I was looking for with it, but not many. Then I discovered Classmates.com

In the early years of my searching, Classmates.com had been the most rewarding as far as being able to find old friends. A lot of them turned up eventually.

There were four guys that I hung around with during my senior year at Lawton High School outside of Fort Sill. Since we were all military brats and had all transferred in at some point during our last couple of years, we became a pretty close group and continued on together at a small junior college in the area and pretty much spent a lot of weekends having fun together. I had come from Stuttgart, another one was also at Stuttgart (but we didn't know it until we got together at Lawton High School), one came from Mannheim, another from Orleans, France, and the last one came from Frankfurt. *Through Classmates in the late 90's I found one of them.*

I eventually found out about two other sites that have just blown my searches wide open.

Through **privateeye.com** and **zabasearch.com** I have been able to find the remaining four friends all scattered in different parts of the world. The last one of whom I just recently found after spending almost 15 years searching. And you'll never guess where he's been living for over 30 years. In **BERLIN, GERMANY!!!!** Selling real estate and teaching French in a German school. And to make it even more incredible, he knows another good friend of mine still living in Berlin, the former program director of AFN Berlin Radio, Mark White. It's such an amazingly small world when you're a military brat!!! I only wish I had found him sooner and that we could've spent some time together at last year's Reunion. But all five of us have started to make plans to get together again in the near future.

As long as you have some information about the person you're looking for such as full name, maybe a middle name, approximate year in which they were born and maybe some idea as to where they went when they left or where they might have been from originally, you have a pretty good chance of locating them with those two websites. You don't need all of that information, just some of it and you may have to make a few phone calls to find the right one, but you're more than likely going to find them.

Jim Branson Class of 1964

## Home-coming – Class of 1967 – 40 Year Reunion *Potomac Variation on a Theme*

By Laura Newby Siklossy

Berlin 2006 was a hard act to follow, but Washington D.C. 2007 topped the expectations of the 1967 graduating class of BAHS. Hosted in the Arlington and Bethesda homes of two former Berlin Brats and one faculty member, we enjoyed the hospitality of home cooking, spectacular views of the Capitol and the Luftbrücke-look-alike, a backyard game of wiffle ball, and a pool party (no one fell in!).

Our ninth grade English and social studies teacher Mickey Cash Durazzo (1962-1964) kicked off the reunion on Friday evening with a lavish buffet and a penthouse vista of the city, the perfect introduction to D.C. for the out-of-town-ers. As we approached her apartment, we were greeted by a large and colorful banner, "Welcome Berlin Class of '67," especially designed by Mickey for the reunion.



Mickey Cash Durazzo, Maureen Gilmore, Laura Newby in front of special Berlin Brats welcome banner at Mickey's place

Mickey set the stage for the rest of the weekend, providing a relaxed home atmosphere for around 30 BRATs and their partners. 60's music and copies of the yearbooks provided by George Gilmore did the rest to break the ice and the intervening years melted away.

Washington Monument and the Tidal Basin



Jerry Harrold at bat, poised to bring in her team at wiffle ball



On Saturday evening

Beth Jones (1966) and her husband Don hosted us poolside in their Bethesda home. Beth and her three sisters, Kathy (1967), Sally (1969) and Diana (1971) cooked up a feast culminating in five home-baked pies and the surprise appearances of other graduates. Above Beth is pictured with Mickey Cash Durazzo.



John Latham, Laura Newby, Don Drach on couch with Mickey Cash Durazzo and Jerry Harrold standing in back



Sally Jones, Maureen Gilmore, Don Perovich (Kathy's husband) and Kathy Jones  
Photos by George Gilmore

**On Sunday evening**, we gathered in Don Drach's Arlington home and garden for an impromptu game of wiffle ball. Don, his wife Ludy and their daughter Mary served up a sumptuous meal of Philippine specialties and bratwurst, while the rest of us reveled in memories. As our final evening drew to a close, the "Do you remember.....?" anecdotes drew tears of mirth and nostalgia, highlighted by a phone call from Ross "Jerry" Flavel in Baghdad. Goodbyes were poignant but buoyed by the prospects of our next meeting in 2008.

This reunion was unique in many ways. Only two former faculty members were part of the party, but they were favorites: Mickey Cash in ninth grade and Jerry Harrold in twelfth book-ended our high school days in Berlin. Not only did we enjoy generous hospitality in the homes of our classmates with their partners and children, but this format kept costs to a minimum. The planned evening events were complemented by a wealth of free, individual daytime activities including a personalized tour of the Congress, a biking trip around D.C., a visit to the war memorials and the National Mall. As we look toward future reunions, we might consider replicating this approach, especially with an eye to rounding up more of our classmates who were sorely missed this year in D.C.

For more information about the class of '67 including reunion photos:

[www.geocities.com/berlinhs67](http://www.geocities.com/berlinhs67)



Ginny Ashcraft, Don and Laura attempt to reprise the 'gooney walk' after 40 years without practicing it!



## Connecting after 20 Years

Hello my fellow Brats. My name is Denice (Brumback) Blea '90. My father was stationed in Berlin from '83-'87. To those who know me, Hi and how are you? To those who don't, maybe we will meet someday. I have been asked to tell you all my story of being reunited with my best friend after 20 years. I'm overwhelmed with pride over this and am happy to share this with you.



Denice (Brumback) Blea  
Class of 1990



Denice's Boys  
Devon is 13 and Joey is 6.



Shannon Gream '90 and  
her sister Hope Gream '92



Berlin Homecoming 1987



JV Cheerleading Squad  
1987

Denice played the clarinet in the concert band that played during Reagan's visit at Tempelhof in 1987.

Now, being a military child, or Pan Am, or whatever your parents were, you moved constantly. Always having to leave old friends only to overcome the challenge of making new ones. When my dad got his orders for Berlin, I was pretty excited. How cool is it to go to Germany twice? I was in the 6th grade when we moved to Berlin. It was kinda an odd time for me. I wasn't the same age as most in my class, I was 10. Not quite fitting in with the 6th graders, yet not fitting in with 5th graders either. Still I managed to make some friends and made it through that odd 1st year. By 7th grade I had made some good friends. One of which was my best girlfriend for that whole year, Lynette Purdy. (Hi Baby!) She moved and we stayed in touch through high school. Then I lost her somewhere! (I've since found her)

Anyway, so by 8th grade I had lots of friends, new and old. Somewhere amidst that year I met my best friend! I don't remember how or why, but it was an instant bond. B.F.F!!! A true unbreakable friendship! Or so I thought. Our freshman year, she started dating. Now I know that having a best friend and a boyfriend was never easy! And it sure wasn't easy for her. We ended up in a fight about her boyfriend and quit speaking to each other.

I was devastated! On the day we left to come back stateside, I gave, with everything I had, one last effort to patch things between us. I called her from the airport, crying. Asking her to not let things between us end up this way. It was a failed attempt. And so I left Berlin with a shattered heart, and feeling more alone than I have ever felt my whole life, even to this day.

It's now August 2007. Exactly 20 years this month since I left Berlin. I have never stopped thinking about my friend. And in my heart she has always been my best friend.

A few months ago I decided to become a member of classmates.com. When I figured out that I could add multiple schools, I immediately added BAHS, flooded with names and memories, pulling out the yearbook to match names with faces. In searching for people I knew, I found her old boyfriend. He and I visited each others profile a few times, and I finally signed his guestbook. We emailed a few times before he turned me onto Berlin Brats. In one letter I asked about my friend, and he relayed to me what he had heard over the years. Not long after, and it's funny how things work out, my friend appeared in classmates. She signed my guestbook. I was stunned and excited at the same time.

So, with mixed emotions and not knowing what kind of response I would get if any, I emailed her. Shocked to get an answer back, we emailed a few more times before we decided to call. She called me and I think we spent 3 hours on the phone. It was like I had just talked to her last week. And all that had happened didn't even matter. I had my best friend again. (this should really be a testimonial for classmates, heehee) I'm sharing it with you because each one of us had a life changing experience in Berlin. We made friendships of a special kind there. Ones that will never compare to anything else.

What a beautiful and magical city, Berlin. We are a living part of history, and I'm proud to say that I am a Berlin Brat!

And to my friend...  
Shannon Gream..

I love you girl!!! I don't know how we managed to go 20 years without each other and now fate has brought us back together. I'm so happy to have you in my life again. You are my 'bestest friend'! One day we will have our pink house with purple polka dots and our purple vw bug with pink polka dots.

Thanks to Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 and Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71 for allowing me this story. I hope all of you reunite with your friend(s).

This is an amazing organization, and through it I hope to find many more of my friends.

Finally, to the class of '90, let's show our spirit and rock out the 2009 reunion. I'd love to hear from you....



Denice (Brumback) Blea '90  
1322 S St Paul  
Wichita, KS 67213

Denice has volunteered to be Class Contact for the class of 1990.  
She can be reached at this email address:  
dstncldlvr@yahoo.com

Mike Finnel.....he did attend Karlsruhe and then graduated in '77 from Bremerhaven. His father was also a DoDDs teacher.

I am writing as a fellow alumni of the overseas school system and current President of Youth For Understanding USA (YFU), an international exchange organization for high school students. Having spent K-12 in Japan, Italy and Karlsruhe and Bremerhaven, Germany, I know the value of connecting with the local community. And so your network of alumni comes to mind as we offer the opportunity to host students from Germany during their international experience here in the United States.

Working at YFU has been one way for me to continue reinforcing the value that I gained from my international education. I imagine that other alumni of overseas schools would find hosting an international student to be an equally rewarding way to continue the tradition of international education and understanding. If you would distribute to your network of alumni our message and the profiles of a few YFU students from Germany that I've pasted below, we might find a great match.

Interested families can contact YFU by calling 1-866-493-8872, emailing [admissions@yfu.org](mailto:admissions@yfu.org) or going to our website at [www-yfu-usa.org](http://www-yfu-usa.org) <<http://www-yfu-usa.org/>> .

With Very Kind Regards,  
Mike Finnell  
President  
Youth For Understanding USA

## *Youth for Understanding USA Exchange Students*

Here are just a few of our students coming from Germany:

Freyja Elisabeth, a 15 year old female from Germany

Freyja is an active and enthusiastic student who loves trying new things and meeting new people. One of her favorite things to do is dance, but not just one style. Once a week she attends the local sport club where she dances waltzes, the tango and disco. Freyja is very interested in medical practices and belongs to the First Aid group and the Medical Corp Group at her school. Freyja would like to continue dancing and practicing first aid while in the States but is excited to join American extra curricular activities as well. Other hobbies of hers include hiking, swimming and reading. Freyja's family is currently hosting a student from Mongolia and it has made her even more interested in other cultures. She loves to cook and hopes to teach her host family German recipes.

Christian, a 17 year old male from Germany

Here he is: the quintessential family guy! Christian loves to spend time with his mom, dad and brothers and also with his many relatives. He likes babysitting his little nephew whenever he has the chance. In the summer he helps out on his dad's farm. Christian loves all kinds of sports. His favorite sport is race biking. He spends a lot of time each week practicing. He likes mountain biking, too. Christian also likes to play guitar. He started playing classical guitar 9 years ago and is now learning to play the electric guitar. He also likes to read thrillers and detective stories. Christian is excited about the year to come: "I am really happy that I will get the chance to come to the United States and stay with an American family."

Jil Sara, a 17 year old female from Germany

Jil is a considerate young lady who lives with her parents and younger sister near the Danish border. Like most girls her age, she enjoys shopping and going to the movies, but she also likes to ride her bike and inline skate. Dancing is a big part of Jil's life and she has been teaching younger girls to dance for a couple of years. One of her other activities is serving as a tutor for younger students, helping them with their homework. She has dreamed of being an exchange student since she first heard about the program at age 12 and now has the chance to visit, to learn about the American way, something she says is "completely different from our traditions and cultures." Jil says it is not important to practice any of her hobbies or favorite activities while in America as she wants to learn something new. She also hopes that she can learn more about herself during her exchange year.

Roman, a 16 year old male from Germany

Roman comes from a village just south of Hamburg in Germany. He is very close with his family and enjoys jogging with his father, mother and 19 year old sister. They also eat dinner together every night and talk about their day. Roman's favorite subject in school is chemistry, but he hopes to start vocational education after high school and one day pursue a career in foreign politics and trade. Roman loves sports and plays basketball three times a week for the local team. On Sundays he plays tournaments. He also enjoys soccer. Another passion Roman has is music. He has been playing the piano for almost a decade! He takes lessons every week and hopes to play for his host family sometime.

<<http://www.yfu-usa.org/>> <<http://www.yfu-usa.org/>> Youth For Understanding USA | 6400 Goldsboro Road | Suite 100 | Bethesda, MD 20817  
District Office: 866-4YFUUSA | Field Director: 800-872-0200 | National Office: 800 TEENAGE



## Scouting for the 2009 REUNION LOCATION, PART 2

In our last Newsletter, (July 2007) we talked about Boise, Idaho as a possibility for our 2009 Reunion location.

Here, we're considering **Phoenix/Scottsdale, Arizona**.

Baring in mind the criteria outlined in the July Newsletter on what we look for when scouting locations and hotels we have found a property in Scottsdale, AZ ~ recommended by one of our '60's Brat ~ that more than fits the bill.

It's the Chaparral Suites Hotel.

Yes, a suite hotel...(a two-room suite property) that will give us a \$99 rate for 2009, staying on our summer cycle. In addition, the rate includes breakfast, free internet service in all the guest rooms and a complimentary reception each evening. (When I visited, the Pittsburgh Steeler fans were in house for game weekend).

Each of the 311 spacious rooms offers a bedroom, living room area, refrigerator and microwave. Complimentary airport shuttling, free parking, a sports lounge (covered with new flat screen TVs) in addition to their restaurant, two oversized heated pools, two whirlpools, workout facility to include tennis courts, business center, a car rental desk, gift shop, concierge on site, and lots of meeting and banquet space.

Plus it's in the heart of downtown Scottsdale which puts it close to some fabulous shopping, fine dining and several championship golf courses.

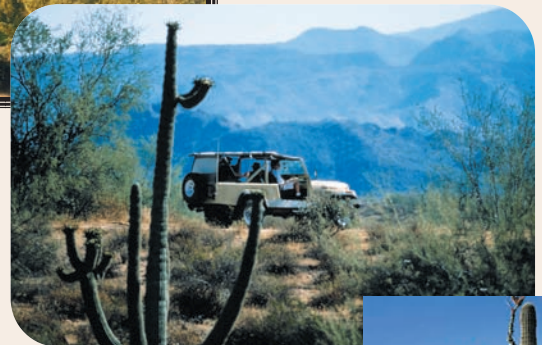
This is a family owned hotel... not a chain.... that has been around for 25 years. In fact, the owner lives on site.

### Possible optional side trips could be:

Horseback riding, hot air ballooning, Pink Jeep tours in the desert, and/or a day trip to Sedona to see the famous Red Rocks.

Although Phoenix can be quite "hot" in summer....remember it is a dry heat "which REALLY DOES make a difference"....as compared to Florida with it's humidity. You don't get wet and sticky in the desert!!!! July, the month we are considering....posts highs of 105 degrees, but usually averages 92 degrees.....leaving the intense heat for August and September.

**Next month (November 2007) Ballots will go out to all current Members to select the '09 location. The winner will be announced in our next Newsletter and on our website. So stay tuned!**



**TREASURY REPORT**

8/16/07 – 9/16/07

**Checking**

Starting Balance: \$3,449.51

**Deposits:**

Membership Dues \$40.00

Bank Fee Refund 9.00

Reimbursed Expense \$225.00

+ 274.00

**Expenses:**Postage \$35.62  
(Newsletters, Rosters, Brat Store items)

Pay Pal Fees 3.64

Printing (add'l Newsletters) \$36.30

-75.56

**Ending Balance:** \$3,647.95**Savings Account:** \$19,209.85\*

\*Excess funds in savings due to the following items:

A substantially increased Late Fee charged for last year's reunion. Previously, \$10 per person, increased to \$25.00 (to encourage advance planning) with a large number of attendees paying such. This was unexpected income.

Additionally, the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation generously contributed a large percent (\$\$\$) of our previously budgeted luncheon at the Museum opening, as well as providing printing/reproduction costs on site.

Unexpected reduction in costs from the contracted Bus Company.

Freebies from Hotel Steglitz that were previously budgeted for and normally charged by stateside hotels. (Ie: AV equipment, champagne, helium, etc).

**Funds held at Security Service Federal Credit Union/San Antonio, TX**

*From The Newsletter Brat: Thank you to everyone who has contributed this year to the newsletter. My Grandfather used to greet his acquaintances with the phrase "What do You Allow?" it was the equivalent of What's up with you? How are you? What do you allow me to know about you? My grandfather was as kind a man as you would ever want to know. We would like to know about you, our classmates, but only what ever you allow us to know. It would be wonderful to hear about reunions you have had with your friends after all these years. I also would like to hear about any AYA dance stories you might have for a future issue.*

Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71



Gov. Schwarzenegger shakes hands with Sierra Costello, 5, of Vacaville, who with her mother and sister attended a news conference dealing with health care reform in Sacramento Wednesday.

**Governor rushes to save health care plan**

By LAURA KURTZMAN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — The prognosis for universal health care in California is grim this year, and experts say a failure could set back similar efforts nationwide for years to come.

Unions, doctors and other powerful interests are arrayed against Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's \$12 billion-a-year plan to make medical insurance mandatory. He has threatened to veto the Democrats' less ambitious alternative and take his plan to the ballot instead.

A showdown could come as early as Thursday, when the Democrats plan to put Schwarzenegger's proposal to

a vote in the state Assembly. The aim is to show how little support it has.

With the campaign for the White House under way, what happens in the nation's most populous state could have especially wide repercussions.

"If we fail, it will have the effect of a wet blanket on health reform nationally," said Robert Ross, president of the California Endowment, a foundation devoted to health care. "I think the presidential candidates will all look with a very watchful eye at what happens in California."

Following the lead of Massachusetts, which passed universal health care last year, Schwarzenegger announced his own plan in January to

provide everyone in California with insurance. As many as 6.7 million people in California, or 18.3 percent of the population, are uninsured.

The Republican governor's plan would impose new fees on doctors, hospitals and employers. The uninsured would be required to buy coverage, though the poorest would be subsidized.

The governor says his plan is fair because it would spread the burden. But doctors are fighting it, as are unions, because they say it asks too much of the working poor. Hospitals, most of which would get more funding, have stayed on the sidelines.

The governor's own party has offered him no help.

Above: Jocelyne (Von Arx) Costello '85 and her two daughters met Governor Swarzenegger. Notice she was wearing her Maroon Reunion Polo Shirt.

**UPCOMING EVENTS****San Antonio Regional**

2-4 November 2007

San Antonio, Texas

Friday-

The New Braunfels WurstFest

Saturday-

Dinner and drinks on the world famous RiverWalk

**Contact Roo Moran '73 for details.**

roo-n-tim73@suddenlink.net

**Newsletter Brat:**

To send stories, pictures or any Brat Facts to me:  
Email: tcombs@adplex.com

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**American Overseas School  
Historical Society**

Contact: Scarlett Rehrig, President

email: overseasschools@aoshs.org

Website: www.aoshs.org

**Overseas Brats**

Joe Condrill, President

Email: joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.overseasbrats.com

**Early 60's Chat Room**

By Invitation Only

Contact: Jim Branson at

jbranson01@hotmail.com

**Brat Attack - A Berlin Chat Room**

By Invitation Only

Contact: Janine Fisher at

guitarlady61@yahoo.com