



Berlin Brats Alumni Association Newsletter

October 2024

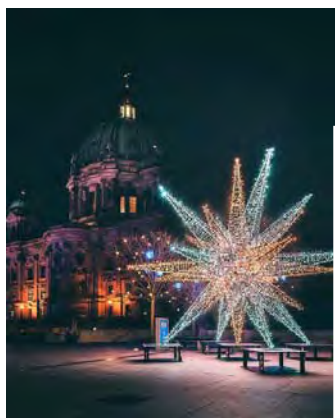
Volume 20, Issue 4



December 2-5, 2024

Post Reunion: Christkindl Markt Bus Tour

December 5-10, 2024





UPDATE from our 9/20/24 PSA posted earlier on our FaceBook Page for REUNION ATTENDEES:

The European Union (EU) has pushed back the launch of a new digital Entry/Exit System (EES) that aims to replace passport stamps with a more advanced biometric scanning process.

The launch date was originally planned for **November 10th, 2024** however, as of now, there isn't a new timeline for the system's launch. The EES will eventually use face and fingerprint scans instead of passport stamps for travelers entering 29 European countries. The delay comes after reports from GERMANY, France, and the Netherlands that their border computer systems aren't quite ready.

(Yay.....no long lines on our arrival in BERLIN!)

ANOTHER PSA for REUNION ATTENDEES:

BRATS who attended TAR before BAHS might be interested in "re-visiting" the school.

Quentin-Blake Grundschule (formerly TAR)

Will hold an "OPEN HOUSE" on Tuesday, December 3rd at 2:30pm

Meet & Greet school tour



The meeting point is in front of the school children's entrance at 2:30pm.

You **MUST** be on time.

They will show you some rooms of the school (but are not allowed to disturb the lessons), visit the libraries and give you a short insight into the huge schoolyard.

Register to participate at: <https://qbgs.de/visit-us/?lang=en>

If you cannot participate in the tour after you have registered, please email them back at:

info@qbgs.de

(Editor's Note: Any link in this Newsletter that does not connect as shown needs to be copied and pasted in Browser)

Speaking of Reunions...



The Berlin U.S. Military Veteran’s Association (BUSMVA) held it’s BERLIN REUNION @ the Dorint Hotel from October 6-13th, 2024.

(The Dorint is our Reunion Hotel site this December. We thank them for breaking in this new reunion property for us. Ha!)

Part of their activities was a Wreath laying ceremony at their Memorial on the grounds of the Allied Museum-formerly the Outpost theatre.

(..if you’re attending our Reunion....look for this monument....when/if you visit)

“DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN”



Also This...

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BEFORE?

Mission of the Berlin Garrison photo from BUSMVA



BUSMVA also paid a visit to Tempelhof for a tour – just as 120 of our 196 Reunion attendees will.



Every year on October 6th, the USA celebrates "German-American Day", which commemorates the cultural, German heritage in the United States. Tempelhof, the airport, which we know was our U.S. Air Force Base for over 45 years, commemorates as well.

On the occasion of this day of remembrance, Tempelhof Airport welcomed visitors from the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association (BUSMVA) as guests on October 7, 2024. On a walk through the airport, they went on their own search for traces in the monument.



In the evening, they had an interesting panel discussion in the CHECK-IN visitor center for interested Berliners. Veterans of the U.S. Air Force who were stationed at the airport in the 1980s really enjoyed visiting their former place of work.

And Still More Reunion News...

**Berlin Brats Reunion
Scholarship Award**



Scholarships for Berlin Brats
and their Families

THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We're pleased to announce:

Michelle Estes '90

our new Chair
(previously served on the committee)

John Latham '67
(previously served)

Deb (Brians) Clark '74
(previously served)

Michelle Brown-Floyd '89
(new member)

Both Michelles and Deb will be doing the award presentations on Banquet Night in BERLIN on December 4th.

More Scholarship News...



**DEADLINE: COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGES MUST BE POSTMARKED OR EMAILED
BY NOVEMBER 1ST**

Awards will be announced at the REUNION on BANQUET NIGHT!

Visit: BERLINBRATS.ORG for our INFO SHEET & APPLICATION PACKAGE

One More Thing for Reunion Attendees: DID YOU KNOW?



On the first Sunday of each month, numerous top-class museums in Berlin open their doors free of charge.

Approximately 60 participating museums will open their doors to visitors free of charge on December 1st, so if you're in town a day before our Reunion starts you might want to take advantage of this opportunity.

<https://www.museumssonntag.berlin/en/museums>

Allied Museum update (*formerly the Outpost theatre*) for our REUNION time frame:

The Outpost Theater building is currently closed for renovation, but even if things are a bit dusty or a construction fence stands in the way, the Allied Museum exhibitions are still worth a visit. They have chosen favorite objects from the detailed presentation on the postwar era in the "Outpost Theater" and put them on display in the "Nicholson Memorial Library."



(2006 BB Reunion attendees will remember this is where we opened the BAHS Exhibit).

The Museum grounds with the large-scale objects remain fully accessible and offer even more than before. They open the British Hastings TG 503 airlift plane for you every hour on the hour. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to visit the last guardhouse of Checkpoint Charlie and the railroad car of the French military train.

(Under the Hastings plane they have now installed 2 Audio Stations and 1 Video Station. Installations will be complete at the end of this month. All audio and Video Stations will include Airlift Material.

Visit their website to learn more: www.alliertenmuseum.de



AOSHS – has a new President – and he’s a “BRAT!” ***(The American Overseas School Historical Society)***

MEET: FRANK ROEHL - President (Executive Committee)

Frank E. Roehl received his Bachelor of Science in Physical Education & Coaching from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (1970) and his Masters in Human Services Delivery in Education Administration from Boston University (1983). **Frank retired from DoDEA in July 2018 after 48 years of Federal Service.** He served as the Superintendent of Schools for the DoDEA Europe West District, Superintendent of the Isles District and Heidelberg District, Assistant Superintendent of the Bavaria District, Assistant Superintendent and Acting Superintendent of the Heidelberg District, DoDDS Middle Level Coordinator, and a principal, assistant principal, classroom teacher, and coach at elementary through high school levels with assignments in **Germany** and Turkey. Frank served as the Germany Vice President and DoDDS Worldwide President of the Federal Managers Association, Chapter 135, for four years.

Mr. Roehl is a “military brat,” attending 13 different schools in grades K–12 (*do you think he gets us???*) and experiencing his father’s two unaccompanied tours while his father served in Korea and Vietnam. He served as a US Army commissioned field artillery officer on active duty and in the reserve forces in Germany prior to and during his teaching career. He was a member of the United States Reserve Europe Marksmanship Team representing the US in competitions throughout Europe.

Frank and **his wife, Margy, a retired DoDEA teacher** and Information Specialist for 46 years, live in Southern Pines, North Carolina. Together, **they raised two children who attended DoDEA schools K–12, and both graduated from Heidelberg High School.** Brian is working as a government civilian employee at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Aileen, recently with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in New York City, is in Stuttgart, Germany with her Navy helicopter pilot husband.

TEMPELHOF CHAPEL.....THEN & NOW



Base Chapel '44 – '67



Chapel today

Stained Glass "Unit" Windows are still in place:



In Memory of the Air Lift 1948



1946th Comm Sq. window



6912th Security Sq. window



7350th Air Police Sqdn



**Thank you – Ron & Glenna Harrison
- FAC '70-'72**

for sharing these recent pics from their 30-day trip to Berlin!

Did your Dad (or Mom) served in any of the 4 units pictured above?

As a post note: Jeri's Dad served in the 6912th Security Sq.....and Jeri was "confirmed" in this Chapel in '68.

BAHS TEACHERS LINK UP IN BERLIN: (July)

The Harrison’s visit Berlin w/their grandson’s University of Kansas school project and link up with 2 other BAHS’ teachers.

Glenna Harrison – FAC ’70-’72 and Charlie Bluem – FAC ’69-’94



(L to R) Ron Harrison-Asst Coach ’71-’72, Glenna Harrison-FAC ’70-’72 and Werner Prigge-Host Nation FAC ’72-’94



Visiting Tempelhof with the students came next.....



Quote:

University of Kansas Study Abroad class on the “Efficiency of the Airlift” (math) and history of Berlin and the Airlift. Ron and I presented to the class on what Ron did in the Air Force in Berlin and what it was like to live behind the Iron Curtain. This was a 4-week study.

“KSU” (get it?) – the Harrison’s great niece joins them in Berlin toward the end of their stay.



The Olympics.....

With the recent Olympics this summer in Paris....it brings out the question....do we have "Brat Olympians?"

There is a belief that BRATS follow the Olympics more than others.

Did you attend any Olympics in person?



In 1984, Kaiserslautern Brat, Alonzo Babers, (& now 777 pilot for United) won two gold medals .



Alonzo



Air Force Brat, Woman's soccer star, Mia Hamm won two golds: 1996 & 2004.

Mr. Mike Allen, history teacher at Mannheim HS 1964 Olympic cyclist in Tokyo.

Mr. Otis Davis, former athletic director in Mannheim was a track & field double gold winner at the 1960 games in Rome.

Marine Corp Brat and Kubasaki 1991 grad, Kristin Armstrong, won three gold medals in cycling....2008, 2012, & 2016.

Our Alumni Assoc. Director, Jeri '72 attended the summer games in Atlanta in '96 and then the winter games of Salt Lake City in '02

Debra Sapenter, Ankara, Turkey HS grad won a silver medal in the 4x400 meter relay in Montreal, 1976.

Shaquille O'Neal Fulda HS & Cole HS San Antonio, Olympic gold at the 1996 games in Atlanta.

Mario Brose attended Kaiserslautern & was a member of the US soccer team in Barcelona in 1992.

Jasmina Perazic (Frankfurt HS, '79) played basketball for Yugoslavia in 1980 (Bronze medal) & 1984.

Coast Guard Brat John W. McBride was a USA Water Polo coach this year in Paris.

Maria Escano, attended Seoul HS & and represented Guam in Paris in Judo!

Gabor Balla shot pistol for Hungary in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. After defecting to the west he eventually taught at DODD schools in Kaiserslautern, Aviano, and Sigonella.

Any other Brat Olympians that you may know of?

More important moments from the 75th Airlift Anniversary this past May/June in Berlin, Fassberg (the northern corridor of the Airlift) & Wiesbaden, Germany:

Dedicating the brand new Air Control Tower at the US Army Wiesbaden Kaserne.



Denise (Halvorsen) Williams and her husband David on the right.

On display:

The motto of the Gail S Halvorsen Schule: "Freedom, Friendship and Responsibility" -- a painting in the "time out and relax" room. Notice parachutes and airplanes, and GSH on the left.



Grand Finale at the school: unveiling of an artwork created by the school art department—500 hours' work for the 75th Anniversary of the Berlin Airlift and for the Halvorsen family visit.



(pictures provided by the Halvorsen family)

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



Our annual Berlin besties trip together!!

Lisa (Glisson) Gould '85 & Laurann (Chapman) Ohman '85

August 8, 2024

Random Berliner sighting. Bob Austin '87 & I (Johnny Hubbard '86) ran into each other at a Seattle Mariners game last night! So stoked to catch up!!!!

Of course it was Grateful Dead night!!



(L to R): Malissa (Murray) Ladd '85 and spouse Greg (b-day boy celebrating his 65th) with the Shaws, R- Jenni (Hewitt) Shaw & Tim Shaw '85.

Some '88 Lettermen (& woman) – meet up in Helen, GA for Oktoberfest 2024!
Such a sighting – these BRATS – need a full page unto themselves!!!!



L to R: Brian Cooper '88, Lance Srp '88, Tina (Poteet) Geimer '88, Donald Geimer '88, & Tracy Terrell '88



BRAT GET-TOGETHERS

“Bar Bubbly” in Savannah, GA – Sept 27th, 2024

Joy almost didn't make the LINK-UP, she was on the road w/Hurricane Helen barreling down on GA. She had to stop and stay in a hotel – “it was treacherous!!!!”



L to R: Joy (Campolo) Turner '88, Keri (Cutting) Mullis '89, Cillia (Batchelor) Lang '89 and Shellie (Lamb) Iossa '89



Front: Shellie

Back row: Joy, Cillia and Keri

Nothing like a little Berlin love to close out the birthday week! Had such a great weekend running the streets of San Diego with these awesome ladies!

Kristy O'Hearne '86



Julie (Davis) Morris '87, Kristy O'Hearne '86, Stephanie (Fuss) Thomas '86





"Love this lady! Shared a locker in 10th grade and been friends ever since." Leigh (Love) Roper '85 w/Cheryl (Dearing) Starich '85 – August 17, 2024/Georgetown, TX



"What a small world we live in!! The bride is my granddaughter and she went to visit her friend (they met at FWB and I just found out) – who's dad went to BAHS - Rick Martin '77. Her aunt is Karen Martin '75."

*Elisa J. (Huston) Horrach '75 from Facebook
July 2024*

"In Berlin with Berlin American High School teacher emeritus Mr. Bluem who makes a cameo appearance in my book "Shadow of the West"! Beloved pedagogue at Berlin American High School for 25 years (1969 -1994), Mr. Bluem's classes were more than lessons: they were experiences that made you think long and hard.

Mr. Bluem is as spry as ever at 80-something. After dinner, he rode off on his bike, despite the rain!

...And with Molly (Short) Brown '76 (R), BAHS alumni and dear friend."

*Sarah (Chapman) Monahan '79 from FaceBook
July 2024*



Kimberly (McLean) Hunt's ('77) Inspiring Story and New Children's Book

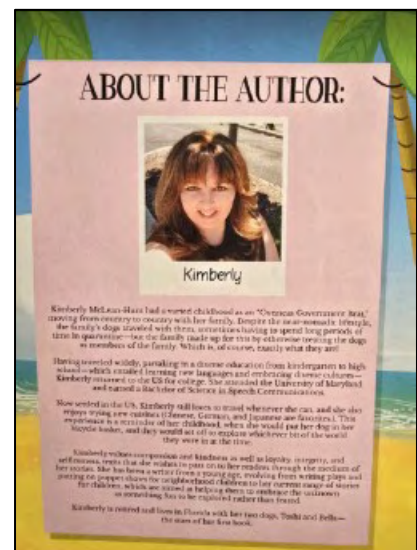
Kimberly (McLean) Hunt, author of the delightful new children's book *Bella and Toshi's Beach Adventures*, found inspiration in the most unexpected place: her two adorable Yorkie puppies, Bella and Toshi. After relocating to Florida during the challenging time of the COVID pandemic and the loss of her husband, Kimberly found solace and joy in her furry companions. Their playful energy and unconditional love not only helped her through the healing process but also sparked the idea for her heartwarming book.



Inspired by the beautiful beaches and wildlife just outside her front door, Kimberly's book follows Bella and Toshi as they embark on a series of exciting beach adventures. From building sandcastles to swimming with the fishes and making friends with Mr. Gecko and Mr. Crab, these curious pups discover the wonders of their coastal world.

"Watching the creative process of my book come to life in cartoon form was amazing," shares Kimberly. The charming illustrations, inspired by the Florida coastline, bring Bella and Toshi's adventures to life, capturing the essence of childhood wonder and the simple joys of exploring nature.

Kimberly's young cousin's granddaughter, the model on her website, played a special role in the book's creation. "She was my hardest critic and greatest teacher," says Kimberly. "Running a book through the eyes of a child is very fulfilling." Want to learn more about Kimberly, Bella, and Toshi? Visit Kimberly's new website at www.bellaandtoshisadventures.com. You'll find adorable photos of the pups, and information about Kimberly's inspiration. Also available at Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com



MEET KIM at our Reunion. Purchases benefit our "Scholarship Fund."

Throw Back pics...



I met Tom Brokaw early morning of **November 10th, 1989** at Brandenburg Gate. Had an interesting discussion with him. He had arrived Wednesday morning in Berlin after his Tuesday night NBC newscast. He had seen things getting interesting over the previous several weeks and had told his producers **that he was going to report from "West Berlin."** Several German TV news networks where therebut only HIM from the United States. He was very proud of that!

Tom Watts, Member of the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Assn. (BUSMVA)

35 years ago.....

Traffic Jam near the Brandenburg Gate as East Germans move into West Berlin after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. November 1989.

submitted by Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72



"Follow Me" VW Beetle on the tarmac of Berlin-Tempelhof International Airport, Berlin, Germany – 1954

From FaceBook Bob Kauffman (World Cars 1930s to 1980s) Reposted by Joerg Zindler

Schöneberg is were President John F. Kennedy said; " Ich bin ein Berliner!" at Schöneberg City Hall. City Hall has a famous bell; it is a copy of the U.S. Liberty Bell. It was a gift from the U.S. on October 21, 1950, by General Clay to Berliners. Since then, the bell has been rung daily at noon and on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

From unknown on FaceBook January 2024



Gary Powers' Cold War Espionage Tour of Europe with overnight stops in London, Amsterdam, and Berlin

April 22 – May 3, 2025

Pleased to announce that I am organizing my third Cold War Espionage Tour of Europe with overnight stops in London, Amsterdam, and Berlin April 22 – May 3, 2025. Airfare from Washington, DC, motor coach and Eurostar train transportation, 4-star lodging, attraction and museum entrance fees, and two meals per day are included in the tour price. Not only will I be sharing some of the stories associated with these sites, but we will also have a CHA Tour Director with us as a guide who can provide additional details associated with these historic locations.

Below is a flyer and here is the link CHA Educational Tours
2025 Gary Powers Jr. Cold War Espionage Tour (cha-tours.com)

Deadline to make a reservation deposit is December 15, 2024.
Deadline to pay in full is January 15, 2025.

Thanks, Gary



GARYPOWERS.COM
Author | Historian | Speaker

Francis Gary Powers, Jr., MPA, MA

Founder and Chairman Emeritus - The Cold War Museum

Honorary Board - The International Spy Museum

Past Board Member - The SAC and Aerospace Museum



Gary Powers' 2025 Cold War Espionage Tour of England, Holland & Germany

Travel Dates: April 22 to May 3, 2025

12 days/10 nights



Join author, historian and lecturer Gary Powers Jr. on this exciting, 12-day tour of Cold War and espionage related sites in England, Holland and Germany with included overnights in London, Amsterdam, the Rhineland, Leipzig and Berlin

Day 1: Departure from the USA

Day 2: Arrival London Welcome to London! Your CHA Tour Director greets you at the airport and escorts you to your hotel. Later, begin your exploration of England's historic capital on a walking tour to Trafalgar Square to see Admiral Nelson's Monument, the Lion Statues and the National Gallery. Later, check into your hotel to relax and unpack from your journey. Tonight, enjoy our Introductory Dinner.

Day 3: London-Guildford-London The morning begins with a spy-themed guided sightseeing tour of London highlighting Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Whitehall, Downing Street, New Scotland Yard, and the MI5 and MI6 buildings. Included is a visit to the Churchill War Rooms, the secret underground headquarters of Prime Minister Winston Churchill during World War II. After some free time for lunch, take an excursion to visit the Iron Curtain Museum in Guildford to explore its interesting collection of Cold War military vehicles and artifacts. Return to London where dinner is included this evening.

Day 4: London-Duxford-Cambridge-London The day begins with an excursion to visit the Imperial War Museum in Duxford, Britain's largest aviation museum, to marvel at its extensive collection of military aircraft. Afterwards, drive to nearby Cambridge where lunch is included. Learn more about the renowned university town's history of spies including the infamous "Cambridge Five" Spy Ring during a walking tour. Return to London where you're on your own for dinner.

Day 5: London-Eurostar to Amsterdam Transfer to London's St. Pancras Station to board your time-saving Eurostar train that will whisk you from London to Amsterdam in under four hours. Upon arrival, get acquainted with Holland's picturesque capital on a leisurely canal cruise through the city's waterways followed by a visit to Vondelpark, a Cold War era bunker located under Vondelpark that now functions as a local community space. Dinner is included tonight.

Day 6: Amsterdam-The Hague-Lelystad-Amsterdam Enjoy an excursion to the Hague, seat of the Dutch government and home to the United Nations' International Court of Justice, for a walking tour revealing its deep-rooted spy history dating back to the days of Mata Hari. Enjoy an included lunch in the Hague before proceeding to Lelystad Airport to visit the *Aviodrome Aviation Museum* to discover the history of Dutch civil aviation where more than 100 unique aircrafts are on display. Return to Amsterdam. You are on your own for dinner tonight.

Day 7: Amsterdam-Soest-Cologne-Bonn-Rhineland Drive to Soest to visit the *Military History Museum Soesterberg*, Holland's largest, located on the former Soesterberg Airfield. Cross the Dutch border as you journey to Germany's Rhineland. Stop in Cologne spanning the Rhine River to see its twin-spired cathedral and to visit a hidden Cold War-era nuclear bunker built into a subway station. Drive via Bonn, the capital of West Germany from 1949 to 1990, en route to your Rhineland area hotel. Dinner is included tonight.

Day 8: Rhineland-Ahrweiler-Unkel-Rhine Cruise-Rhineland

The day begins with a drive to Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler in the Ahr Valley to visit the *Regierungs bunker* (also known as the Government Bunker Documentation Site), the once top-secret underground complex built during the Cold War inside two abandoned railway tunnels to house the German government, parliament and federal personnel in the event of the breakout of war. Later, travel to Unkel to visit the *Willy Brandt Museum* to learn more about the legacy of former West Berlin mayor and West German Chancellor. Later, savor the Rhine Valley on a leisurely Rhine River Cruise past fairytale castles, vineyards and the Lorelei. Return to Rhineland area hotel. Dinner is included this evening.

Day 9: Rhineland-Geisa-Leipzig Journey to Geisa to visit *Point Alpha Memorial*, a Cold War observation post overlooking part of the Fulda Gap, the prime invasion route for Warsaw Pact forces if the Cold War would have erupted into actual combat. The memorial serves as a moving reminder of Germany's division and the confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact during the Cold War. Continue to Leipzig to see the *Museum in Der Runde Ecke*, the city's former Stasi headquarters, before proceeding to your hotel. Dinner is included tonight.

Day 10: Leipzig-Potsdam-Berlin Drive through Potsdam to Glienicke Bridge (the "Bridge of Spies") where Gary Powers Jr. will provide commentary about the exchange of his father, American pilot Francis Gary Powers, and Soviet KGB Colonel William Fisher that took place there on February 10, 1962. Later, stop in Steinücken Village, a small enclave of Berlin where the U.S. military built a secure post, a wall and helicopter landing pad during the height of the Cold War, sealing it off from the western sector. Lunch will be provided today. Upon arrival in Berlin, stop at Checkpoint Charlie, the most famous border crossing point along the Berlin Wall, to visit the *Checkpoint Charlie Museum* (also known as the *Mauer Museum*) documenting the history of the Berlin Wall that once divided the city from 1961 to 1989. You are on your own for dinner.

Day 11: Berlin Morning sightseeing of Germany's reunified capital includes a visit to the *Stasi Museum* located in the former headquarters of the GDR and the East German secret police, where you see surveillance and observation technology and tour the office of the Minister for State Security, General Erich Mielke. Later, visit the *Wall Museum East Side Gallery* chronicling the wall's construction and its impact on the people of Berlin. After free time for lunch, sightseeing continues as you visit the *DDR Museum* where you will get a glimpse of what life was like in the former East Germany by exploring the museum's hands-on, interactive exhibits filled with memorabilia and artifacts. Sightseeing ends with a visit to the *Reichstag*, a historic legislative government building and seat of the German Bundestag, topped by an extraordinary glass dome offering incredible views of the city skyline. Tonight, celebrate your final evening in Germany at our Farewell Dinner.

Day 12: Departure for the USA Transfer to Berlin's Brandenburg Airport for your return flight arrangements.



What's Included:

- Round-trip air transportation from Washington, DC
- 10 nights in centrally-located, four-star hotels
- Full-time CHA Tour Director
- Valuable insight and informative commentary by Gary Powers Jr.
- On-tour transportation by private motorcoach & high-speed train
- Breakfast & dinner (or lunch) daily
- Sightseeing tours & visits shown in itinerary (subject to change)

Prices & Deadlines:

Full Tour Price: \$6,295 per person

Land Tour Price: \$5,195 per person (does not include round-trip airfare or airport transfers)

Repeat Gary Powers travelers will receive a \$200 discount!

Prices are based on double occupancy. A \$600 single room fee will apply for travelers without roommates.

Enroll with a required tour deposit of \$495 by December 15, 2024. Final payment is due by January 15, 2025.

Have Questions?

For complete details, contact CHA toll-free at 1-800-323-4466 or visit cha-tours.com/garypowers/2025

To Enroll Online: visit www.cha-tours.com/garypowers/2025



Throwbacks in Time:

18 October 1961/ Berlin Zehlendorf/ American soldiers of the US Brigade Berlin are on their way to Berlin-Grunewald to participate in a three-day maneuver.

Photo by: Nils Schulz (Berlin Steglitz-Zehlendorf FB group)



Checkpoint Charlie in November 1961. Note that the license plate of the MP vehicle indicates "BC" for Berlin Command. It was in December 1961 that we were re-designated Berlin Brigade or "BB".



Class of '77 – graduation class cake:



"I came across this and just had to give my Dad, Harvey Keller a shout out for always making our events special with his talents! He did cakes, butter sculptures and ice carvings for countless occasions for us and the troops and families he served in his dining halls."

(Notice the tiny graduates at the bottom. He had to order them from the states and was so worried they wouldn't arrive in time.)

Shana (Keller) Scott '77



FLUGHAFEN TEMPELHOF

HISTORICAL EXPLORATION

Tempelhof Airport in its current form was built between 1936 and 1941 according to the plans of Ernst Sagebiel. The biggest monument of Europe, which stands for monumental self-staging of the Nazis, has become a symbol of freedom because of the airlift of 1948/49. The physical structure is made up of an elliptical airfield and an enormous building complex. It consists of a series of symmetric elements: a forecourt flanked by two office wings; the reception and check-in hall; transit areas and 1230m long arch of the hangars.

Tempelhof Airport is unique. There was no other building of this magnitude at least within Europe in the 1930s. Tempelhof is a unique airport throughout the world in that the hangars have been brought together with check-in and administrative rooms in a building. The architecture of the airport is also monumental and technologically modern. The natural stone cladding and strong façade gives the building a powerful impression. Whereas on the side facing the airfield, you can see the modern steel structure of the hangar arch. The 380m long airport gate in the middle of the building is a 40m wide self-supporting cantilever construction.

In 2011, the building received the distinction: The Symbol of symbol of Engineering Architecture. The construction work could not be completed due to the Second World War. Even today, 13 stair towers, which were intended as stairways to the planned rooftop gallery for more than 80,000 spectators, are in their shell form. At the beginning of the war, the Berlin air companies in addition to Lufthansa and Hansa Luftbild, were accommodated in the administrative wings around the current location of the airlift. During the Second World War, many areas of the building were used for arms production.

The US Air Force started flight operation in the new building in 1945 and released parts of the airport for civil use through German authorities at the end of the airlift. On 9th July 1951, civil air traffic officially began in Tempelhof in later General Aviation Terminal (GAT). The main hall in the airport building gained its current appearance in the year 1962.

Tempelhof today

DID YOU KNOW?

Tempelhof gets its name because it was built on a site used by the Knights Templar in the Middle Ages.





We have a much smaller footprint than peak cold war days, but still with a substantial footprint. HOWEVER, based on test scores, students at DoDEA outperform EVERY state in the union!!!

A little surprise tidbit: Dr. Charles "Chas" Kelker currently serves as the "Europe Region Chief of Staff" for the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) – Chas is a BERLIN BRAT, CLASS OF '73 and will present at our Banquet at our BERLIN REUNION in December.



A native of El Paso, Texas, Dr. Kelker grew up in an Army family and spent his formative years living in various locations around the world.

Dr. Kelker graduated in 1973 from a DoDEA school in Berlin, Germany.

(High School Senior Photo on the left)

He went on to enlist in the USAF in August 1974 and has since earned a bachelor's degree in occupational

education from Wayland Baptist University, a master's in human resources development from Webster University and a doctorate in education from Northcentral University.



TEACHERS LOVE REUNIONS TOO !

Here are our Teachers attending this year's Reunion *(pics from yearbooks mostly)*:



Charlie Bluem - FAC '69-'94

Our longest serving teacher at 25 years (along w/Coach Pepoy), Mr. Bluem taught: Math, World Regions, Social Studies, Contemporary Problems, Government, History, U.S. Government, MUN I/II, World History, and American Government over the years.

Mechthild Flohr - FAC '93-'94

We believe Frau Flohr was at TAR before doing our last year, ie: '93-'94 at BAHS as a Host Nation teacher. She continued on at our school when it became a German high school, ie: Wilma Rudolph Oberschule till retirement in 2006. She has facilitated our Berlin '06, '14 and now '24 reunion visits to our former school. We can't thank her enough!!!



Werner Prigge - FAC '72-'94

Herr Prigge started at TAR as a Host Nation teacher for two years prior to moving over to BAHS. At BAHS he taught: German, Enrichment Dept, German Culture, Fine Arts & Foreign Language.



MaryLynn (Schuppan) Werner-Minges - FAC TAR '64-'70
MaryLynn taught "5th grade" at TAR



Phillip Schmoll - FAC '81-'94

Mr. Schmoll taught English & TAG

Mrs. Kathie Schmoll, a tour operator, organized the BAHS school trips to RUSSIA during the mid-'80's



(L-R) Kathie Schmoll, front row in hat....then Mr. Schmoll, Mr. Bluem, Herr Prigge and MaryLynn (Schuppan) Werner-Minges at our **2019 Berlin Regional** in Berlin the day before our 70th Anniversary participation in the Tempelhof ceremonies.



IF YOU DON'T MAKE OUR DECEMBER REUNION:

RE_NION



WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU

U

Upcoming Events

Next Reunion
 December 2-5, 2024
 in Berlin
 Christmas Markts bus tour
 Dec. 5-10 Optional add on

**DODDS & AOSHS
 REUNION**
 July 14-18, 2025
 Reno, NV
<https://www.mydoddsreunion.com>

**Overseas Brats
 Gathering (Reunion)**
 October 2-5, 2025
 St Charles, MO
https://www.classcreator.com/San-Antonio-Texas-Osb-1925/class_index.cfm

Contact Information



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Find us on Facebook @
“Berlin Brats Alumni Association”
 (the official fan page site)

“Berlin American High School (BAHS)”
 (an open group chat page)

Newsletter Brat: Carl Fenstermacher '73

Early '60s Site
 By invitation only
 Contact Mike Cleveland '61
clevelandmb@yahoo.com
 for an invite

**American Overseas School
 Historical Society**
 Frank Roehl, President
 website: www.aoshs.org

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