

Berlin Brats Alumni Association Newsletter

January 2013 Volume 9, Issue 1

"Our Wall" Section Inspires a Proclamation Day In Sedgwick County!

A "Proclamation" was read at the Commissioner's meeting for the 23rd Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall. Mrs. Glenna Harrison FAC '70-'72 represented us ie: the Berlin Brats Alumni Association... and at the last minute Carl Marvin '87 found himself in town, ie: Wichita, and attended as well. Carl, being the experienced eBayer, handled our transaction with the seller. As you know, our "section of the Wall" was donated to the American Overseas School Historical Society (AOSHS) who presently have the "section" on long-term loan to the Museum of World Treasures in Wichita.



Commissioner Karl Peterjohn on the far left of pic, who initiated the Proclamation.

Commissioner Jim Skelton (2nd from left) added his story as he was stationed in Germany.

We have Commissioner Peterjohn to thank for this recognition.

He recently learned of our "section" of the Wall and wrote to us:

My interest in the Wall is personal on several levels. As a young boy I vividly remember watching the black and white TV coverage when the Berlin Wall went up and the stand off at Check Point Charlie with Russian and American tanks facing off on both sides of the border. A few years later in the mid 1960s I remember that my paternal grandparents travelled to East Germany to visit relatives trapped behind the Marxist Wall. My grandmother's maiden name was "Volk."

I vividly remember then President Reagan's speech in front of the Wall when he demanded that President Gorbachev tear it down. Reagan's speech built upon JFK's earlier Berlin address that struck an emotional response around the world. And then, a few years later in November 1989 it came down. I thought that I would never live long enough to see that glorious day. This is a poignant as well as important piece of world history that does not get the attention that it deserves.

I only found out about a piece of the Wall being in Wichita quite recently.

Our meetings are televised and there is a surprising audience that is well outside this county's borders for our meetings across portions of Kansas.

Proclamber of Sedgwick County, Kansas

Founded in 1870

WHEREAS, in August 1961, East German soldiers began building a wall, dividing East and West Berlin, to close off access of East Germans from the communist East Germany from fleeing to the democratic areas of West Berlin and West Germany. For 28 years, this 15-foot concrete wall, fortified with barbed wire, electrified fences and watchtowers that circled West Berlin, stood as the "iron curtain" dividing Europe, one side Soviet communist control, the other freedom and democracy of the West, and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 1987, President Ronald Reagan delivered a passionate speech in West Berlin, talking about freedom, prosperity and the possibility for fundamental change in the Soviet Union, to be part of a safe and free world. And, as he stood in front of the Brandenburg Gate at the Berlin Wall, President Reagans aid those famous six words that helped move the world to change, and therefore changed the lives of people worldwide for years to come: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 1989, with the continuing decline of the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe, and the increasing perseverance of East Germans striving for democracy, in a powerful act of freedom, Germans from both sides of the wall joined to tear down the icon of division. The Berlin Wall came down, marking the reunification of Berlin, Germany and the people who wanted to live a better life; and

WHEREAS, because of the leadership of the Berlin American High School Alumni Association (also known as the "Berlin Brats" Alumni Association) who recognized it's historical significance, acquired a piece of the Berlin Wall after it fell, and donated it to the American Overseas Schools Historical Society. And, with the Society's generosity, the people of Wichtlas, Sedgwick County and Kansas can see a piece of this world history on loan to the Museum of World Treasures.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Tim Norton, chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County as an arealfirm our h

Karl Peterjohn

Our Berlin Wall "section" was honored with a Proclamation signing on October 31, 2012 by the: Sedgwick County Commissioners in Wichita, Kansas (where our Wall section is located).

Proclamation designates Nov 9th, 2012 as "World Freedom Day"



In attendance for the Proclamation reading:

Lorna Kardatzke -wife of Dr. Kardatzke- Founder of the Museum of World Treasures (.....and a former military doctor).

Joe Condrill, President of OSB, Iain Woessner - AOSHS Office

Mrs. Harrison (Berlin FAC '70-'72) holding Proclamation along with Mike Noller-President & CEO of Museum of World Treasurers (where our Berlin Wall Section is on long-term loan).

Carl Marvin '87 - far right.....who was our Berlin Brat Ebay negotiator when we purchased the Wall in 2005. Carl found himself in Wichita for a special project

the week of the Proclamation Ceremony.

How ironic is that???

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Mrs. Glenna Harrison - FAC '70-'72 speaking on our behalf at the Proclamation Ceremony (and being televised on the local Wichita government channel)

Mr. Ron Harrison, Glenna's husband, was active duty
Air Force in Berlin and served as an assistant coach for the
'71-'72 school year at BAHS. He recently retired from his
post military career and is now working
as a volunteer in the AOSHS offices in Wichita.
(you may have caught the featured article on him
in our last Newsletter?)

New Addition to our **Brat Library**



The Berlin Brats are the proud recipient of a Hard Bound Book entitled: The Berlin Observer 1973-1975.

This hard bound book of Observers starts with the September 28, 1973 issue and ends with the August 8, 1975 edition.

We have the McCollum family to thank for this treasure!and Ioe Morasco '75

The inside cover of the Book features two black & white photos of SP4 McCollum. One shows him at his desk in Berlin working on an issue of the Observer, the other is a picture with Sean Connery.

The McCollum family dedicated the Book to: The Berlin Brats Alumni Association in Loving Memory of SP4 Michael S. McCollum (1952-2010) by his wife Kathleen, and his sons Craig and Ryan.

Everyone who ever met him was enriched by knowing him. Friends may visit him at the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium.

> Joe scanning Mike McCollum's Berlin Observers at Library of West Virginia University

From Ioe, read on:

Over the years, I have tried to contact old Berlin Observer staffers to obtain editions like this hardbound volume to scan and put on my site. SP4 Mike McCollum was one staffer I found, and exchanged e-mails and phone calls... he had his editions in storage, and was always promising to dig them out and loan them to me. He never got around to it, due to some health issues he had, then the contact was lost for a time. A couple of years ago, I sent out my annual plea for donations/loans of issues to all the Observer contacts in my address book -as well as postings on various Berlin Vet boards, and his widow responded informing me that Mike had passed

She said he had told her about our plans for the Observer and wanted to see them come to fruition. She sent two bound editions to me that I scanned and put them on my website, years **'73-'75**:

http://www.theberlinobserver.com/archive/ archive73.html

I added an "in memory of..." Mrs. McCollum wanted to keep one of the bigger editions for the family but was willing to donate the other one, and I suggested our Berlin alumni group... for the 70's alumni hospitality suite at future reunions.

--Joe Morasco '75



The poignant story behind the background (Mike's passing before getting his issues to me), leads me to ask the following of my fellow Brats. I am trying to get as many of the Berlin Observers online and "archived" before it's "too late". In a couple of years, I'll be retiring and leaving my job, and, will no longer have the scanning resources available to me here at the Library. A few issues ago, we advertised my berlinobserver.com site. Can we do so again? BRATS if you have any issues of the Berlin Observers please contact, Joe Morasco '75, as we need to get these added to the Observer site soon for all to ENJOY! Contact him at: imorasco@wvu.edu



1980

New Commandant for West Point Cadets Berlin Brat Class of '80

The Associated Press Posted: Sunday Jan 13, 2013 11:25:41 EST WEST POINT, N.Y. —

West Point cadets are getting a new commandant this week.

Brig. Gen. Richard D. Clarke will assume command as the 74th commandant of cadets on Friday. The commandant is one of the top officials at the U.S. Military Academy and is in charge of military programs and day-to-day operations of the cadets. The commandant serves under West Point's superintendent.



2013



Clarke graduated from West Point in 1984.

Brig. Gen. Richard Clarke Promotion Ceremony

The 10th Mountain Division command group conducted a promotion ceremony for Brigadier General Richard D. Clarke at the historic LeRay Mansion, Friday August 10, 2012.

U.S. Army Fort Drum & 10th Mountain Division Photos by Glenn Wagner, Visual Information (DPTMS)

He is married to Suzanne Stovall. a Berlin Brat as well, class of '79, and

has two children, Madeleine and Will.

Deputy Commanding General -Operations Fort Drum >

BG Richard D. Clarke was commissioned in the Infantry from the United States Military Academy.

Prior to assuming duty as the Deputy Commanding General of Operations, 10th Mountain Division, BG Clarke served as the Director of Operations, Joint Special Operations Command, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

BG Clarke began his career as a rifle platoon leader with 1st Battalion, 48th Infantry, 3rd Armored Division. Beginning in December 1988, BG Clarke commanded two companies in the 101st Airborne; Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry, as well as the 101st Long Range Surveillance Detachment. In June of 1992, he transitioned to the 75th Ranger Regiment, and in March of 1993 became the Commander of the Ranger Reconnaissance Detachment. BG Clarke later served as the Company Commander of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. BG Clarke subsequently held the position of Battalion S-3 and then Battalion Executive Officer of 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, of the 1st Armored Division. This was followed in May 1999 when BG Clarke assumed duty as the Brigade Executive Officer of the 173 rd Airborne Brigade. In March of 2002, BG Clarke became the Commander of the 3 rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division. This was directly followed in May 2004 by command

of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. In August of 2007, BG Clarke assumed command of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

BG Clarke's deployments while serving in the aforementioned positions include Operation Desert Storm, Operation Joint Guardian, three deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and four deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

BG Clarke is a graduate of the Infantry Officers Basic and Advanced Course, and the Army Command and General Staff College. Additionally, BG Clarke received a Masters in Security and Strategic Studies from the National War College, and a Masters of Business Administration from Benedictine College.

BG Clarke's decorations include; the Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal (with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters); Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters); Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters); the Army Achievement Medal (with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters); the National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Star); the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and the Afghanistan Service Medal. BG Clarke also earned the Combat Infantryman Badge (with Star), the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Freundshaft in Zwei Städte Friendship in Two Cities

It began in 1969 and continues today in 2012 at our 40th High School Reunion in Washington, D.C.

Berlin and Frankfurt are the origins of this friendship. At a service organization, International Order of Rainbow for girls, was our first meeting. Then followed several meetings in the next few years. High School choral festivities provided more reunions and sleep overs in our respective cities.

Graduation came in 1972 for both. Life patterns took us to different locations, finally meeting up in central Texas.

Marie Bauer (Berlin '72) and Cindy Fadely Carlton (Frankfurt '72) have maintained their friendship through letters, phone calls, emails, and coordinated trips throughout the years.

In 2011 we tested our friendship by going for a two week vacation in Germany. These two geminis discovered friendship takes work, compromise and humor!

Marie lives in Carthage, NY, and Cindy lives in Fairfax, VA.

We believe BFF: "Brat Frienships are Forever"



Cindy and Marie in front of St. Peter's in Regensburg, Germany 40 Year Class Reunion in Washington D.C.



Cindy Carlton



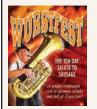
Berlin Brats meeting in the War Zone (Michelle Estes '90 & Frank Davis '87)



Two more Berlin Brats meeting up in Afghanistan! Chris Erickson '87 USAF and John Warren '87 US Army. John Warren just finished a year in Kabul and is now on his way back to Houston. Small world.



Cate Speer '85 met Michelle Estes '90 as she returned to the U.S. from the war zone. Sunday night, December 23, 2012.



New Braunfels, Texas Regional

This year's Wurstfurst attendees are:

Carl Fenstermacher '73, Cathy (Coats) Kelton '73 & Granddaughter Olivia, Mike Ude '82, Ruchia "Roo" (Eargle) Moran '73, Karen (Sellers) Wilt '80, Nancy (Robinson) Chiles '81, Mark Bans '83, Angela (Ott) Lamb '80 & Heidelberger David Stevens





Tampa Regional

Our Tampa Oktoberfest regional was held this past November at the home of Gary and Susan Robinson '74.

A good time was had by all.



Susan outdid herself.....

digging out some of her German ancestral recipes!!!!

Instead of reimbursing themselves for the per person cost..... Gary and Susan donated the proceeds to our 2014 Scholarship Fund.

THANK YOU TWO!!! We are most appreciative!!!!!
See you in Berlin in 2014 when you see your kind donation being awarded!

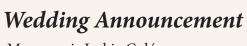
We welcomed Newbies: Carol (Hayes) Davis Nigro '66, Mike Sowers '73 and Kathy (McDaniel) Honeycutt '74 to this one!!!!!



Gary Robinson '74, Carol (Hayes) Davis Nigro '66, Mike Sowers '73, Kathy (McDaniel) Honeycutt '74, Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 and Carl Fenstermacher '73.

Heidelberg New Years Eve





My name is Jackie Colón.
When I attended BAHS my name
was Jackie Bryant Class of '91.
On December 21st of this year
I married Berlin Brat
Orlando Colón
Class of '93.



That's Berlin Brat, Julie Langley '77, front row 3rd from right.

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More on that '73 Yearbook Cover.....

Remember the article in our last issue (pg 4) on the "Mystery Solved?....that '73 Yearbook Cover... What Were They Thinking?"



To reset the stage....ALL our Yearbook covers up to 1973 had always been that deep, deep maroon with "Erinnerungen" written across the front, then at the end of the '72 school year Frau Pietsch (our Yearbook Adviser for 20 years) retires. Apparently, that gave a "green (no pun intended) light" to the '73 Yearbook Staff.

WELL we heard back from Carl Fenstermacher '73....here's what his memory tells him:

I recall sitting around the yearbook room (was it downstairs below the Principal's office?) discussing a new cover. Frau Pietsch was gone and we were discussing what to do.

We did want something different - something distinctive! I think we succeeded.

I don't recall Mr. Priebe specifically saying we had cart-blanche to do what we wanted, but I remember him encouraging us to be creative. (ha....creative indeed!)

This was the era of shocking chartreuse, orange and yellow and someone mentioned the chartreuse - maybe me...Ugh (in hindsight). I remember thinking, when the final book was printed, that it was not "shocking" enough. I expected more of a psychedelic look and less puke green.

As for the design (versus the color of the cover).... someone on the staff drew up the wavy American Flag and coined the "Glory" phrase. Some on the staff wanted to keep the theme of "Erinnerungen" going. I recall a heated debate.

Mr. Priebe (FAC '66-'82) just sat there and mediated the discussions and when we had finally decided on the color, he said something to the effect: "are you sure?"

This is my recollection.....but mind you it's been almost 40 years!

Carl Fenstermacher '73

Did any Brats in the D.C. area spot this Bus?





This ornament was given to those who were lucky to spy the bus

Christmas Bus:

Frohe Weihnachten from the German Embassy and Germany.info

"This bus is the German Embassy's way of bringing some of the German holiday cheer to the streets of Washington, DC," explains German Embassy Spokesperson Karl-Matthias Klause. Watch the Christmas bus travel the streets of the Nation's Capital in a video.

Go to:

http://www.germany.info/spotthebus

A Time To Reflect

We welcome the year 2013 and hope for it to be a good year. Here I sit on my computer in beautiful Rogers, Arkansas and think back of years past, my life in Berlin, and the many friends my family and I made while my husband was in the U.S. Air Force.

"Our" Berlin is not the same as we once knew it and loved it. The old familiar places are gone, and it is sad to see instead of American soldiers, wealthy Russians. However, the surrounding country side of Berlin is beautiful and enjoyed by all Berliners. The buzzing area around Potsdamer Platz, with its modern high-rises and the Sony Center is nice to see, however, for me as a Berliner, my heart is aching for the Ku-Damm, the Europa Center, and the KA-DE-WE. I miss the Berlin I grew up in and all the military installations I was so fond of while being a dependent.

During Open House 2012, at Little Rock AFB, I met a man who has been a very important part in the recovery of Berlin and its citizens during the Berlin Blockade. You all probably read about Col. Gail Halvorsen, the chocolate bomber. As I was touring a plane from the Berlin Blockade era, I told the guide that I was born in Berlin around that time and that I would have liked to have met one of the famous pilots by the name of Col. Halverson. The guide informed me that the Colonel was in attendance and for me to go and see him. I was thrilled. After running around to catch this busy 92 year old gentleman, I finally caught up with him and we were introduced. Here he was, the man who was loved by so may of the young Berliner kids that not only survived the war, but found themselves in another conflict, the Berlin Blockade. Col. Halvorsen brought joy to the youngsters by making small parachutes with Hershey bars, he bought at the PX, attached to them. He dropped them before landing at Tempelhof Central Airport during the Airlift.

The children were waiting every day for such a treat that was hard to come by. Col. Halvorsen was as much honored by meeting me, a native Berliner, as I was honored meeting him.

He informed me, that I was probably at the receiving end of another part of his important cargo, milk. I was an undernourished toddler. My Father could hardly wait for me to leave some cereal on my plate for him to finish up the food that was left. I told Col. Halvorsen this episode, because he wanted to have stories of experiences that I or my family remembered. We talked for over thirty minutes and he gave his business card to me with the request to get in contact with him. He and I gave each other a big hug and he gave me a fatherly kiss on my cheek.



I promised to write a letter to Berlin's favorite "uncle". I did so, and he responded immediately. An officer and a gentleman would fit Col. Halvorsen perfectly. He is 92 years old, sharp as a whip; I wished that all Berliners, as well as all the friends of Berlin, could have a long conversation with this amazing man. If he is visiting an area close to where you live, go and visit with him. He will fulfill all your needs to gain knowledge of the history of Berlin during the Berlin Blockade and the help the city received from not only American soldiers, but military and civilian men and women of our allies; real heroes of a city besieged by the Russian forces. My thanks and that of my fellow country men go to all of them. Without this help many children and adults would have probably starved or been frozen to death.

That brings me back to another subject, Friends of Berlin. A few years ago, I was invited to celebrate the anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, at the German Embassy in Washington DC. On my trip to the nation's capitol, I did the usual tourist musts. Too tired to use the steps to Lincoln's Memorial, I took the elevator to the statue. Beside me stood an elderly gentleman with a cane. We started talking, (by the way, that is not hard for me) and in our discussion he asked me were I was from. I replied to him that I was born in former West Berlin, Germany. He got very excited, because he and his family were in Berlin during the Berlin Blockade. Dr. Bunting, as he introduced himself, promised me his publication of his experience of his stay in Berlin. A replica of a parachute, similar to the ones the kids in Berlin awaited, would also be mailed to me. I could not believe that someone would be that kind to share some of his prized possessions with me, a newly acquired acquaintance. How lucky could I be. As I furthered my knowledge about the wonderful city of Washington, I strolled to the Spy Museum. I read earlier that an exhibition of about 20 old Trabbies (the East-German Volkswagen, a better converted lawn mower) and people wearing uniforms of the former GDR giving information about the former Communist state would be exhibited. When all of a sudden, I spotted Berlin Bears school jackets. My two sons, Thomas and Patrick Dietz attended JFK and the American High School. My true Berliner spirit prevailed and I engaged some of the people in a conversation, just to find out that they were the Berlin Brats. I felt right away a closeness and camaraderie between old Berliners. Some of you even remembered my son Thomas (1976-1979). It was a wonderful feeling how you made me feel right away being a part of the Berlin Brats. Group pictures were taken and I was invited to be right in the middle of Berlin's military High School alumni. Some very nice conversations about memories of Berlin took place that afternoon. I even was invited to join the Brats at the German Restaurant following the visit to the Spy Museum. I had to decline because of my previous engagement at the embassy. This was a very memorable time with very special people.

As you can see, I went full circle, being born during a very difficult time in Berlin, getting mementos from Dr. Bunting referring to his experience in my city and finally meeting Col Halvorsen (ret.)

As I mentioned in my opening, I was just sitting here reminiscing about years past and friends my family and I made over the years. A saying comes to mind as I close my commentary - Ich hab noch einen Koffer in Berlin - I still have a suit case in Berlin. It is staying there, because I always have a reason to go back to the city we love. - DEEDEE BRONAUGH (mother of Tom Dietz '82)

Note: Dr. Bunting mentioned above is also a Berlin Brat. Dan Bunting '49 (in Berlin from '46-'47) worked the Airlift as a teenager unloading cargo for his Dad. Catch Dan's article in our December 2009 issue, page 12. http://www.berlinbrats.org/newsletter/09Dec.pdf

Berlin Patrol sent a link:

Spread the word: Gail S. Halvorsen Schule in Berlin. This message is kept in english to pass it on throughout the world: tonight the school conference of the present "Alfred Wegener Schule" and "Beucke Schule" located in Berlin, Germany has decided to suggest to the Senate of Berlin to change the name in respect of the attitude and achievements of Gail S. Halvorsen.

This initative by Michael G. Notbohm of BERLIN-PATROL and friends will establish not only a significant contribution for commemorating History, but for the Future of the kids.



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, EUROPE UNIT 29649, Box 7000 APO AE 09002-7000



December 12, 2012

A Message from the Director, DoDDS Europe to Area Administrators, Educators and Staffs

As you are all aware, the U.S. military presence in Europe, and indeed throughout the world, is in a process of continuous change. While I have no specific near-term adjustments to announce, I recognize that transformation is causing a sense of uncertainty for many of you.

While it is difficult to predict the impact of the European military force structure after FY 2014, we are planning on how to deal with the changes that are now in progress. Our immediate task is to manage the closure of the Heidelberg military community at the end of this summer. We will close Heidelberg High School, Heidelberg Middle School, Patrick Henry Elementary School, and the Heidelberg District Superintendents Office (DSO) in June 2013. Another school closing next June is Bitburg MS due to the decrease in enrollment within the community. Bitburg MS students will attend Bitburg ES (grades 5 and 6) and Bitburg HS (grades 7 and 8).

The Bamberg and Schweinfurt schools will operate throughout School Year (SY) 2013-2014 with an expectation that the enrollment will decrease during the year and that the schools in both communities will close in June 2014. The Superintendent of the Bavaria District, working with my office, has developed school configuration options to best support the educational needs of Bamberg and Schweinfurt students throughout this period of drawdown. With input from school staffs and the community, we will make a decision about the Bamberg and Schweinfurt configurations after the new calendar year.

The last school that will see a dramatic change is Lajes E/HS. The Air Force announced that tours to this base will be unaccompanied. We expect our Lajes school will close in June 2014.

Other possible changes: we expect some growth in the coming months in Vicenza, Lakenheath, and Wiesbaden. Additionally, in 2014 Rota will see the arrival of the first of four permanently assigned ships, a restationing that we expect will bring more families to that community. I am hopeful that the increase in student enrollment in these four locations will generate additional teacher placement opportunities. There are other military transformation changes possible but these remain speculative or classified.

As the services continue their transformation, we too will transform. In the future, options for teaching assignments and particular locations may not be as plentiful as we have enjoyed in the past. With the closing of so many schools this year, we anticipate over 200 teachers will be excess, along with many school administrators and above school level staff. To

answer these placement requirements, I have tried to limit new, permanent hires by monitoring vacancies, filling them only with educators on appointments not-to-exceed the end of this school year. We have also announced every vacancy Europe-wide in an effort to place excess educators before the end of the school year as long as we can fill behind them on a temporary basis. We are working with DoDEA Headquarters to establish a process that will provide more opportunities for teacher placement within Europe. Similar to last year, we hope to operate a three-phased process, to include in-district placement, then proximity placement, and finally placement through the DoDEA-wide Teacher Transfer Program. Details on the placement process are being worked and will be made available when they are finalized.

I have made a commitment to our schools and communities to do everything possible to limit disruptions caused by transformation. For our staff, I will make every effort to keep you informed of the most current information available. Thank you for your continued loyalty to our students and schools, and especially to the military communities we support. I am proud to serve as your director and humbled to work with such fine educators.

NC Brisill

Dr. Nancy C. Bresell Director, DoDDS-Europe



January 21st is the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday.
While Congress made it a national holiday in
1983 it wasn't until 2000 that all U.S. States observed it.

While Dr. King advanced the civil rights of all peoples, civil rights were happening within the military, the overseas schools and the Brat community in a less publicized way following World War II.

When the first military overseas schools were created in 1946, the educators in the overseas schools made a declaration that no school was to be segregated nor any child held back because of their race. General Eisenhower concurred. President Truman made it official in 1948 that the U.S. military be desegregated. While it took the military (and many of our parents) a while to accept it, it was already happening among us Brats. Brats tend to be more understanding, accepting than their parents are, and long before any law, regulation or rule mandated change,

Brats (of all races) were mingling, talking and making friendships among ourselves. Quite a number of minorities after World War II saw their opportunity for advancement and acceptance in the U.S. military or living overseas,

so it was not uncommon for many minority families to extend their tours abroad. As we observe next Monday's holiday, let's remember the roles we each played and continue to play in accepting others of all backgrounds. This is one of the 'corner stones' of who we are as Brats.

reprint of OSB, Joe Condrill-President

"Brats Beach Bash" (aka Homecoming 2013)

August 8-11, 2013 at the Plaza Resort & Spa in Daytona Beach, Florida is taking off!

*BRAT FACTS: -11 are registered representing 18 schools/bases/communities.

-Presently 1,768 are interested.

-Reunions/mini-reunions/get-togethers happening for: Augsburg, Chofu, Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Stuttgart, Nurnberg, Verdun, Woodbridge.

-Woodbridge is in FIRST PLACE.

*BRAT NEWS:

-Hotel RSVP number is: 1-866-500-5630. Remember to mention, "OVERSEAS BRATS Homecoming 2013" to get our special \$99 rate!

****Early bird/discount registration is February 15.

-We are working on a number of special seminars!

Rumor has it: *One of these will be an all-purpose/get your questions answered called, "Bratman returns."

*Another of these could be line dancing.

*One will be hosted by a former German exchange student who did her doctorate at the University of Wurzburg about American schools in Germany after WWII.

Details at: www.overseasbrats.com/OVERSEAS_BRATS_Homecoming_2013.htm.





*BRAT FUN:

*Beach party!

*Fun/meaningful daytime/evening activities planned!

*Great Brats looking forward to meeting YOU!

Join us!

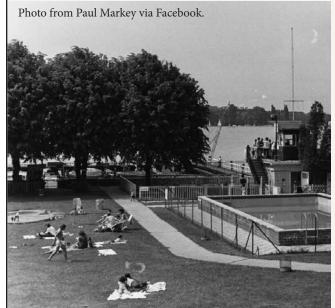
Have a terrific day!

Joe Condrill

OSB President

Old.....

Wannsee





Andrews Chapel





Posted on FB by Victor Lopez '73: December 2012



Meet the World's Biggest Rabbit



The Dream Lives On 10/24/2012

Knut Immortalized with Bronze Statue in Berlin Zoo

AFF

Berlin's famed Knut was officially immortalized with a bronze statue in the city's zoo. Though the cuddly polar bear won't be forgotten anytime soon, the memorial keeps the dream alive for future generations.

New.....



This rabbit's name is Herman and he lives with his owner, Hans Wagner, in Berlin, Germany.

German Giants are domestic rabbits. They do not exist in the wild and can live as long as 12 years. Herman can eat a bale of hay per week. He weighs in at 22 pounds and measures a little over 3 feet.

John Freeman '71 - Berlin American High School (BAHS)

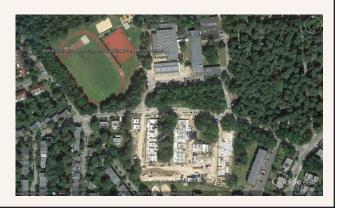
I saw on Google Earth construction/destruction near BAHS so wrote the school to see what was happening. A very nice guidance counselor wrote back: "Thank you for your concern about your former school. Since 1994 the school is a secondary school in the Berlin school system with presently more than 1100 students and a faculty beyond 100. There are three satellite buildings in the back of the campus for the Arts-dept, the biology dept and the 7th graders.

The building you saw on the former parking lot is the new building for the music department just recently opened. You would not believe the changes in the area:

The housing area across the school campus - 3 buildings - have been demolished completely and will be replaced with new buildings."

This trendy housing area is being built across the street from BAHS, where friends like Gary Carpenter '72 and Darlene (Carpenter) Porter '71 used to live:

dahlem paradise www.dahlem-paradise.de Hauptstadt und Metropole mit Flair und Stil



Harrisons visit Jeri

Mrs. Glenna Harrison - FAC '70-'72 (and Jeri's and Toni's cheerleading sponsor for the '70-'71 school year) and her husband Ron - Assist Coach for the '71-'72 school year are avid KSU fans. Jeri gets the call that KSU made the Fiesta Bowl this year....(that's in Phoenix for those of you not in the know)...so they are flying out. Well rather than just link up with them..... Jeri invited them to stay at her place. They in turn invited her to join them at the Game.



KSU fans Glenna and Ron Harrison



Mrs. Harrison, Jeri and her dog Calli visiting Anthem community park.

KSU marching band on the field at half time



Mrs. Harrison and Jeri view Jeri's Berlin quilt.... made by her best friend Roseann Terry '72

(now deceased)

Each square on the quilt depicts something from when they 1st met in Berlin, attending the Volkfest, the AYA, currywurst, 45 records, weejuns, vacationing in Italy, beer stein, material from our Pep Club uniform, "Leaving on a Jet Plane" (everyone's theme song when leaving Berlin....."I hate to go" (leave!") etc.

JUST RELEASED AND DEDICATED TO THE BERLIN BRATS!!!!!!

As reported by Phyllis Hardy '73 on our Brat Guest Book OnLine Form from our website:

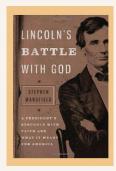
I just bought the book Lincoln's Battle with God written by Stephen Mansfield. The dedication is to the faculty and students of Berlin American High School 1966-1994. I found that he was in Berlin from 1970-1973.

Stephen is a New York Times Best Selling Author! Listen to Stephen when he appeared on BratCon (Brat radio) Feb 2011. at: http://bratcon.com/BRATCONRadioShows/BratCon20110210.mp3

Stephen Mansfield '76 (in Berlin from '70-'73)



Lincoln's Battle With God



Abraham Lincoln is the most beloved of all U.S. presidents. He freed the slaves, gave the world some of its most beautiful phrases, and redefined the meaning of America. He did all of this with wisdom, compassion, and wit. Yet, throughout his life, Lincoln fought with God. In his early years in Illinois, he rejected even the existence of God and became the village atheist. In time, this changed but still he wrestled with the truth of the Bible, preachers, doctrines, the will of God, the providence of God, and then, finally, God's purposes in the Civil War. Still, on the day he was shot, Lincoln said he longed to go to Jerusalem to walk in the Savior's steps.

What had happened? What was the journey that took Abraham Lincoln from outspoken atheist to a man who yearned to walk in the footsteps of Christ? In this thrilling journey through a largely unknown part of American history, New York Times best-selling author Stephen Mansfield tells the richly textured story of Abraham Lincoln's spiritual life and draws from it a meaning sure to inspire Americans today.

BAHS 1993-1994 Cookbook



Jeri recently purchased this cookbook on ebay. A BAHS 1993-1994 cookbook printed in the final year our school was in operation. When it arrives in the mail, it will be scanned and added to the Scrapbook Page on our website.

A Storefront in Berlin You Must See:

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=XVTga6GmbGw&vq=medium#t=74



also submitted by: DeeDee Bronaugh (mother of Tom Dietz '82)



Jules DeNitto '63

FOLLOW UP: Did you meet JFK in Berlin?

In our October 2012 issue we announced a TV documentary being made in Germany for the 50th anniversary of JFK's visit to Germany, ie: June 1963. The producers were hoping to find a Brat who had an interesting story - tie in.

We believe we have one in Jules DeNitto '63!

As we reported in our January 2012 Newsletter, Jules met President Kennedy in Berlin in June of '63 and then again two more times in November. We shared this information with the producers..... and lo and behold they just interviewed Jules on Sunday, January 13th for 3 hours.

The interview was done in Georgetown/Washington DC. As the project comes to fruition and we learn more we will pass it on.

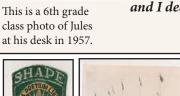
"The Echo of Cleats"

In a recent conversation with Jeri, she suggested that I write down some of my most memorable experiences as a Brat in Berlin. It is without a doubt that the two years that I lived in Berlin were one of the most exciting times that I ever lived through. Like many other Brats living in Europe, I was exposed to a new kind of lifestyle, that of a military dependent overseas! But first, let me go back a few years.



My family was stationed in the great city of Paris, France from 1954 to 1957 where I attended the Paris American Elementary School. Aside from visiting all of the famous French monuments, we spent a lot of our time at SHAPE Headquarters where my father was stationed.

One of my most memorable moments was one evening at SHAPE when my parents attended the weekly bingo games for military personnel. Feeling a bit bored, my brother and I decided to go exploring throughout the building.



Shape Patch



SHAPE was sort of like the Pentagon. The hallways stretched out so far that you

guard outside his office. I then said "wait a minute. He did have a name plate on his desk that only said "MONTY." With that, the entire bingo hall became silent, (like that commercial, "When E. F. Hutton speaks, everyone listens.") Seconds later the whole bingo hall erupted with applause and everyone stood up. I said to my father "Whats going on?" That's when he told me that we had just met Field Marshall Bernard Law Montgomery, and "Nobody but nobody ever

gets to see "Monty"! This was my first brush with a famous person, and yes, I still have those coins!

couldn't see to the other end. After a while, we became

lost in the maze of hallways at which time some soldier came walking down the hall. Every step he made cracked with an echo from the cleats on his shoes. I ran up to him and said "Excuse me Mister, do you have any stamps or coins that you can give us?" He smiled and said "Sure do son. Follow me boys." We followed him down a string of hallways where he took us into his office, opened up his desk drawer and scooped out a large handfull of French, German, Dutch, and British coins, and a pile of postage stamps. My brother and I thanked him for his generosity and ran back to the bingo hall to show our parents our treasure trove.



Eiffle Tower



Jules (left) and his brother Gary wearing French Barets at their house in Paris

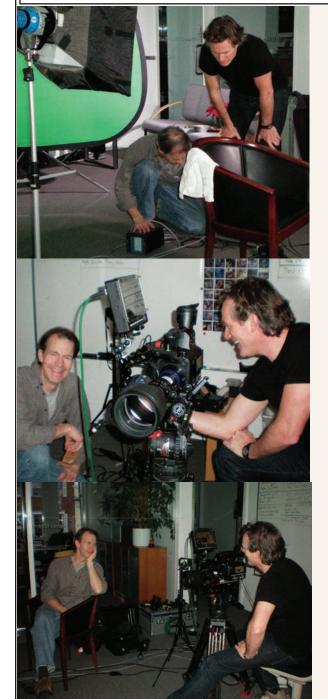


The famous Secre Couer Church in Paris



Gary, late sister Jean, and Jules holding a large loaf of French bread.

Jules with his father at the entrance to Shape HQ After several attempts to get everyones attention, and being told to shut up, my mother finally said "Where did you get all of those coins from?" I told her that some soldier wearing a red cap took us to his office and gave them to us! She then said "who was this soldier," at which time I replied "I don't know, but he had a lot of Military Police standing



ARD German Television Studio Georgetown, Washington, D.C.



Jules's photo album to select pictures to use in her upcoming film documentary of JFK. Jules's wife Dottie took these photos throughout the interview along with photos of ARD Studio's cameramen Rob and Tom setting up the studio.



camera men Rob and Tom setting up for the interview.

±.....



Stop Train 349 Movie made about a DUTY TRAIN INCIDENT IN 1963 (1963) Sean Flynn, Jose Ferrer, Nicole Courcel. An outstanding film about an American Army train going from Berlin into the West Zone. On board is an East German stowaway. The Russians get wind of it and stop the train. A standoff between the yanks and the commies ensues. A very literate, engaging script that keeps your interest perked. This film, more than any other, showed the acting potential of Errol Flynn's son, Sean, who plays the lead role.

The movie Stop Train 349 has been uploaded to YouTube. It will be playing on the duty train in the Transportation Museum in Ft. Eustis, VA. Story on following pages.

TO THE CONTRACT OF THE CONTRAC

DUTY TRAIN INCIDENT IN 1963?

Photos inside the train from www.BerlinBrigade.de

(Source: NEW YORK TIMES, 24 November 1968; submitted by James C. Turcotte, Chelmsford, MA.) Russians Delay U.S. Train in Germany for 15 Hours By Sydney Gruson Special to New York Times Bonn, Germany, Nov 23 -

Soviet military authorities detained the United States Army's West Berlin-Frankfurt train for almost fifteen hours today on the border between West and East Germany. The train and the eighty Americans aboard were allowed to proceed only after a 20-year-old East German was taken from the train and turned over to Soviet officials.

The German youth had apparently gotten aboard the train during the night. The train, with eleven children among the Americans on board, was one of four that the Army runs daily between West Berlin and Frankfurt and Bremen. It pulled into the Soviet railway checkpoint at Marienborn, six miles from Helmstedt on the West German side of the border, at 10:45 o'clock last night. The Soviet officials at the checkpoint told the American train commander, who was one of a crew of six among the eighty Americans aboard, that they had information that an East German had broken into the train.

Although the Army announcement of the incident did not say so, the Russians were reported to have demanded the right to search the train.

The train commander, one announcement said, "acting on standing instructions, refused to let anyone board or leave the train at Marienborn."

Col Ernst Von Pawel of Kansas City, Mo., chief of the United States Army's liaison mission to the Soviet forces in East Germany, was ordered to Marienborn from Potsdam to investigate.

The Army announced that Colonel Von Pawel "found that a 20-year-old East German male was aboard."

"This unauthorized passenger had broken into the train at Gerwisch," the Army said, "and his presence was revealed to the Soviets after their extensive interrogation at Marienborn of an East German conductor on the duty train." The train had stopped at Gerwisch, a small siding in East Germany about seventy miles from West Berlin presumably to make way for East German rail traffic. The train was released at 1:10 P.M. (?)

today, the Army said, "after Colonel Von Pawel turned the unauthorized passenger over to the Soviets."

When the train pulled into Helmstedt, the military policemen were guarding the doors of all six cars. The window on one of the doors, which are locked from the inside, was broken.

There was food aboard the train, but no dining car.

The passengers, Army and Air Force personnel and dependents and civilian employees of the United States Government in West Berlin and West Germany, were given hot drinks and refreshments at Helmstedt.



THE BERLIN DUTY TRAIN



After WWII, Germany was divided through the capital city of Berlin into sectors occupied by the French, British, American, and Soviet governments. To transport soldiers, their dependents, and US Army civilians in and out of the Allied sectors, the Transportation Corps established the Berlin Duty Train in late 1945. The US had a total of four passenger trains that traveled through Frankfurt, Bremerhaven, and Berlin consisting of three compartmentalized sleeping cars, an escort car, and a mail and freight car. The trains traveled only at night, and the trip averaged nine hours, depending on time spent to check passports and orders. Approximately 80,000 people made the trip each year

Each train was assigned a train commander, a Russian-English interpreter, two Military Police, a radio operator, and a conductor. The Train Commander was almost always a Transportation Corps Lieutenant, who was responsible for the safety and security of the train during its journey. No one was permitted to get off the train at checkpoints, except for the commander, interpreter, and senior MP. Passport inspection by the Russians took about an hour and if information did not match exactly—a period or a space in the wrong place—a person could be rejected.

Thank you to the US Army Transportation Museum for providing information.





Above: Grabowski's wife, Anava Guiule Watkins Grabowski unveiling plaque placed on the Berlin Duty Train Guard car.

Article found in the Defense Transportation Journal September 2007 shown to the left.

In 2007 the US Army Transportation Museum and the Army Transportation Museum Foundation paid tribute to Colonel Norbert Grabowski. He was recognized with a special plaque placed on a Berlin Duty Train guard car that is now housed in the Transportation Museum at Fort Eustis, Virginia. The car has been refurbished and dedicated in his memory.

During the memorial service the Berlin Duty Train story was retold. Grabowski was acting as the train commander. The story follows as told by the Army Transportation Museum.

While traveling through East Germany, an East German refugee broke a window and boarded the train. East German and Soviet authorities demanded entrance to the train and the right to seize the passenger at the border crossing.

Grabowski, only a first lieutenant, refused entrance to the East germans and Soviets for more than 15 hours. Finally, when ordered by U.S. authorities in order to avoid an international incident, Grabowski handed over the refugee.

Grabowski served as train commander only a short time, as the standard tour being one and a half to two

1935 - 2006 DER WHEN THE RUSSIANS HALTED

above: regulations for conduct while on the duty train

A documentary about the incident reunited Grabowski with the East German he had worked to save. The refugee had served two years in prison for the incident, and lived in East Germany until the communist regime fell in 1989.

Grabowski, according to retired Colonel James Rockey, certainly having been courageous, and others recognizing it, received an Army Commendation Medal for what he did, and in that time it was a rare thing for a lieutanant to be recognized.

Initially he did not know the refugee was on the train.

At the time it was an issue of US sovereingty. If you let them try it one time and no one was there, they will try it anytime they can for publicity, to make the US

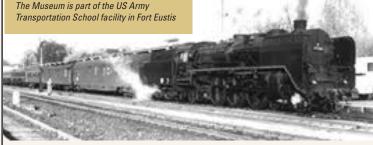
look bad.

UNITED STATES ARMY TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

300 Washington Boulevard Besson Hall Fort Eustis, Virginia 757-878-1115

- OPEN: 9:00am-4:30pm (except Mondays and Federal holidays)
- Free admission, Parking, Gift Shop, **Guided Walking Tours**

The Museum is part of the US Army



Upon completion of a new addition to the museum, the train will be moved indoors and be used to display the film "Stop Train 349", a Hollywood rendition of the incident that tested Grabowski's character when he was a young lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS BERLIN COMMAND APO 742

AEBGA

in July 1961

SUBJECT: Information for Visitors in Berlin

TO: Individuals Concerned

- 1. Rescission: Letter AEBGA, this headquarters, 10 March 1961, subject as above.
- 2. Welcome to Berlin. We hope your stay will be rewarding and that you see and enjoy the city, its sights and places of interest. To insure that the pleasantness of your visit is unmarred, this publication furnishes the DO's and DON'T's to which you should adhere while here.
- 3. Berlin is an occupied city completely surrounded by the Soviet occupied zone of Germany. Surface access to Berlin is through this occupied zone. You are not permitted to enter this Soviet occupied zone of Germany except enroute to or from Berlin via the Berlin-Helmstedt Autobahn or the US Duty Train. To transit the Soviet zone either by road or rail, you must have proper and complete documentation. The city proper is divided into four sectors, US, British, French, and Russian. You are free to visit all sectors to include the East sector (Soviet), i.e. East Berlin. In the Western sectors, (US, British and French) i.e. West Berlin, you may travel as you please exercising only the care which is normal in any city of the world. While in West Berlin, you may travel by bus, the U-Bahn, or by Western sector taxicabs, which are identified by a solid white stripe below the window line, or a taxi sign on the roof. Even though in West Berlin:
- a. DO NOT use East Berlin taxicabs which are marked with the broken white stripe below the window line.
- b. DO NOT use the S-Bahn as it goes into the Soviet occupied zone of Germany. It is operated by the East German government and its use could result in your detention by East German or Soviet authorities.
- 4. As complete protection cannot be guaranteed to you as a US citizen, or the dependent of a US citizen, you are not encouraged to travel in East Berlin except as a member of an official US Army tour. Special Services Division of Berlin Command conducts such tours which depart from the Shopping Center each Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 1300 hours (Tp: 74-6523 for reservations). If you desire to travel to East Berlin on your own by private vehicle, you should have no difficulty if you keep in mind the following points:
 - a. Two types of currency exist in Berlin. In West Berlin, the currency used is the Deutsche Mark. This money cannot be used in East Berlin, where the standard currency is the East Mark. If you plan to make purchases or spend money in East Berlin, you must exchange your West Marks for East Marks in an East Berlin Noten Bank which is the official East Berlin Money exchange.

AEBGA

10 July 1961

SUBJECT: Information for Visitors in Berlin ..

You will be issued a certificate to use as proof you acquired the East Marks legally. Retain this certificate. Show it upon domand. Purchase made with East Marks acquired through other sources are illegal. Among those items which are forbidden for sale to you are gasoline, food, rare or valuable antiques or objects of art, and clothing. Items which you may purchase in limited quantities are books, pictures, magazines, phonograph records, sheet music and postcards. You may also purchase in East Berlin tickets to public entertainment, i.e. operas, concerts, theaters or the circus.

- b. Avoid bars and cafes.
- e. Avoid public gatherings and crowds.
- d. Do not involve yourself in excessive conversation or get into arguments.
- e. If you drive your own car, be certain your insurance covers you in East Berlin. Drive carefully, observe all posted traffic signs. Avoid accidents.
- f. The taking of photographs in East Berlin is not recommended although only military installations, military personnel or the police are specifically prohibited. The act of carrying a camera may arouse suspicion even though you are not using it.
- 5. Although mandatory only for personnel assigned to Berlin, military visitors are encouraged to wear appropriate off-duty uniforms when visiting East Berlin,
 - 6. In the event you are arrested and detained, follow these instructions:
- a. Inform your detainer that you are an American, and that you wish to return to West Berlin. If this request is denied, ask that a Russian official be called.
- b. Show your identification card on demand to establish your identity. Furnish information only as to your name, date of birth, Service or ID Card number, and your rank or title. You may answer truthfully the reasons for your visit to East Berlin. Limit any discussion to pertinent facts regarding your detention. Under no circumstances sign any documents offered to you by either Soviet or East German officials.
- 7. Your personal conduct should be exemplary at all times while in East or West Berlin since as an American in Berlin you are a representative of the entire United States in the eyes of the communists and indeed the whole world.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

R. G. AMENT

LG amount

Capt, AGC

Asst Adjutant General

Tp: BERLIN 6595

200th Anniversary of Publication of "Grimm's Fairy Tales"

Dec 20, 2012

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (© picture alliance / akg-images)



The Brothers Grimm Museum in Kassel (© picture-alliance / Uwe Zucchi)

They were linguists and authors, legal scholars and librarians, university professors and occasionally politicians - and they are counted among the founders of German philology. But multifaceted brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm are world-famous today above all for their collection of Children's and Household Tales (Kinder- und Hausmärchen). Two hundred years ago, on December 20, 1812, the collection was published for the first time. Today, the collection of fairy tales, more commonly titled Grimm's Fairy Tales in English, is one of the best-known works of German literature.

Jacob, born in 1785, and Wilhelm, born in 1786, were the oldest of six children of Philipp Wilhelm Grimm, a lawyer in the Hessian town of Hanau. The elder Grimm died in 1796. Until her death in 1808, their mother, Dorothea had to raise the family without a breadwinner. She found support in her older sister, a lady of the court in Kassel, who not only ensured the livelihood of the family, but also took on the educational costs of her nephews, who both went on to study in the university town of Marburg after finishing their schooling in Kassel.

At the time, the brothers laid the groundwork for their future careers as linguists and story collectors. They got to know the Romantics Clemens Brentano and Achim von Arnim, discovered their interest in folk poetry and began to collect stories. The legendary Grimm collection already had a precursor in von Arnim's collection of folk songs, published in 1805:Des Knaben Wunderhorn, a typical Romantic work, revered ordinary people's stories as a primitive form of poetry.

The 50 contributors to Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm's works were, however, by no means ordinary. Most of the "storytellers" came from the educated classes, such as Dorothea Viehmann, originating from a Huguenot family; the poet Annette von Droste-Hulshoff; and the pharmacist's daughter Dorothea Wild, who married Wilhelm in 1825. The brothers meticulously edited the texts for style and adapted them to their ideal of popular poetry.

The Golden Goose

(© dpa/picture alliance)

As a result, the brothers published a veritable treasure trove of works: the fairy tale collection, articles and books on minstrelsy, ballads, and legends. In this period, Jacob was also working on the later famous German Grammar, a comprehensive work that captured all the Germanic languages, their inner workings and their historical development. To earn their living, the brothers took up a spate of varying employments, including work as librarians.

> Hansel and Gretel (© picture alliance / akg-images)

The brothers were inseparable throughout their lives. For years, they shared their home with their sister Charlotte, who ran the home until her marriage in 1822. Even after Wilhelm had married and had children together with Dorothea, Jacob continued to cohabitate with his brother and sister-in-law.

In 1829, Jacob and Wilhelm together finally received an offer from the University of Göttingen, where they worked until 1837. The brothers were dismissed from civil service for participating in a protest with a group of professors against actions of the new King Ernest Augustus I of Hanover. They then returned to Kassel and began work on their German Dictionary.

Not until 1840 did the brothers receive a steady job again, when the new Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm IV called them to the Academy of Sciences in Berlin. From then on, the Grimms were a teaching fixture at the University of Berlin. Politically, the brothers were still active in working toward a liberal German nation state. In 1848, Jacob became a member of the Frankfurt National Assembly.

Their steady jobs in Berlin also allowed the brothers to make further progress on their German Dictionary. The brothers had estimated that they could finish the magnum opus in ten years, but they were a bit off. In their lifetimes, the industrious Grimms only managed to complete the entries from "A" to "fruit fly." Wilhelm Grimm died in 1859, his older brother Jacob in 1863. The inseparable brothers are together even in death; they are buried side-by-side in the Alter St.-Matthäus Kirchhof cemetery in Berlin. In 1961, 123 years after the start of their work and some 100 years after the death of the brothers, the final volume of their dictionary was published.

Germany and Its Costumes - Dirndl & Lederhosen

Visit the German-American Heritage Museum of the US in Washington, DC ...till Feb 28, 2013

Location: German-American Heritage Museum, 716 Sixth Street NW, Washington, DC (Metro Station Gallery Place)

Admission: Free of charge

The German-American Heritage Museum of the USA is an art and multimedia Museum, which presents permanent exhibits featuring German immigration and migration across the Unites States and famous German-Americans, as well as smaller, temporary exhibitions.

In earlier times, traditional German clothing or 'tracht' identified a person as belonging to a certain region and a particular social group. Every region in Germany had its own traditional costumes. Dirndl and Lederhosen were typical for the southern part of Germany and for Austria. These costumes in particular have experienced a modern-day revival.



Young girls in traditional costumes (© picture-alliance/ dpa)



Expansion plans brewing with Starbucks' arrival on U.S. base

By MATT MILLHAM Stars and Stripes Published: November 23, 2012

One at the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center is expected within the next six months, according to Lt. Col. Al Hing, an exchange spokesman. Another will open in Wiesbaden's yet-to-be-built shopping center, which Hing said should open in either 2014 or 2015.

The exchange is also in negotiations for stores at Wiesbaden's Clay Kaserne, Panzer Kaserne in Stuttgart and at Grafenwöhr.

"We are definitely trying to get all of them," Hing said. If Starbucks expands further, it could prove stiff competition for the Java Café, which dominates the on-base market with a line of beverages made with Starbucks-brand coffee.

Christina Coenen-Lane, who works for Java Café in Kaiserslautern and Landstuhl, said there isn't much of a difference between the two products as far as she can tell, but "people that come from the States, they expect Starbucks."

At the new shop at Spangdahlem, "You actually feel like you're stepping into a Starbucks back in the states," said Hing — right down to the hue of the green paint.

More than a decade after Starbucks crossed the Atlantic, it hadn't penetrated American bases in Germany until Nov. 2, when Spangdahlem Air Base christened the first. COURTESY OF STARBUCKS CORP.

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — It has begun. Starbucks, America's caffeine superstore, just got a foothold in the U.S. military community in Germany and is already looking to grow.

Whether it will march to dominance as it has in the U.S. remains to be seen.

With more than 13,000 stateside locations, the coffee chain's stores are even more plentiful than McDonald's in the U.S. But more than a decade after the beanery crossed the Atlantic, it hadn't penetrated American bases in Germany until Nov. 2, when Spangdahlem Air Base christened the first.

Now, Starbucks could be on its way to dominating the on-base market. New Vision Coffee Europe Ltd., the licensee that built and operates the Spangdahlem store, has already negotiated for two more on-base shops in Germany.

You – Berlin Brat -- are a national treasure! :-)

Berlin Brat Friends, Do you realize how much of a national treasure YOU are? :-)

Consider: *Your life is a beautiful tapestry that designed the special person you have become.

- *Whenever/wherever you were a Brat, you saw history happen.
- *Having moved as often as you did, you adjusted and made friends.
- *Those of you who lived/went to school outside the U.S. were truly 'ambassadors.'
- *You see the 'big picture' when it comes to lots of things.
- *You are probably more patriotic than many people are because your unique heritage impressed on you why our country is great.
- *You are more open to making new friends and seeing opportunities.
- *Your special background is invaluable to any place you work at or community you belong to.

- *Lessons you learned you now apply to enhance yours and other peoples' lives.
- *Many friendships formed years ago, have now become family to you.

Have a terrific day Brugs (Brat-hugs),

Joe/OVERSEAS BRATS On Facebook: Official OVERSEAS BRATS Fan Page

Upcoming Events:

"Brats Beach Bash"

(aka Homecoming 2013) August 8-11, 2013 at the Plaza Resort & Spa Daytona Beach, Florida

Details at:

www.overseasbrats.com/OVERSEAS_BRATS_Homecoming_2013.htm .

Contact: Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, President Email: joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net

Contact Information:

American Overseas School Historical Society

Contact: Tina Calo, President email: <u>tcalo@aoshs.org</u> Website: <u>www.aoshs.org</u>

Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, President Email: joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net Website: www.overseasbrats.com SHARE YOUR STORIES
Be part of the
Berlin Brats Book Project
www.bratsoverseas.com

Submit to: bratsoverseas@yahoo.com Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83 & Trisha Lindsey '82

Thanks!

Next Reunion

BERLIN 2014

WebBrat: Cate Speer '85 WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org

Berlin Brats Alumni Association

41910 N. Crooked Stick Road Anthem, AZ 85086 623•764•1105 tele BerlinBrats@gmail.com WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org www.berlinbrats.org

Newsletter Brat: Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71 traecombs@gmail.com

Early 60's Site

By invitation only Contact: Jim Branson '64 <u>jbranson01@hotmail.com</u> for an invite

Find us on Facebook:
"Berlin Brats Alumni Association"
(the official Fan Page site)

"Berlin American High School (BAHS)" (an Open Group chat page)