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As we go to print with this issue of the Newsletter this is evolving.....so stay tuned to the official website ([www.BerlinBrats.org](http://www.BerlinBrats.org)), the "BERLIN Brats Alumni Association" Facebook page and/or your Class Contact for more INFO.

### *Inside This Issue:*

- 
- HOW THE HELL  
DID I GET TO BE  
THIS DAMN OLD?  
I'M SURE IT WAS  
ONLY LAST YEAR  
THAT I LEFT  
HIGH SCHOOL.**
- SPICE OF LIFE**  
Most syndicated in the world

## CHECKPOINT CHARLIE FOUNDATION HONORS U.S. VETS



Did you know...that the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation (which was created as a non-profit organization to promote German-American relations) honors U.S. Vets who served in West Berlin. Each year since 2008, CCF has sponsored 12 American military veterans for a week-long tour of the “new” Berlin. The vet must pay their own airfare but once in Berlin CCF pays for their hotel, meals, tours and entertainment for the week.

This is Berlin’s way of saying: “Thank You, GI’s.”

The group each year meets with the U.S. Ambassador to Germany, meets & dines with officials of the Berlin Parliament, members of the German military, Ministry of Defense and/or the Berlin Police. The vets also get to address high school & college students relaying their experiences when West Berlin was surrounded and 110 miles from West Germany.

Called the “Welcome Home to Berlin Tour”

Usually held in late October each year...this year the event will be moved to: Sept 27th-Oct 4th to coincide with the “25th Anniversary of the Reunification of the two Germanys.”

The Group spokesperson for this year’s selections is a retired Army 1st Sergeant. He is fondly remembered in Berlin having served until September 1994. He is also the youngest ever to participate at the age of 48.

His deputy this year is a retired Army Sergeant Major – and a woman. Both were voted into their positions by their 12 group members, Army and Air Force vets from coast to coast and from TX to VT. The oldest attendee this year is 85 yrs old, served in Berlin ’53-’54 in the Air Force as an Airman 1st Class, and then returned as a State Dept Foreign Service Officer ’70-’75.



For more INFO on how your parent may qualify for this program....contact our parent’s organization, the Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association (BUSMVA) via: Donald Stanley at [dstanley@busmva.com](mailto:dstanley@busmva.com)

GERMANY REUNIFICATION DAY (public holiday) IS: October 3rd  
1st celebrated Oct 3, 1990 - one year after the Wall came down



## American Women's Club of Berlin

*Just reformed – informed Molly (Brown) Moylan '74*



**American Passport not required but American Spirit is a must**



Founded in 1931, the American Women's Club of Berlin (AWC Berlin) is a social network with a charitable calling. The AWC Berlin is dedicated to providing information, sharing experiences, meeting new friends and engaging in fun activities, all while helping others along the way.

Whether you are new to the Berlin area or a long time resident looking to reconnect with your American heritage, the AWC Berlin provides a forum for women who care about issues affecting Americans living overseas, women who are interested in global issues, and women who would like to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. We continually seek out like-minded souls to join our vibrant community!

AWC Berlin is a proud founding member of FAWCO ([www.fawco.org](http://www.fawco.org)), the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas – an international network of volunteer organizations in 40 countries on six continents. By being a member of AWC Berlin, you are a member of FAWCO, an NGO, accredited by the United Nations with ECOSOC Consultative Status.

LIKE us! <https://www.facebook.com/awcberlin>  
contact: [president@awcberlin.org](mailto:president@awcberlin.org)

## 2nd Berlin Brat...ie: Faculty...Volunteering at the AOSHS Archives

Upon retiring from being a hospital dietitian, Glenna Harrison now volunteers at AOSHS once a week. She works with Myrna Margraf who has volunteered at AOSHS for about 12 years. Myrna taught in Germany, Puerto Rico, and Japan. Glenna taught at BAHS from 1969-72.

The two of them document new items that arrive at the Museum, sort yearbooks or do whatever needs to be done at the archives. "It is a pleasure to work to preserve the memories of ALL the Overseas Schools," says Mrs. Harrison.



(Mrs. Harrison on the left, Ms. Margraf on the right)

Previously we reported that Mr. Harrison (Ron Harrison) – FAC '71-'72, Glenna's husband, also volunteers at AOSHS.

The Harrison's live in Wichita, KS where the American Overseas School Historical Society (AOSHS) is headquartered. They also regularly check on our "Berlin Wall Section" at the Museum of World Treasures (MOWT) in downtown Wichita.

**THANK YOU BOTH FOR LOOKING AFTER OUR TREASURED MEMORABILIA!**





**Coach Byron Smith (FAC '69-'77) and Margaret just celebrated their  
60th Wedding Anniversary – June 10, 2015!**

### **FACULTY UPDATE**

**DONALD N. PRIEBE - FAC '66- '82 (English Teacher)**

90 years of age

resides in Daly City, CA

Brats,

Had a very nice conversation with Don (Priebe) today. He suffers from diabetes, hence the inability to walk. He is on the two shots of insulin a day regiment. We talked about the old days in Berlin and his lengthy stay there teaching English. He remembered me from his first few years of teaching and we discussed a few contacts he still keeps from those days. Sad disability where he is limited to reading and watching old movies as he is unable to walk. Positively, he has no regrets and stated he led a good life. I promised to stay in touch if he didn't object. Very pleasant contact with long ago memories.

Regards,

Dana Straight - FAC '63-'67

June 27, 2015



**1971**



**1982**



**1978**



**1975**



12101 Lancaster Highway, Pineville, NC 28134

Phone: 704-540-7047 Website: [www.waldhorn.us](http://www.waldhorn.us)

### **Berlin Brats Regional - Oktoberfest in Charlotte, NC!**

# Oktoberfest



When: Saturday, September 26, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm

Cost: Separate Checks

You choose from the Waldhorn's authentic German menu. Please be on time! Seating is at 4:30 pm with dinner at 5 pm sharp. Due to another large group after us, we must depart for the beer tents by 6:45 pm. Entrance to the beer tent is FREE with our meal, and includes entertainment by Jay Fox and the Bavarian Showtime Band. Please bring CASH for the beer tent (and your dancing shoes!). Credit cards accepted at the restaurant but not in beer tent.

**Please RSVP by September 1st to: [BerlinBrats@gmail.com](mailto:BerlinBrats@gmail.com)**





You are invited on Tuesday evening 8 June 1965 to an After-Graduation boat trip on the Wannsee and supper and dancing at the Wannsee Supper Club until 4 AM.

Buses depart from the Sports Center after Graduation and return to the Sports Center at 2 AM and 4 AM.

Stag or couple	RSVP by 27 May
Dress:	Phone: 819-6017
Girls - informal	before 5
Boys - coat & tie	After 5: 76-3349
Guitars welcome	76-2857

## REFLECTIONS

JUNE 1965

June 2015 is a month filled with a lot of memories. It was 50 years ago this month that the 52 member Berlin American High School class of '65 graduated. The ceremony was held in the school cafeteria with everyone standing on the choral risers and our friends and family seated in metal folding chairs. Susan Fedyshyn was class Valedictorian and Mike Herron was class Salutatorian. I believe we were the 20th BAHS graduating class. We immediately partied hearty on Lake Wannsee and began the natural process of all HS graduating classes...separating and going in different directions.

And now we try to get them all back together.

The Berlin Brats are doing a great job at this.

Thanks!

Graham C. Beachum II '65





Herr Voigt  
German and Russian Teacher  
from 1965 to 1985

Dear Brats,

Your teacher Heinz Voigt passed on June 10, 2015 at 13:05 at the age of 92, in Berlin, his family being present. A lot of sympathy was brought forth when he was buried in his home district Spandau in Berlin.

He was a loving, big hearted and righteous person who was well seen and liked everywhere.

He taught at BAHS for 20 years with great commitment and pleasure. Until old age he was always open to and interested in interacting with young people.

We thank you for your sympathy and the many comforting and compassionate words of condolence.

We are very grateful,  
Voigt Family



1980



1983

Dear Brats, I'm Robert Heinz Voigt, the son, you reported his birth in the February issue of 1966 in your "Berlin Bear Facts" on page 3.

I am also working for years as a German teacher at a public German school.

Special greetings I address  
to Mr. Prigge and  
Mr. Bluem.

Many Thanks  
Robert Heinz Voigt



Mr. Bluem-FAC '70 -'94 attended the funeral.  
He purchased a wreath on our behalf.  
The Wreath says: "The Last Greeting - BAHS"





## Quentin Blake Europe School creates a Green Island!

A donation made by the Berlin Brats at the reunion in 2014, was used for the Quentin Blake Naming Day Project this spring. A Green Island.

***“The Green Ship”*** a book by Quentin Blake School is the Inspiration and theme for the planting of a Green Island.

Quentin Blake wrote a book called ***“The Green Ship”***. Since we are a Green School, I combined the idea of Green Ship and Green School and used your money for the planting of a Green Ship. We used the money you sent to make a Green Ship with ivy on the island outside the school. We hope with time, that major areas of the island can become green. Alas the finances in Berlin are very limited, so the generous gift from the Berlin Brats was greatly appreciated.

You made quite an impression on the students and we had many chances to refer back to your visit. It made history come to life.

Thanks again for your generosity!  
Kindest regards from Berlin!  
Heidi Klotz  
June 2, 2015



TAR became QBES



The steering wheel of the ship.



A view to help you orient, where it is.



The Green Ship



Some spring pansies near the ship on the island.

## Son of BERLIN BRAT: Peggy (Vine) Barring '82 ('79-'82)....gets signed by the METS!

Submitted by: Ron Smith - June 23rd, 2015  
Westmont Athletics

Westmont outfielder Will Barring of Tustin, CA has signed a free agent contract with the New York Mets and has seen his first action as a minor league ball player. Barring has been assigned to the Gulf Coast League Mets, a rookie league team that plays in Port St. Lucie, Florida.



*Will Barring*

"I am thrilled to see Will get this opportunity with the Mets organization," said Westmont head coach Robert Ruiz. "They chose someone that will add value every minute he is able to be a part of their organization. He is a leader with relentless work ethic. I couldn't be happier for him. I know he will represent Westmont College and Westmont Baseball very well in his professional career."

Barring debuted today in a game against the Gulf Coast League Marlins. In the top of the eighth, with two away, Barring pinch ran for Victor Moscote, taking over at first base. Unfortunately, the next batter grounded out to first, ending Barring's first day as a member of the Met's organization. In four years at Westmont, Barring recorded a career batting average of .335, tallied 192 hits including 12 home runs and collected 113 RBIs. The centerfielder was a two-time All-Golden State Athletic Conference selection (2013, 2015) and was tabbed for NAIA All-American honorable mention honors this past season.

*We are very excited for him. His hard work and dedication are paying off. He graduated from Westmont College in May with a degree in kinesiology and was a four year starter and two year captain with the Westmont Warriors.*



*Proud Mom and son*

*Peggy (Vine) Barring '82*







Rob Hotchkiss '79

**Rob Hotchkiss (BAHS '79), Charlie Colin, Scott Underwood (all founding members of the group "Train") and Tom Luce (of SF's Luce) have formed a new band. PAINBIRDS!!!!**



Their Debut – was on June 20th at the LIDO, Newport Beach, CA.

For more INFO check out Facebook, or their website: <http://www.painbirds.com>



### **Berlin never stops to surprise!**

Now it has an open air cinema by a hot tub!  
Tacky or fun? You tell us!

From: NPR Berlin <http://on.fb.me/1HUstzp>



## BRATS SUPPORTING BRATS!



Diane (Green) Kempton '72 (3rd from L) and husband Reed on far right showcasing their Photography at the Burton Barr Central Library in downtown Phoenix, AZ. Pulling a surprise visit, Carl Fenstermacher '73 (L) and Jeri '72 (2nd from L) showed opening night for the Artist Reception.

Di and Reed had a total of six photographs of our Facets of Light© glass photography on display at the exhibition. May 14, 2015



The high school where Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83 works is producing a series of teachers reading their favorite book to promote literacy. Here's the poster they made of Mrs. Lowe that now hangs in the library.

**YAY – IT'S OUR BOOK!**

*May 2015*



Look at what new Reunion attendee Gary Planz '74 has done to his 2014 Reunion Hoodie.....and I dare say what Book has he just finished reading?

**BRATS CONNECT AND GET BRAT TATS!***The Brat Flower - The Dandelion*

Michelle (Kent) Wilson '87



Billi and I always had a strong connection to our brat roots. We've remained best friends since 1982. She lives in Texas and I live in Mississippi. We decided to meet up in Dallas this week and mark our time together with tattoos.



Billi (Cooper) LeRoy's tat.



Michelle (Kent) Wilson's Tattoo



Michelle (Kent) Wilson '87 and Billi (Cooper) LeRoy '87



Joyce (Clark) Mallon '72 flew to TX to celebrate her b-day with long time friend and fellow classmate, Susan (Black) Sills '72, her hubby and Bernie Beausoleil '72!



On the Beach in Galveston



### ...Forty Five Years Later...



Bernard  
Beausoleil



Richard  
Black



Susan  
Black



13-15% of the Class of '72 reuniting for Breakfast in TX  
June 6-7, 2015



Jay  
Burach



Gary  
Carpenter



Skip  
Carter



Joyce  
Clark

Susan, Bernie and I are all from the class of '72. Susan and I reconnected in Daytona Beach in October of 2004 when we met there to celebrate our 50th birthdays along with Debbie Stewart Naquin, Teri Allison and Jeri Polansky Glass. Bernard and I actually graduated together but this is the first time we have seen each other since June 5, 1972.

Check out the 1970 yearbook page 22 for BAHS pics of Bernard Beausoleil, Susan Black, and me. It was our Sophomore year, and all of us are pictured on the same page!





A stop in San Antonio, Susan and I enjoyed dinner a German Delicatessen - Schilos. Later as we walked along the riverwalk, we came across a Bavarian Biergarten, Hofbrau Haus Munchen. Pictured right are the beers in very large Hofbrau mugs.



Schilos Store Front - San Antonio, Texas



HB Munchen - Our beers sitting on the counter



Fort Bliss Memorial Cemetery. where my brother is buried. 2 and a half years later.



Bill Clark '75  
Years in Berlin '69-'72

I also visited with my brother Bill Clark's family in El Paso, for the graduation of his daughter Shannon. She graduated from Austin High School on June 12th.



Nicholas, Shannon and Armida  
Graduation Day June 12, 2015



Sherman Hemsley



At Fort Bliss Cemetery I recognized the gravesite of a famous veteran in the same row as my brother. The sidekick in "All in the Family" and later star in the Jeffersons TV show, Sherman Hemsley served in the Air Force for four years and then worked with the Postal Service in Philadelphia and New York. He settled in El Paso, Texas and is buried in the Fort Bliss Memorial Cemetery.

***I never knew this!!!!***

That Hemisfair Park in San Antonio, Texas had a Berlin Bear sculpture donated to it in 1968 by the city of Berlin.



Now new plans are underway for the Hemisphere Park area. We hope the "Berlin Bear" still warrants a spot on the new plaza!! Stay tuned.....!!!!



The best.....Keep Calm..... we have seen yet!!!!

**Upcoming Events:****Contact Information:**

16 Aug, 2015  
Washington D.C.  
Details to follow  
Hosted by Jeri '72

Colorado Brats Club –  
Breckenridge Oktoberfest  
– Sept 12-13th, 2015

26 Sep, 2015  
Oktoberfest - 6th Annual  
Charlotte, NC  
Hosted by  
Deb (Brians) Clark '74

Oct 1-4, 2015  
OSB Annual Gathering  
Portland, OR  
Hosted by: Overseas Brats

30 Oct - 1 Nov, 2015  
Early 60s Gathering  
San Francisco, CA  
Hosted by Maggie '63

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623•764•1105 tele

[BerlinBrats@gmail.com](mailto:BerlinBrats@gmail.com)

Director: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72  
[www.berlinbrats.org](http://www.berlinbrats.org)

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

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

**WebBrat: Cate Speer '85**  
[WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org](mailto:WebBrat@BerlinBrats.org)

**Newsletter Brat:**  
**Toni (Yarbrough) Combs '71**  
[traecombs@gmail.com](mailto:traecombs@gmail.com)

**Homecoming 2016**

Colorado Springs, CO  
ALL SCHOOLS REUNION  
Held Every 3 years! Hosted by:  
Aug 4-7, 2016 Overseas Brats

**Next Reunion  
2017****Early 60's Site**

By invitation only  
Contact: Jim Branson '64  
[jbranson01@hotmail.com](mailto:jbranson01@hotmail.com)  
for an invite

**American Overseas School  
Historical Society**

Contact: Gayle Vaughn Wiles -  
President  
Email: [overseasschools@aoshs.org](mailto:overseasschools@aoshs.org)  
Website: [www.aoshs.org](http://www.aoshs.org)

**Overseas Brats**

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