



2017 Reunion Logo Unveiled



Berlin Brats 2017

New Orleans, LA

Great job! to our resident graphic artist, Susan (Sams) O'Neill '85 and her team, Tammy (Iverson) Peoples '73 and Chuck Hewins '66.

Hotel: Astor Crowne Plaza

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OUR PERSONAL BOOKING

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*Please use this LINK
for reservations!*

As always, the room rate of \$119 has been secured for 3 days +/- the Reunion dates for those who want to come in early and/or stay post reunion for personal days.

We encourage everyone to make their Reservations early as we have been known to sell out our hotel.

A credit card is needed to reserve the room....but will not be charged at this time. Adjustments can also be made over the ensuing months.

The Reunion itinerary and registration package will be available late November/early December.

On August 18th we went LIVE with our Private Hotel Booking Page. Over 600 room nights have already been booked.

Official dates: Thurs, June 8th to check-out on Sun, June 11th, 2017.

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Colorado Springs regional

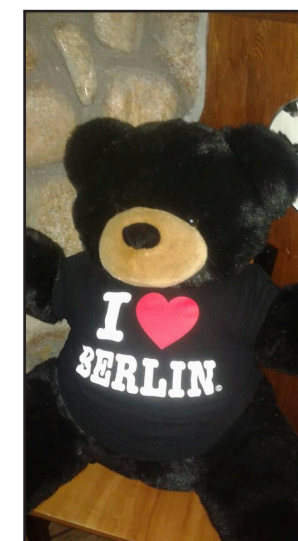
August 4, 2016

About 30 Berlin Brats and spouses gathered at the Edelweiss restaurant in Colorado Springs to reconnect with each other, reminisce, and partake of delicious German food. Some of these Brats also attended the Overseas Brats (OSB)-sponsored "Homecoming 2016" the same weekend (which is why you see some blended pictures below).

The Berlin Brats were joined by a special guest and honorary Berlin Brat, Chris Kyrios '75. Chris' father was the first principal of Berlin American High School and picked our school colors after the colors of his alma mater - Harvard - which are crimson and white. Note his father's Berlin letterjacket below.



Top left photos: Chris Kyrios, honorary Berlin Brat, showcases his father's letterjacket. Although Chris' mother is a Berliner, Chris did all of his school years in Karlsruhe, as his father went on to be a DoDDS superintendent. Bottom left: Kathleen O'Brien '74 and Frank Davis '87. Above: Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 and Sandy McCuskey '73 at OSB Homecoming 2016 banquet night.



Top left: Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83 and family. Top right: Alexa Goltz, spouse of Glenn Goltz '72, and Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72. Center: Dining on German food at the Edelweiss. Left, top: Berlin Brats at the Homecoming banquet. Left, bottom: Trisha Lindsey '82 and Frank Davis '87. Above: Mary Ann (Cunha) Glover '76's Berlin bear.



SEATED L to R: Sharon (Sams) Sopp '82, Mark Lewis '82, XXX, XXX, Mina (Buenviaje) Tice '83. SEATED around table, L to R: Cindy Braun (Anthony Sims' girlfriend), Joy (Compolo) Turner '88, Kristy O'Hearne '86, Karrie (Kotcher) Wymer '86, Cillia (Batchelor) Lang '89, Lee Wymer (Karrie's husband), Wendy (Jaynes) Vance '89, Anthony Sims '87. STANDING left side L to R: Jill (DeBerry) Bonds '87, Julia (Bartholomew) Boulder '88, Mark Millen '83, Lori (Barnett) Martin '89, Steve Kinzie '87, Rene (LaJoie) Newell '88, Joanne "JoJo" (Propkopowicz) Sears '87, Michael "Smurf" James '87, Shellie (Lamb) Iossa '89, Rob Ahrens '87, Steve Barnett '90. STANDING behind table & to right, L to R: XXX, Chris Erickson '87 and wife Pam, David Clifford '90, Christopher Moore '90, XXX, XXX, Cindy (Thomas) Brunett '89, Wendy Stiver '90, Jeanie (Jaynes) Anderson '87, Larry Speer '83, XXX (behind Larry), Angie (Brown) Farquhar '88, XXX.



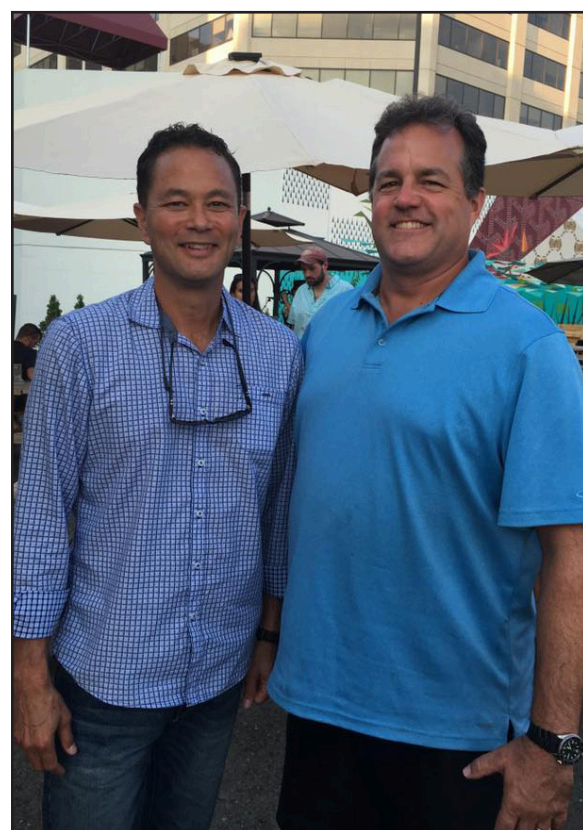
Tysons Corner, VA, regional

Tyson's Biergarten, No. Virginia - Sunday, September 4

Over 45 Berliners (from classes '83-'89) from Alaska to the DC metro area, met up Labor Day weekend to share memories - and make news ones - at the newly opened Tysons Corner Biergarten. Thank you Steve Kinzie '87 and Jo-Anne (Prokopowicz) Sears '87 for organizing the event and to Rob Ahrens '87 for nagging everyone to attend!



Above: Wendy (Jaynes) Vance '89, Jeanie (Jaynes) Anderson '87, and Jill (DeBerry) Bonds '87. Above right: Angela (Brown) Farquhar '88, Steve Kinzie '87, Julia (Bartholomew) Boulder '88, and Rob Ahrens '87. Right: The magnificent Marks: Mark Lewis '82 and Mark Millen '83. Far right: Prost!





Top left: The group takes in the sights -- Jefferson Memorial. **Above right:** Rob Ahrens '87 and Jo-Anne "JoJo" (Prokopowicz) Sears '87, organizers of the regional, enjoy some gender-bending Bier. **Center left:** XXX, Mina (Buenviaje) Tice '83, Sharon (Sams) Sopp '82, XXX. **Above:** Rob Ahrens '87, Steve Kinzie '87, Tom Carey '87. **Left:** The guys catching up over their Biers!

Tyson's Corner regional



Top left photo: JoJo (Prokopowicz) Sears '87 and Steve Kinzie '89 ham it up. **Top right photo:** Karrie (Kotcher) Wymer '86 wins Election 2016 and says "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this Wall!" at the National History Museum. **Bottom right photo:** Steve Kinzie '87, Cillia (Batchelor) Lang '89, Rob Ahrens '87. **Group photo:** The group takes in the sights -- Reflecting Pond and Washington Monument: Women on left side: XXX, Karrie (Kotcher) Wymer '86, Cindy (Thomas) Brunett '89, Joy (Compolo) Turner '88, Cillia (Batchelor) Lang '89. Women in center, L to R: Jeanie (Jaynes) Anderson '87, XXX, Wendy (Jaynes) Vance '89, Jill (DeBerry) Bonds '87, XXX, Cindy Braun (Anthony Sims' girlfriend). Men in back: XXX, Michael "Smurf" James '87, Chris Erickson '87, Steve Kinzie '87, Rob Ahrens '87, Tom Carey '87.

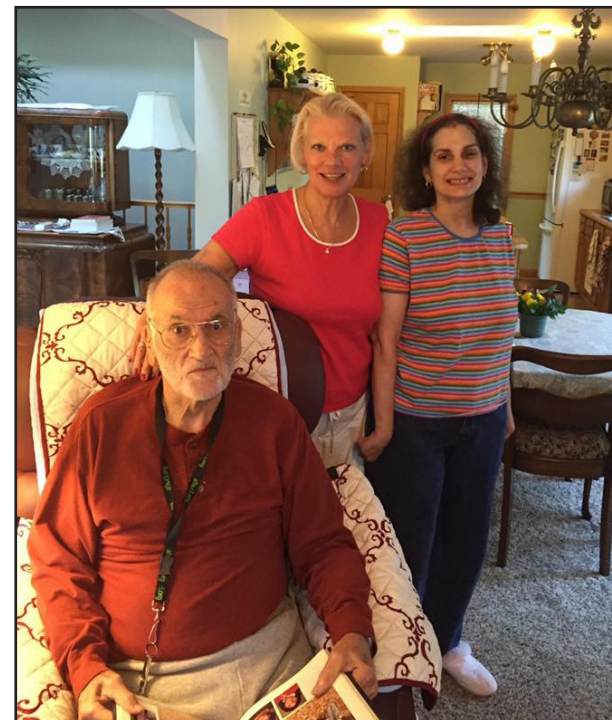


Atlanta Bierfest

Berlin HS had nine at the Atlanta Bierfest in August! Good job Bears!

In the photo: Diane (Westrom) Mock '79, Julie Langley '77, Mark Woods '76 (drink in air), Dale Westrom '78, Tina (Rash) Liptak '77, Jim Liptak '77 (hand in air), Lynn Westrom (Dale's wife), and Michael Mock (hubby of Diane).

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



Mark Britton '84 dropped in at the Pepoy family home in Bedford, PA. Coach Pepoy was FAC from '68 to the school closing in '94.



CHARLOTTE STOPOVER

Jerry Rettie '84 and Kimberly Keravuori '85 (JFK) traveled to Charlotte, NC, to meet up with Bear-a-Cudas teammate Bryan Duckett '84 for dinner at the friendly local German restaurant, the Waldhorn.

Kimberly also stopped in for an afternoon visit with '80s Berlin Youth Group leader Scott Kusel and his wife Susan, who are doing great!

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS



Peggy (Vine) Barring '80 returned to Berlin this past August and snuggled up with a Bear!

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San Diego

Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72 met up with Sam McCuskey '71 after attending a military reunion in San Diego.



Kip honored at Tempe's Healing Field

The Tempe Healing Field is the nation's longest running Sept. 11, 2001 tribute event, where one American flag is flown for every person who died as a result of the terrorist attacks on our nation. The public is invited to join neighbors, community leaders, and public safety officers in a walk of remembrance through the flags.

by Alexis Egeland
The Republic (AZ)

Nearly 3,000 American flags cover the field at Tempe Beach Park to honor the 15th anniversary of the infamous terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Tempe's "Healing Field," one of 13 in the nation, was first built on the third anniversary of the attack. Prompted by the act of a flag company owner in Utah on the first anniversary, Michael Whitaker, president of the Southwest District Exchange Clubs, worked with multiple clubs and organizations in the Valley to create a Healing Field of their own.

Paul Swenson, owner of the Colonial Flag Company, started the original field of flags in 2002. He got the flags through his work

and initially erected them simply to provide a visual image of just how many people were killed. It wasn't until people started visiting the flags and sharing their stories that Swenson realized the healing impact the field could have.

Whitaker brought the idea to the Phoenix area, and Tempe's Healing Field was born in 2004.

Whitaker said the field is meant to serve as a memorial for Arizona



residents and as a touchstone for East Coast residents.

Ribbons, boots, bears have special meaning

The setup process runs like clockwork 13 years later. On Friday,

several hundred volunteers arrived at Tempe Beach Park about 6 a.m. to help set up the thousands of flags and decorate the field.

An identification card is attached to each flag, showing the name, age, and hometown of the victim being honored, as well as the location at which he or she was killed and a brief biography paragraph, Whitaker said.

Next, the field is decorated with various ribbons and accessories to represent different groups of people killed.

Yellow ribbons represent the first responders killed in the attack, including the New York Police and Fire Departments and Port Authority.

The flags representing the first responders line the perimeter of the field, allowing them to "watch over and protect, even in death," Whitaker said.

Sky-blue ribbons represent



the flight crew members of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a Pennsylvania field. These flags are located in the middle of the field, representing that they are at the heart of the tragedy.

Of the 13 healing fields in the nation, Whitaker said Tempe's is the only one to recognize the flight crews.

Combat boots sit at the foot of the flags representing military soldiers and veterans. The boots are donated by veterans or their families.

In 2015, a man arrived at the memorial with a shoe-shine kit, sat down in front of one of the veterans' flags and began polishing the combat boots, Whitaker said. It was later discovered that the man was a soldier.

Two other men, a Marine and a U.S. Air Force airman, joined the soldier and spent hours polishing all of the boots.

"As a veteran, I can

think of no better tribute than to polish another veteran's boots," Whitaker said. "It reminds me of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, an act of humility and tribute."

Teddy bears adorn the flags of the eight children killed in the attacks. Whitaker said that small flags are given to children who visit the memorial each year, and the two tend to go hand-in-hand.

"The kids are drawn to the bears, and when we are taking down the flags, we usually find tons of the little flags around the bears," Whitaker said. "The kids find each other."

Red ribbons are given to people who donate blood at the Red Cross donation truck on site, and they can be placed on any flag in the field.

Volunteers work 'to honor what happened'

Jacob Goodman, 9, was not alive

at the time of the 9/11 attack, so it is merely a moment in his history to him.

But Jacob has volunteered at the Healing Field with his family for six years.

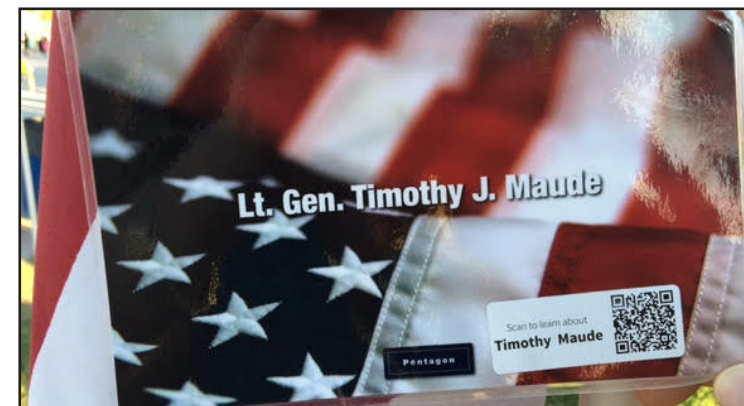
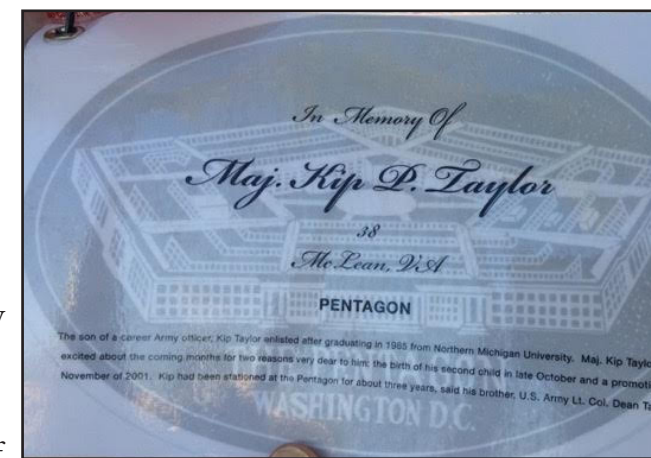
On Friday, Jacob was there with a group called Ambassadors for Change from his school, Center for Educational Excellence in Tempe.

Ambassadors for Change is designed to get kids out in the community to help and to make sure they are aware of what's going on in the world, he said.

"I think it's important to volunteer to put flags to honor what happened," Jacob said.



Tom Ott '79 (pictured kneeling above) visits Kip's flag at the Tempe, AZ, "Healing Field" each Sept 11th. Kip Taylor '81 was the aide to LtGen Timothy Maude, also killed and honored at the site. Thanks, Tom, for honoring and remembering the two.





Above: L to R: 1960 team members Ed Cole '66, John Reale '65, and Pat Williams '65, team members, as they met in Boston for a Red Sox game. **Top right:** The 1960 European Little League Champions baseball team from Berlin.

1960 Berlin Little League European champions team subject of new documentary

by Pat Williams '65

What are the odds of three Berlin Brats getting on the field at Fenway Park during pre-game, while wearing replica jerseys of their 1960 Berlin Little League team? Well, it happened August 13, 2016.

This event really began in February, 2016, when Jared Wheeler, historian of the '47 Brand company, contacted the Berlin Brats and asked about the 1960 Berlin Little League team that won the European championship and played in the Little League World Series. My name was given to him and Jared called. Listening to him was a little overwhelming and surreal at the same time. Jared explained the '47

Brand company is a privately held American clothing brand founded in 1947 by twin Italian immigrant brothers, Henry and Arthur D'Angelo. '47 maintains licenses to create headwear, apparel, and accessories for Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association, National Hockey League, National Football League, Major League Lacrosse, and over 900 college institutions in the United States.

'47 wanted to establish a relationship between the 1960 Berlin team and the present-day sport club in Berlin called the Berlin Braves (a private sports & social club established in 2012, which includes running, soccer, baseball, basketball,

and softball (www.berlinbraves.com). The man who established the Berlin Braves, Joey Elgersma, is also a creative director of independent films.

After several months and many hours on the phone, Jared and his boss, Ryan Johnson, wanted some of the 1960 team to come to Boston for a weekend to be interviewed and filmed. I had been in contact with Ed Cole '66 and John Reale '65 throughout the process, but we had no idea what we were getting into.

So off we went on August 11: Pat Williams '65, his wife, Beverly, and his grandson, Jacob Self; Ed Cole '66 and his wife, Linda; and John Reale '65, and his wife,

Eleanor, to Boston. The evening of the 11th we were hosted at a dinner. Boy, were we a little surprised! A film crew who included Joey, Stephan Weaver (director) and Paul Ward (cameraman) were there as well.

We started bright and early on Friday, August 12th. We toured Fenway Park all morning. We were surprised, to say the least. We were filmed going up stairs, down stairs, standing, talking, and just gawking like 12-year-old boys. We sat behind the green monster, saw the red chair, visited the press box, and climbed everywhere you could think of for several hours. Just as we were getting tired, they took us to one of the suites behind third base. We were then interviewed for about three hours. Every question you could think of about Berlin in 1960, our lives then, and how being a Berlin Brat shaped our lives. Ryan took Jacob to meet David Ortiz while they interviewed the three of us.

Around 3:00 pm on Friday, we all went to the headquarters of '47. There we were given two Berlin baseball jerseys. One was a replica of the 1960 team jersey and the other was a gorgeous white, red, and blue jersey. Along with the

jerseys, we received a blue hat with a 'B' on it. The cool thing about the grey replica jersey and the blue hat was that they were made out of wool like our original jersey and hat. These were introduced in June in Berlin and will go on sale in Boston and Berlin in late October or early November.

That evening we came back to Fenway for a game between the Red Sox and the Yankees. We didn't have seats so we stood in the general admission area. We walked all around the stadium. Really cool!

Saturday was also a real surprise! We were asked to wear our uniform tops and bring our gloves because we were headed to a ballpark. It had been 56 years since I had caught pitches from John and Ed. John still had his curve ball and Ed had his fastball. (All relative, you understand.) Both are in their late '60s. I could still get down to catch them, but the trouble was getting up. This went on for hours as they filmed John, Ed, Jacob, and me. They were very interested in the

connection with Jacob, baseball, and me. That evening we met at the '47 store at about 5:30 pm and were given press and field passes. Boy, what a shock. We then began an evening of filming and watching the game. We filmed from 5:30 until 7:00 pm and from 10:00 pm until midnight. Many, many people asked why

we were wearing baseball shirts with Berlin on them and where was Berlin. Of course, we had to tell them that it was Berlin, Germany. (We need more geography in our schools.)

They did let us sleep in Sunday morning. Yeah, but only the morning. In the afternoon, we were taken to another field. Ed, John, Jacob, and I were to hit, pitch, and field, but all except Jacob were dead-dog tired and very sore. We kept that to ourselves and only told our wives. You know pride!!!! We wore the cool white jerseys Sunday. I think all of us got a few hits out of the infield. After we hit, each of us still had to do about another hour of voice-over. The last thing on Sunday was dinner. '47 and the film crew again were unbelievable.

Their hospitality the four days, and their sincere interest in Berlin during the Cold War, was something the seven of us will never forget! All I can say is, thank you, Jared Wheeler, Ryan Johnson, Amelia, and Antonia Scannapieco from '47, Joey Elgersma, Stephan Weaver, and Paul Ward from the film crew. Your respect and dignity to the three of us and our families and your interest in Berlin made us all feel very special. '47, the Berlin Braves Sport Club, and the 1960 Berlin Little League team have a special bond, and this bond is going to create many special opportunities for many people.



Top right: Six of the team members as they reunited in Williamsport in 2014 to celebrate their time there. **Above:** L to R: Paul Ward (film crew), Stephan Weaver (Creative Director), Joey Elgersma (Producer), Ed Cole '66, Pat Williams '65, Jacob Self (grandson), and John Reale '65.

Byron Smith (FAC '69-'77) ...a year of weekends

Berlin mentor qualifies as expert on Duty Train

by Ben Abrams, Staff Writer
Stars and Stripes (April 25, 1972)

BERLIN (S&S) - If there's an expert on riding the Berlin Duty Train, it has to be Byron Smith, basketball and track coach at Berlin High School. When he brought his track team down to Wiesbaden Thursday night, it marked the 53rd time Byron has made the trip in his three-year tenure in the Walled City.



"A couple of weeks ago, the coach of one of the visiting teams said that coming to Berlin wouldn't be bad if it weren't for the long bus ride and the overnight train trip and I asked him how he'd like to do it four or five times a sports season instead of once a year or so - and he voiced the opinion that once in a while IS more than enough," Smith said recently.

52 Trips Out

"I've made 52 trips to the zone since I've been in Berlin," Smith continued. "That's a year of weekends riding the duty train. It's a lot of bother, but we wouldn't have any sports program at Berlin High School if we didn't ride the rails." Smith has become accustomed to the red tape involved in getting the teams out of Berlin.

"I don't really think, except for the number of trips we have to make, that it is as difficult for us to get out of Berlin as it is for teams coming in here to play us," Smith said. We have some sort of a priority and the transportation and RTO people really do a fine job for us. We can generally get flag orders within a day or two and it takes the other schools several weeks. And, the people at RTO always have a bus waiting for us when we get to Frankfurt.

What is a typical trip like? "It begins with the cutting of orders," Smith says. "Then in basketball season, we check in on a Thursday night for our trip to the zone. I have to collect all the passports and have all papers in order when we check in and I have to sign the required forms. We board at 8 and the train leaves at 8:30. After we board, I have to assign the boys compartments. We arrive in Frankfurt early Friday morning."

But getting to Frankfurt is only the beginning for Berlin's athletes. They still have to get to the site of the competition and more often than not that involves a long bus trip.

"As I said, the RTO people have been very great to us. When we get to Frankfurt, our bus generally is waiting - only once in the three years have we had to wait as long as an hour - and we take off for Rhein-Main Air Base and breakfast. Then, it's on to our destination. Sometimes, in basketball season,

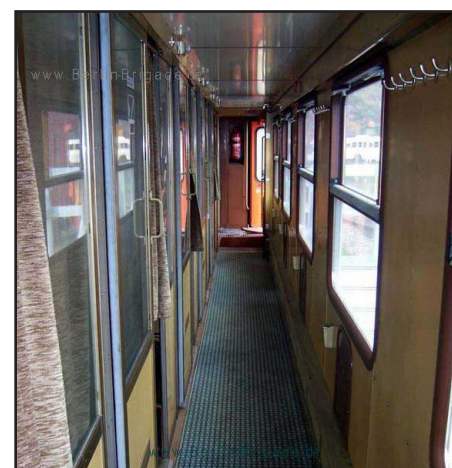
we barely get to the site of the game in time to rest up before we play," Smith added.

Smith has found out that the teams generally make out all right on Friday, but they generally are dead when Saturday's games roll around.

"The effect of the trip doesn't really hit the kids until Saturday. They generally play a pretty decent game Friday night, but Saturday we've found has taken its toll quite often - the boys just can't seem to get going and some teams that we figure we should beat easily have given us fits," Smith added.

"We play our Saturday game, usually early in the morning, and head back for Frankfurt and reverse the procedure. We arrive home early Sunday morning and I head right for home and go to bed for most of the day. Monday is practically a lost day as far as practice is concerned."

Smith said that the Berlin Boosters Club has played a key role in making the arduous trips better for the athletes, citing the fact that many parents make all the trips to support the teams and also that the boosters pick up the tab for two meals a day for every boy representing Berlin High School on the fields of endeavor.



Lowe and Lindsey sign books, debut documentary trailer at Homecoming in Colorado Springs

This past August, 2016, Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83 and Trisha A. Lindsey '82 attended the 2016 Overseas Brats-Homecoming 2016 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

At their "breakout session" at Homecoming, they debuted the new trailer for their upcoming documentary, "Cold War Memories," which was produced and directed by Anastasia Lowe, Yoshika's daughter, whom many of you have met over the years at our Reunions. They answered questions about the Brats Overseas Book Project's call for new stories from all worldwide brats, autographed their "Cold War Memories: A Retrospective of Living in Berlin" book, and held a book giveaway.

With the new book in full swing, more Berlin Brats can consider send-

ing Loftin and Lowe their stories and pictures so that they can memorialize the lives of brats through the ages. You can view the new documentary trailer on their website, <http://bratsoverseas1.wix.com/bratsoverseas>.

Please submit your short story to bratsoverseas@yahoo.com, for the next book, especially if you didn't get yours in for the first book!

In addition to attending Homecoming, the two attended the Berlin Brat regional held at the Edelweiss Restaurant there in Colorado Springs the night before Homecoming's kick-off. They spent a few hours reminiscing about good times in Berlin with brats present from '50 to '88. The authentic German dinner was the perfect beginning for the weekend's festivities.





Heniger, the AFN mouse

by Jim Branson '64

The young PFC in the photos, Mitch Farrell, became a very good friend of mine while doing a teen radio show for AFN Berlin in 1961 and 1962. During that time, he befriended a white mouse that he dubbed "Heniger Aliger." Heniger became the station mascot and a fan favorite to all the listeners of AFN Berlin, both American and a very large following of local Berliners, as the staff began making comments about his exploits around the studio. He was being blamed for everything from records skipping to tape machines stopping or distractions by the deejays. He became a celebrity and received more fan mail than the 5:00 pm "Frolic at Five" program that played the current popular Top 40 music.



Throw
back
photos



Susan (Black) Sill '72 in '69....on the Wannsee!

In Memorium: Mrs. Lavery from the AYA in the early '60s

from Jim Branson '64

We recently learned of the passing of Mrs. Lavery.

For those that don't remember Mrs. Lavery, she and her husband were the caretakers of the AYA in 1961 and 1962 and she chaperoned every day while we played pool and ping pong, ate in the snack bar, and went about our days having fun. Daughters Gail '66 and Linda '67 were always part of the fun.

Mrs. Lavery was always at the AYA whenever it was open, but always in the background making sure that things didn't get out of hand or that schedules were posted, dues were paid, activities were planned, and that the snack bar was always clean and open for business. She was just always there.

Everyone from this period will remember her!

From her obituary: Marion Elizabeth Lavery, 87, passed away at her home on February 6, 2014. She married M/Sgt. Sargent US Army Albert H. Lavery in 1945. She is survived by her two daughters, Linda Lapiejko (Kenneth Lapiejko) of Advance, NC, and Gail Corbett (Dennis Corbett) of Landing, NJ.



Top: The AYA, 1962. **Middle:** Mrs. Lavery on the dance floor shortly after the remodel in 1961. The jukebox was purchased with funds made from selling tickets at the Volksfest. Mrs. Lavery is sitting where we later put in a riser for a stage. The Bats, the band that played with the Beatles in Hamburg when they were all unknowns, used to play for us every weekend during the spring of '62. **Bottom:** Snack bar area: Robert Riddick '65, Katie Rice, Bob Saba '66, and Pete Munoz '66. **Top left:** Lee Angel '64 dancing with Gail Lavery '66 (center). **Bottom left:** AYA game room in 1962: Bob Harris '62, Sam Pacheco '64, Patricia (Pat) Quinn '64, Joe McCabe '65, and Terry Vineyard '66.

Visit 'home' for Berlin vets promotes connections and creates new memories

by Rick Martin '77
Major General, USAF

I was honored and privileged to join the Berlin US Military Veterans Association (BUSMVA) for a veterans return "home" to Berlin during 24 September–1 October 2016. We were magnificently hosted by the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation.

The purpose of this veteran's visit was to promote US-German relations and share memories of serving in Berlin as a divided city. We had a distinguished group of eleven Army and Air Force veterans who were stationed in Berlin during the 1960s-1980s. The itinerary included engagements with key principals in the Bundeswehr, Bundestag, and US Embassy, including the President of the German House of Representatives and the US Ambassador. We were also fortunate to have extended time speaking with German students at various schools to share memories of living

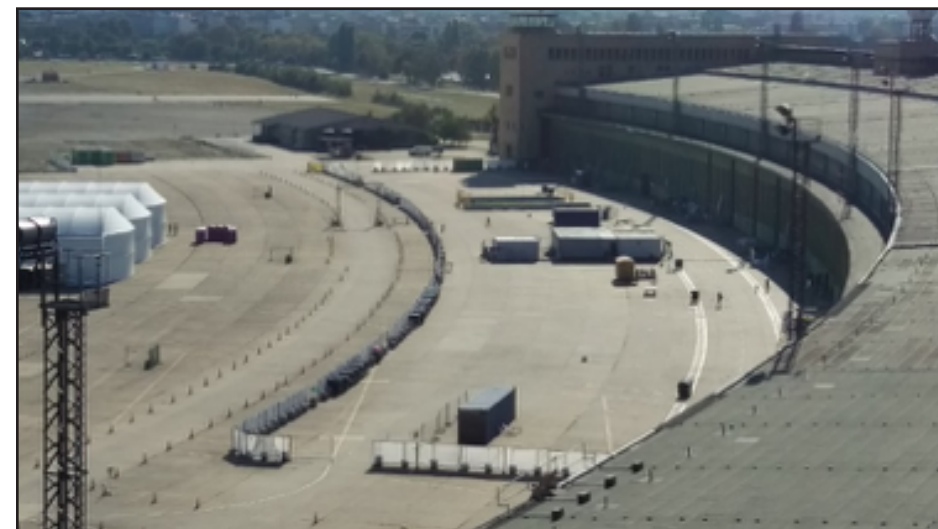
in a "divided Berlin" and to reinforce their appreciation for the history of Berlin. Rounding out our itinerary were Berlin cultural events and visits to historic sites.

Perhaps most significant was witnessing the reactions of the veterans, many of whom had not returned to Berlin in years -- some returning for the first time since the fall of the Wall in 1989. As military brats can certainly attest, the "brick and mortar" of the schools, communities, homes, *et al*, change with time, but the rich memories of life experiences and relationships certainly remain deeply ingrained in all of us.



Berlin continues to grow as a vibrant European capital and key city on the world stage. I salute each of the veterans and their service in this historic city. As brats, we can take great pride in representing American values abroad ... and the importance of relationships at all levels that ultimately strengthen our partnerships with allies and friends.

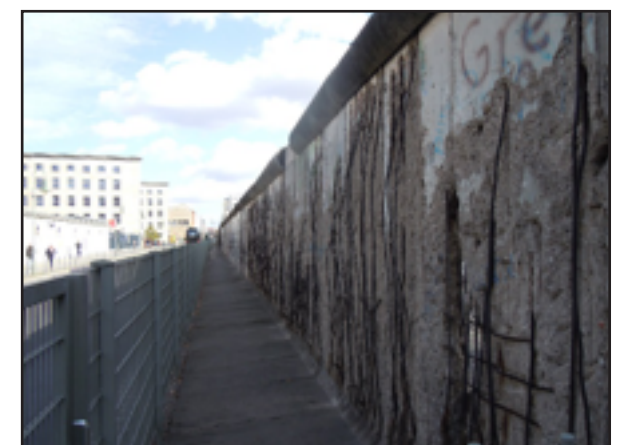
Proud to serve!



Top of page: BUSMVA had the good fortune to meet with the Honorable John B. Emerson, US Ambassador to Germany. Wonderful to spend an hour with the Ambassador around his stately circular table in the circular conference room and the exclusive location overlooking the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag. Above: Tempelhof flightline ... temporary home to many refugees hosted by Berlin. Right: General Martin on the stairs at BAHS. Speaking with German students at the former Berlin American High School – now the Wilma Rudolph Oberschule. The faculty and students were keen on hearing stories of living in a "divided" Berlin and history of their city.



Top: Photo looking down on the German Parliament in the Reichstag. The British architect, Norman Foster, designed the new Reichstag to symbolize a transparency in government where visitors can look down on the working of the legislative chamber. Above: A familiar site for Berliners in the former American sector – Oskar Helene-Heim U-Bahn station and the nearby "Imbiss" specializing in curry wurst and beer. Above right: General Martin recovers from the marathon Berlin-style. Marathon route through Berlin – 42.19km/26.2 miles. The many tree-lined streets and buildings provide shade and wind-protection, and the flat geography make this the fastest marathon in the world at 2:02:57. It's also a great way to see the city with 40K other runners and drink free victory beer at the end! Right: Remnants of the Berlin Wall – a reminder to all of the divided city and the toils of "walls."



Human bones found near former Nazi research site in Berlin

from Russell Ottley '91

I found this on a local news site today. After looking at the map in the article, I realized that was a route I walked a thousand times. Having lived on Riechshofer Straße, and later on Thanner Pfad, this was a route to

get home. Walked right past the Max-Planck Institute. So crazy what lies beneath. I'm sure a lot of you walked over these same streets. Also, if you scroll over on the map, is that a lake where the commissary and PX used to be? Crazy how times have changed.

by David Rising, Associated Press
(Sept 1, 2016)

BERLIN (AP) — Archaeologists in Berlin have unearthed a large number of human bones from a site close to where Nazi scientists carried out research on body parts of death camp victims sent to them by sadistic SS doctor Josef Mengele, officials said Thursday.

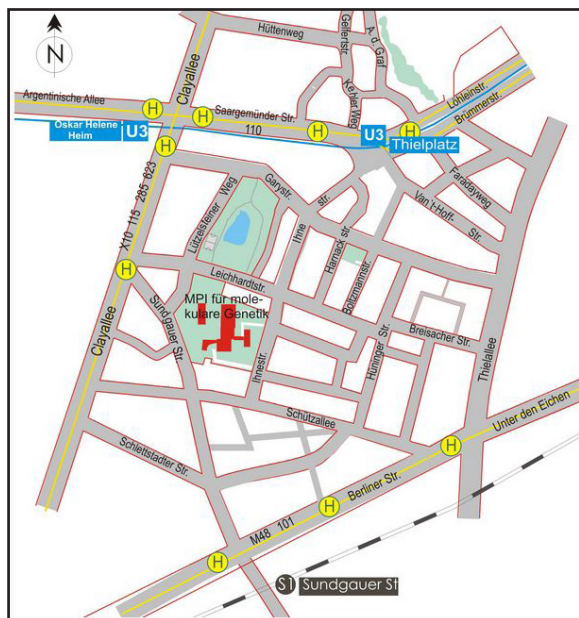
Experts have been examining the site in Berlin's upscale Dahlem neighborhood since a small number of bones were found there in 2014 during road work on a property belonging to Berlin's Free University.

In the dig they uncovered "numerous fractured skulls, teeth, vertebrae" and other bones, including those of children, Susan Pollock, a professor of archaeology at the university who was one of the leaders of the team, said in a statement.

The bones found in 2014 were never identified, and the new discovery provides researchers "a new possibility to illuminate the unusual find and the circumstances under which they were buried," said Jörg Haspel, the leader of Berlin's office that oversees memorial sites. Researchers hope to determine if the remains are those of Holocaust victims or part of a collection predating the Nazi era.

Several of the vertebrae found had traces of glue on them, indicating they may have been parts of skeletons on display.

The site is about 100 meters (yards) away from what was the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Human



Heredity and Eugenics during the Nazi era.

The world-famous Kaiser Wilhelm Society predated the Nazi era and once counted famous scientists like Albert Einstein among its directors.

During the Nazi dictatorship, however, the Dahlem institute was closely associated with pseudoscientific race research, and notorious Auschwitz physician Mengele as well as others are known to have sent many body parts there for study. It was also known to have a collection of bones from Germany's colonial era, among others.

Experts now plan to use osteological identification methods to try to learn more about the newly discovered bones, and should at least be able to determine the general age of the person, their sex and how many different people's bones were found, Pollock said. Results are expected at the earliest at the

end of the year.

A working group of the university, the city, and the Max Planck Society, which the Kaiser Wilhelm Society was renamed after the war, has been keeping in close contact with Germany's Central Council of Jews and Central Council of Sinti and Roma on the archaeological work. If the remains are proven to be those of Jews or other Holocaust victims, they will be buried in "a dignified manner."

"They are currently not sure whether these bones are from persons from concentration camps or if they are only part of the anthropological collection of the institute from the beginning of the 20th century. Archaeologists are currently trying to determine this," said Christina Beck, a spokesperson for Max Planck. "I do not think it will be so easy to get useful information from these bones. ... I have also no idea how long the investigation will take and therefore when we can start to think about a burial."

<http://www.ksl.com/?sid=41302696&nid=235>



Josef Mengele



Headstone for previously found remains from 1990.

by Seth Augenstein

The legacy of World War II and the Holocaust continues to be unearthed, 70 years after the final bombs were dropped, the gates to the extermination camps opened.

Body parts and brains of the victims of Nazi doctors were found at the Max Planck Psychiatric Institute during renovations last year, according to *The Daily Mail*.

The remains are believed to have come from the work of Josef Mengele, the "Angel of Death" of Auschwitz infamous for his sadistic experiments on twins and children.

The gruesome discovery was found during renovation work at the Munich facility.

In a separate ongoing dig, skulls and bones with glue on them have been found in Berlin,

The Munich and Berlin discoveries also follow a revelation in France: the identification of the remains of 86 victims of the Holocaust on the shelves of the University of Strasbourg last year. Some of those victims were identified, based on tattoos and biometrics on file in the World War II records.

Earlier this year, the Max Planck Society ordered a complete review of its specimens, since the discovery of the brains in its Munich-based collection.

In 1990 the society buried and constructed a memorial for specimens from euthanasia victims found at its Munich branch. In 1997, Max Planck's then-president, Hubert Markl, established a commission to investigate

the history of the predecessor institution. The findings were published in multiple works, including one on blood samples sent to the institution by Mengele.

"The Max Planck Society has accepted a difficult legacy of its predecessor organization, the Kaiser Wilhelm Society," said society president Martin Stratmann of his organization's participation in the ongoing archaeological investigation. "We are well aware of the special responsibility that it entails."

Mengele, the most infamous SS doctor at the death camp in Poland from 1943 until the end of World War II, escaped Allied investigators and justice for decades, until his remains were disinterred in Brazil and identified in 1985.

Mengele remained in Germany and under the radar of war crimes prosecutors until 1949, when he crossed the border to Austria and then fled to Argentina. He lived under his real name in Buenos Aires for about a decade, until the Israeli capture of fellow Nazi Adolf Eichmann prompted his escape to Paraguay and then Brazil. German sympathizers hosted him and kept his identity a secret.

Mengele had a stroke and drowned while swimming in 1979. He was buried under the pseudonym Wolfgang Gerhard. His remains were identified in 1985.

The Nazi doctor's remains have been stored in a sack at a Brazilian police morgue for decades. In a twist, they are going to be used to teach medical students in the South American country, a doctor announced earlier this year.

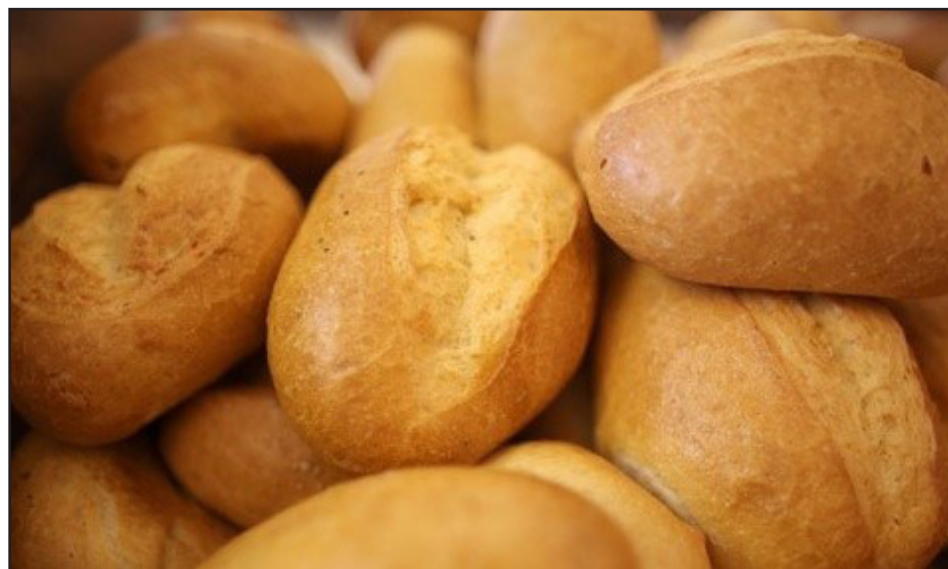
The German Brötchen becomes the boring American bun

dannwoellertthefoodetymologist.wordpress.com

Posted on February 25, 2016 by geschenke2015

Why did we replace the wonderful rolls our Germanic immigrants brought along on their transatlantic voyages in favor of the commercialized American white buns? For way too long, we've settled for the flavorless, industrially produced white bun for our hamburgers and other meat sandwiches. As the 'better burger craze' increases momentum, higher-quality buns are being brought out to the forefront. The brioche bun, and even the pretzel bun, are some of these upscale buns. But none of them compare to the American bun's European ancestor.

If we just go back a little bit in time, we find something called the *Brötchen*. It's still a daily staple today in Germany. The *Brötchen* has been around for centuries, and is the ancestor of our American burger bun. The hamburger itself, the largest user of our American bun, is named after a German port city favorite, the Hamburg steak. It was a ground meat patty that was chopped and cooked. Hamburg,



before the turn of the 19th century, was known for its minced and chopped beef, a method borrowed from the Russians by German butchers. Our term hamburger was a derivation of this product. This minced German product looked more like the Salisbury steak than today's hamburger.

Today, a burger-like product called *Frikadellen* is popular in Germany. They look like mini, slider-sized burger patties, and wedge perfectly into their *Brötchen*. I imagine as the Hamburg steak moved from the *Bierstube* to the street vendor,

it took on this smaller, *Frikadellen*-sized form, and was sandwiched between a *Brötchen*, for the convenience

of the rowdy sailors who ate them on the run.

The early history of the American hamburger is sordid for sure. There are at least six claimants of its invention. The bottom line is the hamburger likely appeared in the late 19th or early 20th century. And, it was designed to meet the demand of a rapidly changing, industrialized society who had less time to cook for themselves. That's the genesis of a lot of other American convenience foods, like the coney.

The *Brötchen*, meaning literally, 'little bread,' is an everyday bun. In Germany, you can get them for under 20 cents, fresh-baked everywhere – in bakeries, supermarkets, and even gas stations. It's a bit smaller than our American hamburger bun, like most portions in Europe. We should take lesson from their smaller portions! A *Brötchen* is deliciously crispy on the outside, and fluffy and chewy on the inside. The secret to a good *Brötchen* is the egg white wash, and baking at a high temperature with steam.

Whenever I've travelled to Germany or Austria, I've always loved

the fresh *Brötchen* served with homemade marmalades, cheeses, and cold cuts at breakfast in every hotel. You might even add a sliced egg, tomato, or cucumber. One over-the-top hotel breakfast in Vienna I experienced had an entire bar dedicated with fillings for their *Brötchen*. Katharina's in Newport, Kentucky, serves this traditional German breakfast with *Brötchen*. It's just like I remember in Germany.

Every region of Germany has their own name and version of the *Brötchen*. They can vary in spice, type of flour – wheat, spelt, or rye – and toppings. Munich has its *Semmel*, which could house a thick slice of *Leberkäse* or liver paté. What's *Schrippe* to a Berliner is *Weck* or *Weckerle* to a Swabian in Stuttgart. Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg have their *Rundstück* – literally 'round piece,' which could sandwich a *Frikadellen*. In the Baltic Islands and Mecklenburg, they're called *Bömmel*, which means 'bauble.' The *Doppelweck* or 'double bun' is a Saarland specialty which consists of two rolls joined together side-by-side before baking. The Black Forest has its *Mutschli*, and Franconia has its *Kipf*. Even the elevated bun we call a kaiser roll in the U.S. is really a wanna be *Kaiserssemmel*, a type of *Brötchen* from Bavaria and Austria. It's named after the Kaiser because the top has centrally cascading-out folds that resemble an imperial crown.

In U.S. foodservice, there's a several million dollar industry supplying bun warmers, toasters, and buttering machines. This is to ensure substandard, commercially baked buns are somewhat good when served with their burger patties. You'd be surprised at the high sugar content in

the typical fast food bun. So why didn't we just keep a great bun to start with that doesn't need all this fuss?

I think we can blame our sinful conversion to the American bun on a

German immigrant, H. J. Heinz, the condiment king. He sold us a bill of goods that all our sandwiches require oozing heaps of ketchup, relish, and mustard. His empire taught us that our sandwiches needed to be messy to be good. We Americans do love our messy loose meat sandwiches. Our barbecue, sloppy joes, and plethora of messy burger toppings, need to be eaten with care. A crispy-on-the-outside bun like the German *Brötchen* just didn't lend itself to our eat-on-the-go, convenience lifestyle, with these messy sandwiches. One bite through the crusty outside of a *Brötchen* and plop goes a drop of messy on your business suit. So we took the lovely



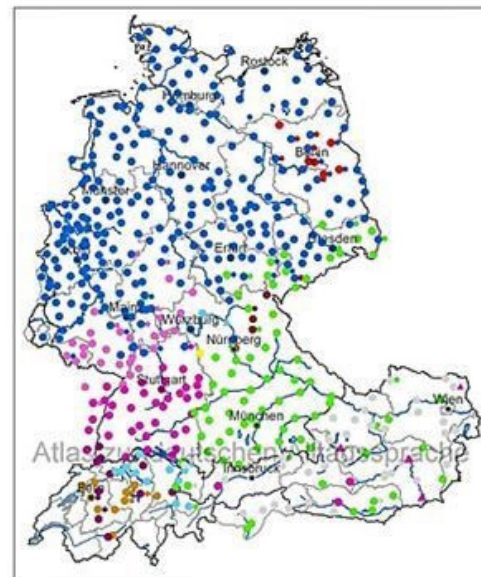
In addition to Brötchen, Germany has 600 varieties of bread.

Brötchen and degraded it into a soft white bun that didn't provoke that plop. We kept the sesames on top to keep a bit of pizzazz – but that didn't totally absolve our sin.

Germans don't really eat any messy meat sandwiches. *Brötchen* are served at breakfast to sandwich their wonderful regional cold cut meats and sausages, or their beautiful marmalades and spreads.

The most iconic American bun, the sesame-seed topped one, bears familial resemblance to the German *Weissenbrötchen*, which can have sunflower, sesame, or poppy seeds on them. This connection is, to me, DNA evidence that our American hamburger bun is a descendant of the German *Brötchen*.

Even though the sesame seed brought to America by the West African slaves trafficked to Georgia and South Carolina much earlier in the 1600s, there's no evidence they used it as a bread or roll topper. Germans had been importing their sesame seeds through Syria and the Middle East, not Western Africa. I think the first burger chain that comes out with a 'Brötchen Burger' will really set themselves apart in the upscale bun market.



Brötchen (länglich)

- Brötchen
- Brötli
- Brötla
- Semme(r)
- Weck
- Weck(er)le
- Weckerl
- Weggli
- Schrippe
- Laabla
- Mütschli
- Kipf
- gibt es am Ort so nicht

Zweitmeldungen kleiner



2017 Scholarships

A highlight of the 2009 Reunion banquet in Phoenix/Scottsdale, AZ, was presenting the BERLIN Brats Reunion Scholarship Awards.

These awards were the first of their kind for the BERLIN Brats Alumni Association and were deemed by those in attendance to be a raging success.

The intent of the awards was to further the success of the BERLIN lineage.

We're pleased that each Reunion cycle we have continued awarding such scholarships! 2017 will see the tradition continue.

The January 2017 newsletter will feature the Application Package, along with more information, so please stay tuned.



2017 REGIONALS

Have not been planned yet, but stay tuned.

Feb 18th is the **OSB AZ** regional in **Phoenix**.

Many Berlin Brats annually attend.

More will be added after the 1st of the year.



Next Reunion

June 8th-11th, 2017
New Orleans



Mark your calendars now!
Hotel booking page
has gone LIVE!!

If you haven't read *Cold War Memories: A Retrospective on Living in Berlin*, you can view and purchase it on Amazon.com.

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