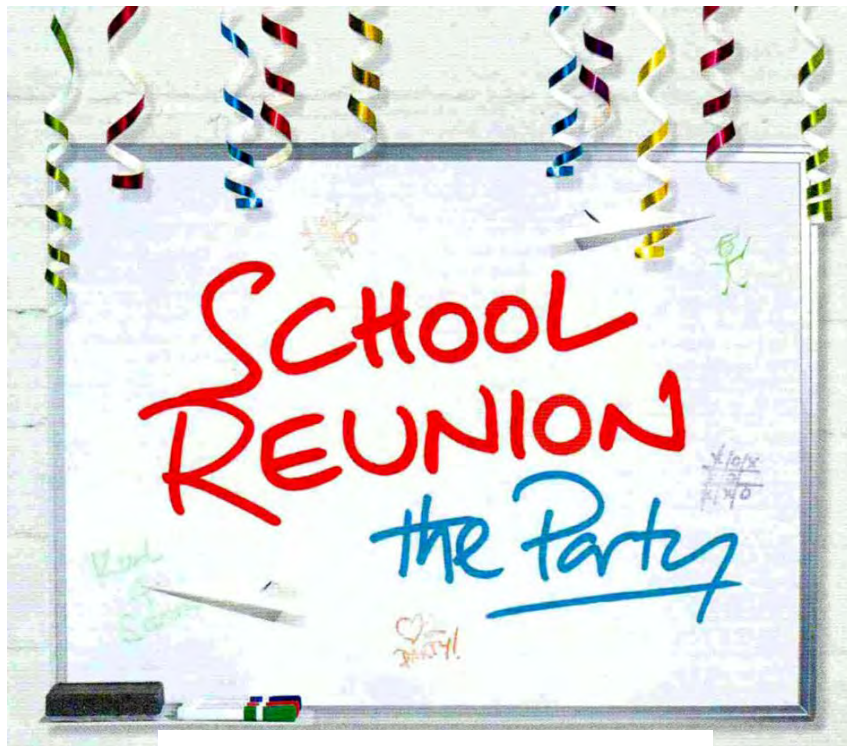




Berlin Brats Alumni Association Newsletter

April 2022

Volume 18, Issue 2



Destination: Colorado Springs
Dates: June 2nd-5th, 2022
Sign up: By May 1st, 2022





April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices and the challenges they overcome.

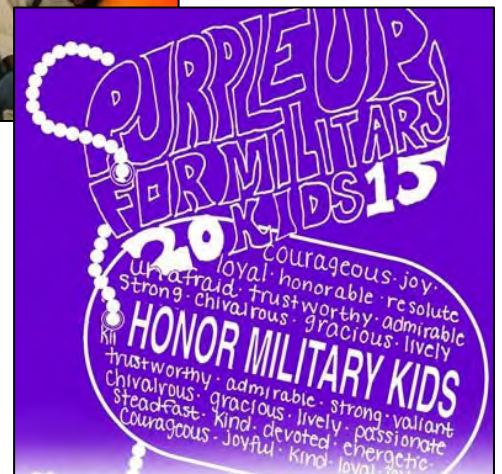
The 2021/2022 school year is the 75th Anniversary of the founding of DoDEA. This year we also celebrate the 35th Anniversary of The Month of the Military Child, which is part of the legacy of former

Caspar Weinberger, the Defense commemoration in "Purple" in this case branches of the supported; Air Force Navy blue, Marine red, blue all thought to as a single color,



Defense Secretary who established Department 1986.

indicates that all military are blue, Army green, and Coast Guard combine together PURPLE!



Follow up to our David Bowie article in the last edition:

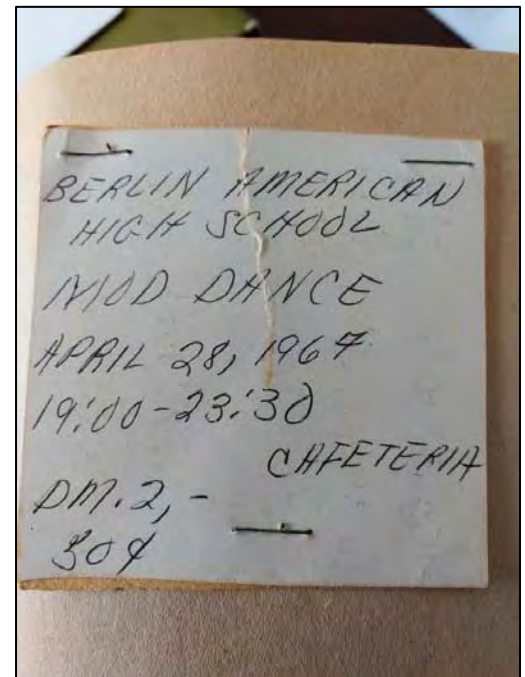
Enjoyed reading about David Bowie in Berlin —in fact, we had a brush with him in the late 70's. One evening we saw him and Iggy Pop bowling at the Athena Grill bowling lanes on the Ku-Damm. Well, we must have made a scene and he told us to "piss off". Years later I saw him perform during his Glass Spider tour in front of the Reichstag in the Concert For Berlin (3 days - Bowie, Eurythmics, Genesis) I was in Berlin for the 750th Birthday celebration.

Joe Morasco '75



Look what Jim Branson '64 found on the Bremerhaven Alumni Assn. page:

Did You Attend This Dance????



In Memoriam



The man we remember with his customary "thumbs up!"

Col. Gail Halvorsen (known as the "Candy Bomber") for dropping candy to the children of Berlin during the Berlin airlift in 1948-1949.



Lt. Halvorsen with one of his "candied" parachutes

He Passed February 16, 2022
He was 101



It's never easy to lose somebody we love. The Berlin Brats will forever remember your integrity, your service before self, and the importance of gratitude you bestowed upon everyone you met.



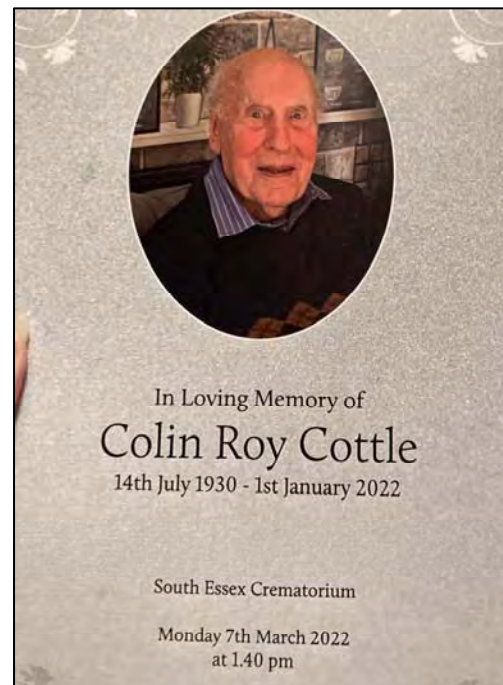
WE'VE LOST A HERO!

As we lost Col. Halvorsen....the British Airlift Assn. had Colin Cottle, 91, pass on Jan 1st, with services held March 7th. Respects paid at the British Airlift Memorial in Alrewas, England.

Read his story at: <https://www.legasee.org.uk/veteran/colin-cottle/?fbclid=IwAR2rCwSiPvVNc4-kGv6dfCoA1i94juIBJS4dpzmlwuo93HMnsmR3c29vvEU>

Legasee: The Veterans Video Archives

Colin Cottle served as a national Serviceman on the Berlin Airlift. For a young lad growing up in South London, the Blitz meant camping out in the basement, plane-spotting and finding shrapnel on the way to school. Although he was just 18 years old, he played an important role in the history of the Cold War preventing millions from starving at the hands of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin's blockade.



Berlin Airlift Memorial, The National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, England

AIRLIFT MOVIE CLASSIC

The Allied Museum (in Berlin) hosted a showing of: **"THE BIG LIFT"**

In Memory of GAIL S. HALVORSEN on 03/23/2022



The Allied Museum paid tribute to Gail S. Halvorsen, who died on February 16, 2022, with a classic airlift film. The US Air Force pilot, who became legendary as "Candy Bomber" or "Uncle Wobble Wing", was 101 years old.

The German-American love story about a sergeant in the US Air Force who falls in love with a German rubble woman during the Soviet blockade of West Berlin is worth seeing simply because of its documentary passages: apart from the two main roles (Montgomery Clift and Paul Douglas) are all military roles occupied by members of the American armed forces who were deployed during the Berlin Airlift. In addition, original recordings from the four-sector city and numerous newsreel excerpts make the film an authentic snapshot of the Berlin Airlift.

The German dubbed version that was released in cinemas under the title "It began with a kiss" will be shown. "The Big Lift" (USA 1950, director: George Seaton / German version), approx. 120 min.

ADAM HILDENBRAND-FAC '69-'94

By: Glenna Harrison

Faculty, Berlin American High School, 1970-72

Adam Hildenbrand, math teacher at Berlin American High School from 1969 until the closing of the school in 1994 has quite an international personal history.

Two generations before Adam, his German ancestors relocated to Yugoslavia as there was more farmland available for the family than where they lived in Germany. His parents benefited from this move and were farmers in Yugoslavia. They lived on the edge of a village and worked in their fields near the town. They had horses, cows, geese, pigs, ducks, and chickens. They were self-sufficient with the farm.

After WWII, 11-year-old Adam experienced being a refugee because President Tito, backed by the Russians, absconded houses and farmland from German families and gave them to his partisan followers after the war. Yugoslavian Government authorities came to the Hildenbrand home and took his father away to a labor camp. The remaining family members were allowed five minutes to gather items they wanted to take with them in a baby carriage and they were taken to a concentration camp. They had to leave their house furnishings, clothes, animals, pets including dogs and cats, as well as a supply of smoked hams and sausages. A German village had been taken over to be this concentration camp, complete with guards. This was to be the accommodation for Adam, his older brother, his younger sister, and his mother for the next three years.

The Hildenbrand family members slept on straw with total strangers. They were usually fed a noon meal consisting of lentil soup (sometimes the soup had bugs in it) and a salt-less cornbread that was coarsely made even including some corn husks. The latrine was an open pit outside.

One of the saddest events of this time was watching his grandparents beg for food and eventually starve to death. Daily a wagon came to pick up the dead bodies to be buried in shallow pits. The numbers of Germans in the area dwindled drastically. One year the Danube flooded and many bodies were exposed from the shallow graves. An international peace group observed this and put pressure on Tito to stop the work camps and the concentration camps. Adam's father was then freed from the labor camp and joined the family. The family left the area on foot when they were released. A farmer offered to take them in his wagon to Hungary. The family crossed the border into Hungary and then crossed into the Russian sector of Austria. Eventually they walked by night in the rain into the British sector of Austria. Here they stayed from 1947-1952. The refugees lived in a camp that Hitler had used for his labor camp. Each family got two rooms with a community bathroom. The Hildenbrand children attended school while in Austria.



L to R: Wife Mary, little daughter Mary, two cousins, Adam and daughter Kathleen

In 1952, the Hildenbrand Family emigrated to the United States, with a church host family in Peoria, Illinois to sponsor them. The Baer family operated carnation green houses and Adam, his brother, and his dad worked in the green houses. His sister cleaned houses. Some people from the church rented a house to them. The church supplied furniture and household goods.

Adam was 17 years old and couldn't speak English in 1952. Mrs. Baer taught elementary school and obtained some reading texts for the family to use to learn English. Two teachers at the high school helped Adam in terms of enrollment and they made a plan for taking the required English, government, and other classes in order to graduate as soon as he could since he was already 17. The plan included summer school classes. Adam graduated from high school in 1956 and had two main options for his future; local persons encouraged him to work at The Caterpillar Company headquartered in Peoria while others encouraged him to attend Bradley University.

Adam chose to attend Bradley University majoring in math and education. He still was dealing with learning English. Math classes weren't difficult, but essay questions on exams were difficult; true/false questions weren't so bad.

While attending the university, Adam lived at home his first year. When their church sponsor Mr. Baer died, Adam's parents decided to move to New Jersey where there were several German communities. For his second year at Bradley, Adam rented a room from a lady in the church. The last two years of college, Adam lived in the church and tended the furnace with coal. He had a room to sleep in and he could cook in the church kitchen. He ate a lot of omelets, fried potatoes, and onions.

After graduating from Bradley University, Adam taught math for a year in Lake Zurich High School in the Chicago area. His college deferment from the army expired and he was drafted into the

army. As a conscientious objector through the church, he completed basic training, except for weapons training. He was trained as a Medic and sent to Ft. Belvoir near Alexandria, VA, where he worked in the hospital finance office.

Adam was then sent to Korea where he worked in the base finance and accounting office. He posted entries and balanced five ledgers but had quite a bit of free time. He read books during his free time at work.

The high school in the area needed a math teacher, so he was assigned to the DoDDS high school. He eventually was given an appropriate room in a men's dorm where he had some peace and quiet not found in the military barracks. He requested not to have to be in uniform to teach and that was granted. In the summer he taught review classes in math and algebra.

Eventually he was hired by DoDDS to teach math. He completed his tour in Korea where he enjoyed traveling to the Philippines, Okinawa, Japan, and Viet Nam. He taught in Nuremberg in 1965, France in 1966 until they closed the schools, 1967 in Upper Heyford England, and 1969-1994 in Berlin, Germany.

All of these experiences served as a background for Adam's outlook on life. He is a patient, helpful, and loving man with a positive attitude and a strong faith.



Adam's two daughters pictured here as the young ones. Mary '97 and Kathleen '91 both attended BAHS. Adam's niece and sister of his brother-in-law on the far right.

Feb 6, 2022

69 years ago today, the Outpost movie theater opened.

Arnold Blauvelt was the architect of the Outpost Theater. On behalf of the US Army, he built the cinema with reference to the style of the twenties and thirties. Since it opened, American soldiers and their families have spent a portion of their free time here. With its 750 seats, it was considered the most modern US military cinema in Europe. Immediately before the Allied withdrawal from Berlin, a first exhibition was on display here in September 1994. Four years later, the newly founded Allied Museum opened the first part of its permanent exhibition entitled "How enemies became friends". The building has been under historical protection since 1995. That's why much of the charm and atmosphere of the cinema has been preserved.



Source: Allied Museum/Sig. Provan/U.S. Army PhotographJk

In 2006, our Alumni Association went back to Berlin for our 1st Berlin Reunion in Berlin. As part of our Reunion weekend we opened (cut the ribbon) on a new exhibit based on "us" at the Museum, a/k/a the Outpost.
As we entered the Exhibit.....



They recreated our Senior Lockers
....here's Yoshika (Loftin) Lowe '83
examining the '83 contents.

BOWLING TEAMS??

"Berlin's Youth Bowling Program" – sponsored by the AYA/DYA

Berlin Brats received a "snail mail letter" from a Youth Bowling coach/instructor, Jimmy White, in Berlin from '73-'76....that sent us on a quest to learn more about this program. AYA/DYA sponsored....all Brat memories seem to agree that play was Saturday AM at the Cole's Sport Center, next to the AYA/DYA and across the street from TAR. From there their memories deviate from just a Saturday league to a 4-man to 14-man team that were selected to compete with other AYA/DYA teams in the Zone.

Some pictures through the years:



"The team was AYA sponsored and we traveled to various locations for tournaments. I recall going to Bremerhaven and Frankfurt. I think we might have gone to a couple of other spots but only remember those 2."

Doris

(1962)

L to R: Louise Cannon '65(?), Doris (Barth) Bourne '66, Sherry Brown '65, and Linda (Counselman) Golembiewski '63.

Marvin Lindroth '75 said we went to Munich in '75 and came back the Champs!!!!



"All-Star Bowling Champs-Berlin '64" - Sally (Moss) Schneider '66

United Airlines Operates Berlin Brandenburg's 1st Ever US Flight

By Lukas Souza
March 28, 2022

New Berlin airport sees first US flight since opening in 2020.

This morning at 10:21 (local time), United Airlines flight 963 took off from Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) and headed to Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR). The flight is monumental as it is the first-ever to the United States from Berlin Brandenburg Airport.



Berlin's Governing Mayor Franziska Giffey, Aletta von Massenbach, CEO of Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH, and Thorsten Lettnin, Director Sales Continental Europe, India & West Africa at United Airlines, were present at the airport for this monumental occasion.

Berlin Brandenburg

Berlin's newest airport, Berlin Brandenburg Airport, opened in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. The airport began operations on October 31, 2020. The construction of the airport turned into a nine-year delay due to faulty construction, design flaws, and allegations of corruption. Most Berliners never thought that day would come as the new airport had been 29 years in the making, and no new airport had been opened in the city since the Cold War.

Plans were made to open the new airport in 1991. Construction began in 2006 and was due to be completed in 2011 but was delayed nine years. In total, the airport took 14 years to build. There were multiple issues regarding the terminal's construction, including inadequate fire safety systems. These issues opened the door for many people to shut down the project. The attempts to halt the airport construction were futile, and Lufthansa and easyJet were the first two airlines to operate flights at the new airport on October 31, 2020.

History in the Making

As this article is being written, UA963 is entering Canadian airspace. UA963 was scheduled to take off from BER at 09:50 (local time) but was delayed by 31 minutes to 10:21. Although the flight took off late, it is due to arrive in EWR 27 minutes ahead of schedule.

Since BER opened for operations on October 31, 2020, no flights have been operated to the US because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The last time an airline operated a flight from Berlin to the United States was on March 20, 2020. Until the pandemic, United operated its Berlin flights to the Tegel Airport in Berlin. The Tegel Airport was closed on November 8, 2020, and is now being used to welcome Ukrainian refugees fleeing their country due to the crisis with Russia. Berlin was never a central hub for flights to the United States because of German history. When Germany was divided, Lufthansa, West Germany's flag carrier, was not allowed to fly to Berlin. Because of this, Frankfurt became a central hub for US and intercontinental flights.

Hope for the Future...

"We are very pleased that we are finally serving this important route again and that there are once again non-stop flights between the German capital region and the largest metropolis in the USA. After their arrival in New York/Newark, our passengers can also easily transfer to other United Airlines flights and travel to around 50 other destinations within the USA, for example to Florida, California, Hawaii or the Great Lakes."

- Thorsten Lettnin, Director Sales Continental Europe, India & West Africa at United Airlines

"The long-distance connection to New York/Newark is an important milestone for the BER location. The non-stop connection to the east coast of the USA makes a significant contribution to promoting cultural exchange and tourism between the capital region and the USA. In addition, the strong economic relationships between the two regions are strengthened and are thus a clear signal for the attractiveness of the BER location."

- Aletta von Massenbach, CEO of Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH

Berlin's Mayor, Franziska Giffey, also made a few remarks,



UA962 was welcomed with a traditional water cannon salute at BER airport.
Photo: Ekaterina Zershchikova | Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH

"Berlin and the people of Berlin welcome the new direct flight connection to New York. After two years of the corona pandemic, this step also stands for the return to normality and for German-American friendship. Both cities are attractive metropolises that thrive on mutual exchange and are now finally directly connected again. Economic relations will certainly benefit from this as well, for example the establishment of the US company Tesla in our region. I hope United has also opened the door for other airlines to connect BER directly to destinations

around the world, making our capital city airport even more attractive and competitive." - Berlin's Governing Mayor Franziska Giffey

United will service the route with its Boeing 767-400ER aircraft, which have a capacity of 240 passengers in a three-class configuration. Initially, the route will see six weekly flights. But beginning on May 5, United will service the Berlin route daily. United has quickly established itself as the most significant US player in the German aviation market, operating nonstop flights to Germany for over 30 years. During the summer, United is planning 119 weekly flights from Germany to the US and another 42 flights to Switzerland. United will operate more flights than before the pandemic between the two countries.

Speaking of Tesla...

Tesla's Giga Berlin a big win for investors

CEO Elon Musk expected to attend the factory's ribbon-cutting ceremony

By Breck Dumas FOXBusiness

Tesla's Gigafactory in Berlin, Germany, is set to officially open this week (March 2022), in what is a significant milestone for the electric vehicle maker's expansion in Europe – and a major win for its investors.



20 March 2022, Brandenburg, Grünheide: The new Tesla Gigafactory Berlin Brandenburg plant (aerial view with a drone). (Photo: Patrick Pleul/dpa-Zentralbild/dpa)

CEO Elon Musk and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz are both expected to attend the Giga Berlin ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, when the company will present dozens of customers with their new Model Y vehicles.

ELON MUSK WORKING ON TESLA MASTER PLAN PART 3

The long-awaited manufacturing facility first announced by Musk in 2019 has faced a number of setbacks,

largely from the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges in achieving construction permits from local authorities. The State Office for the Environment in Brandenburg finally granted conditional approval earlier this month (March) for the plant to begin commercial production of up to 500,000 vehicles per year.

"The red tape and headaches seen around the delays/

disputes opening up this flagship European factory has been frustrating for

investors to watch unfold as

many on the Street were doubting if Giga Berlin ever actually would open," wrote Wedbush Securities analysts Daniel Ives and John Katsingris wrote in a report this week. "We cannot stress the production importance of Giga Berlin to the overall success of Tesla's footprint in Europe and globally."

Musk suggested on Twitter he might even dance at the celebration.



Tesla vehicles at the Tesla Inc. Gigafactory in Gruenheide, Germany, on Saturday, March 19, 2022. Tesla, which secured approval for the factory outside Berlin early this month, said it expected to obtain an operating license within a matter of weeks (Photographer: Liesa Johannssen-Koppitz/Bloomberg via Getty Images / Getty Images)

BRAT GET-TOGETHERS

"85 BABES!"

The Berlin Babes of '85 took to the beach for a mini reunion in March 2022. Jennifer (Hewitt) Shaw, Malissa (Murray) Ladd, Leigh (Love) Roper, and Lisa (Begue) Carey gathered in Blue Mountain Beach, Florida, for a five-day tour of 30A's charming oceanfront villages. The Brats enjoyed sightseeing, shopping, live music, and sampling the cuisine in Blue Mountain, Seaside, Watercolor, and Rosemary Beach. The main event was reinforcing their enduring bond of friendship. *Lisa (Begue) Carey*



*Brats in Rosemary at Le Crema
(from left to right): Malissa (Murray) Ladd, Lisa (Begue) Carey, Leigh (Love) Roper, and Jenni (Hewitt) Shaw sampling treats at Le Crema Tapas & Chocolate in Rosemary Beach.*



*Brat Swag
The Berlin Beach Babes created their own reunion swag for a memorable event.*



*Berlin Brat Babes at Pescado
Clockwise from top: Jenni (Hewitt) Shaw, Lisa (Begue) Carey, Malissa (Murray) Ladd, Leigh (Love) Roper enjoy a sunset rooftop dinner at Pescado in Rosemary Beach.*

Cocoa, FL regional.....February 20, 2020
Von Stephan Bier Garten
Cocoa Village



(cover pics are also from the regional)

Throwback pics:

Mike Cleveland '61 and his brother David '62 are probably the only Brats that started Kindergarten in Berlin and then graduated Berlin! Here's Mike's 1st grade report card and then his 12th. (He tried sending in his "Kindergarten" card....but sadly too light for reproducing here).

**DEPENDENTS SCHOOL DIVISION
EUROPEAN COMMAND**

Elementary Schools
1949 - 1950

Berlin-Thomas A. Roberts School
Fürstenberger - Frankfurt
GRADE.....

REPORT
of

Name Michael Cleveland
Address 10 Fürstenberger Str.

To The Parent

This report is to inform you of the progress and quality of work your child is doing in his school. After examining the markings and the teacher's comments, your written response will be appreciated. You are invited to visit the school and confer with his teachers. Your cooperation is solicited.

Teacher Eva Shells
Erin Stubbefeld

"I am unsure, but probably my brother and I are the only ones to start school at T.A.R. and graduate there. Of course, many years in between we were elsewhere (Frankfurt, Japan, Philippines, Virginia)."
Mike

**USAREUR HIGH SCHOOLS
REPORT TO PARENTS**

Name CLEVELAND, MIKE Grade 12 H.R. H-6
Subject Economics Teacher Donald S. Horner
Berlin American High School H.S. Year 1960-61

Period	1	2	Sem Test	Sem Av.	Cr.	3	4	Sem Test	Sem Av.	Cr.
	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	A	B+	A-	A-	1/2

Teacher's Comments:

1st Period

2nd Period

3rd Period Mike is doing very good work.

4th Period

This report may be kept by the student at the completion of the course.
Form 44b
Apr 58) Edition of 15 Apr 57 may be used.

Reagan visits Berlin – "Tear Down this Wall" – Gorby – June 1987



Linda (Kump) Simonsen '89front row, denim jacket (submitted by Rev. JB Kump)



1999 Beer tent – Breckenridge, CO Reunion

BERLIN'S MINT:



BERLIN has one of the official mints of Germany .
The others are Munich, Stuttgart, Hamburg, & Karlsruhe.

The State **Mint** of **Berlin** is one of the five German state **mints** that currently operate under the supervision of the Senatsverwaltung für Finanzen. The **mint** has used an "A" as a **mint** mark since 1750. It currently **mints** medals and tokens, as well as circulation and commemorative euros for the Federal Republic of Germany.

After 1964, the currency denomination was changed from Deutsche Mark to Mark, and consequently, the coins were redesigned. From 1966, the Berlin Mint also started to produce commemorative coins. On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Berlin coinage, a commemorative coin was issued in 1981, showcasing a reproduction of an *Ewiger Pfennig* of the city of Berlin on the reverse.

By the fall of the GDR, 123 commemorative coins had been created.

State Mint of Berlin (Molkenmarkt, 1990-2005)

After the German reunification, the mint became the *Staatliche Münze Berlin*, the State Mint of Berlin, and the production of the new 1 mark coins began on 16 June 1990. Until the introduction of the euro, the State Mint produced five to seven million coins every day, about 20% of the total amount of federal coins.

In 2001, a gold coin was produced in Berlin for the first time in 16 years. The 12 g 999.9 fine gold piece commemorated the retirement of the mark. From 2001, production switched to euros and cents. In 2014, the Berlin Mint issued a silver medal for the 25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Wall:

In 2005, the State Mint was moved for the first time in more than 700 years outside the Berlin Mitte, to the Reinickendorf district.

<https://www.muenze-berlin.de/>





HARIBO Releases New Flavors, Limited Edition Shapes for 100th Birthday of Iconic Goldbears Gummies

01/01/2022

HARIBO is kicking off 2022 by celebrating the 100th birthday of its original sweet treat, Goldbears. Created by HARIBO founder Hans Riegel in 1922 and known for the iconic gold packaging, HARIBO will mark the Goldbears birthday celebration with new innovations and surprises, including a limited edition mix of Goldbears with party hats, highly requested single-flavor bags, and a sweepstakes getaway to the sweetest summer hotspot: Myrtle Beach, S.C.

"HARIBO is the original creator of the gummi bear, and we're so excited to celebrate the 100th birthday of our iconic Goldbears in unique and meaningful ways here in the U.S., " said Rick LaBerge, chief operating officer, HARIBO of America, Inc. "We'll be marking this momentous occasion throughout 2022, and we want consumers to join in on the fun with us all year long."

HARIBO will unveil several new varieties of Goldbears gummies for 2022, starting with a fun twist on the original Goldbears. For a limited-time only, the original Goldbears will include Blue-raspberry flavored party hats. The new pops of flavor are designed to excite fans with a tasty, innovative addition.

HARIBO will also release limited edition single-flavor varieties in Pineapple (clear) and Blue-Raspberry (blue). Fans of Goldbears have been asking for bags of just their favorite flavors, and for the Goldbears' anniversary, HARIBO is giving this gift back to fans who love them so. While Pineapple is already a massive fan-favorite, Blue-Raspberry is brand new to the flavor lineup of Goldbears. These limited edition flavors will be available throughout 2022, with one additional new flavor innovation scheduled to release later this year.

To continue the celebration, HARIBO will send four lucky Goldbears fans on a week-long vacation to Myrtle Beach, S.C., plus a year's supply of Goldbears. This sweepstakes will also include hundreds of runner-up prizes, passes to the Carolina Country Music Festival, HARIBO swag and other summer-themed prizes. Consumers can enter the sweepstakes now through in-store QR-Code displays or www.100yearsofgoldbears.com until December 1, 2022.



Throwback memory:

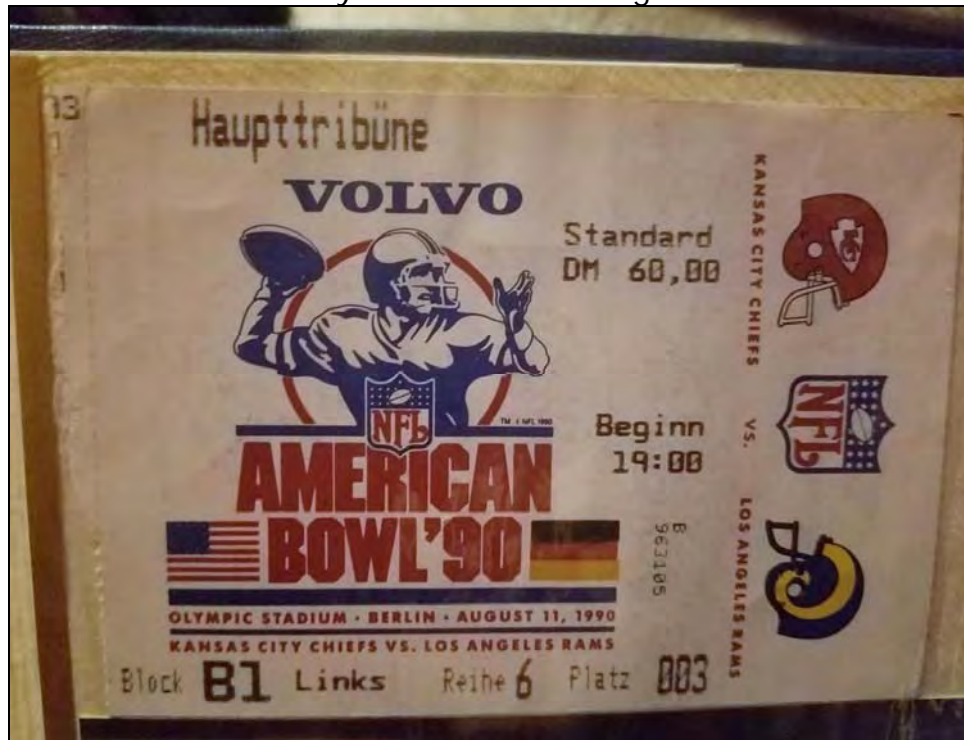
Flag raising at the new combined elementary and high school – Thomas A. Roberts (TAR) in 1953.



In a moving moment, 8 September 1953 "Old Glory" was raised over the Thomas A. Roberts School. Its broad stripes and bright stars have given proof through the years of America's will to keep the light of freedom shining in Berlin amid the surrounding gloom.

Throwback memory:

American Football came to Berlin in 1990
Kansas City Chiefs -vs- Los Angeles Rams



BAHS cheersleaders performed at halftime!

Junior Varsity: Nicole (Clayton) Hutchison '92, Coraly (Ramos) Edwin '92
Varsity: Jamie (Favati) Brotemarkle '91, Nikki (Gallant) Patrick '91 and Stacy (Neumann) Davis '92



DW Travel
3/26/22

Closed in 2020, the Berlin Tegel Airport is currently serving as an arrival center for Ukrainians who have fled their homeland from the Russian invasion. The center has capacity for up to 10,000 people per day.

Random stuff...



From Awesome Berlin: A Pastel dreams in West Berlin! The Kirche am Hohenzollernplatz is one of finest examples of the brick expressionism in Berlin. Designed in the late 1920s by Fritz Höger, the church is full of amazing details, including copper and gold mosaics and the beautiful stained glass windows.

You can visit the church every Saturday at 12pm, when the "Noon Songs", a choir and organ concert, takes place.



Boy (unknown) chiseling at the wall before it came down (pre 1989) and all grown up at same spot years later! (Wall commemorative plaque on ground in front of man)



This "COBI" (Lego style pieces) captures it all:

A Guard tower, the spotlight, the signage, barricades, the dog, the Wall and a Trabant!!!!

Continued from page 8

Mr. Adam Hildenbrand

Beloved Teacher

Reflections by Rick Martin '77

Adam Hildenbrand – Lifelong student and educator. A teacher in the classroom and educator in the lessons of life.

Many of us remember Mr. Hildenbrand as a math teacher at Berlin American High School in the late 1960's through mid-1990's, where he taught Algebra, Trigonometry, and Calculus. His passion in the classroom and personal interest in his students defined the man who is both a teacher and a friend.

I enjoyed many long conversations with Mr. Hildenbrand over the years during Berlin American High School reunions and periodic phone calls. We share a kindred spirit that became an encouragement to me.

Mr. Hildenbrand is an inspiration as a young man who persevered under hardship in Yugoslavia after WWII, before his emigration to the United States with his family in 1952.

Mr. Hildenbrand spoke with heartfelt mourning recalling his family hardships in the Yugoslavia Concentration Camp "Rdolfsgnad," located in what is now northern Serbia. Rdolfsgnad was the largest of the eight liquidation camps for ethnic Germans during 1944-1948 under the communist leadership of Emperor Tito, who invaded the area after the Nazis were defeated at the end of World War II.

Adam Hildenbrand also spoke of his passion for learning and degree in mathematics and education from Bradley University in 1961. He recalled his training in the Army as a Medic where his expertise in math was also recognized and how he eventually transitioned to positions in base finance and accounting offices at posts in Virginia and Korea.



He also spoke fondly of his two daughters and their families and grandchildren. Mr. Hildenbrand also talked of his interest in beekeeping and gardening – a lifelong passion. He tended to his hobbies in the same passion he invested in the lives of countless students. Students quickly found there was

certainly more to Adam Hildenbrand than met the eye!



The testimony from Joe Koffley, BAHS '70-72 is a fitting tribute to his significant and lasting impact in the classroom and in our lives:

"I met Mr. Hildenbrand in 1971 having moved from Miami, Florida to Berlin. He was my Algebra I and Geometry teacher. In actual point of fact, he is far, far more than that and he has been much in my thoughts after I left Berlin only two years later.

To be perfectly clear, before arriving in Berlin, I was not a stellar math student (third string to be sure) and had an abysmal lack of self-confidence. In the short span of two years, Mr. Hildenbrand saw potential in me and instilled a true love of mathematics that has carried me throughout my engineering career for nearly 40 years.

His encouragement took me from academic ignominy to the National Honor Society, and later, serving as his teacher's assistant. Mr. Hildenbrand inspired me to look far ahead to the future when many others lived for the moment. I left Berlin with a confidence and determination to succeed, no matter the degree of adversity. Make no mistake, the life lessons he instilled in me extended well beyond simply mathematics.

Mr. Hildenbrand and I traded some emails in the early 2000's. In 2019 I finally got to see him again at the Columbus, Ohio regional. To say it was an emotional moment for me would be a terrible understatement. Words cannot adequately express the depth of my gratitude to him.

An old phrase comes to mind that success is having the good fortune to stand on the shoulders of giants. I have stood upon many giant's shoulders; however, Mr. Hildenbrand ranks as the first giant to me.

I raise my glass and offer multitudinous "huzzahs" to Mr. Hildenbrand! To a most bountiful life of friendship, sincerity and heartfelt understanding – Three cheers and a tiger!"

It's an honor and pleasure to call Mr. Hildenbrand a friend. He and his late wife provided over four decades of service to American families and students in Department of Defense Dependents Schools across numerous locations in Europe.

While he is proud of his career as an educator, he is equally inspired by his love for the Lord.

Adam is a personal friend and student of Pastor Alistair Begg. In one of our conversations about Alistair Begg's book, *Brave by Faith*, Mr. Hildenbrand shared a challenge and a blessing with me regarding the life of the Prophet Daniel. We discussed Daniel's testimony before King Nebuchadnezzar – to be more about believing than being. He said we should dare to be a Daniel. We should dare to stand alone. We should dare to have a purpose firm. We should dare to make it known. Thanks for blessing me with this powerful message.

Adam Hildenbrand's life as an educator extended well beyond the classroom. He led a life of significance! To that we express our good cheer and gratitude – Huzzah!

Well done good and faithful servant!



In Tribute to Adam Hildenbrand

Limerick

*Superb teacher – Adam Hildenbrand
Yugoslavian heritage grand
Students sometimes out of whack
His patience deserves a plaque
An amazing man, we clap and stand*

*Hildenbrand – Berlin High School name
Teacher and gardener acclaim
A man of faith as well
We certainly do tell
A life lived well, we do proclaim!*

Haiku

*Adam Hildenbrand
Marvelous educator
Life of fulfillment*

Composed by Rick Martin, '77

The pop group "America" is made up of "Air Force Brats"



While their fathers were stationed at the United States Air Force base at RAF South Ruislip near London in the late 1960s, Beckley, Bunnell and Peek attended London Central High School where they met while playing in two different bands. They formed "America" in 1970....in England.

Still performing....America is wrapping up their 50th Anniversary Tour on April 29th at the Town Hall, in NY, NY. Then immediately thereafter, perform in Ft. Lauderdale.

Upcoming Events

2022 Regionals:

11 Sept 2022 - possibly Providence, RI (currently exploring)
25 Sept 2022 - Las Vegas (details to follow post Reunion)

DODDS & AOSHS Reunion
13-17 July 2022
Kansas City, MO

Next Reunion

2 - 5 June 2022
Colorado Springs, CO

Details on Website:
www.BerlinBrats.org

Contact Information



Berlin Brats Alumni Association
 Jeri (Polansky) Glass '72, Director

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 website: 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)

Newsletter Brat: Carl Fenstermacher '73

Early '60s Site

By invitation only
 Contact Jim Branson '64
jbranson01@hotmail.com
 for an invite

American Overseas School Historical Society

Linda L. Connelly, President
 email: overseasschools@aoshs.org
 website: www.aoshs.org

Overseas Brats

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