

Nürnberg Alumni Association Online Archive

Nürnberg American High School

a U.S. Army dependents school formerly located in Fürth/Bavaria, Germany

1953-54 School Year

8th year of the school's existence

Graduating Class of 1954

This File: School Newspaper

Excerpts from the *Trichter*, Vol. 8

Comments, corrections, and further contributions to the Nürnberg Alumni Association Archives should be sent to

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Marching Backward to 1953-54 School Year



Edited by Bob McQuitty, NAA Historian/Archivist

Excerpts from the

Trichter

Chuck Baerman and Barbara

Wickstrom, co-editors

Sponsor: Arlene Dodez

2 issues extant: Dec. 1953, Feb. 1954

Important Events of 1953-54

- Aug 8 - Soviet Union announces it has a hydrogen bomb
- Aug 18 - Kinsey report on human sexuality issued
- Sept 7 - Khrushchev becomes head of Soviet Central Committee
- Oct 9 - Konrad Adenauer is re-elected as German chancellor
- Dec 10 - Albert Schweitzer given 1952 Nobel Peace Prize
- Dec 30 - First color television sets go on sale for \$1175
- Feb. 23 - First mass vaccination of children against polio begins
- Mar - Hydrogen bomb test conducted on Bikini Atoll in the Pacific Ocean
- April 7 - Pres. Eisenhower gives his "domino theory" speech during news conference
- April 22 - Sen. Joseph McCarthy begins hearings investigating the United States Army for being "soft" on Communism
- May 7 - The Battle of Dien Bien Phu ends in a French defeat in Vietnam
- May 17 - U.S. Supreme Court hands down its decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas
- June 14 - On Flag Day, the words "under God" are added to Pledge of Allegiance

GALA HOMECOMING DANCE

On November 14, 1953, the Pep Club gave the Homecoming Dance for Nurnberg High School. At 7:30 the gala event got under way and our old familiar cafeteria fairly sparkled with decorations.

During intermission **Gene Horan** crowned **Queen Barbara Carver** and her princesses, **Ann Moore** and **Joanie Robison**.

A variety show was presented before refreshments were served. **Bill Boetcker** sang "Lady of Spain" and **Carole Boswell** sang three ballads. Leland Shea did a pantomime of Al Jolson and Jimmy Durante which brought a chuckle from the audience.

Later in the evening **Choo-Choo Thompson** started the Bunny Hop in which everyone joined with great enthusiasm.

STUDENT ASSEMBLY

On Nov. 23, the members of the National Honor Society, the Mixed Chorus, and the Student Council combined their talents to give a very interesting and entertaining assembly.

The program began with the taking in of new members by the National Honor Society. **Gordon King** conducted this part of the program. **Bobbie**

Park, Chuck Baerman, Betty Miller, and Ben Whittle gave impressive speeches on the requirements for membership--scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Those chosen to be in the Honor Society were **Ginger Erwin, Gerald Hurst, and Barbara Carver; Lianda King, Bob Thompson, and Wesley Saylor**s were named probationary members.

Following this, the Mixed Chorus sang several selections for us. The soloists were **Carole Boswell, Kathy Kirvan, Lee Conboy, Lavele Register, and Woody Gamble**.

For the last part of the assembly, the Student Council demonstrated how they carry on their meetings. ... The assembly was closed by the president of the Student Council, **Jack Crenshaw**.

WHO AM I?

My best friends are dogs. I formerly attended Nurnberg High School. Last week I received my diploma from **Miss Palmer** and left for the States as a passenger on a trans-Atlantic plane trip. My favorite food is Red Heart and I love to chase cats. I am two years old now. I may be seen always wearing a black coat and every girl at school had her eye on

School Newspaper Renamed

Responding to pressure from headquarters to choose a more appropriate name for the school newspaper than *The Army Brat*, the staff held a contest to rename the paper. The name chosen, not a common newspaper name like *Post* or *Times* and not a name that alliterated like *Mustang Messenger*, was *Trichter*, a German word meaning "funnel."

The Nürnberg Trichter goes back to medieval times, and according to legend one could pour knowledge directly into someone's head with it.

The person who won the contest and gave the paper its new name is believed to be long-time teacher of French and German at the school, **Dr. Peter Kroner**, a Romanian native and graduate of Erlangen University
— *Archivist*

my black curly hair. My name is Chris --- know me?

I am [**School Officer Evelyn Gerber's** poodle. Now I must say goodbye to you all here at N.H.S.

"CHRISTMAS SPIRIT"

The most striking of the Christmas decorations around school is the painting on the front window. It certainly injects the Christmas spirit into everyone passing that way. The design was made by **Bob Thompson** and **Carolyn Mayo** and painted by **Roy Kirvan** and **Shirley Freeman**.

[*This tradition, begun the first Christmas the new building was occupied, continued for many years — Archivist*]

BOYS' DORM DOINGS

On the night of Black Thursday, November 19, the juniors and seniors of the first floor surprised and defeated the sophomores and frosh of the second floor in what proved to be the most brutal pillow fight of the year.

The annual dorm Christmas party was held last Wednesday night. After the party a group of dorm students went caroling in the immediate vicinity of the dorm.

The fire escape being constructed at the end of the hall on the second floor is to be used only in case of fire.

GIRLS' DORM CAPERS

The Canasta and the Pinochle tournaments are over. **Ginger Erwin** and **Mary Temple** emerged victorious from Canasta, while **Shirley Freeman** and **Carole Storke** won the Pinochle. The winners were awarded prizes of fifty cents.

EDITORIAL

On November 20 a familiar, harsh wail filled the air at lunchtime. Students present last year and aware, through many associations with similar events, of what was happening fled to any nearby room. All doors were closed tight in a vain effort to keep out the white dust which filled the air.

The newer students, who did not recognize a fire extinguisher going off, stared with shock at a small red monster on the wall issuing forth a snowy powder for all it was worth. In the short space of one minute our clean, personable school was transformed into something nearly resembling a flour mill; and unfortunate students who had not escaped in time looked like unwary ghosts.

What did you think of the proceeding? Humorous? . . . Disgusting? . . . No harm done? . . .

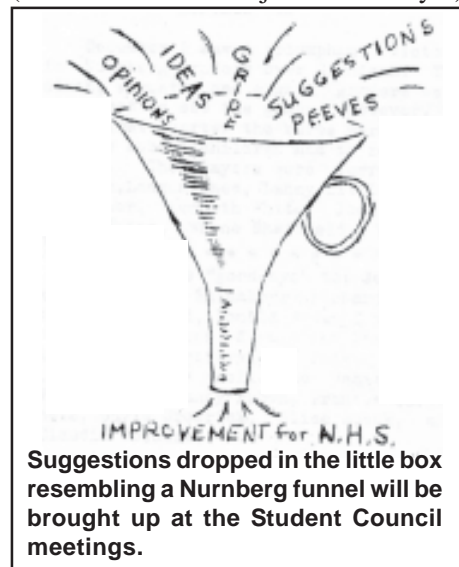
The next time that little black handle tempts you, restrain yourself a minute and think – if it doesn't matter, why do it? Let's show people who were beginning to wonder about us that we are quite capable of acting like high school students. . . . Now that everyone has seen the fire extinguisher in action, how about leaving in peace for another year!

"CHEESE" PLEASE

On December 8 a group of boys went to the Home Economics room to arrange it for the taking of Annual pictures. They worked very hard moving the tables, chairs, and heavy machines out of the way, then relieved and quite proud of their job, they left the room.

A few hours later they went back to look at their fine work, and as they entered the room they were shocked to see everything back in place! Some German workers had seen the room and thought it was in such a mess that they would straighten it up. So once again the boys arranged the room.

After the busy day of taking pictures with everyone running about the boys put the room in order again. We later found out that all pictures had to be taken over again because of faulty equipment. (It looks like another job for the boys!)



CAUGHT IN PASSING

All of **Mr. Gorte's** English classes enjoyed having their class periods recorded and played back to them. Everyone was surprised at his own voice and we must admit the classes sounded business-like. By the number of coughs, sneezes and other odd noises recorded by the machine, though, at times it sounded more like a tuberculosis sanatorium than an English class.

Anyone wondering about the four red-faced pupils alighting from an M.P. car outside the cafeteria at lunch time last week may ask any of the unfortunate persons how they enjoyed the field

trip. It seems that these four became so engrossed in the Christkindlesmarkt in Nürnberg that they completely forgot about catching the bus home. Finding themselves abandoned, they hailed an approaching M.P. patrol car and rode home in style.

How about it **Buzz [Wickstrom]**, **Evelyn [Veith?]**, **Bill**, and **Bobbie [Park]** – did you get a lot out of the field trip?

TRICHTER ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Four made the honor roll from the senior class: **Frances Cardinale**, **Ginger Erwin**, **Carolyn Mayo** and **Ann Moore**.

Six from the junior class made the roll: **Barbara Carver**, **Emma Lou Hoover**, **Gerald Hurst**, **Barbara [Bobbie] Park**, **Claire Stille**, and **Barbara [Buzz] Wickstrom**.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Say! Have you heard about the latest fad? No? That's not too strange because there doesn't seem to be any new ones lately. But you know, it's nice to have interesting, or should it be said, colorful teachers around the place to brighten things. Surely no one has missed **Mr. Rosin's** purple and yellow suit, and **Mr. Smith's** fire-engine red vest.

SLAVES SOLD IN N.H.S.

The downstairs lobby resounded with "\$1.25," "\$1.26," "\$1.50 on January 12. It was the day of the junior class Slave Sale, contrived for the juniors to make money toward their biggest event of the year, the Junior-Senior Prom. . . .

The next day the unfortunate juniors who had been "bought" as slaves were seen engaged in varied menial tasks. Very few seniors appeared to be carrying their books, and frustrated slaves scurried from class to class all day. The cruelest penalty inflicted by certain girls was a ban of silence lasting all day. Some slaves shined shoes, swept floors, and called their masters -- "sir," or "ma'am."

The class treasury was swelled \$37.00 by the event and needless to say it was clear profit.

Platter Parade Proclaimed Success

Yes, N.H.S. Platter Parade is the name of Nurnberg's new radio program which has gone over with a big bang. This is the chance everyone has been waiting for: now they can have their favorite records played on Nurnberg High School's own show. Every Saturday at two o'clock N.H.S. Platter Parade hits the airways with its theme song "Crew Cut." Besides hearing selected disks, the school news is brought over the air by **Nancy Brown**, **Bobbie Park**, and **Buzz Wickstrom**.

There is also Nurnberg High's Bill Stern, **Woody Gamble**, bringing all the sports news around N.H.S. The announcer of the program is **Chuck Baerman**, who takes care of introducing the records, mentions small news items concerning school, and interviews well-known people around school, among these have been **Miss Griffin**, **Mr. Bowers**, and **Jack Crenshaw**. It is a good program; listen every Saturday.

[This is believed to be the first year that NHS had its own radio show. See memories of the show in the Memoir file - Archivist.]

Big New Contest Announced

Hey kids, have you heard about the big new school song contest? Certainly all agree that we need a school song, so why don't you try to write one?

[Peter Bailey came to NHS in March of 1954, shortly after this contest was announced. He submitted the Alma Mater of his previous high school in Tuskegee, Alabama, with new words adapted for NHS, and his submission was chosen. See more details in the Memoir file.- Archivist]

If I Were a Freshman Again

Have you ever thought about what the seniors would do if they had to be freshmen again? Well here is an idea of what they would do.

Cookie Cardinale - Try to get an A for effort from Mr. Smith!

Charles Cobb - When freshmen day came around, I would skip school!

Bernice Coghlan - I'd hate the seniors!

Lee Conboy - Get into more mischief!

Jack Crenshaw - Form a gang of freshmen to beat up Horton Chandler if he were a senior!

Ginger Erwin - Be the meanest freshman in school!

Richard Fanning - Can't stand thinking about it!

Woody Gamble - Commit suicide!

Jerry Hatten - Brown-nose all of the teachers!

Kay Hoff - Still go with a certain sophomore boy!

Gene Horan - Wish I were a senior!

Ann Moore - Beat up all the senior girls that initiated me!

Carolyn Mayo - Kill myself!

Ruth Magadieu - I'd die!

Jon Ramsden - Laugh in every teacher's face!

Shirley Riedel - Wish it were the last year!

Ed Temple - Start school in Maine!

Kathy Kirvan - Wouldn't change a thing!

Betty Thomas - Do the things I did before!

Claude Anderson - Wouldn't do it over at all!

Horton Chandler - Make better grades!

Morris Mack - Quit school!

Alice Rubek - Wish for better senior boys!

Gayle Frederick - Give up because I couldn't stand to go thru it again!

Tex O'Brien - I'd find a real good-looking senior girl to go with and keep her away from the other boys!

John Cole - Go and join the foreign legion!

John Saylor - I'd try to dodge the draft for another four years!

Seniors Attend Trial

The senior Problems of Democracy class attended a trial at the Palace of Justice January 11. After listening to a

brief resume on the Nürnberg war trials by the court clerk, the seniors tuned in their earphones on a complicated controversy between a German family now living in the U.S.A. and the state of Bavaria. Though somewhat confused by all of the legal terms used during the course of the trial, the seniors found it very educational as well as interesting. **Miss Larson** and **Ginger Erwin** deserve the credit for making this field trip possible.

Students Entertained by Zither Player

On the 14th of January, the student body of N.H.S. filed into the Community Theater auditorium to listen to Herr Zeuss, Bavaria's most famous zither player. ...

Among the pieces presented to the audience were "Third Man Theme" which, we might add, brought a tremendous amount of applause. "You, You, You," a medley of folk songs, and a composition of his own.



Sports: Our Eagles

Nurnberg's teams have had a bit of hard luck this year both in football and basketball. It seems the Linz games bring more than usual casualties to the boys.

When N.H.S. played them in football, quarterback **Benny Saars** received an injury to his knee which retired him to the bench for the remainder of the season.

During the Nurnberg-Linz basketball game center **Horton Chandler** broke his wrist, unknown to even himself, and he finished the game with the two foul shots that won the game.