

### Reunion – June 19-22, 2014...

## It's the Sheraton Premier at Tysons Corner!

It's official! The contract with the Sheraton Premier at Tysons Corner is signed and we are now making firm plans for our 2014 reunion. The room rate is \$109+tax which is lower than we paid in Boise! The hotel is located near several major highways for good vehicle access as well as close to Dulles International Airport. We have been assured that by 2014, the Metro subway will be completed from Tysons Corner to downtown DC so your access to the many tourist sites as well as high-end dining and entertainment are assured. The hotel is close to several shopping areas as well as fine dining and fast food. For more information: http://www.sheratontysonscorner.com/



The ballroom



The indoor-outdoor pool A typical room

The hotel...

## **Changes on the NAA Board**

The NAA Board of Directors held a board meeting October 14 for the purpose of discussing the terms of the hotel contract following negotiations with the property in D.C. Two board members were unable to attend. The motion to approve the contract, which includes an awesome room rate, was passed unanimously. Following the vote on the hotel contract President Shelley (Flippen) Conroy '73 informed the board that due to personal and professional demands she felt

it would be best if she stepped down as the NAA President. The matter was discussed and a motion was made to nominate Don Hutchins '67. The motion was approved by a majority board vote with Don abstaining from the vote. A motion was then put before the board to fill the position of Secretary/Asst. Treasurer. Tom Kappelmann was nominated, seconded and approved



I have to confess that even though I have lived in Austin for over 40 years, this fall was my first trip to the Wurstfest just down the road. Tom Kappelmann planned a fun mini-reunion for us and a good time was had by all. I was surprised by the size of the Wurstfest. The beer halls are large and the outdoor areas are enjoyable in our mild Texas fall weather. I will have it on my calendar for next year! (My long suffering husband just shakes his head at our Eagle antics.) Change is good, even at my advanced age.

Recently, my department at Texas State University hired a new chair. (That is the boss of a depart-

## NAA Trichter

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Send material for publication to: Pat Gibson 12700 Pauls Valley Road Austin, TX 78737-9507 or editor@nurnbergeagles.org ment for you non-academic types.) She is young and has made changes that have upset some of the older faculty. At our first faculty meeting, I passed out a small plaque that read: *Without change, we would not have butterflies.* Change can be upsetting but as the



plaque said, without it, things just die.

Our association is changing. As reported by Joan (McCarter) Adrian '49, part of the Frankfurt group has disbanded due to age and disability. We are all growing older and need the younger alumni to step up and help preserve our Association.

There will be much work to do over the next two years to get the 2014 Reunion planned and pulled off. If you have skills or contacts for things like decorations, musical acts, menu planning, field trips around D.C. or other event ideas, let the Board members know. We want this Reunion to be the best ever!

As we close out this year, may your holiday season, whether you celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza, Winter Solstice or just a break, be a joyous one!



## Changes to the Board

#### (Continued from page 1)

by all board members in attendance with Tom abstaining from the vote. The board then discussed replacing Shelley (Flippen) Conroy as 70s Era Rep and although this is a board appointed position that does not require a vote, the board felt it best to hold a confidence vote for the record. The motion to name Shelley (Flippen) Conroy as 70s Era Rep. was approved by all members in attendance thereby naming Shelley to the position of 70s Era Rep vacated by the election of Tom Kappelmann to the Sec/Asst Treasurer. We would like to thank Shelley for her strong leadership these past 16 months and are thankful that she has agreed to stay on the board as 70s Era Rep. This is a very cohesive and supportive board and these changes will not affect our current efforts at planning a successful reunion in Washington D.C. in 2014. (Announcement posted on Facebook, Oct. 15 by Reni (Peek) Michael, VP for Membership and Media)

2

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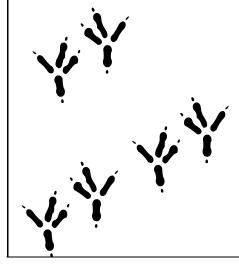
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When it's the fall season, it's time for the Overseas Brats Gathering, which was hosted in Reston, VA, (Fairfax County) at the Sheraton Hotel this year. Like a lot of reunions within the Brat Community, the numbers of attendees are down, due to the usual factors that are associated with a stagnant economy. Let's hope things improve over the next four years, sooner than later.

While in Fairfax County, I would have been remiss not to stop in to take a glance at the 100% renovation which has taken place over the last year at our 2014 Gathering of Eagles Reunion site, the Sheraton-Premier Hotel in Tysons Corner, so I could report back to you how things look since I was last there back in January 2012. It looks FABULOUS! Those who come to the June 2014 Reunion will be VERY pleased I'm sure, when they see the newly-renovated facilities and amenities we have in store for Y'all.

Everything is sparkling clean and elegantly plush with new marble flooring, carpeting, drapes, furniture, wallpaper, equipment, bedding, mattresses, bathroom linens, dining room furniture, etc. This is a CLASS-ACT, 4-STAR property sure to please all.

As for my favorite things to do in nearby DC, I found the DC Segway Tours a beautiful way to save energy (by not walking!), and get in between all the 3-M's (Monuments, Memorials, and Museums) in record time, and still allow you plenty of exploratory time to determine where you might want to spend more quality time seeing those 3-M's. (See the accompanying photo of our group of Segway-using Brats on page 5).

For those of you who are wondering how easy it is to use a Segway vehicle, this is a form of transportation that both young and old can use. After a 30-minute instructional class on the operation and safety features of the Segway and about 15-30 seconds ON the Segway, you get a "feel" for it with your own hands and feet. We had a couple of alumni from the Berlin Brats high school with us on our tour, and one of them, Marianna, is a graduate of the class of 1950! If she had no trouble mastering the device, I am confident that most of you will master it as well, and love it just as much!

Some of us drove down to the inner harbor of Baltimore for some seafood on the last day of the season for outdoor dining, and LOVED it. It was a perfect day, with superb seafood, and the best Bloody Marys you'll find anywhere, garnished with a jumbo shrimp, cheese-stuffed olive, banana pepper, a cube of cheese, and a slice of pepperoni. Wow! It's only a 45-50 minute car ride down to Baltimore's harbor for those interested in that destination in 2014. Or take the Metro from the brand-new Metro station that's just been built in front of our host hotel in Tysons Corner, which will take you to nearby Reston for a round of golf or to Washington, DC for the 3-M's. Your choice.

There are also PLENTY of great restaurants, malls, bars, and upper-end retail stores which surround our Sheraton-Premier Hotel. So, something for everyone. There are even FREE shuttles from our hotel that'll take you to places of interest within 1-2 miles of our hotel, if you don't wish to take the Metro train.

Next year's site for the annual gathering of the Overseas Brats is yet to be announced; however, the Brats' triennial Grand Homecoming will take place in Daytona Beach, FL, at the Plaza Resort and Spa in August 2013.

My classmate Pete Turner, who also attended his second consecutive Brats gathering this past month, and I are going to try to utilize the Grand Homecoming venue for our own  $50^{th}$  class anniversary mini-gathering. In this way we can let Brats President Joe Condrill do all the work – plan meals, DJ entertainment, side trips, registration, Karaoke, etc. This will allow us more time to spend with our great classmates, at the beach, or in the hotel's  $1^{st}$ -class spa! Come join us, if you like.

Editor's Note: Our newly elected president, Don Hutchins '67 reports that the New York city office of his company sustained serious damage during Hurricane Sandy and he will provide a column for us in our Spring 2013 edition.



From the Former President... Shelley (Flippen) Conroy '73

Dear Fellow Nürnberg Alumni,

Earlier this month, during a Board meeting convened by conference call, I informed my fellow Board Members that I have decided to step down as President of the Board. This was not an easy decision to reach, as I have never not seen a job or task that I have accepted through to completion. I had many factors to consider when reaching this decision: my physical health, my new job, relocation to Dallas, the energies demanded of the president to deal with the many issues that came up continually over the past 18 months. The board found many challenges that had to be addressed as soon as we were elected. We discovered that change is often difficult for some people, even when it is for the good and betterment of the association and its members. All of these factors led me to conclude that my energies need to be focused on my health, my job, my church and my family. I just did not have the time and energy to continue to do all of this and meet the ongoing demands of Board leadership during this time of transformative change. If I had continued in this role, something had to give and I did not want my health or my new job to suffer for it.

I was asked during the phone call to continue as the 70s era rep, and I am happy to do that. I believe that the Board has selected a skilled leader and businessman to step in and lead right now, who will bring much to the table to enable the positive momentum and direction that the Board has charted for the Association. We are quite excited in anticipation of planning for the 2014 Reunion - there is much work to be done! I ask that you provide support and encouragement to the Board in their efforts to provide you with a strong and stable Association, as well as an outstanding reunion experience.

Fondly, Shelley (Flippen) Conroy '73

#### (Continued from page 4)

Meanwhile ... SEE YA IN FAIRFAX COUNTY at Virginia's Sheraton-Premier Hotel in Tysons Corner in June, 2014!

**P. S.** A belated happy Veterans' Day salute to all of my fellow vets out there. THANKS for serving your country, and WELCOME HOME!

rogenson



The Overseas Brats group touring DC on Segways

Eagle Bragging Pages

Joan (McCarter) Adrian '49

Das ist schön!

Joan and several other Eagles attended a reunion in September of some of the alumni from the early years of DoD schools sponsored by the Frankfurt AHS Dackel Association. Joan reported that the group, made up of the classes from 1947 to 1955 has voted to disband. The membership voted to disband due to advancing age, low attendance, and declining health of its members. Anyone wanting more information is to contact Dave Klinger FAHS '47 at dklinger@nwi.net.

Joan added, "We had a great time and I am so sorry more of the older Nürnberg group didn't attend."



Betty Thomas '54 and Jean (Clower) Johann

#### Betty Thomas '54

In September, I went to my grandson's wedding in Madison, IN and while there was able to break from the festivities to visit with



Eagles at the San Diego meeting of the FAHS in September: Woody Gamble '54, Betty Thomas '54, Audrey (Hammond) Gamble '55, Jack Phillips '51, Sharron (Light) Biggi '55, Joan (McCarter) Adrian '49, and Gaylord Long '52.

classmate and fellow "dormie" Jean (Clower) Johann. She and her husband Bill got married and raised their children in Madison. After she left Nürnberg, her father was stationed at the Jefferson Proving Grounds in Madison and she decided to stay and put down roots in that area. She is happy that she made that decision. Her sister and brother both stayed within the military family. Betty lives in Texas and Mike is Air Force retired and lives in Ft. Walton Beach, FL. It was fun remembering the good ole' times, and then we laughed at how much we just thought we had forgotten.

#### Nick Biernacki '59

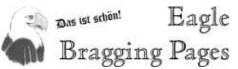
Sindy Biernacki donated one of her kidneys to her husband Nick on August 24 and both are doing fine. This is her report of the procedure.

#### Dear Friends and Loved Ones

Well Aug 24 came and went without a hitch. Nick woke up around three in the afternoon with my kidney completely installed and working! I was already in a room and they took me down to ICU to visit him. We were both doing fine.

Within a day his blood counts started to drop and now they are completely normal. He is showing no signs of rejection. The doctors both his and mine have said that this is the most successful transplant they have seen in a long time. The nursing staff was amazed at how quickly we bounced back.

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

I was only in the hospital three days and Nick five days. When I was released, I moved into Nick's room and we both walked out of the hospital on our own feet. He has to stay in Denver for another week or two just to make sure there are no problems. I came home to finish up the month's business. God answered our prayers. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers. Nick's cell phone is 719-250-3434 He would probably love to hear from you.

They are back in Pueblo and at last report, Nick is back to his old self. Our congratulations to Nick and Sindy!

#### Natalie (Brundage) Martin '62

I retired from public teaching in Arlington, Virginia and moved to Summerville, South Carolina with my husband of forty-three years, David. We have two sons, two daughters-in-law and two granddaughters. We spend a lot of our time being with them. We have one in Falls Church, Virginia and the other near San Diego, California.

Our summers are spent in Maine, thanks to my husband's grandfather, who bought the cottage on a pond some seventy-five years ago. We spent our summers there when our sons were growing up and now we are all there together with the new generations. Life indeed has come full circle.

It has been many years since I have seen many of you and I hope to attend the next reunion in Washington, D.C.



Hank, Sindy, and Nick Biernacki '56

By the way, I have been trying to locate Dianne Evans. Anyone know where she now resides? If you do, please contact me at nelizabethmartin@hotmail.com.

#### Gaye (Richards) McCoy '63

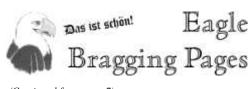
Gave is a big fan of Pat Conroy, the author of The Great Santini and many other books about military life. Conroy recently wrote an introduction to the controversial Military Brats: Legacies of Childhood Inside the Fortress by Mary Edwards Wertsch. Gave said of his introduction, "To be honest, I was absolutely blown away, he spoke so eloquently of all the positive and negative aspects of being a Brat. He ends his introduction with a beautifully imagined military parade where we would march by our fathers in the prime of their lives. From the reviewing stand they would salute their brave and resourceful children for the sacrifices they made

for their country."

When Gaye saw that Conroy was coming to Tulsa to speak at two events, she decided to finally send him a fan letter and tell him how much his writing had meant to her and to share some of the stories of her life. She bought her tickets and counted down the days.

About ten minutes into his talk at the Oklahoma State University Center for Poets and Writers, he looked out into the audience and asked if Gaye McCoy from Jenks, Oklahoma, was present. He went on to tell the audience that Gaye had written him an absolutely moving and lovely letter about being a fellow member of his tribe, a military brat. He spoke about her letter for a few minutes, and then told everyone he had been trying to find her phone number so they could have a good chat.

When his talk was over, said Gaye, "He motioned me on the



(Continued from page 7)

8

stage, and as I walked up to him, he said 'Nürnberg High School' and gave me the biggest hug. He thanked me again for my letter and we laughed and chatted for a few minutes and he asked for my phone number.

"There wasn't a book signing, but being a typical brat, I was prepared and had my book with me. He signed it 'To Gaye McCoy, The military brat of my life, Pat Conroy.' Another hug, and truth be told, I stayed awake the whole night with a big grin on my face!"

There was a luncheon the next day after Conroy's Town Hall talk, but the tickets were all sold out when Gaye went to buy one. When she checked to see if she could somehow wangle one, the Town Hall director told her she had a luncheon ticket.

Gaye continued, "During the luncheon he came around and talked to all the tables. When he got to the table I was at, he put his hand on my shoulder and grinning told the ladies he had a really hard time trying to get my phone number. Then he joked about maybe his wife not wanting him to have it. Anyway, after the luncheon we talked again. He told me his address and told me to write him some more of those letters and that he would call me. Another big hug, and I went back to the real world.

"Two nights later my phone

rang, and I am not sure how I was brave enough to answer it, but sure enough, it was Pat Conroy. We talked about thirty minutes about our folks and what life was like for us. He laughingly told me that the Marine brats always were very jealous of the Army brats because we went to Europe and Japan, and all the Marine kids did was go up and down the swampy east coast. We talked about hurricanes and spouses and how his editor did not want him to put the part about the parade in his introduction to Military Brats, and that he had to fight for its inclusion. He said all he had wanted to do was have a chance to sit down one on one with me so we could just have a long talk about our shared experiences. "He truly made me feel like we were old friends, and gave me one of the most treasured memories of my life!"

#### Sandy (Maile) Cirie and Vera (Chipman) Waldhaeusl, both '65

We went to visit our old Alma Mater NHS in November. As we were there, we were invited in by the current principal of the German school now using our old high school building and we chatted about the years we spent there.

Some questions came up about which I was not 100% sure and wonder if anyone else has the answers.

You remember the nice mosaic on the floor of the lobby showing the crest of Fürth and of Franco-



nia? Do I remember correctly that that was sponsored by the class of '64?

And, I know that NHS existed until 1995, but did they use the high school building until that time? We know that the German school moved in in 2002, but nobody was sure just how long the building was not being used.

Contact Vera at vera.waldhaeusl@aon.at or Dr. McQuitty at historian@nurnbergeagles.org if you know the answers to these questions.

#### Lee McCaslin '65

The Army USAREUR G2 reunion will be held 31 May to 3 June, 2013, in Jacksonville, FL. Speakers will include GM 14 Lee McCaslin, SES Terrance Ford, current director J2 AFRICOM-MC, and LTG (ret.) Chuck Eichelberger, former USAREUR & DA DCSINT as a featured speaker. POC for Eligibility to attend and (Continued from page 8)

#### NAA Trichter, Winter, 2012



Sandy (Maile) Cirie '65, Thomas Bedall, principal of the German school that used to be NAHS. Vera (Chipman) Waldhaeusl '65 with two English language teachers from the school.

more information: Lee McCaslin at lmcaslin1@charter.net

#### A Different Breed of Eagle **Jocelyn McWhirter '78**

I am not an Army Brat. I came to Fürth from the little-known state of Connecticut when my father went to work at Kraftwerk Union in Erlangen. We rented a house in Dambach, right around the corner from the officers' quarters. Our bright orange VW van bore German plates and a D-Schild. There was no AYA for my brothers and me. No PX or Kalb Theater, either. We bought our jeans at Kaufhof, our notebooks at Quelle, and our Gummibären at a little store down the street from our house.

All this tended to limit our opportunities to socialize with other Americans so we took full advantage of the opportunities we had. We obtained a pass so that we could attend services at Darby Chapel. We went to Sunday School and joined the chapel choir. After the service, we'd wander over to the library and borrow a few books. During the week, we had access to the Teen Coffee House through the

Steubenstrasse entrance

And then there was Nürnberg High School. We rode the Dambach bus, joined the band, and signed up for sports: cross-country, basketball, and track. We ran for class president and took trips to Munich, Berchtesgaden, and Hof.



We danced at Sadie Hawkins and Morp and Prom. We sat in the stands for so many football and basketball games, I lost count. And we made friends. Lots of good friends.

I wouldn't trade my experience as an expatriate American civilian in an Army dependent school for anything. I lived in Germany while experiencing a unique side of America. I'm proud to be a Nürnberg Eagle.

#### From '62 to the 90s, Eagles gather

The second weekend in November, a group of over 60 Nürnberg alumni gathered in New Braunfels, Texas, to drink a lot of beer, reminisce, and reconnect. Organized by NAA Secretary Tom Kappelmann, the group attended the Wurstfest held annually in the very German town of New Braunfels located between San Antonio and Austin. This was the second time the group has gathered and it



Tom, where in the heck is that bus? We're running out of beer!

<sup>(</sup>Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

looks to get bigger each year. Hope more can join us next year!



We found a bus! Off to the Wurstfest!



Good Grief Randy, where did you find that hat?

# Eagles gather from far and near for a Texas version of Oktoberfest!



Trichter Editor Pat (Knighton) Gibson '62, 70s Rep Shelley (Flippen)

Conroy '73, NAA Secretary Tom Kappelmann '77, and NAA VP for Membership and Media Reni (Peek) Michael '79 at the going-away lunch on Sunday afternoon.

> At right, Coach Tom Gussner discusses events with Tom Kappleman. Coach and his wife Maria traveled from California to join in the festivities.





Well, I had a list of everyone who was there but the spilled beer made the ink run!

## "From a Military Hospital for Horses to a Church"--A Tour of the Darby Chapel

In September, Thomas Kraus led a walking tour of the former William O. Darby Kaserne. Today there is not much left of the American past as most of the NHS alumni remember it: Nürnberg High School is now Hans-Böckler-Schule and part of the Darby Kaserne is a city park.

Herr Kraus says South City Park is surrounded by perhaps 20,000 people living in the renovated housing that once was Kalb Community and the Darby Barracks. Most of them "have no idea that this area was once off limits for Germans and that almost no Germans lived in here."

In this park all signs of the military are gone, but a building that many alumni will remember and perhaps cherished still stands. That building is the Darby Kaserne chapel. Kraus made the chapel the centerpiece of his tour for two reasons. One, he is a member of the Free Christian Church in Fürth (part of the German branch of the Assemblies of God), which meets in this former hospital for horses at the time before the end of World War II. The other reason is that his faith tells him that his church has two missions: "to bring, to keep, and to implement the fullness of the gospel" and for him, as many others, "to cherish the good [things] we have inherited." This means he wants to see that the American past is not forgotten.

Judging from the script that he

sent me, I believe he did a thorough job. He told his group that the hospital for horses was built between 1890 and 1903 as part of the German military force stationed there. In 1952 it was remodeled into an American chapel.

Within the chapel, he showed his group the evidence that proved it had once been a place for horses, explained how the different American denominations did their services, commented on the stained glass windows in detail, and finally explained what was the same at the time of the Americans and what The Kaserne Chapel was changed since it was taken over by his Pentecostal church.

Kraus wants to add to his knowledge of the chapel's past. He has asked me to develop a list of the military chaplains who served the chapel. I have come up with a number of names, 1947-1958, without knowing which actually were Darby chapel chaplains.

Kraus also would like to add some personal memories to his

knowledge of the American past. He would like some details on how the sharing the of chapel among Catholics, Protestants. and Jews worked. And for those with long memories. what prayer requests have been



fulfilled

Those who would like to comment on their experiences at the Darby chapel, have information regarding Darby chaplains after 1958, or can put me in contact with a former Darby chaplain send me e-mail an at historian@nurnbergeagles.org

There will be a follow up on this story in the spring Trichter. -**Bob McQuitty** 



Kraus explains the presence of the American Army to current residents



## Historian's Corner

by Bob McQuitty, PhD, NAA Historian, Editor Emeritus



## Wikipedia Article Started: Information Needed

Taking my title of historian a little more seriously than in the past, I have started a Wikipedia article about Nürnberg American High School. You can see what's already up by googling first Wikipedia and then typing in Nurnberg High School (without the umlaut).

Actually, I didn't start the article, an alumnus of Frankfurt High School did. He had recently put up an article about FHS and sent me an email suggesting that I do the same for NHS. I said I had been planning to do so for some time but had been hesitant to start until I gathered more information.

When I didn't start – he did! He gathered some basic information from our Archive web pages and added a section about some of our military heroes who had died in action. It's not clear where he got this information, but it is well documented and you'll notice they all died in Vietnam.

He didn't, however, document the historical section very well, so that's why there was a notice at the top of the article for a while that said it needed documentation. Since then I have gone back and documented everything sufficiently - I think. Gathering information and documenting it is not as easy as you might suppose. That was what was holding up the start of my planned history of NHS. The Archives presently on the old nurnbergeagles.org web site contain ample information through the first 12 years of NHS's existence. The "Golden Oldies," as they call themselves, have a keen sense of the historical significance of their school years.

But since that first decade, information about the past has steadily declined. The school newspaper files, with some exceptions, continue in varying completeness through 1976. After that year there is only a stray issue here and there. It's not even clear that there was a school newspaper in some years. Memoirs in the NAA Trichter have also declined, though Pat Gibson has lately been able to encourage some alums from the 70s to write about their experiences.

The chief source of information about the years after 1976 is yearbooks. We have in either physical or electronic form yearbooks for every year but 1987, 1993, 1994, and 1995. The trouble with using yearbooks only for historical research is that yearbooks contain lots of pictures but considerably less information. And pictures without captions tell the historian little or nothing. Further, there is no school record at all after the yearbook goes to press – the spring semester is a blank.

But information can be gathered from yearbooks, and my wife Jeanette and I are presently working hard at gleaning facts from the more recent yearbooks. To determine the number of students enrolled each year, we are counting the pictures in the yearbooks. The problem with this method is that some yearbook editors were more conscientious about getting everybody in the yearbook than others. Some of the yearbooks list those not pictured, and that is helpful, but the fact that the total number of students and the number of seniors varies greatly from year to year indicates the vagaries of this method. (It was suggested to me that enrollment and graduation information would be available from DoDDS. It is from 1994 to the present. That helps us with one year!)

It would also be useful to know how many graduates there were

#### (Continued from page 12)

each year. Through 1961 we have graduation lists either in commencement programs, newspaper pictures, or Trichter stories. After that, graduation lists are spotty and from 1980 to 1994 disappear. The NHS Archive, which is the permanent record of NHS and its students and faculty, needs your help. Contributions to the Archive have almost ceased. Remember, if you have Trichter issues, photos, or memorabilia, you can mail me the original items or you can scan them and email them to me. Or do you have memories of NHS that you could write up? Editor Pat Gibson would welcome your memoirs (and photos), which would later become part of the Archive.

The alums of the 70s, 80s, and 90s are our target contributors. For-

## **Archive Needs**

If you have any of the following items that you would be willing to send to the NHS Archive either in physical form (send by mail to 4034 Highland Dr, Tahlequah, OK 74464) or in electronic form (send to historian@nurnbergeagles.org) please let me know by email.

1980 through 1995

School Newspapers Any issues after 1976

#### Yearbooks

1987	
1993	
1994	
1995	

#### **Commencement Programs**

1962
1963
1964
(Have)
1966
(Have)
1971

tunately, Reni (Peek) Michael, '79, has set up two Facebook pages, Nurnberg High Alumni Association and Nurnberg American High School, which at this writing had 829 and 1554 members respectively. She has promised to try to get responses to my many requests.

Also, it would be very helpful to me if a couple of people would step up and agree to monitor the Facebook pages for the bits and pieces of historical facts that appear from time to time. For example, Barbara Dunnam said on Facebook not too long ago that she "thinks" the dorm was closed in 1983. That's the start to finding a historical fact. It needs to be verified. Send me an email if you would be willing to become a "history detective," and I'll explain what to look for.

## I'm a Military Brat

My hometown is nowhere, my friends are everywhere.

I grew up with the knowledge that home is where the heart is, and the family.

Some would wonder about roots, yet they are as deep and strong as the mighty oak. I sink them quickly, absorbing all an area offers and hopefully, giving enrichment in return.

Travel has taught me to be open. Shaking hands with the universe, I find brotherhood in all men.

Farewells are never easy. Yet even in sorrow comes strength and ability to face tomorrow with anticipation. If when we leave one place, I feel that half my world is left behind, I also know that the other half is waiting to be met.

Friendships are formed in hours and kept for decades. I will never grow up with someone, but I will mature with many. Be it inevitable that paths part, there is constant hope that they will meet again.

**Editor's Note:** Dr. McQuitty found this in his files with no indication of by whom or when it was written. PKG





## *Marching Backward* to 1995 School Year

From the Stars and Stripes, June 1, 1995



Vol. 24, No. 3

#### End of an era in Nürnberg Tears flow at high school's final graduation

By Ron Jensen, Nürnberg bureau

FÜRTH, Germany – Tears interrupted the last valedictory address by the last valedictorian of the last graduating class of Nürnberg High School on Tuesday night.

Dawn Henly, the top academic student of the class, had to stop to battle her emotions as she delivered the speech at the Fürth Stadthalle.

"No matter where we end up in the world, we will always have..." she said before the tears overcame her.

After pausing briefly, she continued "...a little piece (of Nürnberg) to take with us." It is not the only time she had to compose herself and it was not unexpected. "When I was writing it, I was crying," Henly said after the ceremony. "Every time I went over it, it hit me in the heart," Her reward for struggling through the speech was a warm and admiring standing ovation from the 200 people in the audience and her fellow graduates.

Emotion was always just under the surface in a ceremony that marked the end of a school that graduated its first class in 1947. The Nürnberg military community is scheduled to close later this year and the school system will close with it, locking its doors after classes end this week.

"The world changes," said Maj. Lee Taylor, commander of the area support team in Nürnberg.

In his remarks to the graduates, he told them that they live in a world unimagined by that first graduating class. The advances made since then, he said, were made because people with dreams pursued them.

"Class of '95, I challenge you to dream deeply," Taylor said.

The ceremony was attended by 32 graduates. Ten

others will receive Nürnberg High School diplomas despite finishing their studies in the United States or earlier at the school in Fürth.

As recently as 1991, the school graduated 165 seniors; The largest class, according to records that go back to 1964, was the 1978 class with 180 graduates. In green



Nürnberg High School valedictorian Dawn Henly (left) wipes away a tear during commencement ceremonies as salutatorian Cristina Teodora looks on. (From the S&S article)

robes and flat-topped caps, the graduates, each carrying a white rose, filed into the hall while video cameras rolled and flashbulbs popped.

In her salutatory address, Cristina Teodora noted that she will miss more than her friends and teachers. The teen-ager was born in South Africa and lived in Lisbon, Portugal, before coming to Germany, two years ago.

She will miss, she said, the American culture "I have come to know and love." Teodora will return to Lisbon and study medicine.

In between tears, Henly said, "I think I speak for the whole senior class when I say that our venture into the real world is a scary one."

She and her classmates, she said, will not have a home to return to once they have left. However, they will always have what Henly said is the wonderful ex-

#### (Continued from page 14)

perience of living and learning in Europe.

"We are a significant part of German history," she said. "We've actually seen the places we have read about in our textbooks."

Following the performance of a Mozart piano piece by graduate Vanessa Rosenberger and a poem written and read by graduate Rayford Clark, the diplomas were handed to each student by Michael Thompson, the school principal. As each name was called by guidance counselor Jessie Gilbertson, she also

read a graduation message each student had written. They thanked their parents, God, and their friends.

One thanked his father for taking away his driver's license so he would study. Another thanked a younger

## Fallen Eagles...

#### Danny M. Doxtater '76

Danny died on November 16, 2012 at his residence in Clarksville, TN.

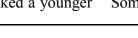
He was born on February 20, 1958 in Clarksville, TN to Ronald D. Doxtater, Sr. and Nancy Wolard Doxtater. He was preceded in death by his mother; wife, Wanda Doxtater and step-mother, Helen Doxtater. Danny was a meat cutter at The Choppin' Block.

He is survived by his father, Ronald D. Doxtater, Sr. of Clarksville, TN; son, Danny Doxtater II

of Seattle, WA; daughter, Amy M. Doxtater of Seattle, WA; brother, Ronnie Doxtater (Karen) of Clarksville, TN; and five grandchildren.



1975 Annual Picture



## Carla Leary '76

Carla died peacefully in her sleep October 11. She was born at Nouasseur Air Force Base near Casablanca, Morocco, in 1958. She is survived by her three children, Nicole, Matthew, and Elizabeth Audette, all of Elizabeth City, NC; her parents, Carl and Ann Leary of Elizabeth City; brother, Michael T. Leary of Peachtree City, GA; sister, Kelly L. Snyder and husband Bob of Elizabeth City; two grandchildren Kaiya Audette of Carlisle, PA and Jacoby Audette of Virginia

Beach, VA and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her grandparents, Thomas and

Hilda Brumsey Currituck, NC.



of 1975 Annual Picture



JROTC Drill Team performing at the closing ceremony

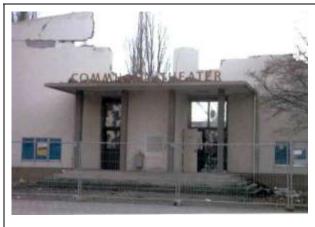
brother for so pestering her that she studied hard so she could get away from the house.

Some kissed their diplomas and held them aloft. Some waved to family and friends in the auditorium.

Even Charlie Eagle, the school mascot, received a diploma.

When it was finished, the Class of 1995 of Nürnberg High School tossed its caps in the air. And when the caps came down, the students had become graduates, and there will never be any more like them.





Reni found this picture (at left) of the theater being demolished and Dr. McQuitty found this one (at right) from the 1970s of it in use.



This photo was posted on the Facebook page "You know you went to NHS if you remember......" Enjoy the comments by NHS alums found below.

Lisa Jackson '81 wow really sad :-(

David Joseph Seneres '79 Location of one of my first jobs... Brings back memories.

Buddy Howell '77 1976, I left the theater one night after a midnight show. I got all the way to Ed Staats' house when I found I forgot something.....Ed. He was passed out in the john. We went to Graf's before the movie and 'had a few' shots of .....whatever it was. I had to climb through the bathroom window, try and wake him up, then pull him out. He was laughing so loud I was sure the MP's would come. All his dad said was, "Oh my."

Barbara Shelley Johnston Ok. Buddy's story is the best one posted so far, by far! Put a huge smile on my face just trying to visualize the whole scene!

Cay Campbell Landowski Back when the movies were 15 cents and popcorn was 10 cents Dad gave me 3 quarters to take my 2 younger sisters (Carin & Christa) to see the Beatles movie. We were walking along the football field & I was tossing the quarters in the air for fun, until I lost one and we all started crying. A young soldier walked by, saw us crying, reached in his pocket and gave us a quarter. He saved the day!

Ranelle Fortier '75 Buddy Howell, I have a memory very close to yours...except I was the one in the bathroom praying to the porcelain god. It was the night I won a liter bottle of Lambrusco at the carnival ring toss and tried to drink it by myself. Wow...I couldn't stand the smell of that wine for many years after that!

Barbara Dunnam Drinking? There was drinking in Nurnberg?

Celie Sternson Herbst On a date with Gordon Allen seeing Butch Cassidy....first the Star Spangled Banner, then 5 coming attractions. (well worth the 35cents.)

Victor Rivera I worked there in the projection room! Man do I have some great memories.....

Phillip P. Klemmer I can not believe that it is not still up and running So many good times inside and out!

Susan Solomon- Roehm Very sad. Many a movie for 25 cents...then it went to 35cents...popcorn 10 cents.

Pat Gibson Any one from the 60's remember "12 to the Moon" which was followed the next week by "13 Fighting Men"? Both are on the list of the worst movies ever made. They followed each other on successive Wednesdays.

Dimi Xadzipulos I remember watching The Exorcist there. The scariest walk home in the dark ever!

Karen Blustein Friedman This is indeed sad. So many memories - You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, Romeo & Juliet, Jesus Christ Superstar, National Anthem before every movie!