

# Nürnberg Alumni Association Online Archive

## Nürnberg American High School

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

### 1955-56 School Year

**10th year of the school's existence**

**Graduating Class of 1956**

#### **This File: Memoirs, Historical Articles, Memorabilia**

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

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## USAREUR Dependents School System Starts 10th Yr.

KARLSRUHE, Germany, Oct. 13 – USAREUR tomorrow begins its 10th year as the operating agency for a novel educational organization which had its beginning amid the rubble and desolation of wartorn Europe – the Army dependent school system.

Thirty-eight elementary schools and five high schools staffed by [illegible] American teachers, opened their doors to 2800 dependent youngsters on Oct. 14, 1946. Of the original faculty four teachers remain to carry on the formidable work that was begun nine years ago.

Gay [illegible], an art instructor at the Frankfurt American High School, found that on her arrival that there were three schools in the Frankfurt area, and “there was a shortage of art teachers. So I was assigned to all three and I worked from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.”

### Used Salvage Material

To get supplies, Gay would take several students to an airplane dump near Frankfurt. “There we would cut off bits of leather, wood and metal for use in our crafts class. Once the Army told us that they had 3,000 empty shell cases. We took them all and our children made the most beautiful tobacco cans, lamps, jewelry boxes, and ash trays you ever saw.”

Rex L. Gleason, principal of Munich High School was attending summer school at Texas Christian University when Army recruiters “talked me into coming back overseas for a year.”

“When I got to Europe, I was sure glad I only signed up for one year,” said Gleason. “The high school was in a German house, and I taught mathematics in one of the bedrooms. There were no textbooks to speak of and no school supplies. I had the students bring wrapping paper to school on which they would take notes and do their assignments.”

There was one bus for commuters. “It had no windows,” Gleason recalled. “You entered from a door in the back and sat in darkness until you reached the school. We had to get rid of it when the students began complaining.”

“The Germans were curious about us,” recalls Olive M. Anderson, who also teaches at Munich High. Miss Anderson recalls that in those first days the Germans were “shy of us and we were shy of them. It was the language barriers that did it.”

Originally contracted for “one year only” Miss Anderson remained because of her interest in the growth of the schools and in the noticeable change of the Germans. She encouraged Germans to visit her schools. “We had many visitors, both professional and laymen, and I believe some of our educational methods found their way into the German school system.”

Mary M. Merchant, principal of the Frankfurt American Elementary School No. 1, has been assigned to Frankfurt since her arrival with the first group of teachers in 1946.

### No ‘Pedestal’

Miss Merchant pointed out that Germans have been impressed with the informality usually found in American classrooms. “American teachers do not occupy the ‘pedestal’ that German teachers apparently do,” she said.

All four veterans agree that the USAREUR school system is as good as the top systems in the U.S. In addition to their regular courses of study American youngsters have the advantages of living the lessons they learn. Field trips, foreign-language programs, and international student exchanges offer the youngsters valuable experiences they can not obtain at home.

Planning for this vast network of schools began immediately after World War II. Under the guidance of Maj. Virgil R. Walker, who later became the first civilian director of the dependent school system, it was decided that schools would be established wherever there were enough children eligible for education.

Schools were housed wherever a room could be found. In those early days, classes were organized in requisitioned houses, in private apartments, in military barracks—anywhere a roof and four walls could be found intact.

As the 10th year of school operations begins, officials note with pride that approximately 5,000 American teachers have taught nearly 100,000 students since 1946.

Today the American high schools in France and Germany have been given unqualified accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools—the highest accreditation granted by the largest accrediting society in the U.S.

– STARS AND STRIPES clipping from Larry Shuman, '57

## A Most Unforgettable Character

by Larry D. Shuman, '57

Over the years I have shared with my children and, now grandchildren, experiences and profiles of people from throughout my life. For years I have told my posterity about Charlie Myers. I saw Charlie's sister Mary Jane (Myers) Soyenova '61 at the last reunion. I asked about Charlie. She brought me up to date. She said Charlie did not consider coming to the reunion because he did not think anybody would know him. I doubt Charlie even remembers me, but I remember him. Actually I think Charlie belonged to the Class of '56; however, he came up short a credit or two so he graduated with the rest of us in 1957. We saw him in class infrequently. He did not have to attend school all of the time. I do not recall his exact schedule or even what class he occasionally attended. I only remember that we did not see him very often and while not unfriendly, Charlie did not socialize too much. I think the only real friend he had at NAHS was Darrell Freeman.

When I saw him the first time, I assumed he was German. He wore German-styled clothing, corduroys, heavily braided sweaters and European shoes. He wore his hair long, neatly coifed, like a German. "Who is the German?" I asked somebody. "He is not a German. His Dad is EES, lived in



Charlie Myers, yearbook photo

Germany forever. He's American but he's 'gone native.' I thought to myself: "I have to talk to this guy." Over the semester that Charlie attended classes I made a point to visit with him. I learned that he had indeed pretty much gone native. Not only did he look German, he acted German. I asked him one day if he had ever gone "home" to the ZI. He replied that he had but that on those visits, during the whole time he felt like a foreigner.

Several times we would see Charlie at the O'Darby snack bar with a date. We never saw Charlie with anybody but fashion models, striking, statuesque,

beautiful woman dressed to the nines. He would leave his date at the table while he went through the food line. I do not know if any of these beauties ever realized the audience of teenagers ogling her while she sat waiting for Charlie to bring the food to the table. We sat fascinated as Charlie conversed with his date in perfect German. His date would laugh and flirt in such a way that we in the "audience" would go crazy. In today's jargon we would have classified Charlie as "The Man." Forget about football and basketball stars. Those guys dated the same girls we did. We wished we could get to know Charlie better. Maybe he could fix us up with one of those beautiful women (not girls, women).

Over the years I wondered whatever happened to Charlie. Did he stay native? I did not get a full answer from Mary Jane beyond that he now lives in the United States.

I always have a memory for out-of-the-ordinary people. I admire Mike Leach, coach of Texas Tech, a maverick, former rugby player, lawyer, now sought-after football coach, whose teams play (and win) erratically, like him.

The reason I remember Charlie Myers is because Charlie was a maverick and a winner. I hope he has had a good life.

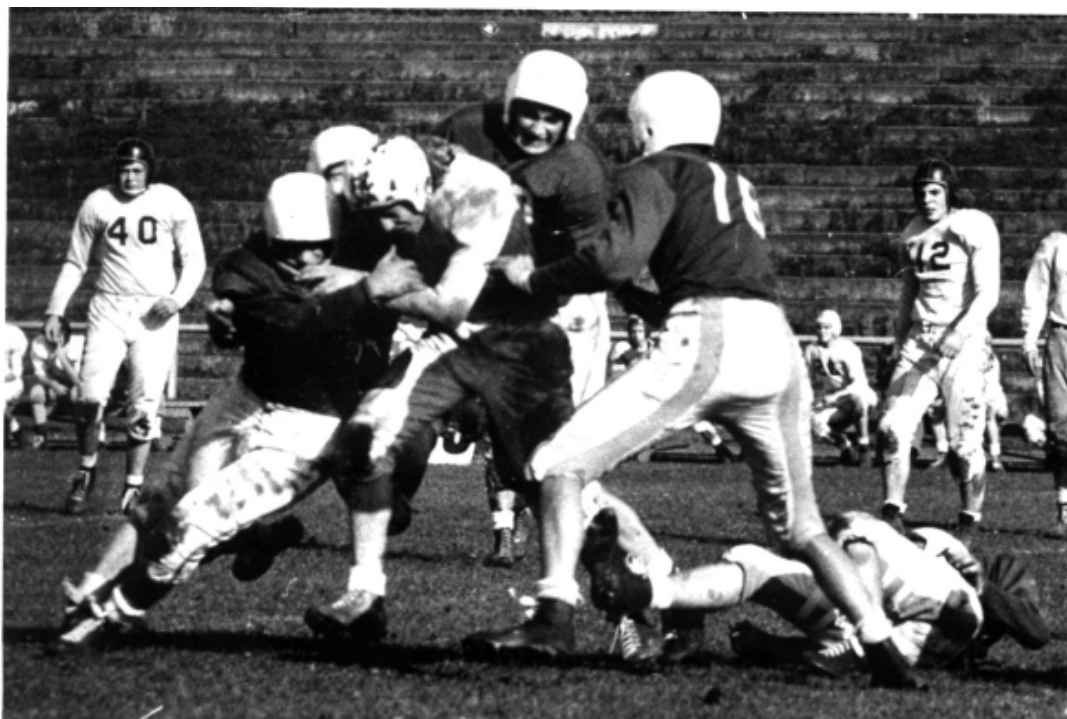


# Ethel Walske's Photo Gallery

## Looking Backward at 1955-56



Ethel (Walske) Lapitan, '58, went to Nürnberg American High School for all four years. During this time she took many snapshots. Her freshman photos appear in the 1954-55 archive. These are her sophomore year pictures.



**Football Action**



**Homecoming**

Dorothy Keene, sopohomore,  
and Tom Wolf, junior



**Meeting of the Student Council**

Gerald Cochran,  
sophomore,  
back, top



Jim Orcutt,  
in plaid shirt

**Christmas Party**



**Juniors and seniors assemble in the Community Theater**



**Some students even went to the library and studied.**



Class Party



At left, Carol (Pierotti) Miller, '55. In the doorway the late Mike Crumley, '54; behind him is Midge (Kulp) Foltz, '56. Picture taken by Berta (Williams) Bryner, '56, in front of the AYA at William O. Darby Kaserne.

## Class Trips

### Trip to Bamberg



Mr. Russ Abraham and Mr. Bob Smith, class sponsors (in overcoats)



**Trip to Richard Wagners' home and opera house in Bayreuth**



**Trip to Konsum, a supermarket in downtown Nürnberg**



Gerald Cochrane,  
Shirley Wilkerson,  
Dorothy Keene,  
Don Barnett



## School Play



School play presented by the Dramatics Club. From left Rich Baker (on his knees), Vivian Willcut, Bob Mitchell, Carol Gossman, Ted Brostrom, Frances Moore, Ethel Walske



Rich Baker, Carol Grossman, Ethel Walske, Frances Moore, Ted Brostrom, Vivian Willcut, Bob Mitchell

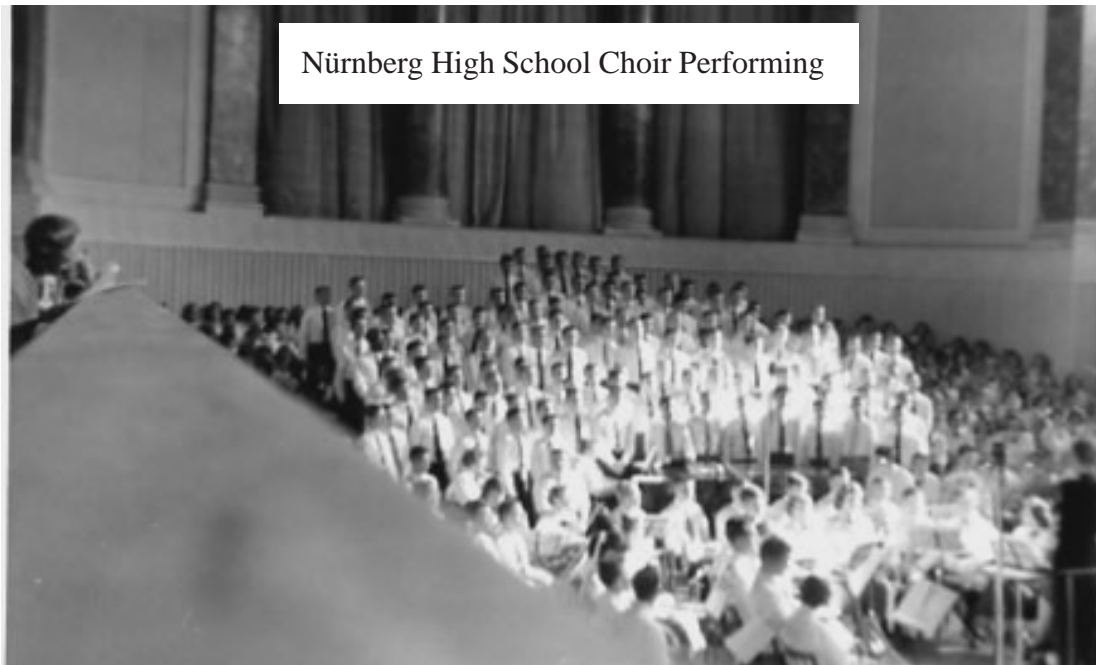


Ted Brostrom,  
Ethel Walske,  
Vivian Willcut

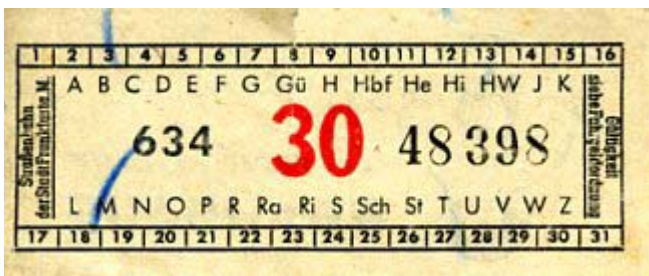
# American High Schools Choir Competition



Nürnberg High School Choir Performing



Frankfurt Strassenbahn ticket



*Stets ein Genuss!* (always a pleasure)  
Frankfurt Brew House

# The Junior-Senior Prom

June 1, 1956

Kalb Club

Seven O'clock

The Class of 1957  
presents



Dancing in the Kalb Club decorated for the theme "Stairway to the Stars"

<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Offices</b>	<b>Juniors</b>
Henry Reed	President	Alfred Kline
Robert Twaddell	Vice-President	Ann Mary Mazares
Benjamin Saars	Secretary	Judith Knuettel
Roger Upton	Treasurer	Janet Glenn
Dennis Crumley	Student Council	Gary Fry
Nancy Hett	Representatives	Edward Parish

<b>Menu</b>		
Orange Juice	or	Chicken Noodle Soup
Sirloin Steak		
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy or French Fried Potatoes		
Green Beans		Tossed Salad
Rolls with Butter		
Iced Tea	Milk	Iced Coffee
Apple Pie A-La-Mode		

<b>Program</b>		
Invocation		Chaplain F. W. Shiery
Dinner		
Junior Class President		Al Kline
Senior Class President		Henry Reed
Dancing		
Barry Morely-Vocalist		
Dancing		

Committees	
<b>Invitations and Programs</b> <b>Sandra Brown, chairman</b> <b>Janet Glenn</b> <b>Saralyne Davies</b>	<b>Decorations</b> <b>Judy Hett, chairman</b> <b>Carol Shiery</b> <b>Diane Hoyt</b> <b>Judith Knueppel</b> <b>Gary Fry</b>

Committees	
<b>Banquet</b> <b>Larry Shuman, chairman</b>	<b>Entertainment</b> <b>Mike Jung, chairman</b> <b>Edward Parish</b>
<b>Photography . . . . .</b>	<b>Edward Parish</b>



Junior Class President Al Kline crowns King Robert Twaddell and Queen Berta (Williams) Bryner.  
 [Berta says she still has two stars from her crown]

- Dancing**
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bill Davis</li> <li>2. Mr Abraham</li> <li>3. Bill Davis</li> <li>4. Hank Reed</li> <li>5. Bill Davis</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. <i>[Signature]</i></li> <li>7. Bill Davis</li> <li>8. Norman Embree</li> <li>9. Bill Davis</li> <li>10. Bill Davis</li> </ol> |
|--|---|

**Autographs**

*one of the sweetest  
Best wishes ever  
Love paid*

Dana Sue  
Nancy West  
Nancy Hall  
Hank Reed

Dona - I wish you  
all the luck in the  
world.

From your chief  
competition for Willy  
affections.

George

H. "Charlie" Rosin

Worah Spuk.

**Autographs**

Ben Covington

So a wonderful  
god love  
Bill.

Apita Passey  
Nancy  
Mab

Al Hline

*[Large block of overlapping handwritten signatures and notes]*

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# Baccalaureate

Nurnberg American High School

High School Auditorium

June 10, 1956

1630 hours

Processional . . . . . Mrs. Rita Bullock  
Invocation . . . . . Chaplain Floyd W. Shiery  
Solo "O Rest in the Lord" - Mendelssohn Mr. Ronald Roth  
Scripture Mark 10:17-27 . . . . . Chaplain William R. Hett  
Address "If" . . . . . Chaplain William R. Hett  
Hymn, No. 442 . . . . . Congregation  
"Onward, Christian Soldiers"  
Benediction . . . . . Chaplain William R. Hett  
Recessional . . . . . Mrs. Rita Bullock

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# COMMENCEMENT



*Nurnberg American  
High School*  
NURNBERG, GERMANY

June 14, 1956 2000 Hours  
Community Theater

## PROGRAM

Processional  
Mrs. Rita Bullock  
Star Spangled Banner  
Audience  
Invocation  
Chaplain H. F. Kochner  
Salutatory  
Robert Twaddell  
Valedictory  
Frances Manbeck  
"Ours is the World"  
High School Vocal Group  
Miss E. Knighton, Director  
Introduction of Speaker  
Henry Reed  
Commencement Address  
The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson  
American Ambassador to Prague  
Presentation of Class  
Miss Mildred Linck  
Awarding of Diplomas  
Colonel T. R. Kimpton  
Alma Mater  
Senior Class  
Recessional  
Mrs. Rita Bullock

### ALMA MATER

Hail, oh hail to dear ol' Nurnberg,  
Now we honor thee,  
Loyal friends of thee forever,  
Faithful we will be;  
Toiling, striving, never ceasing,  
Looking toward the sky.  
Hail to thee, our Alma Mater!  
Hail to Nurnberg High!

## CLASS OF 1956

<b>Dennis V. Crumley</b> St. Paul, Minnesota	<b>Frances J. Manbeck</b> Salem, Oregon
<b>William F. Davis</b> Seymore, Missouri	<b>Karen Jeanne Marquis</b> Des Moines, Iowa
<b>Dana Maria Due</b> San Antonio, Texas	<b>Robert V. Morey</b> Kansas City, Missouri
<b>William Field Due, Jr.</b> San Antonio, Texas	<b>Henry McDavid Reed II</b> Union, South Carolina
<b>Norman P. Embree</b> St. Paul, Minnesota	<b>Benjamin F. Saars</b> Suitland, Maryland
<b>E. Michael Gaspar</b> Cambridge, Massachusetts	<b>Robert Bryan Twaddell</b> Dallas, Texas
<b>Dona Marie Griffith</b> Indianola, Iowa	<b>Roger Kenneth Upton</b> Monnessen, Pennsylvania
<b>Jose Hernandez</b> Santurce, Puerto Rico	<b>Carole Joyce White</b> Austin, Texas
<b>Nancy Hett</b> Butternut, Wisconsin	<b>Berta Ann Williams</b> Larkspur, California
<b>Randolph H. Kulp</b> Atlanta, Georgia	<b>Janet Young</b> Salt Lake City, Utah

<b>President</b>	<b>Henry Reed</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Benjamin Saars</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Robert Twaddell</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Roger Upton</b>
<b>Student Council Treasurer</b>	<b>Dennis Crumley</b>
<b>Student Council Representative</b>	<b>Nancy Hett</b>
<b>Valedictorian</b>	<b>Frances Manbeck</b>
<b>Salutatorian</b>	<b>Robert Twaddell</b>
<b>Senior Class Sponsor</b>	<b>Mr. Werner L. Rosin</b>

## AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

### Administration

<b>Miss Mildred A. Linck</b> High School Principal Mt. Pleasant, Michigan	<b>Captain J. M. Gibbs</b> President of PTA
<b>Colonel T. R. Kimpton</b> Nurnberg Sub-Area Commander	<b>Mr. Frank De Martine</b> Regional Superintendent
<b>Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gaskins</b> President of School Board	<b>Captain Mary O'Connell</b> School Officer

### Staff

<b>Mr. Russell Abraham</b> Portland, Oregon	<b>Mr. Frank Michanowicz</b> Bridgeport, Pennsylvania
<b>Mr. Joseph Blackstead</b> Portland, Oregon	<b>Mr. Charles Moore</b> Decatur, Illinois
<b>Miss Ingrid Einhellinger</b> Nürnberg, Germany	<b>Mrs. Ruth Moss</b> Salt Lake City, Utah
<b>Mr. Erlan Eller</b> Los Angeles, California	<b>Mr. Robert Nicolai</b> San Francisco, California
<b>Frau Eva Fuchs</b> Fürth, Germany	<b>Mr. Wilbert Patton</b> Milton, Vermont
<b>Mr. Glenn Hendricks</b> Pendleton, Oregon	<b>Miss Gladys Pickard</b> Clay, New York
<b>Mr. Chester Hoyt</b> Hollywood, Florida	<b>Mrs. Bettye Rosin</b> Port Arthur, Texas
<b>Mr. Donald Kerchner</b> Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania	<b>Mr. Werner Rosin</b> St. Paul, Minnesota
<b>Miss Erma Knighton</b> Wenatchee, Washington	<b>Mr. Ronald Roth</b> Nazareth, Pennsylvania
<b>Mr. Patric Lucier</b> Covina, California	<b>Miss Phyllis Russell</b> Duluth, Minnesota
<b>Miss Anna Lou Martin</b> Britt, Iowa	<b>Mr. Robert Smith</b> Garden City, L. I., New York
<b>Miss Lois Massie</b> Waynesville, North Carolina	<b>Herr Walter Tradowsky</b> Nürnberg, Germany
	<b>Miss Hazel Youngman</b> Long Beach, California



# NHS's 1955-56 Distinguished Faculty

Nicolai Abraham Moore Hoyt Hendricks Michanowicz Lucier Unknown Blackstead Patton Smith Kerchner Rosin Roth Eller



Seated: Linck Pickard Knighton Russell Massie Moss Einhellinger Youngman Rosin Martin

## MEN (standing)

Robert Nicolai, dorm supervisor  
 Russel Abraham, math, science  
 Charles Moore, dorm super  
 Chester Hoyt, industrial arts, driver ed  
 Glenn Hendricks, history, English  
*Unknown*  
 Frank Michanowicz, social studies  
 Patric Lucier, English, rem. reading  
 Joseph Blackstead, PE, coach  
 Wilbert Patton, science  
 Robert Smith, math  
 Donald Kerchner, librarian  
 Werner Rosin, English  
 Ronald Roth, counselor  
 Erlan Eller, art, history

## WOMEN (seated)

Mildred Linck, principal  
 Gladys Pickard, homemaking  
 Erma Knighton, music  
 Phyllis Russell, dorm supervisor  
 Lois Massie, PE  
 Ruth Moss, dorm supervisor  
 Ingrid Einhellinger, German, French  
 Hazel Youngman, English, social studies  
 Bettye Rosin, chemistry, math  
 Anna Lou Martin, commercial

## Not pictured:

Herr Walter Tradowsky, German, French  
 Frau Eva Fuchs, German?

— photo from Ethel Walske