

EAGLES ECHO



A PUBLICATION OF THE
FRANKFURT AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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CLASSES OF
1967-1971

FALL 2007

SEATTLE CELEBRATION

"Celebrate good times...come on"



**2008 Frankfurt American High School Reunion
Seattle, Washington**

When: July 3, 4, and 5, 2008

**Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel Downtown
1113 Sixth Ave, Seattle, WA 98101**

Reservation Line: 1-800-521-2762 or 1-206-464-1980

Inform the reservation line you're with Frankfurt American High School

Make your reservation today to lock into the
discounted rate nightly of **\$139.00**

Don't take a chance of having to pay the corporate rate!
Reserve by June 1st for this rate!

**Please do not make reservations through an outside source.
This compromises our hotel contract!**

Single and Double Rooms \$139

View Room Upgrade \$159, Concierge Room Upgrade \$169,
Executive Suites available too!

In addition to the hotel room charges, all attendees must pay a registration fee
which goes toward the cost of the reception, dinners and entertainment.

Your 2008 SEATTLE CELEBRATION Hosts:



Contact Kym:
206-931-8104

Contact Steve:
206-679-4980

Kym Mingus Denmark '68 and Steve Denmark '68
(FAHS Sweethearts and Spouses)
kymdstev@aol.com

INSIDE

1-3 SEATTLE
CELEBRATION 

 REMEMBERING
FALLEN EAGLES **4-6**

7-10 NASHVILLE
REUNION 

 MY FIRST REUNION **11**

12-13 EAGLES
IN THE NEWS 

 PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE **14**

15-18 BALTIMORE
REUNION 

 OVERSEAS BRATS
MEMBERSHIP INFO **19**

SEATTLE CELEBRATION

Tentative Events

- July 2nd (Wed)**- Early Birds enjoy a "pay as you go" dinner. Bar hopping time!
- July 3rd (Thurs)**- Buffet and drinks in the hospitality suite. Let the good times roll!
- July 4th (Fri)**- BBQ and Fireworks! Bar, music and dancing. (you know how we love to create a dance floor!)
- July 5th (Sat)**- Alumni Meeting (shortest ever!) with a buffet breakfast. Formal Dinner and Dancing in the Crowne Plaza Ballroom
LIVE BAND!
- July 6th (Sun)**- Homeward Bound! Get excited for 2009 in Atlanta!

STAY TUNED FOR EVENT TIMES AND MORE DETAIL

SEATTLE ATTRACTIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| •Shopping | 2 Blocks |
| •Westlake / Monorail | 4 Blocks |
| •Seattle University | 8 Blocks |
| •Pike Place Market | 0.6 Miles |
| •Seattle Aquarium | 0.9 Miles |
| •Colman Dock | 1 Mile |
| •Pioneer Square | 1 Mile |
| •SAFECO Field | 1 Mile |
| •Qwest Field | 1 Mile |
| •Seattle Center | 1.4 Miles |
| •Seattle Space Needle | 1.4 Miles |
| •Woodland Park Zoo | 4.2 Miles |
| •Univ. of Washington | 4.5 Miles |
| •Fisherman's Terminal | 5.2 Miles |
| •Seattle SeaTac Airport | 14.5 Miles |



Crowne Plaza Seattle
1113 6th Avenue
Downtown - Seattle WA 98101

FREE BUS LINE AROUND TOWN AND A FREE TROLLEY ON THE WATERFRONT!

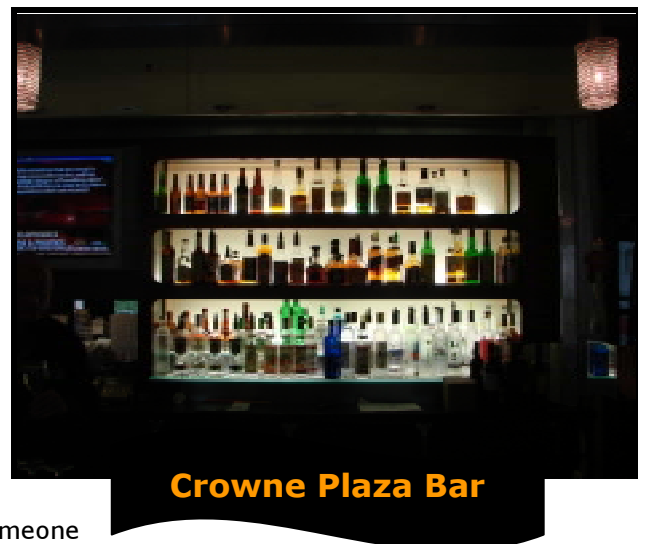
SEATTLE CELEBRATION

**Celebrate good times come on!
There's a party goin' on right here
A celebration to last throughout the years
So bring your good times, and your laughter too
We gonna celebrate your party with you**

Kool & the Gang knew what they were talking about when they wrote that song. Maybe they wrote it for celebrations just like ours? Every year the 1967-1971 alumni groups and friends of Frankfurt American High School come together to celebrate good times, past and present. 2008 will be no different! Seattle Washington, the Emerald City, as it is called, will be the host city for the July 3, 4 and 5th, 2008 FAHS Reunion. Check out the information in this newsletter!

Each year the eager alumni early birds fly in a head of time to check out the local scene and test the bier before the rest of the flock arrives. Once the nest has been checked out and the hospitality room is fully stocked, the Eagles come in from all over the country and sometimes the world, just to land in town for a few days, shake their feathers, drink from the fountain of youth, squawk and fly out again. No fear...they will be back next year, in another location!

This year we are hosting the 2008 FAHS Reunion here in Seattle and invite you to attend a very special celebration over the 4th of July. Come join your fellow alumni for a few days of nostalgia, great music, fine food, bier and some 60's dance moves! Celebrate the past with old friends and make some news ones while you are here. Come as you are...we do! No need for that hair transplant or a face lift. Forget the fitness routine and the waistline. Don't fret over those extra pounds you gained since high school...we wear ours proudly! Lost your job? You'll fit right in! Been fired? Hey...guaranteed someone has been there and done that. The point we are trying to make is that we don't care what you've done, how much you make or what you look like. Like the old Uncle Sam poster said "WE WANT YOU!" We want to see you and let the good times roll once again.



Seattle is a destination city for many people and we are hoping that come next July it will apply to each and every one of you. You name it, and we offer it here. Make plans to visit Pike Place Market, the home of the flying fish and take in the fabulous Seattle Art Museum. What? You say art isn't your thing? Then check out the Mariners at Safeco Field or rent a kayak and paddle over to a nearby island. While you are in town, don't forget the Seattle Space Needle where the view is awesome. Do you like good music? You won't believe the Experience Music Project downtown. What a museum! Did you say you just came to shop? You are in luck. There are some big time shopping opportunities right down the street from the Crowne Plaza where you will be staying. Remember, the same folks that built Boeing, Microsoft, Amazon.com, Starbucks and Costco know the best in entertainment, and food too. Seattle is about having a good time! Don't despair, there really is a summer in Seattle and next year it is going to last for three days, July 3, 4, and 5th!

**It's time to come together
It's up to you, what's your pleasure
Everyone around the world
Come on!**

*Love and Peace
Kym and Steve Denmark, 1968 FAHS Alumni*

REMEMBERING BOB TAYLOR

Eulogy for Bob Taylor

Given by: Gayle Spear Cratty '69

Arlington National Cemetery – Washington, D.C.

January 22, 2007

I knew Bob for 43 years and although our paths crossed the Atlantic Ocean to Europe then, it was here on this continent that he and I became friends for life. We shared a beautiful friendship – I would describe him as a compassionate friend. Our lives spanned an era that will long be remembered by all of Bob's classmates from Frankfurt American High School. We were privileged to grow up in a carefree environment and in a culture that we would come to reminisce about at our many, many annual reunions. There are no words to describe the loss all of us are feeling today and I know I am expressing the sentiments of many when I express just how sad all of us are to have lost such a wonderful kindred spirit.

Bob epitomized the word SPIRIT. There was nothing in life that would bring him down – he demonstrated great courage despite the pain he endured the last several years. I will miss his phone calls, his encouragement of wanting to see his friends, that twinkle in his eye when speaking about his daughter Erin or all that JoAnne did for him. We have been fortunate to have known Bob because we are richer for it. There are friends and family here today who meant so much to Bob and I can tell you he is looking down and smiling. We are all together to celebrate his life and to remember a kind soul who loved everyone. I remember when 9/11 hit and despite his frailty and illness, he wanted to help others and did. I was totally engulfed in emotion as I knew how he was struggling just to get through the day. He was fortunate to have his friends to watch over him, particularly Mike Major who took responsibility for Bob and gave him as much quality of life as did Carol Flores, a long time school mate. It is FRIENDSHIP that comes to my mind today as we all share in our grief. Bob had a way of bringing everyone together and here we are to celebrate the good qualities Bob had and to celebrate the man that he was.

Those who knew Bob know the many diverse sides of Bob that made him the unique and loving individual we will all miss. Although he was small in stature, Bob could walk in a room and be larger than life. He had the unique gift of making everyone in a room feel special and unique and yet those of us that knew him intimately well would come to know the pain he suffered and even then without complaint.

Bob was most proud of his relationship with his beautiful daughter, Erin and his ultimate friendship with JoAnne. He never lived with a grudge nor did he fault anyone for anything that happened to him. He always saw the glass as half full and not half empty.

There are many things I will miss about Bob: The phone



Bob Taylor 2005

calls, his charming smile, his jokes, his gift of making you feel you were the ultimate friend, his sense of humor, his compassion for others, his carefree nature, his craziness, his VW beetle, his love of being a Letterman, being a sports enthusiast, viewing life through his eyes, his love for music and dancing. I will miss my friend greatly and yet there is not a day that has gone by that I don't reflect on his smiling face when listening to the tunes we grew up with...if you did not know Bob, you have not experienced what FRIENDSHIP IS ABOUT. It is about reaching beyond to share all phases of who we are....knowing how not to judge or be judged and that was Bob!

I found this devotion which I believe speaks to how Bob chose to leave our world....

***Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness
Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.***

To these I commit my day.

If I succeed, I will give thanks.

If I fail, I will seek His grace.

And then, when this day is done,

I will place my head on my pillow and rest.

I speak on behalf of all of Bob's dear friends from Frankfurt American High School Alumni Association when I say he exhibited the true meaning of being an Eagle who soared high. Rest now Bob, until we all meet again. We will always love you and remember you. May God Bless You — Bob, a son, a brother, a husband, a father, a friend!

BOBBY'S GIRL

Every time I saw Bobby, I would start singing the Marcie Black song, "I Want to Be Bobby's Girl". I even recorded it on a CD and gave it to him at one of the reunions years ago. The truth is that I had a crush on him since high school, but who didn't? He was good-looking, charming, fun, funny, a football star, kind of shy, a real sweetheart, and a one-girl-guy and we admired all those qualities. Yes, even those of us who loved him from afar especially admired his loyalty to his friends and girl friend. He stayed the same throughout the years – a true friend and a real sweetheart. He also stayed a one-girl-guy, but the girl in his life that he always talked and about and showed everyone pictures of was the love of his life, his daughter, Erin.

When we were in Frankfurt in 1995 for the closing of the school, Bobby arranged for several of us to stay in an apartment at Hi Cog after the official reunion in what was then Visiting Officer's Quarters. Mike Jernigan, Don Ayers, Bobby, Greg Zunich, and I stayed there and Leslie Spear and Carol Greer were there a lot. What a great time we had – a time in my life that I will always treasure. Bobby and I had a chance to talk about some things that were on my mind at the time. My friend, Steve, was going to have surgery for liver cancer to remove 3 spots when I got back to the States, and Bobby told me about his cancer surgery how he had told the doctor right before being taken in to the operating room, "Let's rock and roll." I told Steve about Bobby. Unfortunately, Steve never made it out of the operating room alive. Bobby called me after that and was so sweet and comforting. He and Don would sometimes call me just let me know of their latest exploits and cheer me up.



Don Ayers, Patsy Ketchum Bell, Bob Taylor, Duke Taylor

During the reunion in Washington, D.C., I told Bobby that one of things that I really wanted to do while I was in D.C. was see The Wall. Well, you know how things are at reunions – how busy you get drinking, having fun, going on beer runs, etc., you don't always get to fit in everything you want to do. But Bobby remembered and one night around midnight he asked me if I was ready to go, so a group of us went to see The Wall in the wee hours of the morning when no one else was there. There was a misting rain and

the feeling of being there with our small group of friends was so surreal and beautiful. We also saw the Korean War Memorial and Bobby talked about how he had taken pictures from every angle to get just the right one that he later superimposed over a picture of the Arlington cemetery. What a hauntingly beautiful picture it is. We walked around for a couple of hours and it is a night that I and the others that were there shall never forget. It's one of those times that words could never adequately express, but that you hold in your heart forever.

Just as I will hold you in my heart forever, Bobby. Thank you, my friend, for being you – a true gentleman, a true friend, a real sweetheart and in my heart I will always be "Bobby's Girl".

Patsy Ketchum Bell



Mike Major & Bob Taylor

Thanks for your kind words. Bob's memorial was very moving, very appropriate, and I think how he would have liked to have his life memorialized. We should all be so fortunate. Bob, you and I, and all the FHS gang are so lucky that we all have this huge net of friends there to catch us when we fall, to lift us when we can't walk on our own. Bob and I have both been beneficiaries of the largess of our Frankfurt fam, felt the love and support in ways that are difficult to express at our times of need. I'm grateful that I was there to do my small part, and that so many, many others reached out to fill the needs that they saw that Bob had. This is the real Frankfurt story, and the only one that really matters.

From Mike Major In an Email to Peggy Rowland-Sanchez



*Don Ayers, Bob Taylor & Pete Van Witt
1968 Paris*

I am not sure how you become best friends, how you bond, how you form a friendship that lasts a lifetime. Perhaps that is not important, perhaps it is just to say Bob was my good friend and I miss him.

Don Ayers



Peggy Rowland & Bob Taylor

A FAREWELL TO ANOTHER EAGLE



Charles Santiago '70

FAREWELL MY FRIEND

As I gaze upon the stars so bright,
I see an new star shining brightly tonight.
The new addition is humming the Eagle's Tune
And the clouds part to give plenty of room

The angels above have joined in the singing
and remind us that every end has a new beginning.
So join in and sing loudly fear not to be wrong
As this is the Frankfurt High tribute called Taylor's Song



*Black and Gold our banner waving,
To our Eagle in the sky
You will never be forgotten
by your friends at Frankfurt High.*

*Onward, forward with all endeavor
above the clouds you sail,
Hail to thee with our alma mater
Bob Taylor to thee all hail.*

Fly high my Eagle and spread your wings to a new world
we cannot be a part,
a land of peace, beauty and serenity,
where you will have a new start.

A place so unknown, which us earthlings cannot explain,
A path you travel to reach a higher plane.

Bob, you have reminded us that life is built on shifting
sands and that you are now building castles
in other lands.

We bid you farewell my friend,
for your life with us on earth has reached the end,
we wipe our tears and join hands in prayer
your Frankfurt High Family will always be there.

Soar high above the heavens and fly proudly
through that Pearly Gate,
we embrace your new life and to that
we shall all celebrate.

Peggy Rowland-Sanchez

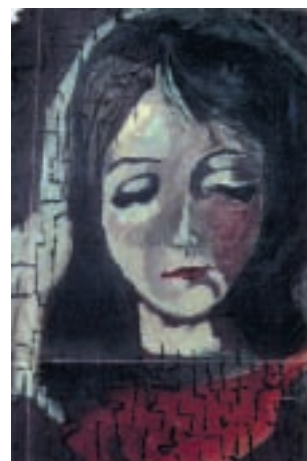
Charles Santiago battled an aggressive brain tumor for more than six months and succumbed in July of 2006. Here are a few memories of Charlie from two of his FHS classmates:

Charlie was my dorm roommate during our sophomore year. In comparison to some of the other guys in the dorm, I was very fortunate to have Charlie as a roommate. We became friends. He had a very pleasant personality and a generous sense of humor. I still remember the last time I saw him. It was in the cafeteria on the last day of school for junior year. He came over to me to say goodbye for the summer and we shook hands.

I made contact with Charlie a few years ago and we exchanged letters. I regret not arranging for a visit. It was on my list of things to do someday.

Tom Jordan, '70

I remember Charlie Santiago from Melloteens and drama. He was just a really nice guy, kind of quiet, but friendly and with the lovely Santiago voice. My memory is of playing opposite him in "The Madwoman of Chaillot" — we had the ingénue roles. (It figures — two straight roles in a play full of crazy people and they were Charlie and I. Maybe we showed a lack of imagination??) At the end, we were supposed to "find each other" and we inched slowly toward each other, with that lovey-dovey gaze. It seemed like such a serious and romantic moment to us. It took loud chuckles from the audience to let us know we had really crossed the line into melodrama. Charlie and I got a good laugh out of that — later.



"Charlie's Girl"

Jane Eyler, '70

NASHVILLE REUNION A 'SMASHING' SUCCESS!

By Steve Dean '67'

The Frankfurt year of 2007 was celebrated with another wonderful opportunity to meet with our extended Eagles family at our annual reunion, this one in Nashville, Tennessee. Over 100 people suffered the heat and humidity of the "New South" to enjoy food, friends and feasting at our annual gathering. As the host, I have been asked to reference the highlights and give an account of the activities for the weekend of July 11-15. And, though the duties of host can distract from the leisure of casual participation, I have to say (with all humility) that this was one of the best reunions ever.



L to R: Janis Bain Peacher '67 Paul duKor, Linda duKor '67, Ted Schindler '67, and his wife Dottie Schindler.

What made this a "great" reunion? Actually, with minimal organization, and even less coordination, the choice of the city, the generous accommodation by the hotel, and pure "Southern Hospitality" was the formula for success. This year, the focus was placed on the hospitality suite as the center of activities. The room was large enough to allow for all of the mini-groups of friends to meet and talk without being crowded. There was room to dance, room for our business meeting, bathroom facilities, and even enough space for a complete dinner to be served. By asking the hotel to block rooms on the same hallway as our meeting room, there was less chance of disturbing other hotel guests with our late night festivities.

Amazingly, I was greeted by 37 "early birds" on Wednesday night. Such a shock when I expected about 20, but we are a partying group, aren't we? There was excitement in the air as we dined in the Hunt room of the Downtown DoubleTree Hotel. The food was excellent and, thanks to Mike McCready and others, there was an abundant source of very excellent wine. Conversation flowed and "celebration" is the only word to describe that first night of festivities. Many of us walked the few short blocks to "downtown," and danced the night away in the Nashville "Honky Tonks." Most people think of the "New South" as the old south with shoes, but there is such a variety of music venues that all tastes were satisfied. Nashville is a loud town, but you get used to it. The whole

city welcomes visitors, and the natural Southern manners were a delight to all. Where else to people excuse themselves as they wind their way across a crowded dance floor?

Thursday is always the official start of the reunion and people filed in all day long. By the evening we had almost 70 hungry mouths for the catered dinner in our hospitality suite in the Andrew Jackson room. Gay Merritt of "Bit O Heaven" catering (a personal friend) said we ate enough to feed several Third World countries. Salmon, chicken, several Southern dishes like corn casserole were topped off with homemade brownies. We finished early and visited and danced, both in the hospitality suite and downtown until the wee hours of the morning.

The air conditioning may not have cooperated, but it was relatively cool all weekend, hovering in the high 80s. Believe me, with the Nashville humidity, a few degrees more would have made it miserable and it was nice to have the weather cooperate. The hotel was very accommodating and brought in fans, more ice, and lots of smiles to make the hot nights bearable for most, and tolerated by others.

On Friday, Tommy Heflin stepped forward to offer the group a tour of the facilities of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation where he works, followed by a bus ride to the Jack Daniel's Distillery with a "family style" gourmet lunch at Miss Mary Bobo's. Sixty people attended and everyone came back excited and pleased. The "samplers" of the famous "Old No. 7" spirits abounded as did the hats, shirts, and other memorabilia.



L to R: Debi Stone '69, Judy Fuller Roberto '67, and Mina Mathes '67 at the Wildhorse Saloon in Nashville.

Friday night we dined at the Wild Horse Saloon, in true Southern style. Pulled pork barbecue, chicken, corn pudding, fried potatoes, hush puppies, and beans, followed by fresh peach cobbler...it was divine in a homey sort of way. The entertainment was great with guitars, dancing and an electrified atmosphere. There was even a dance lesson for the adventurous and several high-stepped to the country twang as line dancing became the

event of the evening. An easy walk to the honky tonks and other gently rowdy bars topped the evening, and the night was capped by more visiting in a full hospitality suite. Frankfurt knows how to party.

Both Friday and Saturday allowed enough free time for Eagles to tour my fair city, and to shop and eat their way toward the evening events. The South is all about food and music and there is rich history in our unique culture. Several took bus tours or rode the streets in the horse-drawn carriages. A sizable group chugged down the Cumberland River on the Andrew Jackson steamboat and



Steve Dean and Dawn Simpson Thompson

toured historic southern mansions, like the Hermitage, home of our seventh President, "Old Hickory."

Saturday night is always our finale' and the group was "entertained" by a surprise celebrity. The "King" was in the house and shared some of his talent for 40 (long) minutes. We were fortunate to host the band, "Streta," a local and spectacular group at our Nashville dinner/dance. These veteran musicians, whose leader teaches music at Vanderbilt University, wowed the crowd. After a couple of hours of tunes, they were gracious enough to allow our own Skip Petit (68), Steve "Beaver" Holcolm (68), Rick Bullin (70), and Skip's sister Kris (Petit) Fath (72) to take up their instruments for a little reminiscence. The result was 40 minutes of standing room only applause. Even the waiters were dancing. The old Frankfurt group has not lost its touch and the air was thick with memories of Teen Club dances and good times past.

The hotel buffet was great; the wine flowed, and just when we were ready to quit we were honored by the presence of 4 Air Force pilots who had come to do the traditional "fly over" at the Indy 500 stock car race. Dressed in their flight suits, they danced and laughed with us until closing and brought an even deeper meaning to the history of our organization and our gatherings.

After Saturday night, my job was done, but I could not have accomplished any of it without the help of others. Peggy (Rowland) Sanchez (71), my dear friend and comrade, helped me to understand the finer points of hotel negotiation, registered newcomers, traveled to the grocery store in my car with no air conditioning to help buy snacks

and drinks...twice, organized the elections and, as always, much, much more.

Tommy Heflin (68) carried the ball for the tour of the Tennessee Bureau and the Jack Daniel distillery, and acted as counselor and taxi driver, to and from the liquor store. The tour ended up being one of the highlights of the weekend and Tommy did it all.

Bobbie Thacker (69) took time out in preparing to receive the mantle of responsibility as our new President from Linda (Reese) DuKor, to pitch in and lend emotional and physical support to this effort. Without her, this event would not have been such a great success.

Krys Wages, Gayle (Spears) Cratty, both of the class of 69, helped tremendously in getting people registered, and keeping some sanity in the hospitality suite on the first day. Mike McCready (67) brought the music and the wine. Don Ayers designed the logo for the t-shirts and helped get the graphics completed in record time.

Lillian Bennett Deal (71) for making the nametags and supplying the lanyards.

Of course, John Neumyer took all the pictures, and coordinated it beautifully, despite my stressing about the time constraints. Lesson here is to let the professionals do what they do best and butt out. Thanks John.

There were many others who helped pick up, register, hand out shirts, direct people to the right room, and they deserve more than thanks. We are such a wonderful group of people who treasure our gatherings and there is no end to offers of help and enthusiastic participation. If I have neglected to mention your name, I love you all and appreciate your behind the scenes help that made this reunion a success.

So, Nashville is a memory, and we are all looking forward to Seattle in 2008, where Steve and Kym (Mingus) Denmark (68) are busily planning next year's event. Many of you may not realize that at least a year of hard work goes into one of our reunions. Please recognize and honor the efforts of your reunion hosts by registering early and responding promptly to all communications. Knowing how many people will attend is paramount to successful planning and being able to negotiate the best deals with hotels and restaurants. This is your event. Help your hosts make it successful.



Steve Dean and Chad Turner; Steve Dean





MY FIRST FAHS REUNION

By Tom Heflin

After almost 40 years I finally reunited with some of the most wonderful people I've ever known. My old high school buddies from 1966 through 1968. We gathered in Music City USA, Nashville, TN on a very warm week in July.

When I first heard that the reunion was to be in Nashville for 2007 I could hardly believe it. I was so excited to know that I was finally about to be reunited with so many folks that I truly had grown up with. I was fired up for months leading up to the reunion.

The high school days were some of the best in my short 57 years of life. We lived and shared what most will never be able to understand. We were a very unique group of military brats sharing a once in a lifetime experience.

I was a seven (7) day dormie for two years, 1967 through 1968. My father was assigned to a military base in northern Germany in a small town called Sogel. We lived 300 miles from Frankfurt, thus the seven day dormie.

I roomed with Mike Cavanaugh in 1967 and had my own room in 1968. Mike and I along with Mike McCready, Chuck Bracker and several others, became the best of friends. Over the years we have emailed or talked on the phone numerous times.

Until this year I had always coached Little League Baseball during the summer months and I was unable to attend our reunions. I kept up with them but never made it to one.

I talked with Steve Dean about helping out with this year's reunion and he was nice enough to let me set up a bus tour. We visited the TBI (Tennessee Bureau of Investigation) CSI Crime Laboratory and the Jack Daniels Distillery. We also threw in Miss Mary Bobo's for a good old down home lunch. I hope everyone that went on the tour enjoyed it. I know I enjoyed being around all of you. It was like a big family outing. Remember Larry the Cable Guy, "Get 'er Done!"

The rest of the reunion plans Steve had all worked out and everything went great. He did one heck of a job. Kudos to Steve.

A lot of the folks at the reunion I had never seen or met before but for some reason I felt like I had known them forever. It was that special bond that we all share.

I remember picking up Bobbie Thacker, Peggy Sanchez and Don Ayers from the Nashville airport and when I first saw them, it was like I'd known them forever. Bobbie was just a waving and talking like it was yesterday since we had seen each other. Everything just felt so right. We had all shared that same lifestyle at one time. Of course, Bobbie and Peggy had to hit a wine store to get the party rolling early.

I first ran into Mike Cavanaugh and Mike Mc Cready in the hotel lobby and it was like the old days. It made me feel



Mike McCready, Tom Heflin and Mike Cavanaugh - Bus Tour

young again, like we were back in high school and taking up where we left off. Just a lot wiser this time around. It was like, "Lets get this party started !!!"

As I met other FAHS folks and their spouses, I realized real fast that everyone there was like me; we were all tied by that beautiful bond of living overseas, attending high school together and sharing everlasting memories.

We shared school events, dorm events and events outside of school. There are many, many stories to tell and I hope over the next several reunions, that I can share more of mine with all of you.

After meeting everyone at the reunion I also noticed that we have a very educated, professional and extremely talented group of folks. Whether it be in music, singing, education, legal, medical, dental, science, real estate, banking, law enforcement, artist or many other fields of expertise in our group, I was truly amazed at how well we'd done as a group. I applaud each and every one of you. You all have my utmost respect for what you do.

The Nashville Reunion has brought many new friends into my life and brought back old friends I'd missed for so many years. But it's funny, I felt at ease with each and every one of you. We stayed up to the wee hours of the morning going over old times, looking at yearbooks. (By the way, I had not seen a 1968 year book since 1968 and what a thrill that was.) People played guitars while others sang and shared a few biers. It was like we went back in time. It all seemed like we were back in Frankfurt having a good ole time. I even brought my high school bier stein from 1968. You know, the one with the naked lady in the bottom. That stein had not had a bier in it since I left Germany in 1968. The Nashville Reunion was the prefect place to break it in again. Old friends, new friends, we all became one for a week.

Today, I still think about everyone I met that week and how much fun I had and that's really what it's all about, getting together again and enjoying each other's company.

I will always cherish our time together in Nashville and I look forward to many more reunions to come.

EAGLES IN THE NEWS

July 28, 2007

SUCCESS

Some of you who attended the Nashville Reunion may have heard about my planned climb to the top of Mt. Whitney and to return to the trailhead in a day.



Well, I made it. This past Tuesday at 0005, my oldest son Joe, my brother-in-law Steve, his son Wes, and I departed the Whitney Portal trailhead carrying day packs containing our wet/cold weather gear, high energy gels and bars and about a gallon of water each, hiking poles, and headlights to show the way. Whitney Portal is at 8,361'. By sunrise at 0600 we were near Trail Crest, 8.2 miles into the climb and at 13,650'. At every rest stop we turned

our lights out and stared at the stars. Wow!!

By 0820 I was the last of the foursome to summit (14,497') after a trek of 8 hours 15 minutes, a net elevation gain of 6,136', and 10.6 miles. After an hour's rest and with threatening clouds forming before our eyes we decided to get off that rock. We arrived back at the trailhead at 1610. The return trip took 6 hours and 50 minutes. This was my second summit of Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the lower 48, but my first summit and return in a day. The first time, my hiking buddy and I spent the night at Trail Camp at 12,500', before summiting and returning to the trailhead the next day. For you hikers/backpackers in the crowd, hiking poles are worth their weight in gold.

It feels good to have summited, to be back at sea level and with the muscle soreness gone.

— John Neumyer '69

August 12, 2007

Just got back from yet another climb. This time it was Mt. Ritter in the Ansel Adams Wilderness of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California. At 13,157' it is not as tall as Mt. Whitney, but technically it was far more difficult (class 2-3 with one or two class 4 pitches thrown in for good measure). A fall from a class 3 pitch will result in some broken bones. A fall from a class 4 pitch can result in death. There is no trail to the summit and we set up base camp at 9,864' (thanks to my GPS). The ascent took 4 hours and 40 minutes and was pretty exhausting, even though the route we chose is considered the "easiest" and was only about 2 miles long. The scary part was realizing that we (son Joey, his buddy Johnny and me) had to get

back down off of that rock. Any climber/mountain hiker can tell you that the descent is more dangerous than the ascent. Needless to say I gave the safety speech before we headed down. The Ritter glacier was fun without crampons. Round trip, including 45 minutes on the summit, took exactly 9 hours. God, am I sore.

— John

KYM & STEVE'S WEDDING

from **Gene Crowley, Class of 67**, who lives in Honolulu.

As of 2:00 p.m. on July 4, 2007, Steve and Kym officially became man and wife. Shirley and I were honored to be invited to attend such a beautiful ceremony.



The wedding was a combination of Hawaiian and traditional rituals. Earlier that day, Steve had reserved a portion of the beach for the ceremony. He created several heart shaped designs in various sizes made from sand and stones. This is where he, Kym and the Kahuna stood. Everyone wore lei and Hawaiian shirts and dresses. Kym and Steve both wore white. This is the Hawaiian way for the bride and groom. The first part of the ceremony was the Hawaiian ritual that included purification and exchanging lei between the bride and groom. Kym wore a Maili lei and Steve wore a plumeria lei. Once the Kahuna had purified the lei and the bride and groom, Kym and Steve then exchanged lei. This is the Hawaiian way of becoming man and wife. The open Maili lei signifies the husband welcoming family and friends into the Ohana. The plumeria lei signifies the wife enclosing her arms around those who are now family.

Steve's son, David, was best man and assistant to the Kahuna. He held the bowl that the Kahuna used for the purification and the wedding rings. Their daughters read biblical passage and David responded once the passage

was read. Before the traditional wedding vows, Kym's son-in-law, Ryan, had been asked to say a few words. He had just recently graduated from Seminary. He did a beautiful job explaining the passages that were to be read and the meaning of family and the joining of such a beautiful couple. Once he had completed, the Kahuna then had Kym and Steve exchange vows. Each daughter read a scripture at each pause with David responding. Once they had exchanged rings, the Kahuna then pronounced them man and wife.



The meal was delicious. It consisted of mixed Island Greens, an entree combination of Grilled Chicken Breast and Grilled Fresh Island Fish and, of course, the wedding cake. There is more to the menu that blended beautifully with the meal. After the wedding reception, everyone went back to the Villa. Shirley and I had to depart shortly to catch the bus back to Honolulu.

It was a great day and we are grateful that we were able to attend such a beautiful ceremony.

JIM & DAWN'S WEDDING



Congratulations also to **Jim Diehl (1970)** who was married in May 2007. to Dawn. The attached picture is of Jim and his new wife with Gene and Shirley Crowley in Hawaii.

August 2007

OUR OWN ERIK THAMM 68'

Log.Sec Corporation makes Entrepreneur Magazine's Hot 500 list for 2007!

Entrepreneur Magazine has selected Log.Sec in its August 2007 issue as one of its Hot 500 entrepreneurial companies for 2007. Log.Sec ranked #73 in a database culled by Entrepreneur Magazine and the Corporate Research Board (CRB) of more than 19 million U.S. businesses. CRB is a leading provider of economic and business data, research, and information serving



Erik Thamm with Bob Bolick, '69

businesses and governments worldwide. Selection criteria included being founded between 1998 and 2002, sales not exceeding \$1 billion, positive job growth between 2002 and 2006, and overall sales growth between 2002 and 2006.

“When Jim Sirkis, George Perise, and I founded Log.Sec in February 2000, we had a vision of what we wanted Log.Sec to be. We wanted to establish a company that did interesting work in support of our country’s defense and to create a work environment that we enjoyed working in. We knew it would not be easy to achieve that vision, and frankly it has been difficult with new challenges everyday, but the employees who joined us and shared our vision have really been the engine behind our company’s success,” Erik G. Thamm, Log.Sec Corporation President & CEO said. “This recognition from Entrepreneur Magazine is special to us, because it is from a magazine that understands America was built on aspirations. In America, anything is possible. Of course, that means as an individual you have the ability to fail as well as succeed, but despite the fear of failure I believe the power of aspirations and the strong belief in entrepreneurship is what drives Americans and sets us apart from many other parts of the world.”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September 2007

Greetings fellow Eagles!

As the fall begins and we wind down from another great reunion in Nashville, I'd like to take a moment to thank Steve Dean, Class of 67, for hosting a fantastic party in Music City USA. We were so anxious to get the celebration started that over 30 of us arrived on Wednesday even though official events didn't start until Friday.

Thanks to Linda Reese duKor, Class of 67, for her term as President the past two years. It was appreciated and I look forward to working with her in her Past President status. A huge debt of gratitude goes to outgoing Secretary and Treasurer, Betty House Weller and Grant Caughey, both from the Class of 70. They kept us up to date and fiscally sound!

I have just begun my two-year term as President of the alumni association and I wanted to send a note to all in FHS-land thanking you for anticipated support in helping me achieve specific goals and objectives. What are they you may wonder?

My main goal is to continue to find alumni who are just waiting to be found! When this occurs, I hope we can in turn help them find people they are looking for. Our network travels far and wide; we are all over the world and still looking for each other. Check out the Alumni page to see if someone you might be looking for is listed.

Secondly, and equally as important, are the annual reunions we have each summer in a different city across the country. I've been going to reunions since 1990 and wouldn't miss them. There is an unwavering group of around 100 hearty souls who go each year, but why not get more new people? That network I'm referring to will hopefully enable us to increase reunion attendance.

Next year, the reunion will be in Seattle and hosted by newlyweds Kym Mingus Denmark and her husband, Steve Denmark, both from the Class of 68. Their love story is just one of many great ones I've witnessed and one of the reasons people still look for each other so many years later.

If you're interested in coming to or have any questions about the next FHS reunion, email Kym at kymdsteved@aol.com. She and Steve are planning a "Seattle Celebration" over the July 4th weekend in 2008. We will be staying at the Crowne Plaza on 6th and Seneca. This is a great downtown location within walking distance of so many places from Pike's Fish Market, shopping and even the Aquarium and the Space Needle if you're really ambitious! The hotel is small but has all the venues we need to have a great party!

With your help, anything is possible!

My best to you,



Bobbie Thacker, 69
President, FAHS Alumni Association
Eagles Über Alles!



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BALTIMORE BLAST



The FHS Eagles gathered at the Inner Harbor Wyndam Hotel to celebrate with hosts Rick and Colleen Bullen for a weekend in July 2006 on land and sea in one of the oldest cities in our nation. We were a total of 137 attendees, over three days of reverence, reverie, and recovery. The accommodations were excellent and our hosts made a good choice for our annual party. Service, atmosphere, and facilities matched even the most critical expectations.

interviewing Military Brats about their experiences growing up in the military and compiled stories and comparisons that truly express what many of us went through during our unique growing years. She was joined by Mary Edwards Wertsch, author of the first book on this subject, "Military Brats: Legacies of Childhood Inside the Fortress." At the end of the film there was silence in the room as people gathered and shared their emotions at a story no one has ever told. It was, for some, the retelling of their lives. For others, only a small part. But all agreed that it answered questions and recalled memories that give us our common ground. Donna and Mary stayed afterwards to answer questions and even joined in the festivities throughout the rest of the weekend. But, hey....we are a great group to party with.



Rick and Colleen Bullen

The most hardy party goers arrived on Thursday night and several were treated to cocktails and canapés at Rick and Colleen's home before heading to the hotel (see picture)

Sixty six people enjoyed the buffet, music and libation on Thursday night in the hotel with the hotel providing a sumptuous feast and our hosts providing a wonderful atmosphere for reacquainting with old and new friends. Afterwards, the crowd retired (not likely) to the hospitality suite for music, dancing, and more spirits as well as Frankfurt Spirit.

Friday at noon was the showing of Donna Musil's recent film, "Brats: Our Journey Home." Donna spent years

On Friday night, the busses lined up outside the hotel to take the gang (now numbering 125) to Blob's Park, an authentic German establishment, complete with Oompah music, "rot koh!" and a wide array of German fare. The crowd danced and sang and visited through the night and returned to the hotel with just enough energy to dance the night away in the hospitality suite which is always our center of activity.

Wine tasting was the venue on Saturday, with both local and "foreign" (California) wines taking the stage for the midday brunch. Colleen Bullin provided some explanation of each offering and several other "experts" offered their opinions of each bottle. Missing were some of the California wines that did not make it to the table due to "damage" during shipping the night before (right, McCready?).

Saturday night, the night we all wait for, finally arrived, and we were treated to an evening of dinner and dancing aboard the Bay Lady for a cruise around the Baltimore

Inner Harbor. There was plenty of rocking and rolling, not only from the dancers, but from the inclement weather that appeared and brought our boat early to port. No matter. We partied just as well tied up to the dock as in the middle of the harbor and the night was as memorable as any dance night any of us can remember.

But, the crescendo of the evening and the weekend was returning to the hospitality suite and dancing until the wee hours of the morning. There's something about our time in the suite, that opportunity to relax and enjoy and make meeting plans for the next year and the next reunion. We left with the taste of crab cakes and smell of the briny sea in our memories, and an anticipation of our next gather in, another city, another year, but the same close family we love so much.



Tuxmen: Rick Bullen, Hans Stockenberger, Jim Diehl and Erik Thamm







OVERSEAS BRATS: ANOTHER WAY TO CONNECT



AFFIRMING YOUR PAST PRESERVING YOUR PRESENT LOOKING TO YOUR FUTURE

Buried on the second column of our links page on the Association web site (www.frankfurthigh.com) is a link to the Overseas Brats web site. Joe Condril, a brother Brat who attended schools in German, France, Thailand, Iran, and Hawaii, founded Overseas Brats and steers their course through many annual events. Our association supports Overseas Brats in their mission to find Brats from all schools, and in their development of a Brat Museum to house our historical information and memorabilia from our unique legacy.

Overseas Brats organization and magazine is directed toward everyone associated with American Overseas schools, and is designed to serve the needs of the tens of thousands of "Overseas Brats," teachers, families, and friends of Brats. Since April 8, 1986, Overseas Brats has found over 20,000 Brats and has been making the dream a reality for those associated with overseas schools who are looking for former friends and classmates. Overseas Brats does this in a number of ways:

- Serving as a central reference point for those associated with overseas schools and providing them information on how to find friends and classmates, and assisting them where possible with those that went to school abroad.

- Actively seeking everyone associated with overseas schools as former elementary, junior high, high school and college students and alumni, educators and others associated with the schools through an ongoing international marketing campaign using the media and the Internet.
- Helping more than 240 overseas alumni groups representing 178 schools in 56 countries with their alumni organizations and reunion activities.
- Sharing the unique story of who we all are as "Overseas Brats" through our magazine "OVERSEAS BRATS".
- Creating opportunities for those associated with American overseas schools to meet and share their unique heritage.

This year, Overseas Brats will hold its annual "Gathering" in Boise, Idaho, on October 11-14, and co-sponsored by the Holiday Inn Boise Airport and the Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau. This is a great opportunity to meet Brats from other schools and to expand the Brat experience. Visit the Overseas Brats web site (www.overseasbrats.com) for registration information.



Joining the FAHS 67-71 Alumni Association allows us to continue our endeavor to keep you up to date. Newsletters, web site, mailings, and our yearly reunion rely heavily on your generosity. We hope that you will continue your support and take this time to mail in your membership dues or donation.

With your paid membership you will receive newsletters, voting privileges, alumni directory and reunion discounts. Items offered for sale may also be sold at a "members only" price.

We encourage those of you who graduated with a different class or attended FAHS to make a donation. Our web site offers you the opportunity to locate, without fee, your friends and classmates. You do not have to join our association however, a small donation to maintain this service is greatly appreciated.

See www.frankfurthigh.com for complete form.