

Ein Wunderbar 2012 Reunion!!!



Your reunion committee, chaired by Jane and Allan Rappoport, treated 83 Frankfurt and Nurnberg alumni and guests to a reunion we will long remember. Thanks to those who shared camera cards with your reporter, we have hundreds of photos of reunion events. In this newsletter we have included many to remind you of our great time together in San Diego, our new home town.

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Message	2
2012 Reunion	3
Recap of 16 Reunions	3
See What Fun We Had	4
Class Pictures	5
We're in the News	6
Membership Survey	6
Wanda Remembers	6
Customized Apparel	7
Spouses & Youngsters	7
Return to Frankfurt	8
FAHS Dackel Archives	8
What Do We Do Now?	8
Overseas Brats	9
2012 Minutes	10
Nurnberg Alumni	11
US Marines in Review	12

DER DACKEL NACHRICHTENBRIEF

Volume 9 Issue 2

Fall 2012

FAHS Dackels Retire Association Banner



Frankfurt High alumni take one last look as John Howard assists Jane and Allan Rappoport in displaying the FAHS Dackel Association banner. First introduced at the second reunion, it has flown at 15 of our 16 reunions.

Bittersweet ending to 2012 reunion as FAHS alumni vote to disband Association

By Jo Helmers '52, Editor

In a ceremony mindful of our military heritage, alumni of Frankfurt American High School classes 1947-55 recognized the end of our 16-year association by retiring the Eagle & Dackel banner Sunday night September 9th at the 2012 Reunion in San Diego.

Sergeant-at-arms John Howard '51 assisted reunion chairs Jane Gardner Rappoport '48, and Allan Rappoport in displaying the banner before they tightly rolled it for the last time. The banner, along with other FAHS Dackel Association archives, will be donated to the Smithsonian Institution.

The original Dackel Alumni Association was formed in 1997 when the first graduates of FAHS, the Class of 1947, decided to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Other alumni from the early years joined them and recent reunions have attracted alumni up through 1955. Membership has been defined as anyone who attended FAHS during the years 1947-55. There have been no annual dues and all association work, including the reunion, has been done by volunteers.

The decision to disband was made during our annual meeting on September 9th at



The Frankfurt High School "Eagle & Dackel" banner welcomes guests to the Four Points by Sheraton San Diego during the 2012 FAHS Dackel Reunion.

which Chairman Dave Klinger '47, reported the results of a survey of members. The survey showed that advancing age and declining health were creating problems for the active membership. (See "Summary of Survey Findings" on Page 8 and "2012 Meeting Minutes" on Page 10.) Dave will oversee close out of association business in the coming months.

The decision to fold our banner was made in spite of the highest attendance at recent Dackel Association reunions. There were 83 attendees from 20 different states and the District of Columbia, including seven who were at Nurnberg AHS between 1949 and 1954.

Members are encouraged to identify with one of the many other groups which serve overseas dependents schools alumni. (See Pages 8 and 9 for suggestions.)



Above: Chairman Dave Klinger conducts the 2012 board meeting at which members voted to disband. From left: Jo Helmers, Ted Robinette, Dave, Wally Campbell, Pete Darlington, Gary Silver and Jim Skaggs. Other board members and class representatives were seated in the audience. Right: Visible on the front row are Allan and Jane Rappoport, co-chairs of the 2012 reunion. See 2012 Meeting Minutes on Page 10.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN



Dave Klinger

Dear Schoolmates and Friends,

It was with a sad heart that I presided over the 2012 Dackel Association Meeting and recommended the termination of the Association. There really was no other choice.

A recent survey of our membership indicated that advancing age, declining health and low attendance at recent reunions were creating problems for the members and the leadership of the organization. The vote to terminate was unanimous. I will continue to oversee the close out of our various functions over the next few months.

I want to again congratulate Jane Rappoport '48, and her husband Allan for an outstanding reunion. I know that Jane and Allan cashed in many "personal chips" among their friends to make this reunion a great success. We thank you both from the bottom of our hearts. It was a difficult job exceptionally well done. We all will remember this wonderful experience for the rest of our lives.

What do we do now? I will maintain the Dackel List and I will attempt to keep in contact with you all as long as I can maintain the data base. We all need to try to keep in contact as long as we can.

I am also encouraging as many of you as possible to attend the Overseas Brats-sponsored Homecoming at the Plaza Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach, FL from 8 to 11 August, 2013.

Room rates are just \$99.00 plus tax per night for single or double occupancy. While this is a general reunion, if we get enough attendees from our group we can perhaps qualify for a hospitality suite. For every ten people who sign up we will have our own table. Call the hotel at 1-800-874-7420 to make a reservation and mention that you are attending the Overseas Brats Homecoming 2013 to get the above rate. The registration fee before 15 February, 2013 is \$145.00. Afterwards the rate goes up to \$160.00 until 1 June when the rate goes up to \$175.00. After 15 July the rate goes up to \$190.00. There is also an optional dinner on Thursday, 8 August for \$40.00. The cost of the dinner also goes up to \$45.00, \$50.00 and \$55.00 per person on the same dates as above.

After 2013 there may be some interest in gathering people from the classes of 1947 thru 1955 from the several schools in Germany. The seven people from Nurnberg High School contributed greatly to the success of our San Diego reunion. While they may have attended a different school, we all had similar experiences since we were in Germany at the same time. We shall see if we can come up with the interest and the leadership to make an event happen. First we will see what kind of a turnout we get for the Overseas Brats Homecoming and then go from there.

Organizing local groups is also a possibility. A local group of Frankfurt American High School alumni has formed in Southern Arizona under the leadership of Jim Skaggs '51 and his wife Donna. Contact Jim and Donna for more information at P.O. Box 31930, Mesa, AZ 85275-1930. Phone (480) 964-5775. Email jdsdaggs@cox.net

There has been some discussion of a cruise for our group but no one has as yet stepped forward with a concrete proposal for such an event. If anyone out there is interested in taking on such a project, please contact me as noted below.

As I think back on the sixteen reunions which we have held, I think of the many people who have contributed their time and talents over the years to help further the goals of the Dackel Association. I am saddened by the number of Dackels and Eagles who are not longer with us yet contributed so much in support of their fellow classmates. I remember fondly Richard (Dick) Thornber '47, Patricia Browning Gorby '47, Kate Breckenridge Prewitt '47, Katharine Edwards Picek '47, Betty Jean Kelley Curtis '48, Bob Byroad '48, Daniel Bunting '49, Jean March Pitzinger '49, Barbara Hathcock Mooney '49, Barbara Livingston Lareau '51, Joan Addy Carillo '51 and Eugene Marteney '51, just to mention a few. They will live on in our memories.

I expect to do some traveling in the next couple of years. If I am in a location where we can gather a few of us together for a meal, I will try to get something organized.

Once again I want to thank each and every one of you for your support of our fellow schoolmates. I wish you all much good health and happiness in the years to come. I am here to help you where I can.

Sincerely,

Dave

David M. Klinger
P.O. Box 537, Leavenworth, WA 98826
(509) 548-5480 dklinger@nwi.net



Frankfurt and Nurnberg alumni and guests posed for *UT San Diego* photographer John Gastaldo in the lobby of the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel on Friday afternoon.

2012 Reunion was *wunderbar!!!*

One of the best reunions yet

There would not have been a 2012 FAHS Dackel Reunion if Jane and Allan Rappoport had not stepped forward in Omaha last year to helm the effort. From day one they were determined that if it was going to be the last, 2012 would be the best reunion yet.

That was hard to do, as we've had some great reunions over the past 16 years.

Jane and Allan put together a great schedule and then personally visited each venue to ensure that it offered something we would enjoy while staying within our budget. Their attention to detail was evident from the gift bags of local goodies and letters of welcome from area officials to the FAHS logo wine decanters and printed menus at the final dinner.

In all, it was a time consuming and often frustrating effort; one that none of us were willing to take on though we would have liked to see the reunions continue. The decision to disband was made sadder because discontinuing the reunions also ends our coordinated search for classmates whose memories we hold dear.

The one thing that bonded us in Germany has been the thing that has kept more of our classmates from joining us each year—not sharing a “hometown.” As a result we lost touch when we left Germany and few of us bumped into one another later on the road of life. One example is Ed Garcia who left Germany in 1950 and had seen only one FAHS classmate in 62 years:



FAHS Dackel Association Chairman Dave Klinger, right, congratulates 2012 Reunion Co-chairs Allan and Jane Rappoport on a difficult job exceptionally well done.

Doug Torgerson. They had lost touch but a google search revealed that they currently live barely 30 minutes apart. Ed came to his first FAHS reunion this year and afterward he wrote that it was one of the most wonderful experiences he had had in a long time.

If you have sat home wondering what you were missing, who might have been there and would they have remembered you, you'd be surprised. The years simply vanish when you pull out a yearbook and start sharing memories. Even people you did not know before Thursday night's “meet and greet” share memories of a time unlike any other.

In the sidebar you'll see the names of the hosts of each of the 16 reunions that have been conducted under the Dackel Alumni Association banner. Each has been assisted by a committee of volunteers which seldom changed over the years. Some took on year-round tasks while others stepped forward to manage events at the reunion site. All of them deserve our thanks for giving us a “hometown” wherever we gathered.

A Salute to Sixteen FAHS Dackel Association Reunions 1997-2012

First Reunion

October, 1997—San Antonio, TX
Dave Klinger, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Second Reunion

September, 1998—Lexington, KY
Wally Campbell, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Third Reunion

September, 1999—Santa Rosa, CA
Joe Hoffmann & Dan Bunting, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Fourth Reunion

July, 2000—Columbus, OH
Joe Oxley & Dave Klinger, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Fifth Reunion

September, 2001—Eureka Springs, AR
Ron Short, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Sixth Reunion

July, 2002—Fredericksburg, TX
Bob Fletcher, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Seventh Reunion

October, 2003—Sparks, NV
Donna & Jim Skaggs, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Eighth Reunion

September/October, 2004
Kansas City, MO

Paul Hermberg, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Ninth Reunion

October, 2005—Tucson, AZ
Donna & Jim Skaggs, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Tenth Reunion

September, 2006—Indianapolis, IN
Ted Robinette, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Eleventh Reunion

October, 2007—Mesa, AZ
Donna & Jim Skaggs, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Twelfth Reunion

October, 2008—Fredericksburg, TX
Bob Fletcher, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Thirteenth Reunion

July, 2009—Cleveland, OH
Ede Prendergast, Host

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Fourteenth Reunion

September, 2010—Flagstaff, AZ
Donna & Jim Skaggs, Hosts

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

Fifteenth Reunion

September, 2011—Omaha, NE
*Bobbie Katz Kleinsmith,
Mark & Vickie Kleinsmith, Hosts*

◀ ◀ ◻ ▶ ▶

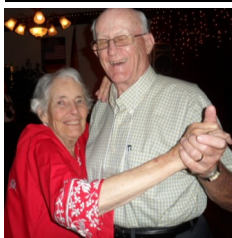
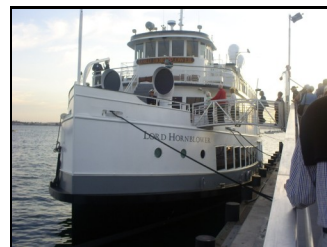
Sixteenth Reunion

September, 2012—San Diego, CA
Jane & Allan Rappoport, Hosts



See how much fun we had ...

Here are just a few of the hundreds of photos taken during our six days in San Diego—from setting up the Hospitality Suite on Wednesday to Sunday night's awards dinner. In between we visited, saw newly-minted U.S. Marines in re-view, enjoyed a moonlight cruise, played golf and enjoyed authentic German cooking, dancing and bier. *Sehr gut!!*



Photos are identified by number starting at top left with (a) for photos on left and (b) for photos at same level on the right.

1a. Allan Rappoport assisted Dave Klinger in updating the FAHS Alumni Biographical Books Wednesday afternoon.

1b. Boarding the Hornblower Cruise ship on Friday night.

2a. Jo Hoffmann Thomas and Harriett Stubbs were among those renewing friendships in the Hospitality Suite during the "Meet'n'Greet" Sunday night.

2b. Early arrivals dining at the Sizzler Restaurant Wednesday night were Jim Gamerdinger, Allan Rappoport, Gaylord Long, Benita Long and Jane Gardner Rappoport. In the back ground, Betty Thomas and Joan Kay McCarter Adrian (Nurnberg alumni), Gary Silver, Pat George Gallagher, Marcine Silver, Joe Hoffmann, Pat Virden and Jo Dixon Helmers.

3a. Jim Skaggs, Mary Lee Bradbury and Norm Matthias walked off with golf trophies at the Awards Dinner on Sunday night.

3b. Competing in the golf tournament were, l to r: Wally Campbell, Allan Rappoport, Pete Darlington, Jim Skaggs, Roger Brislawn, Norman Matthias and Mary Lee Bradbury Matthias.

4a. General manager Heidi Williams welcomed Allan Rappoport and our group to the German American Societies of San Diego Saturday night.

5a. Charlotte Schugart "Mrs. Coach" (faculty) enjoyed a slow dance with Jim Skaggs after a dinner of chicken schnitzel.

5b. Professional entertainers provided a demonstration of German folk dancing.

6. The Awards Dinner on Sunday night was dressy, fun and full of surprises. Kay Rose and Allan Rappoport enjoyed a good laugh at the expense of David Rose.

7a. A number of members were accompanied to the reunion by their sons and/or daughters. Mary Shugart Beare, shown here next to Ted Robinette, came with her mom, Charlotte Shugart.

7b. Donna Skaggs, standing, table hopped as everyone settled in for a lovely evening. Shown at the table center front are Mark Jerry Brislawn, Carolyn Brislawn, Carolyn Brislawn and Roger Brislawn. Left table: Marcine and Gary Silver, Kay Rose and David Rose. Right table: Carol Daehler Leonard, Barbara Daehler Stebbins, Wally Campbell, Pete Darlington, Sheila Hunt Miller and Bonnie Johnson Grant.



Classes pose for annual pictures at 2012 awards dinner



Class of 1947: Dave Klinger and Pete Darlington.



Class of 1948: Jane Gardner Rappoport, Norm Matthias, Jo Hoffmann Thomas, Roger Brislaw, Harriett Stubbs and Wally Campbell.



Class of 1954: Patricia George Gallagher and Carol Daehler Leonard.



Class of 1950: James Gamerding
Right: LaNedra Rushing Reynolds '53 had to leave before her class picture was taken.



Class of 1953: Barbara Daehler Stebbins, Bonnie Johnson Grant, Ted Robinette, Roberta Weaver Hupp and Mary Lee Bradbury Matthias.



Class of 1955: Gary Silver, Carolyn Dixon Money and David Rose.



Class of 1952: Ed Garcia, Joyce Dixon Helmers, Gaylord Long, Barbara Harris Finch, Pat Virden and Ron Ballinger.



Class of 1951: John Howard, Wanda Denton Oswalt, Donna Weaver Scott, Peggy Ganzert Bartlett and Jim Skaggs.



Class of 1949: Mark Jerry Brislaw, Helen Marymee Danielson, Sheila Hunt Miller, Joe Hoffmann, Barbara Larter Foster and Jud Matthias.

FAHS made the news in San Diego

Reader dubs our story 'living history'

There is something about our story that makes headlines, no matter where we hang our caps. The 2012 reunion was featured in the Sunday edition of *UT San Diego* and the September edition of *Mission Valley News*. You can see and read the online versions at : <http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/sep/09/tp-san-diegan-recalls-attending-school-hitler/> and <http://www.missionvalleynews.com/>. Following are a few of the readers comments from the *UT San Diego* web site.

"This is living history right in San Diego. Wow!"

David Kamatov (reader)



Top: Sunday, 10 September edition of *UT San Diego*.

Below: Spread of photos in the September *Mission Valley News* included one of our entire group as we boarded the bus to the German dinner.



"I agree with David Kamatov!"

Monica Ramirez, San Diego (reader)

"What a life!" wrote Wanda Denton Oswalt '51 (see box on right).

Harry DeVore '52 wrote, "I was fortunate to come to Frankfurt

Continued on Page 7

Wanda Denton Oswalt Remembers

It was a dreary, dismal day I arrived at my family's new home in Darmstadt, Germany. The City was in shambles but the people had survived and were wonderful to us. We didn't know we were to be part of history at the time. We just knew it was a new assignment and we would do what we had to do. And then Frankfurt High School! What a place it was; all glass and concrete; looking back, really lovely. But it was just another school to a 15 year old. I would not trade the friends I made and the sights I saw for anything in this world. It was also a proud day when I graduated in 1951 with friends who became so dear to me. And I miss the friends I have not been able to find and the ones who have passed on. I have enjoyed every reunion I have attended and I am sorry to see them end as an association. I do hope to keep in touch with you all and see you once again. I also want to express my thanks to Jane and Allan for the most wonderful reunion! Your hard work was so appreciated by all of us and thanks for the Marine graduation ceremony especially. I didn't get to see my son graduate at Camp Pendleton, so I really enjoyed that day. As I reflect on those years, I am grateful for the collective experience we shared, the friendships made for a lifetime, and our parents who took us there. What a life! I agree with Harry, Frankfurt uber alles! Wanda Oswalt '51

Summary of Membership Survey

September 3, 2012

Following is a summary of responses to the Dackel Association Survey that was mailed out early this summer to 220 former FAHS students: Post Grads and Class of 1947 to the Class of 1955. At the time of this report responses had been received from 70, including notifications of several who had passed.

Number of years attended FHS

- 50% for one year or less
- 37% for two years
- 10% for three years
- 3% for four years.

Email Access

- 87% have Email access
- 13% do not. Of these some have help receiving Email messages.
- 03% are not getting computer messages.

Reunion Attendance

- 87% have attended one or more reunions
- .17% have not attended a reunion.

Average Number of Reunions Attended by All

- 5.72%

Average Number of Reunions Attended by Class

- Post Grad/1947-8
- 1948 = 6.9
- 1949 = 4.09
- 1950 = 7.66
- 1951 = 3.5

- 1952 = 3.8
- 1954 = 3.0
- 1955 = 4.0

Reasons for Not Attending Reunions

- A. Cost of travel
- B. Cost of the reunion
- C. Conflict with date scheduled
- D. Poor health
- E. No interest
- F. 12% cited other comments: too old; live in Hawaii; cannot drive the distance; still working; and do not know or remember anyone.

Dackel Future

- 40 % - Keep or expand the organization
- 35% - Form new organization with other schools
- 24% - Disband but try to keep in contact
- Comments consisted of: how far to expand, we are a dying breed, moot point because of age, expand to all overseas schools, keep in contact with email and mail addresses, expand age groups and locations but not a lot, hold reunion every other year, merge with other existing (younger) groups while maintaining first 10-year identity.

Individual Choices

- 16% - Join FAHS Alumni Association
- 20% - Form local groups as in Arizona
- 64% - Disband and keep in contact with

friends as best we can

- Other Comments: Someone keep up-to-date phone and Email rosters. The FAHS Alumni Association members are young enough to be our kids.

Replied YES to continue these services if someone will do it:

- 96% - Email Roster
- 92% - Newsletter
- 92% - Dackel Email list
- 87% - Mailing Roster
- 74% - Archivist
- 68% - Biographical Information
- 57% - Flowers for the deceased

Priority of Services

1. Mailing Roster
2. Email Roster
3. Dackel List
4. Newsletter
5. Biographical Information
6. Archivist
7. Flowers for deceased

Willing to Provide Leadership

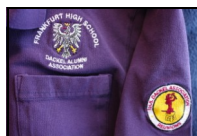
Twelve willing including many continuing present efforts. Some said they would help occasionally.

Conclusion

Personnel to keep the Dackel Association going does not appear available within our ranks.

**You can still order
FAHS Dackel
customized apparel**

Wally Campbell reports that he can still order both men's and ladies' polo shirts and T-shirts with one or two logos, baseball hats and visors. Only mens shirts come with pockets if desired. The following prices are based on current mailings, excluding shipping and handling, and include the Georgia sales taxes:



Men's polo shirts, pocketed, 2 logos \$37.00; one logo \$30.75. Ladies' polo shirts, unpocketed, 2 logos \$35.00; one logo \$28.75. Shipping & handling: \$6.00 for first shirt and \$2.50 for each additional shirt. He does not have current prices for T-shirts. The latest prices available are reflected in those given below.

Wally also has an inventory of shirts as follows:

Men's T-Shirts:

- 1 medium, white w/1 logo—\$15.00
- 2 XL white w/pocket & 1 logo—\$20.00 ea

Men's Polo Shirts:

- 1 XL yellow w black horizontal strips, unpocketed, 2 logos—\$30.00
- 1 medium, light yellow w black and white horizontal strips, pocketed, 2 logos—\$35.00
- 1 medium, light yellow w/narrow black horizontal strips, pocketed, 1 logo—\$30.00
- 1 XL white, unpocketed, 1 logo—\$24.50
- 1 medium, white, pocketed, 1 logo—\$29.00
- 1 medium navy, pocketed, with 1 logo—\$30.75
- 1 XL burgundy, pocketed, 2 logos—\$35.00

Ladies' Polo Shirts:

- 1 medium, light-medium blue, with 2 logos—\$33.00
- 2 medium, bright red, with 2 logos—\$33.00 ea

- 1 small, yellow, with 2 logos—\$33.00

Contact: Dr. Wallace Campbell, 1090 Big Water Point, Greensboro, GA 30642-5122, (706) 454-0667 or (706) 347-0516 (Cell—Not usually turned on if at home!) <wallacecampbell@mac.com> or <noreencampbell@mac.com> Or Dave Klinger, (509) 548-5480 or dklinger@nwi.net>

Spouses and “Youngsters” of FAHS alumni



Alumni spouses and “youngsters” are a very important part of our “family.” Here, l to r, are Allan Rappoport (Jane), Benita Long (Gaylord), Mary Gamerdinger (James), Carolyn Breslawn (Jerry), Carolyn Breslawn (Roger), Marilyn Robinette (Ted), Donna Skaggs (Jim), Kay Rose (David), Marcine Silver (Gary), Ann Bunting (Dan), Georgia Matthias (Jud), Karen Riibner (Barbara Larter Foster) and Kathy Thomas (Jo Hoffmann Thomas).

Readers' Comments

Continued from Page 6

Germany in 1949. I graduated in 1952 and went back to Texas. The friends and many memories made thru those years will NEVER be replaced with ANYTHING better! We had the BEST of teachers and the greatest time of our young lives. May God bless each and ever one of the true members of dear old Frankfurt High School. FHS UBER ALLES!”

“Dear Folks, I enjoyed seeing the photos of the reunion and the one of the many years ago cruise on Hitler's yacht. Eugene spoke about being on that yacht, and I assume it must have been with either FAHS or the Wiesbaden High School. I enjoy being kept in the news loop. We enjoyed the many reunions we attended, and I have loving memories of them. Arlene Marteney

“Wow. I graduated from FAHS in 1959. I guess that makes me one of the youngsters.” Louise Eddington '59, San Diego

“Great reading as I had to miss this reunion. Went to FHS '46-47 as a Junior then on to Bremerhaven. It was an educational experience to live and learn under difficult circumstances. Our bus had a broken out front door window and a broken out back door window and that

winter was the coldest in many years so the open air transportation was truly a very chilling experience. Sad we are disbanding.” Janice McKelvy '48

“The Rappaports hosted a wonderful reunion. I grew up on stories of what it was like living in post-war Germany since my mother (Jo Hoffman Thomas '48) was also in the class with Jane and it is a story to be preserved.”

Kathy Thomas, Temple University Law

“Great story and we military brats appreciate we also served. Born in San Diego I went to 3 high school s, two in one year. Graduated from Frankfurt in 1962.” Virginia L. McCallum, San Diego '62

“I was unable to attend the reunion. However I was there in spirit with friends who will never be forgotten as they are one of a kind. “Civilians” have never understood the impact that being in Germany just after the war had on us and how we are a “band of brothers and sisters of a different kind.” I know that it changed the direction of my life. I am sad that we are disbanding. However my heart was and is with my class of '48. I love you all and you will remain in my memories and heart for eternity. Let's stay in touch as best we can.” Ede Prendergast '48



Jim Skaggs '51 posed in front of our high school building during a three-week trip to Europe this past July. While in Germany, he took his family to Nurnberg and Soldier's Field where he played football for Frankfurt and to Frankfurt, where they visited the original Frankfurt American High School by the "City Dumps," the Boy's Dorm circa 1950-51, the Girl's Dorm for the same period and the I.G. Farben Building, which is now Johann Wolfgang Goethe University. The original high school building is still a school and has been renamed "Friedrich Ebert Schule," for the first President of the Weimar Republic rather than "Dietrich Eckhart Schule," a prominent Nazi.



Pat Virden and Mary Gammerdinger check out the latest additions to the Association Archives in the Hospitality Suite. Jo Hoffmann Thomas retired this year as Archivist. She and her daughter Kathy Thomas have produced a scrapbook after each reunion. They have arranged for the entire collection to be donated to the Museum of American History, a part of the Smithsonian Institution.

What do we do now?

We do have some options. Check them out.

By Jo Helmers '52, Editor

No one was smiling when we left the annual meeting on Sunday morning. Although the party that night was one of our finest, it left an ache in everyone's heart. A day later some were saying we should book a cruise, but we said goodbye never expecting to meet as a group again. However, there are options available to us individually and collectively. Over the past year, and during the 2012 Reunion, we exhausted most of them. However, there are those of us who may want to pursue one or more.

Join Overseas Brats

Joe Condrill, president of Overseas Brats, has written that we are welcome to come to OSB gatherings including their Homecoming next August. Several of our members are planning to do so. Annual dues are just \$20 but you don't have to become a member to attend Homecoming 2013. The hotel and registration fees are comparable to what we have been paying. Numbers count in terms of whether we have a private hospitality suite and/or tables at banquets. Dave Klinger is coordinating so let him know if you are going. "Homecoming" details and registration form are on Page 9. For more information, check out the OSB website at: www.overseasbrats.com or Email: joeosbpres@abcglobel.net

Join or Organize Regional Groups

....Hosting a luncheon or dinner at a restaurant in your own city might be the start of a regional group in your area. Our members in the southwest have already formed an informal group of Eagles from 1948-65 who meet regularly at a German Restaurant or alum's house in the Phoenix area. Contact Jim Skaggs '51 for information at P.O. Box 31930, Mesa, AZ 85275. Phone (480) 964-5775. Email jdsdaggs@cox.net

Join a Group Similar to Ours

All of us who have shared in the camaraderie and relaxed spirit of FAHS Dackel Association reunions know there are none that could compare but there are a similar groups that share our heritage, whether they attended schools like Nurnberg in the '40s and '50s or Frankfurt High in more recent years. Here are a few:

—**Nurnberg Alumni Association:** The Nurnberg alumni who attended our 2012 Reunion were a welcome addition to our ranks. Joan Adrian writes that they would be interested in talking further about a future joint get together after the 2013 Overseas Brats Homecoming" next August in Florida. See her comments on Page 11. Joan's Email addy is: jadrian49@aol.com

—**FAHS 67-73 Alumni Association,** which held its 2012 reunion in San Diego a few weeks before ours, has annual dues which its web site claims "help us keep this organization going and throw the biggest baddest reunion parties every year!" Paid members receive newsletters, voting privileges, alumni directory and reunion discounts. Check out the web site for information: <http://www.frankfurthigh.com/> While you're there, be sure to look at the history pages where a link takes you to the **Dackel Page**. Posted there are pictures, stories and our latest newsletters. If you have similar things to share, send them to Bruce Garner at ba_garner@msn.com

—**Berlin Brats Alumni Association 1946-94** has a good web site to visit. They were the first to post the school annuals online. Dues are \$20/\$21 annually (the \$1 difference is if you use Pay Pal instead of sending a check). The dues help support web space, software and mailings. Paid members vote on reunion locations, receives copies of the newsletter and alumni database. They also offer an option to have a personal BIO Page posted. Membership application is on the web site: www.BerlinBrats.org

OVERSEAS BRATS "HOMECOMING 2013"

Plaza Resort & Spa, Daytona Beach, Florida

August 8-11, 2013

REGISTRATION FORM

To register, complete this form and send it along with check, money order or credit card information to: OVERSEAS BRATS, P.O. Box 47112, Wichita, KS 67201

____ Check here if you wish to exclude the following information from the list of attendees.

Name _____

Nickname _____ Maiden name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone numbers (Cell, Work, Home, etc.) _____

Email (one please) _____

Overseas schools/bases/communities you associated with & when:

What year did you graduate from high school: _____

COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Registration packet including name badge, list of attendees (as of July 2013) and Homecoming 2013 Schedule.
- Thursday night DJ party (not a food function)
- Friday & Saturday night dinners & Sunday breakfast.
- Friday & Saturday dances.
- Participation in the exhibition and mini-course sessions.
- Specially expanded December 2013 edition of *OVERSEAS BRATS* magazine featuring Homecoming 2013.
- Donation to the reunions happening at Homecoming 2013.
- Donation to the American Overseas Schools Historical Society.
- Please Note: The Comprehensive Package DOES NOT include the optional dinner on Thursday, August 8.

CHECK MARK & CIRCLE options below for which you are registering:

Full Registration (entire schedule per Comprehensive Package:

Before Feb. 15, 2013 options:

____ \$145/person OR

____ \$72.50 (50%) down now, with this registration form, and \$72.50 (50%) to be automatically charged on July 15, 2013 OR send a check for the \$72.50 balance before July 15, 2013.

Before June 1, 2013: ____ \$160/person

Before July 15, 2013 ____ \$175/person

After July 15, 2013 ____ \$190/person

Optional Dinner Thursday, August 8:

Before Feb. 15, 2013 ____ \$40/person

Before June 1, 2013 ____ \$45/person

Before July 15, 2013 ____ \$50/person

After July 15, 2013 ____ \$55/person

Pro-rated Fee Friday, August 9 (only) includes:

- Registration packet (same as described in comprehensive package) jam session and Midnight Friday night concert.)
- Cost of the meal.
- Participation in the exhibition and mini-course sessions.
- LIVE entertainment. - Friday jam session and Midnight Friday concert..
- Program & dance.
- Pre-event planning, overhead and staffing costs.
- Donation to the reunions happening at Homecoming 2013.
- Donation to the Brat Cause of the Year.

Before Feb. 15, 2013 ____ \$60/person

Before June 1, 2013 ____ \$65/person

Before July 15, 2013 ____ \$70/person

After July 15, 2013 ____ \$75/person

CONTINUING OUR REUNIONS**... WITH A TWIST**

Let's meet at the OSB Homecoming in 2013!

Step 1: Talk the reunion up with your FAHS Dackel pals.

Step 2: It costs nothing to reserve your hotel room now.

Only \$99 a night on the beach!

Call the hotel at 1-800-874-7420. Mention OVERSEAS BRATS HOMECOMING 2013 to get our special rate.

Step 3: Use the form on this page to register early!

Or register online at <http://www.overseasbrats.com/>

Note the incremental increases in price after Feb. 15, 2013 and buy the cancellation insurance!

Step 4: If you have any questions, call or fax Joe Condrill at (316) 269-9610 or Email him at joeosbpres@sbcglobal.net
Or Email Dave Klinger at dklinger@nwi.net

Pro-rated Fee Saturday, August 10 (only) includes:

- Registration packet (same as described in comprehensive package)
 - Cost of the meal.
 - Participation in the exhibition and mini-course sessions.
 - Program & dance.
 - Pre-event planning, overhead and staffing costs.
 - Donation to the reunions happening at Homecoming 2013.
 - Donation to the Brat Cause of the Year.
- Before Feb. 15, 2013 ____ \$60/person
Before June 1, 2013 ____ \$65/person
Before July 15, 2013 ____ \$70/person
After July 15, 2013 ____ \$75/person

Pro-rated Fee Sunday, August 11 (only) includes:

- Cost of the meal.
 - Pre-event planning, overhead and staffing costs.
 - Donation to the reunions happening at Homecoming 2013.
 - Donation to the Brat Cause of the Year.
- Before Feb. 15, 2013 ____ \$25/person
Before June 1, 2013 ____ \$30/person
Before July 15, 2013 ____ \$35/person
After July 15, 2013 ____ \$40/person

Cancellation insurance (strictly optional):

Available up until August 1, 2013: ____ \$15/person

(Should you purchase this option, the amount you paid for your registration fee (excluding the insurance fee shown here) will be returned to you IN WHOLE PROVIDED you advise us you have to cancel BEFORE August 5, 2013.)

Notice of Liability:

Every effort has been made to make Homecoming 2013 hosted by OVERSEAS BRATS a safe and enjoyable experience for all involved. However, OVERSEAS BRATS does not and cannot accept liability for any accidents, injuries or losses held during the course of the Homecoming 2013 as a result of fire, theft, assault, recklessness or acts of God, war or nature. Those participating in the OVERSEAS BRATS "Homecoming 2013" do so at their own risk. In completing this form you accept this notice of liability.

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Name (as it appears on the credit card: _____

____ VISA ____ Mastercard ____ Discover ____ American Express

Card Number: _____

Security (3 or 4 digit code) ____ Expiration Date: _____

Telephone number (_____) _____

Authorized Amount: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

(Make checks payable to OVERSEAS BRATS)

DACKEL ASSOCIATION MINUTES 2012

Sunday, 9 September 2012
Four Points by Sheraton
8110 Aero Drive
San Diego, CA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dave Klinger, Dackel Association Chairman '47 convened the meeting at 9:35 AM, and welcomed all present.

Class Representatives present were:

1947: L. E. "Pete" Darlington

1948: Wally Campbell, Shirt Project Director

1949: Joe Hoffmann, Association Secretary

1950: Jim Gammerdinger

1951: Jim Skaggs

1952: Joyce "Jo" Dixon Helmers, Publicity/Newsletter Editor

1953 and later: Ted Robinette '53

1955: Gary Silver

Treasurer: Barbara Finch '52

Archivist: Jo Hoffmann Thomas '48

2012 Reunion Co-chairs: Jane Gardner Rappoport '48 and her husband Allan

2012 Reunion Vice-chairs: Jim Skaggs '51 and his wife Donna

Other Dackel members present were: 1948: Norm Matthias, Harriett Stubbs, Roger Brislawn; 1949: Mark Brislawn, Barbara Larter Foster, Jud Matthias, Sheila Hunt Miller; 1950: John Howard; 1951: Peggy Ganzert Bartlett, Donna Weaver Scott, Wanda Denton Oswalt; 1952: Ron Ballinger, Edward N. Garcia, Pat Virden; 1953: Mary Lee Matthias, La Nedra Rushing Reynolds; Bonnie Johnson Grant, Barbara D. Stebbins, Roberta Weaver Hupp; 1954: Patricia George Gallagher, Barbara Herb Stompoly, Carol D. Leonard; 1955: Carolyn Dixon Money; Faculty: Charlotte Shugart 1947-51. Also attending was Joan Adrian, Nurnberg 1949. Many members were accompanied by spouses, other family members and guests.

MINUTES OF 2011 DACKEL ASSOCIATION MEETING

The minutes of the 2011 meeting, previously published, were available for review and were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Secretary: Joe Hoffmann had nothing to report.

B. Treasurer: Barbara Harris Finch reported as follows: The checkbook balance at this time last year was \$4,377.54. Expenditures for the year totaled \$1,286.57 (shipping archives and advance for this reunion). The current checkbook balance is \$3,110.97. The total of unpaid obligations is unknown, but will include shipping of archives, shirt project and out-of-pocket reunion expenses (Rappoport and Klinger).

C. Archivists: Jo Hoffmann Thomas announced that she is retiring as Archivist, and that she and her assistant, Kathy Thomas, would see to the orderly disposition of the archives.

D. Shirt Project: Wally Campbell reported that two problems had resulted in no shirts being available at the reunion. First, our vendor went out of business, meaning we had to find a new one. Second, it took quite a while to recover the software needed to reproduce the logos. He said the shirts should be ready next week and all orders would be filled by mail. He noted that the new shirts are of a somewhat different weave, so they're not exactly the same as those from the previous vendor.

E. Publicity/Newsletter Editor: Jo Helmers thanked the group for our patience and cooperation in accommodating the changed schedule for taking of the group pictures. Jo noted that she had published three newsletters and that she has been trying to develop a list of all FHS attendees. She is also trying to get the Email list updated. Jo told us that Allan and Jane made all of the media contacts for the reunion and that they were a pleasure to work with. She announced that she is retiring from her position as Publicity Director and Newsletter Editor. Should the Association be dissolved she will put out a final newsletter.

F. Chair, 2011 Reunion: Dave Klinger reported that he had been in communication with the Kleinsmiths, who informed him that no one from Omaha could attend because of competing schedules.

G. Chair, 2012 Reunion: Allan Rappoport reported that the time of the reception had been advanced to 5:15 to permit the evening's activities to conclude at a reasonable hour. Allan also noted that preferred male attire for the evening was shirt, tie and jacket (if tie and jacket not available, it should be as dressy as possible). Allan and Jane informed us of the schedule for the evening: Following the reception, the colors will be presented by a color guard, and a guest tenor will lead us in the National Anthem. After dinner, we will have the ringing of the Memorial Bell, the presentation of awards and the taking of class pictures. Allan asked that all photographers make their cameras available to Jo Helmers for downloading their reunion photos. Jane and Allan thanked us for attending the reunion and helping to make it a success.

OLD BUSINESS, FUTURE OF DACKEL AND VACANCIES

Dave Klinger informed us that most leadership positions of the Association will be vacant as of the conclusion of this reunion. Dave referred to the survey he had conducted, saying that no respondents had indicated a desire to fill any of the key positions, though many were willing to assist. He asked whether anyone present wished to volunteer to assume leadership positions. There were no volunteers.

A question was raised as to disposition of the archives. Kathy Thomas told us that she had attempted, unsuccessfully, to get in touch with the American Overseas Schools Association. In the course of her attempts, she was informed that the group had probably folded, and it was suggested that she contact the Museum of American History, a part of the Smithsonian Institution. She did so and received a very positive response. Accordingly, the materials will be sent, as usual, to Jo Hoffmann Thomas in Warminster, Pennsylvania, and Kathy will deliver them to the Museum in Washington, D.C.

As to the remaining funds, Dave

Continued on Page 11

2012 Minutes

Continued from page 10

said that, except for the flower fund, any money remaining after settling all accounts, including reimbursing the Rappoport for their out-of-pocket expenses, would be donated to an appropriate charity. All agreed. Allan suggested the Army Emergency Relief fund as an appropriate charity. This fund provides support to families of wounded veterans. A vote on this matter was approved unanimously. Following the vote, Jo Helmers suggested that the flower fund be merged with the general fund. Upon motion made and seconded, this was also agreed to without dissent.

Dave said that the Dackel website would be terminated if there is a cost to keep it up; otherwise it will be terminated when it is no longer useful. He stated that all outgoing officers would continue to carry out the duties of their offices until the affairs of the Association are wrapped up. He called for a motion to dissolve the Association. The motion was made, seconded and carried.

There was some discussion concerning alternatives for those who would like to meet with their Frankfurt schoolmates. Jim Skaggs described the local group which is active in the Phoenix, Arizona area.

Joan McCarter Adrian (Nurnberg '48) provided an overview of *Overseas Brats*, mentioning that membership dues amount to only \$20 dollars a year, and noting that their "Homecoming" event is scheduled for August 8-11, 2013 in Daytona Beach, Florida. The final Newsletter will contain a copy of the membership application for this group. Another possibility is the Frankfurt American High School Alumni Association. (web site www.frankfurthigh.com)

APPRECIATION FOR 2012 RE-UNION COMMITTEE

Dave led the group in enthusiastic applause in appreciation of Jane and Allan's great reunion

ADJOURNMENT

Dave adjourned the meeting at 10:37 AM.

Nurnberg alums rate get-together big success

By Joan Adrian NAHS '49

The Nurnberg alumni who attended the San Diego Reunion with the Frankfurt AHS alumni '40's to mid '50's classes thought our getting together was a big success.

I am sorry that more of the Nurnberg alumni from those classes did not attend. I think trying to join our groups at the Grand Reunion sponsored by *Overseas Brats* in Daytona, Fla. next August is possibly the best way to merge these two groups if we continue reunions.

Due to age, our groups are getting smaller and smaller. Because so many of us experienced different conditions when we attended those early schools, our groups have similar stories to share with each other. If the Grand Reunion next year succeeds, we can plan future joint reunions with just our two schools.

I also think it might be possible to invite other classes from the other schools. There were only seven high schools in Germany in 1949, and all of us had amazing events and stories to tell about those early years. A combined "Golden Oldies" reunion might be successful. Many of the other schools also have alumni associations and perhaps they would like to merge their small groups as well.

Many of the students in those early years went to more than one school. Fathers were transferred around the U.S. sector to wherever they were needed. Also, many of the families were in Germany for four years. During the



Alumni of Nurnberg American High School were a welcome addition to this year's reunion. Former NAHS students at the reunion included, from left, Harry "Woody" Gamble '54, Elizabeth "Betty" J. Thomas '54, Audrey Hammond Gamble (Wurzberg AHS '55, also attended NAHS), Jack Phillips '51, Sharron Light Biggi '55, Joan Kay McCarter Adrian '49 and Gaylord Long '52 (also attended FAHS and Munich AHS).

Korean War, those families that were due to depart after three years were extended an extra year. Due to troops being sent to Korea, there were few replacements for our fathers during the '50-'53 years.

My own experience in the school, was brief. I only attended the last semester of my senior year. However, I didn't leave Germany until fall of 1953. I went to work in the Palace of Justice, met my husband at the Officers Club in the Grand Hotel, got married, had a baby, saw the end of the "Occupation Years," the apartment buildings built for American families, new school buildings, etc. Housing and office buildings requisitioned from German families and German offices, were being returned to German ownership gradually during '51 to '53.

This brief 1/2 year at the Nurnberg school

shaped my life and friendships far more than the two years of high school I had in Tulsa, OK, although, the Tulsa school was a top school in the U.S. and I had already had most of the courses required in Nurnberg, and so I still graduated with credits to spare after my 1/2 year there.

The history we experienced in those early years proved to shape our lives far more than regular schools back in the U.S.

Please consider maintaining those early friendships and let us try to join our small groups to continue to share our common experience.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Joan Kay McCarter Adrian is a member of *Overseas Brats* and has also hosted a number of reunions in Northern Kentucky. Contact her at: Joan Adrian
1386 Glenss Creek Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
jadrian49@aol.com

FAHS Dackel alumni watch as 499 new marines march in review

A special section of the reviewing stand was reserved for Frankfurt and Nurnberg alumni at the graduation ceremonies Friday morning, Sept. 8th, at the Marine Recruit Training Depot—San Diego. The Marine Corps Band led as the new graduates marched in review at the close of ceremonies. Afterward we boarded a bus for a tour of the training facility.



THE DACKAL ASSOCIATION

(An Association of Early Frankfurt American High School Alumni, Frankfurt Germany)

c/o David M. Klinger
P.O. Box 537
Leavenworth, WA 98826-0537

Phone: 509-548-5480
Email: dklinger@nwi.net
Web Site: <http://www.usroots.com/dackel>

Editor: Joyce Dixon Helmers, FAHS '52



*POSTMASTER: RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED*

ADDRESS: