

Poitiers Panthers

2005 Reunion Update

Atlanta Overseas
Brats Reunion
July 2004

Jim Rogers and I had a good response for the Atlanta get together.

Many alumni that are teachers or can't get off at other times of the year for the Poitiers Reunions were interested in the timeframe of this get together. I've enclosed another copy of the flyer with all the information on it. I just want to remind everyone of the registration discount if you register by Feb 2004. You can get the exact date from the flyer.

We would love to see a good turnout and many people have friends and relatives in the Atlanta area which would be a double good time!

Carol Harth Salick is in the process of finalizing the prices of the hotels and hopes to have more information in the next newsletter. She would like to know if people would be interested in information on a pre-reunion cruise, either to Alaska or Vancouver Victoria BC the later is a mini cruise 3 days, and its about \$400 or a little less. You can email Carol Salick (csalick@sig-ins.com) as to whether you are interested in a cruise and/or if you are planning on attending the reunion. This will give her some idea as to the numbers for rooms, etc.

Another couple of things for everyone to think about, that will be attending the reunion, is the election of officers and location for the next reunion.

If you might be interested in being one of the officers please let Paul McLin, Sandra Steele Nicol or myself know prior to the business meeting. We're always looking for some good help.

If you think you would like to host the next reunion you may wish to put together some information and have it available before the meeting so everyone will have a chance to talk with you and others about it. During the last meeting we had several very nice locations and it would have been less complicated had we thought about the locations before the meeting.

Ernie Ramos presenting General Brown at his Change of Command ceremony with a gift from the Alaska group (Ben 63, Bobbi 65, Bill Frederick 64 and Ernie 64. It was a present that was not like all the others.



Alumni Found

M. Gay Nelson Birdsall

James Grote 62

John Higdon 61

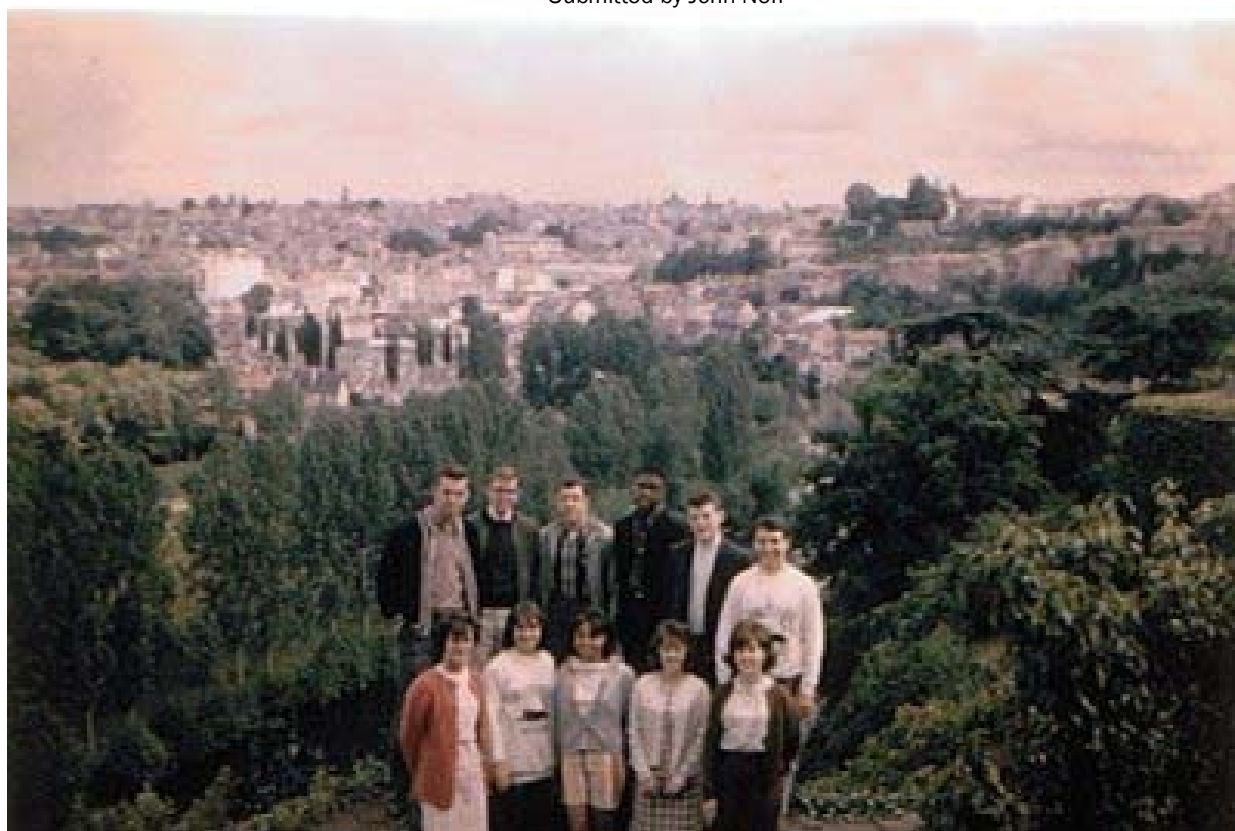
Joyce Boyd Henson 68

Coach Nickolas Perikli

65 Senior Class Dinner at Miss Crandall's house

Back Row - Jim McCabe, John Neff, Jim Sohns, Floyd Patterson, Bill Patterson and Kenneth Sprague; and Front Row - Inge Kohler, Regina Wirrick, Carol Simms, Barbara Keeler(?) and Gayle Montreuil

Submitted by John Neff



Sonny Craven would be willing to make more copies of the AFN CD. Please order prior to March 15, 2004 so that he can batch it. This will be placed on the dues page for ordering purposes.

Also Sonny is willing to order the AFN Hummel. There is an extremely low number left so if you are interested be sure and get your order to him immediately.

Thanks Sonny for your efforts!



The Official Military Brat Flower

The Dandelion

She will blow and
blow
But will never know
Where the little dan-
delion will go
Where the little dan-
delion will grow.
The wind takes it
high
The wind takes it
low
But still she will
never know
Where the little dan-
delion will go
Where the little dan-
delion will grow.
By, Chelsea

"Children of the
world, blown to all
corners of the world,
we bloom any-
where!"

The Search

Patriotism isn't something you can see or hold.
But it's alive and well in America, so I'm told.
I'm searching for what has made our country stand through the years.
Show me what has made it worth all of the tears.
I saw a child waving a flag and asked what it means to him.
"It's a magic flag" he said with a grin.
'My daddy's a soldier and went off to war. My flag will bring him home.
That's what I'm waving it for.
A woman was tying yellow ribbons on a tree near by.
Why the ribbons? Why the tears? Please, tell me why.
"I want to show that I care
And they've not all come back from over there.
My son chose to serve his country and is far from home-
My prayers are with him. He's not alone."
A tired old man heard the questions I'd asked..
"Let me help you with your searching task.
I'm an old soldier as you can see and he wheeled his chair next to me.
"I'll tell what you're asking to hear."
He spoke proudly as he wiped away a tear.
"Democracy and freedom aren't just for some,
But the strong and the meek.
It's worth fighting for, this right to speak,
It's been fought for and died for and should never be wasted.
For a veteran, Freedom has a flavor like no one else has ever tasted.
Our country has stood up to aggression throughout the past
AS LONG AS THERE IS PATRIOTISM, IT WILL FOREVER LAST.
AS LONG AS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO RESPECT THE FREEDOMS WE HOLD SO DEAR.
THERE WILL BE AN AMERICA, YEAR AFTER YEAR,
BUT SOMEONE MUST STAND UP FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IS RIGHT
AND IF IT GETS DOWN TO IT..... BE WILLING TO FIGHT!
AS WITH EVERYTHING, THERE IS A PRICE TO PAY AND PAY DEARLY WE HAVE, and will again
TO HOLD ONTO THIS PRECIOUS LAND.
We have stood up and served when we were needed
To be sure others were fairly treated.
Perhaps there are many things that could be taught in school
But most important is the golden rule.
And that all are created equal and equal they will stay
As long as there are Americans who will serve another day
You don't have to be a soldier to stand up and fight.
You have to believe and stand up for what is right. So, let me tell you, in your quest for the
answer to what you've asked,
'For the search for patriotism is not an easy task.
It can not be packaged.....it can not be sold.....
It is the pride in the price for freedom.....take it from someone old."
The old soldier couldn't have answered more clear--
I know now that it is my country's belief in freedoms that we hold so dear.
It is the love and pride we take in living in this land of the free.
What a wonderful place we live in.. My country! Land of liberty!

Written by jeani bax - April 1991 Crocker, Missouri

I wrote this while my son was serving with the 101st in Desert Storm- My father was the old man in the
wheel chair- I hope you like it.. Jeani Roberts Bax PAHS class of 67

POITIERS WEB PAGE

Webmaster Sue Petterson Sharp wishes to remind everyone to check the web page and your email address. Let her know if any corrections are needed

Also don't forget she will be glad to put your thoughts online

I wish to thank all the contributors to this newsletter.

If you have anything of interest please let me know so others may enjoy.

*Peggy Taylor
Anderson*



Does anyone recognize the person not identified in this photo? Picture provided by Jeani Roberts Bax.

Dues

Yes it's that time of year. We certainly appreciate everyone that contributed last year.

Again I have enclosed a form for your convenience. I will be putting on the form the email address we currently have in our directory. Please let me know if we don't have your current mailing address or email address. You can email me at pander3575@gulftel.com or mail it to me on the form whether you pay your dues or not. Remember this is voluntary but it certainly helps with the cost of all the items we try and bring to you. Hopefully you feel it is worth the cost..



ALUMNI NEWS

Robert Platenberg

1921-1998

Robert Platenberg was born in Shelby County, Iowa, August 21, 1921. He received his elementary and secondary education in the public schools at Harlan, Iowa. He entered the U.S. Army in 1942 and served in Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines until December, 1945. He earned a Bachelor of Science and a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Iowa at Iowa City.

Robert married Dorothy Eileen Gifford in September, 1948 in Omaha, Nebraska. Two children were born in Iowa, Roderick Jay in 1952 and Robin Jayne in 1955.

He served as a high school commercial teacher and counselor at Wyoming Consolidated School, Wyoming, Iowa in 1953. From 1954-55, he served as high school principal of Elwood Consolidated School, Elwood, Iowa. In 1956, Robert was superintendent of the Consolidated School at Mitchellville, Iowa.

In 1957 Robert joined the DoD schools and the family moved to Bremerhaven, Germany where he taught commercial subjects at Bremerhaven American High School. Part-way through the school year, he assumed the duties of counselor and assistant principal. In 1958 he was high school principal of the Wuerzburg American High School. He went to Frankfurt American High School as Assistant Principal in 1959 for two years. From 1961-62, Robert was high school principal and dormitory manager of Poitiers American High School, Poitiers, France. He then went to Mannheim American High School where he served as principal from 1963-66.

A daughter, Renata Jacilyn, was born in Heidelberg in August 1965.

Robert moved to Darmstadt in 1967 serving as principal at Darmstadt American School until 1970 when he became principal of the Darmstadt Elementary School. All three children went from kindergarten through high school in the overseas schools.

Robert retired in October 1992 and established residency in Golden, Colorado. He passed away on October 9, 1998.

Prepared by Dorothy Platenberg

Candice "Candy" Davidson, wife of David A. Davidson ('62), passed away November 20, 2003 from cancer.

Those that attended the Dallas reunion in 1988 will remember her; she was beautiful, a former Kim Dawson and Ford Agency model, with a great personality. She and David were parents of son David Council Davidson (age one in 1988).

Please remember David and his family in your prayers.