



## BALD EAGLES ECHO NEWSLETTER OF FRANKFURT AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES 1963-1966

SAN ANTONIO, TX



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Class Photos
- A Tribute to Mr. Otis Halliday
- Why should you attend a reunion when no one will remember you? See page 4.
- Pittsburgh 2017

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## President's Message

Well, the last of the fiftieth anniversaries played out in San Antonio from June 8<sup>th</sup> to June 12, 2016, at the Hotel Contessa on the Riverwalk in San Antonio. It was a great hotel, and, except for a minor glitch involving a false alarm that directed everyone to evacuate the building, was enjoyed by all. The amazing thing about the fire alarm was that it was totally ignored by both hotel employees and guests alike.

The Reunion Committee, led by Danny O'Connor, consisted of Sue Milstead Murphy, Bobby Bepko, Kathy Bates Johnson, and Judy Kellond Bader. They put together a wonderful long weekend of fellowship and getting to see people whom we'd not seen in years. I actually got to see and talk to Roger Downs, a Camp King sort of guy, whom I'd not spoken to since 1968. The total attendance was 137 people, with 17 first time attendees. My congratulations to Danny, Sue,

Bobby, Kathy, and Judy.



### "Chancellor" Frederick von Schloss

You all did very well.

The weekend began with a trip to Gruene, pronounced "Green" by the natives. It's a tiny place, styled after a German village, but full of antiques, art, and restaurants. The bus ride to Gruene was fairly short, and we spent a few leisurely hours there, going through the shops and out to lunch. It was very relaxing, and different.

For Friday evening, Danny and his crew had arranged a German buffet at the Biergarten on the River Walk. This involved several different German-

styled sausages, both pork and chicken Schnitzel, Rosenkohl (red cabbage), potato salad, desserts, and lots of different beers. On top of that, we had a band playing German music, and it was all within easy walking distance. What more could you ask for?

Saturday morning rolled around, and, at 10:00 AM, we had the business meeting. I had, based on previous correspondence from one or two people, expected this to be rather contentious, but it went smoothly. Two cities were selected and will be vetted in regards to cost, convenience, available activities, and all the usual things, in order to select our next meeting site. The two cities are Vancouver, BC, and Pittsburgh, PA. We have been to neither, so this next meeting will be something new and fun.



THE ALAMO

*“That was pure magic in itself”*

## President’s Message (con’t)

Bruce Kerwin has volunteered to host Vancouver and Bob Begg will handle Pittsburgh, so both cities should be handled very well.

The Saturday Night Dinner Dance was amazing. The band was called the BFR Band, and they did a masterful job. They played loud, they played long, and they played well. They played nearly non-stop. During the evening, the Class of 1966 provided us with a list of memories from their era, but the thing that really got everyone’s attention was a group of young women who appeared on the dance

floor, wearing tutus and the FAHS colors, right down to their hair (those couldn’t have been wigs, right?). Of course, the Melloteens were assembled by Cindy Ravitsky, and she even coaxed music out of Bruce Kerwin. That was pure magic in itself. The dance floor remained packed for the entire evening, and, at the end, produced more worn-out 60-odd year olds than I’ve ever seen before.

On a final note, I’d like to tell you that, at the request of your Board of Directors, Hal Corbin, our attorney,

has put together a Posting Protocol for our Facebook page. The board has listened to your comments and requests, and would like to insure that our web page remains directed towards FAHS and our memories and friends, and is not encumbered by political content, advertising by anyone, or any sort of offensive material. This Protocol is being reviewed and will be available shortly. It’s short and sweet and to the point. I think you’ll like it..

Fred Schloss, der Kanzler

## Treasurer’s Report

Amount on hand 06-01-2015                      \$13,961.03

Amount on hand 09-20-2016                      \$14,327.63

Included in the total is approximately \$3,500 in Reunion Aide Fund.



Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Surkin Heidorn ‘65  
Treasurer

## A Tribute to Mr. Otis Halliday

Mr. Halliday was a Math teacher [Trigonometry] along with being an outstanding Football and Wrestling coach at Frankfurt American High School during 1964-66. During his years of coaching Frankfurt excelled at producing the best teams in all Europe. As a member of the both varsity teams, I can say that Mr Halliday showed all of us the true meaning of sportsmanship and commitment.

I was so happy to be able to locate and talk to him about our High School Reunion in San Antonio. He was so humbled about receiving my invitation to be our Honored Guest. Many Alumni who attended the reunion didn't know that his chemotherapy was just completed a few weeks before he came to San Antonio. Carol

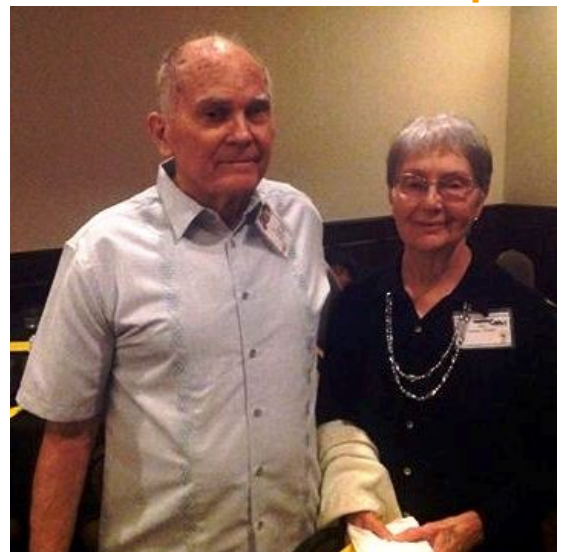
and Otis Halliday both told me how happy they were to receive the invitation. Being able to attend a reunion was something he had always hoped for all his life. Mr. Halliday did tell me his biggest surprise was the number of Alumni who remembered him and passed on their own stories of what he meant to them.

Approximately a week after the reunion Mr Halliday was placed in the hospital for 3 weeks where it was found his Multiple Myeloma had spread to the lining of the lungs then moved to Hospice Care for 4 days. The following day he went home to be with family where he passed away.

I was truly blessed by knowing him and I can say he was a very important influence on making me the person I am today. His knowl-

edge and wisdom helped so many alumni throughout his teaching career. I am truly thankful for all he taught me and happy I was able to meet up with him after 50 years to tell him what he meant to me.

Dan O'Connor



**OTIS AND CAROL HALLIDAY**

# Would anybody remember me?

## Would I remember anyone?

I knocked on the door of a brand new house in my Las Cruces, NM neighborhood. I really didn't want to but I saw the license plate holder that said: "Frankfurt High Germany 63-66". Shirley Clark answered and I said: "*Frankfurt Über Alles*". That was the beginning of a wonderful, wonderful ride through memory lane. Shirley and Jim told us all their Frankfurt stories, and how they were married at one of the class reunions. She then told me that my 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion (Class of 1966) would be held in San Antonio in June. My class reunion? I had lost hope that I would ever be able to go to one of my class reunions. Shirley gave me the web address and I immediately contacted Janet Heidorn to get my registration information.

I was excited but also fearful - it had been 50 years . . . half a century! Would anybody remember me? Would I remember anyone? I finally decided it didn't matter, we all had something in common . . . we all had been military brats together in Germany many, many years ago. It was decided, I was going to San Antonio for the class reunion. I opened the door of the hospitality suite and I was 18 again! It was remarkable! There are no strangers in the military. I just can't begin to explain how great it was to see my old classmates.

A note to the planning committee, the hotel room, the river walk, the German restaurant and entertainment, the final night's dinner and celebration . . . absolutely everything was *Prima!*

So all I can say is . . . Thank you so very much for a wonderful time. If at all possible I will be at the next reunion.

Oh . . . by the way . . . thank you Shirley for my new license plate holder! Maybe someone else will see "my plate" and reconnect.

Jo Van Dyken Schreuder, *Class of 1966\**

P.S. Sorry Hans that I kept leading when we were dancing.

\*Note: Look at the first photo under Friday Night Biergarten. The couple at the far right, is Jo Van Dyken Schreuder and her husband Dave.





**ROAD TRIP TO GRUENE**



**SHOPPING!**





**TAKING THE BOOTY TO THE BUS!**

**MARGARITA PARTY IN THE HOSPITALITY SUITE AFTER THE ROAD TRIP**







**ON THE RIVERWALK**



FRIDAY NIGHT BIERGARTEN



SATURDAY NIGHT FUN ON THE PATIO







**MARIACHI  
BAND PLAYED  
ON PATIO  
DURING  
COCKTAILS  
AND BEFORE  
DINNER**



**SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER & DANCING**











**CLASS OF 63**



**CLASS OF 64**



**CLASS OF 65**



CLASS OF 66



SPOUSES







**“FANCY GIRLS”  
CELEBRATING MARCIA  
MORRISON’S  
70TH BIRTHDAY!**

**1966  
LETTERMEN**



**MELLOTEENS**





**SAVE THE DATES: MAY 17 TO MAY 21, 2017 for Pittsburgh!**  
Watch Facebook, [FHS63-66.org](https://www.facebook.com/FHS63-66.org) and your e-mail for things to do and registration information.

**AND THE FUN CONTINUES FOR SUE, DICK, KATHY AND BOB IN  
2016.**

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!**

