Dear Alumni & Friends of JYM,

We hope you’ll enjoy this issue of JYM Alumni News. Inside you’ll find:

> JYM Chronicles:
> Where are they now?
> 2007 Gift-Giving
> What’s New at JYM?
> and more!

Please email me news you’d like included in the next issue: JYM@wayne.edu.

mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Mark Ferguson
JYM Program Director

Did you miss the

Spring 2007 JYM Alumni News?

First FDR Scholarship awarded
Prof. Schindler Scholarship created

JYM Chronicles:
Cynthia Meurling (1998-99)
Sarah Mueller (1993-94)
Matt Rao (2003-04)

Visit JYM on the web, and click on the ALUMNI tab

www.jym.wayne.edu

50 Years ago -
Betts Huntley recalls
JYM 1956/57

“My brother Reid spent his Junior Year in Munich and he seemed to be having so much fun . . . that I applied to go too the following year. And what a year it was!”

Munich 1956

JYM students at Kloster Ettal, fall 2006
Alex Trommler (JYM 2005-06) was introduced to working with sheet glass and architectural glass installations when JYM arranged an internship for him at Franz Mayer of Munich Glass Works (est. 1847). “Inspired by modern architecture,” he writes, “my pieces expose the translucent structures of fused and polished glass. These sculptures become suspended moments, freezing material and time…” giving ethereal volume to a controlled space.

After receiving his BFA from Alfred University, Alex returned to Europe to work on a Sci-Fi Art Film in Prague (The Night Fisherman). His glass work is exhibited at Gallery in the Garden and the Glass Now Auction at the National Liberty Museum in Philadelphia. You can see more of his work at www.alextrommler.com

My brother Reid spent his Junior Year in Munich and he seemed to be having so much fun, even including experiencing an exceptionally cold winter, that I applied to go too the following year. And what a year it was! I have realized since then that the year was a formative one for me, introducing me to experiences I would never have had if I had stayed at Duke. I met my fellow Junior Year students on the trip over on the Queen Mary which we all enjoyed except that I suffered rather from motion sickness which continued throughout the two days we spent in Paris. And so we came to Munich.

I soon met my roommate, Manfred Propach (who had also been Reid’s roommate) and his fiancée Hiddi Hapdank. He was quite a bit older but still struggling through the courses he was taking for a doctorate in natural science. He was a good roommate and friend. I soon learned that day-to-day living was different from the United States. For one thing, at that time there were no laundries as such, only the Wäscherei. It took five days to get things back but they were all professionally done, including ironed underwear! I acquired a short-wave radio that included FM. It was a good investment, as I could listen to stations all over Europe: Radio Free Europe, Voice of America, the Deutsche Welle, and stations in England. It was good to feel so connected!

The JYM group had a good espirit de corps, and long-standing friendships developed. I remember a group of us rented a small van and drove it up into the mountains where we could see snow at the upper levels. Rolf Ahlers, a young man born in Germany but whose family had emigrated to the United States, was enthralled with the beauty of his Heimat, as we all were. Rolf and I reconnected in June 2002, and have exchanged e-mail. Bob Taylor from Chicago lived in the same dormitory as I did. He and I often had other members of the JYM group join us in our rooms to tell jokes and have fun together. Eugene Fahnert was an especially good joke teller. And then there were Ken Kurze and Bob McConnell. Ken has been the one keeping everybody reconnected and got me the addresses for Rolf and Hugh Evans.
Memories of JYM 1956/57, con’t

Hugh and I discovered the Evangelische Studentengemeinde, the Protestant youth group for college students in Munich. We went on a retreat with them into the mountains and nearly froze climbing Nebelhorn. Hugh and I corresponded for years after JYM. He and I reconnected in June, 2002, and are now e-mailing each other. He has had several pastorates along the way since 1965 when he was ordained.

One of the German students I got to know that year was a young lady named Renate Maier, whom I met at a student restaurant between classes. I visited with her family a number of times. We are still in touch with Renate and we visited her and her family in 1981, and she came to see us in Safety Harbor. There was another family I got to know named Deubzer. They had a Fasching party when my brother Bill (who was in the Navy) was visiting me in February from his ship in the Mediterranean. That party stands out in our minds as one of the best and most fun parties any of us ever attended!

That year, 1956, was one of the years that communism showed its true colors. In the spring and summer of 1956 the people in Czechoslovakia were asking for reforms to the system. It was a time of hope. But in November, while we were in Munich, only about 150 miles from the Czech border, the Russians and other Eastern bloc nations invaded Czechoslovakia! At Bill’s advice I bought an open train ticket for Switzerland, just in case the armies spilled over into Germany. I never used the ticket. I wonder if the German Bundesbahn still owes me that $20! I felt safer after I bought the motorcycle in February, for then I was free to go if need be. I remember one night when the Soviets were chasing down “dissidents” and Hungarians were escaping to the West as many and as fast as they could come. I ran into a young man outside our dormitory. He was looking for someone but hadn’t found him. He spoke even more broken German than I did. I asked him in for supper, and we ate my soup together and talked. He told me about escaping over the border, how we should not underestimate the Soviets, how his people felt betrayed. He was a very angry young man. I never saw him again after that and I often wondered what came of him.

I was invited by a German friend, Martin Goldstein, to spend Christmas with him and his wife in Düsseldorf, in northern Germany. Martin and Anneliese had invited Reid the year before, so invited me too which I greatly appreciated. Martin later visited with us at our home in Charlotte when doing graduate work at Duke. I took the train up to Düsseldorf and spent a delightful several days with them. I remember going around town Christmas caroling with the young people of the church at night, playing a horn with their little brass band. We also went on a 15-mile march through the countryside, which I understood was a tradition. And march most of the night we did! What energy those kids had! Back at Martin and Anneliese’s house we exchanged Christmas gifts, and we lit the real candles on their tree. Grateful to the Goldsteins, I returned to Munich and went back to finish the rest of the semester.

The two-month semester break finally came around. Now that’s a real spring break—what to do with all that time! Reid had traveled all over the Mediterranean, including Egypt and Israel, not surprising considering he had had the coldest winter in 50 years that winter and spring. Hugh Evans and I voted to make a motorcycle tour through Austria, Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, Southern France, and Switzerland. When I wrote home about that Dad and Mom were up in arms! It took an angry letter to convince them that it was the most reasonable way to travel to where we wanted to go, and besides, we were experiencing one of the warmest winters and springs in decades. They relented, sent me about $200 for the motorcycle, and I was motorized! I did have a few things to learn about riding a motorcycle, but I learned. Before starting off I made a trip up to Augsburg to see my roommate’s parents and sister. That night, driving back to Munich in a temperature of about 30 degrees, was by far the coldest I have ever been in my life! I had to slow down to about 20 miles per hour. When I got back to Munich I went to Hiddy’s parents’ house. It took me hours and what seemed like gallons of hot tea to warm up. The next day I got rubber pants, a windshield, and handlebar gloves. I was never cold again on the motorcycle.
So Hugh and I set off on our grand tour. We started out down through southern Germany and over the mountains and snow into Austria, then to Yugoslavia. We went from nice, paved roads to dirt roads, LOTS of dirt. On the tour was a trip to the Milosevic family in Belgrade. Mike Milosevic was a Yugoslav Army prisoner who was in prison camp with my uncle Boy Betts. He and his French wife Simone corresponded for years after the war. So he said to come see them while there. When we arrived in Belgrade a day late because the roads were so bad, we drove around Belgrade until I saw the name of their street, Ulica Vladetina, in Cyrillic script. We had found them. They were wonderful, friendly hosts. Mike, whose real name was Boshka, and his family were just superb to us giving us a fine tour of Belgrade. At the time, Yugoslavia only had one paved road, a 300-mile stretch between Zagreb and Belgrade. The rest of the roads and highways were dirt, and not well graded at that. Hugh and I could hardly believe that the roads we were on were main highways. Tito was still premier of Yugoslavia at the time and although Yugoslavia was more independent of the Soviet Union, it was still a Communist country. It was by far the saddest of the countries we traveled in and we could feel the suspicion and paranoia. When Hugh and I crossed over the border between Yugoslavia into Greece at the border station at night, the relief of coming out from under the subtle feelings of oppression was quite an emotional experience.

Greece was like a breath of fresh air. Suddenly we were on smooth roads and among people with whom we felt at home. We drove south through Greece along mountain roads and arrived in Athens. We stayed at the port of Piraeus because Bill’s ship was coming in and I wanted to meet him there and have some time with him. We met up and Bill joined Hugh and me on some of our excursions. On one occasion Bill and I traveled over toward Corinth by way of Eleusis on my motorcycle. That day stands out in his and my memories as one of the great days of our lives. We walked around the old ruins, watching modern jet fighter airplanes overhead, protecting Greece’s fragile democracy.

After Bill’s ship left, Hugh and I drove over to Corfu, where we boarded a ship to Brindisi, Italy. Then we drove across Southern Italy on the Appian Way to Naples. We had some beautiful days, including a visit to the Isle of Capri with its Blue Grotto on one of the most beautiful days I can remember. After driving up to Rome, Hugh went north to see a girl friend in Sweden, and I stayed in Italy. I drove up to Assisi, my favorite place in all Italy, because the gentle spirit of St. Francis still inspires the city, making it quite different from the rest of Italy. Or so it seemed to me.

From Assisi I went up through Bologna to Venice, driving partly at night. I remember that night because it was raining (hard), and when I came out of the rain, there was a rainbow from the full moon. It was the only time I have seen a rainbow by moonlight. I went on to Milan, Genoa, Nice, then Marseille, and up to Geneva where I spent the night in a youth hostel and had the first shower I had taken in a long time. Even now when I take a shower I sometimes think of that night in Geneva when I washed off a month of road grime!

The weeks passed and we finished the semester and it was time to leave for the United States. I rode the train, having sold my motorcycle for $110, and stopped at Göppingen again to see Rhoda and Jack and the boys. Then after a train ride up to London, and a boat trip across the English Channel, and a couple of days in London and up to Edinburgh. Then back to London on to the ship for the return trip, but this time on the Queen Elizabeth. When we arrived back in New York we went through customs, and there was the family waiting for me. My younger brother John had grown almost a foot taller during the year and I didn’t recognize him. My dear family, bless their hearts, had also spent their money playing in New York before the ship arrived. So we got back to Charlotte on the $110 I had from the sale of the motorcycle. You can believe that I reminded them of that at appropriate times during later years.

One memory stands out in my mind from the arrival back in New York. How bright everything seemed. How bright were the colors! The Statue of Liberty and the American flag were especially bright that day. I wondered about it that day and still do.
Where are they now?

1962-63  
(Judy) Margaret (Wisshack) Bauman is teaching German at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

1965-66  
Lynn Holstein has volunteered to be a class contact.

1966-67  
William Gardner is an attorney in New Canaan, CT. He has been admitted to practice in the state of New York, the US District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Supreme Court of the State of Connecticut, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

1968-69  
Don Verity has a homepage at: http://diverity.home.comcast.net

1968-69  
Robyn (Hall) Hall-Agent is now a catalog librarian in Sumter, SC after 13 years active duty in the USAF and retirement from the Air Force Reserves.

1973-74  
Jeri (Gautsche) Springstead has taught high school German for more than 30 years in Mazomanie, WI and has taken over 275 students on exchange programs to Germany.

1975-76  
Cheryl Ann Elfond is an ordained Presbyterian minister, living in in Endicott, NY.

1976-77  
Thomas Petzold is a retired USAF officer, who lived 15 years in Europe, living in Bowie, MD.

1977-78  
David Tyler is a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Department of State.

1979-80  
David and Julie Rogers Miller now live in Bloomington, MN after many years in Frankfurt, Germany.

1980-81  
After JYM, Diane (Yura) Howlin returned to Munich to study medicine at the LMU. She now has a private practice in Chelsea, MI.

1980-81  
Jeff Krell lives in southern California, doing process management and improvement for The Boeing Company’s satellite division. He still publishes “Jayson” comics, with a new book out in 2008 titled “Jayson Goes to Hollywood” -- and you can find it at www.amazon.com!

1983-84  
Katya Skow is Associate Professor of German at The Citadel in Charleston, SC.

1984-85  
Dr. Farrell Graves is at The General Theological Seminary in New York, NY.

1987-88  
Patricia White lives in Cataumet, MA and has volunteered to be a class contact.

1992-93  
Eric Nelson is an attorney in Casper WY.

1993-94  
Douglas Rozek recently moved to Basel, Switzerland.

1993-94  
After JYM, Sirkka (Raasoch) Wakefield was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship and now teaches German at a private school on Cape Cod.

1996-97  
David Klotz married fellow JYMer Francine Neumann; they live in Chicago.

1997-98  
Jennifer (Banish) Jones is a certified 7-12 German and English teacher in Royal Oak, MI.

1998-99  
David Lutz sends best wishes from Highland, MI.

1998-99  
Michelle Kelly worked for Ernst & Young in Munich from 2000 to 2004, then moved to New York to continue in marketing for financial services. Now working for Deloitte. Planning to transfer to Stuttgart in Summer 2008 and will get married in December 2008.

1999-00  
Erin Krumrei has moved back to Munich.

2000-01  
Sandi Conklin worked for a non-profit organization in DC after JYM, and has been a project manager for a translation agency and an education company. She lives in Alexandria, VA.

2001-02  
Cheryl (Rojek) Dapkus misses speaking German in Longwood, FL.

2002-03  
Adam Stephey works for an international Christian youth organization called Young Life with middle school and high school students at Bavarian International School, just outside Munich.

2003-04  
Cameron Smith works as a graduate municipal engineer in Saint Paul, MN. He writes: “Unfortunately I don’t have the opportunity to use my German as often as I’d like, but the life lessons that I learned from the struggle to communicate and understand while in a foreign country are applicable every day!”

2004-05  
Alison Bolla is pursing a M.A. in Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois-Urban-Champaign.

2005-06  
After graduating from Wellesley College, Nina Lawrence got an M.A. in Intercultural Relations at Lesley University and now works for WorldTech, which sends people to teach English around the world, incl. Rwanda and Bangladesh.

JYM Alumni Group now on XING

Hamburg based XING is a social networking website for business people, similar to LinkedIn. Membership is free and you can set the level of information about you which you want made public. If you're looking for career advice, a new job, or simply want to be connected to JYM alumni who share your interests, you may find the JYM Alumni Group on XING useful. Check it out at www.xing.com/net/jym
2007 Gift-Giving

We wish to extend our sincerest thanks to all alumni and friends of JYM who donated to our annual scholarship funds, endowed scholarship funds, and program advancement fund in 2007. Because of your generosity, we were able to award scholarships to 20 students from 13 colleges and universities in 2007-08.

1953-54
Elizabeth Hemkes
Martin and Doris Klaver
Dale Williams

1954-55
Julia Keydel

1955-56
Reid Huntley
Irene Kostin
Carole Minor
Nicholas Niles Jr.
Suzanne Petri

1956-57
Rachel Goldstone
Frederick Kauffman
Jane Wilson King
Margaret Seely

1957-58
Manfred Biedermann

1958-59
Theodore Boehm
Renee Sack

1959-60
Ralph Bayrer
Richard Hart
Marie Jaanus
Sarah Martin
Thomas Souders

1960-61
Corwin Atwood

1961-62
David Dix
Thomas Henderson

1962-63
Kurt Kamm

1963-64
Carol Holdengraber

1964-65
Roslyn Basherian
Edward Morris

1965-66
Susan Ray
Stella-Mae Seamans

1966-67
William Gardner
Stephanie Traub

1967-68
Wayne Barnette
Ronald Bates
Richard Crispin
Herbert Ogden Jr.
Thomas Prince
Michael Ross

1968-69
Carolyn Dittmar
David Lillvis
Roderick Stewart
Jerry Stonewater
Susan Thompson
Donald Verity

1969-70
Laurence Butler
Betty Luff

1970-71
Pamela Flynn
Gregory Mangan

1971-72
Howard Adler
Peter Blessing
Fay Bright
David and Margaret
Dunnington
Steven Hagenau
Christine von Klencke
Steven Stambaugh

1972-73
Roy Bertolatus
Jan Simpson
Lynne Weber

1973-74
Margaret Smith

1974-75
Dorothea Iverson

1975-76
Joseph Hranac

1976-77
Richard Adler
Lesley Johnson-Gelb
Pieter Moulton Judson
Christopher Miles
Thomas Petzold

1977-78
Nancy Hahn Bono
Mary Lancaster
Juanita Peck
Doreen Wright

1978-79
Phillip Fantle
Nan Hussey
Susan Metzger
Francis Snyder

1979-80
Susan Morrison

1980-81
Reuben Gamoran
Brian Murphy

1981-82
Juergen Barbusca

1982-83
Robin and Lewis Decker
F. Hearon Dickson
Michael Muzzin
Vivienne West

1984-85
Timothy Bralczyk
Susan Neiman
Jeffrey Norris

1985-86
Mark Perlman
Paul Soprano

1986-87
Douglas Drenckpohl

1987-88
Christopher Aquilino
Kendel and Scott Darragh

1989-90
Monica Hirschberg

1990-91
Matthew Sanger

1991-92
Erica Kain
Martin Mehachlin

1993-94
Gregory Drake
Brett Carnito
Charlotte Varzi
George Vlad

1994-95
Thomas Wright

1995-96
Emily Utz

2000-01
Maria Rousseva

2001-02
Benjamin Robinson

2003-04
Jonathan Gerard
Daniel Osborne

Friends of JYM
Anonymous
Mark Ferguson
German American Cultural Center
Lois Rauch Gibson
Donald Haase
Carol Ann Haenicke
Frederick Hoffman
Max Kade Foundation, Inc.
Roslyn Abt Schindler
Louise Speed
Eleanor Tudor

Matching Gifts
Cargill, Inc.
Johnson & Johnson
NRG Energy, Inc.
Deloitte & Touche LLP

The JYM Donation Form is available at www.jym.wayne.edu
What’s New at JYM?

External Review of JYM
2007 was a busy year at JYM. To ensure that we maintain the highest standards of international education experience, JYM underwent a year-long Academic Program Review and passed with great success. External evaluators from the University of California-Berkeley and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities commended JYM for our commitment to integrating US students into German university studies and student life, an innovative curriculum, excellent organization, and dedication to student service.

New JYM Internship Program
This year we are pleased to announce a new partnership with ThyssenKrupp Steel, which will allow up to ten JYM students internship experience in the industrial Ruhrgebiet during the semester break.

Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow
JYM has partnered with the American-German Business Club e.V. in support of the "Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow" program. 8 JYM students are currently competing for the best student business plan, a prize worth 1000 €!

New Developments in Development
JYM wishes to welcome Angie Zelenak as our designated development liaison within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

If you have any questions about gift-giving opportunities that benefit the JYM program and its students, please feel free to contact Angie at:

Angie Zelenak
Assistant Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wayne State University
4841 Cass Ave
2155 Old Main
Detroit MI 48201
Tel. (313) 577-9635
azelenak@wayne.edu

Looking for a place to meet and practice your German?

Find out if there's a German Language Meetup Group in your area at

http://german.meetup.com/about

Has JYM Changed?
Visit the ALUMNI section of the JYM website and click on ‘About JYM Today” to see how we’ve expanded the program, and why we were praised so highly by our external program evaluators.

Things to Do at the JYM Website

Update your Address
Request a JYM Transcript
View/Post Upcoming Events
Read past Alumni Newsletters
Find Fellowships & Internships
Explore the JYM Job Board
Make a Gift to JYM
Read Donors Stories

Watch the JYM Video!
Click on the ALUMNI tab at the JYM website

www.jym.wayne.edu
“Willkommen Frau Stavroudis!” These were the first words I heard as I entered the door to what has become one of my favorite places in Munich: the Domchor rehearsal room on Pacellistrasse. The Münchner Domchor is just one of the many choirs that serve the Frauenkirche, consists of approximately seventy volunteer members, and sings a full Mass once a month. I sang my first Mass on December 3rd, while my beloved violin teacher from high school was visiting Munich; it remains one of my favorite memories of this year. The loft of the Frauenkirche is high and surrounded by stark white; there are moments when light is streaming through the high windows jus as the choir is progressing from one dynamic chord to the next that is nothing short of extraordinary. This combination of glorifying music, talented voices, and kind people has made my participation in the Münchner Domchor a highlight of this wonderful year in Munich.

Christianna Stavroudis (University of Maryland)
JYM 2006/07