Salzburg Memories
on
The Occasion of the Department of Modern Languages’ Reunion
in October 2009.
(Barry Thomas, Professor Emeritus of German)

The following document includes updates, comments and reflections by former “Salzburger”, mostly from participants in the Study Abroad programs I directed (1972-2000). Occasionally I felt compelled to commemorate a program and the students in rhyme, and these efforts are also included. I hope that students and directors from other years will feel free to contribute to this page. Some messages have been edited for space reasons.

German alums were well represented at the recent Modern Language/Study Abroad reunion. Salzburg and DML alums in attendance either at the Salzburg reception on Friday and/or the reunion on Saturday included Travis Pilch (Salzburg ’95), who flew in from Orlando; Tiffany Aumann Edwards (’95); Karrie Rossmiller (’91); Vicki Ball-Seiter (?); Patrick Callahan (’90); Brian Shaw; Jonathan Leal (’97); Stella Feichtinger (’94); Sarah Krivak (’02); Barry Wallis (67); Liz Colarik (’03); and of course, the oldest—oops, excuse me, most senior Salzburg alum, Phil Richardson, Learning Resource Center Director Emeritus, who studied in Salzburg before the other returning students were born! Honorable mention should also go to Mellissa Messersmith (’98), with whom Jean & I had lunch on October 6 while she was in town Tuesday on a recruiting trip.

If you wish to contact anyone whose email is not included, I will be happy to pass on your request.
**Kathy Hotter Hightower (‘72–’73)**

. . . I was one of the non-Ohio students in the 1973 Salzburg program...from the University of Virginia which didn’t have an overseas program at the time. . . . Since then, I've moved a lot, but somehow Germany and Austria often played a part in my life. With my undergrad degree in German, I entered the Army as a Second Lieutenant and asked to be stationed in Germany. While living in Zweibrucken Germany, I met my husband Greg Hightower... . . .

I did eventually retire from the US Army Reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel myself. And in the meantime, I took on a lot of different jobs as we kept moving, from Human Resources for a Fortune 500 company to Pharmaceutical Sales to Advertising Sales to working as an Account Executive at an Advertising Agency. I eventually (1989) started my own home-based business to have something more mobile.

I've travelled the world (all over Germany and Europe, Japan and Korea along with the United States) doing Follow Your Dreams While You Follow the Military™ workshops with another woman and writing columns for just about every military publication. We have a book out for that audience (Help! I’m a Military Spouse — I Get a Life Too! 2d Edition) and another on the way.

With my husband retired from active duty, we've moved to Manzanita, a town of 800 on the Oregon coast. It’s a great place to live and work (as long as you work from home.) I'm off to Germany again in October for a few workshops and another chance to use my German.

Kathie (Hotter) Hightower

Hightower Resources: 503-739-1505 kathie@jumpintolife.net

**Randi Topping Simon (‘72–’73)**

Wonderful to hear from you. The reunion certainly sounds like fun and I will note the date. Maybe one of my Athens trips (parents) could be juggled to include the gathering. I really appreciate the news. The closest I have been to Salzburg is the German Bierfest in Washington DC last fall with one of our daughters and her husband. I came home with a Lebkuchen Herz and even convinced our daughter and her husband to attend one of the DC German Christmas concerts.

A quick update on my life for reunion info. I taught German and Music in Newbury, Ohio for several years following graduation form Ohio University. I even took students back to Salzburg two different summers. After our children were born, my connection to foreign language was purely traveling (lots of it and everywhere) social situations in business with my husband, as well as supervising three young daughters and making sure they were fluent in at least one language!! I think I was a fairly successful teacher as all three gals can speak one if not two languages quite nicely.

Katie, our eldest is a pediatrician and has even used her French in Gabon while working for the Albert Schwetizer hospital.

Her sister Whitney works for the Global Fairness Initiative and is constantly using her Spanish.
She travels frequently to Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico and other Latin American Countries and conducts all business in Spanish. Emily, our third has been quite motivated to add another language to her excellent French. She took night classes in Spanish last year while working in the communications department at Harvard (she is now with America Abroad Media) and can converse quite nicely.

No German speakers, however Whitney’s husband is from a German family who maintains all sorts of fun ties with German and heritage. Whitney now needs a dirndl for family reunions, has learned how to sing Ein Prosit, and has Hoch Soll Sie Leben (at least that is what they sing) memorized! Her husband, a dear whom we all love, took German in high school and college so now we can claim a German speaker by marriage! I am a bit rusty, but was just using my reading skills yesterday as I shared an interesting article, auf Deutsch, about Kristallnacht with our downstairs neighbor in San Diego. She fled Wien at age 17 several months after Kristallnacht.

All my best to you, and your family. I would love to hear about everyone.
Take care, and Danke Schön for the info.

Randi

**Maggie Kornreich Glazer ('72-73)

Dear Dr. Thomas!!

Hope this e-mail finds you. I am interested to hear from you about your plans for those who participated in the Salzburg programs. Like most people, I keep really busy all day and my school day seldom has free moments as I teach actively and have 5 to 6 preps a day and 7 classes of German -- and then my "other life" after the school day. I am lucky to be so busy. Am still the same (now same "old") Maggie that I was at 20. Hope you are well. Let me know what the plans, should this note reach you. Great to remember the times in Salzburg -- I had some great experiences! I remember that you were an excellent professor and a very decent human being.

Fondly, Maggie
**David Ludden (’79)**
Hello Dr. Thomas,
It's nice to hear from you. I often think back to that time in Salzburg. That experience gave me Wanderlust that has stayed with me my whole life. I spent a number of years abroad, mostly in Japan but with extensive travels in China. I've also been back to Europe on several occasions. In 2006, I had the opportunity to return to Salzburg to attend a conference held in Schloss Leopoldskron. I really enjoyed seeing the city again--Salzburg is by far my favorite city in Europe.
I am now an associate professor of psychology at Lindsey Wilson College, a small liberal arts college in southern Kentucky. My contact information is below. I'd love to attend the reunion, but it looks like that weekend will be busy for me. If my plans change, I will let you know. Please give my regards to everyone at the reunion.
Regards,
David Ludden
email: luddend@lindsey.edu
web page: http://www.facebook.com/l/class.lindsey.edu/instructor/luddend/

**Greg Inboden (’79)**
Dr. Thomas
Yes this the Greg Inboden that went to Salzburg in ’79. I was hoping that this might happen some day. But I'm afraid I won't be able to make that date. I'll be out of town all weekend. I hope we can do it again.
Rev. Greg Inboden

**Rob Lewis (’79)**
. . . The Study Abroad Program trips to Salzburg meant a great deal to me personally, and I view them as a highlight of my time at Ohio University (1977 to early 1981). I found the German program in Salzburg so interesting and exciting I did it twice . . . I will never forget beginning my first transatlantic flight on an Icelandair DC-8 jet, laying over in Reykjavik in the dark, and transiting through Luxemburg on the train into Salzburg. . . . I find it hard to believe it has been 30 years since I first participated, in 1979. To this day I still have contact with a few of my OU classmates and professors from that era.
Ironically, I have made only intermittent use of my German during my business career, but I credit my background in languages and passion for international travel for motivating me to continue with a master’s in international business at Thunderbird, and a rewarding business career. . . .
These study abroad programs are a fantastic opportunity for college students to learn a language, and even more importantly, really learn first hand what goes on in other countries.
There is no substitute for going there, no matter where “there” is. I see this type of international program as so important, no matter what field people wind up going into. And what better place to study German than the romantic and charming music city of Salzburg? I have returned twice to Salzburg (and many times to Europe) since the study abroad program, and I would go to Salzburg again in a heartbeat given the opportunity. Kudos to the O.U. professors and staff who had the foresight and dedication to begin and lead these programs starting in the late 1960s and 1970s, including Dr. Barry Thomas, Dr. Ursula Lawson, Dr. Noel Barstad, the late Carl Carrier, the many TA’s, and so many others who were involved in organizing and planning the programs, trips and activities. I am very happy to see this important program continue and grow.
Ein bescheidener Beitrag zur
Aufmunterung der Studenten,
Die so niedergeschlagen sind,
Weil das Barbeque ausfallen musste,
or:
Kann das wirklich wahr sein?!
(Salzburg 1987)

Der Direktor lud ein zur guten Frau Kaiser,
Wo für den hier versammelten Kreis er
Diese Zeilen hat geschrieben
(Jetzt wißt ihr, wie er die Zeit vertrieben!).

Es folgt hier ein kleines Gedicht,
Damit vom Dunkel wohl mehr Licht
Auf das Erlebnis jüngster Zeit
Geworfen wird, und zwar gleich heut'.

Ein Studentengrupp' aus fern' Athen,
Gereiset nach der Stadt so schön
Die Salzburg heißt, im ganzen Land
Für Mozart und für Salz bekannt,
Studieret schon seit vielen Tag'-
Bald mit Freud' und bald mit Plag'--
An der verflixten deutschen Sprach'.
Das kostet oft viel Weh und Ach,
Bis man gelernt sie hat mit Fleiß,
Wozu auch kommt nicht wenig Schweiß.
Doch all' den Mädchen und den Jungen
Ist dies Erlebnis gut gelungen.

Da sitzt die Amy aus der Schweiz,
Die spricht ein Deutsch nicht ohne Reiz;
Ich sag' es offen, ohne Spott,
Wie ich gefällt ihr "Grüezi Gott!"

Hier ist Rene, die joggen will
(Sie findet's schwer zu sitzen still)
David beherrscht Fremdsprachen zwei
Und möchte' auch gern zur Polizei,
Obwohl beim Maien-Blumenflur
Man denke lieber an die "amour".

Ich sehe zwei, die gern beisammen
Und zwar nicht vor TV-Programmen!

Da kommt sie jetzt ganz schnell gelaufen
Um nach dem Laufen ein bisschen saufen.
Ich freute mich doch auf meinen Sieg
Im ausgefallenen Ping-Pong Krieg.

Steht Kelly hier, dann ist versichert,
Daß bald und lustig wird gekichert.
Sie trinkt auch wohl ein'n Apfelmost
Zu ihrem Schinken-Käsetoast.

Da tritt als letzter Goeff herein,
Er trinkt bestimmten den besseren Wein.
Die Laura Eins, wie man sie nennt,
War ja ein super Assistent.

Der Andy ist's, der gerne fragt
Und sich sogar an Nietzsche wagt.

In München kann Kriss doch leider nicht meiden
Die Leute, die sich dort entkleiden.
Sie gab den Nackten guten Rat:
"Sie trügen besser ein Feigenblatt!"
Obwohl mir immer noch nicht klar,
Warum sie dort schon zwei Mal war.

Was Mike und Linda da nur treiben
Zu klären ich will lieber meiden.
Schön ist's, wenn zwei sich leiden--
Man möchte' die beiden fast beneiden.

Die Laura, die die Zweite heißt,
Ist überall und gern gereist.
Ihr liebstes Ziel doch sicher wär'
Zum fernen Bruder im Militär.

Auf Reisen war oft der Joe dabei
Und schlief mit Mädels, zwei bis drei
(Getrennten Bettes, wohl bemerkt!).
Er hat sein Haar so schön verstärkt,
Daß ihm der Kopf schaut aus dem Spiegel
Wie ein erwachsner, blonder Igel!

Die ganze Geschicht’ habt ihr gehört:
Ich hoff’, sie hat euch nicht gestört.
Fühlt ihr euch trotzdem beleidigt,
Schlag ich vor, ihr euch verteidigt
Und entsprechende Verse auf mich erdenkt:
Ich versichre euch, ich werd’ nicht gekränkt.

Nun woll’n wir ja nach dem schönen Essen
Auf Salzburg trinken: Es bleib’ unvergessen!

**Andy Verhoff (’87)**
My wife Rachel and two year-old son Jerry and I are moving from Marietta to Columbus. Since April, I've been working at the Ohio Historical Society at its headquarters in Columbus. My title is "Local History Coordinator." If you're a part of a local historical society and you need technical assistance, I'm your guy. While I'm far from fluent, one of the many things I've taken from my time with you in Salzburg and the study of German and languages in general is that an educated person should know how to get around in another language because, like history, it opens up new ways of thinking about the world. . . . I have to say that Salzburg in the spring of 1987 was a deeply formative and rewarding experience for me . . . I think it made me more tolerant and accepting of other ways of living, and I certainly gained confidence making my way in a new language around Salzburg, and Vienna, and Venice. We certainly want our son to learn another language and have the experience of living abroad.

**Amy Graves Colgan (’87)**
Hi Dr. Thomas,
You've got the right person. I'm Facebook friends with John Moser and Joe Wilkes and have IMed them a few times. I've previously tried to find Geoff, Linda and Kelly but haven't had any luck. Hopefully I'll be able to make the reunion.

Amy

**Laura Thomas (’87)**
Dear Barry,
Sorry that I am so slow to respond to your message about the reunion. I was watching the date and hoping to be able to join you, but it looks like job and caregiver commitments here are going to prevent an out of town trip for me that weekend.
Please give my greetings to everyone there. I hope that you have a wonderful event, and hope to be able to get together with you another time to visit.

Laura

**Joe Wilkes (’87)**
Grüße aus Los Angeles! I would definitely be interested in the reunion, although I don't know if the timing will work out for me this year. My email address is joewilkes@earthlink.net. I've been in L.A. since I graduated O.U. I got my M.A. in Cinema-Television at USC and never left. I'm currently working for Beachbody, a fitness video company, writing and marketing. If you ever have insomnia, I'm sure you'll see our infomercials. Fun work and it supports my writing habit. We're even looking into breaking into the German market soon, so I'm hoping that will be an
excuse for a trip to Europe. Hope this finds you well and definitely keep me posted about the reunion event. I'd love to try and make it!

**John Moser ('87)
Hi Barry,
Thanks for the message. Having only recently become a father (my wife and I adopted a little girl from China in February) I doubt I'll be able to make the reunion, but I won't rule it out. Sad to say, I've lost touch with all of the non-starred folks on your list. I do know that Andy Verhoff is now site director of the Campus Martius Museum in Marietta. I hope this helps.
Best,
John

**Rene Kuchinka Birnbrich ('87)
Dr. Thomas,
Thank you for the invitation to this wonderful event but I am not able to attend. I appreciate all of your efforts tracking me and fellow Salzburger students. The event sounds like it will be great!! I wish I did not have so many other commitments for that weekend.
Viel Spass,
Rene Birnbrich
Hören Sie nun die wahre Geschicht’--
Vollständig und klar ist dieser Bericht--
Von Studenten, die gerne in Salzburg studieren,
Damit sie in Deutsch um so mehr reussieren.

Man kann nicht umhin, von dem Wetter zu sprechen,
Doch den Geist läßt man nicht durch den Regen
erbrechen.
Zu den wenigen Tagen mit Sonnenschein
Gesellen sich viele (man möchte ja schrei’n)
Die besser wär’n für die kleinen Enten,
Denn wir diese Nässe ganz gerne ja spenden.

Aber bleiben wir nicht beim Regenfall;
In dieser Stadt Salzburg gibt’s überall
Verschiedenes doch zu tun und zu sehen,
Was interessant und zu schauen so schön.

Zu erwähnen wär’ wohl die Kathedral’,
Beleuchtet vom seltenen Sonnenstrahl
Der herunterblitzt von der Festung da oben
(Seht, wie die Bauern gen Wolf Dietrich bös toben!)
Dorthin ist nämlich sein’ Eminenz
Geflüchtet aus seiner Residenz,
Deren Platz nun verunziert von jenem Depp,
Der geschaffen hat diese Saugtrepp’!).

Nun ja--da läßt sich leider nichts mehr machen,
Gehen wir über zu schöneren Sachen!

Man denke zum Beispiel an unser Quartier
Im Heffterhof, Ingenieur Windings Revier;
Da lebt man ruhig (auf Vorstandes Bitte!)
In schönen Zimmern gemütlich zu dritte.

Jeden Tag nach ’m Frühstück (natürlich erweitert--
Am Verschlingen des Ganzen ist noch keiner
gescheitert)
Zur Klasse am Morgen die Gruppe dann lief
Zu lesen den sehnselig erwarteten Brief,
Gebracht dorthin aus Sekretärin Versteck
Von der treuen Botin, unserer lieben Frau Beck.

Unterricht dann wird gemächlich erledigt,
In erbaulicher Weise vom Direktor gepredigt.

Man weiß, wenn es Zeit ist, aufzuhören,
Denn die Nase beginnt dann so duftig zu spüren
Eine ganze Menge delikater Gerüche
Die hinüberwehen aus Frau Windings Küche.

Man vergesse auch nicht die Kochkunstklass’,
Genossen von allen in höchstem Mass.
Wenn nicht jedes Nockerl gänzlich gelungen,
Ist doch freundlich Gepflauder im Raume erklungen.

Dem Programme heuer als besonderer Putz
Diente der neue Kurs von Professor Mitgutsch.

Am Nachmittag kommt die tüchtig’ Frau Stadler,
Ein sehr begeisteter Salzburger Radler.
Mit ihr geht's bald bergauf, bergab
In Höchstgeschwindigkeitsgalopp.
Nur so kann man das Ganze schaffen:
Die Burgen, die Kirchen, und all die Pfaffen!
Sie kennt sich aus in so vielen Sphären,
Vom Keltengrab zu Barock-Altären.
Und wenn sie nicht nach Hallstatt fährt,
Dann kriegt sie Karten für’s Konzert.
Ohn’ sie wären wir ganz verloren;
Ein Glück, daß wir sie auserkoren.

Man braucht’s nicht sagen, da Ihr wohl wißt,
Diese Stadt die Heimat von Mozart ist.
Eine Schande ist’s, wie auch noch heut’
Mozart wird gar ausgebraut’.
Gegen Kugeln aus süßem Marzipan
Weht Wolfgang sich so gut er kann,
Indem sein Werk durch die Jahrhundert’
Von kennenden Menschen wird bewundert.

Nun müssen wir leider schon wieder nach Haus--
Dich, Salzburg, verlassen, ist ein richtiger Graus!
Wie uns zumute, das kannst Du kaum wärnen,
Es sei denn, Du siehst’s an den salzigen Tränen.

Auf Wiederseh’n, Salzburg, ich hab’ Dich so gern
Und gedenk Deiner ständig, wenn auch aus der Fern’!

***
1990

ALIG       BRENDA       KEIM        KATHY
BILLINGS   JIM          KIRALY      CHUCK
BURCKHART  TRACY        LINGO       MARK
CALLAHAN   PATRICK      PATRIQUIN   ANDREA
CHAMBERLAIN SAM          SCOTT       CHRIS
CUNNINGHAM TRACY        SIPERKE     PAUL
D’ALLESSANDRO TONY       WHITE       DAVID
FRAUNFELDER INGRID      WILLIAMS    AARON

**Ingrid Fraunfelder ('90)
Dr. Thomas,

So great to hear that you were tracking me down for a reunion! How are you? How is Athens?
I now work for a renewable energy company, Amyris. You found me through the Emery Ed Fund
as I sit on their board of directors. We have a nice volunteer program with the Emeryville school
system and our scientists.
Emeryville is just a few miles over the Bay Bridge from San Francisco. I recently moved to
north Berkeley. I would love to participate in a reunion, however I assume it will be in Ohio? My
next trip back home is over labor day weekend and not sure if I'll be doing a second trip out.
Please keep me posted and wonderful to hear from you!
Warmly,
Ingrid

1991

CALAMITA    TODD         OVERMEYER    CARY
DAILY (d’Amicos) STEPHANIE  ROSSMILLER  KARIE
KELLEY      MARK         SZMIJEWSKI  NICOLAS
LINGO-Hamm  DEBORAH      WILKES       MICHELLE
MARTIN      DOUGLAS      HATFIELD (Yaniga)  MONICA
MUETHING    MARY BETH

**Todd Calamita ('91)
Great to hear from you! I often think of Salzburg as the beginning of my international travels. I
have so many good memories there . . . After few years of working, I went back to MBA school
at Weatherhead. They happened to have an exchange program in Budapest, Hungary. I never
thought I would have the opportunity to study abroad after OU so I jumped on the chance. I
ended up spending about a year and half there . . .

**Nick Wilkes ('91)
Herr Thomas,
It’s great to hear from you. I am the Nick from '91 and the Doug
Martin on Facebook is "Bicycle Doug." I'd love to find out what
became of the rest of the members of our class. I will definitely
try to make the reunion, but just in case I can't, I want to take
this opportunity to thank you for a wonderful experience. I still
think about it often with very fond memories - und Ich kann noch ein bisschen Deutsch
erinnern!
Nick
**Karrie Rossmiller ('91)

Dear Barry and Jean,

Thank you so much for all the hard work you put in for the reunion. It certainly paid off as the event was truly a success.

Also, thank you for welcoming us into your home on Friday night. It was a lovely affair—the food, drink, and your home were fantastic. I know Shannon had a wonderful time meeting you. I have spoken so fondly of my years at Ohio U. and of my participation in the study abroad programs that she was anxious to see the campus and meet the people. She and her husband attended local community colleges, so they have never experienced the atmosphere of a real college town. She was impressed and now understands why I love Athens so much.

We survived camping, though it was a bit chilly Saturday night. Thank goodness for my big dog! He was a fantastic space heater in the tent.

I would love to see the pictures Jean took. My email is: karrebare7@sbcglobal.net

Again, thank you for all your work and kind hospitality; let’s not wait 18 years to do this again!

Sincerely, Karrie

**Fred Yaniga and Monica (Hatfield) Yaniga ('91)

Dear Dr. Thomas!

What a pleasure to hear from you! Warmest greetings!

Our adventures have been many since we left Athens now 18 years ago.

After I completed my M.A. in German at Washington University in St. Louis, Monica and I married (August 1993) and immediately left for a two-year Fulbright stint in Vienna. While I worked on dissertation research (Thomas Bernhard), Monica worked for the OSCE American Delegation and was busy trotting about Europe and between the embassy and the Hofburg in Vienna.

After two more years in St. Louis and the birth of our first daughter, Emma, we left again for Europe, this time with me taking on a lectureship at the University of Tübingen. Our son Freddy was born while we were there, and after two years we returned to the U.S., to Indianapolis, where we still live. Monica works part-time at Expeditors International, an import/export brokerage and forwarding company. She is very well respected in her work and holds a management position despite her part-time status (our choice was to have her at home with the children rather than working full-time). I came to Butler as a lecturer in German and director of the Modern Language Center expecting that the full-time German position would open in a short time. Now eight years later, my full-time colleague is now retiring at 70 years old. I hope that I am a solid candidate for his position. It has been a VERY LONG job interview.

We still have a lot of contact with Germany and some with Austria. We speak German at home with the children - all three are perfectly competent in German; Emma is nearly perfectly bilingual. We are very active in the German community. Last night we knocked out a couple dozen Zuckertüten for our little IGeL Schule (for bilingual kids) with the help of my campus GermanKlub. Now I am crossing my fingers that I will be allowed to continue the work I have started here. It has been a good run.

Please give us some news from Athens. We have followed too quietly through the Alumni
magazine, but really are not in the know and would love to hear more. Oct. 10 will likely be very tough for us - we will investigate - I know that I am in Carbondale, Ill. at a conference the following week, but we will see what we can do and will look at the website info.

Alles Gute und vielen herzlichen Dank für die Email. Ich habe mich schon sehr gefreut von Ihnen zu hören, und Monica bestimmt auch.

Mit vielen herzlichen Grüßen
Fred Yaniga
Fred Yaniga, Ph.D.
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**Wendy Bauer Urquidez (91)**
After graduating from OU in 1990, I joined the Peace Corps. I taught high school in a remote area of the coastal region of Kenya. Upon returning to Ohio in 1993, I moved to AZ to get warm;), completed my MA, and continued life. I earned my MA in special education at NAU in 1996. I also was married the same year. My husband (Dan) is a game warden and a Lt Col in the AZ National Guard. We live in rural AZ with our 2 children. Samantha is 10, and Daniel is 7. Life is good!! Samantha has been to Europe. She and I traveled Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and France when she was 21/2...much different than the college days:)
Take care. Wendy (Bauer) Urquidez

**Cary Overmeyer ('91)**
Hello Dr. Thomas,
Great to hear from you. It is hard to believe that it has been 18 years since I was in Salzburg. It was one of the many great experiences I had while at Ohio. I'm currently living in Atlanta with my wife and two small boys (2 and 4). I work as a Marketing Researcher for Emory Healthcare, which is the Healthcare arm of Emory University. I would really love to join you and my fellow Alumni in October, but I'm afraid I would be able to make it. I have been wanting to come back for a visit to Athens for a several years now, but timing always seems to be an issue. My wife has promised me that we will take the road trip to OU next fall. She has never been to Athens and I need to further indoctrinate my children in Bobcat culture. If you plan to have this event again next year, we may try to schedule our visit around it.
Thanks so much for tracking me down. It is wonderful to hear from you. Facebook has been great in helping me reconnect with many past OU friends. Please keep in touch and send my regards to everyone at the event. Finally, thank you for helping make my time at Ohio great.
Cary Overmeyer
covermeyer@mindspring.com

**Stephanie Daily d'Amicos ('91)**
I'm still amazed that you connected with so many people from our trip. So far that weekend, my daughter performs in Color Guard at the Friday night football game and is part of an all day
competition on Saturday, meanwhile one son has a cross country meet and the other has a soccer game but...I'm working on arrangements to see if I could get away mid-day on Saturday as I'd really enjoy re-connecting. You wouldn't believe how many memories I have from that trip. I talk about it often!

Thank you so much again and I'll keep you apprised on my plans as we get closer!! Thank you, Stephanie

**Mark Kelley ('91)
Hello Professor Thomas,
Indeed, I went to Salzburg in 91. I will see if my schedule would allow me to come. Please send the info. Great to hear from you.
Yours In Health,
Dr Mark Kelley ND, LAc
www.kindermedicine.com

**Doug Martin ('91)
Hi there, Professor Thomas;
I was pleasantly surprised to get the facebook email from you today! I hope they're not calling me "Bicycle Doug," although I hope they are still using the bike...
How have things been? Obviously, you are still teaching German at OU... Still leading study abroad trips to Salzburg? I ended up marrying a Japanese woman I met during my last weeks at OU and eventually moving to California and working in the computer industry... The last company I worked for got bought by Microsoft, and after a mere two years in the service of the Evil Empire, I got hit by the layoffs . . . and am considering moving back to Ohio. I will be running something of a job search in the Columbus area, and may actually be able to time my interviews (if I should be able to get any) to coincide with the reunion. While I cannot promise that I will be able to attend, I will certainly be happy to try. It would be wonderful to see you and whatever of the old gang are able to attend. I may even show off how badly my German has atrophied (Leider ist mein Deutsch sehr schlecht geworden!) if I'm not feeling too terribly embarrassed about it. If you want me to speak very much, it may take quite a bit of wine (a muscat/moscato or a nice ice wine is good, but wine coolers will do in a pinch ;^) Thanks for dropping me a line! I'll put the reunion on my calendar and try to map out my schedule accordingly!
Sincerely,
Doug Martin

Salzburg '93: Director Noel Barstad

**Heidi Beale Pastore
Hi Professor Thomas!
It's great to hear from you! You were always one of my favorite instructors at OU and I really enjoyed your classes. I'm happy to be on the contact list for reunions and future events. I remember Salzburg as a beautiful city and recently showed my sons a video from the Sound of Music that brought back a lot of memories for me. I think the experience really gave me a greater sense of adventure and interest in exploring new places. Going to Austria was the first time I had ever boarded an airplane and it opened my eyes to different ways of life. After I graduated from OU, I worked for the Treasury Department in downtown Chicago which really affected my perspective on myself and my life. After 14 months there, I had the opportunity to
move back to Cleveland and be closer to my family and friends which really aligned with what was important in my life.
I had hoped to make it to the reunion this year, but we've really been busy with the kids and the house. I hope in the future that I will be able to bring them down to OU for a visit and show them around.
Heidi Beale Pastore

**Shannon Okey (’93)
Hi! I'm certainly going to try, but if not, Mary (Caffrey) Knapke and I have been rallying the troops a bit to try to pull off a Salzburg 1993 reunion... :)**
Shannon Okey
Knitgrrl Studio
http://knitgrrlstudio.com
blog: http://knitgrrl.com
Follow me on Twitter! @knitgrrl
Ein zwei-sprachiges, unskandiertes aber
hoffentlich nicht skandalöses Gedicht
über einige Eigenschaften
der Bewohner des
Heffterschlosses
1994
***
Wir verlassen nun leider schön Salzburg-Stadt,
Ich hoffe, es jedem gefallen hat.
Am Tisch seh' ich Heather, mit Nachnamen Herman;
Es ist ja ganz logisch, dass sie's studying German.
Hier sitzt auch Jack, "a nice Italian boy".
Der jetzt endlich weiß wie man sagt "neu".
Jim wäre gern ein Philosoph,
Bei seiner Denkweise ist das gar nicht so doof.
Jayme hat verloren zwei Heffterhof-Schlüssel:
Sie braucht des Elefanten Gedächtnis, aber bitt', nicht
seinen Rüssel!
Bei allem was Dave Tag und Nacht tut,
Trägt er sein'n beliebten und wärmenden Hut.
Deidra, Candace und Eric waren Geburtstagskinder,
Wovon zwei sind voll-jährig und nicht länger minder-
Poor Dr. T, who anxiously waited

For last-minute Chris, der sich doch niemals verspätet.
Und hier ist auch Erin--O, what a relief,
Sie hat endlich bekommen ihren hundertsten Brief!
Der Jeff verließ gern den kalifornischen Westen,
Weil er wusste, dass OU ist bei weitem am besten.
Und Lone Star Doug, mit Baseball-Mütze
Ist als Fan den Rangers gerne zu Nütze.
Obwohl Judy reiste überall und oft,
Von vielen Städten sah sie höchstens den Hauptbahn-
"hoff".
Da siehe die Stella mit schwachem Rücken,
Gott sei dank, sie kann gehen und zwar ohne Krücken.
Und hier bei Frau Kaiser, im Löwenstern,
Ißt Dr. Thomas sein Schnitzel so gern.
Und last, not least, die gute Frau Stadler--
Wir trinken auf sie mit Wein oder Radler.

Aufwiedersehen in Athens!

**Stella Feichtinger Beech (’94)
Hi!! We are planning on attending - I still need to book a hotel though and finalize details. We finally moved to Cleveland back in March! It will be so great to catch up - I'm really looking forward to the reunion! We are currently planning on driving down Saturday morning. I haven't been to OU in over 12 years so I am very excited to revisit my misspent youth and meet back up with people who shared it with me!
See you soon.
Stella

**Erin Fritz Bush (’94)
Things here are going well. The kids are growing quickly and we are starting to contemplate having a third! Scary! I am enjoying my students and sad to see all my 8th graders moving on - I have had these students for three years and have grown quite attached. I was in Athens on Saturday for an Alpha Gam reunion and it was wonderful to be back on campus. I didn't realize how old I must look until I heard a student ask," What are all these old people doing here?"
Where does the time go?
Thank you again for your message and for keeping in touch. Tell Mrs. Thomas hello!
Erin

**Judie Durkot Fischer (’94)
Guten Tag Dr. Thomas!!
It is wonderful to hear from you! I hope this email finds you and your wife well!
I will be unable to attend the upcoming reunion because I’m expecting our second child - due 10/17.

To bring you quickly up to date - my husband Todd (OU, 96), son Nate (21 months) and I live in Medina, OH - outside of Cleveland. I'm a project manager at an interactive marketing agency called Rosetta. Our son keeps us on our toes and amazes us daily. :)  

I think fondly back on my time at OU and especially the adventures in Salzburg in 94. It's unbelievable that 15 years have passed. The time in Salzburg truly helped me become more independent, adventurous and self-confident - and I'm thankful for the opportunity to study abroad in the program you created.

Please email when you have a chance to bring me up to date on your retirement and recent travels!
Judie
1995

AUMANN (Edwards)   TIFFANY
BARBEY             BRAD
BROYLES            LISA
DIETZ              HEIDI
DOBANESKY (Autores) THERESA
ELLENSONOHN        RICK
GRAHAM             PAUL
HALLER             CRAIG
HOWRY              MICHELLE

MILLER
MONROE (Bishop)
NORMAN
PIILCH
STRUTNER (Turano)
VANAGS
WEBB
ZAHL

REED
KRISTINA
CHRISTOPHER
TRAVIS
STACEY
ERIK
RYAN
MICHAEL

ABSCHIEDSFIEER SALZBURG '95
Ohio Universität

In wenigen Tagen machen wir Schluß
Mit Mozartkugeln und dem Sechser Bus.
So wiederholen wir einige Sachen,
Die wir getan--oder wollten machen.

Die Studenten haben erlebt so viel!
Was, Ihr fragt?--Na, zum Beispiel:

Die einen haben den Gaisberg bestiegen,
Andere liessen ihr Gepäckstück liegen.
Maria Stuart sahen sie zwei oder drei Mal--das genüge!
Die Darstellung zu loben, wär’ wohl eine Lüge.

Jeden Tag bei dem Frühstück
Gab’s auf den Berg den schönsten Blick.
In der Kochklasse trafen sie Heffterhof Mädel.
Im Beinhaus lachten die Totenschädel

Am Hallstätter See, wo lebten die Kelten
(Heute sieht man sie leider sehr selten)
Fuhren sie tief in die salzigen Berge.
In Mirabell fand man die putzigen Zwerge.

Ein wesentlich’ Teil von Salzburger Charme
Ist das Wetter, immer so sonnig und warm--
Es sei denn, es regnet oder hagelt oder schneit,
Dann fährt man viel lieber in die Ferne weit.

Die Reise nach Leipzig, jetzt Deutschland-West,
War ein echtes Geistes-und Gaumenfest
In Wittenberg und der Moritzbastei.
Nur schade, daß es so schnell vorbei.

Hinter der Festung, wo der hohe Maibaum
Aufgestellt wurd’, hab’n wegen dem Schaum
Der zu vielen Biere ein paar der nicht Feigen
Versucht, zum ersten Kranz hinaufzusteigen.

Von Frau Kaisers Schnitzel sind alle besessen,
Weshalb wir hier bei dem festlichen Essen
Versammelt sind, um gern zu geniessen
Auch die Getränke (die tüchtig fliessen),
Und sagen einander Aufwiedersehen,
Bis wir uns treffen in Ohios Athen.

Prost!

**Travis Pilch (’95)
I am grateful for the congenial nature of the faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Modern Languages. As a Biology major, I felt more welcome, connected, and significant within Ellis Hall (the department's home until 1998) than in any other academic building on campus. Although learning under such memorable and dedicated German professors as Dr. Carl Carrier and Dr. Barry Thomas was personally rewarding, there were also valuable side-effects such as an improved understanding of the English language and a new level of receptivity for other cultures and countries beyond those I've studied. I currently teach International Baccalaureate (IB) Biology I, II, and III for Seminole County (FL) Public Schools. Despite not being a requisite for classroom instruction, my language and cultural skills have enlightened, enriched, and enlivened many lessons and personal interactions.**
**Rick Ellensohn '95**
It is great to hear from you and I hope you are doing well. Salzburg seems so long ago but brings back great memories. I even found my tagesbuch recently and enjoyed reading it but realized my German is very rusty. I would like to hear more about the reunion but it might be a little difficult to attend with two little ones at home. I currently live in Cincinnati with my wife Kerry ('98 OU grad), son Drew (3yrs and the redhead) and daughter Anna (18 months), needless to say they keep me busy. Professionally I am a portfolio manager at Fort Washington Investment Advisors and manage money market funds.
Please send me information on the reunion and how you are doing. Talk to you soon.

**Erik Vanags (‘95)**
Dr. Thomas,

Many thanks for the email. . . . I don’t believe I have shared my memories of Salzburg. Quite simply it was a turning point in my life. I attended 15 years ago and still remember it like it was yesterday. There is a song to Salzburg, as if the city is alive. I still hear the sounds and smell the air when I close my eyes. I’ve been back to visit three times since and luckily this spring I will probably be returning with my wife and son. The experience of studying abroad, especially in Salzburg, helped inspire me to teach. I have since taught for the past 14 years and met my wife through teaching. She, too, studied abroad in Spain and shares the same connection and passion for it. She is a Spanish teacher. The OU Salzburg program has changed my life and I cannot be thankful enough for the opportunity.
Now that I teach I share my love of language and travel, and numerous students of mine have gone to OU and a few have gone on to German exchange programs with other schools. I hope all is well with you and Jean. I can see that you are still enjoying your travels. . . .

Best Wishes,
Erik Vanags
Salzburg '95
Social Studies Teacher
Mariemont, OH 45227

**Michelle Howry (‘95)**
Hello! Herzliche Grusse!
It's so nice to hear from you and Jean! I'm living in New York City, working as a book editor (and studying to get my Library Science degree on the side), planning to get married next month, and enjoying life. I wish I used my German more in my daily life, but I do have a good pal who was born and raised in Passau, and once in a while we get together for Deutsche Nacht at a local brewpub and restrict our conversation to only German (my sister lives in NY and also studied the language, so the three of us will try valiantly to keep the conversation going). I've just heard from Theresa Dobransky on Facebook, and Tiffany Aumann and I are in touch intermittently, as well. I think of you and Jean often and hope you are both doing well!
All my best,
Michelle

**Anastasia (Stacey) Strutner Turano (‘95)**
Guten Tag!
It is so nice to hear from you! Yes, the name can be a bit confusing for people these days.
Stacey is a derivative of Anastasia and since I changed my last name when I married...well, you know.
Oh how I miss those college years, particularly the Salzburg program. I wish I had it to do over again because it was such a wonderful experience and opportunity that I feel like I took it for granted and wasn't personally mature enough to truly appreciate it.
After graduating from OU, I took a position as a Corporate Financial Planner with Eli Lilly Pharmaceutical Company in Indianapolis. I was with them for 7 years in various positions before going over to Pfizer and most recently Novartis. I am now a stay at home mommy but am starting to teach Italian for toddlers in January 2010 under the name Bravo Bambino. My husband’s family is Italian and we live in Richmond County New York which is the highest percentage of Italians in the country. So, my mother in law and I are going to start to teach out of my home - wish us luck! See, the love of languages never goes away.....I do wish we were teaching German though.
I am not sure if we will be able to make it to the reunion although I would love to attend! I’ll keep you posted!
Warm regards,
Stacey Strutner Anastasia Turano,,,,whatever :)

**Theresa Dobransky-Autore ‘95)**

Herr Thomas,
I have registered to come to the Reunion. I have to be honest with you that I haven’t spoken German other than to myself in my car for the last 14 years. I have forgotten most of it, sad to say. I am a speech-language pathologist now and work with Amish children. Every once in a while, knowing some German comes in handy, but their dialect is so strong that it doesn’t always help. Or perhaps, it’s my lack of dialect that confuses them.
I am excited to see the others and you and Mrs. Thomas, but am leery of speaking German again. I left OU the quarter after we got back from Austria, changed majors and never looked back. Not because I didn’t love German and the traveling, I just couldn’t imagine being away from my family all the time if I wanted to be a translator. Well, I look forward to seeing you and being on campus again!
- Theresa

**Reed Miller (’95)**

(Reed didn’t have any messages for the reunion, but he did send some good news in May '08):
Finally -- after waiting an extra 2 weeks, Leigh and I finally got to meet our beautiful new son this morning -- Oliver Quinn Miller. Leigh was amazing and lasted through 36 hours of labor, and Oliver finally arrived just after 9:00 this morning here in Starnberg, Germany.
He was 4080 grams and 57 cm long (for those of us who did not grow up in the metric world, that equates to one big baby: 8 lbs 15.9 oz, and 22.4 inches long).
Thank you for all the good wishes and thoughts,

(And an update, Jan. ’10): I believe that you do know that we are state-side again. Pittsburgh has been pretty good so far, but we will be back overseas at some point in the next few years again. It is our life, and we miss it a lot. But, for the time being, things are good. I have a new job this year at Sewickley Academy teaching high school history. It is a wonderful school with fantastic kids, and the commute can’t be beat -- 8 minutes by foot! Leigh is in the midst of a Doctoral program at Pitt which she is really enjoying. It gives her a great balance of time home
with Oliver, but still with a chance to use her mind and do something that she is really interested in.

**Kristina Monroe Bishop ('95)
Thanks Barry
I doubt I would be able to make it since I live in Arizona, and am currently 6 months pregnant, so flying that far at 8 months would be hard. I am not in touch with anyone else either, so unfortunately I am little help there as well.
I am currently finishing up my PhD in Geography at the U of Arizona- hopefully I will have it done in the next few months. After college I joined the Peace Corps and lived in South Africa for 2 years- that is where I have been working ever since. I have hoped to get an excuse to go back to visit Salzburg, but so far have not had the chance. Maybe one day.
Thanks for looking me up and take care
Kristina
Hello Herr Thomas:

Yes, this is Rob League who went to Austria in 1996. I kept forgetting to email back. I live in Keene, New Hampshire and ended up becoming a doctor of chiropractic. I'm married, my wife is Caitlin and my 17 month old daughter is Adlay Rose. I forwarded your email to Brian Weeks, he lives in Longmont, Colorado and also is a chiropractor. We've had a lot of adventures since 1996, but I've got to return to work now. Hope to email again soon. Sincerely, Rob League.

**Dané Mallot Davis ('96)

Thanks for the good wishes. Jeff just returned back to Afghanistan after a short R&R time home. I get him back in 2010, we were only married 2 months before he left so I'm looking forward to having him home.

It's great to hear from you! I hope you both are doing well! Hugs to Jean for me. I'm not sure if I will be able to make the October 10th reunion, but it may be feasible. I will have to see how my work schedule aligns at that time. Things are going well, I'm still doing web development type work for Accenture Consulting.

Thanks for letting me know, I'll mark it in pencil and see what I can do!

My best to you both!

Dane'

**Amanda Roenbaugh Meiser ('96)

Hello Dr. Thomas! So nice to hear from you! Are you busy traveling these days? I am in my 11th year teaching now. I got married nine years ago, and have three children. I'd love to hear more about your reunion! Hello to Mrs. Thomas!

Amanda (Roenbaugh) Meiser

**Chris Stout ('96)

Herr Doktor!

Ja, I'm the Chris Stout from Salzburg '96. It's wonderful to hear from you! I hope all is well with you.

I'd love more info on the reunion. Oct. 10 is right around the corner, so it will take some manipulating of work schedules, but I'd love to come and "get the band back together." I'm in Wilmington, Delaware now. The East Coast sure is different from Ohio! But things are good over here. I think of my time in Salzburg and Leipzig fondly. I was just showing my girlfriend maps and photos of where I lived. She just found family in Warsaw, Poland, so we've been in the early stages of planning a trip both to my old stomping grounds and to reunite with her relatives.
Anyway, if you hear from any of the others, feel free to pass my e-mail along to them. I'd love to hear from them!
Thanks so much for being in touch! Cheers!
---Chris
**Nate Bowler ('97)**
Hi Barry! I might have posted something a while back, but not recently...Ich erinnere mich nicht daran! Anyhow, sorry to hear about the surgery, but if it gets you back on the links, it will be worth it. Just had CJ and Brad Huffman over for a weekend. Good times. Lots of Bier.
I'm lately putting the final touches on a wine appreciation textbook I'm writing for a Purdue professor. Pretty fun project.
Hope you and Jean are doing great. Best wishes.
Nate

**Doug Logan ('97)**
“Salzburg Wedding Bells”
... In keeping with the theme of the reunion and study abroad in Salzburg, I met my wife because of the Salzburg program and the people I met. ... for example, Matt Six, and we became very good friends. After Salzburg, he roomed with a high school friend of his, Eric, at OU. Matt and I were both in Eric's wedding 5 years ago where I met Eric's sister Courtney. Four years later, I married Courtney. ... So, I guess you could say I met and married my wife because of the Salzburg program and the friends I made.

**CJ Ford ('97)**
Hi Barry!
Good to hear from you so soon after your stint on the operating table. How’s recovery and rehab going? How are things in the MLD dept these days? Any big news in the German dept? I'm going to be sending out an e-mail to the Salzburg crew soon to try to plan a reunion on the MLD reunion weekend. Hopefully, we'll have a good turnout from our trip.
All is well here. Still looking for a job, but I did create an investment blog during the past month or so that has keep my creative and analytical mind in focus. It's been a blast so far, although it takes more time than one would think. Feel free to check it out-- the link is below.
Give Jean a big hug from me! I miss you both!!!
C.J.

**Brad Huffmann ('97)**
Hi Barry!
Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the reunion on October 10, as I will be going to the Ohio State Football game in Columbus. Not that football is more important to spend time with old friends, however, my family has already planned a birthday party/tailgate for my daughter with our RV at the Game. Please send my best wishes to everyone and please send pictures!
**April Spradlin (’97)
Hello Herr Thomas!
I just wanted to let you know that I do hope to see everyone either Friday or Saturday. I'm in the middle of moving and I'm going on vacation too. I should be home and moved in, but you know how the best laid plans often go awry. I hope to see you then.
April Spradlin
In wenigen Tagen ist es bald Schluß
Mit dem Heffterhof und dem Sechser Bus.
So bin ich in diesem Gedicht sehr bestrebt,
Zu zeigen was der oder die hat erlebt.

Der Heffterhof bietet ein grosses Frühstück
Mit auf den Berg dem großartigsten Blick.
Der Frühling war ausnahmsweise gar schön;
Vielleicht war's El Nino, und wohl auch der Föhn.

Die Mutigen haben den Gaisberg bestiegen,
Wodurch die Muskeln einen Kater leicht kriegen.
Beim Radeln kam eine zum Boden hart liegen.
Wie sie da lag nach dem blutigen Sturz
War ihr einziges Wort: "Ouch, that hurts!"
Ein Glück, daß sie den Vierbeiner vernommen,
Sonst wär' sie buchstäblich auf den Hund gekommen.

Es fand auch ein Mädel den ersehnten Verlobten,
Einen von ihr auf das höchste Gelobten.
In Ungarn erblickten ein paar eine Leiche:
Aus sonnenbraun Mädels wurden plötzlich drei Bleiche.

Am Hallstätter See suchten wir Kelten--
Heute sind sie eher sehr selten--
Und fanden uns bald in den Salzbergwerken.
Im Friedhof muss man sich eines doch merken:
Die im Beinhaus grinsenden Totenschädel.
Im Programme sind heuer zwei Bub und zwölf Mädel.
Im Schloß Mirabell trafen sie Bürgermeister Dechant,
Ein sehr großer Mann und wirklich charmant.

Beim Besuche in Köln, am Rheine weit oben,
Man konnte bis früh im Disco austoben.
Bei den e-mail Freunden sind wir gerne geblieben,
Doch wurden unwilg durch die Strassen "getrieben"
Und haben soviel von Koelsch-Kultur genossen:
Es ging in den Kopf und ist gleich ausgeflossen.
Der Aufenthalt war leider zu schnell vorbei.
Auf der Rückreise sang dann die Loreley.

Im Stadtteil Gnilg haben wir gesehen
Den schönen Maibaum so stolze stehen.
Aber als die Studenten hoch aufgeschaut,
Aufzukraxeln hat sich dann keiner getraut.

Und wie konnte ich nur das Beste vergessen,
Wie die Mädels so viel und gerne gefressen.
Zum Beispiel, die eine tat, als ob
Es gab auf der Welt nur Döner Kebop.
Eine senorita war süchtig auf Ananaseis,
Bei Palatschinken fragte keiner nach 'm Preis.
Von Zuhaus brauch' ein Bub sein "fast-food" sofort,
Und stapelt' Nachos und Cola am heimlichen Ort.

Und jetzt kommt das Beste, wie wir alle gut wissen:
Wir sitzen zusammen an Frau Kaisers Tischen,
Um eine festliche Mahlzeit hier zu genießen,
Bevor diese Tage--ach schade--verfließen.
Es freut' uns, Salzburg, dich kennenzulernen;
Jetzt geht's nach der Heimat, der so lange uns fernen,
Und wir der Stadt Salzburg mit wehmütigem Gruß
Aufwiedersehen sagen, bis bald und--Tschüß.

**Magdalene Pesch (Salzburg '98)
I'm so sorry that I will not be able to attend this weekend's reunion! I am there "in spirit,"
however, and I wanted to share with you my most fond memories of the "OU in Salzburg"
program. I think of our time in Austria often; I'm so glad that I went. I remember . . . . Easter services at the cathedral, and of the price-comparison game at one of the local outdoor markets; the Mariottentheater (we saw The Magic Flute!) and how I returned later to see Don Giovanni; how we got to meet people from all walks of life and learn about all sorts of new perspectives; the glorious architecture, the astounding number of Baroque churches that were so dear to Frau Stadler's heart; our classroom sessions about Der Besuch, and about Austrian history and culture!; the Austrian breakfasts of the Heffterhof!; how impressed upon we were not to ride "schwarz" on the public transportation; Mirabell (both when we visited as a group, and when Katie van Fossen and I returned to hear the Salzburger Solisten perform Vivaldi's Four Seasons), and the palace with the grottos (Hellbrunn). That's only a fraction of my happy memories - seriously! I had a wonderful time, learned a lot, and would love to go again. OU in Salzburg was probably THE highlight of my college years.

** Kathy Sergott ('98)
Dr. Thomas,
Thank you very much for the letter. It is so great to hear from you! You are one of my favorite teachers that I have ever had and I am so appreciative for the experiences that you created for all of us in Salzburg. I just recently went back a year ago and it was fantastic because I knew so much about the area and brought back a lot of wonderful memories. I would love to attend the reunion however, I will be in Mexico that week. Please let me know if there are any other events in the future. I hope that you and Frau Thomas are doing well! Thank you again for making such a wonderful impact on my life.
Kathy

**Khara Lucius ('98)
Gruess Gott, Dr. Thomas!
Yes, it's me. I now live and work in New Hampshire. Sadly most of the German in my brain has been replaced by Polish as my husband is from Poland and I use that language daily. I have often wondered how you and Jean are doing and if you still run the program at the Hefterhof. Are you still living in Athens and teaching? Please send along the info for the reunion. I'm happy you've found me. Do you have a facebook profile?
I'm sorry to say I won't be able to make it out to Ohio for the reunion. Sounds like a lot of fun and if I lived a little closer I would be there in a heartbeat. I would have loved being able to see you and Jean again... in your picture you both look exactly the same as you did in 1998! Must be the wine and fruit keeping you young. Enjoy the reunion and I hope you have a wonderful turn-out.
Khara

**Melissa Messersmith ('98)
Tag!
I am going to Athens for a career fair on the 6th. As much as I would like to come back that weekend, I don't think I'm up for the trip twice in one week.
In better news... I will be leaving for Frankfurt on Nov 19th for an 11 day vacation in Germany and Switzerland. I broke out Der Besuch der Alten Dame and other favorites to brush up on my Deutsch. (Wish me luck I'm going to need it!)
Have a wonderful reunion and please keep me posted for next year.
Hope you are well!
Thanks, Melissa
Es ist an der Zeit, wo leider man muss
Aufwiedersehen sagen zum Parscher Bus,
Der uns so treu in die Stadt gebracht
Und später nach Haus von feuchtfröhlicher Nacht!
Im Heffterhof werden wir vieles vermissen,
Vom Frühstück bis zu den leckeren Bissen,
Die Frau Windings Küche öfters entkamen
(UND sicher nicht in bescheidenem Rahmen).
Die "Büro-Damen" waren immer bereit,
Uns zu gönnen ihre wertvolle Zeit.
Last not least, die Schaukäserei,
Der Pabingerhof und die Dorfschneiderei
Trug'n zum Vergnügen ungemein bei!
Ohne Frau Stadler hätt' uns vieles gefehlt—
Sie hat immer das beste ausgewählt,
Ist stets dabei, gut Auskunft zu geben—
Unser Vergnügen ist das Ziel ihres Strebens.
Wir haben tagtäglich viel Neues gelernt
Was wir gern mit den Freunden, die jetzt so entfernt,
Mitteilen möchten. So viel ist geschehen,
Da frag ich mich doch, ob sie alles verstehen?
Vielleicht kann ich hier zum Verständnis beitragen,
(und das, wohl gemerkt, auf vollem Magen!)
Indem ich ein paar erklärende Worte
Zum besten gebe an diesem Orte.
Höret jetzt, ich lüge nicht
Von den Ohio Studenten die wahre Geschicht'.
***
Die eine fährt gerne Stadtteilwärts, nicht aus—
Und findet doch immer den Heimweg nach Haus.
Einer beherrscht ja der Sprachen so viel,
Nur weiß man nicht, ob er Deutsch oder Dutch lieber
reden will.
Ein siamesisches Paar—getrennt sind sie nie—
Ist sehr konzertiert auf das Bussi-Bussi.
Von erkrankten Studenten gibt's eine ganze Menge.
Beim Arzt und Spital ist ein ständig Gedränge.
Ins Spital muß eine, nicht ohne Begründung,
Wegen einer bösen Blinddarm-Entzündung.
Man fährt sie dorthin in größter Eile,
Aber Juchhei—sie hat noch alle Körperteile!
Und ihre Zimmergenossin—ist das zu fassen?—
Kann es auch nicht unterlassen
Die Krankenhäuser zu besuchen.
Vielleicht sollen wir doch unsere Zimmer buchen?!
Da sagt mir ein dritter (das ist eh kein Scherz),
Ihm juck't's a bissl an seinem Herz.
Doch nach einem zweiten EKG
Stellt sich heraus, er ist schon ok.
Ein junges Mädel, das das Bio-Wetter gelesen,
Ist auch bei Dr. Loeffler gewesen.
Fragt man sie nach dem heutigen Befinden,
Sagt sie bestimmt—"Ach, ich spür so ein
Missempfinden!"
Es ist noch eine da, die nennt sich "Klug"
Und hat vielleicht ein oder auch zwei Krug
Im Stiegelbräu zu sich genommen—
Das hab' ich von den Eltern heimlic
vernommen.
Eine rothaarige—es ist wohl echt—
Interessiert sich für den roten Brecht.
Ihr Höhepunkt als Salzburgerin
War wohl das Treffen mit der Dramaturgin.
Während des Spiels hat sie viel gehustet,
Doch haben wir sie mit bonbons getröstet.
Ein eifriger Spieler anderer Art
Freut sich über den Salzburg'schen Mozart.
Und wenn er nicht sitzt in dem Konzertsaal
Spielt er sehr gern beim Basketball.
Ich hab' gehört (das ist nicht gelogen),
Von einer Studentin, die geflogen
Mit Zaubermantel durch die Luft!
Wenn das nicht stimmt, bin ich ein Schuft!
Ein anderes Mädel, deren Schwester schon,
Damals getrunken hat ein oder zwei Bier,
Hat sich bewiesen als wohl ihresgleichen:
Ein hervorragendes Paar, das ist ja kein Schmeicheln.

Noch eine ist da, die gar zu gerne
Sätze schreibt, die weit in die Ferne
Sich fortzusetzen sich nicht scheuen:
Auf solche Sätze tu ich mich freuen!

Was kann ich noch sagen über die herrlichen Schnitzel--
Wie schon erwähnt, ein Gaumenkitzel--
Die wir bei Frau Kaiser so gerne geniessen?
Obwohl die Tage zu schnelle verfliessen
Freuen wir uns schon auf die Wiederkehr--
Zuerst nach Athens und dann wieder hierher!

K.C. Smart Stallings ('99)
Dear Herr Thomas,
It is so wonderful to hear from you and Jean. You all look great and in good spirits. Although I have been out of practice in my German (reading and speaking) for about eleven years now (what!?), I surprise myself at how much I can still understand. I think of the study abroad trip to Salzburg often and recall all of the wonderful memories in and around the Heftorhoff. It stands out as one of the best things have ever done and I always advise young high school and college aged people in my life to consider going abroad for a time. One memory that stands out to me is when my mom and dad came to visit us towards the end of the trip. I cherish that time with them so much because not soon after that trip, my mom was diagnosed with cancer and passed away a year later. I’m so thankful for those memories we made as a family that beautiful Salzburg spring of 1999. I'm sorry that I was not able to make it to the reunion, I have two toddlers and my husband's new bicycle shop business keeping me tied to home most of the time. Are you still hosting and teaching the study abroad program each year? Please keep me posted any other Salzburg happenings.

K.C. Smart-Stallings

Erica Droppelmann ('99)
Hallo Herr Thomas,
Nice to hear from you! I am not sure about the reunion dates, but I would definitely be interested. My e-mail address is ericadroppelman@yahoo.com. If you could please forward me the information I would be greatful. Hope all is well with you and Jean. Tell her hello for me.

Biss Bald,
Erica

Theresa Abschear Lauricella ('99)
Grüß Gott Dr. T!!!
It is wunderbar to hear from you. Thank you for sleuthing for me. I'd be delighted to provide an email address. I can be reached at theresa.abshear@gmail.com or lauricellat@clarkstate.edu (the latter is my preferred email, but the spam settings are a bit tricky).
Were you able to contact Annie? I am happy to forward your message to her in any event.

Tschüss,
Theresa Abschear Lauricella
p.s. Will we need to speak auf Deutsch at the reunion? :) I’ve not left the language learning entirely, but I'm incredibly rusty. :)
Megan Stratton Drews (’99)
Hi Barry,
I am back in Athens. I moved back from Oregon last August. The 3000 mile commute was just too long of a distance. Luckily, I found a job just down the hill from my house at Global Cooling. They are located on Columbus Rd. I manage the inventory, and also HR/Finance stuff. I wear multiple hats! lol
My year and half away gave Frank time to concentrate on his tenure packet and this past May we found out he got tenure!! We are so happy! Such a stress relief! So, I guess Athens is home now. Other than the new job and tenure, nothing else is really new. Just projects on the house and my garden. :)
Tschuess!
Megan
**Julie Dickman Chase (’00)**

It’s great to hear from you! Thanks for filling me in on the October 10 reunion plans. It would be such fun to see and catch up with everyone! Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the reunion because I now live in the Middle East. I moved to Qatar this past summer to run the leadership development program for Texas A&M University’s campus in Doha. You deserve some of the credit for this new adventure in my life. It was my experience in Salzburg that inspired me to find opportunities to work overseas. :) . . .

*Vince Barratta (’00)*

Herrtie! :o)

How are you? Frau Thomas? It's funny i was just talking about our Salzburg (mis)adventures with my buddies over here. Well, here being NYC. Joe and I actually lived together for the first few years we were here. I have been playing music up here with heaps of bands. Things are going really well- i imagined i would have been flushed from the music scene by this point and be in law school or something, but everything is gong better and better every year. (law school only because i decided shortly after my Fulbright to go into education reform should music burn me out) Im only working (working-working) 2 days a week now (in the dimly lit classroom :o) and im pretty busy playing and recording violin and guitar the rest of the week. Money doesn't boom from the music scene here, but thankfully my school, Martini University, has a bountiful budget for a public school. haha.

I am actually going to be playing a few shows in Istanbul this September. I will be there almost the whole month into the first week of October. While It would be so great to catch up with you and that old gang again, I just don't know if i will have the expendable income at that point to make a another trip for myself. I heard turkish prisons are very expensive to bribe yourself out of, so we will see what my bank numbers tell me come october. I will talk to joe, though. Maybe we could work something out to come see you guys! In any event, thank you for letting me know about the reunion and please stay in touch!

*Joe Hiland (’00)*

Herr Thomas,

It's good to hear from you. I hope that you and Jean are still enjoying retirement and traveling the world together.

Unfortunately, I won't be able to make it to the study abroad reunion this October. I hope to make it to one in the near future, but it just isn't practical for me right now, as I'm currently in process of applying to MFA programs in fiction writing, which is both time-consuming and rather costly. I'd really appreciate it if you’d keep me in the loop, though. The email address I check most often is josephahiland@yahoo.com.

Tschuss (please excuse the missing Umlaut),

Joe
Hello, I'm so happy to hear from you!! I have contact with Julie Dickman. Her last name is now Chase. When you contact Amber she lives with Kate. They got married some time ago. I think I found Alyson Cayse also. They are the only one's I've been able to find so far. I've searched for Leslie, Annie, Vince and Joe but no luck so far. I'm hoping I can come to the reunion in October!! All is great on our end. My whole family is headed to Hawaii in four days, so needless to say we are counting down. . . . If you decide to stay on Facebook, I hope we can become Facebook friends. Where are your travels taking you this year? Take Care and talk to you soon,
Katy :)

Alison Cayse ('00)
Thanks Dr. Thomas. There is a pretty
good chance that I will be in London when the reunion takes place.
"A. Cayse" acayse@globalcustodian.com
Surveys Editor, Global Custodian | Asset International, Inc.

**Amber Gahn ('00)
Dr. Thomas,
I'd love to get updates about the reunion. My e-mail address is amber.gahn@gmail.com. Also Kathryn (Needs) Terzano who also went on the trip may also be interested. Her e-mail is terzano@gmail.com.
Thanks!

**Annie Major Urbanek ('00)
Hallo Dr. Thomas,
I would LOVE to come to the reunion in Athens on the 10th; however, my husband and son and I are starting a timeshare that same day in Fairfield Glade, Tennessee. Unfortunately we won't be able to attend. But thanks to you, I've reconnected with Julie from my trip - who is now living in Qatar!
The next time I'm in Athens, I'll be sure to look you up!
Thanks so much for all the communication regarding the reunion. Up until the last couple of days, I was still trying to figure out if we could make it for the festivities on our way to Tennessee. Unfortunately, we're meeting my grandparents there and so have to maintain our check-in date.
Thanks again, and hope to talk soon,
Annie (Major) Urbanek

(PS from Dt. T: More news from Annie): Hello Everyone, We are proud to welcome Grayson Michael into our family. He was born on Sunday, January 24th, at 8:53am. He was 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and 18 1/2 inches long. Max seems to be very welcoming of his baby brother, he immediately shoves Gray's pacifier back into his mouth when he starts crying. Maybe he just doesn't like the noise...
Love to all,
Annie and Fred
An diesem Tag ist es wieder so weit—
Uns bleibt in Salzburg nur a bisserl Zeit.
In den vielen Jahren, die ich hier verbracht,
Habe ich den besten Gruppen ein Gedicht gemacht.
Und diese Gruppe, klein aber fein,
Wird wohl eine der besten sein.
Als Goethes Mephisto sich in den Himmel gewagt,
Hat er bescheiden—ironisch dem Herrgott gesagt:
"Verzeiht, ich kann nicht hohe Worte machen,
Mein Pathos brächte dich gewiss zum Lachen".
Genau so gewagt will ich nun hier versuchen
Meine bescheidenen Worte bei Schnitzel und Kuchen.

Die Tage vergingen in schnellem Flug—
Zehn Wochen sind eh schon lang nicht genug.
Doch haben wir vieles in Salzburg gemacht
Seit der Schmetterling uns von München gebracht.
Das Wetter war heuer so herrlich und schön
Trotz ein paar Tagen mit lästigem Föhn.
Es ging eines Tages zu der alten Kugelmühle,
Wo das Wasser dem Marmor die Ecken rundspülte.
Wir haben die Heimat der Kelten besucht
Und eine Fahrt auf dem Hallstätter See auch versucht.
Oben im Beinhaus erschrakken die Mädel
Beim Anblick der gruselig grinsenden Schädel.
Im Theater tat uns leid der Esel—Wildschütz.
Sein Brautverkauf hat ihm doch wenig genützt.
Im Hellbrunner Schloss wurden einige nass—
Dr. T und dem Bischof war's ein riesiger Spass!
Am Wochenende reisten viel' in die Weite
Und waren am Montag wieder voll pleite;
Da mussten sie schnell sich zur Bank hinbegeben
Und ihr Taschengeld gierig bei Frau Bahner beheben.

Frau Stadler sprach gern über die Habsburger Höfe
Und mit noch mehr Freud' über die vielen Bischöfe.
Sie half jedem Student, der es nötig hatte;
Sie ist die Größte, das steht nicht zur Debatte!

Herr Winding bot an einen Tagesausflug,
Da sitzt der Vince, der so gerne spricht;
Er ist ja baff, wenn man ihn unterbricht.
Er ist ein gut', ein braves Kind,
Nur kommt's mir vor, dass er manchmal spinnt.
Amber lernte leider den Arzt bald kennen.
Nach der Loefler-Behandlung war sie wieder im Rennen,
Obwohl sie noch leidet an Allergie
Und gibt öfters von sich ein lautes "Hatschi!"

Die Allison lud einen kanadischen Gast,
Da sitzt der Vince, der so gerne spricht;
Der im Heffterhof fand seinen unbezahlt' Rast.
In Amsterdam traf sie zudringliche Männer—
Sie waren bestimmt alle Schönheitskenner!
Polizeilich wurde Kate "Fahndungsphotographiert";
Zum Glück blieb sie aber nicht lang inhaftiert!
Mit der James Bond Nummer Null-Null-Sieben
Wär' sie fast im Gefängnis sitzen geblieben.
Hier ist die Leslie, die so gerne spät schlaft.
Es dauert ja lang, bis sie sich z'sammenrafft.
Sie hat sich ja täglich sehr tüchtig bemüht,
Doch kommt sie zum Frühstück in vorletzter Minut'.

Wegen unwiderstehlichem Schokoladen-Reiz
Fuhr die Julie gern nach Genf in die Schweiz,
Getrieben von ihrem süßen Verlangen
In den Schoko-Himmel zu gelangen.
Und bald nachdem sie zurückgekehrt,
Waren alle Tafeln völlig verzehrt.

Ist das der Joe, der sein Kopf so gefoltert,
Indem er voll Bier über seine "Fahne" gestolpert?
Um fünf in der Früh' musst' er mir sagen,
Dass der Gehsteig ihm ins Gesicht hat geschlagen!
Hier ist die Annie, ein mutiges Madel—
Hat geholt aus dem Bach ein moosbedeckt' Radl.
Anfänglich litt sie an Heimwehleiden,
Jetzt möchte sie sicher in Salzburg bleiben.

Wir sehen recht gern die lächelnde Katy,
Die zu uns gekommen aus der Stadt Cincinnati.
Sie hätte gern Ludwig auf dem Chiemsee entdeckt,
Erfuhr doch zu spät, dass er sich in Deutschland versteckt!
So fuhr sie vergebens die Hin- und Herfahrt,
Und war doch frohen Muts, ganz nach ihrer Art.
Obwohl wir uns auf den Heimweg schon freuen
Uns tut's doch im Herzen a bisserl noch reuen,
Dass man "Aufwiedersehen" sagen zum Sechser Bus
Und die schöne Stadt Salzburg verlassen muss.
Und das Allerschlimmste, ich darf's nicht vergessen—
Wir können nicht mehr bei Frau Kaiser essen!
Aber jetzt sitzen wir noch in fröhlichem Kreis,
Genießen das Schnitzel oder Palatschinken mit Eis,
Und ich gedenke der vielen schönen Jahre
Seit ich das erste Mal nach Salzburg gefahren.
Ich kam als “Jüngling”, bin jetzt ein Greis 😊

Für mich schließt sich heuer auch ein Kreis:
Die vielen Programme, die ich geleitet,
Haben mir Freude stets bereitet.
Und an die Freunde, die wir hier gemacht,
Wird immer und ewig mit Liebe gedacht!

Salzburg
beim Löwenstern
Mai 2000