



## Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

**Report Title:** Project World War II--Teach It With Technology

**Name:** Brenda J. McClain

**Other Team Members:**

**Program:** Oklahoma Program

**Trip Dates:** 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001

**Location Visited:** Germany and Austria

**Post Fellowship Reporting Template:** PFR Template 01

**Project Summary:** After 65 years, the impact of World War II is still significant for Germany. I am honored to have been given the opportunity to spend time traveling across Germany to utilize state-of-the-art technology for researching, recording, and visually portraying significant WWII historical event locations. As I researched, I found that Germany had been devastated in World War I leaving its economy and people in shambles. Enter the "leader" promising hope and prosperity. Hitler created a common enemy for the population to concentrate upon, giving purpose and feelings of kinship. My focus was images and video of locations that were high profile: Hofbrauhaus in Munich--where Hitler began the Nazi Party movement; Obersalzberg--homes of the elite echelons of the Nazi Party; Monastery in Salzburg--used by Nazi officers; Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen--museum dedicated to American soldiers who stopped the advance of the German Armies; Dresden--ravaged by the bombers because of cultural and industrial significance; Berlin's memorial to Jews of Hitler's era--symbolically built over his bunker in view of Hitler's Chancellory; Reichstag--high command headquarters; Dachau--American armies were heroes for liberating the thousands of Jews who had survived the years of imprisonment; Nuremburg Trials; Remnants of the Berlin Wall; and finally, one of the last signs of an American presence. The GPS locations, the images, the video and information recorded during this voyage will be utilized to connect technology with history and language arts to create progressive, project-oriented learning.

**Career Impact:** \*Allowed focus on PC and MAC technologies in the classroom environment--teaching industry-standard software.  
\*First-hand research and media promotes meaningful technology use among history and language arts instructors.  
\*Provided an opportunity to focus on new technologies as professional development tools.  
\*Established relationships by personally interviewing citizens from the World War II era for "real-life" historical research.  
\*Discovered a new understanding of WWII era in America's history.  
\*Caused a new spirit of questioning of our economy today--poverty, unemployment, and fears about tomorrow may lead to catastrophic actions.

**Classroom/Community Impact:**\*Technology promotes active engagement in learning using challenging research and design applications.  
\*Through projects and research, students refine analysis skills, problem solving skills, as well as career and technology awareness.  
\*Training with state-of-the-art equipment and software gives a "snapshot" of industry standards.  
\*Integrating technology into history and language arts classrooms creates enthusiasm for projects; exploits all learning styles in creating, researching, and presenting; and benefits students, slowing dropout rates.  
\*Curriculum is aligned with Oklahoma PASS skills for language arts, history, and technology.

**Open Response:** \*Pre-training will take place for use of GPS/GIS equipment, MAC equipment, podcasting techniques, and use of software to enhance images.  
\*Learning Activity Packets (LAPS) will be assigned as specific units in the classroom.  
\*The LAPS use GPS/GIS "flagged" locations and ArcGIS software to add images procured during the fellowship--to existing maps.  
\*Research projects on selected World War II locations, podcast narrations, and music will be assigned.  
\*Podcasts will be uploaded to iTunes and PodBean for utilization in history classrooms.  
\*PhotoMerge projects will be created by students, printed to posters, and displayed in classrooms.

**Quote:** Fear, poverty, and idle hands prompt groups to follow "leaders" who demand actions that impact peoples, countries, and the world!

Photos:



Jewish Memorial dedicated to those who died during Hitler's reign.



Checkpoint Charlie, where many tried to escape, was entrance to East Zone.



"Work Will Make You Free" on this gate, gave false hope to prisoners.



The "Justice" building in Nuremberg was the site of trials for war criminals.



Remnants of the "Wall" still exist. The art depicts pain and suffering.



Dresden was in the "East". The beautiful architecture is being restored.



The Ludendorff Bridge was the last standing bridge across the Rhine.



65 years of American presence in Germany is coming to a close.