



ISB NETWORK NEWS

Volume 31

February 2000

ISB Reunion 2000

It's not too early to start making your plans for the ISB All Years reunion to be held in Williamsburg, VA, August 4-6 2000. Check our website at <http://www.isbnetwork.com>. On our web site you will always find the most up-to-date information on the reunion and general events and a registration form.

Be sure to look at our previous newsletter, which has considerable information about the reunion. The sooner you make your plans the more you will be assured of the best rates and air fares.

The Radisson Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, which is the site of our reunion, is located next to colonial Williamsburg. This is one of the most popular attractions in the country, especially for American History buffs. Other major nearby attractions include Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Water Country USA. Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the New World is a short drive away. There is also excellent golfing in the area.

We have secured an excellent hotel rate of only \$89 per room per night for the period August 2nd to 6th., 2000. The hotel has a lovely pool, free cable movie channels and many other amenities you can expect to enjoy. **You must make your own reservations** by calling Radisson Hotel's toll-free number: 800-333-3333. Be sure to say that you are attending the ISB Network Reunion at the Fort Magruder property in Williamsburg. You must guarantee your reservation for at least your first night's stay, so have a major credit card ready when you phone the hotel's 800 number.

The hotel must be notified 48 hours prior to arrival to avoid a no-show fee of one night's room and tax being charged. Guest check-in time is 4:00 PM to ensure that the room is clean upon your arrival. Check-out time is 11:00 AM.

You need to make your reservations by July 1, 2000. After that date, any of the rooms which have been blocked for us by the hotel and which have not been booked by us, will be released to the general public. It is to your advantage to reserve your room as soon as possible, because the hotel anticipates being sold out that weekend. If you try to make your reservation after July 1, you may wind up in the overflow hotel which is the Quarter Pass Inn located next door to the Radisson.

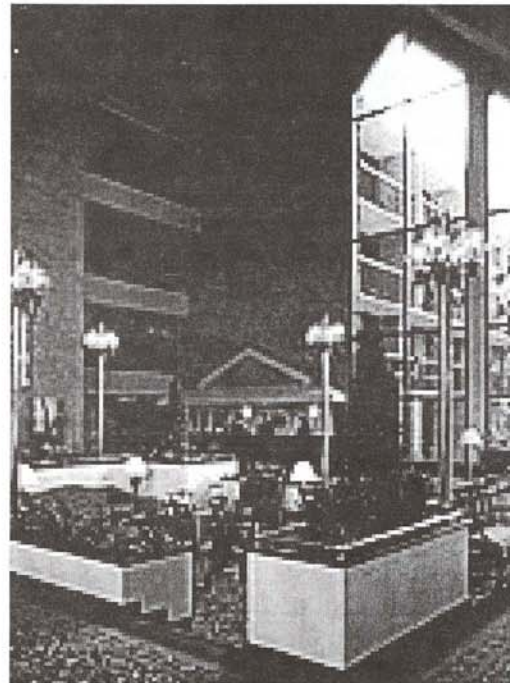


Photo Courtesy Radisson Ft. Magruder

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Are you current on your membership? The membership period coming up is January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2001. The membership price is only \$40.00 for the two year period. The value you get is priceless. During the membership period, you can expect to receive 3 newsletters a year, a printed membership directory, reunion information and special notices, reminder cards, and –of course– a reunion, which is held every other year in one of the 3 major regions of the country.

Please note, that since this is the beginning of a new membership period, most of our memberships are due and we show very few people have renewed as of now. This means that this will be your last newsletter and you will not be receiving a directory unless you sign up again soon. To sign up again, send a check for \$40.00 payable to "ISB Network", and mailed to Keith Hatton, Treasurer, P.O. Box 74, Libertytown, MD 21762.

We thought you'd find interesting the following article from Mimi Drake Parks, ('73), our Board Chairperson.

Face Your Fears

Those of you who had the distinct pleasure of learning to horseback ride under the eyes of Mrs. Rhodes and Miss Verna at the Bangkok Polo Club will (I hope), understand this tale. Those of you who did not have this pleasure can sit on the bus and listen (like some other folks I know).

My family and I lived in Bangkok from 1970 to 1973. While there, my brother, Charles, and I took horseback riding lessons at the Polo Club. I was Jr High/High School age and Charles was elementary school age.

It was rumored that Mrs. Rhodes was Hitler's sister, and I certainly bought into that as the truth!! Horseback riding is a very disciplined sport, and Mrs Rhodes wrote the book on discipline and control. She coined the term "No Nonsense" long before the panty hose industry thought of it. She ran a tight ship. It was either her way or the highway! (My horse, Wimpy, actually took the highway one time at Camp, but that's another story and another broken body part). Put it this way, we should have known things would be tough when Charles was assigned the number 13 for competitions, and his horse was named Satan!!

Anyway, my entire family (including spouses and children) returned to Thailand in the summer of 1999. We planned a few days in Bangkok, then a few days in Kanchanaburi, then Bangkok, then Koh Samui.

While touring Bangkok our first day, dubbed Memory Lane day, we attempted to locate the Polo Club (which we did). Problem was that it had turned into a private gated community, and the Guard, Guard-in-Charge, AND Supervisor Guard did NOT care who Mom (Anne Drake) was, she and her tour bus were NOT coming on the property! So, we moved on to the next memory, wishing we could have seen the Polo Club one more time. (I should have known the sigh of relief meant something.)

My sister, Nancy, had found a great place to stay in Kanchanaburi, including our personal tour bus and guide. We felt like we had arrived on Fantasy Island with the greeting we received by the staff. Anyway, we all became close friends with our tour guides and they knew we had lived in Bangkok in the 70's. At the end of a tightly scheduled first day in Kanchanaburi, we discovered that Mrs Rhodes and Miss Verna were still around!!! Wonderful!!!! And guess what??? They were living full time at The Camp!!! Wonderful!!!! They could take us to The Camp if we liked??? Wonderful!!!!

Wonderful?? Why didn't I have this warm and cozy feeling about seeing Mrs. Rhodes and Miss Verna?? Why did Charles have that same look on his face??? Forty plus years of maturing, and in five minutes, I was reliving my junior high years under the supervision of Mrs. Rhodes. All of those years of storytelling about Mrs Rhodes, and our parents, siblings, spouses, children, nieces and nephews HAD really been listening. THEY WERE REFUSING TO GET OFF THE BUS AND GO WITH US TO SEE MRS RHODES!!! Can you believe it???

Charles and I looked at each other, then grabbed our first born children and asked them to come with us. (Actually, our first borns (both GIRLS I might add), were avid horse lovers and were more than willing to come with us).

NOTHING HAD CHANGED!! The camp looked the same. Miss Verna looked the same, as did Puki (Mrs. Rhodes' daughter). Miss Verna led us to the ring where instructions were being conducted. I saw Mrs. Rhodes with her back to us, sitting in her chair, barking instructions over the microphone. Only when the lesson was over and the horse and rider had left the ring, did Mrs. Rhodes turn to acknowledge our presence. That same "buttery" feeling came over me when she looked at me. Then I remembered that I was forty something years old, mother of two al-

Continued on Page 3...

ISB NETWORK INC.
P.O. Box 74
Libertytown, MD 21762
(925) 461-1812
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Web: <http://www.isbnetwork.com>

Purpose: ISB Network Inc. is a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to bringing Alumni of the International School of Bangkok together to support, maintain and create contacts between people who shared similar experiences in Thailand.

Rates: Dues are on a bi-annual basis. The current dues period is January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1999. Membership dues are \$40.00 - \$35.00 if paid before January 31 of the first year of the enrollment period - which entitles members to three (3) newsletters, and a complete membership list each year. If someone joins the network during the membership period, that person will receive all newsletters and mailing lists available for the current membership period to date. Extra copies of the newsletters are available at \$2.50 each and membership lists at \$15.00 each. Membership lists are available to Network members only and are not for commercial use. Call for advertising rates.

Access: Pay dues either by check made out to ISB Network, or by using the form on our home page to conveniently charge your dues to your Visa, MasterCard or American Express card, and mail to:

ISB Network, Inc.
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Problems, questions, answers and/or general interest, contact the ISB Network Voice Mail at (925) 461-1812. For payment inquiries call: (301) 228-3962.

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Van Bucher '62 -Newsletter Editor

(Continued from page 2)

most grown children and that I could handle this. She looked the same. Maybe a little older, but still as sharp! She even smiled a little!

Actually, seeing Mrs. Rhodes, Miss Verna, Puki and The Camp was one of the highlights of the trip for me. We had a grand tour of the camp and it was wonderful. They even sent a "messenger" over the next day with one of their newsletters, and a handwritten history of Charles' and my years of "service" and the horses we rode.

It was great getting back on the bus and facing my wimpy family!!!

Mimi Drake Parks ('73')

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For those of you who don't know Joe Condrill, he has been not only the founder of the OSB (Overseas Brats) organization, but has been instrumental in forming our own ISB Network. Over the years, and especially this year, we are indebted to him for his many contributions about alumni whereabouts, and ideas for promoting our own organization. Thanks, Joe. Here, below is his newest idea for an Overseas Brats Cookbook.

OSB is doing an Overseas Brats Cookbook. The book will be available at their (OSB) Homecoming 2001 in Wichita, KS. The cookbook will be divided into the usual categories:

- 1) Appetizers and Beverages
- 2) Soups and Salads
- 3) Vegetables
- 4) Main Dishes
- 5) Breads and Rolls
- 6) Desserts
- 7) Miscellaneous

Joe hopes that everyone will want to contribute a recipe. If the recipe has a story behind it, for example, "The General is coming for cocktails," "It's still one week to payday," or "Honey, I'm bringing the guys home for dinner," please share that story with us. Of course, we will also be looking for recipes from the countries where you have lived. So go through your cookbooks, call up your mom, do whatever you need to do, and then send those recipes to Jo Wilson Emerson at: WJWE@aol.com.

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Thanks to our ISB Network and our ever-expanding database (for which we owe many thanks and kudos to Rudy Xavier '62) we are now able to track down more and more of our long-lost classmates. But we need your help in this, too. Each issue is going to have a box that is entitled "Desperately Seeking . . .", and we ask any of you to supply any information that you can. Here is the first one:

DESPERATELY SEEKING

Dr. Alda Piña, our beloved English teacher at ISB in the early 60's - where is she now? Please help us to bring her into our group.

Thai Food

Here's another idea. Most of us love Thai food. Since it's become so popular in the past few decades, we thought with each issue we'd run a Thai recipe or two, and also a brief review of some favorite Thai restaurants since there is one in almost every major city. Here is another area in which we can really use our readers' input, so please let us hear from you.

Here is our first contribution, from our President Maile McCoskrie Busby, for one of our favorite Thai dishes, "Pad Thai" (which literally means "stir fry" in Thai).

Pad Thai

Pad Thai - Use Durum semolina flour noodles. (Or see if you can find Thai Spiced Fettucine from Trader Joe's.)

- 2/3 Cups Crunchy Peanut Butter
- 3 Tablespoons Peanut Oil
- 1 to 1 1/2 Teaspoons Chili Oil
- 3 1/2 Tablespoons Soy Sauce
- 2 Tablespoons Grated Ginger
- 2 Tablespoons Vinegar
- 2 Tablespoons Sugar
- 1 Teaspoon Salt

1-2 Pounds Boneless /Skinless chicken breast

- 1-2 Cloves of Crushed Garlic
- 1 Tablespoon of Peanut Oil
- 1 Peeled and Diced Cucumber
- 1-2 Cups of Shredded Cabbage
- 1-2 Cups of Raw Bean Sprouts
- 4 Chopped Scallions
- 4 Tablespoons Minced Cilantro

Over low heat (I use a double boiler so I don't need to worry about it getting too hot), blend all of the ingredients. This will take at least 10 minutes to get it mixed and for the flavors to begin to blend, allow to heat completely. This can be done early in the day and just reheated.

Saute the chicken breast with crushed garlic in peanut oil over a medium to high heat.

Cook the pasta noodles according to the package directions and drain.

While the pasta is still hot, toss with the chicken and the remaining pan juices. Then toss lightly with the warm to hot peanut sauce and lastly toss again with the raw vegetables. Serve immediately if serving hot or refrigerate to serve later cold - good both hot and cold. Garnish with chopped spicy peanuts. Feeds at least 6 to 8. ENJOY

REUNION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

The reunion committee needs volunteers! We need people to work a minimum of a 2 hour shift to assist in Registration (greeting, handouts, data entry, printing badges, etc.), manning the Shack Mercantile shop (retail sales, cash register, etc) and other duties.

To volunteer, please contact the following people:
 Kris Stahlman: Reunion/meetings/space/activities (kris@ikos.com)
 Rudy Xavier: Registration Desk (rxavier@ix.netcom.com)
 David Wilkerson: Shack Merchandise (ISBALUMDAW@aol.com)

THE SHACK MERCANTILE

Here is the current price list for items from "The Shack Mercantile".

They make GREAT gifts!

| Store Item | Price |
|---|---------|
| Black T-Shirt with Gold ISB Logo | \$15.00 |
| White Limited Edition TAHO 1998 Long Beach Reunion T-Shirt — four-color (while they last) | \$09.00 |
| Grey T-Shirt with "I Survived Youth In Asia" Dallas 96 Limited Edition (while they last) | \$09.00 |
| Dallas 1996 Limited Edition (while they last) | \$09.00 |
| Black Track Shirt (tank top) with Gold Panther and ISB lettering | \$19.00 |
| Black Track Shorts with Gold Panther and ISB lettering | \$18.00 |
| Black or Gold Sweat Shirt with ISB Logo (please specify color) | \$21.00 |
| White Golf Shirt with ISB Logo | \$18.00 |
| Black or White Baseball Hat with ISB Logo (please specify color) | \$06.75 |
| White Golf Towel with ISB Logo | \$06.75 |
| Black Bicycle Shorts with ISB Logo | \$23.00 |
| White (button up) Baseball Shirt with ISB Logo | \$19.00 |
| Singha Beer Mugs — Glass with Handle | \$15.00 |
| Large Coffee Mug — Black with Gold trim on Mouth with ISB Logo | \$15.00 |
| International School Bangkok Alumni License Plate — Black frame with Gold writing | \$06.00 |
| 6-Pack Drink Cooler From Long Beach Reunion — Green with Black writing, Seaport Marina Hotel & ISB Logo (while they last) | \$08.00 |
| VHS Video: "Perspectives" 30-minute history of ISB | \$11.00 |

When ordering XXL, add \$2.00 for each T-Shirt and \$3.00 for each Sweat Shirt.

Normal Priority Mail (2-3 days) via the U.S. Postal Service for any destination within the United States is \$4.20 for first item and 1.00 per additional item for clothing, license plate frames, or coolers. All Glass items, Singha Mugs, Coffee Mugs, \$5.00 for first item and \$2.00 for each additional. Please contact David Wilkerson for overseas shipping costs, or any other questions concerning The Shack Merchandise, or phone The Shack Mercantile at (615) 242-2925.

The ISB Network offers you the choice of paying by Check or Credit Card. Either payment choice should be made payable to The ISB Network. Currently, while we research a proper encryption process to protect credit card information, we have created a Credit Card Ordering Form you can print out and use. Simply mail your order along with either a check or the credit card form, to David Wilkerson, c/o Techstar Services, 750 Cowan Street #9, Nashville TN 37207. Items ordered will be sent Express Mail or UPS to provide some guarantee you'll receive your order in time for the holidays.

A current "Shack" item and price list is always available by visiting the ISB Network home page at <http://members.aol.com/isbnetwork>.

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(Address correction requested)

