

THE THAI THAT BINDS

ISB Network News

October 2016

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Dear ISB Friends,

As I sit here amidst the rolling West Virginia countryside, the first signs of Fall are underway. The leaves are already showing their first signs of color, and the hummingbirds are juicing up in preparation for their long migration south.

It's hard to believe our reunion in Daytona Beach was two months ago because it seems like it was only yesterday that we were all gathered together. Visions of the early-morning sunrise all the way to the late-night (or should I say, early-morning) revelry are still very fresh in my mind. By all accounts, the overwhelming sentiment going around is that this was one of the best, if not THE best, reunion ever. Our thanks and heartfelt gratitude go out to the army of volunteers without whom we could never pull this off.

Officially, there were 452 of us in attendance, with a whopping 46 alumni attending their first reunion! To our newcomers, we are all so thrilled to see you again, and with arms wide open we would just like to say, Welcome Home!

Our alumni family continues to grow, and coincidentally, in this 33rd year since our very first reunion, attendance at this reunion found alumni spanning the class years from 1960 all the way to 1993.

By day, the beach setting was spectacular! And by night, the Teen Club and the class party suites rocked! And yes, the SHACK is BACK!!

As always, the whacky, fun-filled House Games drew quite a crowd. At one point, even the boardwalk was lined with passers-by, who to everyone's amazement actually paused their Pokémon Go hunt to become captivated by our crazy antics, seemingly enjoying it every bit as much as we were! Congratulations to Blue House who, for the first time in years, clinched the coveted Rajendra Trophy!

We gathered as a group on the lawn for our first-ever, drone-mounted aerial group photograph! How cool is that!



continued

ISB Network Board of Directors

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Marla Berkow Stover, '73

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David Wilkerson, '71

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Jo Hanna Ewing, '69

Director of Archives

Don Nibblett, '70

Director of Outreach

Tim Lockhart, '75

Director-at-Large

Chris Hunt, '81

Director-at-Large



A message from our President - continued

Continued from Page 1

Our own Lew Toulmin, class of 1966, presented a fascinating account of his independent research into the disappearance of Jim Thompson 50 years ago. More than 150 of us attended one of his two presentations.

The Young Internationals officially broke the ice Friday evening with an incredible medley of our favorite tunes, capped off with everyone joining in to sing *Up, Up and Away!*

The troupe of young Thai dancers who launched our Saturday evening gala held us all spellbound as the years once again melted away, transporting us back in time to the days of our youth in Asia.

Sadly, as is always the case, Sunday morning found us once again saying our tearful farewells...so long friends, until we meet again. 2018 cannot come soon enough.

The Board of Directors is always interested in your feedback on the reunions, particularly in ways we can improve your reunion experience. Please don't hesitate to send us your comments and your ideas for how we can make the next reunion The Best Ever!

I am pleased to welcome several new members to the Board.

- **Ralph "Peppy" Doggett**, class of 1968 and photographer extraordinaire, has volunteered to become our Director of Technology. Peppy will spearhead our effort to improve our website and database, keeping us on the cutting-edge.
- **Don Nibblett**, class of 1970, also felt the calling and is now our Director of Outreach. Don will lead our never-ending search for long lost friends.
- **Christine "Chris" Hunt**, class of 1981, has volunteered to step up and step in as a Director-at-Large, further increasing our representation of the fast growing and high spirited group of alumni from the 80's.

Please join me in welcoming Peppy, Don and Chris to the Board! We are so grateful they have volunteered to serve and contribute their time and talent.

To any of you who feel inspired to volunteer for a position on the Board of Directors, please let us hear from you by email at board@isbnetwork.com.

Our attention now turns to researching and selecting a location for our 2018 reunion which will be somewhere in the Midwest United States. Names like Austin, New Orleans, Nashville, Kansas City, Chicago and Minneapolis are already being bantered around. Ideally, we need a city with proximity to a major airline hub, a hotel with 250-300 guest rooms, a ballroom big enough to accommodate 600+ people, and a large swimming pool. We'd like to hear your suggestions, particularly from those of you who live in the Midwest and who can assist us with our search for a suitable reunion location.

Lastly, I want to thank you all for supporting the ISB Network, not only to those of you who magnanimously volunteer your time and talent, but also to those of you who graciously support us financially with your membership dues. As you know, we are staffed exclusively by unpaid volunteers, but unavoidably, we do incur expenses. If you are not yet a member, or if your two-year membership has expired, please understand that your tax-deductible, \$40 contribution is key to our survival. So please, take a minute right now and go online to www.isbnetwork.com to join or renew today.

Until we meet again,
Todd



Thailand Mourns the Death of Their King

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, **born December 5, 1927, died October 13, 2016, age 88**, was the world's longest serving constitutional monarch.

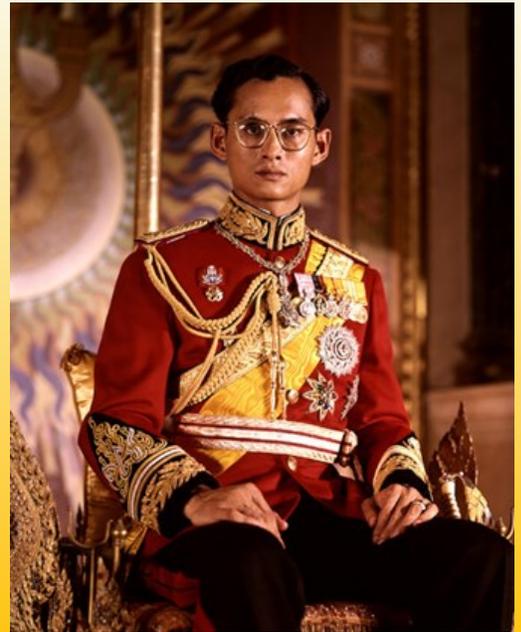
King Bhumibol was an accidental monarch, thrust onto the throne at 18 by the violent death of his older brother in 1946. He fully embraced the role of national patriarch, upholding Thailand's traditions of hierarchy, deference and loyalty.

The young Bhumibol had spent most of his young life abroad and at the time of his accession was studying at Lausanne University. The new king, a shy, bespectacled, almost withdrawn young man, took the dynastic name Rama IX and became the ninth sovereign of the Chakri dynasty.

Despite these inauspicious beginnings, over the following decades King Bhumibol turned Thailand's new constitutional monarchy into a resounding success. For most of his reign he was credited with being a moderating influence on corrupt politicians, scheming bureaucrats and ambitious generals.

He developed an extraordinary rapport with ordinary Thais, and would spend most of every year travelling between a series of palaces around the country. From these he would lead 40-strong convoys of assorted Jeeps and Land-Rovers down dusty roads deep into the countryside meeting local people, visiting rural projects or entertaining local dignitaries.

The King stayed abreast of scientific developments, and was also an accomplished painter, photographer, and musician. Playing his saxophone, he performed with a jazz group in the studios of the royal radio station.



The King is survived by his wife, Queen Sirikit and their four children. He is succeeded to the throne by HRH Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn.

(Information compiled from *The Telegraph* and *New York Times*).



Our fellow ISB Alumni friends have also recently expressed their outpouring of grief on Facebook over the loss of “Our” King.

Here are a few memories that were shared

The King at the International Boy Scout Jamboree in Lumbini Park in 1963.



Photo Comments

Gregory P. Ray

As an Explorer Scout, I marched before the King at the national parade ground in late 1968. It is truly a definitive memory in my life. He's survived many a political coup and displayed a character of benevolence to the Thai people. Hard shoes to fill.

Lorraine Brilliant

I believe I marched there too... heads right in front of the King. I think the love and respect the Thai people had for King Bhumibol definitely affected me.

Additional Comments

Edward Holt

His Royal Majesty and his beautiful wife represented Thailand for 70 years. My family was fortunate to be invited to a Royal Ball where I met them. He will be missed. Sawadee Krup your Majesty.

Wes Lane

Long live the King. I consider Thailand to be my other home; the other home where my heart lives. I lived in Bangkok from 1976-1979 during my most impressionable years as a young teenager and the son of a diplomat. King Bhumibol Adulyadej assumed the throne in 1946 and passed away Thursday. He was the longest reigning monarch in the world. 70 years. Humble, beloved by the people, he did much to modernize the Kingdom of Thailand as the country's figurehead.

Yes, I have shed tears. I may return to visit before the year of mourning ends if I am able.

Kimberly E. Murch

Very eloquent and heartfelt words, Wes. My sentiments exactly. Thank you. Honestly, I didn't think I would be affected (by his Majesty's passing) as much as I have been. It's larger than I would have even imagined really almost to a point of oddity in my mind. I spent two years there. Not really a significant amount of time but there was a tremendous impact Thailand, her people, and yes, her King had on me.

To this day, contact with old chums over in the wonderful Land of the Free, warms my heart to no end. And there ya' have it! I feel such a connection to friends in Thailand, as well as friends I met in Thailand. My heart aches with all of you. It is truly the end of an era and the beginning of another. May he rest in peace.

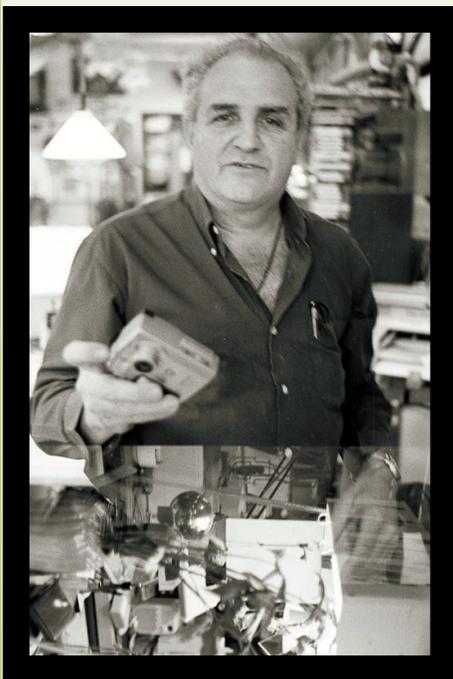
The Wizard of ISB Retires

Paul Griffin, ISB Faculty

1987 - 1998

After 27 creative years of teaching and inspiring thousands of ISB students, Archarn Jerry Hochberg retired from ISB at the end of the 2015-16 school year.

Jerry started his ISB teaching career at the Soi 15 campus in 1989, teaching yearbook and art. Jerry was a consummate innovator, and with Jerry as advisor and teacher, the 1990 Erawan staff, for the first time in ISB history, produced the entire yearbook using desktop publishing software on Macintosh computers.



With the move to the Nichida Thani campus in 1991 where he had more classroom space, Jerry expanded his course offerings to include Jewelry, Industrial Design and Sculpture. Jerry's classroom was always a world apart from all others at ISB, and anyone who took one of Jerry's classes will know exactly what I am talking about. Jerry was able to integrate traditional Thai style jewelry benches with high tech hand tools and audio-video and computer technology within his stimulating and eclectic teaching space. His reputation for genius, creativity and just having the coolest classroom and courses ever went beyond ISB to all the other IASAS schools as a result of the many Cultural Convention (CC) workshops that Jerry conducted for the benefit of the CC Art student representatives when ISB was hosting.



Jerry's passion for life, art, design, engineering and creativity has been an inspiration not only for his students but also to the many faculty members who worked with him during his years at the school. We wish you a happy well-earned retirement and many more years of artistic creation, Mr. Hochberg!

REUNION NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION

The ISB Network Board gives a special thanks to David Wilkerson, Director of Reunions, the Reunion Committee, and Volunteers.



A Collage of Faces

A Message from our Director of Reunions

David Wilkerson, '71



How do I say thank you and include everyone who played a part in the success of the **2016 ISB Samlor Ha Roi reunion**. It is an impossible task because so many alum contribute over the course of two years, and then at the reunion there are many volunteers who give their time and love to produce a fantastic reunion. It is simply overwhelming.

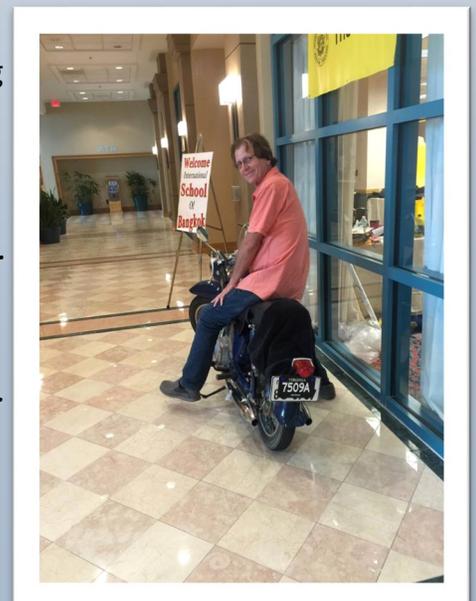
I have attended 11 reunions and Samlor Ha Roi was my 8th reunion as a board member. I find myself once again standing in awe of the tireless volunteers who make these incredible ISBN reunions such a huge success. I began my journey as a class rep after the 1988 Boston reunion. Yes, I got caught up in the reunion

bliss but it was far more than that to me, and in some ways, I was selfish. I had this reoccurring dream, a vision if you will, of a collage of faces. Many of these faces were not my friends, but they were a big part of my experience while attending ISB from 1967 - 1969, and they haunted me for years and years even after I left the Bangkapi campus. The reoccurring dream of seeing all of these faces again tugged at me over and over, and then I attended the Boston reunion. As I walked through the room, I saw many of the faces from my dream, but there were still many more missing. Mike Daly walked up to me and I asked him about this person and that person. I told him that I was disappointed that so many were missing. In true Mike Daly fashion, he challenged me by saying, "Wilkerson why don't you quit your (@#\$\$%^) whining and do something about it then." I walked away with a renewed energy of wanting to help, and I was going to help the board find all of the missing faces and get them to a reunion. So that was 1988, and now 28 years later, I still find myself caught up in that selfish vision of reuniting long lost classmates. Over the years, I discovered the true meaning of our reunions. It's the joy of watching peoples' faces, the laughter and the tears, as we all come together and experience the magic of our reunions.

How does the reunion committee even start the process? It all begins with a simple reunion poll and much discussion by the board, the committee, and the advisors. These people lend their immeasurable talents over the course of two years to help process the reunion poll data and pinpoint 4-6 potential locations. Then the committee vets the potential locations narrowing it down to two. From here the committee comes alive with site visits and negotiations and yes thousands of emails. The task of site selection is a long and tedious process, as our criteria has grown to be very complex.

Having outlined how we come to a decision there are key people who play a huge role in finalizing and executing the actual event. I would be remiss in not recognizing their efforts and thanking them personally. Nicole Petschulat, Todd Lockhart, Kate Boslet, Kathy Beaird, Teresa Martin, Shirley Kennedy, Marla Berkow, Peppy Doggett, Dawn Twing VanAllen, Amos Ewing, David Elder, Kris Stahlman, Kathy Stahlman, Deb Twing, Tim Lockhart and Johanna Ewing. I can't imagine the task of planning a reunion without you. Thank you for all that you did to keep us on track. It is important to me to also thank some key volunteers whose efforts were instrumental in making Daytona a success: Valerie Sills, Georgia Moore Crump, Greg Merritt, Paul Heideman, Marcia Powell, Don Nibblett, James Whang, Bruce Williamson, Dee Medlin James, Sausan Molthen, Jane Ewing Ensley and Marti Ewing.

Finally, I want to thank Roger Lyles spouse of Linda Paradise Lyles '71, and Bridgitte Harmon, daughter of Kate Boslet '73, who made my job easier in lending their talents at the Saturday Gala and at the Teen Club.





Thank you to everyone who joined us for another wonderful reunion!

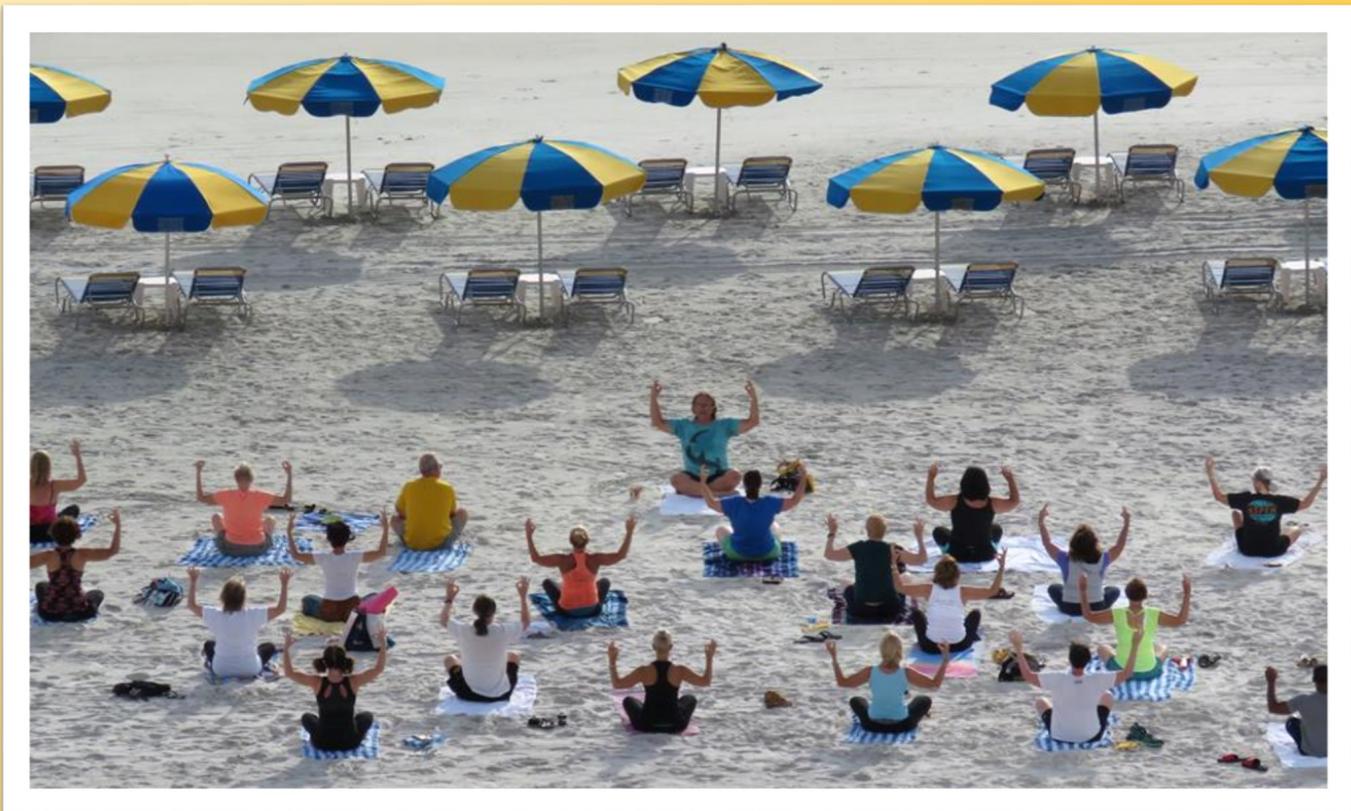
Here are some photos from our event.

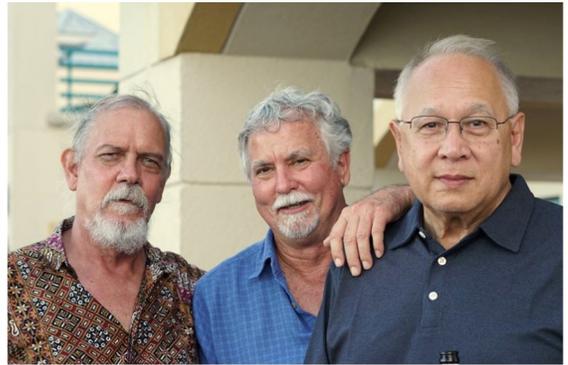












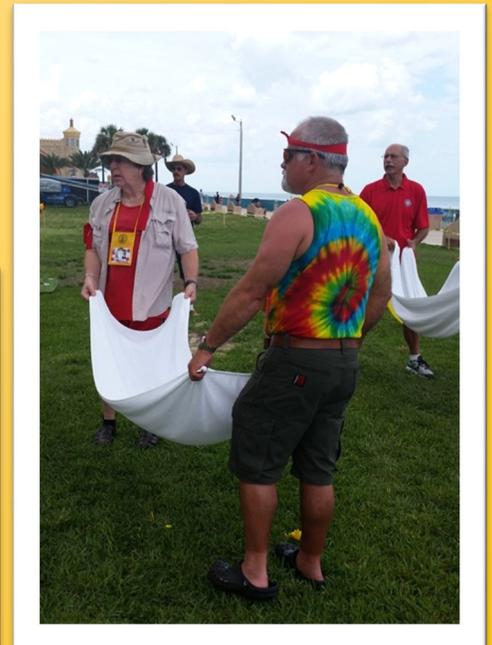
Gone but Not Forgotten



House Games Blue House Wins



House Games Trophy

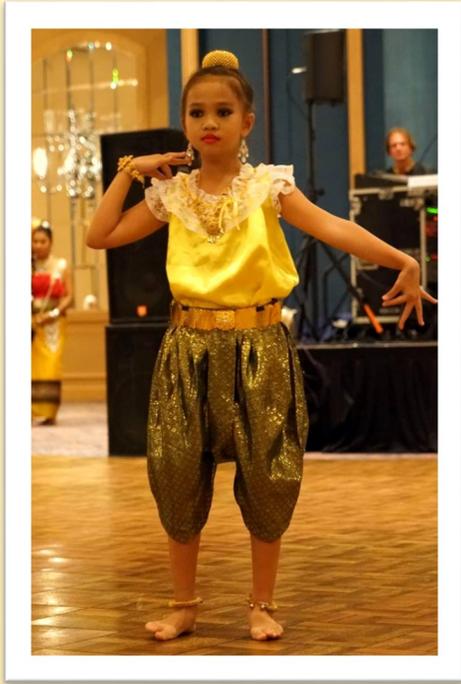


Young Internationals sing “Up, Up and Away”



Thai Dancers

Special Entertainment for the Saturday night dinner



Thai Dancers

Special Entertainment for the Saturday night dinner



Dear ISB Alumni,

We send you very warm greetings from ISB as well as a very rare appeal for help.

For those who are not aware, ISB accepts two Thai scholarship students in Grade 10 each year typically from the North and Northeast of Thailand. The scholarship students stay with ISB families through the school year and return home for the holidays. As you can imagine, this is a wonderful opportunity for these students and in part helps ISB fulfill its mission of inspiring students to become caring global citizens. We also feel that ISB benefits so much from our host country that it is only right to give something back.

The students selected are strong academically and their families do not have the financial means to send their children to an international school like ISB.

We are now at the stage when support will be needed to help with university fees for these students and we are appealing to the ISB community for financial help. If you are able to make even a small donation it would make a difference.

We are seeking to raise funds annually to help with tuition and living costs at either universities in Thailand or around the world in the event that partial or full scholarships are granted.

If you are willing to donate, please visit the alumni section of the school's website. ([ISB Alumni Page](#) - click hyperlink) It would also be helpful if you could forward this appeal to other former ISB students who you are in contact with.

Also on our website is an alumni "[Guest Book](#)" ([ISB - Alumni Guest Book](#) - click hyperlink) and we would love it if you posted a message and looked around for old friends.



On behalf of all of us at ISB, we wish you all the very best and hope you remain very proud panthers!

Kind regards,

Dr. Andrew Davies
Head of School

Philip Bradley
HS Principal

Tony Arnold
Alumni Coordinator

Usa Somboon
Headmistress

Bob Connor
Activities Coordinator

Todd Lockhart
President ISB Network

OTHER ISB NEWS

A Message from our Queen of Membership

While the glow from the reunion is still warm, please take this time to consider joining or rejoining the ISB Network.

Dues are as low as \$40 for a 2-year membership. While the reunions are what we all look forward to, we do have a philanthropic purpose. "The ISB Network Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, 501 C-3 organization comprising members who are devoted to serving the International School Bangkok, its alumni and students, and the Kingdom of Thailand. We are dedicated to bringing ISB alumni together to maintain and support the unique relationships and experiences that tie us together and keep us connected to our time at ISB and in the beautiful Kingdom of Thailand."

We have had an increase in memberships over the last few months with many people joining while attending the reunion. Please remember that membership has its perks. If you are a member and were not able to attend the reunion, please watch your mail for a really cool decal.

To join go to the website (ISBNetwork.com) and click on BECOME A MEMBER. It's that easy! Our goal is to reach 1,000 members over the next two years, so you'll be hearing a lot from me!

BECOME A MEMBER



Thai Restaurant Membership Drive

An idea was recently formed that all ISB members have one key thing in common, besides going to ISB of course - we all eat at Thai restaurants! Please watch for an email with a membership recruitment flyer attached. We're asking all members to please print the flyer and ask your favorite Thai Restaurant(s) to display it.

Invitation for the Class of 1973 and Texas ISBers

Finally...The baby of the Class of 73 is turning 60!

Please help Ruth Lown celebrate the passing of her youth at brunch on Sunday, November 27, San Antonio, Texas.

Contact Ruth directly at rdlwoff@yahoo.com for more information!

Let's celebrate our baby ISBer!



Shop the Shack

Members always receive a discount at checkout. The holidays are coming, so now is the time to shop! If you don't know the coupon code to receive the discount, please contact David Wilkerson at

shack@isbnetwork.com