

# ISB NETWORK NEWS

Volume #15 Issue #1193

# This Issue

- → My Turn Erawan Memories
- → History Of ISB The Video
- → Thai Sticklers A police warning to film makers
- → Spirit House Holding the spirit of ISB'ers.
- → How's The Food New fast food in Thailand
- → From The President A note to Network subscribers

## MY TURN BY BETH AHRENS KLEY

Does anyone out there remember Miss Jan Texter? I would like to recall for those of you ISB'ers who attended in the early '70s, that she was the driving force behind award winning Erawan yearbooks which came out in 1970 and 1971.

What I recall about Miss Texter was blond hair always swept casually, her steely blue eyes rimmed with black eyeliner but, most of all...her unrelenting quest to make the Erawan yearbook the absolute best it could be! Talented students were induced to work long hours to meet deadlines, layouts were inspected meticulously. She was always demanding, but always supportive!

It was Miss Texter's idea to have the ISB medallions which

adorned the front covers of the '70 and '71 year-books. She introduced the "late supplement" which complemented the 1970 Erawan, allowing coverage of students and events occurring after publication deadlines.

Under her guidance the Erawan was awarded a first Place Certificate by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in 1970. Miss Texter, most importantly, acknowledged the importance of Thai culture in our every day lives and



our every day lives and this was incorporated throughout the year-

books. I left ISB in 1971 and, perhaps like a large number of ISB'ers blithely set out on my future course (college in California) with barely a second glance back at what had been such a special four years of high school. So, unfortunately, I did not keep up with Miss Texter and have no idea what became of her. Did she continue on at ISB, devoting her time and energy to future Erawans? Perhaps one of you out there remembers her as well, and can fill us in on this special woman who helped to make our Erawans so exceptionally unique.

Beth is now living in East Germany where her husband i teaching at a university.

ISB Network News Vol. 15/Issue 1193

#### ISB NETWORK INC. P.O. Box 3429 Annapolis, MD 21403

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 that shared similar times and experiences in Bangkok, Thailand.

Rates: \$35.00 for 2 years. \$30.00 if paid before January 31 of the year of enrollment. Enrollment includes 3 newsletters a year, a mailing list with updates, access to voice mail (see Below) and updates about reunions. Individual newsletters are \$2.50 each and mailing lists are \$12.00 each.

Access: Submit dues, by check, made out to ISB Network, to; ISB Network
P.O. Box 3429
Annapolis, MD 21403

Please submit newsletter articles to:

Robert Bridges 3651 W. Hastings Port Townsend, WA. 98368 FAX: 206/385-7638

Problems, questions, answers and/or general interest, contact the ISB Network Voice Mail at: 410/280-2421

ISB Network officials-President: David Wilkerson '71 Board of Directors:

Mimi Drake Parks '73 Jim Hanlon '73 Babette Trout Dammon '72 Jed Davis '70 Robert Bridges '70 John Dammon '69 Sarah Lynn Barringer '68

#### HISTORY OF ISB

Life in Bangkok - The Video

A video to be shown at the upcoming August 1994 ISB Network Reunion in Clearwater, Florida (August 5, 6 & 7) is currently in production. We need your help!!!!

We are assembling text documentation (actual history from the early years...to the present.) Along with this we are supplementing the text by video transfer of still photographs since very few "home movies" exist from the 50s and 60s. If you have any photographs taken at the school, teen clubs, polo club, sports club, etc. and are willing to share them with us for this project, it will be appreciated. If you send any photos, please label the backs of them with your name, address, phone number, date of photograph and names of individuals (if you know them), and location of picture, i.e., sports club 1966, and send to any one of the following:

John Nuhn (Class of '64) 11230 Timberline Dr. Oakton, VA. 22124 703/820-9772

Sarah Lynn Barringer (Class of '68) 4530 Connecticut Ave NW #700 Washington, DC. 20008 202/686-5684

David Wilkerson (Class of '71) 202 3rd Ave. S. Nashville, TN 37203 615/242-2925

We can also use old 8MM film, slides, newspaper clippings, and magazines.

Please do not write directly on the backs of pictures as this will damage the pictures, so use a stick-on label and apply directly to back of picture. We promise to return each item to its rightful owner.

Due to the length of time involved, in the production, look at your albums, etc., now, and send any and all you think can be a valid part of the production. We cannot guarantee that every photograph, document, film, slide, etc. will be used, but we want to make this an interesting show about our lives in Bangkok.

YOUR IDEAS ARE WELCOME.....

#### THAI STICKLERS

Jungle moive making

YOU'D THINK PEOPLE WHO HAVE survived Hollywood could tackle all the lions, tigers, and bears in creation. But it s a jungle out there in Thailand-a real jungle. Here are some excerpts from the helpful safety warnings the Thai police managed to write up for the visiting cast and crew of Air America. To Protect Your Valuables Against the Thief:

- I. TRY NOT TO WALK IN DARKNESS PLACE OF TREKKING INJUNGLE ALONE.
- 2. DO NOT BELIEVE ANYONE WHO OFFER TO BE YOUR GUIDE IN ANY PUB-LIC PLESE WHO MAY HAPPEN TO BE THE GANGSTER.
- 3. BEWARE OF THE GAY WHO WILL BE PERSUADE YOU TO TAKE A WALK OF SLEEP WITH YOU. HE MAY TAKE AWAY YOUR VALUABLES.
- 4. DEPOSIT YOUR VALUABLES WITH HOTELS OR IN THE SAFE PLACE AND IF YOU GET ROBBED, DO NOT RESIST OF HAVING ANY RE-ACTION. TRY TO REMBER THEIR PERSONALITY, CLOTHES, COLOR OF SHIRT, TROUSERS AND MUST REPORT TO POLICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
- 5. WHILE YOU'RE TRAVELLING ON THE BUS BE CAREFUL OF SLEEPING PILL MIXED IN THE FOOD OR CANDIES.

In addition, the police thoughtfully provided a list of various crimes and their punishments. Spitting carries a maximum fine of 100 bahts (about four dollars): "incident exposure" is punished by one month in prison and a 500 baht fine. The police even explain why: "The laws are aimed to keep society in order and living together happily". So try not to walk in darkness, guys.

This Article was sent in by Saraha Noss '73.

### **SPIRIT HOUSE**

David Wilkerson is in the process of building a Spirit House to carry with us to all future reunions. He is planning on making a scale model of the shack, which was an IISB ISB Network News Vol. 15/Issue 1193

hang out...the one located at the end of S0I 15 by the Klong. He needs photographs of this building as soon as possible

All materials used for the Spirit House will come from the floor boards, shutters, and kamoi bars that were removed and brought to the United States by Michael Nebrecker and given to us at the Seattle Reunion. Your photographs are necessary to build an accurate model. Please forward to:

David Wilkerson 202 3rd Avenue South Nashville, Tennessee 37203

### How's the food:

Thailand may be absolutely full of great restaurants, but there are days when even the most intrepid gastronaut wants nothing more than a hamburger and fries - or maybe the Thai equivalent. We can now report - for better or for worse - that fast food, in all its manifestations, has arrived in Thailand.

Fast food is not new to Thailand. In fact, the Thais probably invented it. On any street you will find food carts, old ladies squatting by steaming woks, or one of the ubiquitous three stool restaurants. Any of them can whip up a fast and filling meal or maybe even a take-out wedding feast. Convenient and colorful these gastroniques may be, but the wise Asia hand has always kept a certain distance.

With the advent of the modern shopping plaza, first in Bangkok and now in other parts of Thailand, a whole new generation of fast food places has emerged. The big names are there: Pizza Hut, KFC, and the Big Mac.

But a new kind of Thai restaurant has also appeared. The best and most conspicuous example is S&P. S&P was started a dozen or so years ago, by a couple of Thai ladies who had a knack for baking and cooking. They apparently also understood that the younger generation cared not only about how delicious a meal was, but also about how it was prepared and served. S&P hit the right combination, and prospered. S&P's are now found all over Bangkok, in Chiang Mai and other Thai cities and in London. Regrettably, there is no S&P in the United

#### What a Great Christmas Idea

How about giving your old friend, brother or sister a membership to the ISB Network. If the membership is purchased by December 18, 1993 the cost is only \$25.00. This is a \$10.00 savings over the current \$35.00 for a two year membership. For the \$25.00 subscription they will get news letters, a complete list of currently known alumni, reunion updates and other information on ISB'ers. There are great plans for the future so get a friend or loved one involved today and save. Send a check and information on who you would like to enroll to:

ISB Network
P.O. Box 3429
Annapolis, MD 21403

Or call 410/280-2421

States

The S&P formula is an extensive menu of Thai, Chinese, and some Western dishes that are prepared quickly, and served by a staff of well-trained and highly motivated young people. S&P Restaurants are invariably bright and clean. There are no frills; there is no hassle, All the food is wholesome, tasty, and inexpensive. The customer leaves satisfied. Usually a bakery is attached, with a number of interesting things a tourist can sneak back to his hotel room. Other restaurants in the S&P mold can also be found in cities like Bangkok or Chiang Rai. A very modern shopping Plaza is now part of downtown Chiang

The big name franchises are there, as are a couple of local restaurants that provide quick uncomplicated meals. The highlight of several of our visits to this new plaza was Mister Donut. What we found - on each occasion - was the freshest, best tasting donuts in Southeast Asia.

If yon're in Chiang Mai and need a donut, now you know where to go.

How's The Food is an article which was printed in the "Banana Tree", Alexandria, VA. Sent in by Nancy Bernard Chappell '70.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

For the past several months, I have had the pleasure of serving as President of our Alumni Association. This has not

been an easy task. Following in the footsteps of Mimi Drake Parks, president of the network for ten years, is quite a challenge. Without the efforts of this woman, there would be no ISB Network. I cannot imagine this, because the Network has added so much to our lives. I hope to be able to live up to the insurmountable task that lays before the Network and myself. I am honored to have been selected by the Board of Directors. Words cannot express my feelings....thank you.

For those of you who don't know me, I was in Bangkok from February of 1967 until July of 1969; I am a member of the class of '71. I have a sister Brenda Wilkerson Koestler, Class of '72, as well as a brother, Richard, Class of '77. I've dedicated much of my time and energies, since my first reunion in Boston (summer of 1988) to finding lost alumni, from all years, and promoting our reunions. This has been my primary goal and I assure you my goals are unchanged.

Two years ago (fall of 1991), I had the opportunity to go back to Bangkok and visit ISB with my old friend Mark Brandes, class of "71. People...walking back inside the compound of ISB was like walking back in time. There are some minor additions to the campus, but for the most part change has not taken its toll on "Good Ole' ISB." What an experience. For those skeptics in the group with who think you are never able to go back...I have to tell, it aint true. I had the time of my life.

The overall city of Bangkok has

ISB Network News

changed in many ways. However, I found many things to be the same. I don't think the people of the Land of Smiles will ever change. I found the warmth, and hospitality of the people to be intact. Traveling around to all of the old stomping grounds was a lot of fun. Although much has given way to progress, I wouldn't trade my experience for the world. I hope all of you get the opportunity to go back. I assure you....you won't regret it!

Last month, I had the great pleasure of attending a gathering in Washington D.C. of some 50 Alumni. We visited the Vietnam Memorial, as well as having a barbecue at Jo Yount's, class of "72), house and a sit-down feast at a local Thai restaurant. I would like to thank Debbie Twing Boyajian, Class of '72, for her efforts and fellow alumni for offering their homes to all of us. Thanks to all of you who participated in this gathering.

These off-year "gatherings" are a great way to generate enthusiasm for our big Reunions. The "gatherings" enable Alumni, who, have not been able to attend in the past, to share in the magic of Reunions. I promote these off-year gatherings and hope to continue attending them in the future.

With this in mind, I call on all Alumni for their help. We need class representatives who are willing to devote time and energy toward locating and tracking these global nomads, as well as stirring up interest for our upcoming Reunion, August of 1994. If we all pitch in and work for this reunion the rewards will be great!! Without the help of many of you, in the past, we could not have come as far as we have. But, it's an never ending task and we do need help.

In closing, I want everyone to know that my time is your time. Call or write me and I will give you my undivided attention. Remember, we need your help to move this along, so please contribute what ever you are able. See you in Clearwater.....

Sawadii

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