

THE THAI THAT BINDS



ISB Network News



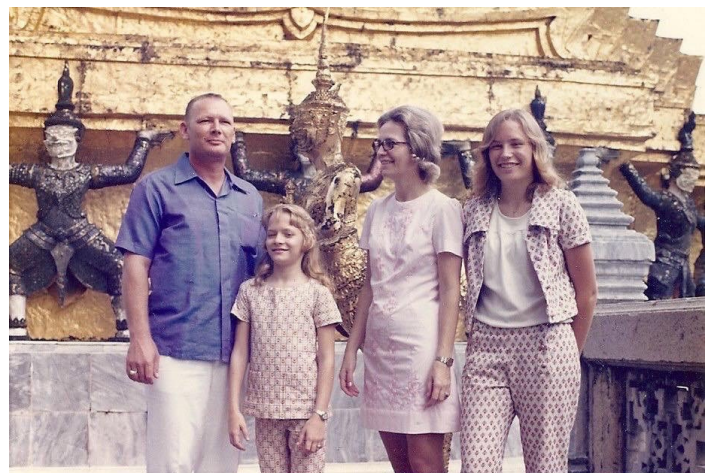
SAWADEE KA ISB SCHOOLMATES



Welcome to our autumn newsletter. The change in seasons brings changes to our Board of Directors. I've been a member of the ISBN Board of Directors for almost five years, having served as Director of Membership, Vice-President, and now President. I'm very excited about the Board that has come together. It has been a number of years since every position has been filled. New members, Suzanne Meeker '84 and Cindy Hunt Leech '80, bring state and national board experience and they are overflowing with ideas. Our BOD now has equal representation covering three decades. Now, if we could just recruit someone from the 90s!

My first reunion was the 2010 gathering in VAB and I haven't missed one since. During the 2012 reunion, I volunteered as a greeter, welcoming those arriving at the Omni Resort in Broomfield, CO. January of 2013, I returned to Bangkok for the first time in 40 years. What an exciting time that was! Maybe that will be the topic for another column in another newsletter. The next reunion in San Jose was my favorite. There I became a member of the Reunion Committee and have been making name badges ever since. Daytona, Nashville, two mini reunions in Seattle, road trips to Austin to gather with ISB schoolmates or assist David in the Shack, Thai dinners here in Houston, Zoom happy hours ... any opportunity to be together with fellow ISBeings. While greatly disappointed we weren't able to gather in Tucson this past summer, I know we will reunite in the summer of 2021 at our Tucson, AZ reunion.

For those who don't know me here's a little biography. I'll try to run through 62 ½ years as quickly as I can. I'm a native Texas Aggie, born in Bryan, TX, shortly before my dad graduated from Texas A&M. An Air Force brat, we spent the majority of my dad's career in Texas and Florida. We enjoyed every summer weekend swimming and water skiing while growing up on the beautiful beaches of the FL Panhandle. After 5 years we found out we were going to Bangkok. Daddy had to take the globe off the shelf to show us where it was. I finished 7th, spent all of 8th, and most of 9th grade at ISB.



I played saxophone in the band, participated in house games as a member of Blue House, was in Miss Myra's production of "Cinderella" while at Bangsue. I was a member of the girls' varsity soccer team once at the Bangkapi campus. I got to meet the King and Queen while attending a Red Cross event at the American Embassy. After two incredible years my dad received orders to relocate up country and my mother, sister, and I returned to the States. I experienced the greatest cultural shock of my life moving back to Texas and enrolling in the same high school my parents had attended.

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Membership Update

We greatly appreciate all those keeping up with their membership and all the new members who have joined over the past several months. As we approach the Reunion, our goal is to reach 1,000 members! If you are not a member, or have let your membership lapse, please give serious consideration to joining or renewing.

Currently, the dues are \$40.00 for a TWO year membership and are tax deductible. On January 1, 2021, we will increase the dues (for the first time in 18 years) to \$60.00 for a two year membership. Your membership dues will help us continue to provide, and increase, two different types of scholarships for ISB students. More information can be found on the ISB Network website (ISBNetwork.com).

In addition, members receive "perks," such as a lower reunion registration fee, access to all newsletters, discounts to Shop the Shack, and special reunion surprises for members only.

Want No Stress Renewal?!

Become a Sustaining Member

If you would like to "lock in" the current membership rate of \$20 per year, become a **Sustaining Member** by paying 10 years of membership up front (\$200 due by 12/31/2020). Special benefits include a 15% discount and free shipping from The Shack, special recognition on the ISB Network website, and recognition at the Reunion.

ISB NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Kathy Beaird, '76

Vice President

Suzanne Cano Meeker, '84

Secretary/Treasurer

**Jameela "Cricket"
Fluker Lanza, '67**

Key Executive/Director of
Reunions

David Wilkerson, '71

Director of Communications

Kathie Boslet, '73

Director of Membership

Cindy Hunt Leach, '80

Ambassador to Thailand

David Elder, '69

Director of Outreach

Becky Byers Quirsfeld, '69

Director of Technology

Sid Gerson, '72

Directors-at-Large

**Alicia Beaird Hutchison, '80
Chris Hunt, '81**

Keeper of Archives

Jo Hanna Ewing, '69

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Jumping forward decades ...after twenty-one years in the field of Special Education, I left teaching 17 years ago to join a friend in her pet sitting business. We have 5 dogs of our own including the newest additions ... Bette and Fanny, our seven month old Dachshund puppies. Music has long been a passion. I sing in a church choir and have been ringing hand bells for over 30 years. I have been lucky to have had the opportunity to ring bells in two different professional community groups here in Houston. I currently ring with the Houston Bronze Ensemble. Last year a group of us joined 300 other ringers for a performance at Carnegie Hall. It was the experience of a lifetime!

So, there ya have it. I hope I haven't bored y'all too much. Now you know I can write as much as I talk. Khop khun ka!

Kathy Beaird, '76



Board Member Profile

Vice President, Suzanne Cano Meeker

Class of 1984

Suzanne Cano Meeker, class of 1984, attended ISB from kindergarten to 10th grade (1972-82). She has amazing memories of life in Bangkok, including Blue Birds and Girl Guides (the equivalent of Brownies and Girl Scouts in the US), ballet lessons (10 years in total), and weekends at the Soi 15 campus, watching endless baseball. Her family was in Thailand due to her father's career as a manufacturing operations executive for Phelps Dodge International. After 10 years, they moved to Mexico City where Suzanne finished high school and then went to college at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in upstate New York.

In 1994, she met her husband, Bill Meeker, and they married two years later. They moved often for his career (11 addresses in 24 years) and have settled in Charlotte, North Carolina, where Suzanne now works at Bank of America as a Process Design Consultant. They have two young adults in college (Appalachian State and CU Boulder). An engineer with an MBA, she has been an enthusiastic volunteer leader for her entire adult life, serving her national sorority, local nonprofits, and civic groups. A highlight was when, as an active working mom, she stepped up to coordinate her children's school district program for Odyssey of the Mind, with more than 100 students on 17 teams. She is now a volunteer for Charlotte's performing arts program and looks forward to returning to the theater post Covid!

With all these experiences in volunteer leadership (in addition to a 30+ year career in process excellence and continuous improvement), Suzanne is well placed to serve on the ISB Network Board. She credits her success to the incredible education and experience she lived while in Bangkok. She led the Clean Birth Kit assembly (service project) in Nashville 2018 and loves to dance in the 70's and 80's hospitality suites at Reunion. She is excited to facilitate discussions with the Board around volunteer recruitment, program design, succession planning and strategic planning to ensure our organization's continued success as an Alumni Network for generations to come.

Calling All Class Reps!



**HEAR YE, HEAR YE! WE ARE HOSTING
A FIRST EVER ZOOM CALL FOR ALL CLASS REP!**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24

11 AM EASTERN/8 AM PACIFIC TIME.

What is a Class Rep, you ask? Class Reps are volunteers who have stepped up to share information between the members of your class and the ISB Network leaders. We want to hear from you, so use your Class Rep as the conduit for feedback on what we can offer you as a member of our Network.

If you are a member of the Network, and go to the ISB Network website, there is a link at the bottom of the Home page for Class Reps. Then you click by your (graduating year) decade and see the names of your Class Reps. Another click and you can get their contact information (and yes, we are looking for volunteers with the right skills to help us improve this website)!

If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Becky Byers Quirsfeld (1969) at director.outreach@isbnetwork.com. We are an all-volunteer organization, so we need your skills and enthusiasm to improve our organization and further our mission: serving the International School Bangkok, its alumni and students, and the Kingdom of Thailand.

If you are already a Class Rep, thank you! And we look forward to seeing you on our Zoom call, Saturday October 24. We will be reviewing roles, responsibilities, and share "best practice" ideas for getting our fellow alumni engaged. The class of 1970 just had a fantastic 50-year reunion via Zoom - they have 6 Class Reps who worked together to make that happen! There are more exciting ideas ahead for new programs and a lot of activity before our next Reunion in 2021, so we need your feedback and support!

Zoom Link

Meeting ID: 893 4721 1787

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89347211787# US (Germantown)
+13126266799,,89347211787# US (Chicago)

2021 "MAI PEN RAI AT THE OASIS" REUNION UPDATE



Update from David Wilkerson, Director of Reunions

We have received updates from the Hilton El Conquistador Hotel, especially on how room reservations and changes **must be made**. The new reunion room block is good from Tuesday, July 20, to Tuesday, July 27, 2021. For those that registered for the Thai dinner, that will now be on Thursday, July 22, 2021.

For those with reservations for 2020

- All reservations from our 2020 event have been migrated over to the 2021 reunion
- Confirmations were sent via email in August
- If you have received your confirmation email and no changes are needed, there is no action required
- If you did not receive your confirmation email, please contact **Lori Gregoire** (details below) at the Hilton
- If you need to make any changes to your reservation, **please only email or call Lori**.

I want to make a new reservation

Option 1: Book online via our **ISB Reunion Room Block Link**.

Once you are on the Reunion Room Block page, ensure you are logged in to your HHonors Account (check top right hand corner), and that will connect your HHonors Account to the reservation.

Option 2: Contact **Lori Gregoire**

for assistance and request the ISB Room Block.
If you're a Hilton Honors Members, please provide that information to receive your points.



Hilton Contact, Lori Gregoire
Email (faster method): Lori.Gregoire@hilton.com



Phone: 520-544-1709

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL HILTON CENTRAL RESERVATION CALL CENTER.
THEY CANNOT ASSIST WITH OUR SPECIFIC ROOM BLOCK.**

REUNION REGISTRATION FEES ARE IN PLACE, SO YOU CAN REGISTER WITH US
ANYTIME AT ON THE **ISB NETWORK WEBSITE** AND FOLLOW THE REUNION LINKS.

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR PATIENCE! SEE YOU AT
MAI PEN RAI @ THE OASIS REUNION 2021!

ALL
GREAT CHANGES
ARE PRECEDED
BY
CHAOS

EVEN YEARS ARE OUT.
TIME TO GET
ODD!



ISB Panthers, our reunions are being moved to ODD years.
Since 1984, our reunions have been held on even years beginning with the
Atlanta Reunion.

Covid-19, which has been disrupting our lives since March of 2020,
continues to "plague" our plans.

Happy to announce we are moving forward with our plans for our first
ODD reunion which will be held in July, 2021, Tucson, AZ.

Our second ODD reunion will be held in 2023 on the East Coast.

The classes of 70 and 72 who expected to celebrate their 50th reunions with their extended
ISB family should hit up their classmates in the classes of 71 and 73 for free drinks.

We are all in this together.





**[CLICK THIS LINK](#) FOR A
NIFTY GUIDE TO HELP
YOU PLAN YOUR TRIP!**

**WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR UPCOMING 2021 TUCSON REUNION
IN JULY OF 2021. IT WILL BE HOT BUT THERE ARE PLENTY
OF ACTIVITIES WE CAN ENJOY THAT MAY COOL US OFF OR
HELP US TO FORGET ABOUT THE HEAT. HERE ARE JUST A FEW!**



VISIT MT. LEMMON

Do you want to beat the heat? Well take a 29-mile trip north of Tucson to the center of the Santa Catalina Mountains and visit Mt. Lemmon. The average temperature on Mount Lemmon is approximately 30 degrees cooler than Tucson. The top of the mountain is 9,157' and is the location of the southernmost ski area in the U.S. You can also take a ride on the ski lift which is open all year. In addition, there are a number of recreational amenities offered on the mountain, including hiking, camping, fishing, birding, and rock climbing, making the area an attractive recreation and getaway location less than one hour from Tucson.

[Click this link for more information](#)



ARIZONA - SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

The Desert Museum provides a naturalistic and enriching sanctuary for its animals and plants. The goal of the museum is to inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world. 85% of the museum is outdoors and primarily a walking experience.

[Click this link for more information](#)



DOWNTOWN AREA AND RESTAURANTS

The downtown area of Tucson has been 'revived' so there are theaters, outdoor events, nice restaurants, which makes it a great place to stroll in the cooler hours of dusk. Downtown, 4th Avenue and the Mercado District have interesting events going on. Eudice Cornelius, one of our ISB alumni, recommends a few popular Mexican food restaurants, El Indio on South 6th or even Nicos Tacos fast food, that are inexpensive and tasty. She also recommended Cafe Poco Cosa, which is in the downtown area, with very interesting Mexico City cuisine that is fabulous, very rich with flavors and well worth a visit.

[Click this link for more information on the Cafe.](#)

**REMEMBER TO PACK SUN SCREEN, LIP BALM, WIDE BRIM HAT,
AND STAY HYDRATED!**

In Memory of Georgia Moore Crump ISB, Class of 1972

It is with a broken heart that I give tribute to Georgia Moore Crump who passed away March 24, 2018. As I understand, Georgia and her husband were coming home from dinner with friends. She complained to her husband that she did not feel well and to head to the emergency room. Georgia died of a heart attack that evening. She is survived by her husband, son, mother, and her brother Derek (ISB73). Georgia's daughter passed away June 2017. Her father passed some time ago.



I have never met someone who was so cheerful, positive, effervescent, and full of life. I have never met anyone who did not like, love, or cherish her. Those attributes certainly kept her from crumbling through the loss of her daughter and as a nurse working in hospice care. Things that would kill most of us.

My fondest remembrances of her lead me back to my ISB days. Georgia sang and played the organ in the Internationals for which I played bass during one of its incarnations. This was not the ISB Young Internationals, which she was also member of, but a pop/soul/dance band that played the Teen Club often. It was a hard-working band that was led by our singer, Loli Pettegrew (ISB70). Between practice and gigs, we spent much time together. On late nights coming home in the back of the Pettegrew's station wagon, we often slept warmly against each other.

I would visit her and her brother Derek in Florida during college Christmas breaks in the 70's. We lost touch as we moved on. Georgia became a nurse, married Bill Crump, had a son, adopted a Chinese baby girl, lived abroad. In the late 90's, she could not resist her fellow ISBings. She started attending reunions. Her work to gather and sing with the Young Internationals at the Daytona Reunion showed how much she was a part of us.

I lost a few days of functionality when her dear friend Lee Quillin (ISB73) reached me and gave me the news. I will forever miss Georgia and her endless smile. May her memory heal my heart. I imagine her spirit is soaring. May it visit us from time to time.

Phillipe W. Ritter (ISB73)

SHOP THE SHACK

BLACK FRIDAY SALE AT THE SHACK!

SHOP ALL BLACK FRIDAY WEEKEND

**20%
OFF**

ISB Network Members will receive 20% off
and FREE SHIPPING.

Make sure you are logged into your account before you order

Free shipping is only available to members who live in the USA.

**15%
OFF**

Non-Members will receive 15% off
with a coupon code.

To receive, email David Wilkerson in advance and he will
provide you a code to use at check out

**STAY
TUNED**

Additional Holiday Sale
Announcements
Coming Soon!

REMEMBER TO SHOP AT THE SHACK AS
ALL PROFITS ARE A PART OF THE
ISB FOUNDATION!

CHECK IT OUT: [**SHOP THE SHACK**](#)

