

THE THAI THAT BINDS



ISB Network News



FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

In This **ISSUE**

Page 1

In This Issue and Board of Directors

Page 2

Board Profile: Cindy Leach

Page 3

Membership Update

Page 4

Board Profile: Becky Byers Quirsfeld

Pages 5 & 6

Reunion Updates

Page 7 - 8

Board Profile: David Elder
ISB Network Website Assistance

Page 9

2021 Erawan Insert from ISB Network

Page 10

Shop the Shack

ISB NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Kathie Boslet, '73

Director of Membership

Cindy Hunt Leach, '80

Ambassador to Thailand

David Elder, '69

Director of Outreach

Becky Byers Quirsfeld, '69

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Chris Hunt, '81**

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Board Member Profile

Director of Membership, Cindy Hunt Leach

Class of 1980

My name is Cindy Hunt Leach – class of “80” and current Director of Membership on the ISB Network Foundation. My family and I moved to Bangkok the summer of 74 and attended ISB at Bangsue my 7th and 8th grade years. My father was US Navy Intelligence working out of the US Embassy. Due to the withdrawal of American forces, we returned to the USA on the bicentennial.

What do I remember about ISB? Culture and Diversity – I remember hearing there were 164 countries represented! What an amazing time to spend with kids from all over the world and the feeling of acceptance of all! Go Blue House – I participated in every sport I could and know this is when volleyball became a passion for me! Choir – music has always been a part of my life and was so excited when we performed on TV where I sang a solo “I Don’t Know How to Love Him”. Riding samlors - especially when I missed the school bus! The dress code - having our clothes sewed - I had the best bathing suit of my life specifically sewed for me! Getting off the school bus at the top of the Soi to get fried bananas, pineapple, mangos, and sticky sweet rice!

We lived on Soi see sib gaow, Amara nong. There were many families living on the Amaras so there was never a time when there was not something going on. Life at our home was like many others with banana trees, chingchoks, tokays, monsoon flooding with fish surrounding our house, drinking Thai ice tea in a bag with a straw, eating noodles off the cart, negotiating everything, Diem (our maid), Soi 71 for sports (Go Mean Machine), the Teen Club (Jaws anyone?), the bowling alley, the wonderful smell of garlic and the awful smell of dried squid, fresh seafood at Mr. Chin’s, the monks passing by, and oxen, monkeys and snakes appearing out of nowhere.

I loved the traveling we did in Thailand and still wonder how the crowded buses did not tip over. My most memorable experiences include visiting a tribal village in Chiang Mai and watching the elephant’s work, riding a horse saddleless on Pattaya beach (and getting bucked off), beaches of Hua Hin, the beautiful Wats, Chao Phraya River, Dad driving our station wagon on the left side of the road and scaring us each time he passed someone.

Since joining ISB Network Foundation, it has brought back even more memories! My sister, Chris Hunt “81”, found the website and because of ISB Network (not to be confused with the Foundation) we attended our first reunion in 1998 at Long Beach. At that time, we were hoping to see friends that we have not seen since leaving Bangkok – if only 1. And we found 2! I think there were 5 of us from the “1980s.” Hooking up with “old” friends at each reunion has been amazing. Chris and I started volunteering at the reunions to meet more people. It has been wonderful meeting “new” friends that I did not know at ISB. I have sooooo many lifelong friends now and cannot wait to meet more.

Since I am the Director of Membership, I must mention the best thing I did was become a member of the ISB Network Foundation. I may have not had much understanding of what that meant at the time besides getting a list to find old friends, but I wanted to support the Foundation. I encourage everyone to do so as the members are devoted to serving the International School of 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.

My experience in Thailand and ISB are memories I cherish and dream of returning with friends/family. It is on my list and hoping some of those that have planned trips with groups of us will do it again. I am in!

Membership Update

We greatly appreciate all those keeping up with their membership and all the new members who have joined. 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 \$60.00 for a TWO-year membership and are tax-deductible. On January 1, 2021, we increased 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 at the Shack and special reunion surprises only offered to members.

Sustaining Members

Become a Sustaining Member by paying 10 years of membership upfront (\$300). Special benefits include a 15% discount and free shipping from The Shack, special recognition on the ISB Network website, and discounted reunion fees, and special recognition at the Reunion.

Sustaining Members

Thank you to everyone who has currently committed to being a sustaining member

Pamela Alexander - Class of 1974	Leon Kalbfleisch - Class of 1975
David Bartelt - Class of 1982	Deborah Lloyd Fetterman - Class of 1974
Kathy Beaird - Class of 1976	Jodi McGaughey Evans - Class of 1967
Vincent Bennett - Class of 1967	Libby Maynard - Class of 1966
Miriam Blanford Davis - Class of 1975	Sandra McCoskrie Blanchette - Class of 1972
Kathlyne Boslet - Class of 1973	Richard Naldrett - Class of 1968
Lorraine V Brilliant - Class of 1972	Donald Nibblett - Class of 1970
Devin Brougham - Class of 1973	David Norton - Class of 1973
Michael Bunting - Class of 1974	Linda Paradise Lyles - Class of 1971
Suzanne Cano Meeker - Class of 1984	Werner Pflaum - Class of 1978
Carol Ann Cole - Class of 1972	Robert Richey - Class of 1963
Robert Cox - Class of 1972	Susan Rivers Benoit - Class of 1985
Miss Jillian Crocker - Class of 1967	Rhonda Robertson Ish - Class of 1986
Dennis Daly - Class of 1977	Terry Rogers Bishop - Class of 1972
Melissa Dawes Snow - Class of 1966	Sara Stelling Maliva - Class of 1976
Maryann "Mimi" Drake Wetherington - Class of 1973	Barbara Stilwell Snook - Class of 1969
Donald Drew - Class of 1975	Helen Tinson DuTeau - Class of 1985
David Elder - Class of 1960	Kevan Urquhart - Class of 1975
Timothy Eldredge - Class of 1972	Rao Vedurumudi - Class of 1975
Margaret Finn Frame - Class of 1976	Valerie Vogt Sills - Class of 1977
Bonnie Geilfuss Naldrett - Class of 1968	Barbara Voorhees - Class of 1971
Sidney Gerson - Class of 1972	William Wadleigh - Class of 1986
Sharon Gladish Huntermark - Class of 1975	Marilyn Weed - Class of 1969
Gregory Greeley - Class of 1974	Patricia Whitten Bell - Class of 1967
Sherri Haase - Class of 1981	David Wilkerson - Class of 1971
Paul Heidemann - Class of 1973	Esther Williams Kalbfleisch - Class of 1975
Christine Hunt - Class of 1981	Tal Wingate - Class of 1970
Cynthia Hunt Leach - Class of 1980	



Board Member Profile

Director of Outreach,

Becky Byers Quirsfeld

Class of 1969

We moved to Bangkok in 1963 because my father worked for The Institute of International Education. When we came to Thailand, Dr. Brohm had my family traveling Thailand in a jeep to get to know the country, the people, the customs, and the language. I felt welcomed by the students at ISB when I came even though it was in the middle of the year.

I joined the Bangkok Riding and Polo Club and got a horse named Chokey. It was a wonderful experience especially due to Mrs. Rhodes and Pui (her daughter). I learned to become a good equestrian. It may have been because I was scared to fall off the horse because Mrs. Rhodes always had 2 German Shepherds by her side all the time and she yelled, but we listened. I found many friends at the Bangkok Riding and Polo Club and many I am still in contact with. I also got involved in a local waterskiing group at Pattaya.

In 1966 we moved to Hong Kong and I went to The Hong Kong International School which had just opened and then went to King Georg the V. There was rioting in Hong Kong, so my mom and I returned to Bangkok.

My mother Irene Byers was a teacher. She taught high school English. I became very active at ISB. After graduation from ISB, I went to The American College of Switzerland for two years, returned to the states, and graduated from NIU.

I went to work for TWA in 1974 hoping to fly to Asia but while in training they dropped the routes to Asia. I worked for TWA for 18 years flying both domestic and international routes until my family moved to Hong Kong in 1991.

My husband worked for American Express. We lived in Hong Kong for 3 years and my sons went to Hong Kong International School (HKIS). I did substitute teaching at HKIS and the Canadian International School. We moved to Singapore for 7 years because American Express moved the headquarters there. My sons went to Singapore American School (SAS) and I became involved in Riding for The Disabled. I was Vice President of the organization for 4 years. I taught local disabled children and adults to ride horses which was very rewarding. It is a wonderful program and has proven to help disabled people to enjoy and improve their physical condition. We were training a young man for the para-Olympics when we left Singapore.

We returned to the states in 2000 and I returned to teaching in Connecticut. We retired and we moved to Reno, NV which is a great place to live. Nevada has great outdoor activities, beautiful scenery, 30 minutes from Lake Tahoe and a very giving city of people.



2021 "MAI PEN RAI AT THE OASIS" REUNION UPDATE

Update from David Wilkerson, Director of Reunions

The **Mai Pen Rai** at the Oasis Reunion is on schedule for July 23 - 25, 2021 at the El Conquistador Resort in Tucson, AZ. We will observe the policies of the state of Arizona and the El Conquistador as it relates to the pandemic. More details as we get closer. We wanted to provide everyone with some key Reunion updates. For hotel information, please check out the next page.

REGISTER NOW!

Click the button to visit the
registration page



Click for the Main Reunion Page



Click for the Reunion FAQ Page



Click to see who is attending

Reunion Registration Fees

Registrations are still being taken at the standard reunion rate, but they will go up again **May 5, 2021**.

The current registration fees are:

\$200/members, Spouse, Guest

\$220/nonmembers

\$180/members child under 11

\$190.00/non-members child under 11

(So...now is the time to join ISBN to take advantage of one of the perks of becoming a member).

Thai Dinner Update

For those of you who registered for the Thai dinner, it will now be held Thursday, July 22, 2021.

We are currently sold out of the optional first Thai dinner, but we are working on a second Thai dinner. If you would like to be put on the wait list for the first dinner, or interested in the second dinner, please email us to: director.reunions@isbnnetwork.com

Remember!

ALL OF THESE
CLASSES ARE
CELEBRATING!

Class of 1961 – 60th

Class of 1971 – 50th

Class of 1981 – 40th

Class of 1991 – 30th

Class of 2001 – 20th

Class of 2011 – 10th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need advance help loading the truck in Austin, unloading in Tucson and packing and loading the truck again after the reunion. We also need help during the reunion with the Shack store, Registration, Teen Club, House Games, and more. Please consider volunteering for a few hours pre-reunion or during the reunion or post reunion.

CONTACT JANET LOWE CRAVEN '81 TO VOLUNTEER:
REUNION.VOLUNTEER@ISBNNETWORK.COM

2021 "MAI PEN RAI AT THE OASIS" HOTEL INFORMATION



Important Hotel Information

The reunion room block is good from Tuesday, July 20, to Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

The Room Rate is \$115 per night - this is the same rate for single, double, triple or quad room.



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.**

Note: You will be charged for one room night when you make your reservation. This charge is totally refundable provided that you cancel 72 hours prior to your first night's stay. If you cancel or change inside of the 72 hours, you will lose your deposit.



My Pen,

Board Member Profile

Director to Thailand, David Elder

Class of 1969

The Elder Family was a Navy Family. We traveled the World! In 1963, our father near the end of his long career was serving on the *USS Springfield*, the flagship of the 6th fleet in the Mediterranean. Homeport was Villefranche, France. We loved it so much. We traveled all the time, visiting many countries around the Med and North Africa. Sadly, I never made it to the Pyramids. (Maybe la-la-later)! In 1964, Art had his last tour at the Pentagon and retired. A few months later, he came home and announced, "I have a new job. Pack your gear, we are moving to Bangkok, Thailand." I remember we were all just staring at each other, and then my sister Elaine said, "Where the heck is that?" He said, "Google That," I mean, "Look it up in the Encyclopedia Britannica." A distant ancestor to Google. Next thing I knew the doors of that TWA McDonald Douglas DC10 opened up on the runway at Don Muang Airport. I remember the shock and blast of humidity and heat. We settled into the Amarin hotel for 6 months.

We experienced our first trip to the beaches of Hua Hin, where we quickly heard of "Pattaya"! My mother Lois worked as the Registrar at ISB and was also a substitute teacher.

Soon the summer was ready to give way, and I was excited to get started at ISB. The first week at ISB was exciting. That week there was a festival on campus, "International Day." There were demonstrations by groups of students showcasing their various countries of origin. I loved the bamboo dance of the Philippines, African Dance, Vietnamese Dance, and many more. This is also the time I developed an interest and later a passion for Tae Kwon Do. Kim Myung Soo, the Korean Tae Kwon Do instructor, radiated power. The Black Belts and the Brown Belts performed synchronized patterns, called Katas and "Free Sparring" which are short three-minute sessions of combat demonstrations between two students. It looked lethal to me and I was totally enthralled. This was followed by a "board and brick breaking session." I remember John Soderburg, an easy 6' 2" tall, rise high in the air and break a board with a high-flying front kick. I could not believe my eyes. More breaking of stacked bricks followed. Then, "Mr. Kim," as he was called, came up to the podium. He introduced HIS Master, who was in town for some Black Belt exams at the YMCA.

Mr. Kim had a wry smile on his face. He was about to demonstrate something I had never seen. He said his Master was powerful. He invited six of the largest boys in the crowd to the stage. He lined them up in front of his Master and asked them to try to push his Master off of the spot where he stood. He counted to three and then each of the athletes tried to push the Master from his spot. The crowd, which was energized and laughed, fell silent. The boys looked totally confused and stared at each other. Mr. Kim smiled and said, "Oh, perhaps you were not ready," in his accented English. You may try again. And so, they did! Again, nothing happened. They were totally perplexed.

Director to Thailand, David Elder

Then the tables were reversed. Mr. Kim said, "Don't you think it is fair if you, my Master, should also be given the chance to try?" The crowd roared in anticipation. Again, he counted to 3, and all I really remember was what seemed like a tiny billow of the Master's belly and a powerful breath. All six boys went flying backward, tumbling down, tousled and shocked. Not harmed but certainly they felt something. The boys returned to their seats staring at each other. It was this demonstration, and another performed by senior Peggy Crowley, that convinced me to sign up for the Tae Kwon Do Club. This was a pivotal day in my life, as it started a lifelong association with Martial Arts, Healing, Yoga, Tai Chi, and the Healing Arts.

I came to understand the principles of "Chi" or "Life Force," how it is gathered and stored, and how it is dissipated. I committed myself to the training. Although I never made any of the traditional sports teams, playing ping pong and pool at the Teen Club became my passions. That and the hamburgers and fries by the pool! Slowly, with months of steady daily after school practice, my confidence and power started to grow. I loved that feeling. Two years later, I was awarded my Black Belt. It was the first and only class/exam my mother and father attended! I think they were both proud and horrified by what all of us went through in that exam.

Whenever effervescent thoughts "Of My Sweet Thaillana" arise in my heart, as they often do, I remind myself as Dickens said, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Mostly, as the years fly by, I remember the good times. With respect to Martial Artists, we like to say, "You are never as good as you once were, but just once, you are as good as you ever were!"

ISB Network Website Assistance

How to log in

If you are a member of the Network and wish to sign in, please go to isbnetwork.com. Select "sign-in"

On the "Member Sign-in" page, you will enter the following:

- User name: first and last name with a space between them. Example: john smith (it is not case sensitive)
- Password (you created it).

Your last name should be the last name from your ISB days.

If you are not a member of the Network, you can use the links on top of the page to find out more about our Alumni Association. You will not have access to our data base unless you are a member.

Forgot your password?



If you are a member of the Network and have forgotten your password, please email Sid Gerson for assistance: director.technology@isbnetwork.com

You can also email Kathy Beaird for issues with logging in to the Network:

president@isbnetwork.com



www.ISBNetwork.com

ISB Network

Alumni Dedicated to Reuniting
Long Lost Friends from ISB

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021

We are proud of your success and welcome you to the Alumni Family! Stay connected to other former ISB students by joining the ISB Network free!

Join and gain access to special Alumni exclusives, gatherings, social media, and opportunities to connect with other alumni across the world. Plan now to join us for an all-school alumni reunion, held every two years, in the United States! Our next reunion is July 2021 in Arizona!



JOIN US

Join the ISB Network to set up your own profile page. Membership is FREE for the first 10 years after graduation from ISB! On the network you can find other alumni, shop The Shack, get the latest updates on Reunion information, and access the quarterly newsletter.

2020 ISB Network

Achievement Award Winner

Montawan Nae Nae Chairatchaneeboon

A recent ISB graduate, Nae Nae will be taking a 2020-2021 gap year before continuing her education at the University of Pennsylvania where she plans to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Not only has she won the prestigious ISBN Award for '19-'20, she also earned the ISB Leadership Award for 2020, was a recipient of the ISB Outstanding Leadership and Service Award, and in 2019 won the EARCOS Global Citizenship Award.

The \$1500 scholarship money she received from ISBN was donated to the ISB English Service Project and the Habitat for Humanity.



Visit www.ISBNetwork.com to learn more

SHOP THE SHACK

Feb 5 -
15



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY - SHACK SALE!

SÙK SǎN WAN WAA-LEN-TAAY
สุขสันต์วันวาเลนไทน์

Must order by February 7th to receive before the 14th.



25%
OFF

Members will receive 25% off

Make sure you are logged into your account before you order

Sustaining Members receive free shipping automatically

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



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

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

