

THE THAI THAT BINDS



ISB Network News



JUNE

2021

NEWSLETTER

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Director of Reunions

David Wilkerson, '71

Director of Outreach

Becky Byers Quirsfeld, '69

Why I Go to the ISB Network Reunion

Don Nibblett, '70



Someone recently drew my attention to something I posted before the Colorado Reunion in 2012, and I feel that it is worth reposting. I wrote this while I was preparing to return from a deployment as an Army Civilian in Afghanistan, and knew that seeing my fellow ISB'ers would be so good after being away for so long. I think the same situation applies now, since we have been so restricted in our contacts due to recent circumstances. So bear with me, here it is again:

I have been watching with interest the online discussions of the upcoming Reunion in Colorado, and I just wanted to take the time to encourage those of you who have not committed to attending this bash to go ahead and jump on the bandwagon.

I have been in Afghanistan for the last 9, going on 10, months and one of the things I have been looking forward to when I get home is the great time that I know my wife and I will have in the company of my fellow ISB'ers during the Reunion. As I have said before, to me these reunions are a homecoming, in that growing up as a military brat I never had a home town that I truly could call my own, and never had a place I could go back to and find old friends and meet new ones that shared common experiences. That is, of course, was until I went to my first ISB Reunion.

At the Reunion I get to see friends that I have known for over 40 years, and I also get to make new friends that understand what it was like to live away from the States during our formative years, and understand why I look back fondly on sam-lars, Singha, and stinky klongs. To me, the ISB Network is a neighborhood of family and friends – and a neighborhood that welcomes its prodigal sons and daughters back every two years to celebrate new achievements, reforge old bonds, and establish wonderful new connections. Like a neighborhood, or a family, we do not all agree on everything that goes on in our midst, but we have so much in common and such a shared background in those times in Thailand (no matter how brief or how long), that we have to strive to keep the neighborhood alive and the family thriving. We can only do this if we work together, and participate in our association and help it grow and improve.

I strongly encourage all of you to make the effort to be together in Colorado, as I know that it will be another amazing experience. I know some will not be able to be there due to personal circumstances or other obligations, and like family those of us who can be there will miss you and think about you while we are together. I look forward to seeing those of you who can attend in Colorado, where I know we will once again have a great ISB celebration.



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 page 6 of this newsletter.

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

Room Cancellations

**Please do NOT cancel your room
without first notifying David Wilkerson,
Director of Reunions.**

**Your room may be needed to preserve
our room block.**

Email [David Wilkerson](#)

Thai Dinner Update

Thursday, July 22, 2021.

Join us at the Last Thai-Itory for the Optional Thai Dinner

The Thai dinner will now be located on the resort's property
and we will serve Authentic Thai Food!

Last Thai-Itory has ample seating for all who wish to attend.
We don't have to leave the property - Win-Win!

If you did not sign up for the Thai dinner, you still can.
Contact David Wilkerson at [Thai Dinner](#)

Members: \$40.00
Non-Members: \$53.25

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@ISBNETWORK.COM

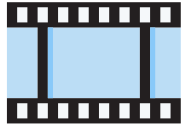


MORE REUNION UPDATES

Audio/Video Equipment Help Needed!

Hello ISBEEers! I am looking for a few volunteers to help with the Audio/Video equipment and presentations we will have at the reunion. If you can help setting up, tearing down, and/or working the equipment during the reunion, please contact me: [Sidney Gerson](#)

Thank you everyone and I look forward to seeing you in Tucson.



PRESIDENTIAL "SWEET" RAFFLE WINNER
Congratulations Paul Heidemann, class of 1973,
who is the winner of the Presidential Suite drawing.

Reunion Registration Fees

It is NOT too late to register.

The current registration fees are:

- \$200/Sustaining Members, Spouse, Guest, and \$180 child under 11
- \$220/Members, Spouse, Guest, and \$200 child under 11
- \$250 non-members, Spouse, Guest, and \$230 child under 11

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

ALUMNI DIRECTORY

Please visit ISBNetwork.com and the alumni directory to make sure your contact information is current and correct.

Many times we change email addresses and/or phone numbers and forget to update the directory with our new information.

Also, make sure you have the years you attended ISB noted in the alumni directory.

Bar Announcement

DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION?

While attending ISB events at the reunion, all bar services must be paid in CASH or CHARGED to your room. Debit and Credit cards will not be accepted.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All rooms at the El Conquistador have the following:

- Mini refrigerator**
- Cuisinart coffeemaker**
- 42-inch HDTV**
- Hairdryer**
- Iron**



Grocery stores are nearby (3-4 miles) if you want to grab food/drinks to keep in your room.



DIRECTOR OF REUNIONS, DAVID WILKERSON



Join us in Tucson, AZ

It's been 3 years since our ISB alumni have gathered together for a reunion. During those years, many countries shut down due to the spread of COVID-19. The USA is now open and we once again can gather together to celebrate our friendships and the love we have for our year(s) at ISB. If you are able to travel, please join us in Tucson.  

WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN I EXPECT?

- Thursday night Thai dinner (optional)
 - Friday night cocktail party*
- Witness the speaking of the GBNE names at Sunset Point
 - Saturday BBQ lunch*
- Saturday night banquet (dinner/entertainment/dancing)*
 - Sunday morning breakfast*
 - Clean Birth Kits special activity (read more below)
 - Teen Club live music by alumni
- House Games competition (no athletic skill required)
- Shopping at The Shack Mercantile (we accept Baht)
 - Browsing the ISB Archives
 - Parties in the class suites
- Dancing the night away like no one is watching
- Relive your youth with old and long lost friends (sleep is optional)

*Denotes what the reunion fee covers which are primarily the catered events, entertainment, liability insurance, reunion badges, equipment rental, archival shipping, giveaways



President's Message

As president of the ISB Network Alumni Association, I would like to take this opportunity to share a few concerns and information about the upcoming reunion. Our reunion is just four short weeks away. Negotiations for the reunion began three years ago which included several commitments to go to contract. Reunions take a tremendous amount of coordination and commitment on behalf of the Network. The committee works diligently to negotiate with the venue and make commitments, so we can ensure great rates, special perks, and a top-notch experience.

Recently, the Board of Directors has received several registration cancellations and requests for registration refunds. Since we are so close to the reunion, we cannot change our commitments to the venue. We understand that things come up – health issues, family, or work obligations, etc., but at this time we cannot guarantee any refunds for registration fees. In fact, if we keep receiving cancellations, the network may have penalties to pay. As you contemplate attending or not attending the Tucson reunion, please keep in mind there is a lot at stake for the Network if you choose to cancel your reservation.

This is the time for all of us to come together in celebration of our ISB family. If you can attend the reunion, we hope to see you in July at the El Conquistador Resort, Tucson, Arizona.

Do you need a ride to the hotel from the airport?



Please visit [ISBNETWORK](https://www.isbnetwork.com) for information on rides



Calling all Musicians



Are you a vocalist, guitar, bass, keyboard player, or drummer?
Join the ISB 2021 Teen Club Jam Band.
All instruments will be provided.
Contact [Roger Lyles](mailto:Roger.Lyles@isbnetwork.com) to join the band.

2021 "MAI PEN RAI AT THE OASIS" HOTEL INFORMATION



Important Hotel Information

If you have not secured a room and would like to attend the reunion,
we have great news!

Our room block rate has been extended until July 7.



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**.



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.

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 | Deborah Lloyd Fetterman - Class of 1974 |
| David Bartelt - Class of 1982 | Jodi McGaughey Evans - Class of 1967 |
| Kathy Beaird - Class of 1976 | Libby Maynard - Class of 1966 |
| Vincent Bennett - Class of 1967 | Sandra McCoskrie Blanchette - Class of 1972 |
| Miriam Blanford Davis - Class of 1975 | Paula Morehouse McAdow - Class of 1968 |
| 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 | Craig Slifer - Class of 1991 |
| Maryann "Mimi" Drake Wetherington - Class of 1973 | Sara Stelling Maliva - Class of 1976 |
| Donald Drew - Class of 1975 | Barbara Stilwell Snook - Class of 1969 |
| David Elder - Class of 1960 | Helen Tinson DuTeau - Class of 1985 |
| Timothy Eldredge - Class of 1972 | Kevan Urquhart - Class of 1975 |
| Margaret Finn Frame - Class of 1976 | Rao Vedurumudi - Class of 1975 |
| Steve Flint - Class of 1975 | Valerie Vogt Sills - Class of 1977 |
| Bonnie Geilfuss Naldrett - Class of 1968 | Denise Von Bargaen Kinghorn - Class of 1972 |
| Sidney Gerson - Class of 1972 | Barbara Voorhees - Class of 1971 |
| Sharon Gladish Huntermark - Class of 1975 | William Wadleigh - Class of 1986 |
| Gregory Greeley - Class of 1974 | Cynthia Watson - Class of 1974 |
| Sherri Haase - Class of 1981 | Marilyn Weed - Class of 1969 |
| Paul Heidemann - Class of 1973 | Patricia Whitten Bell - Class of 1967 |
| Christine Hunt - Class of 1981 | David Wilkerson - Class of 1971 |
| Cynthia Hunt Leach - Class of 1980 | Esther Williams Kalbfleisch - Class of 1975 |
| Leon Kalbfleisch - Class of 1975 | Tal Wingate - Class of 1970 |

ISB Reunions = LoveFest

David Elder, '69



If you are still trying to decide whether or not to attend the 2021 Reunion, please take a moment to read David Elder's thoughts.

It is understandable that many of our International ISB alumni cannot travel this summer due to COVID travel restrictions. Please know you will be missed and we hope to see you in 2023. 😊



While chillin' in our garden yesterday afternoon, a neighbor who knows I usually disappear for a week every two years in the summer, asked WATS it all about?

My wife Janice quickly answered, "It's a big Lovefest!"

I could not have described our ISB reunions more succinctly.

Some of our ISB Peeps are still on the fence (is that painful? Lol), and a few have canceled. Yet the ranks continue to grow! Here's the thing. I always make my best effort to say **YES to LIFE!**

The easiest thing to say is, "No, I don't feel like it." I want to say every time I go to an ISB reunion, I am super glad I did.

Confront any "considerations or stories" you may have about why you might choose not to attend our upcoming reunion.

Push those considerations aside with vigor!

Most will keep anyway, and be waiting for you... La La later.

Say **YES to LIFE!**

Say **YES to another ISB reunion! Come to Tucson, and feel that LoveFest, once again!**

