

# THE THAI THAT BINDS



## ISB Network News



## DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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## ISB NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# Kathy Beaird

## Letter from our President



Suk san wan Christmas and the happiest of whichever holidays you celebrate!

This is a time for reflection ... a time for looking back over the year. I experienced the profound sadness of losing my daddy in October. Then the joy of the birth of my great-nephew coming into this world just today. I got to travel to ring handbells for a week in Nashville. I got to play at Universal with my sister, Alicia, then on to Daytona with Alicia, Kathie Boslet, Teresa Martin, and Todd Lockhart to visit the Hilton. Nothing better than getting to spend time with ISB family.

2022 is coming to a close, which means 2023 will be here and we'll soon be **SURFING OUR WAI BACK TO DAYTONA BEACH!** The Board of Directors has been working hard to make our upcoming reunion a great one. But only you can make it a success. How's that, you ask? Just by showing up!! Give yourself a present this holiday season. Get registered for the reunion before fees increase. I can't wait to see you there!

As I said, there's nothing better than time spent with fellow ISBers!

Until next time,  
Kathy Beaird  
ISB Network President



## Florida ISB Alum Celebrate Loy Krathong

Each year, the ISB Alumni Florida Chapter gathers to celebrate Loy Krathong. Most attendees are from Florida, but others travel farther away to join in this annual event. Randy Perritt, who lives in the Tampa Bay area, organized this year's gathering. Poolside chatter, late-night libations, and making the traditional banana boats are all a part of the festivities.

On Sunday, we traveled to Wat Mongkolratanaram to feast on authentic Thai food, shop at the Thai market, and pay our respects inside the Wat.

Next year's celebration may be held on the East Coast of Florida, Cocoa Beach. We welcome all ISB alumni and guests to join us.





# ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS!



## HISTORY OF OUR SCHOOL - HOW IT ALL BEGAN

### THE ORIGIN OF OUR SCHOOL

In November of 1950, a group of parents led by Mrs. W.T. Turner, the wife of the U.S. Embassy's Charge d'Affaires, met in order to draw up plans for the establishment of a school for English-speaking children in Bangkok. The plan was to use an old wooden building on the grounds of the U.S. Embassy that was situated between Rajadamri and Wireless Roads as a schoolhouse, a building that had, in fact, been used as a Japanese Officers' Club during World War II. With that, on May 14, 1951, the International Children's Center (ICC) was opened, with a total of over 50 students from grades 1-4.

The ICC grew rapidly. By 1953 there were over 200 students and the growing school included junior high school classes. To accommodate the expanding school population, a new building was constructed adjacent to the existing facility. Each year thereafter the school increased in enrollment as high school classes were also added.

By the 1956-57 school year the school was a K – 12 institution with over 500 students. This year also included ISB's very first senior class, and, on May 20th, 1957, the first graduating class of six seniors received their high school diplomas. Chuck McAndrew was among the first graduates. *You can read more about Chuck and his memories of Thailand and ISB in our next story (page 7).*

### CONTINUAL GROWTH

The 1956-1957 school year ushered in a new chapter for ISB. The student population had long outgrown the wooden, open-air buildings of the ICC, and serious talks began in order to find a new location for the school and to make the school a legal entity under the auspices of the Thai Government. On August 29th, 1957, the International School Association (ISA) was formed, and the ICC was officially renamed International School Bangkok (ISB). The ISA formally made the school a cooperative under the oversight of a 12-member Board of Directors. Additionally, plans were developed to construct a new, modern international school with the plans designed by the Ministry of Education of Thailand.



## ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED

**GROWING INTO A NEW CAMPUS**

The land for the new school was owned by Wattana Wittaya Academy and was located at the end of Sukhumvit Soi 15. The original configuration was to consist of a 3-story building for some 800 students, with a second building for a kindergarten accommodating another 100 students.

The school was also to have fully equipped science laboratories, a combined indoor gymnasium/auditorium, and a large playground/football field. With the constant oversight of the ISB Board of Directors, the school was completed in time for the 1960-61 school year.

On September 1st, 1960, ISB officially moved into its new campus and started a new era for the education of English-speaking children in Thailand, with over 550 students representing 25 different nationalities.



**ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED**

**BEGINNING ISB PANTHER TRADITIONS**

During the 1959-60 school year, the ISB Panther made his first appearance on campus. The Panther was to become the ISB official mascot of choice, and in 2012, as part of the 60th-anniversary celebration, a life-size bronze statue of a panther was completed and now proudly greets all who come to ISB.



In the spring of 1962, the very first Singapore-Bangkok games took place. Initially, it consisted of boys' sports only, as the two schools ISB and Singapore American School, competed in multiple sports over 4 or 5 days, with the school winning the most events and being declared the champions. Girls' events eventually joined the competition, and by the early 1980s, the International School of Kuala Lumpur also joined in to create the Triangular Games. In the 1982-83 school year, a larger athletic and activities conference was formed, the International Association of Southeast Asia Schools (IASAS), which now consists of six international schools in the region, and is widely regarded as one of the foremost such conferences in the world. Over the years, ISB has kept its commitment to improvement by continually expanding to meet the needs of its community.

**CONTINUED EXPANSION**

In the 1960s, with the new and modern facility, ISB's student enrollment grew considerably, and with that, a new administration building with additional classrooms was completed in 1964. However, that increase was relatively small when compared with what was about to happen to ISB with the involvement of the United States in Vietnam.

By 1967, the student population at ISB had reached over 3,600 students, and the Soi 15 campus could not handle that number of students. Accordingly, a second campus in the Bangsue area of Bangkok was quickly purchased and built for the beginning of the 1967-68 school year. Even with the two campuses, the school had to run double sessions to accommodate the number of enrolled students at that time.

Over the years, ISB has kept its commitment to improvement by continually expanding to meet the needs of its community.



Stay tuned and watch for the next newsletter where we will look at ISB as it entered the 1970s.





## Chuck McAndrew

As part of our 70th anniversary celebration at ISB, we are aiming to focus on interesting stories from the entire seven decade period. The first of these stories highlights a feature on an alumnus who was part of the school's first graduating class in 1957, Chuck McAndrew.

Chuck came to Thailand in February of 1956 after his father was given an assignment as the Property Management Officer for the United States Operations Mission (USOM) in Bangkok. This was not his family's first overseas posting as the McAndrew family had formerly lived in Burma and Pakistan. His family home during that time was on Soi Phrom Phong (Sukhumvit 39) in the Bangkok area of Bangkok, and he and his sister started school at the International Children's shortly after settling in to Bangkok.



CHARLES ROGER Mc ANDREW  
Virginia

"Formerly Vidzha's monarch greeted every print and poet.  
Granted ancient Dhanadha in his accents soft and clear."

Chemistry Lab Assistant 2; Library 3; Student Council 4;  
Vice-President 4; YAHK editor 4;

Chuck is the playboy of the SENIOR class, referred to  
as such because of his sparkling sense of humor and "playing  
around." Chuck's hobbies include piano playing, driving his  
new, state-of-the-art, supersonic chair that Disney pilots up,  
and reading.

Although he was born in Washington, D.C., Chuck lived in Arlington, Virginia before he  
began his around the world trip. He went to Burma with his parents; his father is with USOM.  
After leaving Bangkok Chuck went to live in Pakistan, and then came to Bangkok where he  
has lived for approximately one year. He plans to return to the States after graduation, and  
attend either George Washington University or Georgetown University. Chuck is undecided as to  
what his major subject will be but he thinks he might like to be a dentist.



Chuck leaving for the  
or departure from Bar

"We started school in 1956 at the International Children's Center. I was in the 12th grade at 17 years old and my sister was in the 4th grade at 9 years old. This was an open school where all of the rooms faced an open hallway. I really enjoyed the school and when it was time to graduate, the Principal, Mrs. Isabella Porter, felt that it was time to rename the school the International School Bangkok as it would look better on our diplomas. She was very strict but fair."

"We had some fun times in Thailand. We took a trip with a bunch of kids and parents to Saraburi where there were mountains, waterfalls, and swimming. Many of us had parents who belonged to the Royal Bangkok Sports Club, a swanky club with a large pool. I really enjoyed cruising around Bangkok with diplomatic plates on our car. At that time, Bangkok had many open klongs right along roads. My father was once forced into a klong by a road hog. We had an office car with a chauffeur at our disposal while our car was being repaired."

"I can recall Madame Gutman, our French teacher born in France, often arriving late for teaching our class. She would simply drive her car with diplomatic plates right across the grass and right up to our classroom to park. All of the boys in her class simply adored her. She was so cute and an excellent teacher! My English teacher was not happy with my English and graded me down. You see, my family had been assigned to Commonwealth countries and we had lived in Rangoon, New Delhi, and Karachi. I learned to spell and use strictly British words and spelling. This got me into trouble with the English teacher."

"Life was really easy. We had a cook, a maid, and a gardener. You could buy a Pepsi and a cup of rice with chicken for the equivalent of five cents each from a bicycle vendor. We had a lovely house with a 3-car garage. The house was huge! It was not unusual to see water buffalos walking past our house. We also saw some snakes in the area."

"I graduated from the first graduating class of ISB in 1957. There

were six kids in class: besides me, there was Jim Gardner, Dan Harris, Barbara Harris (no relation to Dan), Janet Hoherz, and Patricia Adams. We all got along just fabulously. My best buddies were Bill Brink, Jim Gardner, Bob Jacobs, George Ellis, Gloria Sun, Vina Martin, and Freida Faber. When I started at Georgetown University, they asked me what my class ranking was. I was proud to say that I graduated "sixth" in my graduating class. They were impressed!"

"In order for me to begin college, my mother, sister, and I left Bangkok in May 1957 for the states. We flew to Rome and began a 30-day trip all through Western Europe ending in London. In Southampton England, we boarded the SS United States luxury liner for NYC for 5 days first class! My Dad remained until his assignment was over in early 1958."

"I loved traveling overseas. Ironically, I worked for the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Information Agency but was never sent on a foreign assignment. My goal is eventually to revisit most of these places again."

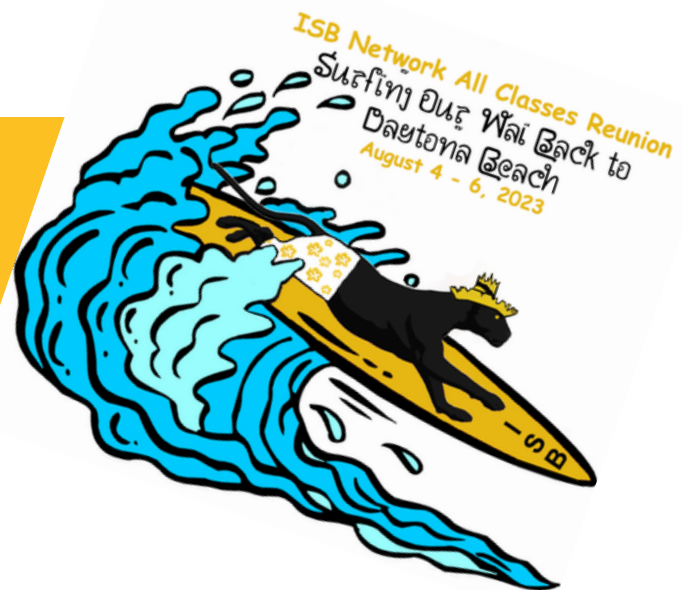
The entire ISB community is so pleased to have a connection with Chuck McAndrew and thank him for allowing us to highlight his time at ISB. It is quite interesting that while the school in 1957 was called the International Children's Center, it seems that the diploma that Chuck and his fellow graduates received said International School Bangkok, as the official name was not changed until the following year when the International School Association (ISA) was formed and the school was officially recognized by the Thai Government.





# SURFING OUR "WAI" BACK TO DAYTONA BEACH

Hilton Dayton Beach Resort/  
Ocean Walk Village  
August 4 - 6, 2023



## 2023 ISB Reunion Registration Update

Registration is open on the ISB Network. For all of the latest updates on the 2023 Reunion visit the Reunions page on the ISB Network.

- [ISBNetwork.com](http://ISBNetwork.com)
- Click Reunions.
- Sign Up For Current Reunion

To pay and register online - register via the website and process your credit card payment through PayPal.

Membership has its perks. All members receive a registration fee discount. Please make sure you are signed in to the site to receive your discount.

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Reunion dates are 8/4 – 8/6 2023. The room block is good from 7/29 – 8/8/2023. So come early and stay late. We have a special room price of \$138.00 + tax.

You must use our [Hilton Reservation Link](#) for the special pricing

## REUNION FEES

The current **early-bird reunion rates** are as follows:

Sustaining Member: \$200.00

Member: \$210.00

Non-Member: \$260.00

**Take advantage of the current registration rates which are effective until December 31, 2022.**

**REGISTER NOW!**



[Click for the Main Reunion Page](#)



[Click for the Reunion FAQ Page](#)



*Remember!*

ALL OF THESE  
CLASSES ARE  
CELEBRATING!

Class of 1963 – 60th  
Class of 1973 – 50th  
Class of 1983 – 40th  
Class of 1993 – 30th  
Class of 2003 – 20th  
Class of 2013 – 10th



### **Hotel Reservations ARE NOW Available!**

At the time of your reservation, you will be charged a deposit of one night's stay.  
Handicapped rooms are available. Please make sure you select "accessible rooms."

Room Rate = \$138.00 ++ (sales and occupancy taxes)

Follow this link:

[Hilton Hotel Reservations](#)

### **2023 Thai Dinner**

The Thursday night Thai dinner option will be offered to attendees in the order they registered. At this time we expect to be able to seat 125 people. We will announce the dinner and pricing at a later date and will privately email the first 125 who are registered. After the first 125 are given the opportunity to sign up for the Thai dinner, we will email the list in order until it is sold out. Another reason to register early!



# Musicians Needed



**Searching for musicians to perform at the Teen Club on Friday night, August 4.**

We have drums, guitars, a keyboard, and mics...now we just need the performers.



## Interested?

Please contact Rao Vedurumudi

[RVMoody@yahoo.com](mailto:RVMoody@yahoo.com)



# Hurricane Update

Hurricane Ian and Tropical Storm Nicole both made landfall in Florida this past autumn. Both events caused storm surges, wind damage, and flooding.

Our Director of Reunions, Teresa Martin, has been in contact with the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort and has been reassured that no major damage was sustained by the hotel itself.

The Daytona Beach Boardwalk did sustain damage and plans for repair are underway. The pier, which is a popular place for tourists to visit and the home of Joe's Crab Shack, did undergo damage but plans to repair and rebuild the affected sections are already underway.



# Membership Update

We greatly appreciate all those keeping up with their membership and all the new members who have joined. If you are not currently 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.



In celebration of our 50th reunion,  
the Class of 1973 announces its "mini-reunion"  
in conjunction with the ISB All CLASSES Reunion.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
OF BANGKOK

CLASS 1973

50.

YEAR 2023

REUNION

08.02.23 - 08.06.23

HILTON DAYTONA BEACH  
DAYTONA BEACH, FL

**Mark Your Calendar!!**

**1973 Mini-Class Reunion  
begins  
Wednesday,  
August 2, 2023**

**All Classes Reunion begins  
Friday,  
August 4, 2023**

\*When making hotel reservations,  
plan to arrive by Wednesday,  
August 2nd



**WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 2ND  
@ 6PM**

WE WILL CONGREGATE AT  
JOE'S CRAB SHACK ON THE  
DAYTONA BEACH PIER FOR  
APPETIZERS, A BUFFET,  
AND LIBATIONS



**THURSDAY,  
AUGUST 3RD**

THE ISB ALL-CLASSES REUNION WILL  
HOST A THAI DINNER, AND THEN,  
THE CLASS OF 1973 CABANA PARTY  
SUITE WILL OPEN AT THE HILTON  
DAYTONA BEACH RESORT!

**Class of  
1973**

Please note: The Class of '73 Mini-Reunion will have a registration fee separate from the All-Classes Reunion registration fee. The registration fee for the Class of '73 will cover dinner on Wednesday, party suite expenses, and a special Class of '73 gift. We will advertise the separate fee in the near future. An A La Carte option will also be available for those who cannot attend the dinner on Wednesday.

**ACT NOW**

Register for the ISB All-Classes Reunion and  
Book Your Hotel Room Now!

Reunion registration rates will increase on 1/1/23. Check out all of the reunion details on how to register on pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter!



Have questions? We are sending out updates via email and our Facebook Group, [ISB Class of 1973](#). You can also email Kathie Boslet ([kjboslet@aol.com](mailto:kjboslet@aol.com)) or Mimi Drake Wetherington ([mimiweth@bellsouth.net](mailto:mimiweth@bellsouth.net)) if you need more information.

# B.Y.O.F.

## (BRING YOUR OWN FRIEND)

ISBERS, THE REUNION IS 8 MONTHS AWAY  
AND WE NEED YOU TO STEP UP AND MEET  
THIS CHALLENGE! FIND ISB FRIENDS AND  
BRING THEM TO THE REUNION!  
MAKE A LIST AND START THE SEARCH!

### SEARCH ALL OVER!

- SOCIAL MEDIA
- GOOGLE
- SEARCH THE ISB NETWORK DATABASE
- PEOPLE FINDER
- YEARBOOKS
- ETC



Let's make this the largest  
reunion ever!



## WE NEED YOUR STORIES!

We are looking for stories and photos for our newsletters. Here are a few ideas:

- Experiences in Thailand
- Activities in Thailand
- How you felt about living in a foreign country with so many cultural differences
- How you felt about leaving Thailand
- Stories about friendships made in Thailand and through ISB
- Reunion experiences
- and anything else!

Submit content to  
[director.comms@isbnetwork.com](mailto:director.comms@isbnetwork.com)





# GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A MEMORIAL SITE FOR FACULTY, STUDENTS AND STAFF  
WHO WORKED AT OR ATTENDED THE INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL OF BANGKOK THAILAND

In November of 2001 this site was conceived and created by David Wilkerson ISB Class of 1971 after his classmate Michael Daly suddenly passed away. David's vision is to memorialize faculty, staff and students of the International School of Bangkok Thailand who have departed this earth.

To access the site, please use this address: <https://isbeings.org/>

Memorial Posts on <https://isbeings.org/> are listed in varying ways

- Alphabetical by last name
- Faculty and Staff
- Class Years
- Class Years Unknown
- Year of Departure
- Year of Departure Unknown



If you have information about an ISB alumni and/or faculty/staff member who has passed, please contact David Wilkerson at [isbeings@gmail.com](mailto:isbeings@gmail.com). He will add the information to the site and the Facebook page. If any of the information currently listed on the site is incomplete, please contact David Wilkerson so he can update the site.



Search for ISBEINGS on Facebook. Submit a friend request to join this private group page.

**PayPal**

There are ongoing fees required to maintain the ISBeings website. If you would like to contribute to the preservation of the site, you can donate to help David with the fees by clicking here: <https://www.paypal.com/donate/...>

Help Needed: If you are interested in helping David maintain the [isbeings.org](https://isbeings.org/) website, please contact him at [isbeings@gmail.com](mailto:isbeings@gmail.com)



# SHACK NEWS

DEAR NETWORK MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS



*Sorry We Are*  
**CLOSED**

Until further notice

The Shack online store is currently closed; however, [Erawans](#) are available to purchase through The Shack. No other online orders will be available until further notice.

The Shack items will be available  
at our next reunion in  
Daytona Beach, 2023.

We hope that you will "Shop the Shack" in  
Daytona.

# HAPPY Holidays

Wherever and  
however you  
celebrate,  
we hope the  
holidays bring  
you joy!

