

#### THE THAI THAT BINDS



ISB Network News



#### SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER



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#### **ISB NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President

Kathy Beaird, '76

Vice President

Suzanne Cano Meeker, '84

Secretary

Jameela "Cricket" Fluker Lanza, '67

Treasurer
Director of Membership
Cindy Hunt Leach, '80

Director of Communications

Kathie Boslet, '73

Acting Director of Reunions

**Teresa Martin, '73** 

Ambassador to Thailand

Sara Morales, '85

Director of Outreach

**Becky Byers Quirsfeld, '69** 

Director of Technology

Rao Vedurumudi, '75

Directors-at-Large

Alicia Beaird Hutchison, '80

Chris Hunt, '81

David Elder, '69

Keeper of Archives

Jo Hanna Ewing, '69



## Kathy Beaird Letter from our President



Sawadee ka ISB family!

Hard to believe we are almost midway into March. That means our **ALL CLASSES REUNION** is less than five months away! Have you registered and made your hotel reservations? I'm working on name badges. The templates are made; I just need to add names and pictures. I want to add yours, so giddy up and sign up for the reunion. This is one of my favorite things to do to prepare for the reunion. I enjoy seeing everyone's school pictures. The best part is having to track down a picture because it's someone's first reunion.

Love our first-timers!

We are excited to welcome Harold Albert to Daytona Beach. I know many of y'all from the 80s will remember Harold. In addition to his years on faculty, he has been our alumni contact person with the school. Although his role has diminished as he looks towards retirement, ISB agreed it was time for him to come to a reunion. In addition to Harold coming from BKK, we have alumni coming from around the world.

Join us in welcoming old friends and making new ones. There's nothing like an ISB reunion!!

See you soon, Kathy Beaird ISB Network President



# ASPECIAL GUEST AT THE 2023 REUNION

**ISB TEACHER** 

#### **HAROLD ALBERT**

Hear ye, hear ye! All alumni who were in Bangkok after 1982, know Harold Albert as a math teacher, sports coach and director of student programming. He continues to serve ISB during his retirement, on the Board of IASAS, the regional consortium of international school which gathers for sports and cultural events.

Suzanne Cano Meeker (1984) had the pleasure of meeting with Harold and Harriett Gething (Director of Marketing Communications, Alumni and Business Development) in December, along with Sara Worley de Morales (1985). One of the many topics was how we can engage younger alumni and recent graduates, leading to the value of regional chapters and connecting or mentoring. Harold took us on a tour of the new campus and the incredible athletic facilities.



Our exciting news is that Harold will be joining us in Daytona, representing the school as we launch the vision of an ISB Global Family program.

SURFING OUR "WAI" BACK TO

**DAYTONA BEACH** 

Hilton Daytona Beach Resort 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
- 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 8/1 – 8/8/2023. So come early and stay late.

We have a special room price of \$138.00 + taxes.

You must use our <u>Hilton Reservation Link</u> for the special pricing

#### **REUNION FEES**

The current **reunion rates** are as follows:

Sustaining Member: \$220.00 Member: \$230.00 Non-Member: \$290.00

Take advantage of the current registration rates which are effective until 5/30/23. Registration rates will increase on 6/1/2023.

**REGISTER NOW!** 











### Book before it's too late! Hotel Reservations are available!

At the time of your reservation, you will be charged a deposit of one night's stay.

ADA rooms are available.

Please make sure you select "accessible rooms."

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

Follow this link to secure our special rate:

**Hilton Hotel Reservations** 



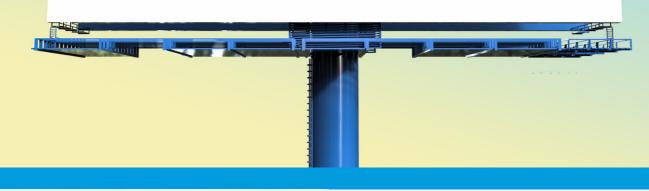
#### **2023 Thai Dinner**



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.

**Stay Tuned!** 

# REUNION DETAILS VENDORS & HOUSE GAMES





#### **VENDORS WANTED!**

Do you have merchandise you would like to sell? Are you an author who wants to display his/her book and offer a signing?

Another Reunion First!
We are offering vendor tables for the purpose of our ISBers to display and sell their wares.

**Contact Kathy Beaird for details** 

Table fee: Single vendor, one fee of \$250.00 for an entire table, Thursday - Sunday.

OR a 1/2 table, one fee of \$150.00, Thursday - Sunday

#### HOUSE GAMES - CAPTAINS NEEDED!



HOUSE GAMES CAPTAINS NEEDED
FOR RED, BLUE, AND GREEN HOUSES

CONTACT

KATHIE/KATE BOSLET IF

INTERESTED



### REUNION DETAILS

# DJ NEWS & YOUNG INTERNATIONALS



#### DJ KC RETURNS!

Back by very popular demand - DJ KC (our DJ in Tucson) will be joining us this August at the reunion!



#### **GET READY TO DANCE!**

#### YOUNG INTERNATIONALS

Calling all Young Internationals and those who enjoy singing, we would like to hear from you ASAP. We would like for our singers to perform Friday evening at our Welcome Ceremony.



If you are interested in joining in the musical fun, please contact **Jim Hanlon**,

# REUNION DETAILS TEEN CLUB



#### 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

#### DID SOMEONE SAY...





INAUGURAL KARAOKE NIGHT!

JOIN US ON
THURSDAY,
AUGUST 3 IN THE
TEEN CLUB

ENJOY THE ULTIMATE

# GOLF

EXPERIENCE

with your ISB friends

Are you interested in playing golf while at the Daytona Beach Reunion?

Send your contact information to <u>Greg Greeley</u>.

He can be reached at 707-695-4833 or through FB messenger.



Greg would like to know your max green fee limitations, and your scoring average. Looking to set up an outing for Thursday, August 3, or Friday, August 4.



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

OF BANGKOK



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 PARTY SUITE WILL OPEN AT THE HILTON DAYTONA BEACH RESORT!



To register for The Class of '73 Mini-Reunion, we will have a registration fee separate from the All-Classes Reunion registration fee. Please follow this <u>link</u> to access details and the registration form.

A la Carte is an option (see the registration form) if you cannot attend our Wednesday night buffet.



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

Reunion registration rates will increase on 6/1/23. Check out all of the reunion details on how to register on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter!



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





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#### NG VOLUNT

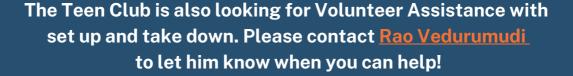
The Shack **Archives** Greeters

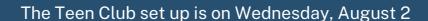
Saturday Night Gala Class Photo Organizers **House Games** 

Key area set up assistance is needed on Wednesday, August 2 and take down assistance on Sunday, August 6

**Please contact Cricket Fluker** Let her know which date(s) and location(s) you prefer

#### **TEEN CLUB SUPPORT**





The Teen Club take down is on Saturday morning, August 5







### B.Y.O.F. (BRING YOUR OWN FRIEND)



**ISBERS. THE REUNION IS 5 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 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 support to ISB. We also offer a sustaining membership which allows you to enjoy a 10-year membership for \$300.00. To learn more, follow this **link** 

More information can be found on the <u>ISB Network website</u>. 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.

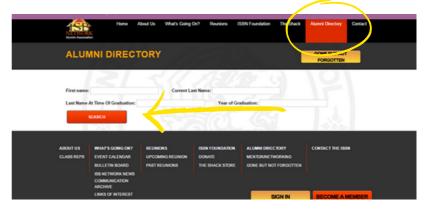


### Alumni Directory



#### Help us ensure we have your correct information

Please go to <u>ISBNetwork.com</u> 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.



# SEARCH BY ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: Alumni Name: First name: Current Last Name: Last Name At Time Of Graduation: Boslet Alumni Graduation Year: Year of Graduation: SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH SEARCH First Name Last Name(Current) Boslet First Name Last Name(Current) Boslet First Name Last Name(Current) First Name Last Name(Current) Boslet First Name Last Name(Current) First Name Last Name(Current) Boslet First Name Last Name(Current) SEARCH SEARC

#### Special Note:

Ensure you have the years you attended ISB noted correctly - these years will be included on your Reunion Badge!

#### ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS!



#### HISTORY OF OUR SCHOOL - HOW IT ALL BEGAN PART 2

In the December newsletter, part 1 of our history was published.

In case you missed it, or need to refresh your memory,

follow this link.

The Vietnam era at International School Bangkok (ISB) saw student enrollment at an all-time high with a peak of 3,650 students during the 1967-68 school year. Taking us into the 1970s when the school, now with two campuses to accommodate all students, was alive with numerous activities, clubs, sports, and organizations to keep the large student body active and happy. These activities included many sports and the wildly popular House Games, led by ISB's dynamic Athletic Director and Head of Physical Education, Mr. P.E. Rajendra.

#### ISB LEGACY - MR. P.E. RAJENDRA



Ponnuduari Emmanuel (P.E.) Rajendra, a native of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), was born in Malacca in 1920. While his early education took place in Ceylon, he later matriculated to the University of Iowa in the U.S., where he earned a master's degree in physical education. His early career found him working for the Department of Education in Ceylon, including a stint at St. John's University, Jaffna, where he led the team to a national championship in 1944 as the head track & field coach. He also later served as the Ceylonese national athletics coach. In 1962, he was hired as ISB's Director of Physical Education and Athletics with the express goal of revamping the school's physical education and athletic program.

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#### ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED

#### INNOVATING K-12 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Rajendra's energy and initiative saw him rewrite ISB's K-12 physical education program. He started an intramural program (the 'house' games) that spanned from Elementary School to High School and established a sports program that included eleven different varsity sports. Under his leadership, ISB reached unparalleled success in the realm of athletic endeavors. For the first time, ISB teams participated in both Thai leagues and U.S. Armed Forces leagues locally while also entering national Thai schools' competitions in track & field and volleyball. Rajendra, or "Raj," was a committee member of the Volleyball Association of Thailand; he nurtured the close relationship between ISB and their host country of Thailand. The school also continued its annual fixture with Singapore American School, which started in 1962 and began a competition with the international school in Vientiane, Laos.

Tragically P.E. Rajendra passed away in his home country on August 18th, 1972. A memorial service took place at ISB on September 24th, 1972, and from that day forward, the main gym at ISB has been called Rajendra Hall, which is still the case today, some 49 years later.

#### REMEMBERING MR. P.E. RAJENDRA

"Monday morning would find the indomitable patriarch of sports at ISB, Mr. P.E. Rajendra, walking the length of the field checking for snakes before first-period gym."

#### **David Wilkerson**

Class of '72

"I remember Mr. Rajendra, who was from Sri Lanka. He was the head of the PE Department, and everyone loved him. He was kind to everyone."

#### Khun Rabiab

Thai staff member for nearly 40 years

"In the days at Soi 15, Mr. Rajendra's athletes won almost all sports competitions!"

#### Khun Boonterm

ISB Security Guard for over 40 years

#### ISB YOUNG INTERNATIONALS



In the spring of 1969, a singing group from the United States, the Young Americans, came to Thailand and performed at ISB. In the audience, that day was Mr. Jerry Wartgow, the ISB Dean of Students, and several students who thought that ISB had enough talented students to form a similar group.

#### ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED

#### ISB YOUNG INTERNATIONALS - CONTINUED

Thus, at the beginning of the 1969-1970 school year, the ISB Young Internationals was born. Initially, under the direction of Mr. Wartgow, the group became an overnight sensation as they delighted audiences not only at ISB but also around Bangkok and American military bases all over Thailand.

One of the founding members of the group was Kolua Seiko (back then known as Alberta Valdez), who recalled: "I was the 'Whip' (leader) of the first Young Internationals group and have wonderful memories." Mr. Wartgow added, "I've been blessed with a wonderful career and leadership opportunities at all levels of education, but none has been more enjoyable, rewarding, or impactful on my personal life than my

time with ISB and the Young Internationals."

Throughout the 1970s, the Young Internationals was a mainstay at ISB. Those students participating in the group were perhaps the best-known ambassadors of ISB and its community. The group performed at venues all over Bangkok, including the prestigious Royal Bangkok Sports Club, the Dusit Thani, and the Oriental Hotel. They even entertained audiences across Southeast Asia, at one point appearing before the nation on Thai television. One can certainly say that when people in the region thought of ISB, they thought of the Young Internationals.

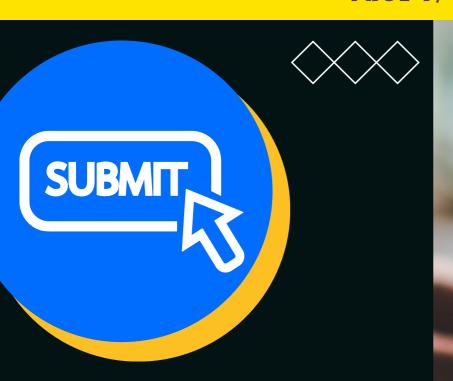


#### MEMORIES AND INFLUENCE OF THIS ERA LIVE ON TODAY

In the mid-1970s, the U.S. Government's involvement in Vietnam came to an end, and the enrollment of students at ISB returned to its pre-Vietnam era numbers of around 1,200. The school no longer had a need for a second campus and the Bangsue facility was sold. And the Young Internationals, the face of ISB in the region for nearly a decade, found its popularity waning, and by the early 1980s, it was no more.

While the Young Internationals and the House Games of P.E. Rajendra were no longer part of ISB as the school entered the 80s, they remain a part of the DNA of the school and its alumni. Attend an ISB Network Reunion, and the stories about the Young Internationals and the House Games resound, and rightly so.

In the next episode of our look at ISB's History, we look at the 1980s - at one part of the school that had not changed by the early 80s - the Bangkok-Singapore Games, although it was about to become something much larger.



#### 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



#### BUT NOT FORGOTTEN GONE

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: <a href="https://isbeings.org/">https://isbeings.org/</a>

Memorial Posts on <a href="https://isheings.org/">https://isheings.org/</a> 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 . 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.



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: <a href="https://www.paypal.com/donate/...">https://www.paypal.com/donate/...</a>



## SHACK NEWS

## DEAR NETWORK MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# Sorry We are CLOSED

Until further notice

The Shack <u>online store</u> is currently closed; however, <u>Erawans</u> 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.

