

### THE THAI THAT BINDS



**ISB Network News** 



#### SUMMER 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!

Six weeks from today many of us will start converging on the Hilton in Daytona Beach. I can't believe it's finally reunion time! I want everyone to know who all has played such a big part in getting us to this point. I must group these two together ... without Teresa Martin and Kathie/Kate Boslet there wouldn't be much of a reunion. They have both made numerous trips to DAB ... to the Hilton, to Thai restaurants, and to the visitor's bureau. Teresa has excelled as Director of Reunions. It's been a learn-as-you-go experience for her and she has done everything possible to get us to this reunion, and to make sure we have our traditional Thursday night Thai dinner. That wasn't an easy task. Kate Boslet is officially our Director of Communications, but she never hesitates to don dozens of other hats. She traveled to Texas to assist with counting shirts, purses, coasters, spirit houses, and all those hundreds of items we store after each reunion. And using this information she created an up-to-date inventory for The Shack. She took on the task of designing and putting together a new memorial for the alumni, faculty, and staff members of ISB we have lost over the years. She got t-shirts and new beach towels printed. And she kept everyone informed and entertained through newsletters and email blasts. This reunion wouldn't be happening without Teresa and Kathie/Kate.

Rao Vedurumudi is our Directory of Technology. He has taken on the task of making sure we have all the electronics and band equipment necessary for a successful Teen Club. I think he's even the manager of the band that's been put together. Rao, Phillipe Ritter, and Michele Remmers Lockwood were all a huge help in Austin when we inventoried The Shack.

Other board members I want to single out include Suzanne Cano Meeker for her help in scheduling the reunion activities. Cricket Fluker Lanza for coordinating the volunteers. Cindy Hunt Leach for keeping all the money and registration straight. I'm very grateful that her wonderful husband, Aron, is coming to the reunion to co-manage The Shack with Alicia Beaird Hutchison.

And finally, I must thank my classmate and friend, Randy Perritt, for agreeing to drive the truck with all our ISB worldly possessions from Austin to Daytona and back to The Shack's new home in Houston. I'm so grateful to him for doing this for us. It wasn't a task I was comfortable taking on myself! So, if you see Randy and Marion on the road between here and there make sure to honk and wave!

Can't wait to give y'all big Texas hugs! See you soon!

Kathy Beaird

**ISB Network President** 

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.



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.

Our room block rate expires on July 7. After July 7, all reservations will be charged at the full rate.

You must use our **Hilton Reservation Link** for the special pricing

#### **REUNION FEES**

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

Sustaining Member: \$240.00 Member: \$250.00 Non-Member: \$310.00

Walk-Ins will be allowed but will be charged at a higher registration fee.

**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.

Daytona Beach

Please make sure you select "accessible rooms."

Our room block rate expires on July 7. After July 7, all reservations will be charged at the full rate.

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 has been offered (via email) to attendees in the order they registered. People who have responded and paid are registered for the Thai dinner. If you have questions, please write to <u>Teresa Martin</u>.

# 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





#### RESERVATIONS REMINDER!



We wanted to remind everyone of the hotels cancellation policy as we get closer to the Reunion. If you've reserved multiple rooms, or if your plans have changed, here is the policy to ensure you have time to cancel your room reservation.

#### From Hilton:

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

#### DRIVING TO THE REUNION?

We could use assistance with having beach chairs and coolers for the hospitality suites. Please bring what you can and ensure it's labeled so we can get it back to you before you leave!



### 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!**

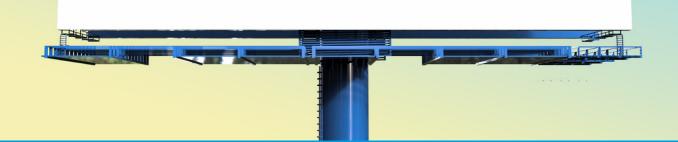
#### YOUNG INTERNATIONALS

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



#### DID SOMEONE SAY...





INAUGURAL KARAOKE NIGHT!

JOIN US ON
THURSDAY,
AUGUST 3 IN THE
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

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
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





Your 2023 "Hangy Thingy" will not be available for pick up until Thursday, so please bring one from a previous reunion to Wednesday night!



#### **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 do 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

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



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.

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.

The golf outing is planned for Thursday, August 3.



# 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.





X

#### AREAS NEEDING VOLUNTEERS

The Shack Archives Greeters

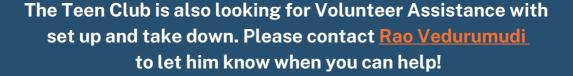
Saturday Night Gala Class Photo Organizers House Games

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

Please contact <u>Cricket Fluker</u>

Let her know which date(s) and location(s) you prefer

#### **TEEN CLUB SUPPORT**



The Teen Club set up is on Wednesday, August 2

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



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.

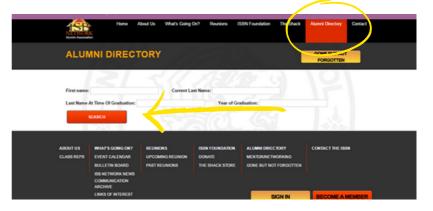


### Alumni Pirectory



#### 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.



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#### 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 -BRANCHING OUT, EXPANDING ISB PROGRAMS IN THE 1980S PART 3

In the Spring newsletter, part 2 of our history was published. In case you missed it, or need to refresh your memory,

follow this link.

As International School Bangkok (ISB) entered the 1980s, the Vietnam era was indeed over. The student enrollment, which had peaked at over 3,600 students in 1967, now stabilized at around 1,100. Important events like the House Games and the ever-present student group, the Young Internationals, were phased out and replaced by other events and other organizations.

Nonetheless, the effect of the Vietnam era on the school had not waned. The money poured into ISB by the U.S. Government meant that the school had well-resourced science labs and libraries, audiovisual equipment, and support positions such as a school psychologist, special education teachers, reading specialists, and a speech therapist. Thus, even though by the 80s, two-thirds of the student population was cut, ISB was still well-positioned to be the best international school in Thailand and one of the leading such institutions in the region.

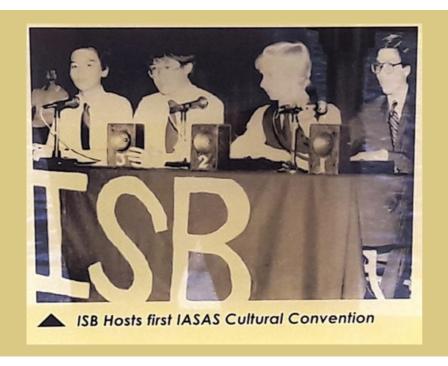


#### The Inception of IASAS

One event that had not changed was the Bangkok-Singapore Games, which started in the spring of 1962 and was still one of the school year's highlights. However, in the early 80s, the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) joined ISB and Singapore American School (SAS) to form the Triangular Games. This change did not last long, as Heads of Schools around the region made it known that they were interested in forming larger athletic and activities conferences. It was probably at an EARCOS Conference in Hong Kong in 1981 that the idea of starting the Interscholastic Association of Southeast Asian Schools (IASAS) became a reality. Primarily spearheaded by the Heads of Schools from ISKL, SAS, and Jakarta International School (JIS), this organization was modeled after similar conferences in Southern Asia and Europe..

#### ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED IASAS

It wasn't too long after that that Athletic Directors and other individuals from schools in the region met at the old Singapore American School campus on Kings Road tasked with creating the organization. As we now know, the result was IASAS, which formally started in October of 1982 with four schools: JIS, SAS, ISKL, and ISB. International School Manila (ISM) joined the conference the following year, while Taipei American School (TAS) joined the group in 1986, creating the six-school conference that has flourished ever since.



The very first event for the organization, IASAS Soccer & Volleyball, took place in Kuala Lumpur in October of 1982. Our ISB Boys' Volleyball team, coached by Athletic Director Colleen Perry, won gold in that inaugural event. Ms. Perry's son, Cameron, is actually an Elementary PE teacher at ISB today. At the urging of many organizers, a cultural component, the Cultural Convention, was also instituted that first school year.

The first IASAS event hosted on the ISB campus was the Cultural Convention in April of 1983, with competitions in debate and forensics, music, drama, and even a knowledge bowl.

Now in its 40th year of existence and widely recognized as one of the premier international school activities and athletics conferences globally, we can only thank those who started the Bangkok-Singapore Games and all of those individuals who helped to create such a remarkable organization.

#### EXPANSION GOALS

Entering the 1980s, ISB had identified a few growth opportunities: expanding the athletics and activities programs; increasing the reach of its English as a Second Language (ESL) program; opening up the campus to the growing number of community groups such as the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the Bangkok Baseball Association (BBA), and others; last but not least maintaining and improving its college-prep curriculum.

With these areas defined as goals for the school, ISB sought to improve itself. Aiming to serve better and make the school more attractive to an international clientele while ensuring that ISB graduates would be able to gain admission to the finest universities in the world.

#### ISB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS CONTINUED

#### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM (IB)

In its quest to better serve an international clientele, ISB began looking at the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program in the mid-80s. Created in the late '60s, the IB had started to take its place in the world of international curricula, especially in Europe. At the urging of ISB Board of Directors member, Mr. Ger Hoppe, the school decided to explore this program seriously.



Mr. Hoppe, a Dutch engineer, had seen his two children, Margot (Class of 1982) and Michael (1985), be compelled to do an extra year or two of studying in the Netherlands to earn the IB diploma and subsequently gain entrance into university in their home country. Led by the High School administration, ISB decided to pursue this course of study to allow students to earn both an ISB diploma and an IB diploma. Combined with the already existing Advanced Placement (AP) course offerings, ISB made sure that all of its high school students would be able to pursue their dreams wherever they chose. Additionally, these high-level courses can often be used to earn advanced credit when the students enter university.

Today the <u>IB curriculum</u> is a significant component of the ISB high school curriculum. Each school year, scores of ISB students sit for IB exams, earn advanced credit for university, and earn IB diplomas. In the most recent <u>2020-21 school year</u>, all 96 of ISB's IB diploma candidates earned their diplomas - a 100% pass rate. Three students even earned perfect scores of 45, a fantastic achievement.

#### A STANDARD OF ADVANCEMENT

As ISB entered the latter part of the decade, the student population grew, and many school program areas expanded. As High School Principal and Head of School, Dr. Rob Brewitt put it,

"In the five years from 1983-88, ISB had a 33% increase in student enrollment. In early 1983, ISB had no Intensive Studies Program, little health education, no drug education, only the beginning of a fine arts program, few sequential course offerings, and no IB program. Faculty, students, and parents worked hard to provide a 'core' educational program in grades 7-10. The IB diploma program, and elective program in the Junior High, and exciting music and drama program, a new photography program, additional sports teams including track & field and swimming, a new intramural program, and a new gymnasium and track became realities. The ESL program grew in size and quality, and language offerings were expanded with plans to include Japanese."

In short, the school was moving headlong into the 90s with a growing student body and an ever-expanding program. Unfortunately, the campus on Soi 15, after almost 30 years, was now looking to be too small. With all of the growth of our school, it was time to expand and take ISB into the 1990s.

