ISB AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

GET READY TO SIP ON SUNSHINE IN SCOTTSDALE

Check out this edition for the latest Reunion Information **FALL 2024**

THE THAI THAT BINDS



ISB Network News



FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER

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See you at The Scott Resort and Spa

ISB NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Kathy Beaird Letter from our President



Happy fall, y'all! I hope wherever it is you live you're actually experiencing a touch of the season. Here in Houston, we might have some fall-like weather for two days in November. Until then, it's still summer.

Can you believe we're less than 9 months from our reunion? It has gotten here fast. I can't thank Teresa enough for finding us the beautiful **Scott Resort and Spa** right in her backyard. I plan to visit Arizona and the resort in January, and to partake in a meal at the restaurant where we will have our Thursday night Thai dinner. More information on that will be forthcoming.

We are always looking for new and fun things to do at our reunions. While some things will always be a part of each reunion experience, it's nice to bring fresh ideas for activities and extra-curriculars. If you have an idea for something fun and new at the Scottsdale reunion, please don't hesitate to reach out to <u>me</u>, <u>Teresa</u>, or <u>Kathie/Kate</u> with your suggestions.

And speaking of Kathie/Kate ... I'm so happy to let y'all know she has officially stepped back into her role as Director of Communications. When trying to fill her shoes, kinda like Cinderella, we discovered that no one else could cram their foot into that glass slipper. Each member of the Board of Directors is grateful to have her back on board once again.

I've been thinking a lot about our fellow alumni who live in the areas that were devastated by Hurricane Helene. I have seen a few posts on Facebook from some I know living in the Western part of NC. I hope others in the Big Bend area of FL, Augusta, and other parts of Southeast GA, and those portions of Tennessee and South Carolina that were impacted are safe and their homes secure.

Until the winter edition of our newsletter,

Sawadee ka! Kathy

Kathy Beaird ISB Network President



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 <u>link</u>.

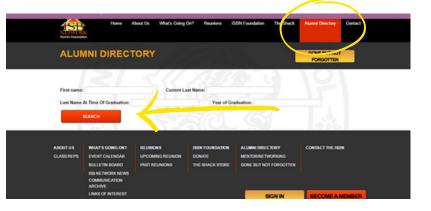
More information can be found on the **ISB Network website**. In addition, members receive "perks," such as a lower reunion registration fee, access to all newsletters, discounts to shop at the Shack, and special reunion surprises only offered to members.

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, alumni change email addresses and/or phone numbers and forget to update the directory with the 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!

2025 ISB REUNION SIPPING ON SUNSHINE IN SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA

FRIDAY, JULY 25 - SUNDAY, JULY 27



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Early Bird Registration Rates END December 31, 2024 The early-bird reunion rates are as follows:

\$275 - Sustaining Members, Spouses, and Guests, and \$150 for a child 12 and under.

\$295 - Members, Spouses, and Guests, and \$150 for a child 12 and under.

\$340 - Non-Members, Spouses, and Guests, and \$150 for a child 12 and under.

If you are a member of the ISB Network, follow this link to register for the reunion. User name and password are required.

MEMBER REGISTRATION

Note - if viewing on a cell phone, please turn it to landscape to see the registration cart.

If you are not a member of the ISB Network, follow this link to register for the reunion. Consider joining by visiting our <u>Join the ISBN page.</u>





<u>The Scott Resort & Spa</u> <u>Hotel Reservations are available!</u> Room Block is available from Tuesday, July 22 - Wednesday, July 30, 2025

Room Rate = \$154.00 ++ (sales and occupancy taxes)

To make a reservation at The Scott Resort & Spa, you can call or follow the provided link:

- Phone 800-528-7867 and reference 2025 ISB Reunion.
- Follow the link to make your reservation online <u>The Scott Resort & Spa Hotel</u> <u>Reservation Link.</u>
 - You will see a calendar once you reach the "Welcome to The Scott Resort and Spa" page.
 - Use the arrow on the right side of the page to scroll to July 2025.
 - Then you can select the dates you wish to stay for the reunion.

2025 Thai Dinner



The Thai dinner plans are underway for Thursday, July 24, **Maylee's Thai Bistro**. 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. More details will be in upcoming newsletters.

Register now for the reunion to ensure your spot is held for the Thai dinner AND your name will be entered into a drawing on November 9.

COULD YOU BE A WINNER?!



If you have registered for the reunion by Thursday, October 31, 2024, your name will be entered into a drawing that will be held on Saturday, November 9. The winner will receive round trip transportation: Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and The Scott Resort and Spa.



Drawing times on 11/9 are as follows: 6 PM EST 5 PM CST 4 PM MST/AZ 3 PM PST

Constant Contact email reminders will go out as we get closer to the date. Reminders will also be posted in the ISB Network Alumni Facebook Group.

WINNER! WINNER!

On Saturday, September 28, our Director of Reunions (Teresa Martin), Treasurer (Cindy Hunt Leach), and Honorary Alum (Aron Medeiros) met at The Scott Resort and Spa Bar to draw the name of our first winner of a \$25.00 gift certificate to use at The Scott Resort and Spa.



Babette Trout Dammon is our winner of that prize! Congratulations Babette.

REUNION SPECIAL WHAT TO DO BEFORE & AFTER BY TERESA MARTIN, DIRECTOR OF REUNIONS



Scottsdale, Arizona. What a fantastic town to experience all things Arizona as well as unique and fascinating attractions, golf, hiking, world class restaurants and bars, museums, the arts, and shopping. From Old Town in central Scottsdale to its edges that include Paradise Valley, the Salt River Indian Reservation and the McDowell Mountains, Scottsdale has a tremendous variety of experiences to keep you occupied and enthralled for weeks!.

Located one mile from The Scott Resort & Spa, Old Town Scottsdale consists of nine neighborhoods, each with its own flavors and offerings. You'll find an extensive collection of shops, restaurants and bars, art galleries, world-class museums and historic sites from the late 1880s to ultra-modern venues. There are over 150 shops and restaurants within its borders.

Unique attractions?

Who can resist the stunning architecture and fascinating history of Frank Lloyd Wright and Taliesin West. His design esthetics are still taught at the operating studio's school of architecture which is onsite. <u>https://franklloydwright.org/taliesin-west</u>





GET TO KNOW OUR REUNION LOCATION - SCOTTSDALE, AZ CONTINUED

Another unique architect who made his home in Scottsdale is the Italian artist Paolo Solari. His studio, Cosanti Ceramics is close by and worth a visit to see his foundry and beautiful bronze creations. Arcosanti, a town 70 miles north of Phoenix, is his experimental urban vision based on arcology and so worth a visit.

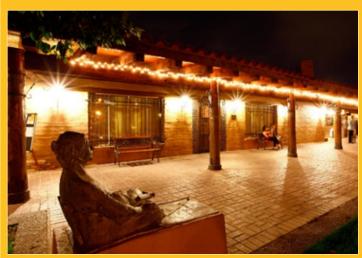
https://www.arcosanti.org/







Historical landmarks include the Old Adobe Mission and ASU Kerr Cultural Center right in the center of Old Town.



GET TO KNOW OUR REUNION LOCATION- SCOTTSDALE, AZ CONTINUED



Wine? Yes please! Arizona has a wellestablished wine industry that is quite impressive and a number of the wineries have tasting rooms in Old Town.

https://www.experiencescottsdale.com/ stories/post/old-town-scottsdale-winetrail



There are also 30+ craft houses and breweries in Scottsdale.

Fore! With over 200 golf courses, Scottsdale is known as the World's Finest Golf Destination. It's home to the TPC's Waste Management Open, AKA the People's Open which I can tell you is one crazy experience. There are no other golf courses in the world whose beauty is so breathtakingly enhanced by the splendor of the desert.

https://www.experiencescottsdale.com/golf



GET TO KNOW OUR REUNION LOCATION- SCOTTSDALE, AZ CONTINUED

Eating and drinking? My favorite pastime! Too many options to even decide where to start but Old Town is a block from the hotel and it is chock full of wonderful dining options from indigenous Southwest, French, Italian, Mexican and Southern to Asian-fusion and of course fun bar options like the Rusty Spur that has a history going back to 1921, becoming the first bar in Scottsdale in 1951. Cold beer and live country music—so fun! Or the Coach House, Scottdale's Oldest Dive Bar, open from 6am to 2am. Wait, what? There are also a couple of casinos on the Indian Reservations to try your hand at Lady Luck. Check the fun out for yourself! https://www.experiencescottsdale.com/maps-guides/scottsdale-night-life





There's shopping galore, more than one has time to explore. Local products, high end splurges, gorgeous native American art and jewelry are just a few of the shopping options. <u>https://www.experiencescottsdale.com/listing/native-art-market</u>

The Fifth Avenue shopping district has shops that range from vintage and trendy boutiques to an old-style southwest trading post with more treasures than you can ever imagine. A must visit is the only woman owned and indigenous boutique of Native pottery, silver and turquoise jewelry, clothing, etc., with The Frybread Lounge next door. Yum.



GET TO KNOW OUR REUNION LOCATION- SCOTTSDALE, AZ CONTINUED

And then there is the fabulous Fashion Square with stores that range from Apple and Macy's to Louis Vuitton and Cartier. <u>https://www.fashionsquare.com/Directory</u>

Every Thursday evening, from 7pm-9pm, Scottsdale's ArtWalk, the longest-running event of its kind in the nation takes place along Main Street and Marshall Way where all the art galleries are located. Stroll through after our Thai dinner at Malee's on Main!



And then there are the whimsy, fun and crazy silly outings to enjoy.

With these and more exciting adventures to experience, come before and stay after the Reunion to enjoy what the "West's Most Western Town" and Arizona have to offer.





Watch for the Winter Newsletter which will include the next installment of "What to Do Before and After!"

50th REUNION CELEBRATION

50th Reunion Celebration for the Classes of '74, '75, and '76

In celebration of our 50th reunion, the classes of '74, '75, and '76 will host a party suite at the Scottsdale, Arizona reunion.





Please reach out to Don Drew (class of '75)

who welcomes your ideas and help in planning this momentous occasion!

PARTY SUITES

If your class (or a group of classes) is interested in hosting a party suite for the 2025 Scottsdale Reunion, please reach out to our <u>Director of Reunions, Teresa Martin</u>, so she can share space options and costs with you.



ARCHIVES & SILENT AUCTION

Once again the fabulous JoHanna Ewing will organize our ISB Archives and Silent Auction for the 2025 Scottsdale Reunion. The Archives is no longer accepting bound magazines and paper.



If you would like to donate items for either the Archives or the Silent Auction, please contact <u>JoHanna</u>.

SHACK NEWS



The Shack <u>online store</u> is currently closed; however, **Erawans** are available to purchase through The Shack <u>at this link</u>. No other online orders will be available until further notice.

The Shack items will be available at our next reunion in Scottsdale, 2025.

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



JULIA HAMIL HANCOCK



NAVIGATING IDENTITY: MY JOURNEY AS A BRITISH GIRL IN BANKGOK

Arriving in Bangkok at International School Bangkok (ISB) at the start of the 1980s as a 13year-old British white girl who had attended a selective all girls' high school, I suddenly found myself in a co-educational international school I often describe as the set of Grease, populated by children and staff from every corner of the world. I was one of a small handful of British kids because, at that time, many returned to boarding school in the United Kingdom (UK) for Senior school. This was one of the only high schools in Bangkok, and it was a United States (US) curriculum.

Cultural Shock: Embracing Diversity at International School Bangkok (ISB)

Not only was my accent noticeable, but we also had a very different vocabulary. Even the maps on the wall were different. At that time, anyone with fairer hair was noticed out and about in Bangkok, and when we went shopping, we drew crowds of attention. This was not comfortable, but it taught me so much about otherness, perspectives, and diversity. Learning about a culture very different from the one I identified with at the time was such a valuable learning experience.

It was such a culture shock for a girl who'd grown up in a small town in the UK, predominantly surrounded by people who spoke and looked like me. Interesting after returning to Bangkok in 2024, I felt the most at home I had in a long time. Returning has been like someone switching all the lights on full stage wash and the track blaring out my theme tune. The piece of my identity jigsaw I had lost down the back of the sofa when I returned to the UK and seemingly picked up where I'd left off was put firmly back in place.

MY JOURNEY AS A BRITISH GIRL IN BANGKOK CONTINUED Returning Home: Reflecting on the Impact of ISB

I have realized that my two years in Bangkok were such pivotal years in shaping my identity and my sense of self, and this was largely due to the experience of being welcomed in by a school that made sure they understood me, my needs, and by peers who, irrespective of how we looked, spoke or our beliefs, really saw each other. Our school encouraged every one of us to be the person we needed to be. We were given opportunities, offered an eye on the world, enabled to share our unique and varied cultures, and in doing so, create a culture and ethos of our own, where everyone had a place, a platform, and was empowered to flourish, with a sense of why not? Let me see if that's possible. We were not constrained by our backgrounds, heritage, or any assumptions.





Empowerment through Education: The ISB Philosophy

In an environment of vast difference, we were all celebrated, appreciated, and encouraged to find our place in the world. The sense that our school wanted the best for each and every one of us was unwavering, and I know this ethos of inclusion, and, at the same time, celebration of our unique qualities has made me the person I am today. Recently, I've said more than once that I cannot bring myself to use the word 'hate.' I know that this school formed a huge part of my values systems, and I learnt to be open to difference and to lead from an intention of love and compassion. I may have been wronged at points in my life, but I can't say I hate anyone. I may be disappointed, betrayed, or horrified by the actions of others at times, but I'd rather find a place to direct an intention of love into the direction of travel than dwell on what's gone before. People who lead with fear or hate in their hearts will ultimately have to deal with and reconcile to that themselves and face the consequences of their actions.

JULIA JOINED US FOR THE THAILAND TRIP IN EARLY 2024 AND WE HOPE SHE WILL JOIN US FOR HER FIRST REUNION IN SCOTTSDALE!

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

ISBERS, THE REUNION IS 9 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

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- PEOPLE FINDER
- YEARBOOKS
- ETC

Let's make this the largest reunion ever!

NOT FORGOTTEN BUT 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: <u>https://isbeings.org/</u>

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

Alphabetical by Last Name Faculty and Staff

Class Years Unknown

Class Years

Year of Departure

If you have information about an

Year of Departure Unknown

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.

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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: https://www.paypal.com/donate/...

> Help Needed: If you are interested in helping David maintain the isbeings.org website, please contact him at isbeings@gmail.com





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



