



# ***PEACE CORPS THAI I 55th REUNION NEWS***

Volume I, Issue 1, Nov. 2016

Greetings to all!

Some of the hardy and adventuresome members of our Thai I Peace Corps group got together recently in Portland, Oregon from October 19th to 22nd, and despite the vicissitudes of time and distance, found ourselves still very good friends and colleagues. We had a great time!

The Thai I volunteers who attended the Reunion in Portland were:

Peggy Bruton Edwards

Graham Dameron

Sally Maclay Dayton

Bud Schweich

Jim Shannon

Sumner Sharpe

Gerry Shogren

Clair Urness

Rose Marie Welliver Wanchupela

Thanks to the hard work of **Sumner Sharpe**, who once lived in Portland, we were directed to a very conveniently located and agreeable hotel, and he also scoped out restaurants and other places for us to enjoy.

We are also thankful to the primary organizers of this Reunion, **Graham Dameron** and **Jim Shannon**, without whom the gathering wouldn't have happened. I helped out a bit here and there with various thoughts and suggestions, but mainly helped supply Thai I contact information. I seem to have a fascination with databases and was able to provide more or less up-to-date names and addresses. The most recent version of that database will be attached to the e-mail that this newsletter will be attached to. **Please let me know** if any information is incorrect or you have more information to add.

It's hard to accurately describe the immediate feelings of camaraderie and respect we all felt for each other after so many years—if your ears were burning, it was probably for good reason! Suffice it to say that all of you who were not there got talked about and were sorely missed.

Whether we will ever have another such gathering is unknown at this point; none of us is getting any younger—I think the youngest person there was 76, and some are a lot older than that, so travel may become increasingly difficult.

One person who was invited but unable to come was **Patti Ferguson**, wife of Glenn Ferguson, our in-country Peace Corps Director. She did however send us a \$100 check to spend on our festivities and wrote a very nice note (see next page) to go along with it. Glenn died a few years ago, so Patti lives in a retirement community in Santa Fe NM. Jim Shannon, who lives in Albuquerque, met her for lunch a week or two before our Reunion and reported that Patti is doing quite well.

We hope you enjoy the pictures of all us old folks on the following pages, and of course we wish you all good health and happiness. And because I'm so slow getting this out to y'all, HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

xSally Maclay Dayton

**Letter from Patti Ferguson—**

July 5, 2016

Dear Sally,

It was such a pleasure to talk with you the other day and I do admire you for finally tracking me down!

As I told you, October reunion plans for the Thai group sound impressive—and fun!—and I was proceeding on contacting friends in Portland and Seattle for visits before & after the Thai reunion.

And then everything came apart...

First, a close friend from high school days is getting married & asked me to be in the wedding. (I think the groom is 92 and she is 88—astonishing!) That's in D.C. on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>

And now, our older son Bruce, and his wife will be moving to Kurdistan (from Abu Dhabi) and coming to Santa Fe for a family reunion at the end of October.

Too much, too fast!

So please extend my regrets—and much love to everyone. I hope you can use the enclosed for champagne—or beer—or lemonade ☹️!

And many thanks to you—

Patti & ♥



## Photos from Thai I Reunion in Portland, the Rose City



Stalwart Jim Shannon



Happy Graham Dameron



Sally Maclay Dayton



Blurry Sumner Sharpe



Bud Schweich and Jim out for a walk



Rose Marie Welliver Wanchupela



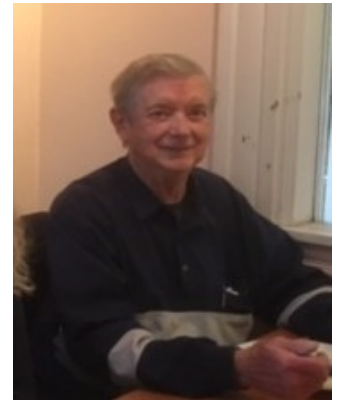
## Photos from Thai I Reunion in Portland



Dave and Peggy Bruton Edwards



Clair Urness



Gerry Shogren



Sumner and Rosie



Graham and Maggie



Maggie's birthday cake



Sally at the Pittock Mansion



Tim Moore (Sally)



Tara Thai appetizers



Rosie guarding the wine



Sumner

(with group at Tara Thai Restaurant)

Margaret



## Photo from Thai I Reunion NOT in Portland



Mel and Keiko Hiramoto Hess at home  
in California

## Urtext of poem written for the occasion by Bud Schweich . . .



### Ode to the Old

How can I remember tomorrow when I can't even  
remember  
today?  
And yesterday is a Wil ' o the Wisp that has gone  
somewhere  
else to stay.  
The calendar with it's days and weeks should help me in  
someway.  
But it too has it's Gremlins that tend to lead me  
astray.  
Then there are newspapers, Tv, and the internet, but they  
only get in the way.  
At last the phone rings, and suddenly without any help from  
me  
it's today.