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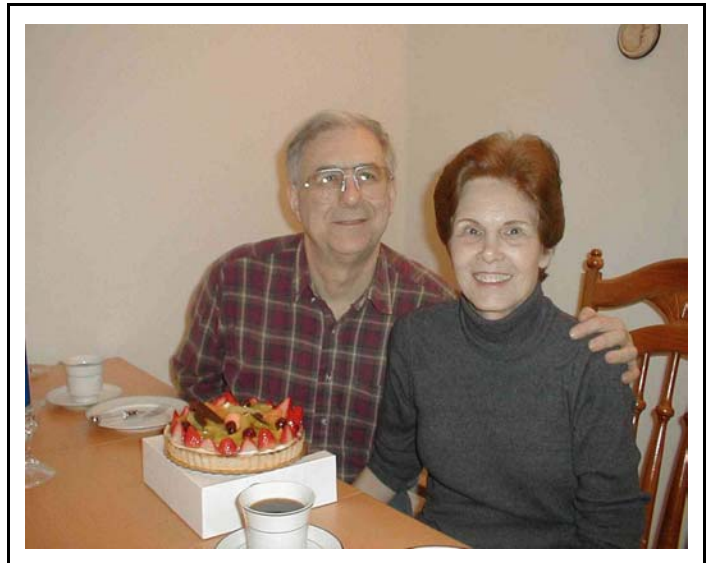
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Location in Thailand

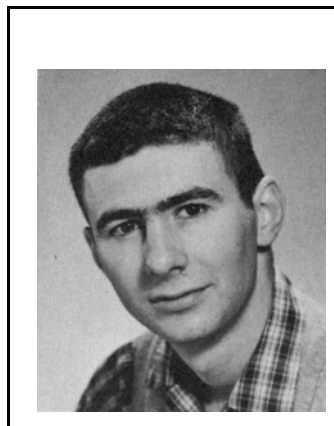
Phayao, then part of Chiengrai Province



Bill and Karen, 2003

Current passion (who/what?)

Economic justice through institution of Georgist Economics, a.k.a.: natural taxation, incentive taxation, site value taxation, and economic rent collection (for an overview and lots of links, see www.earthrights.net; for some of my articles see www.taxpolicy.com/batt, and search my name on www.askhenry.com, and www.cooperativeindividualism.org/batt_railroad_1.html



Bill in 1963

Thai Name

Phi Phat

Favorite (funniest) moments in Thailand

1) learning to water ski on the only lake (Kwan Phayao) in Thailand, using the gear of the profligate son of a wealthy merchant who eventually lost his Miss-Thailand wife, his mansion, his Benz and his boat; 2) buying rotis at the market, and bread when available; 3) visiting young beautiful nurses at the Amphur hospital; 4) taking a two-day bike trip to Phrae with the Lug Sya (Boy Scouts).

Highlights since leaving Thailand

Two trips to Thailand since Peace Corps service — one year for dissertation research in Chiangmai in 1971-- the thesis (rather the thesis of the thesis) was gutted in order to get the committee's approval, but later I was vindicated in my arguments about moral reasoning and social structure by no one less than Jurgen Habermas. A distant reflection of it is at www.rpcv-neny.org/thailand.htm, written in 1971. A second return to Phayao in 1991 along with a speech to the Ministry of Finance on the proper design of user fees. This time I hope also to speak to the Ministry about the virtues of Georgist economics. The 2003 visit is concurrent with my facilitation of the translation into Thai of Henry George's *Progress and Poverty* along with a second book in Thai written by a retired Thai admiral . It comes as the Thai government is considering new tax designs.

After bouncing about various schools as a visiting, adjunct or exchange professor while at the same time trying to maintain a dual career marriage, I spent a decade (1981-1992) as Staff Political Scientist of the New York State Legislative Tax Study Commission, leaving finally along with changes in the Assembly

leadership.

In Ithaca, I was the candidate for Democratic Candidate for Town Supervisor, 1975, 1977, and chair of the Town of Ithaca Democratic Party, 1978-80. But elsewhere I was too radical to ever be acceptable to mainstream political organizations. When returning to Albany in 1981, one way to make and see something happen not in conflict with my day job in the legislature was to establish and be the driving force of the Hemlock Society of New York State for a decade. It was challenging, interesting and fulfilling, especially having an 800 number ring in my home about 8 times a day — people in desperate situations along with media reporters and students doing papers. This role also included five years on the Board of Directors of the National Hemlock Society, where my task was to do lots of public speaking in law and medical schools supportive of death with dignity.

I have been a leader in Unitarian Universalist Congregations in Ithaca and Albany, 1974 to the present. Also Board Director of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation and the Center for the Study of Economics (www.schalkenbach.org and www.urbantools.net), and the RPCVs of Northeastern NY (www.rpcv-neny.org)

Three most important integrating philosophies: Moral and Cognitive Development Psychologies of Lawrence Kohlberg and William Perry; the Economic Philosophy of Henry George, and the writing of Ken Wilber. The most fulfilling non-academic challenge: designing and building my dream home — later lost in a divorce.

Two marriages and divorces — the first for 14 years to a psychiatrist; the second for two years to an anthropologist and administrator in higher educational institutions. The third, a domestic partner, Karen A. Donaldson, a retired pediatrician. No children.