



## PNG/KLS/SPLC 2023 Reunion

*Starts: Thursday October 5, 2023 at 3 pm*

*Ends: Sunday October 8, 2023 at 2 pm*



A collection of PNG artifacts at the 2021 PNG reunion.

## June 2023 Newsletter

### **GREETINGS WANTOKS**

The 2023 reunion is now three months away

#### **In this email you'll find:**

- a reservation link
  - information on the speakers
    - fees and highlights
    - a book suggestion
  - photos of past reunions
  - a link to past Zoom Gatherings
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#### **MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!**

On-site motel rooms are filling up fast.

Click on the link below to request a reservation form.

[PNGreunion2023@gmail.com](mailto:PNGreunion2023@gmail.com)

We're requesting payment as soon as possible, but final payment is due by September 15th, 2023.

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### **Wantoks Attending**

Fred Brandt, Mark and Merrily Brandt, Mary (Brandt) Croft

Miriam (Senff) Bunn, Tanya (Senff) Mayer, Grace (Senff) Payne

Jonathan Davis, Phil Davis

Connie (Mansur) Hassan, Cynthia (Mansur) and Gary Schoonover

Daniel Heist

David Hueter, Mark Singh-Hueter

Else (Helbig) and Ron Schardt

Maggie Tuff, Dianne Tuff and Murdoch Johnson

Leslie Walck

Ruth Van Reken

# **The PNG-KLS-SPLC Wantok Reunion**

## **Thursday October 5, 2023 - Sunday October 8, 2023**

**Where:** Mt Olivet Conference and Retreat Center, Farmington, Minnesota  
<https://mtolivetretreat.org/>

### **Featured Speakers:**

**Ruth Van Reken** and **Dr. George Weiblen** will lead multiple sessions and discussions:

**Ruth** will share more of her wisdom and research about growing up in a third culture such as PNG. A session will focus on attachment issues and related trauma that third culture kids often experience and carry with them into adulthood. Discussion will focus on ways to cope. Individuals and small groups can meet with Ruth throughout the reunion.

**George** is a University of Minnesota professor and is Science Director and Curator of Plants at the U's Bell Museum. His specialty is the interaction of flowering plants with insect pollinators and pests. George will update us on his ongoing research in PNG, plus share PNG collections, and discuss safe travel options with those interested in visiting PNG. We are excited that his PNG national colleagues at the New Guinea Binatang Research Center in Madang will join us via Zoom for a session. Click on this link to learn about his outstanding work in PNG.

<https://cbs.umn.edu/blog-posts/weiblen-recognized-community-engagement>

And our wantoks: **Jonathan Frerichs** has agreed to share stories about his adventures growing up in PNG, and **Marion** will join him to talk about their return to work in PNG and later life stories.

## **Fees:**

**Rates cover all program and facility costs**

**For the full three-day reunion:**

Motel Rooms - single \$561.00 all meals

Motel Rooms - double \$419.00 all meals

Dorm Boarders - \$365.00 all meals

## **For partial stay:**

Dorm - 2 nights 6 meals \$245.00

Day Guest - 1 meal \$55.00

Day Guest - 2 meals \$72.00

Day Guest - 3 meals \$83.00

**Off-site Hotel:** For those preferring to stay off-site, there is a motel option 14 miles away from Mount Olivet at the Baymont by Windom in Lakeville. A block of rooms is reserved at \$75 per night and continental breakfast is offered (see the link to Baymont's website below). If you choose this option, then register for the 'Day Guest' rates listed above.

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/lakeville-minnesota/baymont-inn-and-suites-lakeville/overview?CID=LC:BU::GGL:RIO:National:49867&iata=00093796>

## **Highlights:**

**Join us for fun activities:** chatting with wantoks, singing by the campfire, volleyball with Phil, walking the trails, and swimming with Maggie, to name a few.

**Saturday's Remembrance Service:** the hour before this special service will be filled with music. Do you sing or play an instrument? This is an opportunity to share your skills with your fellow wantoks. If willing and interested, please respond through the email below. Thank you!

[PNGreunion2023@gmail.com](mailto:PNGreunion2023@gmail.com)

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***"Third Culture Kids - the Experience of Growing Up Among Worlds"***

by Ruth Van Reken and Dave Pollock

This is a book that gives insight into how our boarding school and mission-focused childhoods impacted our lives in many different ways. We encourage you to read it.



## PHOTOS OF PAST PNG REUNIONS

Do you have a photo of a reunion that you would like to see in a future newsletter? Please send it to Cynthia (Mansur) Schoonover at [gschoonover04@msn.com](mailto:gschoonover04@msn.com)

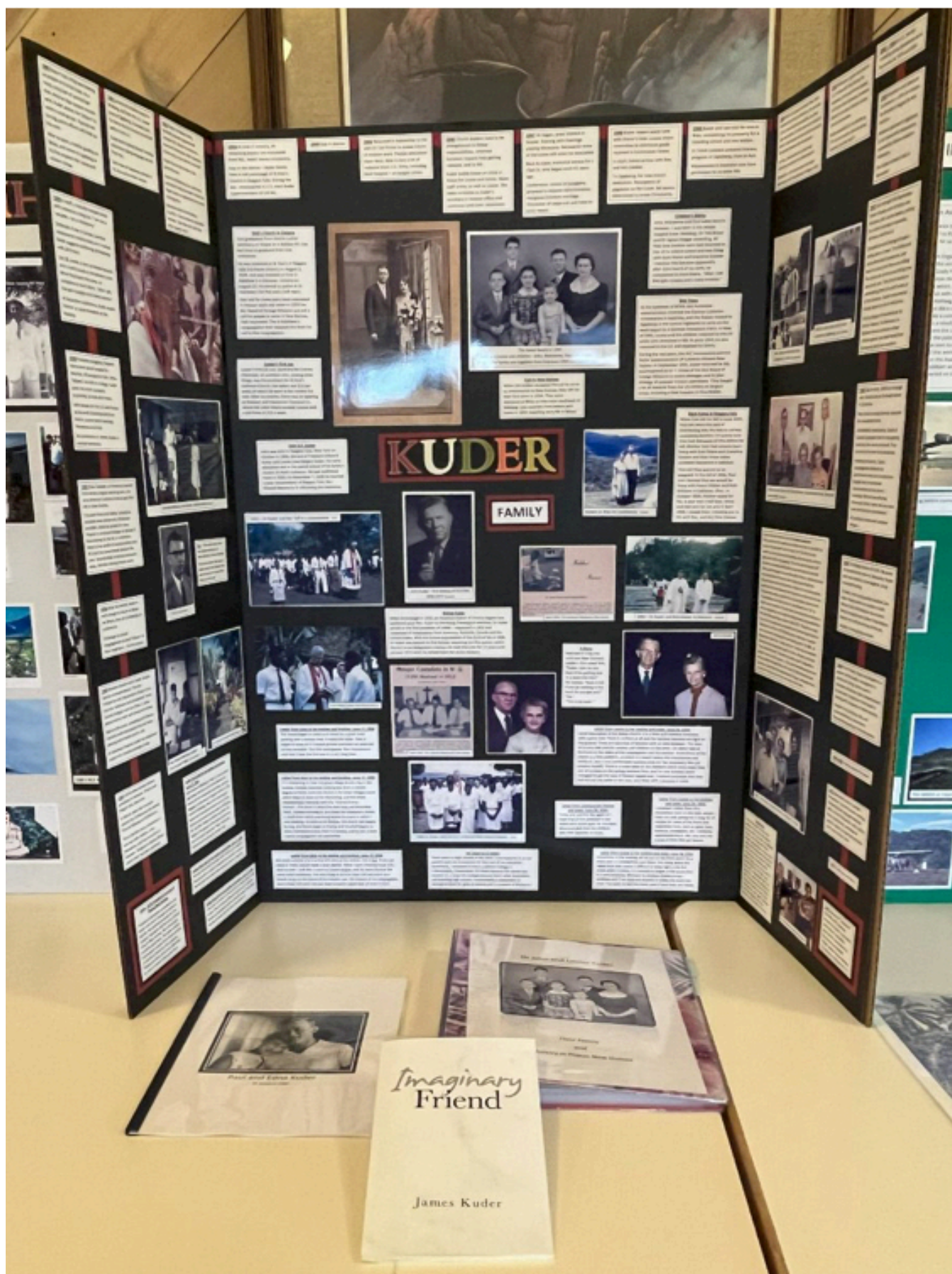


Dan Heist standing in the cafeteria at Mt Olivet (2021 reunion)



Ron & Else (Helbig) Schardt at Mt Olivet (2021 reunion)





A display board for the Kuder family along with Jim Kuder's book (2021 reunion)



### **[Link to Past Zoom Gatherings](#)**

Videos of various Zoom Gatherings are available on our reunion website.  
Click on the link below to access them.

<https://wordpress.com/page/pngklssplc.org/422>

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### **[Please Share This Newsletter](#)**

If you know a fellow wantok who doesn't receive our newsletters, please forward it to them and suggest they get on our email list at:

[PNGreunion2023@gmail.com](mailto:PNGreunion2023@gmail.com)

Or our Facebook page

[PNG/KLS/SPLC](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1468705713377972)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1468705713377972>

We would like to get the word out to as many as possible.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN OCTOBER!**

**The 2023 PNG Reunion Planning Committee**

**Mark Brandt, Phil Davis, Tim Johnson, Dawn (Daechsel) McLean, Paula (Schulz) Mitchell, Grace (Senff) Payne, Else (Helbig) Schardt, Cynthia (Mansur) Schoonover, Gary Schoonover, Mark Singh-Hueter, Dianne Tuff, Les Walck**