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**PNG/KLS/SPLC 2025 Reunion - August Newsletter**

1 message

**PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion Committee**

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Sat, Aug 31, 2024 at 7:10 AM

**PNG/KLS/SPLC 2025 Reunion Newsletter*****The journey to the Reunion starts here!*****August 2024 Newsletter****GREETINGS WANTOKS****Look for these things in this newsletter:****Two important dates:**

- Our next “Keeping in Touch” Zoom Gathering Oct. 4 (U.S.)/Oct. 5 (Eur. & Aust.), 2024.

- Our next [PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion](#) will be held October 2 - 5, 2025, again at Mt Olivet Conference Center in Farmington, Minnesota

### Links to our website:

- Mark Singh-Hueters' videos, including the 2023 Reunion.
- Recent Obituaries we have been made aware of.

Felix Doering at Tiripini (Photo by Willi Hertle, from the archives of Augustana Theological Seminary in Neundettelsau, Germany)



Our next “Keeping in Touch”

### Zoom Gathering

**Subject matter: Quintessential Photographic Memories**

**Worldwide times:**

**In Canada/USA CDT Friday, October 4 at 7 pm**

**In Brisbane, Aust. Saturday, October 5 at 10 am**

**In Europe, Saturday, October 5 at 2 am**

Register [here](#) for the Zoom.

Register soon, even if you haven't decided on your photos yet.

We will focus on favorite slides/pictures from our PNG days for this Zoom Gathering. To make this happen, please send in 3-5 slides with a sentence about each slide. Send your pictures to Cynthia (Mansur) Schoonover at

[gschoonover04@msn.com](mailto:gschoonover04@msn.com)

*Please send in your pictures as JPEGs by September 27th 2024 to allow ample time for assembling the slide show!*

In the Zoom meeting, we will watch the slide show together, then divide out into small groups to discuss what we've seen, focusing on what emotions were elicited. Following that time, we will watch the slideshow again and then divide out into different groupings. This time, we will discuss our favorite scenes. It is hoped that interesting conversations and sharing can happen this way. Because there might be duplicates of various scenes, every slide you send may not be shown. For example, a number of aerial slides of KLS, or of mission planes or ships, may be received. Only one or two would be selected for the first slide show. Those pictures not shown during the Zoom meeting may then be shown in a second group at the end of the two hours.

**Here are some suggestions of quintessential PNG scenes to look for in your photographic collections:**

- **a highlands highway with narrow corners**
- **a coastal bridge wiped out, or a road in flood**
- **a mission ship**
- **airplanes landing or taking off**
- **KLS from the air**
- **a singsing, wedding or a big baptism service**
- **lines of people streaming into or out of church**
- **scenes of PNG animals and birds**
- **a feast**
- **someone on the sked, or correspondence school**
- **swimming in ponds, rivers or the ocean**
- **fruits**
- **markets**

This promises to be an interesting and informative Zoom meeting, and everyone is encouraged to participate by sending in 3-5 pictures, whether or

not you will actually be able to participate in the zoom meeting! Also, if you don't have any photos to share, please still come and share your memories.

Please send your pictures to [Cynthia](#) by September 27th, 2024!



Highlands Warrior, taken at the Goroka Festival by Markus Uhlirz in 2022

## Save the Date!

**Our next PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion will be held:**  
**Thursday October 2 to Sunday October 5, 2025**

It will be held again at Mt Olivet Conference Center in Farmington, Minnesota.  
 Welcoming, interesting, informative sessions will be part of the Reunion!

Two highlights are:

- A hilarious hour-and-a-half will erupt Saturday afternoon, instigated by the **“Looney Lutherans”**, a troop of three comediennes, led by Greta Grosch. They poke a lot of good-natured fun about growing up Lutheran. Over the last two decades they have performed on stage, in church basements, in large and small venues, sharing their interactive musical humor. *Audience members everywhere love their comical, musical shows, even those who are not Lutheran! Can you believe that!”* Greta has a special connection with our group in that she spent some of her youth in Lae where she attended Lae International High School. Her mother taught at Balob and MLS and her father was with Kristen Radio.
- Another opportunity at this Reunion will be a time for *meditative, in-depth, respectful conversation*. Called **“MK Nexus,”** it will be a time to share memorable experiences we had as MK children, and the impact they might have had on us, leading us as individuals to become who we are today.

### **TREASURED DIAMONDS AWAITING DISCOVERY**

- The **first “diamond”** is a scholar by the name of **Jared Diamond**, a professor at UCLA, a prolific book and article writer, and an astute, insightful observer of humanity. At just 26 years of age, he got involved in studying and cataloguing birds in New Guinea, both PNG and West Irian. He totally immersed himself in the various regions he was studying, and frequently was the only European in the midst of those New Guinean villages, thus gaining astounding insights, personally and culturally. He has commented, “Once you’ve been to New Guinea, the rest of the world is boring.”

- a. Prof Diamond may join us as a participant on Zoom for the “Quintessential Photographic Memories,” October 4, 2024, and will be with us for the 2025 PNG Reunion at Mt Olivet, October 2—5, and possibly for a Zoom Meeting in the Spring of 2025, still being planned.
- b. Diamond’s writings to explore:
  - i. His Pulitzer Prize winning “Guns, Germs, and Steel” (1997), in which he credits Yali, the son of the infamous “cargo cult” leader Yali, for insightful questions which led to him exploring the development of human civilizations and cultures;
  - ii. “Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed” (2005, 2011);
  - iii. “The World Until Yesterday” (2012);
  - iv. “Upheaval” (2019).

These last two show his amazingly wide knowledge and PNG experiences.
- c. Or, view his 3 *Interviews with an Author* on YouTube.
- o He has pointed out that MK’s are “profoundly stamped by where they were born,” to which Cynthia breathed a sigh of relief, “We have another human soul who understands us!”
- o The **second “diamond”** to look forward to is a compatriot who was adopted into the Goldhardt family, **Barbara Carlyon**. She is scheduled to join us by Zoom from Australia on Friday evening, October 3, during the 2025 PNG Reunion. She has incredible insights on growing up in a missionary family, and you can learn more about her through the book “Mama Kuma” written by her daughter, Deborah.

Uplifting worship experiences, outstanding meals, enjoying the outdoors, as well as quality conversations with one another will again be a part of the 2025 PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion.

We note that this Reunion coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of PNG Independence!

Look for more info in upcoming newsletters!



**Put the Reunion in your calendar now!**  
**October 2-5, 2025, at Mt Olivet!**



**The 2023 Reunion Attendees.**

4th row, back left: Jon Davis, Mark Singh-Hueter, Al Erickson, Mark Brandt, Fred Brandt, Paul Johnson, Tim Imbrock, Les Walck, Dan Heist, Ron Schardt, Murdoch Johnson, Jonathan Frerichs, Keith Moyer, Peter Frerichs, Philip Davis

3rd row, left: Dawn (Daechsel) McLean, Mary (Brandt) Croft, Tanya (Senff) Mayer, Sieglinde Malmberg, Maggie Tuff, Dave Hueter, Becky (Jamieson) KenKnight, Connie (Mansur) Hassan, Gary Schoonover, Marian Frerichs, Carol Imbrock

2nd row, left: Cynthia (Mansur) Schoonover, Angela Frerichs, Dianne Tuff, Donna (Daechsel) Smallwood, Ruth Van Reken, Else (Helbig) Schardt, Loretta Davis, Christine (Sievert) Koch, Paula (Erickson) Bergs

1st row, front left: Christy (Mesplay) Moyer, Kay (Edwards) Horntvedt, Miriam (Senff) Bunn, Martin Voss, Grace (Senff) Payne, Darlene (Daechsel) Schnuelle, Eric Walters, Lisa (Mesplay) Turvey

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## Links to our [Website](#)

- The [Wantok Playlist](#) put together by Mark Singh-Hueter. All videos are now uploaded, including the most recent Reunion
- [Obituaries](#) of wantoks who have passed away since the Reunion

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Please note that we have a new email address - [png.kls.splc.reunion@gmail.com](mailto:png.kls.splc.reunion@gmail.com)

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The 2025 PNG Reunion Planning Committee  
Mark Brandt, Kay (Edwards) Horntvedt, 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.

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