

**Larry & Dee Woodson**

**From:** "Larry Woodson" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "Woodson Larry & Dee" [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 07, 2009 9:30 PM  
**Subject:** Re: IVS Reunion Registration  
 Sixty three emails sent out with one rejection (Ryan on p 53)

On Sun, Jun 7, 2009 at 7:59 PM, Larry Woodson [REDACTED] wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Phyllis G Westover [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Thu, Jun 4, 2009 at 12:34 PM  
**Subject:** IVS Reunion Registration  
**To:** Larry Laverentz [REDACTED], Larry Woodson [REDACTED], Tom Fox [REDACTED], Willi Meyers [REDACTED], Lala Kumar [REDACTED], Phyllis Westover [REDACTED]

Hello, IVS Alumni and Friends!

We want to see you again at the next reunion set for the weekend of October 16-18, 2009, in Kansas City, Missouri! And, we need to hear from you! Attached and pasted in below is registration information, including the registration form that you can print and return by snail-mail along with your registration fee.

The reunion theme is "The IVS Impact on Our Lives" and will include updates and reports as well as the sharing of slides, film and writings. Jill Hunting's new book, *Finding Pete: Rediscovering the Brother I Lost in Vietnam* (Wesleyan University Press), will be available for purchase, and we will hear from Jill on the experience of writing the book. If you have writing about your IVS experience that you'd like to bring to the attention of alumni, please let Phyllis Westover know [REDACTED]. Display tables will be available for various memorabilia.

Please note also the several options for visiting places of interest in the Kansas City area and let us know, time willing, what you'd most enjoy seeing.

We look forward to hearing from, Reunion Planning Committee

Tom Fox, VN 66-68;  
 Lala Kamur, Botswana 80-82;  
 Larry Laverentz, 61-63;  
 Willi Meyers, VN 63-65, 66-67, IVS/W 65-66;  
 Larry Woodson, Laos 64-71;  
 Phyllis Westover (Chair), VN 63-65.

**IVS Reunion in Kansas City, MO: Oct. 16-18, 2009**

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Information removed by the Vietnam Archive

**Plan now!**

Wherever you served, come join your fellow IVS alums. Come reconnect with friend and cohorts with whom you share a common bond in history.

A block of rooms at the Kansas City Marriott Country Club Plaza Hotel are reserved at the special rate of \$139 plus tax per night that includes a **free**, full buffet breakfast. (With tax and city fee, the total room charge is \$161.66 per night.) The airport Super Shuttle will deliver you to the hotel door for \$19 one-way and \$31 round-trip. If you drive, \$7.00 per day will be added to your bill if you choose to use the covered, secured parking garage adjoining the hotel. The Marriott Plaza is a short, pleasant walk to the Kansas City's famed Country Club Plaza where you can stroll the Brush Creek River Walk with old friends or shop. Also a pleasant walk away is the world renowned Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and its expansive sculpture garden, another great spot for renewing friendships.

**Reserve your room:**

Call toll free the Kansas City Marriott Country Club Plaza Hotel at **1-800-810-3708**. Say you are reserving a room in the International Voluntary Services Reunion block of rooms for the nights you plan to stay. Specify whether you want one bed or two. You can share a room with another IVS alum, but you'll need to make your own arrangements. A credit card number or one night advanced deposit will be required to secure a room from the IVS Reunion block. Cancellations must be received 24 hours prior to arrival or 1 night room and tax will be assessed. **Make your reservation by Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. After this date, the Marriott Plaza will release our block of rooms.** Please note that there is more than one Marriott Hotel in Kansas City. The IVS Reunion is being held at the one below:

Kansas City Marriott Country Club Plaza Hotel  
4445 Main Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
(816) 531-3000 – Main local switchboard number  
(800) 810-3708 – Toll free reservation number

ERIC  
019/09

Oct - 16<sup>th</sup> FRI  
17 \$12.00 VEHICLE

standard - free  
double

6 pm prior  
3 pm  
12 noon

The Marriott will honor the same rate of \$139 per room per night if you wish to come early or stay later to take in more of the City's attractions. The reunion starts Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> with a Friday evening social at 5 p.m., followed by dinner and program and ends either with informal goodbyes at breakfast Sunday, Oct. 18, or Sunday afternoon at 4:00 if you opt to enjoy a "Dutch" buffet lunch in the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art's Rozzelle Court followed by a free museum tour. If you plan an extra day in KC, remember that although museums are open Sunday afternoons, most are closed Mondays, so arriving a day early may be better than staying a day later.

**Reunion Registration:**

**Register for the reunion by August 31<sup>st</sup>** to take advantage of the **early registration fee of \$150. After this date the registration fee is \$175.**

- When you complete and return your registration form, note your priorities for what Kansas City attractions you would most enjoy seeing. (See list below.) Although we can't work in everything, we'll try for the top one or two attractions. Depending on number of attendees, we may have two separate tours.
  - Please register early to save you money and to help your planners! To reserve transportation and arrange tours, we need to know how many will attend the reunion by the end of August.
  - In the case of health exigencies that prevent you from attending the reunion after registration, the full amount of your check will be refunded.
  - Check the MyFamily.com IVS Alumni website for reunion updates.
- If you have questions, please contact Phyllis Westover at (816) 926-0866 or

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[REDACTED], or Larry Laverentz at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

- Return your registration forms and checks to Phyllis at the address noted on the registration form. (You will need to make your own room reservations with the Marriott Plaza Hotel as noted above.)

#### **Preliminary Program Plans:**

- Reunion theme: The IVS Impact on Our Lives
- Updates from selected IVS alums who have continued international/cultural work of note.
- "The IVS Countries, Then and Now": Short highlights from persons who have recently visited Vietnam, Laos or other countries where they served. **Let us know if you would like to be part of this session.**
- Breakout sessions for alums who served in Laos and Vietnam.
- Readings (short selections from poetry, fiction, and nonfiction that is nonpolitical commentary) from writings resulting from IVS experience.
- Sharing of films, slides, photographs, writings, and other memorabilia from IVS experience. Display tables will be set up in main meeting room. **Please bring items from your IVS experience you would like to share and alert Phyllis to any AV equipment you may need.**
- A catered, authentic Vietnamese dinner is planned for Saturday night.
- Opportunities for informal visiting.

#### **Excursions in and around Kansas City:**

There's more to see and do than can be packed into one Saturday, but below are attractions that will be selected from or that you can do on your own by extending your stay:

- The Truman Library and Museum in Independence: Recently updated. The Director, a historian and former Peace Corps volunteer, has offered to speak with us about the museum and "Harry." (Admission \$7 for seniors.) [www.trumanlibrary.org](http://www.trumanlibrary.org). **Note:** There is no easy public transportation from KC to Independence, MO, and the Truman Library and Museum—unless you have or rent a car. Consequently, this excursion is best done as a group with a rented bus. Admission for a group also renting a room for lunch, which we plan on, is \$5.75 per person.
- The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial: Recently redone with many interactive exhibits. (Seniors - \$7.) [www.theworldwar.org](http://www.theworldwar.org).
- The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art: Outstanding collections, especially Chinese. The new Bloch Building "lenses" addition designed by Steven Holl Architects received many awards and was featured in *Time* and other major publications. Free admission. [www.nelson-atkins.org](http://www.nelson-atkins.org). The Nelson-Atkins is within walking distance from the hotel and has an excellent lunch buffet. So, you could do this Sunday afternoon and still visit another attraction on Saturday.
- The Steamboat Arabia Museum: Sunk in the Missouri River in 1856, the Arabia was excavated from a cornfield over a century later and found loaded with frontier life items. Excellent website: [www.1856.com](http://www.1856.com). (Group rate - \$10.50.)
- Other sites of interest include The Jazz Museum, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, Shawnee Mission Museum (early boarding school for Native Americans), Wornall House Museum (farm house that served as hospital during Civil War), Sprint Center, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, and Thomas Hart Benton Home.
- **You can access information on all the above by following links on [visitkc.com](http://visitkc.com). Click on Things to Do, Attractions, and then History and Heritage.**

**Hope to see you October 16-18 in Kansas City!**

Reunion Planning Committee:  
Tom Fox, VN, 66-68

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Lala Kumar, Botswana, 80-82  
Larry Laverentz, VN, 61-63  
Willi Meyers, VN, 63-65, 66-67, IVS/W 65-66  
Phyllis Westover, Chair, VN, 63-65  
Larry Woodson, Laos, 64-71

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**Registration Form**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Countries and dates served in IVS: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my registration check in the amount of \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ person(s). (\$150 per person through August 31<sup>st</sup>; \$175 per person thereafter.) Make your check **payable to: Phyllis Westover, DBA IVS Reunion and memo the check "Registration Fee."** Mail your check to:

Phyllis Westover  
1215 W. 65<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, MO 64113-1803

My top three choices of attractions to visit in the Kansas City area are: (Please place a 1, 2, or 3 beside the attractions below to indicate your priorities.)

- Harry S. Truman Library and Museum \_\_\_\_\_
- The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial \_\_\_\_\_
- Steamboat Arabia Museum \_\_\_\_\_
- Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art \_\_\_\_\_ (Wish to visit Sun. \_\_\_\_.)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

I have the following dietary restrictions for the hotel dinner: \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., I don't eat meat (all or specify), gluten, or \_\_\_\_\_)

Questions? Call or email Phyllis Westover at \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ or  
Larry Laverentz at \_\_\_\_\_.

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