

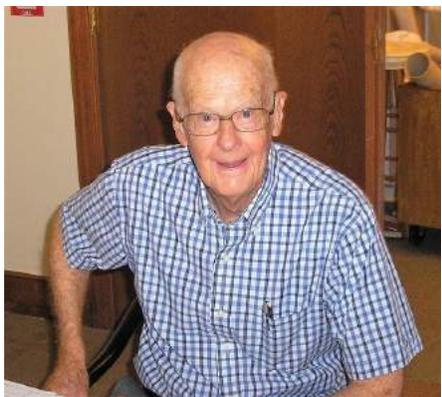
# GOLDEN NUGGETS

**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>  
International

Newsletter of the  
Kiwanis Club of the Golden Nuggets

August 8, 2017 Volume 4, Issue 10

## Royalty and Other Topics Discussed



Left, Charles Hadley, Charles saw a movie at Frasier Meadows about Inge Sargent, a Burmese princess. Inge was a charter member of our club and she taught at Fairview High School.

In 1951, Inge Eberhard had already lived through Nazi occupation in her native Austria when she won a Fullbright Scholarship to study at Colorado Women's College in Denver. She was just 19, and soon met and fell in love with a young man named Sao Kya Seng – a mining engineering student from Burma. By 1953 they were married, and by Christmas the next year they were on a ship from Liverpool to Rangoon, preparing to begin a new life in his home country.

As they approached Rangoon harbor, they could see crowds of people on the shore with banners and fine clothes, throwing flowers into the water, playing musical instruments and waving. It was only at this point – as Sargent wondered aloud what important personage they could be welcoming – that her husband revealed that he was the Prince of Hsipaw, and she was his princess. Sargent recalls her reaction: "I wish you could have told me – I would have worn a different dress". Though she was initially (and understandably) rather put out by having been kept in the dark – she understood her husband's reasoning. At college, he had wanted to be treated like any other student, and to experience life, as he put it, "in the country of Thomas Jefferson"; later, he wanted to be sure that his wife was marrying him for who he was, not what he was.

### Special points of interest:

- The next club meeting is Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 9:00 AM at Frasier Meadows Retirement Center in the Community Room. The presentation will be: "Get Involved in Local Government". Speaker: Kathleen Chandler, The Independence Institute.
- Because of a strong partnership, every Kiwanian knows about UNICEF, the 2017 recipient of Kiwanis' highest honor, the Kiwanis World Service Medal. The honor was given to UNICEF during the 2017 Kiwanis International Convention in Paris. "There is no organization that better exemplifies an outstanding dedication to serving the children of the world," said 2016-17 Kiwanis International President Jane Erickson.

## Inge Sargent (Continued)

The Burma that Sargent describes in the decade following her arrival was a paradise of fruitfulness and wealth. The British had relinquished control in 1947, and the military government would not take control until 1962. Burma was one of the largest rice producers in the world “you just stuck a branch of an orange tree into the ground and in three years it bore fruit. It was unbelievable, everything grew”. She recalls how her husband, Sao, wanted nothing more in life than to find a way to help his people – giving away his rice fields to the locals, buying tractors for them to use, and establishing experimental crops of pineapples, coffee, ginger, soybeans, and citrus fruits.

The title of Saopha (“Lord of the Heavens”) was a feudal title passed down to Sao, giving him sovereignty over Hsipaw State – historically one of the most important of the independent Shan States. Though he remained a feudal ruler, Sao believed in free speech and equality, and used his influence and wealth to improve the lives of Hsipaw’s poor.

Sargent – who was then known by her Burmese name, Sao Thusandi – explains that Sao studied mining engineering to be useful to his people, and on his return, he established a mining company to capitalize on the region’s rich mineral reserves. Meanwhile, she learned the Burmese and Shan languages and became involved in charitable projects such as establishing a birthing clinic, and setting up a multilingual school. They had two daughters, Mayari and Kennari, and their altruistic efforts quickly made them two of Southeast Asia’s best-loved rulers.

In 1962, Sao and Sargent’s idyllic life came to an end as General Ne Win launched a coup and established a military government – which remained in power in Burma for over 50 years. The military government stripped Burma’s Saophas of their remaining powers, and arrested Sao – keeping Sargent under house arrest for two years on suspicion of being a CIA spy. She never heard from her husband again, and at 32 she gave up hope of his being found alive and fled with her daughters (then aged five and eight) back to Austria, leaving all her wealth and possessions behind. She later learned that Sao had been killed in prison, but to this day the military government has never admitted to his murder.

Sargent settled with her daughters near Boulder and married Howard “Tad” Sargent in 1968. The couple set up the Burma Lifeline Foundation, a charity that aimed to raise funds to help those fleeing the military regime in Burma, and in 2000 she was awarded the UN International Human Rights Award for her continued support for ethnic minorities in Burma. Source: [Inside Burma](#)



Inge Sargent



Left, Mike Fink. Mike said that James McCloughan, a Vietnam War veteran, was given the Congressional Medal of Honor. One of Mike's heroes is Drew Dix, another Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Mike and Drew are from Pueblo, the "Home of Heroes".

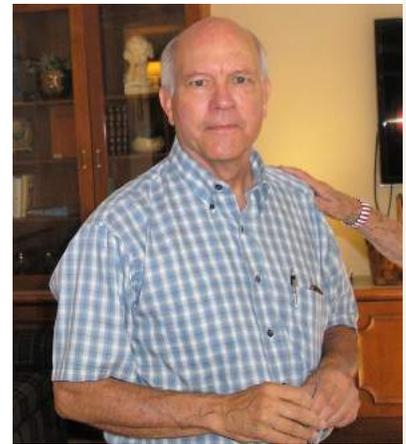
Pueblo is the hometown of four Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. Mike says the military has the code that a fallen soldier is never left behind.

Rogers Coke offered this joke: "What do you call a frog with a bunch of parking tickets?" Dave Finlay replied, "Toad", which

was the answer.

Dottie Imel was glad that Rogers was at the meeting.

Right, Dave. Dave had this trivia question: "What restaurant chain was founded by John Schnatter?: The answer is Papa John's.



Left, Helen Hall. Helen commented that it is a small world. One day her sister is in Frankfurt, Germany and the next day, she is back in Montreal, Canada.



Right, Jess Kadel. Jess said the University of Colorado is developing Artificial Intelligent Robots. Charles said that Cal Tech is also doing similar research.



Left, Kirsten Cox. Kirsten said she had three Danish guests that spoke Danish.

Trivia Question courtesy: <http://trivia.fyi>. A flamboyance is a group of what animal? Answer below.



Left, Jolane Fenner. Jolane spent three days in the mountains, volunteering for the “Live by Living” organization retreat for cancer survivors. These participants were young cancer survivors. Jolane is a popular volunteer as she chooses to volunteer at the “last moment”.

Right, Barbara Fink. Barbara appreciates Mike, her son, for visiting with her and going places while he is away from his home in Las Vegas.



The film, “Dunkirk”, was discussed with all agreeing that it was a great film. Barbara thought the photography was outstanding. Jess said you could imagine yourself as a pilot. Helen said her cousin survived the Dunkirk battle, only to come home a break his leg in a motorcycle accident. Kirsten commented that her husband was a Colonel in the Air Force. Charles said the battle was a costly one as 25,000 soldiers died.

Mike said the game, “War Hammer” is a popular fantasy game. Jess advised not to play games with one’s grandkids as you will never win. Mike said to take the Richard Nixon approach. We still need games where we can talk to each other. Youngsters need to develop customer relations skills. Some clerks behave as if they are saying, “Why are you talking to me?”

Kirsten said she learned English, German, French and Swedish in school in Sweden. Helen said that French and English were mandatory subjects throughout Canada. Mike said that current translation programs are incredible. Helen’s daughter-in-law does sign language in courts.

Trivia Answer: Flamingos

**Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.**

**We’re on the web. Click on <https://sites.google.com/site/kiwanisgoldennuggets/>**

Club Officers:

President: Charles Hadley

Vice President: Jess Kadel

Treasurer: David Finlay, Secretary: Rogers Coke

Our club meets every Tuesday at 9:00 AM at Frasier Meadows Retirement Center, 350 Ponca Drive, in Boulder. For information, contact Rogers Coke, (303) 444-1924.