

SOUTH WIND



THE ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH

DISTRICT NO. 3350

Charter Granted August 7, 1961

Mail Address : The Pan Pacific Hotel
21st Floor, 952 Rama IV Road,
Bangrak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand

No. 3246/30 NOVEMBER 2007

Luncheon Meetings
Every Friday 12.15 p.m.
at the Pan Pacific Hotel
Tel : 0 2632-9160
Fax : 0 2632-9161

President: Graham Brain • **President Elect:** Robert Brown • **Immediate Past President:** Nart Liuchareon
Vice President: Michael Schulz • **Vice President:** Andrew MacPherson • **Secretary:** Hakan Sköglund
Treasurer: Gary White • **Administration:** Mark Butters • **Fund Raising:** Alex Mavro
Membership: Robert Brown • **Communications:** Ian Fenwick • **Rotary Foundation:** Manu Mekdhanasarn
Service Projects: Andrew Hamilton • **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Michael Ellis

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Dr. Mechai Viravaidhaya: The Privatization of Poverty
NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Dr. Nantaphat - Stem Cell Technology - Ladies' Day



Kevin Beauvais – The Future of Luxury and Your Place In It

According to Kevin, airline and hotel prices in the Asia Pacific region will continue to move upward in the coming year and will be driven by the Summer Olympics in Beijing, as well as economic growth, high fuel costs, an increasingly mobile population and soaring demand. However, some of these cost increases will be offset by the growth of low-cost airlines and a focus on market share over profitability by the airlines in the short term.

Kevin Beauvais brought his considerable knowledge and experience in the hotel industry to Bangkok South last week and gave the club an interesting presentation entitled "The Future of Luxury and Your Place In It."

After starting his career as a driver in the Marriott Group in 1979, Kevin worked his way up through the company to become Country Manager Thailand for JW Marriott in 2001. After 2 years as COO of Minor International and a year's sabbatical, Kevin founded Invision Hospitality Co. Ltd in January 2007.

Kevin also feels that the business travel market will expand as demand continues to outweigh supply. Despite the price increases, business travelers will benefit from renovations, upgrades and the inclusion of new amenities in business hotels. Eco initiatives are also evolving into 'responsible business travel'.

"Travelers value cleanliness above all else and are becoming more environmentally conscious," he said. "Companies are expected to increase the focus on responsible business travel practices related to

the environment and the safety and security of travelers."

In terms of "where the hospitality industry should be going", Kevin said the industry should encourage consumers to trade up, making the unaffordable, affordable. Also, since the current trend is for consumers to take three shorter leisure trips a year, hotels should be set up to facilitate shorter trips and at different spend levels.

His final two pieces of advice for anyone in the hospitality industry are:

- Let the market drive the project - understand the customer's needs and build to suit with specific detailed standards.
- Give the guest what they want, when they want it!!!

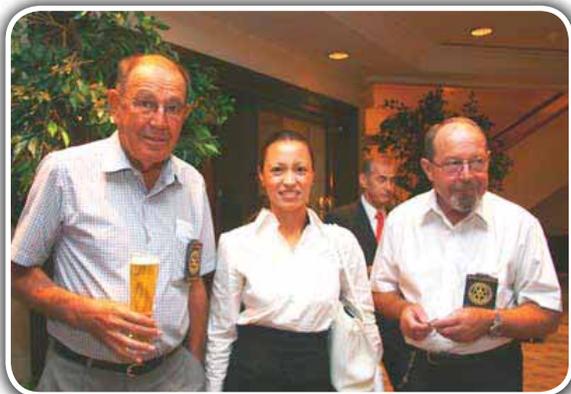
For most of the frequent travelers in our club, this would be a welcome change.

Article by Rtn Dean Outerson



SOUTH WIND

LAST WEEK'S "SCENE"



Rtns Marco Casanova and Peter Daetwiler welcome guest Claire de Boer to our humble club.



PP Krit and President Graham with regular Visiting Rotarian Kamthorn Louivattanakul.



"See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil, write no meeting notes?!"

South Wind Editor Rtn Dean looks for a little help from regular contributors Rtns Junior, John, Tim and John...



"He that hath a beard is more than a youth, and he that hath no beard is less than a man."
- William Shakespeare

Rtns Hakan, Bernard and Dean show off their latest creations.

Photos by Khun Bas



Bjorn Borg
World Tennis Superstar

*When style is more important than skill,
All players prefer a classy court.*



Marcel Dubbleman
RCBS Tennis Buff

QUARMBY'S QUIPS



I'm not saying that it was in any way a futile, dispiriting or an otherwise normal day. After all I did have a good lunch. But the main achievement of the day was to pose for a silly photograph - which we did - and well.

As the Pan Pac had so many better-paying customers, we were squeezed into just half of our normal room. 9 tables plus the head table, all full, visitors still arriving, having to be squeezed in on already full tables. But I suppose we should be thankful we weren't in the greenhouse.

Bernard sat next to me but had little time for small talk as he was plotting a major corporate coup. If next week you find you're working for him...you heard it here first. In deference to the intensity of the discussion, and not wishing to disturb, the waiters served him no food. And got a complaint for their pains. No good deed goes unpunished.

We met Kamthorn again, from the Dhonburi club. Brought along a couple of friends. He had been one of our most regular visitors, then disappeared a couple of years ago. Back now, he claims to have spent his time doing a Masters degree and becoming



Adviser to the Great and Powerful. We wai'd him in awe. Still got the same blazer though.

In another triumph for democracy, the New Board (Thai for "blind finger") was voted in on a wave of relief from all non-members and despite protests from the chosen. Unopposed. And, in the case of SAA-to-be Mike, unmentioned. When reminded, he of the pea brain conceded that Mike was indeed on the list.

Burin gave a lot of money to the Asia Foundation to buy English language books and somebody explained how there was an enormous multiplier effect to our giving. But I didn't understand

Mike B was looking for new turkeys (or even vegetables come to that) for his Christmas dinner on the 13th. Strangely enough my wife has decided to come along. Normally she does not mix with my friends, says anybody who would get along with me is not her type. Maybe she's mellowing?

Mike Doyle informed us that "there is no good news in North America". Whilst in general I am not into good news, this particular comment is incorrect - my son completed the New York marathon in an ok time.

But our speaker Kevin Beauvais is one of those guys who seems never to have



heard any bad news. Seriously nice chap, but makes me feel awful. So positive all the time. Works hard and successfully, motivates his team, has lots of fun new ideas and implements them. Very active in community and charity affairs. Of course he works on "Operation Smile", I think he provides the DNA!

Though it seems he did have a mid-life crisis. Went on a one year sabbatical a year or so ago. He's even positive about the MLC however. Came back with lots of great ideas, and took up the career more enthusiastically and successfully than before! Like Philip. How do they do it? Isn't it awful?

Some people live in a different world. Kevin was telling us that a growing number of business visitors are taking leisure during their business trips. Maybe a couple of days at the beach or in a spa. At our table we were gobsmacked. The consensus was that between meals, meetings and airports we don't have 5 minutes to ourselves on a business trip, I don't even have time to do my daily exercise, I finish trips exhausted. Who are these others who decide to put in a couple of days at the beach on a business trip? I suppose they must be the people who see no contradiction in "My place in luxury" The sort of people who react positively to advertising saying that one "Deserves the best" Not grumpy old guys.

The problem is that Kevin is such a nice guy that he wasn't even too serious about his positive message. At least that's what I understood in his comment that "*Beaches continue to get hotter*". And there was really not much doubt about his doubt as to whether anybody in the room had recently used a bathtub to wash themselves. "*Who ever uses a bathtub...I mean in your own room?*"

Which got Pea Brain onto such an exciting chain of thought that he broke off the microphone from its stand.

Philip sort of summed up the whole issue when he pointed out that he and Kevin not only shared the MLC experience but also lived from the same truth, that "Time is the ultimate luxury". And this is written Thursday lunchtime.

Pichai collected the Cosmos for charity together with the beautiful Ms Orn and Big Hakan won. With a deplorable lack of originality he announced that he would drink it in Cosmos.

Meeting Notes by PE-to-be John Quarmby

The Books for Thailand Foundation

At last week's meeting, James Klein, a representative of The Asia Foundation, accepted a cheque for 50,000 baht from Bangkok South on behalf of the Books for Thailand Foundation.

The Books for Thailand Foundation (BfT) was established in 1996 to work in partnership with The Asia Foundation (TAF) in providing new English textbooks and other learning material to schools, universities and other academic institutions, public libraries, and professional and civic organizations across Thailand. This program is an extension of the Books for Asia program that, since 1954, has donated more than 42 million books to over 50,000 institutions in 40 countries.

Books are mainly distributed to public school children in rural areas, but the BfT has also helped create special professional collections for government offices, as well as providing books for private Islamic schools and rebuilding libraries destroyed in the 2004 tsunami.



This past fiscal year, TAF/BfT distributed 79,399 books to Thai schools, libraries and institutions, representing a value of 90.7 million baht (USD2.7 million). The Thai government allows BfT to bring in the books duty free and the Foundation's costs are covered by a modest annual budget of 1.4 million baht.

For more information, visit <http://www.asiafoundation.org>.





Raimon Land
presents

The 2008 Rotary Club of Bangkok South Charity Golf Tournament

at Muang Kaew Golf Course
Tuesday February 19, 2008



We realize that it is still 2007, the holidays are upon us, and Coins On Silom just finished... but our other major fundraiser for this Rotary year is just around the corner.

In fact, it is less than 3 months away. Raimon Land has graciously agreed to be this year's event sponsor. But we need to secure the Gold, Silver, Hole and Prize sponsors for this year's tournament.

Now is the time!

Early next week, all members will receive a cover letter and sponsorship application in pdf format that can be emailed or printed and delivered to all of your potential sponsors.

The deadline for sponsorship will be January 4, 2008.

For more information, contact Golf Committee Chairman Rtn Peter Williams.



Rotary Club of Bangkok South



X'mas Party – Ladies Night,
Thursday 13 December 2007

SPACES LIMITED!

The Rotary Club of Bangkok South will hold its X'mas Party at the Landmark Hotel on Thursday 13 December 2007, with cocktails from 6.30 p.m. and dinner from 7.30 p.m.

The cost of the dinner is THB 1,500 per person inclusive of: -

- cocktails;
- four course festive dinner (option of turkey or vegetarian);
- wine, beer, spirits.



Please bring your ladies along to this event.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis, so please confirm with Khun Prakai on e-mail info@bangkoksouth.org or complete the sign in sheets at our regular Friday luncheon, indicating your choice of main course.

This event will take the place of our regular Friday luncheon on 14 December 2007, which will be cancelled.

Note: Cancellations within 24 hours of the dinner will be charged.

Mark Butters

Administration Director 2007/2008

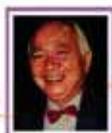


Fatpong 2, Opposite Foodland

*Cosmos is More than just
Beer and Bar stools!*

Cosmos is Bangkok South's unofficial recreation lounge. Owned and managed by our own Rtn Vinai Phuttinin, he welcomes Rotarians nightly as they liaise, laugh, and linger over libations.

You'll enjoy your surroundings!



Rtn Vinai Phuttinin has been a member of Bangkok South for six years and has been hosting Rotarians at Cosmos for more than a decade. *You can call him at 081-488-1558 or (better yet!) Pop in and have a drink with him.*





SOUTH WIND

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

- 7 December 2007 (Friday):**
Dr. Nantaphat - Stem Cell Technology. Ladies' Day.
- 13 December 2007 (Thursday):**
Evening Christmas Party at The Landmark Hotel. For more information, contact Rtn Mark Butters.
- 14 December 2007 (Friday):**
No luncheon meeting due to the Evening Christmas Party on 13 Dec.
- 21 December 2007 (Friday):**
Fellowship Luncheon. Pan Pacific Hotel.
- 26 December 2007 (Wednesday):**
Polio Plus Innoculations: RCBS has been assigned to the BMA Health Service Center 56 Tapcharoen Soi Nualchand, km. 6, Ram-Intra Road. For more information, contact Rtn Rui Belo or Rtn Ken Hoon.
- 28 December 2007 (Friday):**
No luncheon meeting.
- 04 January 2008 (Friday):**
Rtn John Quarmby - New Year Predictions
- 11 January 2008 (Friday):**
Classification Interviews - Rtn Dean Outerson by Rtn Hakan Skoglund & Rtn Rod Vergara by PP Vichai Tantratitvud.
- 19 February 2008 (Tuesday):**
RCBS Charity Golf Tournament
- 6 March 2008 (Thursday):**
Paul Harris Dinner to honour Paul Harris Fellows (PHF), Luangsit Fellows (LSF) and Water Fellows (WF). Details TBA.
- 20 March 2008 (Thursday):**
Kids Day Out
- 21 - 30 March 2008:**
CDWS Inauguration and Fellowship Trip to the North - At least 6 CDWS are up for inauguration. Special events include rafting, visits to an elephant training center and Kwan Lake. Transportation pending. For more information, contact Rtn Wolfgang Minderjahn.

South Mouth

Albert Said It All quotes by Albert Einstein

- "If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be called research, would it?"
- "The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible."
- "Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."
- "Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value."
- "Gravitation can not be held responsible for people falling in love."
- "You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother."
- "The wireless telegraph is not difficult to understand. The ordinary telegraph is like a very long cat. You pull the tail in New York, and it meows in Los Angeles. The wireless is the same, only without the cat."
- "When asked how World War III would be fought, Einstein replied that he didn't know. But he knew how World War IV would be fought: With sticks and stones!"
- "Put your hand on a hot stove for a minute, and it seems like an hour. Sit with a pretty girl for an hour, and it seems like a minute. THAT'S RELATIVITY."
- "Sometimes one pays most for the things one gets for nothing."
- "Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."

Contributed by PP Renato Porzio 

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SOUTH WIND

Khun Prakai's Club Almanac



No. 3246 J 30 NOVEMBER 2007

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Rtn Peter Jager (December 3)
Rtn Rene Fritschi (December 5)

Attendance for 23 November, 2007: 68.68 %

Present: 60, Make Up: 8, Absent: 31, Leave: 4,
Exemption: 18
Total: 121

Rotarians Visiting on 23 November

Bangkok Klongtoey: P Chana Ratanaphol.
Dhonburi: Kamthorn Lovivattanakul. PP Chan Vathanakul.

From Abroad:

Antti Eskola (Kallio Barghall Helsinki, Finland)
K.R. Sriram, Vandana Gupta (Calcutta Old City, India)

Invited Guests:

Introduced By
Mikko Savilaakso PP Renato Porzio
Claire de Boer PP Maarten Worp
Vince Shueh Nick Pisalyaput
Angelo Cucchi PP Renato Porzio
Carol Kuhn Tom Banker
Kitty Pattanachark Junior Shaw
James Klein PP Burin Kantabutra
Billy Popham Mark Butters
John Collins Mark Butters
Adam Beal Tom Banker

Recent Make-up:

PP Koichiro Ishihira Bangkok Suriwong: 30/10/07, 20/11/07
Peter Brongers Shanghai: 6/11/07, 20/11/07

Make-up Credit:

Rotary Foundation Committee: 15/11/07: Manu Mekdhanasarn, Peter Holman, Andrew MacPherson, Ken Hoon, Pichai Kanivichaporn, PP Renato Porzio, PP Krit Wongsangarunsri, Rui Belo, Rod Vergara.
Golf Committee, 16/11/07: Peter Williams, Michael Schulz.
Board of Directors Meeting, 19/11/07: P Graham Brain, PE Robert Brown, Michael Schulz, Andrew MacPherson, Dean Outerson, Mark Butters, Ian Fenwick, Manu Mekdhanasarn, Andrew Hamilton, Mike Ellis.

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