



Our 17th year of Expats helping Expats

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JANUARY 15, 2018

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Special Announcements

Information of special interest to members including Thai Immigration updates

Club Announcements

The latest announcements of interest to members and Expats living in Thailand

Upcoming Club Related & Special Events

A list of upcoming Club related and other events of special interest – for an overall list of upcoming events in and around Pattaya & Bangkok, see the latest [Club Newsletter](#)

Upcoming Holidays

Public Holidays during the next month or two are listed. Main Bank branches and Government Offices including Immigration will be closed.

Excursions Being Organized

Members often organize excursions which can be one day tours, overnights, and sometimes international travel. If any are being planned, they will be listed here.

Information of Interest from the Open Forum and Other Sources

Information of interest is often announced by fellow expats at the Open Forum session during the Club's Sunday Meeting. Items of continuing interest are included here until they are incorporated into the appropriate section of the Club's website.

Government Holidays -

These are the dates that Government Offices and Bank Branch Offices will be closed – Source is Bank of Thailand

REMINDER: If you are not already a subscriber to the Club's weekly Newsletter, to subscribe go to www.pcec.club and select NEWSLETTER from the left-hand column. Enter your email address in the box and click "subscribe." You will receive an email so you can "confirm" you want the newsletter. Once you confirm, you will be in our automated mailing list for receipt of the Newsletter.

THAI IMMIGRATION NEWS



[Click Here](#) to read the latest reports we have on what is happening at Thai Immigration in Pattaya (last updated as of **January 15, 2018**).

During the past two weeks, we have received 3 reports from retirees that when they went to report their address on TM.30 form after a trip outside of Thailand, they were informed by Immigration Officer(s) at the TM.30 reporting desk that it was not necessary if returning to the same address and a TM.30 was previously filed. Even so, based on the past mixed reports about the requirement to file the TM.30 Address Report within 24 hours of returning from travel outside Thailand, we would like a few more such reports before we can say that that is Chonburi Immigration's policy on retirees having to report. Until then we still advise filing the report within 24 hours of return (or next business day) to avoid the risk of being fined, especially those that are not in the retiree category or those that are not sure if there is a previous report on file. We previously provided an email address that has been represented could be used to file the report by email and asked anyone using that method to let us know. We received one report on Sunday, January 14, at the meeting of a person successfully filing the report by email. We are following up to determine what specific documents they filed. Please use the above link for more information.



Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration now has a sign posted at the "retirement" desk noting that after processing your extension, your passport with stamps included can be picked up only during the hours of 10 to 11am and 2 to 3pm.

KEEP US INFORMED – If you experience something different at Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration office then what we post here and in the Visa & Immigration section of the website, let us know so we can keep our information up to date – we also appreciate notification if you find the information we provide was what you experienced - you can email your information to darrel-pcec@inbox.com.



MOTORWAY 7 TO BANGKOK – TOLLS DELAYED UNTIL APRIL 19

Many of us traveling to the Airport or onto Bangkok will have noticed the construction of toll booths between Chonburi and Pattaya. It was announced the tolls will be in effect from 19 January 2018. A [recent article in Pattaya Mail](#) now says that the charging of tolls will be delayed until April.

For 4 wheeled vehicles, the toll will be from 10 to 105 baht depending on the distance traveled. This basically means going a distance of under 10 km will be 10 baht and 1 baht for each additional km after that. The Phan Thong booths are being ripped out but charges on the Ban Bung to Pattaya stretch will not be levied in the soft opening from January 5th to 18th. Thereafter the new charges will be in effect..

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Club Announcements



INTERESTED IN A SHOPPING TRIP TO IKEA & THE MEGA MALL ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

There will be a sign-up list at this Sunday's PCEC Meeting for those interested in sharing the 2,500 baht Van charge for a trip to IKEA and the Mega Mall. The trip will be on Thursday, February 1, 2018. There are four or five people ready to go and they need four or five more to share the 2,500 baht cost. For questions, please email Roger Fox at rogerbfox@hotmail.com or call him at 084-073-1270.



REMINDER FOR SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS

If you wish to provide a suggestion or comment to the Governing Board, please place it in the suggestion box at the back of the meeting room. If you wish a response from the Board, please include your email address.

You can also send suggestions and comments to: suggestionbox@pcec.club.

Breakfast Raffle

FREE BREAKFAST BUFFET ON FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



A reminder for members to bring their current membership card in order to participate in the drawing. There will be a drawing the first Sunday of each month. Drawing tickets are given out to members. At the end of the meeting, a ticket is drawn for the full breakfast buffet, which can be obtained at the next or subsequent Sunday meeting – be sure to see Judith to claim your “prize.”



DO YOU KNOW OF A BUSINESS THAT YOU COULD RECOMMEND TO YOUR FELLOW EXPATS?

Often during the Open Forum portion of the meeting, someone will recommend a particular business such as a handyman, auto mechanic or body shop, air conditioning service, clothing shop (with large sizes to fit our heftier expats), computer service, etc. To see information on businesses that have been recommended, [click here](#) to visit our webpage listing.

Do you know of a business that you can recommend, please let us know by email to info@pcecclub.org or info@pcec.club.



WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR INTERESTING SPEAKERS

The Club's needs your assistance in finding interesting speakers for the Club's Sunday meetings. If you know of someone with an interesting topic, please let us know along with how to contact them. To make suggestions for speakers or topics, please email speakers@pcec.club.

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Upcoming Special & Club Events

CLUB RELATED EVENTS



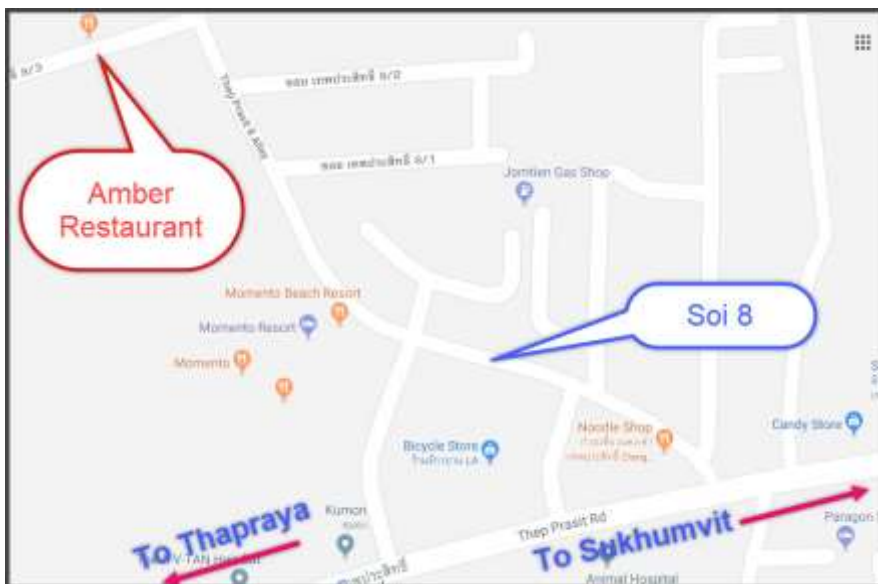
CLUB DINNER WILL BE AT THE AMBER RESTAURANT ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

There is a new restaurant in town and it is well worth a visit, which Michel and Darrel did and found it worthy of for the next Club Dinner. The Managing Director, Peter De Kegel, has the ambition of making Amber one of the best restaurants in Pattaya listed on [Trip Advisor](#).

The a la carte menu provides a rare combination of uniquely prepared imported meats, fish, with many signature dishes. Since they are recently opened, they are still tweaking the menu, [click here](#) to see their current offerings which includes several starters, main courses, and tapas (yes, they have a nice selection of tapas size dishes). [Click here](#) to visit their Facebook page. They have several steaks (Australian Beef) which are listed on a chalk board inside. A large selection of wine is available including a choice of house wines by the glass or carafe.

As usual, we have arranged for separate check bins to be provided. Also, orders from the menu will be taken when you arrive and served when ready.

If interested in joining with your fellow Expats (all are welcome, not just members) for good food and conversation, please place your name on the signup sheet at the Sunday meeting. Please include the number in your party along with telephone number or an email address (write legibly please). If you include your name and find you cannot attend, please scratch your name off the list. If you cannot make the Sunday meeting to sign up or cancel, please email info@pcec.club so it can be passed on to Michel or Darrel. The purpose of the signup sheet is so we can advise the restaurant on the number to prepare for.



Amber is located just off of Thepprasit Soi 8 (the same location as the former Blue Olive Restaurant). The interior has been completely redecorated. It can also be reached by taking Soi 17 off of 3rd Road.



DRIVER LICENSE ASSISTANCE TRIP FOR PCEC MEMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Monthly assistance trips are provided to the Land Transport Office for obtaining Thai driving licenses. This assistance is for PCEC Club members only with a current membership card. Member Henk Hauer usually conducts the trip on the last Wednesday of the month. The trip departs at 8am from parking area opposite IBIS hotel - on same Soi off 2nd Road that goes to Holiday Inn - [click here](#) for map. The trips departure time is 9:30am. He has also scheduled the next trip to be on Wednesday, December 6. He will revert back to the last Wednesday of each month beginning January 2018. You should contact Henk beforehand to confirm the trip date, time, meeting location, and let him know you wish to participate in the trip. Telephone 085-309-0603 or email henk2223@gmail.com. See the [Driving License](#) page on the Club's website for information on the process and the documents needed.



HOLIDAY INN'S FARMERS' MARKET ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

A Farmers' Market is held every 2nd Saturday of the month at the Holiday Inn hotel, our Club meeting host, on Pattaya Beach Road from 10:30am – 3:30pm. Products range from wellness items, jewelry, freshly prepared food, organic vegetables and fruits.



B. GRIMM POLO ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

This is a fun afternoon event is usually attended by more than 30 PCEC members and their friends. It includes a complete lunch buffet, demonstrations of Dressage and horse jumping, followed by several authentic polo matches featuring talented Polo players from South America, Malaysia, and Thailand.

There are covered booths selling beverages, hats, clothing, souvenirs, a barber, games for children, tastings and more. The event is held as a charitable fundraising for medical care for Thai people. The cost is 1,500 baht per person and includes a very nice buffet lunch, seating at covered tables of ten next to the polo field, the demonstrations, several chukkers (Arena polo is played with a small air-filled ball, similar to a small football. The modern game usually lasts one to two hours and is divided into periods called chukkass (or "chukkers") and fireworks. For a schedule, [Click Here](#).

Transportation to the Polo Grounds is by private car or by Minivan. There will be several minivans leaving the Markland Condo at 10:30am on Saturday, January 20, to transport members and friends to the event.

The cost for the round trip to the Polo Grounds is 120 baht, payable in the Markland Lobby before boarding a minivan to the Polo Grounds. A minivan will be available to return to the Markland early if requested. Maps to the Polo Grounds will be available at this Sundays PCEC Meeting.



BRUNO'S WINE DINNER ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

Bruno's Restaurant's Wine Dinner will be featuring a six course dinner with specially selected wines from Chile and Argentina. The dinner is from 7pm onwards. The dinner is 2,800 baht net. Please note, the PCEC discount does not apply to the Wine Dinners. [Click here](#) to see the menu. For location and reservations, [visit their website](#).

EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST



SERGEY SOBOLEV IN CONCERT AT EELSWAMP FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Pianist Sergey Sobolev will be making his fourth visit to Eelswamp. Since his last appearance in 2016, Sergey has won a prestigious award: First Prize in the Piano Section of the Berliner International Music Competition, 2017.

Friday 19th January, 6pm - Romantic Variations
Sunday 21st January, 5pm - Six Sonatas of Alexander Scriabin

For more information, email asiachart@hotmail.com or call 038-069-681 during office hours.

SILPAKORN STRING ORCHESTRA ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

The String Orchestra of Silpakorn University Directed by Tasana Nagavajara.

The concert will be at the Jakatheppimarn Room of Diana Garden Resort in North Pattaya beginning at 5pm.

Tickets are 500 baht per person (300 for students) and are available from:

Pattaya Orphanage toy@hnhthailand.org

Pattaya City Expats Club judithpcec@gmail.com

Pattaya International Ladies Club president pilc@gmail.com.

PATTAYA
Presents
Silpakorn String Orchestra
The String Orchestra of Silpakorn University
Directed by Tasana Nagavajara
Sunday, January 28th, 5pm
Jakatheppimarn Room, Diana Garden Resort, North Pattaya

Vivaldi's Violin concerto in A minor - Mozart's Adagio and Fugue K.542
Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances, Pachelbel's Canon in D
Johann Strauss: Pizzicato Polka, Glen Miller: Moonlight Serenade
Over the Rainbow, Santa Lucia and other popular works

Tickets: 500 baht and 300 baht for students, available from Pattaya Orphanage toy@hnhthailand.org, Pattaya City Expats Club judithpcec@gmail.com and Pattaya International Ladies Club pilc@gmail.com

PILC **Orphanage** **PATTAYA CITY EXPATS CLUB** **PATTAYA PEOPLE MEDIA GROUP**

CLASSICAL CONCERT INVITATION

Presented by Kwangju Opera Company, Korea

<p>PUBLIC CONCERT Friday, 02nd February 2018 at 10:00 Venue at St. Nicholas Church, Sukhumvit Road, next to INDEX Living Mall Ticket 300 Baht</p>	<p>GALA DINNER CONCERT Saturday, 03rd February 2018 18:00 Reception 18:30 Gala Dinner with Concert Venue Restaurant Casa Pascal Ticket 2,500 Baht ++ including Reception, Concert and 5 Course Gala Dinner</p>
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Sponsored by
St. Nicholas Church **Farang** **FARANG**

Tickets are available from Restaurant Casa Pascal & St. Nicholas Church every Sunday.
For more information please visit our website: www.casa-pascal.com or 038-723-660 / 061-643-9969

CLASSICAL CONCERT BY THE KWANGJU OPERA COMPANY ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 & 3

The Kwangju Opera Company from Korea, will be in concert at two venues with the latter being a Dinner Concert. On February 2, Friday, they will appear from 4pm at the St Nicolas Church (Sukhumvit Road next to INDEX Living Mall). Tickets are 300 baht. On February 3, Saturday, they will perform a Gala Dinner Concert at Casa Pascal with the reception at 6pm followed by the Dinner with concert at 6:30pm. The price is 2,500 baht ++ (includes Reception, Concert and 5-Course Gala Dinner). Limited seats available, so reservations are necessary. Tickets are available from Restaurant Casa Pascal & St. Nicholas Church every Sunday. For more information please visit: www.casa-pascal.com or telephone 038-723-660 or 061-

643-9969.

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Excursions Being Organized



The following are announcements about any excursions being organized by member(s) or others. Excursions are usually open to all, but Club members may receive priority if limited space is available.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GOING ON A SAFARI IN TANZANIA OR A VISIT TO BHUTAN?



Club members Pasit Foobunma and Allan Riddell both are on the Board of the South African Thai Chamber of Commerce and in that capacity visited and toured other countries. As a result, they are enthusiastic about providing the opportunity for others to have the opportunity to visit these countries. Currently, they have updated the popular Tanzanian safari for 2017.

If you think you may be interested, then contact Allan Riddell by email at allanmridell@hotmail.com.

[Click here](#) for more information on Tanzania Safari including links to itineraries. For latest information, [Click Here](#) Flyer 1 and [Click Here](#) for Flyer2. [Click here](#) for more information on Bhutan with links to specific itineraries.

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UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

During Public Holidays, main Bank branches and Government Offices, including Immigration, will be closed. Also, for Buddhist Holidays, there may be a prohibition on the sale of alcohol (hotels are usually exempt); consequently, some entertainment venues may be closed.



Thursday 1 March Makha Bucha Day (Religious)

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Information of Interest from the Open Forum and Other Sources

WEBSITE FOR US CITIZENS/RESIDENTS RESIDING OUTSIDE USA TO VIEW TV PROGRAMS IN USA – “USTV Now” provides regular TV programming from the USA over the Internet free of charge. They require that you register by confirming you are a US Citizen or Resident currently residing outside of the USA and then providing your email address and a password you want to use. Go to <http://www.ustvnow.com/index.php> and click on the Sign Up for Free button – the registration process is self-explanatory. After you are registered, you can go to the same URL and Log in with your email address and password. They do offer some cable channels and other services for a fee; but most broadcast programs are available, e.g., ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, and others.

ANNUAL CAR REGISTRATION IN PATTAYA – Many car owners trek to the Land Transport Office off of Highway 36 to pay their annual tax and get a current “sticker” to place on their windshield (windscreen). But, it isn’t necessary. Every Saturday from 10am to 4pm, they have staff available at Big C South (Sukhumvit Road) to do the registration. They are on the 2nd floor near Customer Service counter. But, if your car is 7 or more years old, you will need to have it inspected before you can register it at Big C or the Land Transport Office. This can be done on Sukhumvit Road about 200 meters north of Pattaya Orphanage. This establishment will also handle the annual registration for you – pick up the registration and new sticker a couple of days later. There is another on Sukhumvit near Bangkok Hospital Pattaya entrance – See Below:



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Government Holidays in Thailand - 2018

1.	Monday	1 January	New Year's Day
2.	Tuesday	2 January	Substitution for New Year's Eve (Sunday 31 December 2017)
3.	Thursday	1 March	Makha Bucha Day
4.	Friday	6 April	Chakri Memorial Day
5.	Friday	13 April	Songkran Festival
6.	Monday	16 April	Substitution for Songkran Festival (Saturday 14 April and Sunday 15 April 2018)
7.	Tuesday	1 May	National Labour Day
8.	Tuesday	29 May	Wisakha Bucha Day
9.	Friday	27 July	Asarnha Bucha Day
10.	Monday	30 July	Substitution for H.M. King Maha Vajiralongkorn's Birthday (Saturday 28 July 2018)
11.	Monday	13 August	Substitution for H.M. the Queen's Birthday (Sunday 12 August 2018)
12.	Monday	15 October	Substitution for H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej Memorial Day (Saturday 13 October 2018)
13.	Tuesday	23 October	Chulalongkorn Day
14.	Wednesday	5 December	H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday National Day and National Father's Day
15.	Monday	10 December	Constitution Day
16.	Monday	31 December	New Year's Eve

Note: When the Holiday occurs during the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) the following Monday (substitution day) is when Banks and Government offices will be closed.

Observance of a Buddhist (religious) holiday – usually the sale of alcohol is prohibited and some entertainment venues may subsequently be closed. Usually, hotel restaurants and bars are exempt from the ban.

The Cabinet may designate additional days for a holiday, we publish this information in the Club Newsletter. [Click here](#) for a website that lists the Holidays along with a link to get more information about the Holiday.

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