



PATTAYA CITY EXPATS CLUB NEWSLETTER

FOUNDED IN MARCH 2001

PATTAYA'S FRIENDLIEST EXPAT CLUB MEETING EVERY SUNDAY FOR EIGHT YEARS

Join us at Henry J. Bean Restaurant, Amari Orchid Resort, Beach Road, Pattaya
A buffet breakfast is available from 9:30 am to 11:00am - the program starts at 10:30 am

January 1, 2010 to January 8, 2010



HAPPY NEW YEAR

AT THIS WEEK'S MEETING

Sunday
January 3, 2010

For our first meeting of New Year, Father Michael from the Pattaya Orphanage will talk about the Orphanage, the kinds of problems the children they care for have and the importance of their education. He will describe the support provided by the Orphanage, which includes all levels of schooling and for some, a University Bachelor and maybe even a Masters degree. Father Michael has over 40 years of experience in administering children's educational programs with the Catholic Church, and will talk about the special resource they are able to provide which enables their children to study at Catholic schools outside of Pattaya. Following his talk, children from the Orphanage will sing 2 Christmas songs, and then present a special dance show which we think will delight and amaze you (you may want to bring a camera). Also, we will have the proverbial signup sheet for those that might be interested in a tour of the Orphanage - to be arranged.

We will also have the usual announcements of upcoming events in and around Pattaya, updates on club activities, and last, but not the least, there will be an Open Forum, which is the time for you to ask questions about living in Thailand, or Pattaya. We ask you to offer your own observations and suggestions on how to live better in Pattaya. Your humorous stories (jokes) are welcome, but remember you are in mixed company. Whether you are a new Expat, just visiting on holiday, or consider yourself an "old hand" at being an Expat in Thailand, you will find the Open Forum has humor and helpful information to offer.

Coffee service begins at 9am with breakfast starting at 9:30am. Remember to obtain your coffee or tea refills before the pots are removed at 11am. Map of location is on the website at www.pattayacityexpatsclub.com.



LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

If you are aware of an upcoming event or have an announcement about the activities of one of our special interest groups be sure it gets in the Newsletter by sending an email to Darrel Vaught at newsletter@pattayacityexpatsclub.com or to Darrel-pcec@inbox.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **DRIVING LICENSE ASSISTANCE ON WENDESDAY, JANUARY 6** - Hans provides assistance for those seeking a Thai driving license on the first Wednesday of the month. Those wishing assistance should meet Hans in front of Henry J. Bean's at 9am. It is advisable to let Hans know in advance that you will be joining him - contact him at: 085-218-1773, or email him at khun.hans@gmail.com. For Club website has [information](#) on what you will need and the process you go through to obtain a Thai driving license.
- **THE FIRST MEMBERS DINNER OF THE NEW YEAR WILL BE HELD ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (January 13)** – The dinner normally is on the first Wednesday of the month, but was moved to the following week to allow everyone to recover from the New Year's festivities. The dinner will be at the very attractive Aloha Restaurant, across 2nd Road from the Marriott Hotel. Dinner will start at 7:30pm and be in the pleasant private room at the back of the restaurant. The Aloha is a theme restaurant, and is very nicely decorated as it might be in Hawaii. Our menu is slightly Hawaiian, with a Hawaiian seafood salad as the first course, followed by a Lobster Bisque soup, your choice of chicken, fish, pork, or beef with vegetables and potatoes, and ending with Ice Cream (coffee or tea included) - all this for 450 Baht. There is easy parking behind the restaurant (turn right into the lane beside the Nags Head Restaurant, or into the lane past Casa Pascal, both are just before the Aloha on 2nd Road). Please list your name on the sign-up sheet – the chef would like to know about how many people to cook for. If you have any questions or wish to make reservations, please contact Richard Smith at 089-244-9523 or Michel de Goumois at 081-525-1296, or by email to rick2@loxinfo.co.th.
- **BLUE WATER SAILING GROUP WILL HAVE A DINNER MEETING ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 15** - This first dinner meeting of the new year will be at 6pm at Cherry's Restaurant located opposite X-Zyte Disco on 3rd Road. Parking for cars and motorbikes is available behind the restaurant. The restaurant is offering all those who attend a 10% discount. Future sailing plans for the year will be discussed. For further details, contact Nathan Russo at 085-275-6724 or ncrusso1@gmail.com.
- **COMPUTER GROUP WILL NOT MEET IN JANUARY** - Due to the Holidays, the next meeting will be on Monday, February 1. The meeting will be at 2pm in the Haad Sai Room on the 6th floor of the Markland on Feb. 1, 2010. Check the Announcements and Upcoming Events section of the Home Page of the Club's [website](#) to see what's coming up at the February meeting.
- **HOSPITAL PROMOTIONS** - Any current promotions being offered by Bangkok Hospital Pattaya and Phayathai Hospital Sriracha are shown in the *HEALTH ISSUES* Section of the Newsletter.
- **REMINDER ABOUT THE BUFFET** - Please support our continued stay at Henry J. Beans, our home for almost five years now, with its pleasant laid back and informal atmosphere - which the Amari Hotel allows us to use without charge. To continue our use of HJB's facilities at current prices, we are asking members and guests to purchase a buffet ticket or, if you do not want a full breakfast, at least the toast and coffee or tea. Please let us know, at the meeting, by telephone call, or by email if you find anything unsatisfactory, and we will take it up with the HJB staff. Email us at info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com with comments or complaints.

THIS WEEK'S UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events coming up this week are highlighted here, but are more fully described in the Announcements, What's Happening, or Dining out sections of the Newsletter.

- **Friday, January 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR**
- **Wednesday, January 6 - Hans will be providing driving license assistance**
- **Friday, January 8 - Thais4Life Charity Event at Le Cafe Royale**

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Master of Ceremonies “Hawaii” Bob Sutterfield introduced fellow member Nathan Russo to tell us about how he became involved in constructing a school for Hmong children in a village near the Lao border in Thailand. About two years ago, Nathan, after 20 years, retired from a property search and appraisal company he founded in New York City. He has been a frequent visitor to Thailand, spending about 6 months here and the other 6 months at his USA home on St Simon Island in Georgia. After a two year effort, Nathan and other individuals completed the construction of a 3 room school house at a Hmong tribal village at the top of a mountain in the Teung District of Chaing Rai Province. Nathan said this was a story he wanted to relate because it might encourage others to take on such beneficial projects.

Nathan began by introducing Khun Thitiporn Pantachang (Apple), the friend who originally brought the need for the school to his attention. With the aid of pictures, Nathan described how he first became involved in the project about two years ago through his friend Khun Apple, a professor at Rajamangala University of Technology in Chaing Rai. She invited him to accompany her to a small village called “Khun Ta” on a mountaintop in Teung district of the province. She wanted to show him a two room school house her engineering students had built the prior year. Upon arrival, they were met by about 100 children as well as others from the village. After handing out a small gift consisting of Oreo cookies and milk, Khun Apple showed him the dilapidated school building adjacent to the two-room building her students had previously built. After the tour, she wanted to know if Nathan could raise the money to replace the old structure. Nathan thought to himself that it could probably be done for about US \$3 to 4 thousand. So he told her to send him a cost analysis and some engineering drawings. Nathan said that he was trying to be polite and thought she would never send him anything and that he would not need concern himself with building a school at the top of a mountain.

After about 7 months passed without hearing anymore, Nathan said he was sure that was the end of the matter. But, to his surprise, soon thereafter, he did receive an email with information he had requested attached. Nathan confessed that he had no experience in construction and really didn't understand the spreadsheet and drawings he received. But, he did understand the overall cost estimate that was shown, which was US \$13,000. He contacted Khun Apple and said that he had no idea how to raise that much money and if he did, it would probably take a couple of years to do it. Nathan said he felt bad about it, but believed that she would probably find someone else to take on the project. However, it wasn't long after that he was watching the Discovery Channel on a day they were featuring stories about eco tourism in Thailand. An individual who appeared in the program was a Swiss gentleman by the name of Armin Soch who, with his Swiss wife owned Impulse Tours in Chang Mai. Seeing this program caused him to think again about the Khun Ta school project, so using the Internet to get the telephone number, he called Armin Soch and told him about the school project. No promises were made, but Khun Armin suggested they meet in Bangkok on his next trip to Thailand.

In January of 2009, he met Khun Armin in Bangkok who explained that although he personally had not been involved in any construction projects, he had participated in some charity events. He suggested they contact a

friend of his, Khun Marc Dumur. Khun Marc was General Manager of the Legend Hotel in Chang Rai and Khun Armin explained he did have experience with construction projects in Thailand. It was at this point that Nathan contacted Khun Apple again to let her know she might be contacted by others about the project. Khun Armin and Khun Marc did contact her and went with her to see the old school building. Khun Marc became very excited about the project and together with Nathan and Khun Armin put some money into a bank account as a start on the funds needed. Nathan then described how they went about obtaining more funds with each of them making an effort in their respective locations in Thailand as well as Switzerland and America. Nathan pointed out that at this point they had 7 months to raise the money to buy the necessary materials so that Khun Apple's students could do the construction during their school break in October. Nathan also said although much of the funds came in small amounts, they did have a few gracious donors including from a Swiss lady who had set up a Foundation in Thailand in honor of two of her children that were lost in the Tsunami. There were also two large donations from a couple of generous Americans living in Pattaya. Nathan then described how they went about getting the funds and the obstacles they had to overcome; one being the very poor road they had to use to get the materials "up the mountain."

In conclusion, Nathan said that everything came together. Also, some Swiss folks that contributed thought it would be a good opportunity for their children to also participate. As a result, when it came time to do the construction they also had high school volunteers from Switzerland to join with Khun Apple's students. Nathan said in his mind it was the students from Rajamangala University that were key as they put in the necessary effort to get the construction completed during some very bad rainy weather. Once the last coat of paint was applied Khun Marc checked the bank account and found \$2,000 was left. So, Nathan said it was decided that they would provide the new school with new school books, tables (desks), and benches. The University students made the furniture from purchased metal frames and wood left over from the old school. Nathan said they still had about \$500 in the checking account, which will be used to improve the cafeteria facilities. On November 7, 2009, they held a dedication ceremony at the new school building. A stage had been built for the event and several of the kids did dance routines in their Hmong tribal costumes. The ceremony took about 2 hours with the dancing and many speeches by local and university officials including a "Thank You" speech for all those that made the project possible by Khun Marc, which was all in Thai.

After Nathan answered many questions from the audience, Harry "Sig" Sigworth concluded the meeting by conducting the always informative Open Forum where everyone has an opportunity to ask and answer questions about living in Thailand and Pattaya in particular.

DINING OUT IN PATTAYA AND ELSEWHERE

We have received several requests to publish special promotions being sponsored by restaurants OR recommended by our members. We will include these recommendations in the Newsletter, space permitting. If you have a recommendation, please email info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com.

- ❖ **Amari Orchard Resort & Tower Restaurants & Lounges** - The Amari Orchard Resort has several restaurants and bars available, all offering Club members a 15% discount. Visit [here](#) for various monthly and other promotion information or call the Amari at 038-418-418). **Orchid Terrace & Garden Lounge** has an Italian Buffet every Friday from 6pm to 10:30pm for 490 Baht net per person - wine buffet & limoncello also available. **The Essence restaurant** offers a regular menu of western, Thai, Japanese, Indian, and Chinese specialties. Every Saturday from 6:30pm to 10:30pm, Amari has seafood BBQ by the pool for 750++ per person. The new Ocean Tower has a 24 hour restaurant with a view of the Resorts beautiful gardens, and with the new Horizon Club on the top floor, offers a new level of personalized service and audio-visual technology. **Henry J. Bean's, our weekly meeting place**, has a ladies night on Mondays; ladies can buy 1 drink and get one free. Tuesdays and Thursdays is for beer lovers - from 5pm to 1am, buy 1 draft beer and get 1 free. Every Sunday, kids eat for free

before 7:30pm when ordering from the kids menu (must be under 10 years of age). In December, **Mantra** will be featuring popular gourmet cuisine from their fabulous monthly promotions. For Mantra reservations, telephone 038-429-591.

- ❖ **Don't forget the PCEC Featured Restaurants offering discounts to members (Remember to offer your card before the bill is presented to ensure you receive the discount) - Mike's Mexican Restaurant** -15% - 038-251365; **Edelweiss Swiss Restaurant** - 15% - 038-251-326 or 081-844-6037; **Amor Restaurant** - 10%, **Aquarius** - 10% (Jomtien Complex) 038-251-895; **Pizza Pizza** -10% (Avenue Shopping Center) - 038-723929, **Tequila Reef Cantina** - 10% (038-414035); **Big Horn Steakhouse** - 10% (Central Shopping Arcade, 2nd Road; 038-720289); **Green Tree Restaurant** - 10%; **Balcony Restaurant** - 10% (Pattaya Nua (North) Road) 038-411429; **Aloha Restaurant** - 10% (2nd Road) 038-723175; **Cafe New Orleans**- 10%; **Aungkam Northern Thai (Issan) Restaurant** - 10% (3rd Road) 038-370386; and **Palace Lebanese Restaurant** - 10% (4th Floor of Central Festival Pattaya Beach - Ocean end) 038-043-220. If you find any information about our Featured Restaurants is incorrect, please contact us at info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com or Darrel-pcec@inbox.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AND AROUND PATTAYA

Please share with any forthcoming events or activities that you may be aware of so we can publish it for everyone's benefit.

A listing of upcoming events in Pattaya, Bangkok, and elsewhere for this and coming months, which are of interest to Pattaya's Expat community. Inclusion of commercially sponsored events does not mean that the PCEC endorses the companies or their products. Any event that is sponsored by the PCEC will be clearly identified as such.

The events listed come from various sources. We usually list a telephone number, email address, or website to obtain additional information about the event. Since the events are subject to cancellation or change, you may wish to confirm the information before attending the event.

- **EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY - THE PATTAYA BRIDGE CLUB** meets at The Bowling Green, Soi Fuengfa (Soi Xyte), between Soi Boukhao and 3rd Road. They meet at 1pm. For more information and a map visit their [website](#).
- **LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - QUIZ NIGHT TO BENEFIT TAKE CARE CHARITY** at Bondi Beach Bar & Guest House, Dongtan Beach. The quizzing starts at 9pm. For more information visit their [website](#). Bondi also has a *Thais4Life Book Stall* which is open daily, with books for 80 Baht, all proceeds go to the *Thais4Life* charities. You can also drop off any unwanted book donations.
- **JANUARY 8, FRIDAY - THAIS4LIFE CHARITY FUND RAISING EVENT** will be held at the Piano Bar at Le Café Royale in Boyztown (Pattayaland Soi 3). It will feature appearances by Maisie Trollette, Miss Jason, and vocalist Jo Frances. A Chef's carved buffet will be available from 8:30pm for a cost of 490 Baht. The show is from 9:30pm to 11pm. Advance reservations are recommended. Contact telephone is 038-423-515 or email info@caferoyale-pattaya.com.
- **JANUARY 10, SUNDAY - PGF CHARITY DINNER AT BRUNO'S RESTAURANT** - This Pattaya Gay Festival event is to benefit the PGF supported charities and will feature Creations of Chef Fredi. The cost is 1,500 Baht of which 500 will be donated to Charity. For further information contact Bruno's Restaurant by telephone at 038- 364-600/1.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

The PCEC offers an opportunity for everyone to become involved in mid-week informal groups covering many interests. If you have an interest or idea to start a new group, please discuss it with a member of the Governing Board and we will help you publicize it. The groups usually meet as scheduled, but it is always a good idea to contact the host to be sure of the date, time, and location.

- **SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP** - Meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1pm at the Diamond Café located on the corner of South Pattaya Road and Third Road. This is a newly formed group for those that are interested in practicing their Spanish. For more information, email Al Serrato at alsdeman@hotmail.com,
- **FRUGAL FREDDY DINNER GROUP** - Eats out weekly on MONDAYS. Their goal is finding good restaurants at very reasonable prices, primarily a meal for 200 Baht or less. Host Hawaii Bob says they try to keep to total price at or below 150 Baht, but don't want to rule out a good place - so, they will now entertain a good restaurant where you can get a complete meal for 200 Baht or less. Bob says to put your name on the signup sheet so they can email the chosen restaurant and its location to you or contact Bob at hawaiibob4you@yahoo.com for information on next Monday's venue.
- **DISCUSSION GROUP** - Weekly on MONDAY from 10:30am to 1pm. This group meets at the Shagwell Mansions, across from Carrefour, in Soi Arunothai. All subjects are open for debate. For more information, contact Michel de Goumois at 081-525-1296.
- **GOLFING GROUP** - Meets weekly on TUESDAY. Hawaii Bob is your host. No reservations are required. Contact Hawaii Bob for information on cost and how to have fun playing Bingo, Bango, Bongo. Everyone is welcome. Please sign-up for the golf group so Bob has some idea of how many are coming. Bob can be contacted by phone at 087-829-6824 or by emailing him at hawaiibob4you@yahoo.com.
- **THE BREAKFAST GROUP** - Weekly on WEDNESDAY starting at 10am. Your Hostess is Marjorie Blissett. The group meets at the F&B on 2nd Road, opposite the Montien Hotel. A full breakfast is a very reasonable 100 Baht - and there is parking in the back.
- **BOAT GROUP** - Rod has taken his boat out of the water for needed maintenance. Boat Group meetings are currently on hold. For more information, you may contact Rod or his wife at 087-039-9353.
- **TOUCHY TOPICS GROUP** - Weekly on THURSDAY 1pm to 3pm - The format includes current topics of the week as well as a discussion on a controversial topic selected by the host, a member, or a guest. The topics are always thought provoking and subject to lively discussion. The group meets at Shagwell Mansions, across from Carrefour in Soi Arunothai. Contact David Dallimer at 080-638-3510 or email daviddallimer@hotmail.com.
- **FRIDAY BREAKFAST GROUP** - Weekly on FRIDAY at 10am at Pure Shore on Pattaya Beach Road at Soi 5. Roger Fox is your host.
- **WRITERS CORNER GROUP** - Usually meets weekly on FRIDAY from noon to 3pm at the Shagwell Mansions, in the Cafe. The hotel is located approximately 300 meters along Soi Arunothai which is located at the Traffic lights on Pattaya Klang (Central Road) opposite the Carrefour shopping Mall. The style of the meeting is very relaxed and informal. The writing group offers you a genuine opportunity to discuss any matters relating to reading and writing in a safe and supportive environment in which all are

offered the opportunity to practice or improve their writing skills while sharing books and ideas with like minded members. Contact David Dallimer to confirm meeting time and place at 080-638-3510 or email daviddallimer@hotmail.com.

- **COMPUTER GROUP** - Meets MONTHLY on the first MONDAY of the month at 2pm at Markland 6th floor Haad Sai Room - The host is Howard Posner, who was a software reviewer for the California Microsoft User Group. The cost of the program will be 100 baht per person. The charge covers the cost of the room, coffee & cake, and some incidental expenses. The Haad Sai Room at the Markland has good WiFi, a large screen, and is nicely air conditioned. You may bring your laptop computers (with a spare battery if your battery has a short life). There is free parking in the attached 10 floor parking garage. Please list your name on the Computer Group sign-up sheet and we will send you a reminder 3 to 5 days before the meeting. Howard may be contacted at magichoward@hotmail.com. For meeting information please contact Richard Smith at 038-412197, 089-244-9523 or by email at rick2@loxinfo.co.th.
- **MEMBERS' DINNER** - MONTHLY, usually the 1st WEDNESDAY of each month. Michel de Goumois and Al Serrato select the location and coordinate the dinner. The location and date of the next Members' Dinner will be posted in the *ANNOUNCEMENTS* Section. To offer suggestions for our next members' dinner or for more information, please contact Michel de Goumois at 081-525-1296, or Al Serrato at 087-036-0625, or email info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com or see Michel or Al at our Sunday meetings.
- **PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP** - Meets PERIODICALLY usually in the Conference/Common Room at the Markland located on the corner of Pattaya Beach Road and Soi 1. To receive 3 to 5 day advance notification of meetings, put your name on the Photography Group sign-up sheet. For more information, or to get on the list, call Richard Smith at 089-244-9523, or 038-412197.
- **PATTAYA AMATEUR RADIO GROUP** - Meets PERIODICALLY. A new group formed for those interested in ham radio or electronics. For more information, contact Paul at 087-043-1408 or email him pauldaviesradio@hotmail.com.
- **BLUE WATER SAILING GROUP** - Meets PERIODICALLY. This group is hosted by member Nathan Russo for those that are interested in blue water sailing. Nathan is now in Thailand after being in USA for a while. They will be scheduling sailing ventures on a periodic basis. Dates and times will be announced in the Newsletter. He would appreciate if those who want to attend would rsvp at Ncrusso1@gmail.com or telephone him at 085-275-6724.
- **FRIENDS OF PDA GROUP** - Several members have signed up to work in partnership with Khun Mechai's efforts through his Population and Community Development Association (PDA) in improving the lives of Thai villagers. His efforts are described in the Pattaya Mail [article](#) on his address to the Club on October 19, 2008. The members of this group reached their fund raising goal and have entered into a memorandum of understanding with a village in the Buriram area. A trip for the Group to visit the village has been scheduled. If interested in participating, contact Stuart Saunders at this Sunday's meeting or you can email him at Stuart21@mac.com.
- **BANGLAMUNG DISTRICT CROSS CULTURE VOLUNTEER GROUP** -- This group provides Volunteers to help Thais improve their English conversation ability through our "English Conversation for Thais" program. We are an outreach program to the Thai community, formed under the auspices of the Banglamung Nai Amphur (District Chief Officer), the Governor of Chonburi Province, and the Pattaya City Expats Club. Our classes for this year have been completed and Certificates awarded. The Volunteer Group has also provided conversation classes at the Nova Platinum Hotel, Nova Suites, and

the Chevrolet Agency. We will resume classes in late January or early February, 2010. If you are interested in volunteering to help in the classes, please list your name on the sign-up sheet, or contact Richard Smith at 089-244-9523, 038-412-197, or by email to rick2@loxinfo.co.th.

CLUB SERVICES

This section lists various services offered by the Club.

- **PCEC MEMBERSHIP** - Membership is open to all. See Al Serrato before and during the meeting for renewal of your card, or for a new membership card. For renewal, just give Al your expired card. For a new card, get the application form from Al - he will also need two driver's license size pictures. The annual membership contribution of 400 baht will entitle you to discounts at the Club's featured restaurants, Underwater World, Bangkok Hospital Pattaya, health insurance, and elsewhere.
- **DRIVING LICENSE ASSISTANCE** - MONTHLY, Hans (or Jon) Stroosnyder will escort and assist those interested in getting a Thai driving license. Hans departs at 9am from the Henry J. Bean restaurant on the 1st Wednesday of the month. For more information, call Hans at 085-218-1773, or email him at khun.hans@gmail.com. The documentation you need and complete application and renewal instructions can be found [here](#). Information on getting International Driving Permits in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK, and USA can be found [here](#) and getting one in Thailand for use in other countries can be found [here](#).
- **VISA ASSISTANCE** - If you need or want some information on requirements to enter or remain in Thailand on a long stay basis, visit the Club's [website](#) and select the Visa & Immigration Page. If you still have questions or need assistance regarding remaining in Thailand on your present visa or visa exemption, please call upon John Fishback, Richard Smith, or Darrel Vaught. You can email your question to info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com. You can also contact Darrel at 086-069-0112 or email - darrel-pcec@inbox.com or John at 089-933-7227 or email - jbfemail-pcec@yahoo.com or Richard at 038-412-197 or email - rick2@loxinfo.co.th.
- **A DVD LENDING LIBRARY** - Hawaii's BOB4YOU usually has some of his collection of over 1,500 DVD movies at the Sunday meeting to share with members. A current membership card will allow you to borrow 4 DVDs for up to 4 weeks at no charge. If you have videos that you no longer need, you are encouraged to donate them to the library. You can also borrow DVDs by stopping by Peter's Aromatic Studio in Naklua's Windmill Plaza opposite Naklua Soi 18/1.
- **BOOK EXCHANGE** - Weekly during the SUNDAY meetings. A popular service started by Roger Fox and now administered by Hawaii Bob. - so please remember to bring those you have read (or don't want to read), and exchange them for the one you have been looking for.
- **LAMINATED PASSPORT CARDS** - Kuhn Sermsakdi is usually available for making the laminated cards for passports for a nominal fee. Please see Sermsakdi to collect yours. The cards are laminated wallet size (an all-in-one copy - of the main page, TM (now HX) card, Visa page, and front of passport). These cards have received good acceptance with businesses and hotels.

CLUB BENEFITS

Certain businesses offer discounts to Pattaya City Expats Club Members. Show your membership card to get the discount.

- **BANGKOK PATTAYA HOSPITAL (BHP) OFFERS DISCOUNTS TO PCEC MEMBERS** - When you obtain your BHP ID or if you haven't done so already, show them your membership card on your next visit. They will note this information in their computer so that you can receive special discounts offered to PCEC members. As a PCEC member you will get a 10% discount on room rates, medication and prescribed drugs, and 5% off on dental services. You may still be asked on occasion to show a currently valid PCEC card to verify you are still entitled to the discounts.
- **PHAYATHAI PATTAYA HOSPITAL OFFERS DISCOUNTS TO PCEC MEMBERS** - Club members now receive a 10% discount on medicines (inpatient and outpatient), main physical check up, CT, and MRI scans. This discount is good till November 14, 2010 for the initial period.
- **PCEC MEMBERS GET 15% DISCOUNT ON GPS TRACKING DEVICE** - The TRAMIGO GPS devices can be used to track and/or locate a person or a vehicle. No GPS fees as they operate with a local SIM card. For more information, brochures are on the back table or stop by their booth at Carrefour in front of the Food Court. More about the devices can be seen at their [website](#).
- **PCEC MEMBERS GET A 10% DISCOUNT FROM YOU STINKY DOG!** - You Stinky Dog! is a pet grooming service with a difference. They come to you with their fully equipped vans. They will also offer special deals on food deliveries and accessories. Future plans are to also have a doggie camp, hotel, exercise pool, etc. For more information visit their [website](#) or call 089 - 832 - 4181 (Jiab) or 089 - 207 - 6582 (Tom) or Email : Jiab@youstinkydog.com.
- **PCEC MEMBERS RECEIVE A 15% DISCOUNT ON MR. MOO'S PORK PRODUCTS** - Mr. Moo! Co., Ltd. sells pork products from their own pig farm - sausages, bacon, and meat pies. Their retail office is located in the side soi to the north of Big C on Sukhumvit (close to AA Insurance). They are open 9am to 6pm Monday thru Friday, 9am to 4pm on Saturday, and 11am to 4pm on Sunday. Show your membership card to get the discount.
- **UNDERWATER WORLD OFFERS MEMBERS A DISCOUNT** -- A representative of Underwater World told the Club that members will be charged the Thai admission price, not the Farang price. Further, upon producing your membership card, the cardholder will receive a 20% discount - off the Thai admission price. At a recent meeting, a member said he went to Underwater World and did receive the discount - albeit a bit of a delay while the staff went to the back office to confirm the discount.
- **THE BIGGEST MINI GOLF IN ASIA OFFERS PCEC MEMBERS A 20% DISCOUNT** - This new mini golf has three 18 hole courses available for your enjoyment. It is located on Sukhumvit Road - going south toward Sattahip, it is on the left hand side just past the Floating Market and opposite the Elephant Camp. Regular price is adults 150 Baht and Children under twelve 100 Baht; but, show your membership card and get 20% off that price. For more information, telephone 089-882-15/7 (English & French) or 083-602-4655 (Thai).

MEMBER SUPPORTED CHARITIES

The club encourages its members to be active in supporting charitable organizations. This section assists their efforts by providing information on some of these charitable activities.

- **SAVE THAT DRINK AN RING PULL FOR A WORTHY CAUSE** - Les Edmonds has requested that you save those aluminum can ring pulls rather than discarding them when you open the can. Gather up a few and bring them to Les. It seems they can be recycled for making artificial limbs. Les will see that they get to the right place.
- **EYE GLASSES** - Member Dave Anderson has been collecting eyeglasses and frames for re-cycling and distributing to needy people in Thailand and Pattaya. He recently brought 2000 frames and lenses for distribution in Thailand through the Pattaya YWCA, City Hall, and his connection with a country wide program. There is always a need - if you have any old glasses or frames around, please bring them to the meeting, give them to Richard Smith. On Dave's latest visit, we gave him the eyeglasses received (about 50 to 60), which he said would be donated to the Eyeglass Bank Project.

HEALTH ISSUES

This section provides general information about health insurance, health care, and other medical information that may benefit Expats living in Thailand.

- **BANGKOK HOSPITAL PATTYA PROMOTIONS** - We have not yet received information on January promotions from Bangkok Hospital Pattaya. For information about BHP, visit their [website](#).
- **PHAYATHAI SRIRACHA HOSPITAL PROMOTIONS** - We have not yet received information on January promotions from Phayathai Sriracha Hospital. For information about Phayathai, contact Gavin Waddell, International Marketing Executive, at 038-770-200/8 Ext: 2426 or 089-750-0293.
- **IF YOU WANT MEDICAL LABORATORY BLOOD TESTS WITHOUT GOING TO A CLINIC OR HOSPITAL** - Lifecare Laboratory [information](#).
- **LIVING WILL" REQUEST FORM** -- More information and blank copies of the form can be found on the Club website [here](#).
- **GROUP MEDICAL COVERAGE** - Is available only to those under age 59 and a half. Khun Neng (with the blinking light on his shirt) or another representative of AA Insurance are usually available at each Sunday meeting. They can answer your questions about the Group policy or other insurance coverage. For the Group coverage, you are eligible if you are under 59 1/2 for a new subscriber, and under age 64 1/2 for those currently in the Group plan. All the details, including coverage's and prices are in process of being loaded on the Club [website](#).

 WE ASK FOR YOUR COMMENTS ON THE NEWSLETTER 

Your thoughts, suggestions, questions and criticisms can help us produce a better Newsletter for you.

Please email your comments to us at

info@pattayacityexpatsclub.com or newsletter@pattayacityexpatsclub.com.