



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 15, 2010 to January 21, 2010

AT THIS WEEK'S MEETING

Sunday
January 17, 2010

The third Sunday of the month, we usually schedule a health professional from Bangkok Pattaya or Phayathai Sriracha hospital. This Sunday, Gavin Waddell, fellow member and International Marketing Executive from Phayathai Sriracha, will not be bringing a doctor to speak to us. Instead, Gavin will be telling us about the many renovations and changes that have been made at Phayathai Sriracha in the last 18 months. He especially wants us to be aware of their new centers, which include a Catheter Lab and a fully reequipped diagnostic center. He will also be bringing a nurse who will be providing free blood pressure checks in the back alcove. Gavin's presentation style is always entertaining, so come join us this Sunday for this interesting topic.

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.

RENOVATION OF THE CLUB'S MEETING PLACE IS PENDING

The Amari has not as yet set a date for the renovation to start. When it does, it is expected to take about 4 weeks to complete. During renovation, we will be meeting in the Amari's Garden Wing. We will announce the date and temporary meeting location when in the Newsletter and on the Website.

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

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.

- **VISIT TO PATTAYA ORPHANAGE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20** - Father Michael, Director of the Pattaya Orphanage, spoke to the Club on January 3 and invited Club members and guests to visit the Orphanage. The Club has arranged for a tour for those that signed up (or would still like to go with the group). The visit will be from 9:30am to about noon. For those needing transportation, please be at the Markland Hotel by 9am; otherwise, meet the group at the Orphanage at 9:30am. If you would like to visit the Orphanage at another time, please call Khun Toy at the Orphanage to make the arrangements - 081-752-0445 (tours are usually available from 9 to 9:30am in the morning and 1pm to 1:30pm in the afternoon). Anyone is welcome to join in the tour, but if not already on the sign up list, please let Richard Smith know your name, telephone number and email address if possible. If you have any questions about the tour or the Orphanage, please call Richard Smith at 089-244-9523 or 038-412197 or you can email him at rick2@loxinfo.co.th.
- **COMPUTER GROUP WILL ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 1** - The meeting will be at 2pm in the Haad Sai Room on the 6th floor of the Markland. 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 15 - Blue Water Sailing Group meets at Cherry's Restaurant**
- **Saturday, January 16 - HRH Princess Maha Chakrisirindhon Cup Polo Match**
- **Saturday, January 16 - Break Dance Competition at Big C North**
- **Sunday, January 17 - Bangkok Silom Festival 2010 (in Bangkok)**
- **Monday, January 18 - Pattaya Players holding auditions for next 2 performances**
- **Wednesday, January 20 - Club visit to Pattaya Orphanage**
- **Thursday, January 21 - The 4 day Cowboy Music Carnival starts at Bali Hai Pier**
- **Saturday, January 23 - Pinocchio Wine Dinner at Dusit2D**

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Master of Ceremonies Roger Fox welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the usual announcements, he introduced the guest speaker, Jan Persson. The Club often invites a speaker to share their travels with the members and guests. In most of these presentations, the audience can enjoy being a tourist to other places from the comfort of their chairs. However, today was different. Jan is a helicopter pilot that has spent his career flying in what many would call the hinterlands. Although he has had an interesting career being

a freelance helicopter pilot since he began flying in Sweden in 1974, he wanted to share with everyone his adventure of moving a helicopter from Greenland to Zimbabwe in Africa.

He started by presenting a map of Greenland and giving a brief history about the country. He said that Greenland is a very large country – if you placed the Northwestern tip of Greenland on Copenhagen, it would extend southwards all the way to the Sahara Desert. Although it is very large, Jan said that only the coast is inhabited as the interior is mostly covered with ice. Jan said he was working in Norway when he heard that there was a need for helicopter pilots in Greenland where the company ARCO was doing oil exploration. So, he went to Greenland and flew for a company that was under contract with ARCO. After two years without finding any oil, ARCO moved on, but Jan remained in Greenland doing scheduled flights and responding to emergencies.

In 1990, his employer, Greenland Charters, got a contract to fly for a company that was exploring for oil in Africa. They decided to send one of their helicopters to Zimbabwe. First flying it to Frankfurt, Germany, where it was to be separated in parts so that it could fit in a large cargo airplane to be flown to Johannesburg, South Africa. There it would be reassembled and flown to Zimbabwe. Jan said he was chosen to fly the helicopter, but that it needed a new “tail bone” before they could use it. This they ordered from Bell Helicopter, but when it arrived it wouldn’t fit as Jan showed in one of his pictures. Instead of waiting around, his company brought in another helicopter they had in Greenland that was the same model and used its “tail bone.”

Initially, Jan said, they had good weather, but the delay in getting the tail assembly taken care of resulted in their encountering some bad weather. So, instead of flying direct from the west to the east coast across Greenland, they had to take a roundabout route along the coast, which increased their trip from 600 to 1,300km. Jan showed several pictures of the landscape including some of rarely seen animals; musk ox and a white polar wolf. They landed in Amassalik, Greenland and were stranded there for about 11 days because of the bad weather. Jan said that while there, they were asked to fly some provisions to a group that was about 20km south. With several pictures, Jan explained that the group were working to salvage an American P-38 aircraft that had been lost there during World War II. One of the group was an older gentleman who it turned out was one of the original pilots of this “lost squadron.” Although the group had to bore a hole some 80 meters into the ice to get to the aircraft, the old pilot said he planned to fly it out after it was retrieved.

From Amassalik, they flew to Reykjavik, Iceland. From there they flew to Vagar where Jan noted that on arrival to get fuel and some rest, they discovered it was a 5km trek by foot to get to the one hotel as there was no other transportation. They then made several hops between fueling stations; finally arriving in Frankfurt. As planned, the helicopter was broken down into 3 parts and flown by cargo plane to Johannesburg. There, they reassembled the helicopter with the aid of a Bell agent and made their way across Africa to Zimbabwe. The trip took 41 days. Jan then showed several pictures of their very rustic base camp. He pointed out the most popular building in the camp. A thatched roof affair that he explained was the bar. He showed several pictures of various animals he encountered while there. He also said they had a group of game wardens around the camp that were needed because of all the wild animals. In fact, he mentioned that one morning he thought maybe they were going to be able to take the day off because a couple of lions had decided to sleep under the helicopter. But, that was not to be as after the camp woke up and began stirring about, they wondered off.

He mentioned that on one trip to take seismic equipment to its destination, they apparently flew over some game poachers who decided to fire upon their helicopter which fortunately was not hit. He also described the dangers and care they had to take in delivering equipment a “long line” dangling from the helicopter.

Jan concluded by saying after Zimbabwe, they went to Yemen where his company had another contract. He showed a few pictures of the country and noted that everyone there seemed to have a Kalashnikov rifle including one old gentleman who was rather insistent they take him flying on the helicopter. However, Jan said

after getting into the cockpit, he changed his mind to their relief. Overall, Jan's experiences were certainly adventurous and of much interest with many questions being asked from the audience.

Afterward, Richard Silverberg, the Club's Internet guru, gave a brief description of a website he thought would be of interest. This website, www.pattayadays.com he said has many and varied and interesting comments and pictures about Pattaya. The meeting concluded with Harry "Sig" Sigworth conducting the always informative and sometimes humorous Open Forum where questions are asked and answered 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). **Mantra** offers different cuisines in a fabulous setting. During January, Mantra will be featuring Black Angus Beef. 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**

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.
- **NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 7 - THE TRANSIT OF EROS EXHIBITION AT LIAM'S GALLERY** - Features the work of Pol Cruz who is originally from the Philippines, but now resides in Australia. He works in a variety of mediums. Liam's Gallery is located on Soi 4 Pratamnak Road. For more information: Telephone: 038-306-172, Email: contact.liamsgallery@gmail.com.
- **JANUARY 16, SATURDAY - HRH PRINCESS MAHA CHAKRI SIRINDHON CUP** match will be at the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club polo grounds in Pattaya. The match will be from 11:30am to 6:30pm. For more information or RSVP email: lifestylebrands@lbg.co.th or call 02-650-3055.
- **JANUARY 16, SATURDAY - BREAK DANCE COMPETITION** will be held at the Big C (North on 2nd Road) from 11am to 8pm. There will be 96 dancers in 32 teams from all over Thailand. Proceeds will be donated to the Father Ray Foundation. For more information, visit www.pattayaboy.com or email beechi_streetboyz@hotmail.com.
- **JANUARY 17, SUNDAY – BANGKOK SILOM FESTIVAL 2010** – The event will be from 10am to midnight on Silom Road in Bangkok. A wide range of products such as Bangrak OTOP will be available and there will be food stalls from participating hotels and restaurants. There will also be an exhibition to honor His Majesty the King.
- **JANUARY 18, MONDAY – PATTAYA PLAYERS WILL HOLD DUAL AUDITIONS** - The auditions are for two upcoming performances, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Café Murder*. The auditions will be held from 6pm to 8:30pm at Bangkok Hospital Pattaya's Function Hall on the 10th floor of D Building. For more information on Pattaya Players, visit www.pattayaplayers.org.
- **JANUARY 21, THURSDAY TO JANUARY 24, SUNDAY - COWBOY MUSIC CARNIVAL 2010** - This event will be at Bali Hai Pier and is sponsored by the Singh Corporation and the Tourism Authority of Thailand with the support of Pattaya City Hall. There will be many activities including a Miss Cowgirl Contest and a dance contest. For more information on this fun event please call 085 832 0287 or the Pattaya City Call Center on 1337.

- **JANUARY 23, SATURDAY - PINOCCHIO WINE DINNER AT DUSIT2D** - Five course Italian dinner complimented by Italian wines. Entertainment will be the modern play "Pinocchio" episode II directed by Maurizio Mistretta and played by dusitD2 staff. Price is 1,600++ Baht, which includes pre-dinner cocktails, dinner, wines, and show. The dinner starts at 7pm. Pre-dinner cocktails will be at the deep bar and dinner is pool side.
- **JANUARY 28, THURSDAY – PRESENTATION BY DR. MARIO ON HUMAN RIGHTS** - Dr. Mario is a lecturer from Asian University. His talk will be a reflection on some of the conceptual features of rights. The lecture will be from 3pm to 4:30pm at the North Star Library located on Sukhumvit Road between Central and North Roads. A coffee break will be provided.
- **JANUARY 29, FRIDAY TO JANUARY 31, SUNDAY - THAILAND INTERNATIONAL JAZZ CONFERENCE 2010 IN NAKHON PATHOM** - This event is hosted by the Mahidol University in Nakhon Pathom at Mahidol's Salaya campus. The Conference will feature internationally recognized musicians as well as local Thai jazz artists. In addition to the events (competition and workshops) there will be a wide range of exhibits on showcase. A three day Conference pass providing access to all events is 2,000 Baht. To attend only the concerts, a 500 Baht Concert pass will be available. Student and Music Lover Cardholders will receive a 20% discount. For more information contact - all 02-800-2525/30 ext 153/5 or visit <http://www.music.mahidol.ac.th/tijc/>.
- **JANUARY 31, SUNDAY – 2ND ANNUAL PATTAYA INTERNATIONAL CHARITY BED RACE** – This will be the 2nd year for this charity event and will be followed by a Rotary New Year party. The organizers expect about 100 bed racing teams. The race will start in front of the Avenues Shopping Mall turning left into Soi 12, then left into Pattaya Beach Road, then left into Pattaya South Road, and then left again on 2nd Road ending at the Avenues. Participating groups furnish their own vehicle (bed) and costumes. The object is to not only be first to complete the race, but to not lose their “passenger” in the process. There will a whole day of events including a Bed Parade and a Family Fair starting at 12 noon. After the race, the Rotary party will be in front of the Avenues.
- **FEBRUARY 9, TUESDAY – CHARITY VOICE-PIANO RECITAL** – The concert will feature guest artists Professor Pamela Hinchman, soprano, with Emeritus Professor Laurence Davis at the piano. Both artists are from the faculty of the School of Music, Northwestern University, Illinois, USA and will be on a tour performing recitals in Southeast Asia. The first half of the program will feature two colorful arias of Mozart, followed by some intimate songs in German by the creative Hugo Wolf, ending with three atmospheric French songs by Chausson and Poulenc. After intermission, they will perform songs in English by American composers. The recital starts at 7pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Pattaya Marriott Resort and is priced at 490 Baht, which includes a welcome drink at the Lobby Terrace from 6pm. Students with ID pay only 100 Baht. Ticket holders will receive a 50% discount on the dinner buffet at the Marriott Garden Café after the concert. For ticket reservations and further information, call the Pattaya Marriott Hotel at (038) 412-120, Ext. 1485, or send an e-mail to : Naiyaporn@minornet.com.

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 hawaiiibob4you@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 hawaiiibob4you@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.