

SOUTH WIND

Charter Granted 7 August 1961

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No. 2645
10th March 2017

Today's Topic:

"THAILAND PROPERTY MARKET IN 2017"

James Pitchon



MEETINGS:
EVERY FRIDAY
AT NOON

THAILAND START UP SCENE KRATING POONPOL

Khun Krating Poonpol is known by many as the "Godfather of Start-Ups" in Thailand. As an ex-Googler and venture partner for 500 Start-Ups, the largest start-up funder in the world, he has been at the heart of the start-up sector for a long time now. On his return to Thailand he was brought into several corporate start-up projects including one by telecoms giant DTAC.

His presentation covered the Thailand start-up scene from its very small beginnings a few years ago, to its current rapid expansion, involving some of the biggest players in the market, as well as some of the small up-and-coming unknowns which could become the next billion-dollar unicorn.

He began by defining a start-up as a fast growing small company that was confused about who their customer is, their business model or their product, noting that while all start-ups are SMEs, not all SMEs are start-ups. He added that start-ups are not purely tech companies, citing Whole Foods as a well-known non-tech example, in fact start-ups are the engine of the US economy. However, in Thailand the scene is very young and has some way to go.

On his arrival back from the US, he started a school to teach start-ups, called Disrupt University, through which 800 students have passed to

date, and whose graduates have already received \$30 million in funding, and are together valued at over \$120 million.

He described the Thailand tech start up ecosystem today as comprising notable start-ups, including Government, tech companies, venture capital, venture builders, incubators, events, angel groups, co-working spaces and tech media. While still small, there has been impressive progress from almost nothing in 2012, to a 100-fold growth today. With no signs of slowing, and significant investment by the Chinese tech sector including both Jack Ma of Alibaba who bought Lazada for \$1.5

billion last year, and Ma Huateng of Tencent who bought Ookbee, Thailand is the place to be. He quoted Jack Ma from a speech at Stanford last year where he said that the next big thing is Thailand, and investment from these Chinese giants is a key driver in the Thailand start-up scene. In contrast however, the Japanese seem to have pulled out of the market, with Rakuten selling their stake in Talad.com.

Thailand seems to be somewhat behind some of our ASEAN neighbours, including Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Indonesia which is called a unicorn farm, for producing several start-ups that have been valued at over a billion dollars. Thailand is the only significant country in Southeast Asia that has not produced a unicorn yet. He is optimistic that this will happen in the next five years, and will be pivotal moment for start-ups here. He shared one of his greatest regrets, which was not investing in the company that is now GrabTaxi, which at that time was a Malaysian company called MyTeksi. He said if he had invested THB 1 Million five years ago it would be worth THB 1 billion now, and he would not have had to use the MRT to come to our event as he would have had a helicopter at his disposal. It was an example of how quickly start-ups can grow, with GrabTaxi going from zero in 2011 to being a \$2.4 billion company today.

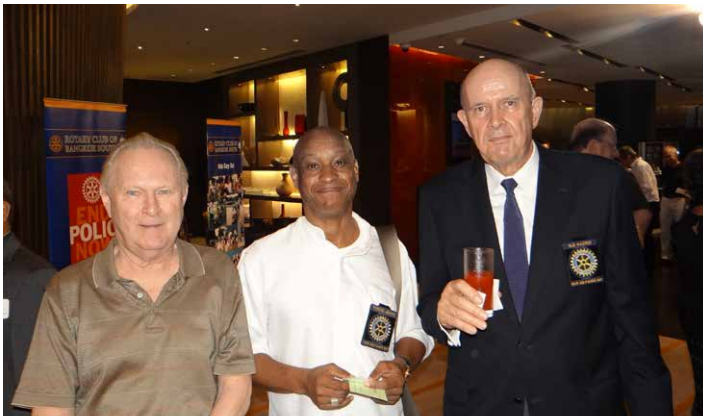




Delegates from RC Bangkok, Bangkok, Srpathum, Dhonburi, PP Mark Butters



More delegates from RC Bangkok...!



RTN Tyrone, PP Ole and former member Stan Bailey enjoy a quite moment!



Delegates from RC Bangkok, Bangkok, Srpathum, Dhonburi, PDG Chaivai from RC Pathumwan and IPP Narain



RTN Arie with Rtn Willem from RC Bangkok



P Krin exchanges flags with visiting RTN Dr. Colin from RC Ankara International, Turkey



WSE Voucher Winner, Khater G. and RTN Frank



PP Nick, GS Krating, P Krin, RTN Mark Wolf

RCBS ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017

THURSDAY, 30TH MARCH

ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH



At Thana City Golf and Sports Club
THURSDAY, 30th March 2017



3,500 BAHT PER PERSON, TEAMS OF 5, INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES ACCEPTED

Fee includes: Green Fee, Caddy Fee, Noodle Brunch, on course Food/Drink Stations, Pre-dinner drinks, Free-flow Vodka Bar, Buffet Dinner, Wine and Beer. (Caddy tips and golf carts not included)

09:30-11:00	Register and Brunch
12:00	Shotgun Start
18:00	Pre-Dinner Drinks
18:45	Dinner, Presentations and Prize Draws



Dear fellow Rotarians and your golfing friends,

This Year RC Bangkok South is holding our 28th annual golf day at Thana City Golf Club on Thursday 30th March, 2017 Shotgun start at 12.00.

We invite you to join us for a wonderful day of golf fun and fellowship.

The entry registration form is available on RCBS website at <http://rotarybangkoksouth.org/wp-content/uploads/Registration-Form-2017-Rotary-Club-of-Bangkok-South-Golf.pdf> or contact **Khun Khob** at info@rotarybangkoksouth.org.

We ask you to enter in Rotary Club members in a team of 5 players to be eligible for the Inter Club Team Trophy. Individual entries are also available if you cannot make up a team of 5 players.

We look forward to you and your club members joining us for this our golf day.

Any questions, please contact our Office Manager Khun Khob at 02-632-9160 or 081-694-1139 or info@rotarybangkoksouth.org.

Khun Khob's Club Almanac #2645

10 March 2017

Happy Birthdays:

Lalit Kumar March 4
 Poul Weber March 5
 Jean-Marie Cattand March 8

Wedding Anniversary Greetings:

Mark C. Wolf March 14
 Prasobsook Thawilvejjakul March 14
 Gerard Geraets March 16

Attendance for 3rd March 2017: 61%

Present 37, Make-up 8, Absent 29, Exemption 32, Total 106

Visiting for 3rd March 2017:

From Local

RC Bangkapi Willem Adolfs

RC Bangkok

PDG Gen. Saiyud Kerdphol,
 PP Jan-Christian Rosemeyer, PP Linda Cheng,
 PP Rolf-Dieter Daniel, PP Santi Chatterjee,
 PP Suraphon Kittiwet, PE Dr. Urs D. Blum,
 PN Maleeratna, Plumchitchom, Abdullah
 Alawadi, Alex Paufler, Chulayuth Lochotinun,
 Cord Cassel, Eid Jazairi, Eva Maria
 Marquise Degli Albizi, Frederic Tordion, Ido
 Berger, Prof. Dr. Lalita Hongratanawong,
 Nicklas Ulander, Thamolwan Ekbundit, Vasana
 Mututanont, Werner Kubesch

RC Bangrak

CP Kittitangsongtham

RC Dhonburi

P Theeravat Kanokul, PN Tassanee
 Duangratana, Kittitangsong Na Ayuthaya,
 Pitinum Euarukpong, Wichai Chivakanit

RC Pathumwan

PDG Chaivai Poonlapmompkol

RC Royal Hua Hin

P Gianni Battistini

RC Srpathum

P Natcha Torthienchai, PP Margaret
 McMillion, PP Kitthanate Vasukiatcharoen,
 PP Thani Vacharapornsophon,
 PP Yuphadee Keeree

From Abroad:

Brian O'Ruairc
 Dr. Colin Duakop
 Kish B.C.
 PP Per Dibber

RC South Surrey, Canada
 RC Ankara International, Turkey
 RC Taipei, Taiwan
 RC Barbados, Barbados

Invited Guests:

Ghaff Khan
 Dr. Ian Fenwick
 Dr. James Dunnavat
 Jason Corbett
 Johnny Wisner
 Khater Ghoul
 Luca Di Pietro
 Robert Lomnitz
 Stan Bailey
 Suthita Thawornpong
 Tanriq Brown

Introduced by:

Stuart Lucani
 PN Dean Outerson
 Tom Banker
 PP Sean Brady
 Poul Weber
 Carol Kuhn
 Dr. Oldrich Capek
 Mark Wolf
 PE Jon Plate
 Dr. Oldrich Capek
 Ragil Ratnam

Recent Makeups:

RC Barbados, 23rd February 2017: PP Stanley Mac Donald
RC eCLUB ONE, 24th February 2017: Tom Banker

Makeups:

Golf, 24th February 2017: Gerard Geraets, Ragil Ratnam, Ravi Sehgal,
 Stuart Lucani

CLUB CALENDAR

Friday, 17th March 2017 – Irish Day at Roadhouse BBQ – LADIES DAY St. Patrick's Day – A fellowship day for the enjoyment of Rotarians and spouses. Rtn. Frank Crocker will bring along his concertina and give us a tune here and there plus some of the shorter version of his Irish jokes, and on request Rtn. Dana Caron will colour the beer green.

Friday, 24th March 2017 – Voranai Vanijaka How is Thai Society changing? – Voranai has spiced up our meetings before when he was a Bangkok Post columnist with a Texan idea of freedom-of-speech. He has morphed into a different kind of media and will give us insights into how Thai society is changing.

Friday, 31st March 2017 – Indian Religions with a Panel of 3 Internal Speakers. – Much knowledge and talent is hidden

in our club and here we present our 3 top experts on Indian Religions, with Rtn. Ravi Sehgal speaking on India's oldest religion, Hinduism, Rtn. Rakesh Sodhia on Jainism and IPP Narain Suradejvibul on Sikhism. MC Carol Kuhn will put it all into a worldly context.

Friday, 7th April 2017 – Dr. Tuntikorn Rungpatana (Dr. Oob) – LADIES DAY Soi-Dog Foundation – We've all been barked at, some even bitten, and many have felt pity for some of the more tragic incarnations of Bangkok's soi dogs. Dr. Oob will tell us why there are so many soi dogs, how he snips them and whether euthanasia is ever an option.

Friday, 14th April 2017 – No Meeting – Songkran Holiday

For more information about Bangkok South events contact:
rotarybangkoksouth.org/calendar-of-events

The Crowne Plaza Bangkok Lumpini Park Hotel, 952 Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10500 Thailand
info@rotarybangkoksouth.org | 02632 9160 | www.rotarybangkoksouth.org

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