



SOUTH WIND

Charter Granted 7 August 1961

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No. 2675
17 November 2017

Today's Topic: "Wildlife Issues"
Edwin Wiek

MEETINGS : EVERY FRIDAY AT NOON

BANGKOK WATER WORLD – CP GEOFF CARTER

By CP Geoff Carter

Until 1767, the capital of Thailand was in Ayutthaya. Because of regular annual flooding, the capital was then moved to Thonburi and then due to regular flooding, the capital was then established in Bangkok in 1782 with a flood defense wall. However, three years later in 1785, Bangkok had a major flood 4.5metres deep and has continued to flood regularly ever since.

My first visit to Thailand due to my environmental business, was in 1982 and the floods that year caused 1.093 Billion Baht in damage. The following year in 1983, Bangkok was flooded for three months causing 6.6 Billion Baht in damage. In 2011 there was widespread devastating flooding of major industrial estates, housing, Don Muang Airport and Bangkok causing floods to a depth of two metres.

Bangkok was sinking by 100mm/year due to pumping from artesian wells but was stopped in 1997 and the aquifers are replenishing, reducing land sinkage to 10mm/year. The sea level has been rising by 30mm/10 years due to global warming and conspiracy theorists, who claim there is no sea level rise, have only to look to the villages on the western side of the Chao Phraya estuary that have disappeared due to the rising sea level. Flood plains have been built for the sake of development as Bangkok continues to grow, leading to more water run off to the river.

The Yom River Dam proposed in 1980 was cancelled, due to violent opposition by so called "environmentalists", leading to the disastrous flood of 2011. It also led to lack of water storage for local farmers due to last year's drought when river completely dried up.

The flood defense wall around Bangkok should have been much higher at up to five metres but is only 2.5 due to political opposition and environmentalists, whereas the maximum recorded effective flood height is 3.6 metres. Currently, environmentalists are fighting against the Chao Phraya walkway and flood defense project, despite their opposition causing continued risks of disastrous flooding.



The BMA are building giant drainage pipes up to 6 metres in diameter to pump floodwaters from the roads around Bangkok, however these discharge into the Chao Phraya raising the water levels and exacerbating the flooding problem as the flood defense walls are too low. These giant drainage pipes should discharge into the sea, not the Chao Phraya.

The maximum monsoon run off is 4,000 to 5,000m³/sec, yet the Chao Phraya River Capacity is only 2,000 to 2,800m³/sec. The Crown approved Master Plan of 2000, envisaged that Super Floodways would be built to bypass the excess flows of 1,000m³/sec from north of Ayutthaya around Bangkok to the sea at Khlong Dan. In addition, the Chin River would be uprated to handle 1,000m³/sec. However, this project was shelved in favour of "monkey cheeks", and widespread flooding of farmer's land, who would be "compensated". Until these Super Floodways and additionally, a tidal barrage needs are built, disastrous flooding will continue to affect Bangkok.



SNAPSHOTS FROM RCBS LUNCH, 10 NOVEMBER, 2017



Baechtold Sandwich: PP Philip Baechtold, Rtn Gattlen Thierry, Tevin Baechtold

Rtn Marco and PP Mike catching up on something



Rtn Ron, Visiting Rtn Paula and Rene Bourgeois

A 1,000 Baht in fines just waiting to be collected...



Treasurer Peter signing more cheques and seemingly enjoying it



P Dougie and VP Adrian welcome our newest member, Stefan Sanchez

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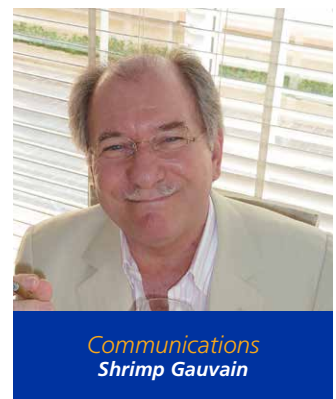
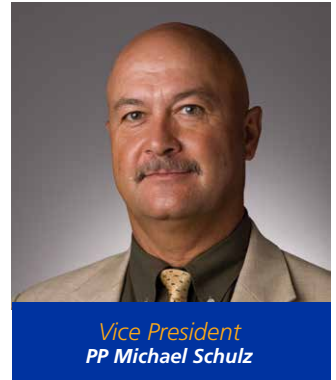
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17 NOVEMBER 2017

Happy Birthdays:

PP Per Dibber November 21

Wedding Anniversary Greetings:

Stuart Lucani November 22

Attendance for 10 November 2017: 57%

Present 29, Make-up 10, Absent 30, Exemption 30, Total 99

Visiting for 10 November 2017

From Local

Stefan Sanchez RC Bangkapi

From Abroad:

Gattlen Thierry RC Sion, Switzerland
 Niels Ruddy Hansen RC Copenhagen, Denmark
 Paula Aceto RC Mud Creek, Canada
 PP Sam-Erik Ruttman RC Helsinki International, Finland
 IPP Udaya Gartaula RC Kathmandu West, Nepal

Invited Guests:

Dan Mckay
 Peter Coll
 Tejas Shaw
 Scott Ledwell
 Worrakit Pholsawad

Introduced by:

John Casella
 Ron Livingston
 Ron Livingston
 Mark Wolf
 PE Dean Outerson

Recent Makeups:

RC Bangkok, 9 November 2017: PP Andrew MacPherson

Makeups:

Membership, 1 November 2017: Dana Caron, PE Dean Outerson, PP Don Lavoie, P Dougie Riach, IPP Krin Charnmaytesakul, PP Mark Butters, PP Nick Pisalyaput, PP Ole Madsen, Rui Belo, Tevin Baechtold, PP Vichai Tantrativid

RC Dhonburi 60th Birthday, 4 November 2017: P Dougie Riach

TRF, 8 November 2017: PP Don Lavoie, IPP Krin Charnmaytesakul, PP Krit Wong, Manu Mekdhanasarn, PP Mark Butters, PP Nick Pisalyaput, PP Ole Madsen, Pat Bunsongsikul, PP Per Dibber, Rod Vergara, Rui Belo, Van Tang, PP Vichai Tantrativud

CLUB CALENDAR

Friday, 24 November 2017 – PP Prasart Kiatpaibulkit on Rotary Foundation. District Foundation Chair PP Prasart speaks to us on the Rotary Foundation, how it raises and distributes funds and how as Rotarians and as a Club we can do more with the Foundation.

Friday, 1 December 2017 – Tom Waller on Movies. Tom is a film director and producer born in Bangkok. He founded the production company De Warrenne Pictures and secured funding for the film Monk Dawson, his directorial debut. He has produced Eviction (1999), Butterfly Man (2002), Ghost of Mae Nak (2005), The Elephant King (2006) and Soi Cowboy (2008). A first-hand opportunity to hear more from inside the film industry.

Friday, 8 December 2017 – Rapee Sucharitakul on Issues that concern the SEC. Secretary General of the Securities & Exchange Commission Thailand, Mr. Rapee Sucharitakul addresses us on regulation and oversight of stock trading as it concerns the SEC. Also: The lunch is preceded by the Annual Christmas Sale by Sister Louise organised by PP Dr. Niti and Jiraporn Meyer.

Friday, 15 December 2017 – Christmas Dinner. Following on a long tradition in our club, PP Don and Danielle LaVoie generously open up their home for what is always a great Christmas dinner with excellent catering and fellowship. **No Lunch Meeting on this day!**

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

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