

March 2014

The Scandinavian

Bulletin

The Garden Party 2014



Skandinavisk Samfund Siam
Scandinavian Society Siam



When it's time to do business, we're exceptionally open.

Every business has a different story and a different goal. We understand that. Over many years in this market of unique opportunities, we've developed the local knowledge, resources and connections needed to turn ambitions into reality. That's why we're one of the most well-established northern European banks in the region. For corporates, financial institutions and private banking clients, we're ready to listen and cater to your needs – in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore and New Delhi.

Welcome to contact us at
Tel: +65 63 57 08 95
singapore@sebprivatebanking.com.sg
www.sebgroup.com/privatebanking

The SEB logo consists of the letters 'S', 'E', and 'B' in a white, sans-serif font, each enclosed within a vertical green bar. The bars are positioned to the left, middle, and right of the letters respectively.

i think, therefore IB

KIS International School is an IB world school through and through. The school is authorized for all three International Baccalaureate programmes for students from 3-18 years (Primary Years, Middle Years and IB Diploma). KIS lives and breathes the IB philosophy, offering a high-quality, balanced education, encouraging international-mindedness, and instilling a positive attitude to learning.

As a mid-sized school, KIS enables children to learn in a caring, community environment while having access to top facilities.

KIS is a leading light in IB education. Come and see for yourself; visit our spacious, green campus, located near Rama 9 and Asoke-Ratchadapisek.

www.kis.ac.th TEL +66 (0) 2274 3444



kis
International School
Knowledge Inspiration Spirit



Siden 1920

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY SIAM
www.sss.or.th

Office address

PIRO Consulting
69/52 Soi Phatumran Resort
Phaya Thai Road
Rathevee
Bangkok 10400
Telephone: + 66 814 062 854
Email: board@sss.or.th

CHAIRMAN

Robert Kronberg
chairman@sss.or.th

VICE CHAIRMAN & TREASURY

Claus Gundersen
treasurer@sss.or.th

SECRETARY

Christina Hammarlund
members@sss.or.th

EDITOR

Thordur Adalsteinsson
editor@sss.or.th

Knut Hauslo

SUBSTITUTES

Lars Andersson
Flemming Winther Nielsen

ADVERTISING CONTACT:

Scand-Media Corp., Ltd.
Tel: +66 2 943 7166 Ext: 116
Fax: +66 2 943 6618
Att.: Mr. Finn Balslev
Mobile: +66 81 866 2577
Email: finn@scandmedia.com
www.scandmedia.com

Design: Disraporn Yatprom
Email: disraporn@scandmedia.com

Membership fee:

Single: 1,000 THB
Family: 2,000 THB
Overseas: 2,000 THB



Chairman's Message



Robert Kronberg
Chairman
Scandinavian Society Siam

Dear members of Scandinavian Society Siam

Most of us living in Thailand are missing something from Scandinavia. One thing could be Christmas. Not just Christmas Eve, but the whole month from 1st December to New Years Eve. However, December is a busy month for most people in Scandinavia, and, thus, many Scandinavians are escaping to Thailand during the last week in December. Another thing could be spring season. Spring is different and spring is special. Slowly the trees and flowers are waking up, and the birds are returning from distant places.

Therefore, a garden party in Scandinavia is always special because then it is summer – the trees and flower are alive and the birds are back. SSS just has had a very nice Garden Party with lovely music in the garden of the Norwegian Ambassador, H.E. Katja Christina Nordgaard's beautiful garden, but in January. We cannot arrange Garden Parties during the summer, because it is rainy season in Thailand in the summer.

In SSS we try to make a small Scandinavia, but we have to do the things a bit different, like for example to arrange Garden Parties in the winter. This is what makes Thailand a magical country, because many things are opposite. While eating, you have the fork in the "wrong" hand. The holes for salt and pepper are "wrong". And we are driving at the "wrong" hand.

But who can judge what is right or wrong. We cannot, but in SSS we have the opportunity to try to do, what we did in Scandinavia. And Thai-nationalities, who are member of SSS, have the opportunity to do, what we are doing. However, we are also different in SSS. We are from different countries in Scandinavia, and some have been in Thailand for many years. Some have a spouse from Scandinavia, and other have a spouse from Thailand. Some are young; some have small children; and some are retired.

Today, most Scandinavian countries have a chamber in Bangkok, and some countries have a women's network, but in SSS we have the opportunity to try to do things together as fellow Scandinavians in a country far from home, whether it is golf, parties, events, Christmas or something historical. We can also do something we are missing, but we cannot make a spring season.

You can follow SSS at www.sss.or.th and www.facebook.com/scandinaviansocietysiam

Robert Kronberg

Next event



The Garden Party 2014

By Knut Hauslo

The garden at the residence of the Ambassador of Norway to Thailand, Katja Nordgaard was the venue for this years Garden Party.

The residence's garden is quite a beautiful oasis in the middle of the Sukhumvit area of Bangkok, and the Garden Party event that took place there turned out to become one of those memorable, friendly gatherings that makes life in Bangkok a pleasant and wonderful experience. At the same time partly peaceful, though in between when the band played, partly with a little bit more rocketed atmosphere. However, as many have told afterwards, great music.

Although Bangkok was facing demonstrations by PDRC (People's Democratic Reform Committee) at the Sukhumvit Asok rally stage, besides on other places in the city, about 70 members and other guests were present at the event, and they all seemed to have a good time together.

All guests upon arrival were offered sparkling wine or soft drinks together with some snacks. A good opportunity to mingle and doing small talks with friends and to learn new people to know. Standing around in small groups during the twilight time, under the magnificent tree in the center of the garden, enjoying the bubbles, other drinks and talking together while waiting for the dinner was a relaxing and enjoyable time.

Catering was taken care of by the Admiral's. And Khun Na herself was there, serving, looking after her staff and seeing to that all went well. However, some of the dishes seemed to be quite a bit more popular than others, and refill from outside turned out to be required, and was also done.

Following the dinner The rock and roll band Peter Driscoll and The Cruisers provided for the live music. The band had modified their performance to fit in with the ambience of the garden and audience, and they played a great music, tempting almost everybody dancing like crazy. Among them, the Ambassador herself, Katja Norgaard. It seemed most of the participants were very happy.

This years Garden Party was arranged without a Lucky Draw, hence there was no prize ceremony to run. And the dance could start early.

Although everyone was enjoying the party and music, one might wonder just why most of the people left early.

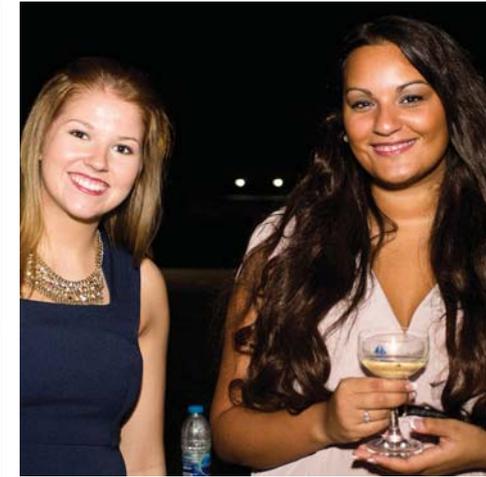
Is this a new trend that started with the Cray Fish party last year?

Sponsors to be mentioned are:

- Nordea Singapore
- Texica Wines

Photos by:
Claus Gundersen
Disraporn Yatprom







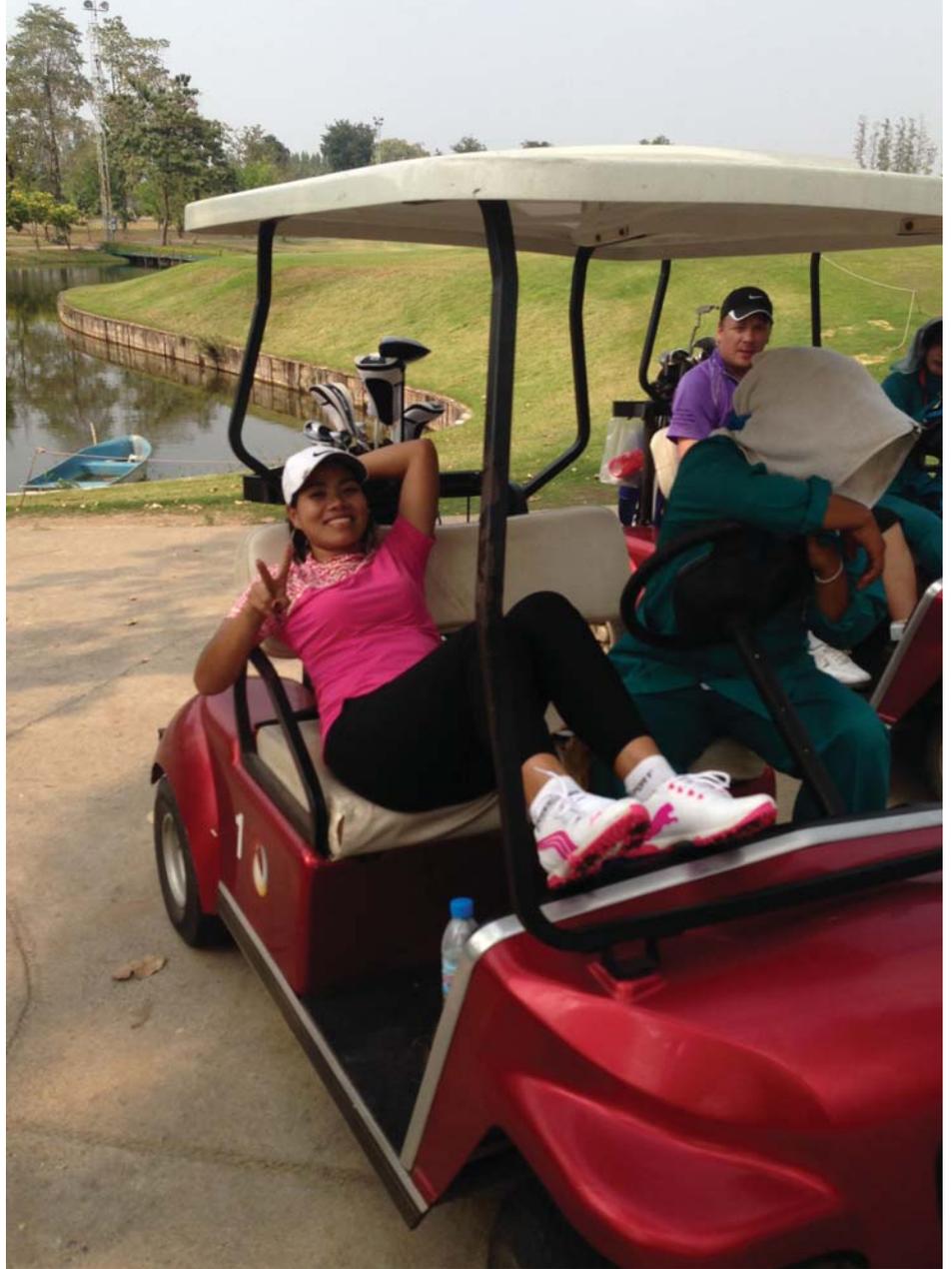
ZabaiGolf.com
Scandinavian Golf Thailand

Golf REPORT

By Lars Andersson

Summer is here and we will again need the umbrellas on the golf course - not so much to protect us from rain as from the hot sun. It's been a great winter to spend time on the golf course - at least from a climate perspective - and at many people, including me, have hopefully enjoyed many great rounds of golf. There are so many golf courses to play at, especially if you venture a bit beyond the Bangkok suburbs where we normally play, and there are so many great people to play golf with! We are only in the beginning of March but we have already enjoyed, or in some cases probably suffered through, three tournaments since the last issue of the bulletin.

For a complete update on the tournaments and the current status of the leaderboards the best place is as always www.zabai.com. However a short recap can be interesting. January 18 we played the annual Swedish Golf day at Vintage golf Club, in collabora-





tion with the Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce and generously sponsored by Lux, Oriflame, Rembrandt Hotel and Oakwood. It was a beautiful winter day as good as only a perfect Scandinavian summer day can be. Maybe it was the weather that made Staffan Lyrestam, the winner of the A-group, landing an amazing 43 points playing on handicap 12 - and that without making a single birdie! He was followed by Roby Janssens with 38 points and Bosse Palmqvist with 36 points. Bosse obviously had a great day on the greens with only 25 puts. Mikael Olsson ended up at the top of the B-group with 38 points and Chonlada Changkaew won the C-group with 32 points. The 2 Man Best Ball competition was won by Staffan Lyrestam and Stefan Lord with an impressive 48 points.

February 1 we played the most classic competition of them all, the Amundsen Cup. This year it was played at Bangkok Golf Club with greens as challenging as ever, which shows

in the results. Only one player had 30 or less puts, and that was Petcharat Jiambutr with 27 puts. A great effort considering that the average in the A-group was 36 puts. For the first time ever probably, the average in the B-group with 35 puts was actually lower than the A-group. Juha Saarinen won the A group ahead of Ole Madsen, both on net 73. Bjarne Kjersner was third with 3 nice birdies. Mikael Olsson won the B-group with a net 70 ahead of Erik Dahlström och Åke Lindvall. The C-group was won by Ole Petter Øksne on net 71, ahead of Sverre Haug and Helena Ahola.

Four weeks later, on the first day of March, it was again time for golf and this time with noodles - the annual MAMA Cup at Royal. Jan Hammarlund won the A-group easily with 40 points. If Jan continues to put like he did at Royal he will be dangerous. It must have been a personal best with 25 puts and substantially better than the 37 puts he had

at the Amundsen Cup. Bjarne Kjersner continues to play strong and was second before Wichien Harnpraween - both on 35 points. John Andersson won the B-group with a more humble 34 points, and Sami Jänne won the C-group an even more humble 30 points.

This means that Bjarne is pulling away ahead of everyone else in our MVP competition, or the "Race to Six Senses Yao Noi". Something major will have to happen in the remaining competitions to stop this Dane from being the one enjoying a great holiday at Ko Yao Noi outside Phuket. In the putting competition, sponsored by Lux, it's not as tight as it was last year. Erik Dahlström, who was second and very close to winning last year, has continued with great putting this season and has a quite comfortable lead with over Carsten Andersen and Sverre Haug, last year's winner.



Annual General Meeting and Member Dinner

By Gregers Moller

Scandinavian Society Siam invites members – and indeed would-like-to-be members – for an evening with the Annual General Meeting and a nice AGM dinner in good company.

When: Tuesday 23. April 2013

Where: Rembrandt Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 18, Bangkok

What time:

18.30 – Registration

19.00 – The Annual General Meeting starts

After the Meeting, the Board is pleased to invite you to join a special dinner. To participate in the dinner members should kindly inform Treasurer Mr. Claus Gundersen of their intention to participate via email: clausgundersen@gmail.com – no later than 19. April 2014.

Price: Free for members.

Non-members may participate by joining and paying the regular annual membership fee of 1.000 baht for singles and 2.000 baht for families.

Please take this opportunity to be part of the discussion on the future direction of the Scandinavian Society Siam and enjoy an informal dinner together with other active members!



Agenda

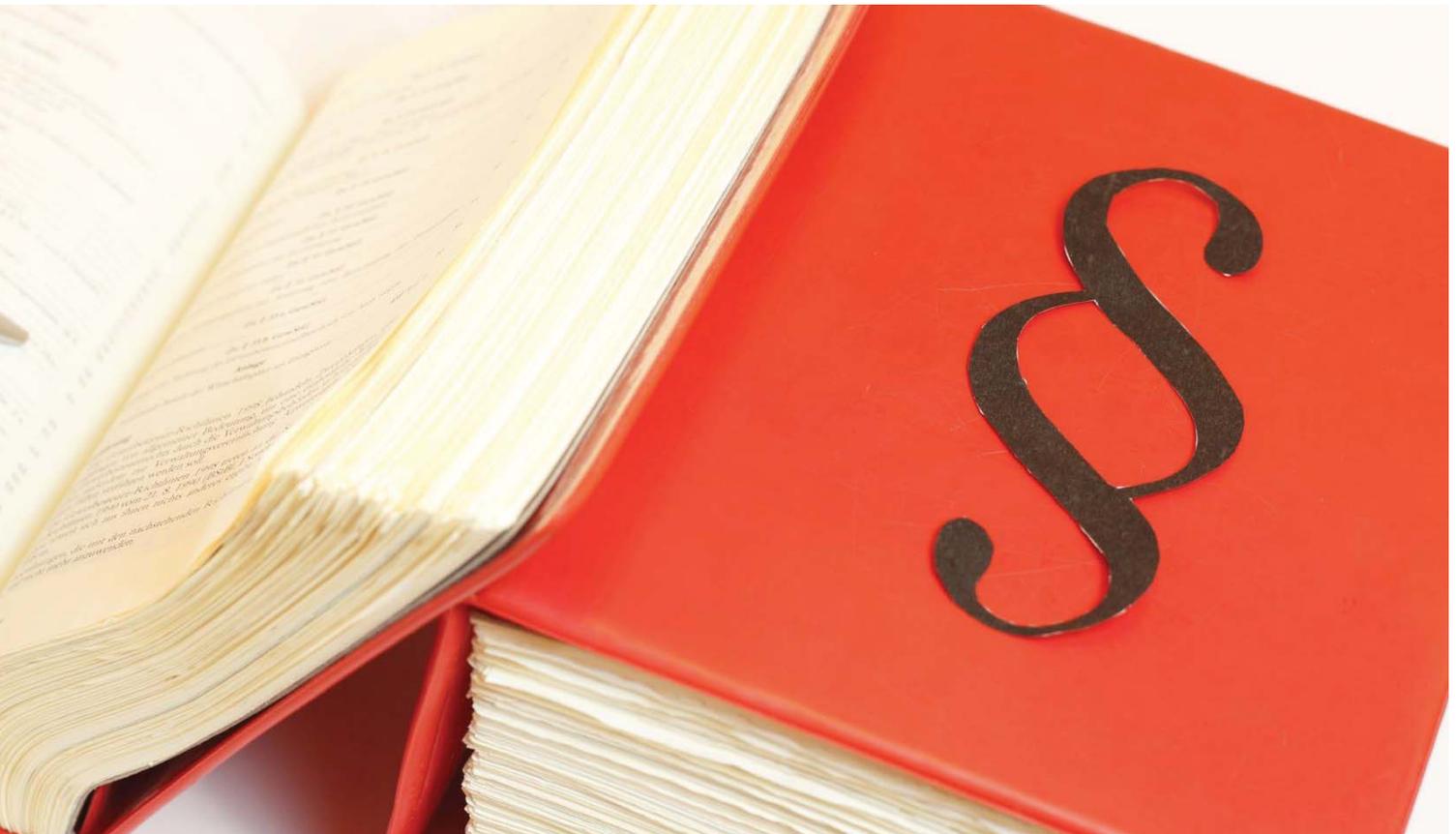
Election of Chairman of the Annual General Meeting
Approval of the minutes from last year's Annual General Meeting
Approval of the Society's activities the last year
Approval of the audited accounts
Discussions on proposals of changes in the Bylaws *)
Discussions on other proposals (none received)
Election of Chairman of the Board
Election of four members and two substitutes to the Board
Election of Auditor and substitute Auditor
Proposals of activities for the following year
Other matters

*) Changes to the By-Laws

A special task on the agenda this year is for the members to bring the old By-Laws in harmony with the new Articles of Association. The new Articles of Association are like a Constitution for the Society and form the basis of our legal registration as an Association according to Thai law.

The Articles of Association are similar in substance to our existing By-Laws in almost every aspect, except they are more elaborate and also structured in a different way. The Board proposes to harmonize the wording of the Articles of Association by bringing the elaborate wording into the Bylaws and synchronizing the structure of the two documents.

On a few points, adopting the words from the Articles of



Association into the By-Laws would create problems for the Scandinavian Society Siam as managed today. In these places, it is proposed to adopt a different wording.

Membership fee

One difference between the two sets of rules are in regard to the membership fee. The current By-laws say the membership fee should be fixed by the AGM. The Articles of Association says the membership fee is 1.000 baht. To work around this, the Board proposes to adopt the wording from the Articles of Association into the By-Laws but add the little word "basic" so the 1.000 baht becomes a basic fee. The AGM can then every year decide to charge an additional fee if they so wish. That way it would not be needed to change the Articles of Association, which is a lengthy procedure with the authorities.

Quorum

Another difference is regarding the Annual General Meeting. The Articles of Association operate with a quorum, a minimum of 25 percent of the membership that must be present for the AGM to proceed – if they are not present an extraordinary meeting must be called. Here, the Board proposes that if there is no quorum (which will most often be the case), the AGM continues anyway, but all decisions are pending approval from an extraordinary meeting.

Signing checks and withdrawals

Regarding signing checks, the current By Laws allow for either the Treasurer or the Chairman to sign or make withdrawals

from the bank account. However, according to the legally binding Articles of Association, both the Chairman and the Treasurer must sign together. In this case the board proposes that the current By Laws are kept even though they are in conflict with the Articles of Association. Should the members find this conflict unacceptable, the board can always manage around the rule by letting both of them pre-sign a few checks to be later countersigned by the other when a withdrawal or payment is needed. The electronic banking solution, for which the Society has applied, will eventually hopefully make the payments easier to manage.

Elections

Apart from these special issues, the Board proposes to keep the current rules regarding elections, where candidates are written up on a board for the members to vote. Although it is a bit quirky, it is part of the peculiarity of the Society with these detailed rules going back an unknown number of years. The first set of By-Laws were adopted on 5 March 1920 but the laws have been updated 23 times over the close to hundred years since then.

As for the elections this year, the Board has applied a mix of the Swedish approach with a "Valberedning" undertaken by Par Hollertz combined with the Danish approach of the board proposing a set of candidates. In this case, Par Hollertz has researched and compiled his findings which have then been completed by the Board which will present the candidates at the AGM as usual.

Flemming Winther Nielsen

One of our board members, Mr. Flemming Winther Nielsen, suddenly passed away on Tuesday 21. January 2014. Flemming was board member for three years until the day he passed away only 65 years old. His role in SSS was being substitute in the board and chairman of the SSS Heritage Section (historical section) - he was key person in the graveyard renovation project as well.

Flemming was a typical Danish scholar with sharp opinions. Thus, it is not surprising that he has been Lecturer at the College for Social Work and Development in Denmark and later became part time Lecturer at University of Thai Chamber of Commerce.

Flemming's focus in SSS was the history and shortly before he passed away, he published his last book "From the Time of the Crocs" subtitled "The Danes in the Mangroves 1860 -" And actually his plan was to gather material for yet another book to be published in connection with the 100 year anniversary of SSS in 2020.

His biggest project in SSS and in connection to SSS was the graveyard project. Many Scandinavian graveyards have been renovated at the Protestant Cemetery in Bangkok and other places in Thailand, but no-one, including himself, expected him to be buried at the Protestant Cemetery this year.

Flemming was a dedicated board member, but in his own way. His focus was not the crayfish parties, but the heritage and to preserve the Protestant Cemetery as a Scandinavian heritage site. Furthermore, his focus was the 100 year anniversary of SSS in 2020.

Another focus was to arranged meetings and excursions to places of special historical interests, but he never forgot the children. An excursion should be open for families, including children. However, he was not able to participate in his last excursion to the Thai-Danish Farm due to some other kind of sickness.

Now, Flemming is gone, and we pray that he may rest in peace.

SSS was co-sponsor at the funeral rites on 26. January 2014 at Wat Lad Prao temple.

Robert Kronberg
Chairman

Photos by:
Claus Gundersen
Disraporn Yatprom





FOR ALL YOUR RELOCATION NEEDS

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE

- International relocation
- Domestic relocation
- Insurance coverage
- Pet relocation
- Customs clearance
- Storage

CALL 08 9923 9120
OR EMAIL
ERIK@BLUFOXRELOCATION.COM



Erik Dahlström
Managing Director
Thailand | Singapore