

MARCH 2015

The Scandinavian

Bulletin

SSS Garden Party



Skandinavisk Samfund Siam
Scandinavian Society Siam



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Chairman's Message



Christer Holmvall
Chairman
Scandinavian Society Siam

Dear Members of Scandinavian Society Siam,

Winter seems to almost have passed. The temperatures keep rising and we have the hot and sticky season coming up followed by the wonderful rainy season.

Since the last Bulletin went out, we have had a few events.

The first was the Christmas Mingle with a Service from the Swedish Priest which was very well attended. Snacks and refreshments were served.

We also held a Balut evening in January. It was lots of fun so you whom didn't go missed a very fun night.

The biggest event we had was the Garden Party graciously hosted by the Danish Ambassador. Black Mountain was the main sponsor and the beer was generously sponsored by Carlsberg. The event was attended by almost 90 people This is the largest amount to ever attend the event.

The Danish Ambassador said it was the best event he had ever held at his residence. Feedback from other guests indicated also that it was the best SSS event they had ever been to. Great food, wine and beer was served and the guests danced into the night.

We have some events coming up which you should block the dates for in your calendars:

- SSS Golf Event Black Mountain Hua Hin – March 21st
- AGM Meeting – April 23rd
- Boat Cruise to Dinner by the River
- Cray Fish Party – September 26th
- Historical Street Walk – November 1st

There are also of course several SSS Golf events – and you can follow the schedule at www.zabagolf.com

We are also going to send out a survey very soon (you may have seen it already once you receive the Bulletin).

We greatly want to get your feedback as to what you like/dislike as an SSS member and what you would like to see going forward. Please help and fill this out so that we can create events that you, the members wish to attend.

Also – if you wish to get more involved with SSS – such as joining the board, helping organize events etc – please let us know as your help is always welcome.

We thank you for being members of the society.

Please also feel free to contact us in case you would like for us to help in an event or if you have desires for specific types of events.

Please don't forget to visit www.sss.or.th and also www.facebook.com/scandinaviansocietysiam for further updates.

Enjoy the hot and humid season and hope to see you at the AGM April 23rd

Christer Holmvall
Chairman

Garden party at Danish Ambassador's Residence

By Thordur Adalsteinsson
Photos by Claus Gundersen

This year Scandinavian Siam Society Garden Party was held on the 21 February in the Danish Embassy Enchanted Garden.

It surely is an awesome experience to enter this beautiful Garden at late afternoon with the sunset coming down over Sathorn high-rises. The band stage and large dinner tables with the white covers and table cloth give hint at what to expect. The huge Scandinavian inspired Buffet provided by Grand Millennium in stylish manner with well dressed waiters.

While we were taking in the lustrous scene on arrival the nice waiters came and offered us refreshments. It was time to mingle and catch up and chat with known and new faces. The turnout this year was great with about 90 people and confirms that the SSS Garden Party is here to stay.

We hear some exotic bird singing coming across the garden not a familiar sound that you hear in Thailand, what is this bird sound many asked but we could not see it. Then suddenly a large Peacock male bird jumps on the roof of the residency house in the garden and sang out an even louder call, as if he was letting us all know this is his place and we are all welcome but better just behave.

Our dear Christer Holmvall SSS chairman took the stage to announce the party has started and to thank our generous Platinum sponsor Black Mountain Golf Club Hua Hin and Carlsberg for providing us with free flow of beer. Christer called Mikael Hemniti Winther the Danish Ambassador to the stage to thank him for receiving us here at the Beautiful Embassy Garden. Mikael came to the stage and made us feel welcome and honored with his kind words. Mikael invited us all to take the seats and get ready to attack the Buffet.

The Scandinavian inspired Buffet had everything we could hope for with great fusion mix of seafood, salads and luxury desserts.

The classic Rock and Roll band Peter Driscoll and The Cruisers jumped to the stage and in one swoop the dance floor was filled with tunes and people where dancing as there was no tomorrow.

Some rumors started to emerged between tables that our host is a formidable guitar player and can hold a good tune. Mikael was of course called to stage and given a guitar. He showed quickly that these rumors are more than true. With great guitar play and thick blues voice he sang the night away.





Golf REPORT

By Lars Andersson

2015 has started off with a lot of golf. Not only have we had quite a few SSS tournaments but there are also plenty of fun and rewarding charity tournaments during the first months of the year. As most of these tournaments are played in the format of scramble, it's a nice break from our very serious SSS tournaments where everything is depending on your personal abilities of the day. Maybe it is all this tournaments but this season is actually quite exciting with a lot of different winners and good putters, so everything is still open.

In January we played the ever so popular Swedish Golf Day. As usual we played this tournament at Vintage Golf and Country Club. This year with the main sponsors being Pecunia and SAAB. A special, very valuable price, was also provided by 137 Pillars House in Chiang Mai, through Christoffer Stafford. Pelle Pettersson, playing on handicap 9, won the A-group with a difficult to beat 41 points. He was followed by Jan Hammarlund with 38 points and Petcharat Jiambutr with 36 points. The B-group saw slightly lower scores with John Andersson and Flemming Heide, both on 37 points, and with John taking the victory thanks to a lower handicap. Also the winner of the C-group had more than 36 points with Chonlada Chankaew's 39 points.

The Swedish Golf Day was followed by Dr. Ammundsen Memorial Cup 2015, which this year was sponsored by our mother organization SSS and as tradition dictates played at Suphapruek Golf Club. Since Dr. Einar Ammundsen initiated this event it has always been popular, and this was the 44th tournament in his name. To allow non-golfers to participate, at least partly, in this historic SSS event the dinner after the hard golfing was as usual held in the city. Proud winner of the A-group was Staffan Lyrenstam on net 67, followed by Filip Karlsson on net 72 and Mikael Olsson on net 73. Staffan has had a very good row of tournaments but soon I guess his handicap will catch up with his game. Leo Alexandersen took the victory in the B-group on net 73 with an amazing 24 putts, and the C-group was won by Bengt Strand on 81 net. Kristian Wensell managed to get nearest pin on 2 holes, and I only wished he had been using those skills when we played the Rotary tournament a couple of weeks later.

We actually managed to squeeze in one more tournament in February, the Mama Golf, which was played at Royal Golf and Country Club. This was obviously a tougher challenge with only one player getting 36 points or over. Here Juha Saarinen took the victory in the A-group with 34 points, playing on 2 in handicap and a very decent gross score of 77. Actually, only four players managed a gross score under 90! The B-group victory ended up with Kenneth Hovmoller on 35 points, and Sami Jänne took the B-group victory with an amazing 38 points. Maybe everyone was playing on Noodle golf balls?

There are still a few tournaments left this season and even if Kenneth Hovmoller has a clear lead with 40 points in the MVP league, there are plenty of people with 30 points (John Andersson) or a bit less than that (Filip Karlsson and Juha Saarinen e.g.). So we are looking forward to an exciting finale. It's tight also in the putting league, where both Kristian Wensell and Sverre Haug has a 30.8 average. Not far behind with 31.8 we find Kenneth Hovmoller and then - the big surprise of the year - Christian Stenhammar with 32.2. Traditionally we call a put that's not so good, a Stenhammar. Maybe it's time to change that...





Invitation to **Annual General Meeting 2015**

The Board of the Scandinavian Society Siam requests the pleasure of your attendance at the 96th. Annual General Meeting of Scandinavian Society Siam.

When: Thursday 23. April 2015

Where: Rembrandt Hotel 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 for the dinner.

To participate in the dinner we request you to kindly inform Treasurer Mr. Claus Gundersen – clausgundersen@gmail.com – no later than 19. April 2015.

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

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

Meeting documents:

The Minutes from the Annual General Meeting in 2014 are attached.

The audited accounts will be sent to you no later than 3 days prior to the meeting.

Bylaws can be downloaded from here: [SSS_Bylaws](#)

The Board of Scandinavian Society Siam



WESTERN SET MENU

APPETIZER

Smoked salmon with avocado,
preserved lemon salsa and crisp breads.

SOUP

Home style leek and
potato with shredded chicken.

MAIN DISH

Herb coated pork medallions,
sautéed potato with a shallot-dijon mustard cream sauce.

DESSERT

Cream white chocolate mousse with
green cardamom and a raspberry coulis.

Minutes from the **95th Annual General Meeting**

The Scandinavian Society Siam
23 April 2014, 19:00
Rembrandt Hotel, Bangkok

By Gregers Moller

Board members present:

Mr. Robert Kronberg, Chairman

Mr. Thordur Adelsteinson, Website and Bulletin
Mrs. Christina Hammarlund, Membership Secretary
Mr. Lars Andersson (Substitute), Golf Section Liaison
Mr. Knut Hauslo, Substitute

Board members absent:

Mr. Claus Gundersen, Treasurer
Mr. Flemming Winther Nielsen, Heritage Section

Members present:

36 members joined the event and /or the following dinner

Agenda

1. Election of Chairman of the Annual General Meeting
2. Approval of the minutes from last year's Annual General Meeting
3. Approval of the Societys activities the last year
4. Approval of the audited accounts
5. Discussions on proposals of changes in the Bylaws
6. Discussions on other proposals (none received)
7. Election of Chairman of the Board
8. Election of four members and two substitutes to the Board
9. Election of Auditor and substitute Auditor
10. Proposals of activities for the following year
11. Other matters

1. Election of a Chairman for the AGM.

Gregers Moller was proposed as Chairman and the meeting approved. He scrutinized the evidence and concluded that the AGM had been called in accordance with the bylaws.

2. Approval of the Minutes from the 94th AGM.

The minutes were approved.

3. Approval of the Society's activities the last year

Robert Kronberg asked for permission to go through the financial result together with the activities as they were linked.

GM replied that a voting would have to take place separately but otherwise it was OK if nobody else had remarks.



Robert Kronberg then talked about the AGM in April last year, the Viking party in May, the reception for Kristian Boe as Honorary Member, the Wine tasting in September, the Crayfish party in October, the excursion to the Danish dairy in Muak Lek, the golf introduction day in December, the Christmas Service reception, and finally the Garden Party in January.

From the floor there were requests to explain what sponsorship income was. It was income related to sponsorship of one event, the Crayfish party.

Erik Dahlstrom requested a set of dates as early as possible. He otherwise encouraged the board to keep the existing events, but boost the marketing of the Garden Party.

Horst Wiezorreck, a new member, suggested charging more for non-members to participate.

As part of the Chairman's report, Christina Hammarlund reported on the state of the membership base. She noted that in 1920 there had been 67 Danish members. Today there were 128 Swedish members, 100 Danish, 35 Norwegian, 15 Finnish members, 5 Thais, 2 Icelandic, one Spanish, one Dutch and 1 Belgian. On the date of the AGM, 41 were yet unpaid, she added.

Thordur Adelsteinson reported on the media side that his 1st priority had been top establish the current website in WordPress which any successor could easily update. As for events, the Society used mainly Facebook to spread the invitations as well as direct email and ScandMail.

Erik Dahlstrom asked if the Society could be more generous with reminders. Marianne Klerk asked if Facebook was such a good idea since it did not work as good before and Horst Wiezorreck suggested issuing an email newsletter.

Thordur said he personally felt the distribution of Bulletin by postal mail four times per year was sufficient along with the electronic media.

The Golf section was presented by Erik Dahlstrom. The section had in average 60 – 80 participants for their tournament. The largest event was the 2 day SAAB / SEB tournament in Hua Hin. The section relies heavily on where and what events their sponsors prefer to support.



Gregers Moller presented the activities of the Heritage Section. The section had completed the restoration project for the Danish graves, which was also supported by the Danish EAC. The trip to Muak Lek had been another highlight of the year. He briefed on the death of Flemming Winther Nielsen, and said he had promised to take on the activities for the coming year.

Finally, the Chairman's report with all the sub-reports were approved by show of hands.

The Treasurer's report was likewise approved following comments by the Auditor Eric Hallin. He said that everything was so correct in the accounts that "he wished he could make treasurer Claus Gundersen his own staff."

4. Proposals for changes of the ByLaws

Gregers Moller went through the changes proposed that had been distributed along with the invitation. Claus Gundersen who had been in charge of establishing the new set of Articles of Association in connection with the legalization of the Society confirmed that changing of the By-Laws was simply a consequential adjustment.

The members voted by show of hand for bringing the two sets in harmony and the show of hands were well over the required two thirds of the members.

5. Other proposals

As no other proposals had been tabled, the Annual General Meeting proceeded to electing the Chairman and the Board for the following year.

6. Election of Chairman

Christer Holmvall was proposed by the outgoing Chairman as his successor. No other person was proposed from the floor. Christer Holmvall was elected as new Chairman for 2014 – 2015. He gave later during the ensuing dinner a short speech about himself and thanked for the election.

7. Election of four members and two substitutes to the Board

Robert Kronberg nominated and the floor approved of the following composition:

Mr. Claus Gundersen
Mr. Thordur Adalsteinson
Mrs. Christina Hammarlund
Mrs. Savija Korslund

Mr Knut Hauslo
Mr. Lars Andersson

8. Election of Auditor and substitute

Eric Hallin was reelected auditor and Gregers Moller substitute auditor

9. Proposal of activities for the coming year.

No serious proposals were brought up – except a bicycle trip to Ayutthaya

10. Other matter

Robert Kronberg motivated the election of recently departed Flemming Winther Nielsen as Member of the Year in recognition of his outstanding efforts to highlight the role of Scandinavian Society Siam and custodian of our historical Scandinavian heritage in Thailand.

Eric Dahlstrom motivated the election of Flemming Heide as a Golfer of the year. Prize is an honourable position given to a person who has been a good friend and well liked by all the golfers. Flemming Heide had also sponsored the Sherwin Williams cup.

Closing remarks

Gregers Moller thanked the members for good conduct during the meeting. He also thanked Robert Kronberg for his two year as Chairman of the Society – a period in which the SSS had "consolidated itself and confirmed its position as a stable player among the social organizations for Scandinavians in Thailand."

After the AGM, a dinner was served in the Red Pepper Restaurant on the 2nd floor of Rembrandt Hotel.



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