



Charter Granted 7 August 1961

SOUTH WIND

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH



The Crowne Plaza Bangkok Lumpini Park Hotel, 952 Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10500 Thailand
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Meetings:
Friday
12.15 pm.

President Michael Schulz
President Elect Michael Doyle
Immediate Past President Nick Pisalyaput
Vice President Dean Outerson • **Vice President** Dana Caron
Secretary Vitool Tantianunanont • **Fund Raising** Douglas Riach • **Treasurer** Nathan Christoff
Communications Tim Cornwall • **Administration** Stuart Lucani • **Service Projects** Chris Thatcher
Rotary Foundation Rakesh Sodhia • **Sergeant-at-Arms** Adrian Topham

Christian Brunner
International Red Cross, its link to International Law and National Red Cross Societies

No 2526

4 April 2014

Carrado Jay Boccia **Jim Thompson - The Mystery**

Jim Thompson, the famous ex OSS operative and savior of the Thai silk industry went for a walk in the Cameron Highlands of Malaysia in March 1967 and was never seen again.

Jay Boccia is making a film about his life and disappearance.

So the talk was only half about the mystery, and half about the film, which should be filmed in 2015 and released sometime in 2016.

Jay does not claim to have solved the mystery, enough people have claimed that already, but he claims to present a reasoned and credible explanation. It will not be a documentary but, like the successful film "Argo", will be entertainment in which crucial facts conform to what we believe to be reality.

And he is NOT revealing what that credible explanation may be. We have to wait for the film. Though there were clues.



JT was no friend to the CIA, successor to his OSS. He disapproved of their use of the heroin trade to finance covert operations in SE Asia, he was not at all sure the US had picked the right son-of-a-bitches to support in the war, and he made no secret of those opinions. Which both Jay and I think made him a bad insurance risk.

But Jay also thought JT had annoyed the French

by preventing them from expanding their zone of influence into Thailand and could have been in danger as a result of that too. Which I cannot understand. Of course the French are devious and generally up to no good, but in the 1950's in SE Asia they were struggling, and failing, to even hang on to what they had. In 1954 they withdrew completely. So hardly in a position to be aggressive. Objectionable yes, but not aggressive.

And funnily Jay saw the Thai government of the time as no danger to JT, saying the Thais had always assisted him (Jay) in his research though the US

and France had been less cooperative. Which may be the case now, but as a close friend of Pridi Banomyong and a mover in high political circles in Thailand, JT was unlikely ever to have been trusted by the military leaders of Thailand at that time.

Jay said the Thais were protecting JT. But qui custodiet ipsos custodes?

So most books to date have followed William Warren (*Jim Thompson the unsolved mystery*) who in 1970 already suspected the Americans, or Joshua Kurlantzick (*The ideal man*) who in 2011 said to have died on the orders of the CIA for being anti-war.

But my vote, based on no evidence at all except the fact that I like the conclusion, goes to Dr Edward Roy de Souza who in "Solved! The mysterious disappearance of Jim Thompson" published in 2010 also, claims that JT just "disappeared" himself! Tired, discouraged and worried about his unsure future, he said "what the hell", used his tradecraft to disappear, re-appear somewhere else, as someone else, and start again.

Maybe Tahiti. Perhaps together with Elvis. I like that.

Article by John Quarmby



@rotarybkkouth



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Flashback



Serious discussions going on this week



Rtn Jon had fun collecting the funds



Rtn Poul won the whiskey, but it was then bought by our Visitor Lars



The True Taste of Real Coffee





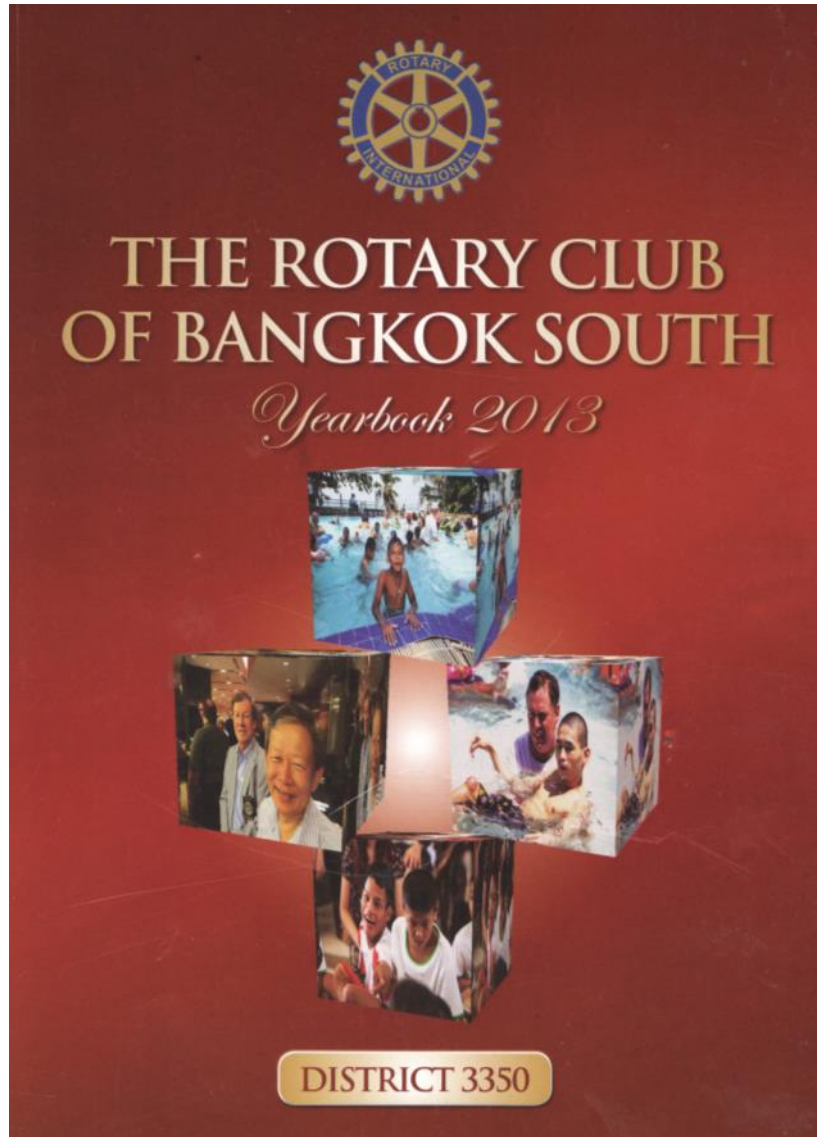
Installation Handbook 2014

It is that time of year again as we begin to think about one board leaving us and fading into the annals of BS history and another springing into action to lead us bravely into the future.

To help us celebrate this 52-year Bangkok South Rotary Club tradition, book your spot in history by adding your name, your company or your greetings to our.

INSTALLATION HANDBOOK 2014

Back Cover	30,000 Baht
Inside Front Cover	24,000 Baht
Inside Back Cover	20,000 Baht
Full Page	15,000 Baht
Half Page	8,500 Baht
Quarter page	5,000 Baht



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Khun Khob's Club Almanac # 2526 – 4 April 2014

Happy Birthdays

Prasert Mangkornkarn April 5

Attendance for 28 March 2014: 60%

Present 40, Make-up 9, Absent 33, Exemption 27, Total 109

Visiting on 28 March 2014

From Abroad

Brian O'Rourke

John Chirgwin

Stuart Wilson

RC South Surrey, BC, Canada

RC Matha's Vineyard, USA

RC South Surrey, BC, Canada

From Local

AG Ateeb Maskati

Pascal Butel

RC Bangkok

RC Bangkok

Invited Guests:

David Shackleton

Dylan Jenkins

Gerard McNeill

Lars Hansen

Prae Piromya

Rogan Earp-Jones

Introduced by:

Colin Hastings

Ron Livingston

Stuart Baker

P Michael Schulz

IPP Nick Pisalyaput

Stuart Lucani

Recent Makeups:

RC Phnom Penh, 24/03/14: Arie Bloed, Chip Bowness

RC Bangkok, 25/03/14: PP Mark Butters, PP Narinder Sachdev, Patrick Gauvain

Makeup credits

Battambang Visit, 21-23/03/14: Arie Bloed, Carol Kuhn, Chip Bowness

Incoming Board, 24/03/14:

Doug Riach, John Casella,

Jon Plate, Krin Charnmaytesakul, PE Mike Doyle, PN

Narain Suradejvibul, Rakesh Sodhia, Ron Livingston,

Stuart Lucani



Club Calendar

Friday, 11 April 2014 – Luncheon
Classification Interviews

Friday, 18 April 2014
No Luncheon

Friday, 25 April 2014 – Luncheon
Andrew Durieux
ASEAN 2015 –
is it all its made out to be

Special Dates to Remember

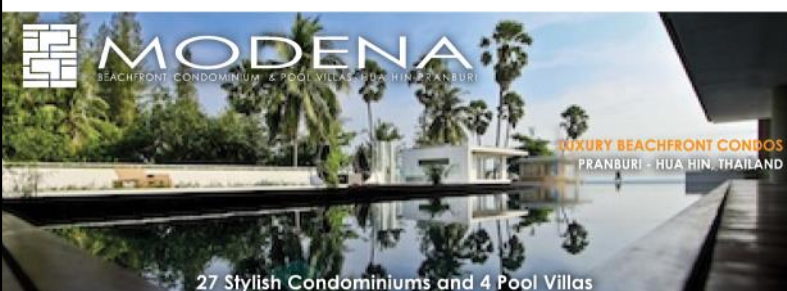
Saturday, 28 June 2014
Installation Ball
Dusit Thani Hotel

For Bangkok South Events

[rotarybangkoksouth.org
/calendar-of-events](http://rotarybangkoksouth.org/calendar-of-events)



P Michael and AG Ateeb are all smiles.



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