

## Association News

Exeter Association of Thailand Newsletter  
November 2007, volume 4

### **An Evening at Kasikornbank Celebration along the Banks of the Chao Pray**

The Exeter Association of Thailand's President Khun Banthoon Lamsam'71 hosted a beautiful Exeter Reception at Kasikornbank's main headquarters November 4, 2007, 6-8:30 pm.

Over 80 of alumni and potential students joined with their families for the two headlined events: an overview of the Exeter admissions process presented by Michael Gary, Director of Admissions, and a spectacular riverside evening for guests along the banks of the Chao Praya River.

Guests marveled at the beautiful setting, wonderful orchestra, full array of food and perfectly cool weather. Indeed Khun Banthoon had arranged the perfect evening, and guest stayed long after asking questions and meeting new and old friends. Our thanks to Khun Banthoon for hosting such a wonderful event!

PEA had a wonderful and diverse team out in force meeting with alumni in Bangkok throughout the week.

Michael Gary, Director of Admissions  
Harold Brown Jr. '74, Director of Alumni/ae Affairs,  
Rebecca Dunham '39 (Hon.), Senior Philanthropic Advisor



**Thailand association event November 2007**

## Regional Contacts

**Association President**  
Khun Banthoon Lamsam '71

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Khun Prasong Sukhum '49

**Primary point of contact  
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## President's Initiatives

This website and newsletter was created at the suggestion of our Association President Khun Banthoon. Within the year, we have had tremendous success at drawing our membership to events, and keeping us informed. We would now like to progress on another of Khun Banthoon's initiatives, a membership directory. Please send us your photo to be included in the directory. Photos should be emailed to [Exeter.thailand@gmail.com](mailto:Exeter.thailand@gmail.com)

We need you to help update your contact information, and spread the word to other alumni/ae and parents. Read on...

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**Exeter Association of Thailand plans to present a Thai Teak Harkness Table to the Academy**

We are pleased to announce plans for a wonderful gift from our Thai membership to Phillips Exeter Academy. This past year, Exeter celebrated its 75th year of the Harkness gift to the Academy. In tribute to that, at the annual reception held November 4, 2007, Khun Banthoon Lamsam announced plans to raise funds from our membership to present a Thai teak Harkness Table and 12 chairs to Exeter Academy.

Parents of Daraga 'Noon' Tanchookiat '2010, Khun Prapas and Khun Churailuck Tanchookiat have been working with Exeter throughout these last few months on construction of this very special project/.

Many alumni have agreed to participate in this unique gift that will be a wonderful piece of Thailand at the Academy for years to come. Let us know as soon as possible if you want to join us.



**Khun Banthoon announcing the Harkness Table project**



**Alumni gather to make donations towards the Thai teak table**

**Nine students at Phillips Exeter Academy with Ties to Thailand**

We would like to congratulate the nine students currently at the Academy and welcome the students and their parents to our broader Thai community!

Alex Bhasavanich Sharon Cox and Dr. Don Bhasavanich from school in California, Thai father

William Ang, Jr. William & Autchariyawadee (Nok) Ang from New Hampshire, Thai mother

Daraga 'Noon' Tanchookiat '2010 Prapas & Churailuck Tanchookiat second year at Exeter, now a lower

Wishcha 'Geng' Ngarmboonanant '2011 Vitoon and Krongkarn Ngarmboonanant

Plub Chutapatr Laothamatas '2010 Mr. Charoen & Dr. Usanee Laothamatas

Thamolwan 'Wan' Surakiatchanukul '2008 Suthi & Supaporn Surakiatchanukul King's scholar

Kanokwan 'Fon' Kulalert '2008 Rangson & Yupadee Kulalert King's scholar

Adisa Kruayatidee (whose parents are in CA but both Thai) Chanthana and Somard Kruayatidee

Naricha 'Nari' Savanorke-Joyce '11 (Thai mother) Mr. Richard H. Joyce & Nuntana 'Nok' Savanorke P'11

## **Thai students organize a Thai food Booth for International Day**

*By Wishcha (Geng) Ngarmboonanant '2011*

Ten o'clock strikes on the morning of Sunday September 30th. Three Thai Exonians, Noon, Plub, and I, head over to the Wetherell Kitchen to skewer our chickens for the traditional Thai satay. Arriving there, we see other members of the International Day Food Committee busy working on their own traditional delicacies. We enter our section of the kitchen, and Ms. Trueman, the International Day Food Coordinator, helps us locate the frozen chickens, and with the support of Upper Paul Ko and the chef, we finally complete the task of placing chickens on oil surfaced trays and baking them in an oven. We were ready.

One o'clock rings from the Academy bell, and we are joined by the two Thai King scholars, Wan and Fon, and also a half-Thai Prep called Nari. Together, we arrange our Thai food, which consisted of PadThai and Thai Iced Tea, which were from the local Thai restaurant PanThai II, in addition to our homemade chicken satays. At this time, Exonians started to gather around the Wetherell quad; International Day 2007 had officially begun.

From the quick accumulation of Exonians at one o'clock to the subtle dispersing at four, the Thai Food Booth was an immense success; the eight full-sized trays of PadThai and Satay were all finished, and the Thai Iced Tea container dry to the last drop. Some of our teachers came and praised us on our willpower, persistence, and the taste of the dishes. Fellow classmates who stopped by our table even helped with the sales and advertised our booth to the whole community, either by personally persuading a peer, or announcing to the crowd that Thai food was available to the part of the Quad nearest to Phillips Hall. To add to the array of activities, Wan and Nari wore traditional Thai dresses and beckoned Exonians to come indulge in our food.

All in all, when the four o'clock bell signified the end of International Day 2007, the feelings of stress, excitement, and responsibility while organizing the Thai Food Booth and sharing the dishes with the Exeter community was priceless. I had learned many different lessons and all in all, had quite a tremendous experience. This event taught me about cooking and organizing a small business for one day. Most importantly, though, it played its part in uniting the Thais that were originally separated by grades, interests, or simply long distances on the Exeter campus.

International Day 2007 had been a true Thai effort, and Noon and I have decided to continue Thai connections at Phillips Exeter by creating a Thai Society. The profits that were gained at International Day from the persistence and determination of the Thais will become the starting club fund for our society. We believe that this society will support Thai Exonians, present and future.

## **Thai local offers support at Exeter**

Naricha Savanorke-Joyce (Nari) is currently a prep at Exeter and her mother Nuntana Savanorke (Nok), who lives nearby has kindly offered be a resource to any students and/or parents who are attending Exeter or visiting the school. Please write Sally for Khun Nok's email address.

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## **PEA calls on Khun Prasong Sukhum**

Khun Prasong Sukhum '1949 hosted the visiting Exeter team at his home Novmeber 6th. He reminisced about his trip to the Academy, a harrowing 2 month journey on a vessel. His father was also one of the Academy's first Thai students, so they put him in the same dorm room that his father stayed in. Khun Prasong, as Senior Advirsor, has played a key role in helping make our Thailand Association active.

Did you know that Sukhumvit Road is named after Khun Prasong's father?

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## Ties To Thailand

From just last year, we have expanded and updated our membership list to over 110 persons. If you know of any people with a Thai connection, not already receiving emails from [Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com](mailto:Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com), please tell them to write us and add their information to our database. If you know people, parents perhaps, that don't have email, could you please send us their general contact information?

We need help getting more of our past Thai scholars registered and contact information for their parents.

### History of Thailand Ties to the Academy

We are working on a project for the Thailand Association to gather the history and profiles of our most senior alums for our records. They will be profiled in future newsletters and available to read off the Academy's web link to our site.

This will be a wonderful history and memories of Thailand's most early ties to the Academy.

If you would like to participate, write a few paragraphs or pages about the alum, and his experiences/memories of his time at Phillips Exeter Academy, and also send in pictures from that time at school. Please send it to us at [Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com](mailto:Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com) Thank you.

Please help us keep your own record up-to-date. You can update your contact information in the online directory at the Exeter Alumni website (<http://phillips.exeter.edu/>) and send us your updates to [Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com](mailto:Exeter.Thailand@gmail.com)



## Parents' Program : Send off for new students

Over 30 people gathered together on Wednesday night, June 6, 2007 at the Bangkok Club, Sathorn City Tower for the Exeter Association of Thailand dinner to congratulate again to the four newest members of Phillips Exeter Academy ~ Kanokwan 'Fon' Kulalert, Thamolwan 'Wan' Surakiatchanukul, Chukapatr 'Plub' Laothamatas & Wishcha 'Geng' Ngarmboonanant. Fon and Wan will be post graduates sponsored by the King's Scholar program, Plub will be a lower and Geng will be a prep. We wish you all well.

We were also celebrating the graduation of Chanya 'Ping' Punyakumpol who had just arrived back in Thailand from her Exeter graduation. Ping will be going to Stanford University this fall. Daraga 'Noon' was so helpful in telling the incoming students about what to expect of life at Exeter.

It was indeed a great turnout for an event! We all took turns introducing ourselves and our families and sharing our Exeter experiences. We hope this network provides new students and young alumni some support during your year at Exeter.

Thank you!

We want to thank our hosts for the evening, Khun Prasong & Ammon Owlarn, and Khun Prapas & Churailuck Tanchookiat, parents of Exeter students Thiti 'Foo' Owlarn '06 & Daraga 'Noon' Tanchookiat 2010 for their warm hospitality. This is one of the Owlarn family's first initiatives to promote greater awareness of the Parents' Program with the parents for our current and past students. Their kind invitation, sent out to our Thai parents, was warmly received.



Exeter Thailand June 2007 new students reception

## Thai Tidbit : Thai food at Exeter, New Hampshire

Did you know that Exeter now is home to a Thai restaurant? Anyone longing for pad thai can go to Pan Thai II Restaurant located on the corner of Portsmouth Ave and Main Street.

## Exeter Association in Thailand and the World

There are forty-seven regional associations worldwide, ranging in size from fifty to over three thousand members. All regional associations are bound together by a common commitment to the following broad purposes:

1. To strengthen and expand the involvement, commitment, and tie of alumni/ae, parents, and friends to the Academy
2. To initiate and encourage activities which further an ongoing relationship between Exeter and its regional constituency and promote the best interests of the Academy
3. To increase attendance at events, with an emphasis on first-time alumni/ae event attendees
4. To enlist the service and support of alumni/ae, parents, and friends in the following areas:
  - admissions
  - communications
  - fundraising
  - public relations

**GAA Secretary Sally Jutabha Michaels '82  
attends Alumni Council weekend, September 2007**



**Picture of Khun Sally with some of our Thai students**

**Ideas for a regional Phillips Exeter Academy event**

The Exeter Association of Thailand includes alumni from Bangladesh, Laos PDR, Pakistan and Vietnam in our outreach. With frequent travel in the region, many alumni no doubt come through Bangkok often. Please let us know if you would like to have your name added to our list to be informed of our activities.

David Fernandez '83, President of the Exeter Association of Singapore, Debbie Pang Hung '82 of Hong Kong group, and Steve Lin of Tokyo have all offered to work with us to support a regional event with the Academy.

We'd love to hear from alumni who have ideas or suggestions regarding what might be a draw for our alumni group.

**The Exeter Association of Thailand**

**Khun Banthoon Lamsam, '71 President**  
**Khun Prasong Sukhum, '49 Senior Advisor**  
**Sally Jutabha Michaels, '82 Club Secretary**