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THAI GUYS
the gay newsletter

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in Silom branch of Bangkok Bank
Thai Guys is published 10 times a year and distributed in most major gay venues in Thailand.
All models featured in Thai Guys are at least 21 years old.
The inclusion of photos of persons or their mentioning in text is not necessarily an indication of sexual preference or orientation.

BBB group info: DREAM BOY
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Dear Ms. Connie,

I was on a shopping trip down the main drag of Tegucigalpa (don’t you just love that name) with my friend, Barb (she only writes her name in the small case because of some internal lesbian code that I’m not privy to). We were looking for some hand woven throw rugs to accessorize my sofa back in Tampa Bay. As we were strolling along, I noticed some extremely dusky denizens with coal black eyes, leering provocatively in the vestibules of the few shops we passed. The men of Honduras span an amazing variety, some very Indian looking from the mountains not far away, some of mixed race with a Spanish and African motif, and then the mestizo, who are mixed Indian and European with all of the variations, that mix produces. Even the Indians here are so dark and oval-eyed that if their ancestors did come across that mythical land bridge which connected North America and Asia millennia ago, their features seemed to have long ago evolved away from their ancient Asian lineage. They now have an appearance which is totally unique to them, big boned and brazenly unapparent.

Anyway, Barb saw me surveying some of the more hulch specimens squatting along our route. And I must add, in their tendency to wear loose white cotton pants without underwear, it is quite difficult to keep one’s mind on the weft and weave of local textiles. So on occasion in our perusal of the stalls, I might have become a bit tremulous and short of breath, confronting these roughshaven men of the forest, lounging provocatively along our route, their home spun stretched to bursting across his pendulous chichi. Granted I wasn’t as focused on our search for textiles as I might possibly have been, to the point where Barb, restraining herself no longer, berated me vociferously in front of one of these silent stallions, because she was sure “I was the biggest ripe queen that had ever walked.” And what was I doing looking at these Indians for?

Ms. Connie, this was an extremely hurtful comment which rendered the remainder of our afternoon, tedious to say the least. But it does get to the meat of the matter of my letter. When Barb accused me of being an incorrigible “rice queen”, I protested vehemently. Our discussions thereafter over our next few days in Tegucigalpa did not advance our friendship. She could never seem to leave this designation of my sexual tastes alone, and I employed a few terms like “bull dyke”, “lipstick lesbian” and “labia licker” as well as other epithets which I used only to advance my self-defense. As you might understand, I had to defend myself against this denunciation, Ms. Connie, because I regard myself as being a sexual universalist. I do not restrict my tastes or attractions only to Asians as the term “rice queen” seems to imply. My tastes can be excited in the most unlikely places, even as I have demonstrated, in Tegucigalpa. I actually do not like this tendency of many gay men, especially the ones I know in Bangkok and Pattaya, where I spend half my year, to call themselves “rice queens”. I don’t like the expression, and for me it is a mindless designation that perpetuates stereotypes gay men and lesbians have been fighting to overcome for centuries. And now they too indulge in this vacuous “name-calling”.

Anyway, my forthright self-defense got Barb all upset. She even accused me of being a “dyke-hag”, can you imagine? This was her twist on the expression “fag-hag” because she claimed that I only hung out with butch lesbians because of my insecurities over my masculinity. This almost made me hang up my Ralph Lauren khaki I had especially designed for our expedition, along the lines of the outfit worn by Katherine Hepburn in “Asian Queen”. Barb would insist on sheathing her butcher out to effect a Bogart look which made us look an odd duo during our forays through the Honduran capital. But try as I may, I was unable to get Barb to accept that my sexual tastes are not those of the “rice queen”; Would she believe that I truly do not like this tendency for gay men to designate their sexual tastes with such quasi-racial language? No she would not. She even brought up “Thai Guys” because she knows I am a subscriber, and claimed it is nothing more than a “cheap little rag that only down and out rice queens would buy.” This was too much.

Ms. Connie, and all she did was laugh when I told her that Thai Guys was not for sale, because in Bangkok it is distributed free of charge. Her derisive cackle is still ringing in my ears.

I am at my wit’s end. Ms. Connie, Barb and I have been hanging out for over twenty years. She is one of my dearest friends. I put up with her silliness over her girls and their “Dykes on Bikes” motorcycle forays into the Everglades on “camping trips”, may I wheeze in Heaven. Did I make snide comments when she got pumped up because her softball team won the county women’s softball trophy. So why will she not accept that I, like some of us, resent being typed “rice queens” just because we have had Asian boyfriends on occasion or we subscribe to Thai Guys. So please help me with some arguments which will allow me to rescue the friendship I have with Barb. How do you feel if someone calls you a rice queen, Ms. Connie? Do you accept that description or do you take exception to it?

Yours truly,

Mabel Stittup
Tampa Bay, Florida

Dear Mabel,

Ms. Connie will probably reap the ire of her many loyal readers when she comes out emphatically against the expression “rice queen” to define yours or anyone else’s sexual tastes. We could all continue to giggle over our Tom Collins on a Sunday afternoon at Babylon and comment the hours away perusing the gorgeous asses of the boys gambling about the pool, and never take this dialogue seriously. But it is a debate which Ms. Connie has often entered into. She takes particular exception to those who describe themselves...
as “incorrigible rice queens” often with a look of disdain for anyone else who might actually claim an attraction for men from other racial groups. “But oh my God, they’ve got hair”!!!

Expatriates living in Thailand are walking on extremely thin ice and any of Ms. Connie’s readers who are reading this from offshore should realize some important aspects of the local crowd who claim they live in Thailand because they are “rice queens” and couldn’t possibly live anywhere else. In Ms. Connie’s experience, few expatriates living here know a good “dialogue” over “issues” unless it involves punctuating their main points with liberal baptisms of beer over the heads of those they disagree with. There is an unfortunate expression of pride which many of local expatriates effect: “I am here and know so much” and you who only come to these sacred shores for a two week dalliance in December are not worthy of my attention, much less taking your observations about the local scene seriously. This attitude is especially prevalent among the crowd who can’t even order Tom Yam Gung or ask their maid to clean the shower stall in Thai, (and as a result have a spotless toilet but calcium buildup in their tubs). Nevertheless these wonders still claim to be resident experts on how to deal with the nuances of gay love in Thailand because they have some acquired facility with the special mentality of bar boys. And if asked the reason for their prolonged stay in the Land of Smiles, they will on occasion use that tired excuse of being “rice queens” which is supposed to end the discussion because they could not possibly satisfy their tastes anywhere other than Asia, and Thailand has to be “paradise”. But this also means they have to go with boys who are “potato queens” unless their tastes run to “rice kings” and then it is only a matter of time before their “rice king” goes home to “rice wife” and the “rice queen” has to start searching all over again for the next serving of “instant rice”.

Ms. Connie, after an extensive survey of the pulchritudinous Russets that float on aching knees along the sands of Jomtien, must correct their self-designation as “rice queens”. There is a regal aspect to being a “queen”. And the young things that swarm around these gargantuan spuds, should not to be called “queens” either, even if they self-describe as “potato queens”. Ms Connie would prefer to call those who formerly have described themselves as “rice queens” to use the more accurate designation “rice barges”. “Oh you live in Thailand because you only like Asian men?” “Yes, I am a total rice barge.” All of you then should respond when some visitor asks why you live in Thailand, ‘Oh I’m a rice barge’.” Ms. Connie looks forward to the day when she can sit down in a prominent viewpoint on her stool at Panorama and overhear a gushing resident aptly say to the breathing query of a visitor, “Yes, I am a total rice barge”. This would mean that the gentleman keeps a number of young men fed, hauling them to and fro, from bed to bar and when finished, dumps them off at their pier in Nonthaburi to replenish their family coffers with the money they have received working for the rice barge. And neither should these boys be called “potato queens” for exactly the same reason. Rather it would be more accurate to call them “potato beetles” which are described in Ms. Connie’s Funk & Wagnall as the Colorado.

Continued in page 24.
A Bad Example

The ongoing war in Iraq is providing us with a drastic example of how not to do our investments: when decisions of vital importance are being based on pigheaded ideology, wishful thinking and fake information you'll end up in a mess of epic proportions. And in our case that means staring bankruptcy in its cold eye. That's got to be avoided at any cost. So what do the tea leaves say this time?

First of all I've slightly altered my opinion about the dangers of an upcoming inflation. I don't think it's a major concern right now. True, energy and other raw material prices are near all time highs but they constitute only a fraction of the GDPs in the West. Of significantly greater importance are labor costs and those haven't gone up that much. They also won't go up drastically in the future because of global labor competition.

Don't forget the billions in Asia and South America who are eager to be employed at a fraction of the prevailing occidental wages. So, in my humble opinion, bonds look a little better than they have just a few weeks ago. You can now get about 4.7 percent on 10 year US treasuries and that's o.k. for the time being and for some part of your portfolio. Secondly, you should stay in oil, an asset class I've been advocating long before prime time news opened with the latest OPEC deliberations. The price of oil will fluctuate of course, because speculators have been congregating in numbers, but that is not our concern.

Long term the price will go up because of the fundamentals. More and more of this devil's urine is being gulped down by fast growing economies worldwide and less is being discovered. Last year for instance, despite the considerable efforts of all oil majors and wildcat drillers, not a single large field was discovered. North America and the North Sea are being depleted and everyone depends on the Saudis. Apart from the likelihood of continuing and escalating terror activities in that forsaken desert country it should be remembered that hardly any new oil was discovered in Saudi either. Their main fields are sixty years old and no reliable data exist, about how much really is left there. God help us if it turns out that the Saudis overestimated their reserves in order to appear more important than they really are. Unlike you say? Nigeria did just that recently and Indonesia, which is presently presiding over OPEC, quietly became a net oil importer without blowing a trumpet about that development milestone. If you worry whether it the right time to buy energy shares, let's talk again when barrels are trading at 50 or 60 dollars. Another subject to mention briefly is the creation of jobs in the USA. Over the last three months one million new jobs were created, many actually in manufacturing. So much for the doomsayers who see disaster around every corner, especially when the USA are concerned. Europe should be lucky if it could muster a fraction of the energy and dynamism displayed across the Atlantic. That's why I don't shy.

Continued in page 53.
Where all your dreams come true

New Dream Boy opens in new location

by Suzy Size

Nobody seems to know this Soi by its real name which is Duangthawe Plaza or Soi Pratoochai. For some it is called Soi Twilight because of the old Go-Go bar at the mouth of the Soi just after Family Mart. A hit seedy, Twilight used to have a reputation of having local talents that were big nudge, nudge. Personally I have not climbed those stairs for many years but maybe should give it a try now that a new management has taken over the place and has renamed it as—could you have guessed—New Twilight.

For others this soi is called Soi Dick’s Café because they like the casual and relaxed atmosphere at that place, the good food, the regular Art Shows and the view on that unique soi where good looking males are the norm and not an exception but the guests at the Café are not molested in any way by aggressive money boys. Incidentally, the management of Dick’s Café has taken over a bar at the rear end of this colourful soi with so many names. The plan is to open it as Balls bar. A huge TV screen will be installed to give the lovers of all kinds of sports—Balls bar! Geddit—a home away from home. Of course it will be decorated, happily, with all kinds of balls. It is thought that such a place might attract a lot of local sports fans and such a clientele might be attractive for philandering Farangs who like to watch the boys watch the bouncing balls (or the boys with the bouncing balls). We will see.

For yet others, this magic soi is called Boy Plaza since there are so many Go-Go bars in the soi. The one with the boldest shows is called The Boys Bangkok which belongs to the BBB (Bangkok’s Best Boys) group. Furthermore, in this soi they also own and manage the BBB Inn, where you can relax for some hours for 400 Baht or all night for 1200 Baht, the Yes! Pub and—until recently—Blue Star. I guess even the dumbest Bangkok habitué must by now know which soi I am talking of? Otherwise, get lost, we at Thai Guys write for no one with an IQ of less than 50.

Judging from the past confusion over the name of that multi-named soi, I bet some people will soon call it Soi Dream Boys. Yes it is true, one of the most famous Go Go bars that used to be on the opposite side of Surawong Road—on the second floor—has moved over. On the move it has lost part of the name (Dream Boy Bar) and gained part of the name (New Dream Boy). It is again located in upstairs premises over the Yes! Pub and the entrance is where the entrance of Blue Star used to be. You need to be able to climb some stairs if you really want to meet your dream boy or boys.

Before we diligently describe what the new place is like, we wish to look back with certain nostalgia on the old Dream Boy Bar and—oddly, for Barber we never found out and did not know whom to ask or even whether it mattered.) How many intensive and pricnipal hours have we spent at Dream Boy Bar? Even before settling down in this fair country about 13 years ago, Suzy had visited this landmark location purely, we assure you, for her interest in architecture and only incidentally spent most of her time looking at the beautiful males. Yes, so many! (We do not want to remember how much money we spent there, but it was quite an amount in any currency.) They used to have cubicles behind one of the side stages where you could instantly stage your own private show. I remember, Walter’s glasses once being broken in one by the wild action probably. It was here at Dream Boy Bar that I saw the first show that featured body painting and the magic body to body massage on stage, not to forget the big banana shows. Sometimes the place was so packed you could hardly get a seat at all.

This should definitely not be the case at the HUGE new location. Here up to 300 dream boy lovers of all kinds can be seated. We went there on the very first night it opened (about three weeks before publishing date of this TG issue), I guess this was called a soft opening but boy, we certainly saw some hard ones! Of course some notoriously gay gentleman graced this occasion with their presence, namely Barry and John from Pattaya who avidly watched all the small and bigger features of the Go-Go boys and the show with their usual intensity. Even though none of the sophisticated stage equipment was installed at that time one could sense what it will be like later when all these dream boys would be flying through the air like angels of some sort. This is arguably the biggest and best equipped (in any sense) Go-Go place in the world, certainly the biggest in Bangkok. Alongside the two stages (that can be converted to a single stage) there are different seating areas, close to the stage or a bit more discreet. But you can see the action very well from everywhere. And that is one reason why we all like come here. That their boys are talented in yes, so many ways is an undisputable fact. New Dream Boy will certainly be a success. You will just love it. Give it a try.

Khun Goif from Cutey & Beauty Salon
The winner of Miss Pink Look
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7 years The Boys Bangkok
Happy birthday, boys!
First Time In Thailand: A Survival Guide

Martin Frank

What To Do Before You Travel?
You’re not traveling to Thailand to be alone. Read about Thailand: Thais like the strong, cool-hearted, self-controlled, rich, smiling guy in smart, clean, well-ironed clothes with a good haircut who is loyal to his superiors, fun with his equals, generous with his inferiors, and never loses his temper or raises his voice. Age is no problem in Thailand as long as you act and dress according to your passport age. If you look, dress and behave appropriately, your stay will be fun.

What To Pack?
Thailand is a tropical country with seasonally hot and dry or hot and humid climate. Bangkok has more skyscrapers than Frankfurt or Houston, fantastic traffic jams, ultra-sophisticated Skyltrains, very chic restaurants, and some of the best-dressed people in the world. All major designer labels are available in Thailand as the genuine stuff and the more popular ones as fakes too. You should dress smart with shoes, dark socks, long pants, jeans or chinos, shirt, polo or a good T-shirt (if you’re below thirty). Clothes must look new, clean and ironed. The older you are, the more conservative you should dress. Menswear is cheap in Bangkok, so in doubt, let your Bangkok friend (you’ll meet four in the next paragraph) take you to Central Department store and select proper attire for you (and - see below - for him). Shopping can be fun too!

Once in Bangkok: Get thee to a barber! On some Pacific Islands, wild hair will earn you admiring looks; in Thailand, the unruly dreadlocks of the average autistic elderly academic will make you unwelcome wherever you go. Don, Doon, Eak and Luck of Cutey & Beauty Salon will turn you into a human being and if you haven’t yet a friend in Bangkok, now you have four. In Phuket and Pattaya, the dress code is more relaxed. For the beach, bring a new cap, new color-coordinated T-shirt and new swimwear in your own, current, correct size. Speedos are ok if you have the body to go with it. Err on the conservative side! Only nothing lets you look more foolish than too small a bikini hiding too little below too big a beer belly. Leave the sexy swimwear to the bar boys! In Thailand, nudity is illegal and not considered sexy, as is public kissing and petting. Sun lotions, cosmetics, medications, condoms, and lubricants are cheap. Hospitals, doctors, and dentists are among the best in the world: Many Europeans and Americans fly to Thailand to get their teeth capped or sex changed.

Where To Go?
Your Thailand holiday should be fun! If this is your first time in Thailand then Patong, Phuket is probably the wisest choice. In Bangkok and Pattaya, the gay bars are bigger and busier; you’ll have enough sex but not enough fun. In Phuket, the beaches are nicer than in Pattaya, the gay scene is small and friendly. You won’t stay alone for long in Patong!

Where To Stay?
Phuket Island has a standard of life comparable to any Western county, including the USA. A large community of wealthy Thais and foreigners has made Phuket their all-year home. All major hotel chains run resorts in Phuket. For the gay fun seeker, there are several gay or gay-friendly hotels. Among the best is Club One Seven Bed & Breakfast (actually a “boutique hotel”, and as expensive as other Phuket “boutique hotels” but much more fun) run by two young men, smart Daniel from Singapore and his painfully handsome Hawaiian friend Sean. Club One Seven is right on Patong beach.

For a full list of gay venues, consult Thai Guys (www.thaigays.org) or the latest edition of Spartacus gay guide.

What To Do?
Most Thais think sex is fun. Honesty, generosity and a smile are the three things which will contribute most to your having fun in Thailand. If at midnight, you suddenly feel a void in your king size bed, smile! and tell your Thai receptionists! He will know whom to call and how much to tip in order not to make him or you lose face. Be generous!

If you go to a bar, smile! and tell the captain what you’re looking for! If you want to buy lots of sex for little bucks, you can get it; if you look for a fun companion to go swimming, diving, boating, jet-skiing, kayaking, elephant riding, shopping, dining, and to make love, you can find him too and have much more fun.

What To Eat And Drink?
Eat Thai food! Don’t worry about the menu; your new friends will order for you. Food is cheap, so just let him order four or five items, and then eat what you like. In Thailand, all menu items except some soups are shared. Most Thais drink little alcohol during meals, but get drunk when partying with friends.

Picking Up The Tab
In Thailand, the boss picks up the tab. In bars and restaurants, in the taxi and shopping, if you are the boss, you pay. What it boils down to is your friend putting a shampoo and one underwear priced 99 Baht into your shopping basket, or a toothbrush. He will not ask you - it is a sign of his considering you his patron. You won’t get around buying your friend some more expensive stuff too: He’s not going to ask for it because Thais are afraid of looking greedy, but you’ll notice where his eyes are going. For any substantial item, your friend will make sure you agree - and

*Martin Frank (Author of “ter fügi ische souhung” and other books in Swiss German, German and English. The film “fügi is a bastard” is available at amazon.com.)

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not show any disappointment, if you say, “Too expensive.”

**How Much Does It Cost?**

Rooms at a hotel like Club One Sever cost from about 1100 Baht (30 USD / 25 EURO) per night for an air-conditioned room to about 5000 Baht (130 USD / 105 EURO) for a truly royal suite that gives you more space and more “face”: Your beautiful friend will feel more appreciated and try harder to please you. Restaurant prices vary from very cheap to Western levels. Shopping depends on your habits: don’t bargain when the saving makes no difference for you. Ten Baht can fill a poor man’s stomach. Tipping is not mandatory. If you tip generously, many people will go out of their way to make you happy. For a short holiday, calculate to spend about 10’000 Thai Baht (260 USD / 220 EURO) per day for room, food, shopping, companionship and tips. For a long holiday, 2’000 Baht (55 USD / 45 EURO) per day would probably be enough. It can be done for much less, but didn’t you want to have some fun?

**What About Money Boys?**

Few Thais are doing what they’re doing just for the money. It’s not fun, they won’t do it for long. If however, staying with you is fun, your Thai friend will go and work in a gay bar for you! I’ve yet to meet the Awful Siamese Money Boy. Whom I have met, and in numbers, are young men taking care of the parents who brought them up and sending their younger brothers and sisters to school. Being gay, working in a bar rather than in the fields, having fun with gay friends instead of getting abused by village rowdies, having cash to spend for partying and Karaoke come into play too: let your friend talk! I bet you’ll find him an amazingly balanced, reasonable and sound young man worth your respect, and your money. If you feel a guy deserves a 1000 Baht tip, give him a 1000 Baht tip! If he has given you the holiday of your life, don’t promise him a golden watch! Give him the money now, and he’ll buy tiles with it for the house he’s building for his family in Nakhon Pathom. Don’t discuss it with him; whatever you want to do for him, just do it! If you’re generous and give your friend what you want to give him instead of promising him every possible help (short of money), few bar boys will mention money at all.

**How To Have The Time Of Your Life**

Dress well, speak softly, be patient and generous, and everybody, from your hotel’s manager and receptionists, to the club managers, captains, doormen, and hosts, will try their best to make you happy, satisfied and come back for more. If you let the clubs’ managers or mamasans help you select, any host will do his best to please you to please his boss. Never complain! Just go back for more! Thais love matchmaking, not to speak of gay Thais, and what to say of mamasans! Remember though: Great expectations lead to great disappointments! It’s not necessarily the guy corresponding visually to your poured-in-concrete “type” who will have you flop around on your bed from orgasm to orgasm not knowing whether you are in Patong or in Paradise. Some guys ask to leave early in the morning, be generous with them. Others will sleep till early afternoon (Bar boys sleep from three to three). If a friend wants to stay with you, be very generous with him, and with a bit of luck he will stay with you until you leave and make you come (to Patong) again and again.
Tranny Marriages In China
Increase: Dr. He Turns His Patients into a She

While hardly raising any plucked eyebrows in Thailand where sexual re-assignment operations are commonplace, trans-sexual marriages are reported to be on the increase in the People’s Republic of China. Recently over the week-long Labour Day (May 1st) holiday in Chengdu, capital of China’s Sichuan province, thousands of farmers witnessed (with mixed curiosity and disbelief) the marriage of Zhang Li in her Western wedding gown. Nine months earlier, many of the wedding party guests had known the “bride” as a man named Zhang Shihin who ran a beauty salon. Despite the newly-found nuptial bliss, the long march to womanhood was a difficult one for beautician Zhang. He had been brought up as a shy, self-conscious boy who enjoyed long hair and wearing dresses, but at 24 was pressured to get married to a young woman who bore him a daughter. He subsequently divorced when his daughter was 12 and opened a hair dressing salon and fell in love with his male apprentice. In 2003, Zhang underwent a sex-change operation at the People’s Liberation Army Hospital in Chengdu and officially switched over from male to female on his national ID card.

Observers say that Chinese society is rapidly catching onto new trends. In 1996, four Chinese transsexuals got married and have been leading normal lives. One of them, a man-turned-woman, is running a family firm with her husband and they have adopted a child. This shows that Chinese society has adopted a more tolerant attitude towards transsexuals, said Dr.He Qingglin, a leading orthopedics expert, who has been dubbed as the “saviour” of Chinese transsexuals. Doctor He has been visited by several thousand patients and has personally operated on over 60, in ages ranging from 20-60, turning many a he into a she. It is reported that the Chinese have become more sympathetic to this special group and are now more willing to embrace them back into society. Long before Mao, Chinese culture has long been dominated by Taoist, Buddhists and Confucian philosophy which advocates a balance between Yin and Yang (female and male principles), the Middle Path and a harmonious society.

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Indian sex workers meet
Some 5,000 Indian sex workers recently held a week-long conference in Calcutta calling on the central government to legalize prostitution and homosexuality, moves they say would discourage harassment against them and buoy efforts to fight the spread of AIDS in India, reports the Associated Press. Despite one year prison terms for prostitution, sex workers are a common sight in India’s major cities and along highways. Prostitutes at the conference, which was organized by India’s National Network of Sex Workers, say that legalizing the trade would help deter harassment by police, pimps and the mafia controlling the trade.

Are you listening Bangkok?
They also argue that abolishing a law that makes homosexuality a crime – introduced by the British during the colonial period – would encourage gays suffering from AIDS to seek treatment. Under that antiquated law, homosexuals can be imprisoned for up to 10 years.

The secrets of banana juice
AFP recently reported that Indian nuclear scientists, no less, claim to have unpicked one of the great mysteries of the soft-drink world – how to extract juice from bananas. The latest scientific breakthrough could lead to fizzy banana juice sold in cans and bottles, even banana nectar and banana wine. Despite an 85 per cent water content, scientists have long struggled to extract juice from the phallic fruit, because when mashed it simply turns to pulp.

Comment: You don’t have to be a nuclear scientist to extract juice from a ripe banana; gays have known the secret since time immemorial – even how to get the juice into cans and other orifices.

www.thaiguys.org

The cross-dressing candidate
Reuters reports that a Texan Republican, Sam Walls (R) who was formerly the front-runner in a race for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives, lost after reports circulated saying that he enjoyed dressing in women’s clothes. Walls had won the endorsement of leading Republicans in the state, but then saw the momentum in the election shift, or rather drag, when pictures surfaced showing him in a dress, high heels and a wig.

Comment: Although the USA prides itself on being progressive, in certain respects it is far behind more tolerant Asia where transgendered and transvestite candidates such as the “hiijas” in India openly campaign for office, and sometimes win.

Philippines Pink Film Festival
By Durian Gray
Celebrating ten years of Gay and Lesbian pride in the Philippines, the Pink Film Festival or 2nd International Gay and Lesbian Film & Video Festival is being held in Manila and other venues throughout the country from 15 June-1 August, 2004.

As both an entertainment and human rights event, the Pink Film Festival highlights the need for recognition of the Gay and Lesbian community in the Philippines which, despite modest gains, remains marginalized in society. With support from SM Supermalls, The British Council, Goethe Institut and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Festival will showcase international film premieres, an Asian section and a retrospective of Filipino-made films and videos.

For more information visit the Pink Film Festival website at www.progay.cjb.net, or e-mail: progay@edsaemail.com.ph

Funny Boys under new management
Funny Boys (in Pattayas Boystown) has taken over by the able management of Panorama. They will introduce some changes gradually and others swiftly. Give it a try. We will keep you posted on the developments in this popular place.
African Gigolos Cater To Thai Elite

Ever wonder why there are so many Africans in Bangkok?

True, some are here for shopping, and one always suspects that many are involved in scams and drug trafficking, but there is another reason too. Black male prostitutes are in high demand in Thailand where their favours have become much sought after, according to a Chula sociology study no less.

Over one hundred black gigolos are now catering to 'Thaillands elite because they are said to be "fiercer" and "more thrilling" in bed than their Thai peers and—as we all know, more well-hung—or "well-built" as The Nation newspaper politely quoted a sociological professor as saying.

Nithet Tinnakul, a lecturer at Bangkok's prestigious Chulalongkorn University who conducted a survey on male prostitutes in Thailand, also said that escort services have begun recruiting black studs from Africa and Jamaica to meet the growing demand.

Continued from page 6.

beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata), yellowish, with ten longitudinal black stripes on their wing covers, with both the adult and larva feeding on the leaves of the potato...and are sometimes very destructive.” Carried to an extreme, the rice barge who persists in hiring crews of potato beetles without concern for the preservation of his ample foliage inherited from his maiden aunt, can become a tragic victim of “potato rot”, a fungus disease of the potato, which one can see amply represented on the Bangkok Skytrain on a Sunday afternoon. So Mabel, I hope this response will assist you and barb in realizing the silliness of these expressions, “rice queen”, “potato queen” etc. It was so much better in the old days when we could all communicate by coloured hankies in the right or left pocket of our jeans. Now we have “tops” who really should be “bottoms” but nobody cares, and “bottoms” who have to be bottoms because they can’t get up off their bellies, much less, “get it” up. Ms. Connie loves being gay. It’s just such an eternal hoot. I hope you and barb work out this tiny word game in Tampa, Bay because Connie Lingus means well for all her “labia lickers”.

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24
Vacuum Packed

Fabulous isn’t the word for it...

A review by Durian Gray

VACUUM PACKED by Robin Newbold (Nightwares, 245 pp US$13.00, PB)

As the now famous tale goes, an actress friend of the gay English playwright Noel Coward had invited him to her opening night, and poor Noel knew that after the performance, which was dreadful, he would have to go backstage to congratulate her. Throughout the show Noel fidgeted wondering what he would say to her. Finally, voila, when she asked him how he liked it, he replied with mock enthusiasm, ‘Darling, fabulous wasn’t the word for it!’

Well, when former Bangkok Metro colleague Robin Newbold e-mailed me to ask if I would review his debut gay novel for these pages, I wondered what I would say if I didn’t like it. Taking my cue from dear Noel, I must say that fabulous isn’t the word either for Robin’s “Vacuum Packed”.

The novel, which is basically a tale of two cities, gay London club scene and gay sex tourist Bangkok, is seen through the eyes of its two, twenty-something, protagonists. Craig and Jamie are former lovers, and the latter having been diagnosed as HIV runs off to Thailand. Each chapter is a separate, alternating story of the two young English gay men, one in London the other in Thailand.

The world they inhabit is, as the title suggests, “vacuum packed”, that is packed with vacuity, drugs and sex. Jamie becomes a drug-ridden, cocaine addicted gay porn star, although readers looking for porn will be disappointed. While there are well-observed vivid descriptions, particularly of the London gay club scene, the characters, particularly the peripheral ones are cruelly drawn caricatures without depth and the reader cares little about them or their sordid lives. There is little humour, and aside from hatred and disgust, no emotions and certainly no love or anything positive or redeeming about them. Nor one happy homo in all its 245 pages! The superficially drawn Thai characters are even less fleshed out despite their work in the flesh trade, and one scene of a money boy walking around the hotel room naked didn’t seem realistic.

The author is an expatriate Londoner living in Bangkok, but paints a rather unflattering picture of his fellow expats whom he depicts as exploitative sex mongs taking advantage of innocent Thai boys apparently lured from the rice fields into an unsavoury profession only for the money. While expat readers might find some amusement at recognising Bangkok’s Soi Twilight and the Dick’s Café scene in Newbold’s descriptions, others, perhaps with legitimate businesses in Pattaya’s Boyztown might not be so amused. Neither would TAT (the Tourism Authority of Thailand), and you’re not likely to find a quote from Newbold’s book in any of their promotions.

Continued in page 37.
Captain Underpants Time!

by Troy North

Standing in a pair of cream-colored silk boxers that set off his pale fawn-colored skin to a “T,” Pong to Jeremy’s amazement, remained only partly conscious of how effortlessly handsome he was. A pop psychologist might have diagnosed his unawareness to the considerable amount of attention he received as a “self-defense mechanism.” But life, as his doting mother rather than Dr. Freud had taught him, didn’t bear much looking into.

Thus equipped, Pong confronted reality, armed with a Thai smile “to die for,” a body that caused joy even to mere onlookers (who, as the proverb has it, see most of the game), and a generally cheery temperament. His box of tricks managed to entertain and lure those for whom he opened it. Lady Luck, present at his auspicious birth—Pong was a Taurus born in the Year of the Ox—had showered his cradle not with the very greatest gifts in her formidable arsenal, but with ones sufficient unto the circle that he was called to. And such a state was, after all, not for sniffing at.

Jeremy shamelessly ogled his lover as Pong applied pomade to select and regularly recalcitrant areas of his hair. One spike just wouldn’t stand in quite the right direction. The multitudes, Thai and farang, that hung out in Soi 4. They were to be favored with a vision of the most perfectly coiffed hot Thai stud in all Bangkok, perhaps in all Thailand.

“OK, OK!” Jeremy over-punctuated the last monosyllable.

He waited for a reply but got none.

“It is, it really, really is in the right place at the right time. And, even if it isn’t exactly, exactly, I need a drink and my tummy, my poor long-suffering tummy, is beginning to rumble.”

This time, as a reply to Jeremy’s caioing, Pong flicked his tongue, the pink flame emerging with a knowing grimace. For follow-up, he licked his lips, and then delivered a lascivious leer of the kind he had seen in porn movies. It looked cheap, and he knew it. As usual, it worked. Jeremy giggled.

“Well, we could have a drinkie here if you’re dying for one, Jer. There’s a brand new bottle of Absolut in the freezer. And, I think there’s a chilled white left from last night. I’m not quite ready yet ...”

Even as Pong’s voice trailed off, Jeremy sighed, giving in. He tended to pick his skirmishes cannily, and the “hair wars” weren’t worth even minor haggling. The Battle of Bangkok had been valiantly fought and decisively won some six months ago, and he had willingly thrown up his hands at its end, making a white flag of his, underwear to emphasize his defeat.

“Yeah, that sounds good for starters anyway. But for that matter why don’t we just stay home? I do love that outfit, dude, which is making me more than mildly horny—if that’s your intention ...”

Pong shot back a porn flick pose, adroitly lowering his briefs a tad, rubbing his crotch and making a gesture of capitulation. Pong waggled his cute little butt, hitting a weak point that always had Jeremy begging for more. The opening of his “Captain Underpants” routine was invariably effective.

“Strike two, and once more and you’re out!” as they say in the darkest US of A. I threaten to pin you down, have my way with you repeatedly, and ... hold on, hold on, dearest pet, I will muss your hair. Yes. ‘M-us-s’ as in ‘completely ruin[,] as in ‘bring about total catastrophe.’ All these things and more I promise to do. This do I swear.”

“I give in, or is it I give up? I can’t catch the grammar. Anyway, I will leave my hair looking awful, just for you, Jer.”

Pong paused a split second. As an actor he was a natural.

He continued with the slight Aussie twang picked up during boarding-school days in Melbourne: “If you want to be seen in public with an ugly guy on the worst bad hair day he’s had, that’s your problem. I will die of shame. I will lose face before all our friends. I promise to have a headache for three and a half days. And I promise to give up farang forever and ever.”

Pong’s attempted subterfuge was more than half-sincere. Tonight he was feeling insecure, desiring tenderness more than admiration. He had briefly thought he wanted adoring crowds lining up for a glimpse and wanted to flirt and wanted to play the heartbreaker, but these thoughts

soft-faded as he sat before his mirror looking at his own reflection.

“Oh, my, so much self-abuse all at once! Bad hair day, really? More like a hard day at the office, dear. Or not hard enough! Was that deliciously cute farang boss Khun Olaf from Stockholm still indifferent to your weary charms?”

Pong laughed. He then unthinkingly stuck out his tongue again. Jeremy was unable to resist following through on his threat. He began an attack of tickling that was intended to elicit helpless peals of giggling and frantic cries of “Stop, Jer, stop. Please, please!” He loved to make the pleading rise to a crescendo, and then would plant firm kisses on Pong’s generously yielding lips.

Even before Pong had fallen for the n-th time into the well-set trap, Jeremy had contemplated ripping off friend’s shorts. Drinks at home, that chilled Semillon Blanc, and a tomato-and-bocconcini pizza flashed through his mind in the split second before Pong irretrievably lost it, giving way to impulse.

There were, of course, many worse things than m-us-s-ed hair, however fashionably sleeky and two toned, and making love with Jeremy was one of his very favorite things. As his blood rushed in a gentle wave and his shorts flopped to his ankles he reflected that there were worse fates. Perhaps his mother, who ladled out advice with the abandon of a fishwife hawking her wares, had been right about certain things. Pong seized the night, making it his own.
A wonderful evening at SlyperX
The cover of this issue was taken here

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Exxit’s ‘White Night’ Parties

Want to make new friends? Want a feast for the eyes? Want a touch of something different? They have it all at EXXIT.

For those who believe that the deep skin tones of the Thai male are the perfect canvas on which to display the white fabric of fantasy subtly moving in a sexually erotic way then the divine dancers of EXXIT should be on your entertainment list for Friday and Saturday evenings. After 8 the mood changes into a more disco-oriented music style and the lads take to dancing on the bar and performing their various routines on the stage through the mid-night hour.

Exxit has now become established as one of the leading bars in the Jomtien Complex and the very pleasant staff have ensured that their customer base has grown to include many who are making this their “local”. And who can blame them! The music system is one of the best, if not the best, in town set to a reasonable volume that provides a realistic listening level and a pleasant background sound. With TV screens and large projection screen the VCDs and DVDs add to the ambiance of the bar and lounge. The management has also chosen as a matter of course to employ a group of well-mannered, beautifully-proportioned young men to add to that ambiance the means wherewith to make you feel at home as soon as you cross the threshold. Nothing pushy but let your eye wander and eventually you will make eye-contact with someone who could help you relax into the early hours of your next tomorrow, or become a soul-mate for your vacation.

Entrance to the White Night evenings is 150 baht which includes a drink. Features of the evenings, as contestants are to hand, include the sexy wet T Shirt contest and prizes for the most original White Costume. - and if the lads have made you feel really at home might we suggest that those who have newly arrived in the land of smiles could show off their unique white birthday suit!

With EXXIT situated on the corner site of the Ground Floor of the Jomtien Complex Condo you can drop in for a post-beach afternoon drink and return for that relaxing evening flight of fantasy in the beautifully appointed lounge that really does add a touch of class to the usual round of evening entertainment places.

To find out more visit their website at www.exxit.tk or e-mail them on add2000@lxinfo.co.th
While the author is entitled to his negative viewpoint, one can find fault with the narrative which fails to satisfactorily tie together the threads of the two former lovers in their disparate tales. When Jamie's despised middle-class parents, who virtually disown him, nonchalantly announce that they are planning to holiday in Pattaya—of all places—where Craig had been vacationing, one expected a contrived reunion of sorts in Pattaya with Craig. But it doesn't happen and the reader is left hanging. Like after opening one of those vacuum packed snacks and after a taste-test. "Vacuum Packed" leaves one hungry for something more substantial—like rice!

Well, all we can say is that Robin does have promising talent as a writer of fiction, but he needs to hone his considerable skills more, particularly in characterization and narrative structure. Meanwhile, one wonders how many copies will turn up on (or under) the beach chairs of Jontien.

The book can be ordered through Amazon.com, nightwares.com and by the time you read this, probably at Bookazine stores in Thailand.
Silom comments

Balcony Pub & Restaurant (4)
The Balcony Pub and Restaurant has the longest
terrace and the least expensive drinks in world
famous Silom Soi 4. A large bar and busy terraces
downstairs and an open-fronted upstairs karaoke,
games and internet area. Open from 6:00 pm
to 2:00am, The Balcony offers nightly happy
hours and a wide selection of Thai, British, Indian
and Vegetarian food. Famous for its friendliness
and informality, one of Bangkok's most popular
venues for locals and tourists alike.

Boys of Bangkok (24)
One of the boldest shows in town.

Dick's Café (20)
A very popular and stylish bar and café with a
wide range of food and snacks. Comfortable
seating and always exhibiting artworks of local
and international artists. They open at 11 am
and close at 2 am. Very pleasant for a long or
short coffee break during the day, an evening or
late night snack or a night cap. The music is
kept at an agreeable level so that you can talk
to your neighbor and if he is not deaf, he will
certainly understand each and every precious
gem that drops from your lips. Guests are not
constantly disturbed by pushy money boys. Pick
up your free copy of Thai Guys here or in their
newly opened venue in Pattaya.

Tarntawan Place Hotel (31)
Tarntawan means sunflower in Thai. The stylish,
comfortable hotel is right in the heart of the
action, but still not a bit noisy. The friendly and
able staff have been there for years and so has
the excellent management who really takes care
of their guests—which is why they return year after
year. The rooms are constantly upgraded, some
wonderful suites are also available. Bock early,
since this sunflower of Bangkok is becoming
ever more popular.

Cutey & Beautec Hair salon (46)
Thaniya Plaza 3rd Floor (between Silom Soi 2
and 4). Extremely friendly and able. The foremost
place for beautification in Bangkok is itself
undergoing a complete beautification. Between

February 16 and 18 Cutey and Beauty will
be renovated and is therefore closed. Pay them a visit
before or afterwards, but visit them.

X-treme Bar (23)
Would you believe? This unique bar with its
famous shows (and go-go) has been here for two
years already! Located in Soi Duangtaweew (yes,
where Boys of Bangkok, Blue Star and Dick's
Café are). Shows daily at 10.00, 11.00 and 12.00.
Just reopened.

Sphinx Restaurant and Pub (3)
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western food and full bar service including a vast
array of cocktails. Sphinx is a long-time favourite
for visitors and residents alike, famous for its great
food and friendly, professional service.

Pharaoh's Music Bar Karaoke (38)
Pharaoh's Karaoke is classy and comfortable and
features two karaoke lounges.

Dream Boy (29)
New Dream Boy, the erstwhile Dream Boy Barber,
one of the oldest and best Go-Go bars, has moved
to a large new location across the street where
Blue Star used to be. They have space for 300
visitors. Great sexy shows.

Tabu (25)
Right on Convent Road (opposite the church)
and is certainly worth a visit. They are definitely
gay but claim to be a bit straight friendly too.

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Nong is sad these days

By Suzy Size-Queen

I guess I have known Nong for about ten years now and he was always so cheerful. But that has changed a bit lately. When I met him last at Balcony he was so sad - but still very likeable. I took him out to the BBF for a short performance (yes, I know I’ve been happily married for ten years already, but a bit on the side, you know...). It was a great consolation for me, and a little bit of one for him too (I hope). Money-wise certainly, because his sad story touched my heart and made me generous. I really believe his story is true... life is very unfair sometimes.

Nong is an unusual guy. Not only is he tall and very well built even for an Isaan boy but he is a born seducer. The very first time I met him was at BoyzBoyzBoyz and he really got me to off him by using his intriguing smile, that super sexy expression on his face and those radiant eyes. Just looking at him I could hear him making tempting promises: “Just off me. There will be no regrets. I can exactly see what you want. And boy! Will I deliver! I want to eat you up entirely.” You see? A born salesman. And so off we went.

He did not waste his time in Pattaya too long, he was a very fast learner. Soon he could speak English pretty well and was working at Panorama (then still called Coco Banana). Of course he established coterie of several sugar daddies who were supporting him from abroad. Happily for me, he was diligent enough to do some side jobs as well. But suddenly he disappeared to greener pastures in Germany. He was dearly missed by several admirers of his person and his great services.

Then after several years I was driving a motorcycle down on Patong beach and almost caused an accident near Paradise Complex while my attention was diverted from the traffic by the site of a gorgeous guy. I was not sure as I had already passed him but decided to park that awfully dangerous bike and go for harmless little stroll. Yes, you guessed! It was wonderful Nong, and - of course - off we went to my hotel. He had gracefully matured whilst I had just grown fat. He had come back to Thailand just for three weeks but was

Continued in page 39.
Nong Khai City has finally come of age or

All you always wanted to know about Nong Khai

by Suzy Sizer

The cover boy of our last issue (Thai Guys 38) was praised and appreciated by so many readers. He really has the looks and, of course, he is from Nong Khai, originally (not the City, but at least the Province). I first met him in Phuket, but in the meantime he has moved on to the big mango of this fair land, Bangkok. The covers of Thai Guys 30 and 31 were from Nong Khai as well. Ebbe Kernerup, the gay writer that travelled through Thailand in the 20’s visited Nong Khai and through the lens of his camera immortalized the then best football player of this magic location in his revealing briefs. The boyfriend of Hans is from … can you guess the answer to that intriguing question? And where might the friend of Lukas have been born? Visit Nong Khai; of all the absolutes it is the definitive absolute must. Find out why the Nong Khai male is definitely superior to the rest of them all, world wide, of course.

Many roads lead to Rome, and many more apparently lead to Nong Khai. You can take an air conditioned bus from Bangkok or Pattaya which takes you between 11 and 13 hours to this border city right on the Mekong river and just opposite the Laotian capital of Vientiane. Or you might opt for a train ride; both a night and a day train are available. Alternatively fly in to Udon Thani which is a bit more than 50 kilometres away from the male beauty capital of the world. Thai Airways offers three flights daily, Asian Air two. An airport bus brings you comfortably from there to Nong Khai City (NKC) or the famous friendship bridge (100 Baht).

This bridge is one of the icons of NKC. It was opened exactly ten years ago, an occasion that was celebrated in style last month with a grand festival and splendid fireworks. If you want to go over to Laos, a visa is available at the border crossing for 30 SUS. (Take some passport pictures with you as well.) But first, you want to get to know that famous NKC.

First-timers are strongly advised to stay at the Pantawe (City) Hotel. There is also a Pantawee Resort right beside the friendship bridge, but the city location is more convenient since from there you can reach most points of interest by walking or by bicycle at least. The owner of the Pantawee is Khun Noporn, a very friendly friend of Suzy’s. Khun Noporn was unfortunately born in the wrong body. This mistake happens once in a while even in NKC and has in Khun Noporn’s case been corrected, so you are greeted at the Pantawee by a very beautiful host and by very good looking and friendly waiters who were obviously selected by Madame herself (she can pride herself on her discernment). The restaurant and terrace of this incidentally inexpensive hotel is open 24 hours a day so after hours you might meet some decidedly interesting characters there. If you stay at the hotel the many handbills on the walls will inform you all about the many services the Pantawee has on offer.

Walk down Meechay Road which is the "High Street" (like Silom Road in Bangkok) and you will pass the Danish Baker, the Post office and the usual banks then (after about one kilometre) turn left and walk through the grounds of one of the numerous temples in order to reach the famous Mekong river. Yes, on the other side of that is Laos. The river starts in China, runs through Burma, Laos, Thailand and Cambodia before finally reaching the sea in Vietnam. The unhurried pace of this slow but mighty river has certainly influenced the people of NKC, who successfully imitate its pace. In other words, everything takes a bit longer in fair NKC. But that is fine with us, we are in no hurry.

Now turn to your left again and walk through an interesting Indochina bazaar (Talat Tasadet as it is called). You find all kinds of cheap Chinese consumer products that remind you how close you are to that huge country. But also on sale are Vietnamese noodles, a pâté wrapped in banana leaves (moo yoh) and French bread. Yes, real French bread, the influence of the former colonial power in Laos just across the river remains (and this is probably the only Thai market where baguettes are on sale). Enjoy one of the many Mekong River fish in a salt crust in one of the numerous restaurants with a river view.

Further down you reach the old port and immigration post that is still used by the locals in this small border town.

On my first visit to NKC about 12 years ago, I crossed over to Laos from here by boat. We were staying at the old Sawasdee guesthouse and the farang owner had not only written on handbills on the walls of the rooms, he also personally begged us not to bring any girls to the rooms since he had innocent daughters that had to be protected from such sins (or the sight of them). I promised to comply with no hesitation and I kept that promise with no difficulty. At that time I could not make out any signs of gay night life in NKC at all.

But times change even in fair NKC. About four years ago Karsten (a Germany) and...
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Jungle Boyz
The Bar...where things hang, and swing free

5/16 Had Patong Rd., Aroonsom Square, Patong Beach, 076 342927
Chiang Mai Map Legend

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<td>Doi Boy Pub</td>
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Chiang Mai Comments

**Classic House (6)**
A good place to relax. Have a drink at the nice Café. Or go for a coffee and a massage by one of those young professional men, you will not be disappointed.

**Cruise Bar (21)**
This popular open air bar is located behind Night Bazaar like all the others in this area. First you have to pass some gily bars. Hidden in the background are some obviously gily bars as your restless eyes will soon discover. The most popular seems to be Cruise.

**House of Male (2)**
Popular, very friendly sauna. Centrally located in a renovated Thai mansion. Pool, garden, gym and other amenities.

**Seven Suns (3)**
The former Lemongrass Boutique Guesthouse has again been upgraded. It was reopened under new management and new name. It is now called Seven Suns. Give it a try.

**M2M (8)**
The place to meet friends, friendly and relaxing atmosphere.
Map of Phuket Legend

Aquarius 1
Angel 2
Bingo 3
Blue Dolphin Sauna 4
Boat Bar 5
Room Boom 6
Chicken Bar 7
Club Bamboo 8
Club One Seven B&B Phuket 9
Connect Guesthouse 10
G.U. Tonight 11
Fire Island Disco 12
Flying Hardbag 13
Pong Kaeo Mansion 14
Golden Boys 15
Heaven 16
ICON Hotel 17
James Dean 18
James Dean and Friend 19
Jaoj John 20
J.B. Bar 21
Jochen's 22
Jungle Boyz 23
Kenya's 24
Koh San Restaurant 25
Jatamna Guesthouse 26
Ma Prang 27
Man-Ya Karaoke 28
Monte Carlo 29
My Way 30
Neighborhood Restaurant and Bar 31
Paradise Inn 32
Passport 33
Rendez Vous Guesthouse 34
Rim Suan Restaurant 35
Ruby Slipper 36
Sea Hag 37
Siam Palm Hotel 38
Simon Cabaret 39
Sporticus 40
Sphinx Restaurant and Theatre 41
St. Bay 42
Sudarshan 43
Tangmam Club 44
Tawen on the Hill 45
Tiger Bar 46
Time Bistro 47
Twilight 48
Uncle Charles Boys 49
World Gems 50

Phuket Comments

Sphinx Restaurant and Theatre (34)
The new Sphinx Restaurant and Theatre in Patong is just minutes from the beach and Paradise Complex. The restaurant is elegant and comfortable and features a lovely and lush garden. A well rounded menu offers Thai and western food, full bar service and a wide selection of wines. The theatre features the "Pharaohs", performing their unique mix of Broadway style musical numbers and medleys of popular favourites and oldies.

Aquarius (20)
Aquarius is basically a sauna - on the other hand it is more, much more like a one-stop center for all your needs during your stay in the South. On the ground floor they have a pool, a bar, the gym and the showers, on first floor locker room, steam, sauna, Jacuzzi and the dark room. Third and fourth floor contain total 9 rooms. Luxury rooms/apartments incl. 1 Master Suite with 2 bedrooms and a Jacuzzi. On the roof you find a sundeck with showers.

Siam Palm Hotel/Rim Suan Restaurant/Jungle Boyz (36)
The 15-room Siam Palm is a gay-owned, "gay-friendly" Patong establishment in the middle of the action, but still quiet. Its Rim Suan Restaurant offers fine Thai cuisine and European dishes. Next door the Jungle Boyz is also worth a try. All three places are under the same ownership and management.
MSM Truckers in Karachi

By Noor D. Gray

Continued from Thai Guys #38.

He adds that since a recent clampdown on commercial sex workers at Mauipur, masseurs have multiplied. In Pakistan they advertise themselves by suggestively clinking their oil bottles together and intoning "malish, malish" (massage, massage).

Commenting on the truck drivers' preference for males, Bobby asserts, "Once these men indulge in sexual activities with men and us (trannies) they get into the habit and begin to enjoy this more and more. And best of all, there are no strings (like unwanted pregnancies) attached."

There are large numbers of male commercial sex-workers in Pakistan ranging from bootblack boys to young teens loitering (usually sporting bright scarves or kerchiefs) to handsome young men with mustaches looking for a lift. They can be found anywhere, but particularly in bus-stations and truck-stops.

Perhaps, not needless to add, there is a lot of high-risk sex behavior. A widespread denial of commercial sex between men - reported to be proportionately much higher than neighboring India - hampers education and prevention.

Teem of NKC opened Café Tasadej which bears a rainbow flag. Since NKC is, in fact, little more than a hamlet, the crowd is very mixed, but all the foreign guests are at least gay friendly and certainly not homophobic. Here, or in a certain corner of the disco of the Grand Hotel, you might in the past have been able to meet one of the famous NKC (gay or gay friendly) males who might have been willing share some pleasure with you. In their home town the famous NKC guys are very, very shy not at all like they are in far Bangkok where none of their numerous brothers, sisters, cousins and parents can see what they are interested in (or a living or for fun).

But now, ten years after the bridge opened, NKC has finally come of age. This diligent reporter proudly announces that he

has discovered the first gay bar in NKC (progress, I am sure, cannot be stopped!)

It is located in Meechai Road, not far from the Sawasdee guest house, but on the other side of the Road. It is called Chon Bar and had, at the time of my visit, four professionals wearing street clothes (not an open go-go bar -- we are still in conservative NKC after all). During the high season the Thai owner (who has worked in Germany) assured us he would hire nine local talents.

Local talents? No, of course not! They come from wherever but certainly not from NKC where one must be discreet to avoid any discovery by their very extended families (many of whom are probably equally interested in participating . . . for whatever reason).
Mignon Restaurant

Jomtien is becoming a diners' paradise with a never-ending choice of places to satisfy one's hunger or to drop in and have a snack and drink on the way to or from the beach. One place that has been noticed by some of the regular Dongtan Beach-going crowd is the Mignon Restaurant which opened recently with very sensibly-priced menu items and drinks. There is also a daily set menu priced at 290 baht.

The Mignon is on the main road going down to Jomtien Beach on the left-hand side opposite the entrance to Jomtien Plaza where Dick's Café and Exotic are. Nicely decorated, the seating is pleasantly ordered and one can sit on the entrance terrace and watch the world go by or inside in the bright and cozy fan-cooled room. The Restaurant is open from 11am till 11pm and is another place ideally situated for the post-beach snack and drink.

Mr. Jamrad and his delightful staff would be happy to make your acquaintance and with promotional cocktails between 60 and 100 baht at the moment one has an added incentive to try out some of their delicious culinary offerings. Whether you prefer fish, fowl, steak or vegetarian fare there is an amply choice on the menu with a reasonable choice of wines to accompany each dish.

With European and Thai dishes The Mignon is another place where one can easily take one's significant other for a quiet meal, just another plus in its favour - no loud music!

Continued from page 9.

away from holding US assets and I'm not too worried about the fate of the dollar either, at least not as long as every whippersnapper and his dog accepts it eagerly. Finally I want to touch upon stocks in Asia. Hedge funds have abandoned the markets and China might slow down. Oh my oh my, what a disaster. I see it differently: the short term minds have left, but the music is still playing, albeit a little less loud than usual. Economies are growing anywhere between 5 and 8 percent, valuations are decent, currencies are cheap and the surfs up along the Pacific rim. At least for me, and who cares what the bozos of this world are doing with their money anyway.

E-Mail: Dr.Stocks@thaiboys.org

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Pattaya comments

Art Café (72)
The Art Café is located in Naklua (slightly North of Pattaya, see map), about 30 meters away from Wong Amat beach. It is open every day from 11 till late. Good for a cozy dinner or a quiet lunch. Enjoy excellent food in a fine atmosphere inside the restaurant or on their terrace overlooking a well kept garden. A real escape from noisy Jomtien. They regularly exhibit Thai artists. Not gay, but definitely gay-friendly.

Ambiance (53)
The first gay hotel in Pattaya. Well decorated rooms with all necessary amenities. Conveniently located in the heart of Boyz Town.

Boyz Boyz Boyz (1)
One of the first go-go bars in “Boyztown”. Still in same location and thriving. Very popular as a night cruising venue for beachboys.

Bruno’s (8)

Le Café Royale (3)
Piano Bar and Restaurant opens 7.30 pm daily at Le Café Royale with full range of drinks and food. Live entertainment with pianist from 8 pm and famous singer Tiit appearing from 11 pm to 2 am (or later). On Sundays, entertainment starts at 11 pm. Certainly the best in Pattaya.

Amor Restaurant (10)
Richards well known restaurant is located right in the heart of Boyz Town. The only 100% gay restaurant in Town. But you can also bring your mother since they are hetero-friendly or at least hetero-tolerant (they pretend). Even if you are overweight already, try the desserts!

Jim’s Tailor (68)
Certainly the best looking tailor in town with an absolutely intriguing smile but probably married... and an excellent tailor for suits and dresses. Whatever you want, girls, they can do it, clotheswise, strictly!

Panorama Pub (9)
Open air pub with a panoramic view of all that goes on in Boyztown. Before or after dinner sit with friends and watch the world go by. Games room upstairs.

Siam Thani (28)
The only exclusively gay resort in Thailand. The cozy, colonial style boutique Hotel in Pattaya. Visit their newly opened Spa where clothing is optional.

Exit (6)
This is the ideal place for your sundowner after another hard day at Jomtien beach. Sit outside on the terrace or inside and enjoy the company of the friendly guys there. Or just watch them play snooker.

Dicks Café Jomtien (25)
Bangkok’s successful Café has now got a cute little brother in Pattaya. Jomtien area. Just besides Derby’s Men Club and opposite Exit this new venue opened just now. Be the first ones to pay a visit.

Two Faces (41)
Do not worry, there are many more than only two faces at Two Faces. Nice atmosphere, friendly hosts, fun to go there. Try it on your way to or from Jomtien.

The Silk Room (49)
This new venue is specialized in exotic bedroom design and exquisite Thai silk bed covers. The owner, Greg Taylor, is very creative. Located in Jomtien complex in the soi right behind Dick’s Café Jomtien on the right hand side.

Poseidon (77)
Poseidon is the very stylish gay guest house in Jomtien Complex. If they should be fully booked, at least try their good and inexpensive restaurant or go with them on a luxury one day cruise to the islands.

Lek’s (67)
Lek’s Boys is the newest Go-Go in town. The place, located just in front of Day/Night hotel, is huge and has a wide range of hosts. Have a look.
Continued from page 41.

also working as a waiter in a restaurant during that time. All to earn money and save, he assured me, so he could and put the money in the bank in order to build a family house in Korat and buy a business later to give him something to live on when old age reduced his charms which, looking at him that day, it seemed it never would. I liked the idea and told him so and supported him generously as always.

Having sex with Nong was never that great because I am a top but he is not a bottom. But whenever I saw him I had to have him - and quickly. And size-wise he is definitely not a disappointment. He is just such a nice guy with an absolutely appealing personality. Lovely. Were I to meet him right now, I would probably go off with him in great haste.

When I met him at Balcony just recently it was the same as usual. I just had to have him. But this time he was so sad, so sad. Strangely enough that made him even sexier.

‘Now I have been working all these years in this very dangerous profession. Saving all that money. Building a family house and buying this beauty salon in Korat with my elder sister in charge of the business. But she gambles and has lost all the money that I had to work so hard. It is just not fair!’

I could have told him, life is not fair.
Out in Asia

A chronology of gay activism: part one (of three)

by Pierre Tourneau

1971 Publication began of the Japanese gay magazine Barazoku (The Rose Clan), followed in 1972 by Adon and Sabu.

Gay magazines have been published continuously in Japan since that time and marketed openly. Some gay groups functioned. Beginning in 1971, Togo Ken ran as a gay candidate in Japanese national elections, never winning a seat.


1981 The first gay rights organization in Asia, Lambda Indonesia, was formed by Dedë Oetomo and two others. At the time Dedë Oetomo was a doctoral student at Cornell University in the United States. In 1987 the group reorganized as Gaya Nusantara and began publishing a small formal magazine. It organized three national conferences in 1993, 1995 and 1997. Both the organization and the magazine continue, though small.

1983 The first gay magazine, Mithuna, began publication in Bangkok. Various gay magazines have been published in Thailand since that time, none of a mainstream character.

Prominent modernist author Paï Hsien-yung published his novel Crystal Boys, in Chinese, telling the stories of a group of young male sex workers and their patrons in New Park in central Taipei. The novel gained widespread attention from the mainstream literary establishment. It has been called the first modern Asian gay novel. It was made into a film in 1986 and a “hugely popular” television series in 2003.

1984 Minami Teishiro, the publisher of the gay magazine Adon, formed JILGA, the Japanese International Lesbian and Gay Association, after the head of the International Lesbian and Gay Association visited Japan. JILGA attempted to form an Asian regional grouping for ILGA, holding two meetings in Japan and a final one in Bangkok in 1990.

The History of Homosexuality in China, by Xiaomingxiong, was published in Hong Kong (in Chinese).

1986 The Asian Lesbian Network was formed at the International Lesbian Information Service conference in Geneva. It went on to hold four conferences in Asia - Bangkok in 1991, Japan in 1993, Taiwan in 1995 and Manila in 1998. Some younger Japanese gay men split from JILGA and formed OCCUR, which has become the major Japanese national gay rights organization. Similarly in Osaka former JILGA members left that organization and founded a separate group, the Osaka Gay Community, in 1987.

Anjarée, a lesbian organization, was formed in Bangkok, but did not become publicly active for a few years. For a while it published a small format magazine. By 1992 three lesbian organizations had been established in Asia, Sappho in Seoul, Anjarée in Bangkok and Reguni Studio in Tokyo.

Trikone, the first magazine for South Asian gays and lesbians, began publication in California.

1987 Thailand emerged as a gay tourist destination in Asia both for Asians and for Westerners. In 1987 the first of seven editions of Eric Alley’s guidebook, The Men of Thailand, was published, selling in the various GLBT bookstores that had come into being in the West. For many years, it was not for sale in Thailand. Around five gay guidebooks on Thailand have been published since, one in Mandarin. Academic interest in Thailand also developed. In 1989 Peter Jackson’s book Male Homosexuality in Thailand was published, followed by a number of books, articles and chapters by Western scholars. This external interest in Thailand has produced an extensive English language literature.

OG magazine appeared, with a Singaporean publisher and distribution from Australia. It displayed youthful Asian males largely for Caucasian eyes, but had some articles and information.

1988 Gay men created two pioneering organizations as HIV/AIDS education and prevention groups - Pink Triangle in Malaysia, and FACT, The Fraternity for AIDS Cessation, in Thailand. Pink Triangle continues to be active. Three years later the Library Foundation, also a gay-run HIV/AIDS education organization, was founded in Manila.

Three gay-themed plays were banned in Singapore. The banning in 1988 was followed by performances in 1989, 1990 and 1992. The 1990 Singapore International Arts Festival staged a performance of M. Butterfly.

1989 Bombay Dost magazine began publication.

1990 The lesbian group Women Zhi Jian (between us) began, the first activist organization in Taiwan.

1991 Hong Kong decriminalized male homosexual acts. This followed the enactment of a bill of rights, which was designed to secure human rights in advance of the reversion of the territory to China.

In the Peoples Republic of China the noted sociologist Li Yinhe and her husband Wang Xiaobo, a famous novelist, published “Their World: A Study of the Male Homosexual Community in China.” It was revised and republished in 1998 as “The Homosexual Subculture,” and became a best seller.

1992 The first gay student group, UP Babaylan, was established on the main campus of the University of the Philippines, followed later by a lesbian group. Both were given recognition by the University as student groups and were able to host meetings on the campus, such as the 1997 gay and lesbian leaders conference, the December, 1997, national gay and lesbian conference, and the 1998 Asian Lesbian Network conference. A Malaysian representative expressed amazement that the organizers could hang a banner with the words "Asian Lesbian Network" across the road on the large UP campus. Such visibility was impossible in Malaysia.

1993 The Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China issued a directive that homosexuals were no longer to be charged with hooliganism, effectively decriminalizing homosexuality. Ai Bao, a lesbian magazine became publicly available in Taiwan. Soon a "steady output of films and novels" was "well-established" in Taiwan. "Tongzhi" fiction garnered a number of prizes and accolades from the mainstream literary establishment and "became a clearly delineated movement with defining significance for 1990s Taiwanese literature."

The Government of Singapore spoke against the recognition of homosexual rights in the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the only government to make a negative statement on the matter.

A remarkable political mainstreaming of sexuality issues developed in Taiwan. A forward-looking recognition of human rights was becoming a part of Taiwan's assertion of distinctiveness.

- In December, 1993, a public meeting was held between the Taiwanese Legislative Yuan and a coalition of six tongzhi groups, Between Us, Asian Lesbian Network Taiwan, Ai Bao, National Taiwan University's Gay Chat Group, Speak Out and Tongzhi Workshop. The groups put forward a number of demands, some related to HIV/AIDS policies.
  - In his campaign for mayor of Taipei, Chen Shui-bian, now President of Taiwan, promised, if elected, to organize a public tongzhi street party.
  - Mayor Chen Shui-bian sent a representative of his government to attend the same-sex wedding ceremony of popular author Hsu Yoshen and his partner Gary Harriman in Taipei in November 1996.
  - In the first issue of the glossy gay C&L magazine in 1996 the Democratic Progressive Party of Chen Shui-bian published a message of support for tongzhi equality, liberation and rights, claiming that it aimed to build "a respectful, pluralistic society which embraces difference, allowing people the freedom to choose and treating people as people."
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