



PATTAYA GAZETTE

Pattaya Orphanage & School for the Deaf

Issue 11 : July 2011 – October 2011



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THAILAND

TO:

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Merry Christmas



*May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love,
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012.*

Michael W. Phangrak *Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak*
Director

Fr. Francis Kritsada Sukkaphat
Deputy Director

สวัสดีปีใหม่ ๒๕๕๕
Happy New Year 2012

You are invited to join our kids in their annual party
at the Pattaya Orphanage
on Sunday, 25th December 2011, between 17:30 and 22:00 hrs.



▲ In Union with Flood Victims.. Flooding situation in the central part of Thailand has been very serious this year. A group of representatives of children, staff members, and the management of the Pattaya Orphanage, led by Rev. Michael Weera Phangrak, contribute relief items to residents of four villages in Bang Pa-In district, Ayutthaya province. Our six-wheel truck transport necessities purchased from the collection of cash among us. Each of our school-aged children contributes some of the savings from their pocket money. Those who have seen the people in suffering feel very sorry for the victims but they are happy to be of some help. We extend our moral support while praying that the most needy have access to assistance and the crisis will be over soonest.



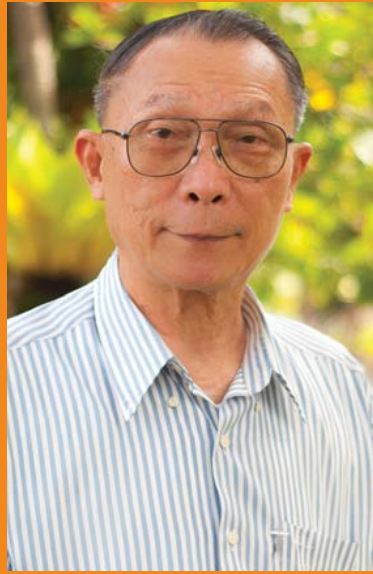
Message from the Director

Just a few days ago when I got up in the morning I could feel for the first time of the year a gentle cool breeze. It's the sign that winter is coming and of course Christmas is the next.

Time passes by quickly day in and day out without notice. It's also with the growth of our lovely children; everyone is growing up physically and intellectually. I'm very proud of them and pray that they all gradually be mature to successfully live on their own later in life.

Good nutrition helps build up the body healthy while necessary disciplines the mind sound and mature. At the orphanage, children are exposed to the daily training on disciplines namely cleanliness, punctuality, and responsibility. The atmospheric surroundings of the houses are always kept clean. Children are constantly reminded to be punctual starting from getting up till getting to bed. Everyone is finally expected to be responsible according to their own capabilities and duties. All of these are aiming at the quality citizen we hope and pray that our children will all be.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak
Director



▲ During this school break, our kids have fun working together, making use of their free time, and gaining good experience from the projects on oyster mushroom cultivation and catfish farming. Children are encouraged to learn the method and help in all the steps. The unused store in our garden has become productive with fresh mushrooms for daily consumption. About 1,000 baby catfish now occupy the pond dug by the kids and enjoy the food given by our children.



▲ Ponglang Sa-on Charity Concert: Fund-raising event organized by the Pattaya Orphanage for the education of its children.. Thirty-six representatives of our kids presented a fabulous stage performance themed “Golden Land” following the formal opening of the charity concert by Rev. Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak. Approx. 2,500 distinguished guests enjoyed the special shows. The event was made possible owing to many generous sponsors: namely Khun Toy of H.H.N. Foundation Thailand, the Royal Cliff Beach Resort, and Rua Mai Restaurant. Grateful thanks to our benefactors especially Thai Alangkarn Theatre, represented by Khun Sutthikorn Jearaphaithoon, who generously gave permission to use the theatre for free of charge, and along with his acquaintances, has sponsored lunch for 1,000 children attending the concert.



▲ To learn about local wisdom, the children of Sotpattana School for the Deaf and pre-school kids from the Pattaya Orphanage visited a pineapple plantation located in Nong Prue sub-district, Banglamung district, owned by parents of a former deaf student. Our kids were happy to learn a lot more about pineapples, how to grow, maintain, and harvest them. They have learned not only from seeing the plants but also from touching them and hearing about their usefulness as food and economic produce. How happy the children were when given a pineapple each at the end of the trip! Our grateful thanks to the kind farming family.

Collections from School Bus



Episode 9: The Feel of Givers

The devastating flooding situation in Thailand this year is one of the worst disasters in decades. Members of the Pattaya Orphanage made cash donation for the purchase of necessities for flood victims. Our kids also donated some of their savings or pocket money toward this cause. Some also helped pack the various supplies and loaded them onto our truck.

Ten older children traveled with the convoy to transport the items to Ayutthaya province. Once the affected villagers learned that our group was from the Pattaya Orphanage, they were astounded. Several flood victims were touched by the support and generosity of our kids towards them at this time of trouble.

When the 10 kids had a chance to tell the group at home of their experiences, certain expressions they had in common were that the flood victims had a real difficult life; there was a joy in their hearts to be able to help people in need; and there was a real value in giving.

We do hope that the care and concern from orphaned kids and all of us would empower the affected people in their struggles until the situation is back to normal and smiles are seen on their faces once again.

Editor