

# TAMPA BAY



February 2012

Club No. 184  
Founded September 25, 1959

ชีวิตนี้สั้นนักดังนั้นเราจึงต้องย้ายช้ามาก

***In English this translates to "Life is short so we must move very slowly." ~ Thai proverb***

Dear Fellow SKÅLleagues:

What a wonderful night at Thai Thani in Tampa's Channelside district. Known for excellence in authentic Thai cuisine, this restaurant did not disappoint. I was particularly impressed with the beautiful, valuable artwork and furniture imported from Thailand and the exquisite setting reminiscent of dining in a grand room of the Royal Palace in Bangkok. My favorite items in the restaurant included glass-covered wood tables with intricately hand-carved scenes that told beautiful stories.

We started our evening in the bar area where it was obvious everyone was happily mixing and mingling with good friends; new and old!

What a surprise to find out that our opening SKÅL toast would be done with champagne! George Hoch gave a creative toast by inserting 2 birthday congrats to Diane Dove and Pam Dobyns.

As we sat down for dinner, we had the opportunity to order from a selection of Thai favorites. Everything served was delicious and the portions were very generous. I saw many a brown bag leave the restaurant at the end of the night.

As you all know, Karen Coultas, our Executive Secretary is moving on effective March 23. While she can never be replaced, we have someone that we feel will do a terrific job of keeping us in good order. Welcome to Pam Dobyns who was voted in unanimously as our new Executive Secretary effective April 1. She attended her first board meeting and joined us for dinner so that we could introduce her. We are so happy to have Pam with us. Pam doesn't have a lot of SKÅL knowledge so I know everyone will do their part to make her comfortable and welcome while she learns all about us. She'll be spending lots of time with Karen in the next few weeks so that we can expect a smooth transition. We really look forward to getting to know Pam.

Your board wants you to know that we are busily planning for the transition to the new SKÅL year. At the SKÅL International World Congress in Finland in September 2011, a motion was made and a vote taken and passed to move to a calendar year. It is almost certain SIUSA will follow with the same motion, vote and approval in April at the NAASC Congress in Bermuda. If this happens as we assume it will, we will also move to a calendar year beginning January 2013. We will be having discussions soon to see if this might impact our club since we will be trying to accomplish some pretty hefty goals in a shorter amount of time ... 9 months instead of 12. More to follow soon ...



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Find a roster of all the members online with their address, email, and phone number at [www.skaltampabay.com](http://www.skaltampabay.com)

The Application for potential members can be found on our website too!

The 50/50 was won by Cedar Hames. Way to go Cedar! It was a whopping \$95.00. Hmmmm ... I think it just might be enough to finally settle our account with Paradise for all the hard work Cedar and his team did designing our Hospitality HobNob invitations and other collateral. No you say, Cedar? Shucks, I thought I'd give it a try

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The evening concluded with the closing SKÅL toast. I just loved to see everyone leave at the end of the evening happy and full.

Our next event is a very special one ... our Installation Banquet on March 12. As is tradition, the evening will be grand with a full program to induct your new SKÅL board. We are so happy we will be enjoying this great event at the beautiful Westin on Rocky Point! So please don't miss it. I hope to see you all on this special evening!

SKÅL,



### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The first time you bring a potential member to a Skål Tampa Bay meetings, please contact Larry Fontana at 850-227-4085 or [ljf32003@yahoo.com](mailto:ljf32003@yahoo.com) OR Bill Priakos at 727-594-5303 or [bill@barefootbeachresort.com](mailto:bill@barefootbeachresort.com) to see if they qualify for a \$25 discount. This would make their first meal only \$25. Please provide the name of the potential member, company, position, website and contact info. Larry or Bill will get back to you within 48 hours to let you know if they qualify. As the member bringing the potential member, you will be responsible to show them around at the first meeting, introduce them, give them a membership application and then follow through with an invitation to a second meeting. If they/we feel that they would be a good addition to our club, then the sponsoring member will invite them for membership into the club. Annual dues are \$195, one time initiation fee is \$125 and (3) prepaid meals are \$135 for a total of \$455. This is due at time of application.

### YOUNG SKÅL

Minimum age for admission to Young Skål is 20 years.

Maximum age is 35 years. At 35 years of age, if not eligible for Active membership, they must leave the Club.

Cost is \$30

Do you know someone working in the travel/tourism industry who would qualify? It is a great way to meet professionals within the industry and to start promoting yourself in the field which you hope to advance. These Young Skål members are the future of our club.



### March Birthdays

03/01 Lisa Faller  
 03/06 Sylvia Reina  
 03/11 Drake Decker  
 03/17 Kimberly Faulk  
 03/29 Ed Shevitz

## NEXT MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012



When: Monday, March 12, 2012

Time: 6:30 Reception  
7:30 Installation Banquet

Where: Westin Tampa Bay  
7627 Courtney Campbell Causeway  
Tampa, FL 33607  
813-712-8380

Attire: Formal

Cost: \$50 per person  
PREPAY ONLY  
Members can use their prepaid meals

**Go to [www.skaltampabay.com](http://www.skaltampabay.com) to make  
your reservation and payment  
or call Karen Coultas at 727-433-3801**

February 13, 2012  
Thai Thani



Kathy and Pam, our new Exec Sec Treas



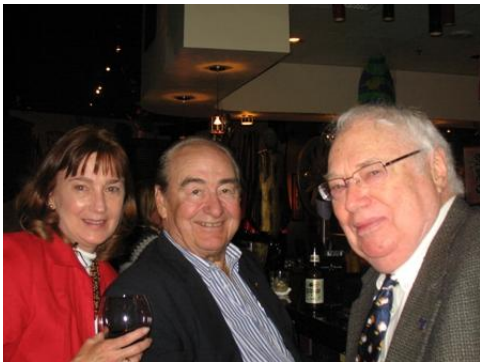
Ed brought 4 guests (potential members)



Lorrie, Russ, Jerry



Cedar and Pat



Michele, Doug, Bob



Chuck, Kraig, Malcolm



Chuck, Carol, Sylvia



Mike, Andy



Kim and Russ



The artwork under the glass table top



Karen and George



One of their intimate dining areas



Lorrie and Russ



Seth, Larry, Kathy, Bill, Jim, Diane



Busted – Kraig and Morgan



Cedar wins \$95 with 50/50



Long tables with good friends



Taiwan Artwork



Pam and Dan



Thank you to Thai Thani in Channelside district in Tampa for the yummy food, tasty Champagne, beautiful surroundings and great service.

Lorrie presents Akillah Institute with a check for \$2575, proceeds raised from Hobnob event in September 2011

