

Thailandfreunde enjoys Christmas with students from the School for the Blind



Thailandfreunde Board members, from left to right row behind: Janet Henry , Jui Langenhorst , Mister Pramuan (Director Northern School for the Blind), Anniruth Hanschumseth, Rudolf Langehorst , Vanita Sethi, Heiko Schmidt. Front row: Wuttipong Arayatumsopon, Dirk Weeber-Arayatumsopon, John Valentine, Frank Sethi.

Members of Thailandfreunde celebrated Christmas Eve with a surprise visit to children at the School for the Blind near Suan Dok gate. The approximately 230 students that live and study there enjoyed presents, Christmas treats and singing Christmas carols with the members of Thailandfreunde. Students used the paper bags used to carry the treats to create musical instruments, and the whole group sang and played together.

The soccer team for the School for the Blind recently won a silver medal at the Blind World Championship Soccer in Tokyo, Japan, an event especially poignant for Thailandfreunde members as the organization had helped raise funds for the construction of the sporting complex. Additionally, funds were raised for new kitchen equipment, dining room supplies and play equipment for the kindergarteners.



Happy children at the School for the Blind receive their treats from Thailandfreunde members.

Anniruth Hanschumseth, Section leader of the Chiang Mai chapter, presented the school with a check for 10,000 baht to go towards the construction of the new Princess Sirindhorn building at the school.

Section Chair Wuttipong

Arayatumsopon told the gathering at lunch that he had dreamed of an angel telling him that Thailandfreunde would be able to raise the million baht needed in the next 6 months to finish construction of the Princess Sirindhon Building, this would provide housing and schooling for an additional 300 students at the school.

Thailandfreunde International president Dr. Dirk Weeber-Arayatumsopon told the crowd that if it came true, they would throw a huge party to show the community that to be disabled is not a burden but an opportunity.