

Friends of Central Highlands, Vietnam

FoCHgram for October 2007

A Special Communiqué to Keep You, the Donors, Informed & Up-to-Date with Ongoing Projects of FoCH, Inc.

Prepared by: **JERRY HARLOWE**
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER



Please remember, that individually we have more in one day than any child at Vinh Son has in a year.



A WONDERFUL YEAR

Because of your continued and generous support FoCHVN has been able to provide manifold quality-of-life items to the Orphanage and some selected villagers as well as capital projects.

Because of your support the Board Members have a few words to express:

When I returned to the people of the Central Highlands of Vietnam over 14 years ago, I knew then that they must believe they had not been forgotten by our country. The vision those of us had in the early days of FOCHVN has more than blossomed into an organization of people who not only care about the Montagnard people of the Central Highlands of Vietnam but they also care about humanity. The words "Thank You" to those who have cared and continue to care seem inadequate, but then without those two simple little words, the Montagnard people of the Central

Highlands of Vietnam would not know they have not been forgotten.

Arnold Waggoner
Past President
Oklahoma

I want to thank everyone who has donated to our organization. I have been working with FOCH since 1996 and I am amazed at how much we have grown. I am also thankful for all of the projects we have been able to fund thanks to our great donor base. We have a very energetic and hard working group and I am sure the limits of what we can accomplish are boundless.

Don Sverchek
Assistant to COO
California

In my haste to put Vietnam behind me and get on with my life, the memories faded of being with the Montagnard in the remote mountains of Central Vietnam and watching them carry on with their lives in dignity under adverse conditions. Then I happen to run across FoCH. What a privilege it has been to help FoCHVN serve the Montagnard people. Thanks to all donors!!

George Knudsen
Advisory Board
Oklahoma



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I have spent most of the last three years in Vietnam and have always worked alone. I have assisted and advised a number of organisations but the people who run and work for FoCH have impressed me the most. They are professional, well-organised, caring and compassionate; which leads them to accomplish much of what you [as donors] and your wonderful efforts deserve. You complement each other so well; I see your results all the time.....the children with smiles as wide as The Mekong! Well done to all.

Francis Fee
Associate Member
England

On behalf of myself and FOCH I truly thank all of you who have made donations and/or sponsored a child at the Vinh Son Orphanage in Kontum, Vietnam. I have been there myself for a few days each summer for the past 5 years and can see a difference. The children at Vinh Son are in good spirits and the Sisters work 24/7 to take care of them but I must say that compared to many other orphanages I have visited - including some in the poorest cities of India, the Kontum orphanage has a long way to go in terms of modern hygiene, education, vocational training and facilities. I am grateful to be in a position to help these kids and I heartily thank you who also support this magical place.

Les Caulfield
US Army Vietnam 1969-70
Florida

As a member of FoCHVN, I want to say thank you to all who have donated and helped our organization. Our projects would not be possible without your good heart. As a Vietnamese, I am grateful for your help to the orphaned children in my country.

Thanks again,
Nguyen Thi Thien, Director
Viet Nam

Thank you for sharing your very own happiness with the children of Vinh Son 1, knowing that your gifts will definitely brighten their days. I hope that the children's happiness will brighten your days and spirit as well. May all of us, adults and children, be well, happy, and peaceful in the noble spirit of this Christmas season as we share in the serene spirit of our Lord Jesus the Savior.

Trieu Kham, Assistant Director
Office of Viet Nam Operations, U.S.
Maryland

I would like to personally thank all the sponsors who have come forward and to say how proud I am that because of you we now have 73 children sponsored.

I would also like to thank all the donors who have made this a great year. We have completed many projects and have started many more.

THANK YOU
Gene Flynn, Director of Viet Nam Ops.
Pennsylvania



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As a new member to FOCH I have found it rewarding to see the dedication and spirit that goes into completing the projects in the Central Highlands. They see a need, set a goal, and a dream becomes a reality. None of it would be possible without the interest and financial support of the donors. Thanks! Now let us see what new we can accomplish together!!

Cindy Flynn
CFO Financial Officer
Pennsylvania

I greatly appreciate to each of you who support and donate to Vietnamese orphans in Vinh Son, Kontum. With your help, our projects of better life for children in rural areas can be developed. Thanks again for all.

Ngocdung Nguyen
Assistant Director
Vietnam

I came to FoCHVN not knowing what to expect, but the association has been great! I have met many fine people doing good things for Viet Nam, and none of it would be possible without the fine donors who care for the children and value their future. **Thanks to all of you.**

Ton Nu Phuong Thao
Assistant Director
Viet Nam

Simply said, without all of you there would be no Friends of the Central Highlands. We are all richer in our hearts

and souls thanks to your caring generosity.

Jerry Harlowe
Chief Operations Officer
Maryland



Christmas Party 2007

The plans are firm and we have fully committed to the FoCHVN sponsored Christmas Party again this year.

There will be presents, food and Christmas cheer for all the children at VS1 Orphanage...and maybe a visit by Santa Clause.

The Board of FoCH, Inc. encourages all sponsors to prepare cards for your individual child, with a few sentences and maybe a photo. No money or presents in the cards please. These sponsors' cards will be delivered separate from the general cards from this year's school children.

Shopping will all be done in Viet Nam and all presents will be wrapped and delivered to the orphanage. As of this date, there will be at least 2 Board Members at the party and maybe more. Right now the



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plans are not firm by several members who are considering the trip.

IF YOU can contribute a little additional money to this year's Christmas Party it will be appreciated. Just send your check to the below address and note on the MEMO line..... **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**FoCH, Inc.
P.O. Box 123
Kersey, PA. 15846**

functional building. Our returning September member is in the construction business and will bring back some early estimates for us with regards to feasibility. We have had a substantial monetary proffer and need to move forward with this project.

We will be looking for some matching funds grants in the future, so if any reader out there has an "in" with a charity minded business we'd love to hear from you.

In addition to the September visit we will have 2 Board members in Kon Tum in October doing additional surveys of the farm land, past projects and reviewing records at the orphanage to maintain the integrity of our well received Sponsorship Program.



FoCH, Inc. Board Meeting

The annual Board meeting was held August 19, 2007 in Breezewood, Pennsylvania.

Right now I can report that the organization has had its best year ever and there are many items completed and in the planning stages.

More will be forthcoming in the end of year report FoCHgram.



FoCH Members in Viet Nam

A FoCH member has returned to Viet Nam in early September and will be visiting the Orphanage among other charity projects. At the orphanage we are starting a survey of several buildings that we have received verbal approval to raze and to build a new, up-to-date multi



Share This Newsletter

One of the reasons we continue to deliver a hard copy of this newsletter is in the hope that you will pass it on to at least 1 other person who is not on the mailing list, and if that person happens to be a Veteran, all the better. But please do not trash it after one read....and when you do trash this, please recycle.



Y Ty Ty



She Needs a Sponsor



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Just Out of Curiosity

I wanted to get an idea of the costs involved in the adoption of a child from Viet Nam so I put in a *GOOGLE* search and just picked an agency at random.

What I found was very disturbing. I am not saying this holds true for all adoptions, and as I said this was a random selection. But I urge you to take a look at the below web page. And for now I **urge** you to continue your support of FoCH as I am sure there will be no rush to adopt these children, especially the ones hidden away in the Central Highlands.

<http://vietnam-adopt.org/vietnamadoption-fees.htm>



RETURNING FoCH Board Members

On September 6th, Joe departed for Viet Nam for 2 weeks. In addition to going into the Kon Tum area he is also stopping at several other orphanages in Sai Gon and meeting with our in country Director and Assistant Directors.

Following Joe's return, Gene Flynn, Director of Viet Nam Operations, will be leaving October 11th and right behind him will be Jerry Harlowe, Chief Operations Officer. Gene and Jerry will be meeting in Viet Nam and doing some combined interviews, inspections and program reviews while in the Central Highlands.

They will also be meeting with another Board member, Frank Fee of England.



Regretfully So

It is my sad duty to inform all of our donors and readers that, as of Press Time for this FoCHgram, our Director of Viet Nam Operations, Thien, is very ill.

Her duties have been assumed by our Assistant Director, Thao, who will be doing the work necessary while Thien is addressing her illness.

We ask that you remember Thien in your private prayers and petition for her speedy recovery. Also, if you put in a kind word for the kids too, I'd appreciate that also.

Operations Officers 2007

U.S. OFFICE:

Chief Operations Officer

Jerry Harlowe

Chief Financial Officer

Cindy Flynn

Director of Viet Nam Operations US Office

Gene Flynn

VIETNAM OFFICE:

Director of Viet Nam Operations

Nguyen Tau Can

Assistant Directors

Hoang Song Lien

Lau Nguyen Cam

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