



Winter 2002

Viet Nam Friendship Village

The Newsletter of the US Committee of the Vietnam Friendship Village Project

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Report from Our 9th International Meeting Held October 30-31, 2002 at the Vietnam Friendship Village

by Suel Jones & Carl Stancil

Together with delegates from Germany, France and Japan we have just completed our international meeting in Hanoi, which occurs every two years. Attending were five delegates from Germany, headed by Rosi Höhn-Mizo and her son Michael Mizo, two from Japan, headed by Tsuguo Oishi, Georges Doussin from France, and three from the U.S.—Becky Luening, Carl Stancil, and Suel Jones (who has been living in Hanoi for a year). Also in attendance from the U.S. was James Bannister, a long-time friend of Jeff Huch and Becky Luening.

We accomplished a lot, in both formal and informal meetings, with the aid of a little Tiger Beer. The evening of the 30th we were received by General Tran Van Quang, President of the Veterans Association of Vietnam, who together with General Dang Quan Thuy grandly hosted a wonderful dinner at the Ministry of Defense “Palace” Hotel in Hanoi, followed by entertainment showcasing traditional Vietnamese musicians and dancers. On Friday, Colonel Huynh Van Trinh and

his wife, along with Mr. Ho Xuan Dich, escorted the delegates to a hot springs for a day of swimming and relaxation.

Shortly after arriving in Hanoi we toured the Friendship Village, marveling at the changes that had taken place since October 2000. It was exciting to see the two new buildings, beautifully designed by the University of Hanoi architectural school. One building is a residence for the severely disabled children and the other is for physical therapy, with the upstairs housing the vocational sewing class.

Other progress was noted in Lt. General Vu Xuan Vinh’s report, presented at the first day of the meeting, October 30.

Progress 2000–2002

In the last two years approximately 474 people have been treated at the village with 41 children having been returned to their families, four provided with wheelchairs and one given a sewing machine. During this same time period a dozen children have been attending local schools. Currently,

...continued on page 4

Vietnamese Vets Delegation Visits Santa Cruz

by Suel Jones & Becky Luening

On September 13, 2002, VFVP-USA co-hosted an eight-person delegation from Vietnam, along with VFW Bill Motto Post 5888, the City of Santa Cruz, and the Resource Center for Nonviolence. The veterans’ visit to the U.S. was sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation, and they had already done the hard work of long, tedious negotiations with governmental representatives in Washington, D.C. and New York City, including John McCain. Knowing they were probably exhausted from their 15-day whirlwind tour, we planned a light, joyful celebration of reconciliation for their day in Santa Cruz, the last stop on their itinerary before returning home to Vietnam. It was a rare opportunity for people to interact with the veterans, most of whom fought in the American-Vietnam war that ended almost 30 years ago. It was a memorable day, both for the Vietnamese visitors and



After an emotional morning reception Sept. 13th at the Santa Cruz Vets Hall, the veterans let down their hair and burst into song. From left: Lt. Gen. Dang Quan Thuy, Consul Le Manh Cuong, Col. Huynh Van Trinh, Lt. Gen. Vu Xuan Vinh, and Col. Giang A Pao.

for the Americans who participated in the day’s events.

The first thing General Vu Xuan Vinh said to me [Suel] when I met him back in Hanoi after our Santa Cruz visit was how greatly they enjoyed the celebration in Santa Cruz and how happy they were to be received in such a wonderful manner. Colonel Huynh Van Trinh said the first part of the trip was work, but that the last day made everything else worthwhile because they had been received as friends. He

...continued on page 2

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FRANCE

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VIETNAM

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AUSTRALIA

Vietnamese Victims of Agent Orange Trust
Bruce Montgomery
http://users.bigpond.net.au/agent_orange_trust/

Vietnamese Veterans Visit Santa Cruz ...from page 1

said, "We are now family," affirming what I'd already been feeling after living in Hanoi for the past year.

We had no sooner placed the last teacup on the reception table in the Veterans Memorial Hall when the two vehicles bearing the eight delegates arrived from San Francisco. Since I was a familiar face from having lived in Hanoi, I rushed down to greet them. As they entered the reception room, the delegates were warmly welcomed by the others, including local veterans Jack Mallory, Bob Svendson, and Bob Hall. Also on hand were Ruben Gomez, LB Johnson, and Chris Matthews, whom Colonel Trinh had met during a 1994 Vietnamese delegation visit. Michelle Mason, head of the new VFVP Canadian Committee, had also met Colonel Trinh on a recent visit to Hanoi.

Colonel Trinh and General Vinh warmly embraced Becky Luening, expressing to her their sympathies, since this visit was the first opportunity they had had to meet her since her husband Jeff Huch passed away in Hanoi in 1996. Seeing Becky and other VFVP-USA members was the main reason for their visit to Santa Cruz.

LB Johnson, a long-time supporter of the Friendship Village, was intrigued by the fact that a woman veteran was with the delegation—Colonel Hong Thi Phuong from Ho Chi Minh City. So when Col. Phuong entered the room LB was ready with open arms. Everyone in the room glowed with happiness and excitement as we greeted each other and renewed old acquaintances.

After being seated around a long table in a somewhat formal manner, Colonel Trinh introduced himself and each of the seven other delegates, as well as representatives from the Vietnamese Consulate in San Francisco. Then, one at a time, we stood and introduced ourselves. We spoke of past war experiences, and the urgent need for peace and reconciliation.

When it came my turn to speak, I was caught completely off guard by the emotions suddenly rushing through my body. I was unable to complete what I wanted to say as tears rolled down my face. It was definitely an emotionally charged morning.

After snacks of tea and pastries, we stood, mingled, and exchanged gifts. The reception concluded with the Vietnamese delegation clapping hands and singing a traditional song. Try to imagine General Westmoreland and other top U.S. generals clapping, singing and laughing with former enemies!

We left the hall en masse and



Councilwoman Emily Reilly took over reading the Santa Cruz City proclamation for Santa Cruz Mayor Chris Krohn after he became choked up. General Dang Quan Thuy (right) was the leader of the Vietnamese veterans delegation; Mr. Cuong (left) interpreted.

walked to the Santa Cruz Art and History Museum, where we entered gratis to view the Santa Cruz history exhibit. We enjoyed a Mexican lunch at El Palomar Restaurant before making our way to Santa Cruz City Hall where the delegates were formally received by city officials and made honorary citizens. It was clear that I wasn't the only one overcome by emotion. As the mayor of Santa Cruz read a proclamation of welcome, he too had to stop as his voiced cracked and tears formed. The vice mayor approached the dais, but after only a couple sentences, she too choked up. Finally, councilman Ed Porter finished the reading.

The day was marked with feelings of great joy mixed with deep sorrow as we received former enemies as friends, even family, on U.S. soil. This event was

unimaginable in 1975 as we watched helicopters, laden with human cargo, straining to lift off Vietnamese soil en route to U.S. warships anchored offshore. Now, 27 years later, we can welcome them to our cities, exchange joyful songs, dine together and laugh together. I believe it was this reality that brought tears to our eyes.

Throughout the day, General Thuy, leader of the delegation and number-two leader of the Veterans Association of Vietnam (VAVN), gave impromptu speeches of gratitude and acceptance. He also had a serious message: a plea for the U.S. to help Vietnam with the problems associated with dioxin (Agent Orange) poisoning and economic woes of a country still recovering from many wars and a long embargo, and to stop its punitive and misplaced emphasis on Vietnam's alleged human rights abuses.

A walking tour of the tall trees at Henry Cowell Redwood Park rounded out the afternoon. Park docent Lenny Gerstein, touched by the veterans' visit, observed that a redwood tree that had survived a major fire was "still healing, much like we are still healing from the wounds of war."

On the way back to Santa Cruz, Chris Matthews, always the gracious host, took the delegation to see famous Lighthouse Point on West Cliff Drive,



L to R: LB Johnson, Michelle Mason, Bob Hall, Huynh Van Trinh, Jack Mallory, Hong Thi Phuong, Chris Matthews, Emily Reilly, Scott Kennedy, Dang Quan Thuy, Chris Krohn, Y Blok Eban, Tim Fitzmaurice, Le Manh Cuong, Vu Xuan Vinh, Consul General Nguyen Manh Hung, Giang A Pao, Ngo Huynh Ni, Ed Porter, Becky Luening, and Le Van Chuc.

NOTE: If your computer plays audio files, you may download a recording of introductions and dinner speeches from the internet at <http://www.radio4all.net/proginfo.php?id=5360>

and then stopped for a quick one at his downtown Irish pub, the Poet & Patriot.

That evening we all gathered in the "bunker" of the vets hall for a farewell dinner. LB Johnson, Becky Luening, Michelle Mason and I frantically oversaw last-minute arrangements of tables, chairs, place settings and decorations as chef Jozseph Schultz prepared a feast. At first just a few people waited in the Peace Garden. Then, without warning, a crowd gathered like clouds on the horizon until 80 or more people poured

into the hall, filling every available seat.

As the hall filled with chatter, laughter and acoustic music, the delegates arrived, exhausted from a full day but still smiling, shaking hands like long-lost relatives returning to a family reunion. As we ate, speeches filled the air, toasts were offered and gifts exchanged. Finally the time came for the delegation to return to San Francisco, but before they could get away all the veterans in attendance gathered for a group photo with the Vietnamese. Then a young Vietnamese-American girl came forward and asked to have her photo taken with the delegation. At that point there wasn't a dry eye in the crowd.

The delegation left the hall under a chorus of goodbyes and a thunder of applause. Later, dinner attendees told us again and again how special the evening had been; people used words like "amazing" and "magical." Ken Slosberg said that for him the dinner had the "surreal quality of a dream."

Finally, after several hours of cleanup, LB, Becky, Michelle and I collapsed at Carl Stancil's house to think back over the day and all that had been accomplished. All we could do was grin, give ourselves a few high fives and congratulations for a job well done. It was a day we will not soon forget.

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Vietnamese delegation visit on September 13 was a magical, memorable and meaningful day, and we wish to acknowledge those who made it possible.

A big thank you to **Erik Johnson** of **Erik's Delicafes** and **George Ow Jr.**, whose generous donations ensured that we didn't dip into Friendship Village funds. Thanks also to **Molino Creek Farm**, **Emily's Bakery**, and **Joe Cannastracci** for their contributions of flowers, food and drink, respectively. Extra special thanks to indefatigable **Chris Matthews**, **Poet & Patriot Irish Pub**, who accompanied the delegation all day, which happened to be his birthday! Much appreciation to **Santa Cruz Mayor Christopher Krohn** and **Councilmembers Scott Kennedy, Emily Reilly, Tim Fitzmaurice** and **Mark Primack** for sponsoring lunch. Warm thanks to the **Museum of Art & History** and to **Henry Cowell State Park** for sharing Santa Cruz history and the giant redwoods with our guests. Thanks to **Dr. Mad's Quartet** for the music.

Much credit to **Carl Stancil** and **Dick Vittitow** for their essential groundwork and organizational work done weeks ahead of the visit. **Paul Gaylon** was also of great assistance, as were volunteers **Juliette Bloxham, Shasta Criss, Paul Howard, Laurie Howard, Laura Norvig, Cassie Johnson, Smiley Rogers, Dave Rogers**, and angelic **Joanne Hagarty**. We are also grateful to **Vet's Hall staff** for all their extra help.

Last but not least, we'd like to acknowledge all the local veterans who extended such a warm welcome to the Vietnamese veterans in the true spirit of friendship and reconciliation, including **Bob Budda, Stuart Carlson, Joe Curry, Ruben Gomez, Bob Hall, Pete Jusel, Robert Lee, Jack Mallory, Tim McCormick, Allen Morgan, Rick Moran, Ken Slosberg**, and **Bob Svendson**. *Many thanks! - Becky, LB, Michelle, Suel*



BECKY LUENING

Rosi and Michael Mizo stand with the Director of the Friendship Village, Nguyen Khai Hung (right) and the Deputy Director, Nguyen Tien Nhung (left) in front of a display dedicated to VFVP Founder George Mizo, who passed away in March 2002.

Financial Report

The financial report for the past two years is impressive. During the period October 10, 2000 to October 30, 2002 the national committees and our Vietnamese associates raised through governmental and private funds \$221,713.38. A total of \$169,686.56 was spent for operational costs, construction and new equipment, leaving a surplus of \$52,027.82. National committee representatives concurred at the international meeting that the surplus should be used for construction of a new administration building and a house for 30 more children. (See financial report on page 6.)

Plans for 2002-2004

Goals for the next two years include:

- Increasing the number of residents to 200.
- Construction of an administration building (est. cost \$35,000-45,000).

International Meeting ...from page 1

six are in 5th grade and six in 7th-9th grades. At the Friendship Village, three school classes have been established with 22 attending 1st-2nd grades, 18 attending 3rd-5th grades, and 14 attending a special class for mentally disabled.

The showcase of the village is the new tailoring class. The Norwegian Red Cross donated 23 sewing machines and a year's worth of materials. There are now 20 students attending the classes, creating commercial grade products which are sold in Hanoi to produce income.

The village has received more than 200 visitors from 33 nations and six international organizations.

Significant progress has been made in therapy available at the village. Two European physical therapists have been volunteering their time to work with the children and train staff. Production and use of medicinal herbs and wholesome foods at the Friendship Village has also increased.



BECKY LUENING

A closeup of the banyan tree planted at the Friendship Village in 1995 by a delegation of American visitors from the Santa Cruz area, when the village was still under construction.



BECKY LUENING

This is the new building with rooms for severely disabled children downstairs (note wheelchair ramp) and the new sewing shop/cultural center upstairs.



BECKY LUENING

- Construction of another house for 30 children (est. cost \$40,000-50,000).
- Expansion of the existing medical clinic into a general examination facility (est. cost \$60,000).
- Creation of a shop in the existing administration building to sell crafts made by the children, as well as items from the national committees. Information about the Friendship Village and the effects of Agent Orange will also be disseminated through the shop. Children will assist in operation of store, thereby developing communication and money handling skills.

Annual operating costs are projected to rise from \$75,000 to \$100,000 as the number of residents is increased to 200 (160-170 children and 30-40 adults). The Vietnamese Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs, along with the Ministry of Finance will provide thirty percent of the funding; the VFVP International Committee will provide the rest.

Although not part of the projected expense budget for the next two years, an agreement was reached on the concept of creating a vocational training school for 300 pupils. The school would



CARL STANCL

ABOVE: At the time of our visit (late Oct.), this young boy was the newest arrival at the Friendship Village. He was born without legs. His grandfather fought in the south and was exposed to Agent Orange during the American war. LEFT, RIGHT: Groups of children work on drawings for exchange with U.S. students.



CARL STANCL

Rosi Höhn-Mizo, Col. Huynh Van Trinh, and Georges Doussin draft the official memorandum announcing the results of the Ninth International Meeting. Rosi (from Germany) is now President of VFVP's International Committee, and Georges Doussin (from France) serves as Vice President.

provide training for approximately 30-40 people from the village, with the remainder coming from families of needy veterans. The Friendship Village would provide the land; partner organizations will provide financing. Products may be sold for a profit to help cover costs.

The International Committee and Friendship Village management have agreed to work toward increasing the quality of care provided for the children at the Friendship Village through the pedagogical training of the teachers of the mentally and physically disabled. Rosi Mizo has been in communication with the German Development Service which has offered its assistance.

An Exciting Time

The conference was exciting. It was great to work with colleagues, to overcome language and cultural barriers, to acknowledge our progress,



BECKY LUENING

then come to agreements and plan for the future. The genuine progress was clear when we took a break to go out to play with the kids. One of the children (born without legs) whose family some of us had visited the day before was now at the village trying out a new wheelchair brought by the German Committee. His parents were with him as he smilingly showed off his independent mobility after less than one day.

There were also difficult parts to the trip. This was the first conference without George Mizo, U.S. veteran and Agent Orange victim who co-founded the project with General Tran Van Quang. Though George died March 18, 2002, his presence was felt everywhere at the village. It was especially hard for George's wife Rosi and son Michael to be in Vietnam without him. Nevertheless, they were an integral part of our meeting, committed as ever to the Friendship Village. Rosi was elected President of the International Committee, agreeing to serve as the central coordinator. She will be excellent in this capacity since she has great language skills, works with disabled children in Germany, and has been



We joked about holding our next international meeting in this hot springs pool in Kim Boi, west of Hanoi. Pictured are VFVP representatives from the U.S., Japan, Germany, France, and Vietnam.

involved in the project from the start.

Becky Luening, head of the U.S. delegation, was making her first visit to Hanoi, the place where her husband Jeff Huch died in his sleep in 1996 on the eve of that year's meeting. We visited tributes to both George and Jeff, lovingly tended at the village.

On Friday after we finished our work we all made an outing to a hot springs several hours south of Hanoi to celebrate and soak our tired bodies and minds. Picture three Vietnamese, a Frenchman, five Germans, two Japanese and three Americans; toss in some potatoes, carrots, herbs, and simmer. What a wonderful multicultural stew! There's something about getting (almost) naked and wet with your colleagues that brings you closer.

Throughout the conference, the Vietnamese veterans who visited Santa Cruz on Sept. 13 talked constantly about their experience, especially the "big red trees" (Redwoods) and being made (honorary) citizens of Santa Cruz without having to pay taxes. They mentioned many times the fact that the Americans they met in Santa Cruz "shed tears" during their visit, a sign of great emotion that moved them deeply. During our last meeting with the veterans before leaving Hanoi, they reiterated their message of reconciliation to Americans, and invited people, "especially from Santa Cruz," to come do business with Vietnam.



BECKY LUENING

Following the Vietnamese custom, Michael honors the memory of his father George Mizo by placing incense on an altar at the Friendship Village.

Vietnam Friendship Village Financial Report

Oct. 10, 2000 to Oct. 30, 2002

PART I. Total Income and Expenses

A. INCOME	
International Committee	\$ 221,714.38
Government of Vietnam	40,000.00
Individuals and Organizations	7,526.00
Total Income	\$ 269,240.38
B. EXPENSES	
Operating Expenses	\$ 122,416.50
Basic Construction	78,603.00
Equipment Purchase	8,666.00
Total Expenses	\$ 209,685.50
C. BALANCE \$ 59,534.88*	
<i>*With the addition of recent donations, the total reserve is now \$ 74,946.84</i>	
D. VALUE OF NON-CASH DONATIONS \$38,707.30	

Part II. Detailed Analysis of Income

A. RECEIPTS FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE (cash deposits minus bank fees)	
German Committee	\$ 137,980.61
French Committee	39,085.35
U.S. Committee	35,407.09
Japanese Committee	5,000.00
British Committee	1,393.33
Total	\$ 218,866.38
B. GIFTS FROM VISITING DELEGATIONS	
German	\$ 290.00
French	201.00
U.S.A.	1,730.00
Japanese	627.00
Total	\$ 2,848.00
C. TOTAL RECEIPTS PER COUNTRY & PERCENTAGES	
Germany (51.36%)	\$ 138,270.61
France (14.59%)	39,286.35
U.S.A. (13.79%)	37,137.09
Japan (2.09%)	5,627.00
Great Britain (0.52%)	1,393.33
Total from Intl. Committee:	\$ 221,714.38
D. RECEIPTS FROM VIETNAMESE SOURCES	
Government Contribution for Operating Expenses 2000 & 2001 (14.86%)	\$ 40,000.00

Contributions by Individuals or Organizations through the Veterans Assn. of Vietnam (2.79%) 7,526.00
Total from Vietnamese Sources: \$ 47,526.00

E. TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM ALL SOURCES \$ 269,240.38

Part III. Detailed Analysis of Expenses

A. OPERATING EXPENSES	
2001 Expenses	\$ 39,416.50
2002 Expenses	63,000.00
Total Operating Expenses:	\$ 122,416.50
(32.64% paid by Vietnamese Govt.)	
B. BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	
House for Severely Disabled	\$ 44,895.73
Cultural Center/Sewing Shop	33,707.33
Total Construction Costs	\$ 78,603.06
C. FURNITURE FOR NEW BUILDINGS	
Disabled Children's House	\$ 4,666.00
Cultural Center/Sewing Shop	4,000.00
Total Furniture Expenditures	\$ 8,666.00
D. TOTAL EXPENSES 2001-2002 \$ 209,685.56	

VFVP-USA Income & Expense Statement

Oct. 1, 2001-Sept. 30, 2002

INCOME	
Individual Donations	\$ 27,984.50
Interest Earned	38.70
Total Income	\$ 28,023.20
EXPENSES	
VAVN Delegation Visit Expenses*	\$ 1,841.61
Photocopies & Printing	1,503.78
Postage	681.75
Telephone Conferencing (Board)	408.52
Internet Dialup Service	45.00
Website Hosting	195.40
Wire Transfer Bank Fees	30.00
Total Expenses	\$ 4,797.29
BALANCE	\$ 23,225.91
TRANSFERRED TO VIETNAM	\$ 32,000.00

*Expenses for the Vietnam veterans delegation's visit on Sept. 13 were paid for by donations collected for that purpose, with \$200 to spare. For Fiscal Year 2001-2002, 87% of VFVP-USA's total income was transferred to Vietnam.

Vietnam Friendship Village Project-USA thanks you for your support!

Listed below are all who made donations since our summer newsletter. Please let us know if we overlooked anyone.

Ren & Susan	Jim & Heidi Lewin
Philip & Marsha Aaronson	Charles Liteky
Tama Adelman	Kathleen Lowder & David Cole
Laurielle Angelina	Becky Luening
Thomas F. Bayard, IV	Grace & Jim Malley
James "Groucho" Beckenhaupt	Michelle Mason
Norma Becker	Chris Matthews, Poet & Patriot
Katherine Beiers	Irish Pub
Richard Blanchfield	Cynthia Matthews
Juliette Bloxham	Tim McCormick
Paul & Harriet Blue	Rev. Bill McDonald
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Cayenne Boyd	Rick Moran
Jill Brethauer & David Samuel	Allen Morgan
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Zeke Budda	Rachel O'Malley
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LB Johnson	Richard Trujillo
Suel Jones	Richard & Marion Vittitow
Pete Jussel	William & Janet Wenholz
Scott & Chris Kennedy	Edwin & Dung Williams
Christopher Krohn	Milena Wong
	Dale Zevin

DEDICATIONS received since our last mailing

Donor	Dedication
Marsha & Philip Aaronson	In memory of Chris Plymesser
Thomas Bayard	In honor of, in memory of and to celebrate George Mizo
James T. Beckenhaupt	In honor of Lt. Rich
Norma Becker	In memory of Gene Becker
Richard Blanchfield	To celebrate Peace
Bela Bodnar	To celebrate Michael & Wanda's wedding
Elizabeth Brown	To celebrate the lives of Bea & Bill Eisman
Debbie Cahoon	To celebrate the marriage of Wanda Riley & Michael Cull
David Dellinger/Elizabeth Peterson	In memory of all the lives that were lost
Rolland Fletcher	In memory of Denver Moore
Liliane Flöge & Steve Crawford	In honor and in memory of "Paco" Hüch
Frank Forbath	In memory of Richard G. Forbath
Grace & Jim Malley	In honor of Mike and Wanda Cull's marriage
Bill & Carol McDonald	In honor of the Vietnam Experience Support Network
Gerda Norvig	To celebrate the lasting spirit of Paco Hüch
Candace & David Peterson-Kahn	To celebrate your creative efforts toward reconciliation and friendship
Cal Robertson	To celebrate George Mizo and all the relations
Robert Robey	In memory of George Mizo
Peter Rubin	In memory of Dr. William Eisman
Robert Sableski	To celebrate Bill McDonald
Muriel Salmansohn	In memory of Donhle Chai
Jerome Schnitzer	In honor and memory of Ellie Schnitzer and to celebrate her life
Richard Tracy	In memory of Mary Jo Tracy who died on 10/10/01
Janet K. Wenholz	In memory of William D. Wenholz

Special thanks to...

- September 13th Dinner Sponsors:
Erik Johnson, owner of Erik's Deli Cafés
George Ow, Jr.
- People who have donated \$500 or more to VFVP within the last six months:
Col. James B. Burkholder, USA, Ret.
Liliane Flöge & Stephen Crawford
Abby Rockefeller & Lee Halprin
Aaron & Martha Schecter
- Bak-On-Trac, Arcata, California, for a donation of two gym balls for physical rehab (taken to the Friendship Village in October by Becky Luening)

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Vietnam Friendship Village Project USA is to cultivate reconciliation and heal the wounds of the Vietnam War by uniting veterans and caring citizens through international cooperation in the building and support of the Vietnam Friendship Village, a living symbol of peace.

The Vietnam Friendship Village is located in Van Canh Commune, Ha Tay Province, about 11 km from Hanoi, Vietnam.



Vietnam Friendship Village Project-USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 3805, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3805



CARL STANCIU

New Year Greetings
from the Friendship Village

Visit us on the worldwide web at <http://www.vietnamfriendship.org>

Việt Nam News

THE NATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY

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Friendship Village looks to off-shore allies for funding

HÀ NỘI — The Việt Nam Friendship Village is calling on international donors to invest money in an upgrading plan to house 200 Vietnamese Agent Orange victims by 2004.

The plan was unveiled yesterday by the president of the international committee for the village, Rosie Hohn Mizo, during her talks with Deputy PM Phạm Gia Khiêm.

Khiêm hailed foreign supporters who helped construct the village, which he said had not only helped victims from the American War, but also illustrated the humanity of international friends.

He said the village's operation had proved effective in relieving painful consequences of the war and asked Mizo to keep up the comm-

ittee's work to, along with Vietnamese Government, keep helping the victims.

Mizo is currently hosting the ninth meeting of the international committee in Việt Nam.

The village was built in 1993 and currently accommodates about 140 Agent Orange victims, including 110 children and 30 war veterans. — VNS



SUELE JONES

Rosi Hohn-Mizo, the new president of the Vietnam Friendship Village Project's International Committee.

~ INSIDE ~

- Vietnamese Vets visit Santa Cruz
- News from International Meeting
- Latest Financial Reports
- Receipt photographs from the Friendship Village