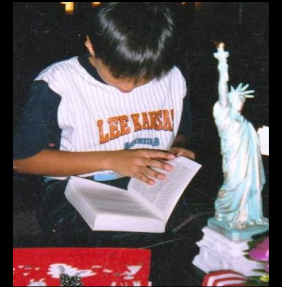


# Children's Library International-Vietnam\*Laos\*Cambodia



# CHILDREN'S TRIBUNE



"Knowledge is Power"

Fall 2017

Hanoi Sep 10, 2001

## 5th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION September 23, 2017

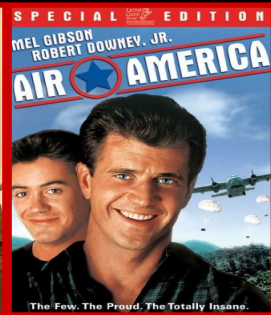
Captain Neil Hansen of Air America leads our best cultural show yet...



Lunabellas Dancers, Lao-Hmong



Captain Neil Hansen



Mel Gibson, Star Air America



Vietnam's Fan Dancers

Veteran Helicopter Pilots of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia were the honored guests along with Captain Neil Hansen, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Decorated Veteran of Air America, the VIP Speaker. Hansen was an advisor for the 1990 Movie Air America that starred Mel Gibson, Jr. But, once again, the stars of the show were the Vietnamese, Lao and Hmong Dancers and Fashion show that were the talk of those in attendance afterward. Jack Nguyen, President Emeritus of Children's Library International (2013-2017, 5 years served) once again led a fantastic group of Vietnamese entertainers including a fashion show that was the heart of the night's entertainment along with the Lao Dancers and the Lunabellas Hmong Dance Group.

The 61st Assault Helicopter Company showed up in force along with Lao Veterans, Hmong Veterans, and the loyal sponsors who have joined us over the years to support our activities in Southeast Asia. Mayder Lor capped off the evening along with Jar Xiong speaking of the plan to join the Library Project in Laos along with her dad, Charlie and mom, in December. The color of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia was on full display as always, fond memories for old veterans from the past, sources of pride in the cultures by the next generation for the future.



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**KMHMU PROJECT**



**PHONSAVATH LAOS LIBRARY**

**FUNDING: FALL 2017**

**GRANT: \$50,000**

**LOCAL AUTHORITY \$10,000+**

**COMMITMENTS TO DATE: \$38,000**

**NEEDED: \$12,000**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:**

**2018**

Your support will help sponsor this Library in Meuang Feuang District of Vientiane Province, Lao PDR. This monument to the future of the Khmu will live for years building the hopes and dreams of the Khmu Children of Laos.

America and Laos are working together, sponsored by Khmu - with Lao, Hmong and American support. We need and appreciate your help!

***PHONSAVATH PROJECT***

***GROUNDBREAKING:  
DECEMBER 8, 2017***

October 21, 2017 the Library Project met with Mr. Keo, Headmaster of the Phonsavath School System. Madame Kongdeuane Nettavong, Nuni, recent Master's Degree Recipient and Library of Laos Staffer, joined Chuck and Vietnamese Assistant Khanh Le in the gathering. The meeting planned the execution of the Project:

1. GROUNDBREAKING SET FOR 8 DECEMBER 2018
2. DESIGN: ARCHTECTURAL SIGNATURE & KHMUS TRADITIONAL LOGO
3. CONTRACTOR SELECTION
4. CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE
5. DEDICATION: DECEMBER 2018



**2017-18 CALENDAR**

**NOV**

24 Vietnam Mang Lang Orphanage SANTA CLAUS

**DEC**

- 1 Vietnam: Ross' English School, Vung Tau
- 4 Cambodia: Santa Claus Takeo Library
- 8 Laos Groundbreaking: Phonsavath Library
- 10 Laos: Xhieng Khouang Hmong Legacy Library
- 11-13 Laos: Mayder Lor & Family Nong Het English
- 14 Laos: Lor Family Tong Seng Lee Memorial  
Nong Het Books Presentation
- 18 Hanoi CT Vietnam Permit Meeting
- 20 CT to USA

**APRIL 2018**

- 13 Special Forces Ball Kansas City
- 20 Special Forces Ball, Chicago

**JULY**

20 VFW Convention

**AUG**

TBD Green Berets Reunion Ross' Kansas City

**SEP**

22 2018 CHILDREN'S BANQUET

**OCT**

3 Mission #47: Vietnam\*Laos\*Cambodia



# 2017-18 SCHOLARSHIPS-VIETNAM



**TERRY      STEVE      MIKE      TRANG      HANH      TRINH      KHANH (KEN)      CHUCK**



**DUc PHO SCHOLARS (SPONSOR TERRY JONES FAMILY & FRIENDS)  
QUANG NGAI PROVINCE      October 9, 2017**



**MY LAI SCHOLARS (SPONSOR TERRY JONES FAMILY & FRIENDS)  
QUANG NGAI PROVINCE      October 9, 2017**

## TERRY JONES, BAY CITY, LONDIA WRIGHT, ST. LUKE'S



**NAM DONG SCHOLARS (SPONSOR BAY CITY MICHIGAN VETERANS)  
THUA THIEN-HUE PROVINCE      October 11, 2017**



**GIO LINH SCHOLARS (SPONSOR LONDIA WRIGHT & ST LUKE'S)  
QUANG TRI PROVINCE      October 12, 2017**



**CUA TUNG SCHOLARS (SPONSOR TERRY JONES FAMILY & FRIENDS)  
QUANG TRI PROVINCE      October 13, 2017**



**PHUONG DIEN SCHOLARS (SPONSOR PHUOC NGUYEN I & III)  
THUA THIEN-HUE PROVINCE      October 14, 2017**



# 2017-18 SCHOLARSHIPS-LAOS



**Kongdeuane**



**Nuni**



**Daoprachang**



**Staffer**



**Khanh (Ken)**



**Chuck**



**PHON HONG SCHOLARS** October 22, 2017 (Dick & Patty)



**DONGMAKHAH SCHOLARS** October 23, 2017 (Dicky & Patty)

## PATTY NICHOLSON, DICK ESPY, ROSS WORLEY



**KEAN VILLAGE SCHOLARS** October 24, 2017 (Dick & Patty)



**PEUKAO SCHOLARS** October 24, 2017 (Dick & Patty)



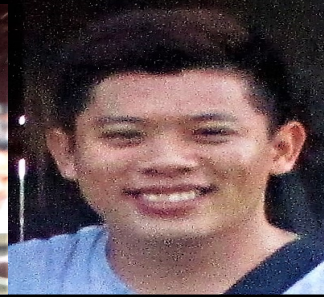
**ATTAPEU SCHOLARS** October 25, 2017 (Dick & Patty)



**PAKSE SCHOLARS.** October 26, 2017 (Ross)



# 2017-18 SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANT-CAMBODIA



**Huor**

**Khanh (Ken)**

**Chuck**



**ANGSOENG LIBRARY SCHOLARS**  
10 @ 200,000/50 USD each  
Seiha Village, Bati, Takeo October 29, 2017



**BA KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE SCHOLARS**  
10 @ 200,000 Riel/50USD each  
Bakong, Siem Reap October 27, 2017

## DICK ESPY



**LIBRARY RENOVATION GRANT**  
\$2,000 Seiha Village, Bati, Takeo October 29, 2017



**LIBRARY OF CAMBODIA PROJECT**  
**STUDENTS "TEAM" SCHOLARSHIP GRANT LIST 2017-18**

SPONSOR: **DICK ESPY** (50USD/200,000 Riel Each)  
LIBRARY: **Ang Soeng** SCHOOL: **Ang Soeng** VILLAGE: **Seiha**  
DISTRICT: **Bati** PROVINCE: **Takeo** CAMBODIA

"BEST STUDENTS in GREATEST NEED"  
"Together Everyone Accomplishes More"

Numbers	Full Name	Class	Average Score	Learning Capacity	Conduct	The Amount	Signature
1	Nget Saeky					200.000	
2	TAA SEKMEAN					200.000	
3	Pha phot Yuth					200.000	
4	Phou Nim Axiya					200.000	
5	RITH SOVAN REACH					200.000	
6	Itacun Saey Neth					200.000	
7	Saoy Sray Mey					200.000	
8	Sok Saoy Nith					200.000	
9	Khon Saoy					200.000	
10	Phouy Kimheng					200.000	
TOTAL						2000.000	

PRINCIPAL/TEACHER/KHMER PDR OFFICIAL TITLE: **Director**  
Signature: **Huor** DATE: **2017/10/29**  
Signature: **Director of Library**  
(Print Name)

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**  
SPONSOR DICK ESPY

2017 PRESENTED TO 2018

Name: **RITH SOVAN REACH** Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
School/Library: **Ang Soeng** Village: **Seiha** District: **Bati** Province: **Takeo** CAMBODIA

**IN RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**  
"AIM FOR THE STARS!"

PRINCIPAL/TEACHER OFFICIAL: **Huor**  
LIBRARY OF CAMBODIA REPRESENTATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

50 US DOLLARS LIBRARY OF CAMBODIA PROJECT 200,000 KHMER RIEL



# CAMBODIA: VFW #11575



**Memorial Medallion and 41st Anniversary May 15-19 2016 Memorial Coin of the last 41 Names on the Wall**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America is a leader among veterans organizations worldwide. As a Life-Member, and thanks to the members of the Phnom Penh Post #11575, Chuck has transferred to the Post. Led by John Muller, Past Post Commander, and Roy Day, current Commander, the group is and has been active in guaranteeing that the lives lost in May 1975 in the Mayaguez incident are not forgotten—the last 41 names on the wall are of the guys killed in May that year some two weeks after the fall of Saigon on April 30. Known as the Mayaguez Post after the ship involved in the incident, the VFW members feel a deep commitment to bringing VFW's Mission of memorializing those who served and helping in the communities around the world where local peoples need help and support even if only small, but always meaningful, ways. We are honored to have this association.

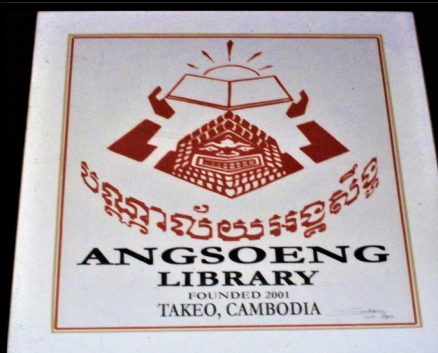


**Chuck, Post Commander Roy Day  
110th Street Phnom Penh**



**John Muller, Past Post Commander, Huor Porleang  
Representative, Library of Cambodia**

The Library of Cambodia has its Project located 80 Kilometers South of Phnom Penh in Seiha Village, Bati District, Takeo Province, in the heart of Cambodia's Killing Fields. The VFW has been helpful in supporting our work, and being there in Phnom Penh it will mean a lot to the children of Seiha Village. Here's the students of Seiha with their Scholarships from Library Project Member Dick Espy October, 2017.





# **BRIDGES**

## **VIETNAM-USA SOCIETY**



THE VIETNAM UNION OF FRIENDSHIP ORGANIZATIONS  
THE VIETNAM-USA SOCIETY

**KỶ NIỆM 72 NĂM THÀNH LẬP  
VIỆT-MỸ THÂN HỮU HỘI**

**72<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE VIETNAM-AMERICA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION**

**MỞ RỘNG HỢP TÁC NHÂN DÂN VIỆT - MỸ TRONG THỜI KỲ  
“ĐỐI TÁC TOÀN DIỆN”**

**BROADENING PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE COOPERATION IN THE PERIOD OF  
“COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP”**

Hanoi, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2017



The Library of Vietnam Project is a proud member of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations (VUFO). This group was formed in 1945, well before the early American military involvement in Vietnam that led up to the full scale war of 1965 to 1975. October 17, 2017 we attended its annual conference.

The interest in American History among the Vietnamese members is high, dating back to well before 1945. One report was about American associations dating back to 1832.

Vietnam Hosted the APEC Meetings in Da Nang November 10. The gathering gave President Trump an opportunity to continue the American tradition of every American President visiting Vietnam since the normalization of relations between the countries back in 1995. He lauded Vietnam as a world miracle in its development and economic growth in the last 25 years.

In a small way the Library Project since its inception in 1999 has been a part of this opening of Vietnam. Nearly 20 years ago we began the process of building Libraries and changing the very educational infrastructure of Vietnam. Through the incorporation of Library independent study facilities as separate freestanding buildings that play a central role in the development of creative initiative, their influence goes well beyond the standard rote learning that is well mastered but with its limitations in the basic Vietnamese and Asian education.

At the October meeting we introduced the idea of using the Libraries as Archival sourcing points for family records of injuries because of Agent Orange, as well as landmine and unexploded bombs. It is now under review in Hanoi.

In a meeting with the General Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Quang Tri Province October 12, 2017, he recalled with gratitude the plan we advanced nearly 20 years ago for Quang Tri Province to become the first Province in the History of the nation to have a Province-wide Library system with a designated library in each of the 7 Districts—we built it and they remember it.





# CLI Reader's Corner

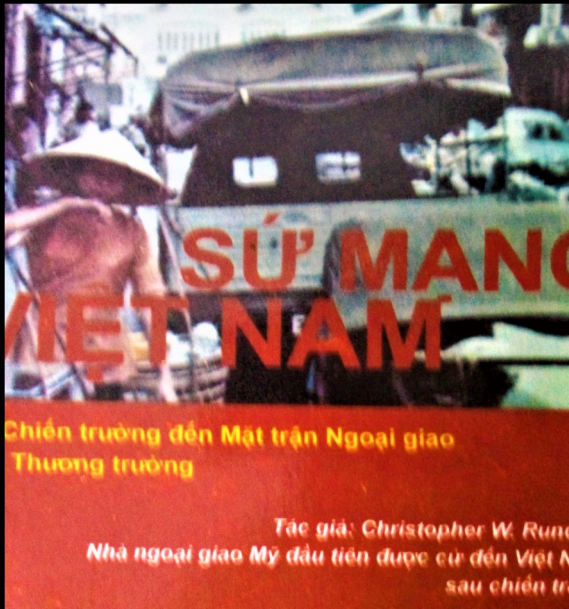
"Books making the Library Project's connections to history"

## "ASSIGNMENT VIETNAM"

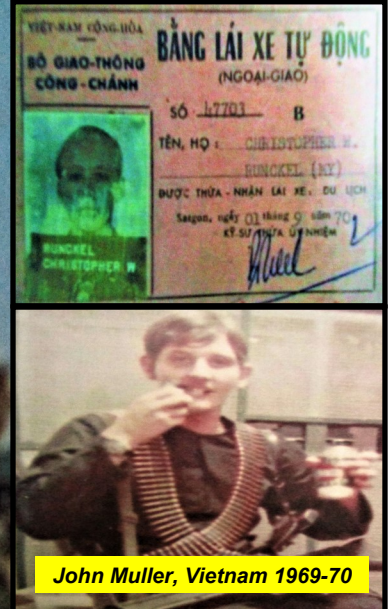
By Christopher W. Runckel

Published 2013

Portland, Oregon



Christopher Runckel, Saigon Orphan 1969

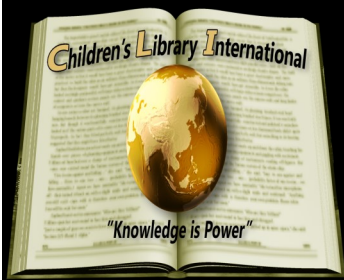


John Muller, Vietnam 1969-70

CHRISTOPHER W. RUNCKEL has self-published a book, "Assignment Vietnam," here shown in its Vietnamese Edition. Citing John Muller, his "Wing Man," in the Dedication, it is a story of his life, and the central impact Vietnam, at war and peace, has made in it. Runckel began the Vietnam experience with his induction into the US Army in 1969 and continues to this day to work with the Vietnamese people. As the first diplomat assigned to Vietnam after the war he brings a valuable insight into the process of rebuilding relations between two nations after over 10 years of war. From the first returns to Vietnam to Pete Peterson's taking office as the first US Ambassador to Vietnam in 1995, some 20 years after the war ended, the number of people involved from so many walks of life, well beyond the political and diplomatic worlds, is an exercise in hope to rebuild and recapture the working relationships between former enemies in search for a brighter future.

This book dedicated in part to John Muller, a story himself, a Vietnam Veteran and later VFW Post Commander of the Mayaguez VFW Post #11575 of Phnom Penh Cambodia, is a worthwhile read. Like many self-published books it tells a story that needs to be told even if main line publishers are reluctant to take them on.

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