



Kids Without Borders



ONE WORLD

www.kidswithnoborders.org

Year End 2007



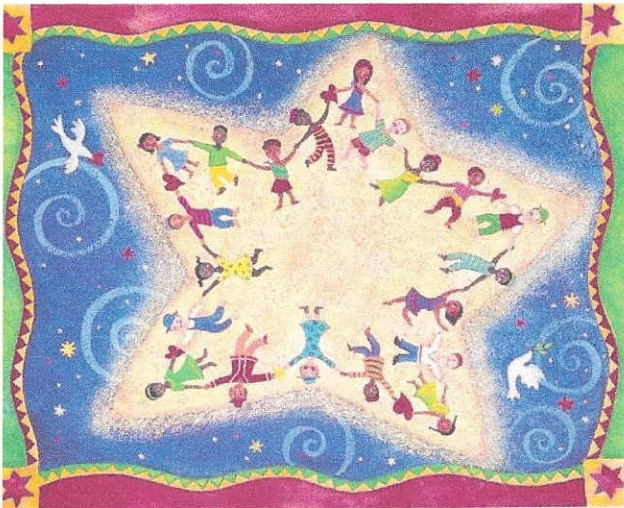
a song

a hope

a prayer

a wish

PEACE



I have a dream
 a song to sing
 to help me cope
 with anything
 If you see a wonder
 of a fairy tale
 you can take the future
 even if you fail
 I believe in angels
 something good in
 everything I see
 I believe in angels
 when know the time
 is right for me
 I'll cross the stream
 I have a dream.

I have a dream
 a fantasy
 to help me through
 reality
 And my destination
 makes it worth a while
 pushing through the
 darkness
 still another mile
 I believe in angels
 something good in
 everything I see
 I believe in angels
 when know the time
 is right for me
 I'll cross the stream
 I have a dream.

I have a dream
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 If you see a wonder
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 I have a dream.
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*Lyric by Benny Andersson
 and Bjorn Ulvaeus,
 performed by ABBA in
 English, Spanish, and
 Japanese (including a
 special performance with the
 children of the International
 School of Stockholm Choir).*



December 5 – INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY



اليوم العالمي للتطوع

国际志愿人员日

International Volunteer Day

Journée internationale des Volontaires

Международный день добровольцев

Día Internacional de los Voluntarios

THANK YOU to all of our VOLUNTEERS.



To all KWB volunteers, supporters, donors, partners, and friends:

It's that time of the year again... time to dream, hope, and wish... time to pray, sing, and listen. Most importantly, it's time to express our gratitude to all of you, who have served others and given generously and shared their love unconditionally.

It has been another rewarding year for KWB, an organization which relies 100% on volunteers. I am amazed when I look back at the list of what KWB has accomplished throughout the year, and overwhelmed by the lives KWB has touched. I am so honored and filled with gratitude by the generous gifts donated to KWB throughout this past year. With the gifts of time, goods, and money you contributed this year, we hope we can count on you to sustain what we have accomplished so far. You have been remarkable in your efforts... and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As we look ahead to the New Year, I am confident that KWB will continue to benefit from your support. Our model projects in Viet Nam have provided us with encouraging results...

The TEACH ME TO FISH (TM2F) program has made it possible for many young men and women transitioning from living in orphanages to being part of a vibrant society. Some of the success stories from this program still amaze me. Financially (as little as \$300-\$400 per year), this program changes the destiny of an orphan, when he/she leaves the orphanage at the age of eighteen. The TM2F program, along with the HumaniTours (read enclosed report from recent mission), is just one of KWB model programs in Viet Nam. It is my hope that we will begin to replicate them in other developing countries in the near future.

Back home in the U.S., we have continued to develop opportunities for youths and to teach them ways of servicing others, giving them a better life. We receive generous contributions of new products for children and assist by getting these products to the right recipients.

Through personal contributions and small earmarked grants, KWB has relied on the generosity of friends and partner organizations. Our fundraising activities have been limited to grassroots' events, e.g. car washes, school dances, and small private-hosted dinners.

Many of you have asked how you can help... and I always answer with hesitation, because I understand the restrictions and man-hours of organizing fundraising events, especially while maintaining full-time jobs. Hopefully, this year, we can take steps to move forward with this idea in celebration of our 7th year history. Please contact me, if you would like to help! Your ideas are welcomed.

As mentioned in one of the news article, KWB is opened year-round... So, let's not stop dreaming, giving, hoping, and singing, when the holiday season is over, because LOVE and CARE take no holidays.

Start your holiday giving today by sharing KWB with your families, friends, and colleagues. Let them know that you are part of a worldwide effort, committed to enriching the lives of children.

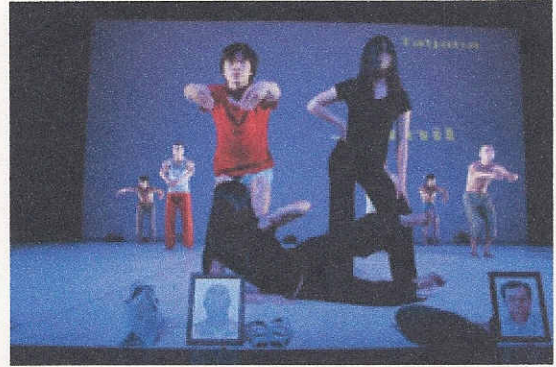
You can make on-line contributions or send them to the address below. Keep in mind that 100% of your contribution is tax-deductible and will be strictly applied to KWB programs and projects.

On behalf of the members of our Board of Directors and all of the children we serve, I wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday season... And I truly look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sam Michael Plann, Founder & Director

Need some idea for HOLIDAY GIFTS?



UW WORLD SERIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KIDS WITHOUT BORDERS PRESENTS **Ea Sola**

**Thursday-Saturday, January 17,18,19, 2008
8:00 PM**

"Always on the point of explosion... like a purification."
L'Humanite

See Ea Sola for Only \$20 (Tickets currently being sold for \$40).
One Show Only -- Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 8 PM!

See Ea Sola's Moving Dance Work for Only \$20. Thursday,
January 17, 2008, 8 PM

Kids Without Borders is pleased to be partnering with the UW World Series to support Ea Sola, an exceptional French-Vietnamese choreographer whose company will perform Thursday through Saturday, January 17, 18, and 19 at Meany Hall on the UW campus. Since 1995, Ea Sola has been creating dance works that explore the experiences, memories, and identities of the people who fought and lived through the horrors of the Vietnam War. In Drought and Rain, Vol. 2, a company of dancers and musicians from the National Ballet of Hanoi continues that exploration in a work that examines how the memory of war travels across generations. A serious work for serious times. Thanks to KWB partnership with the UW World Series you can see the Thursday January 17th, performance of Ea Sola for only \$20. That's a 50% savings off the full ticket price. Call the UW Arts Ticket Office at 206-543-4880 and mention promotion code 864 to receive this special price. (Balcony seating, limit 2 tickets per order, subject to availability. Phone or in-person orders only. Offer expires at noon on Thursday, January 17, 2008. Discounted tickets must be purchased in advance. This discount is not available at the door.)

For more information on this and other events featured by the UW World Series, please visit: www.uwworldseries.org. For information about Kids Without Borders, please visit www.kidswithnoborders.org.



HUMANITOURS[©] *Viet Nam*

The 10th HumaniTour (October 29 – November 12, 2007) mission to Viet Nam came home with many heartwarming stories and many stories covered by the media across the U.S as well as throughout Viet Nam. View some of the personal stories on KWB website. The 11th HumaniTour Viet Nam is scheduled for Spring 2008, departing Seattle on March 29 and there are still a few spots available. Please contact KWB if you wish to learn more how you can be part of this 'Traveling With A Purpose' trend pioneered by KWB.

Here are some sample of media stories:

TRAVEL WITH A PURPOSE – KOMO4 Television (Seattle, Washington) Tuesday, December 18, 2007 3pm

Last year a mother daughter duo from Sammamish took their first trip overseas. Dawn and Maggie Sanders traveled to Viet Nam for a two-week trip, but they did much more than sight see. Today, these ladies share how they made a new trend called, 'Traveling with a Purpose' and how much of an impact it can make.

<http://www.komotv.com/nwa/shows/12324836.html>

The Seattle Times

seattletimes.com

How you can help make the world a better place

By Carol Pucci *Seattle Times travel writer*

View article on KWB website or via this link:

<http://archives.seattletimes.nwsource.com/cgi-bin/texis.cgi/web/vortex/display?slug=pucci25&date=20071125&query=Travel+Wise+/-Carol+Pucci>

The Seattle Times

seattletimes.com

Monday, November 5, 2007 - Page updated at 06:55 AM

Seattle to Vietnam: Traveling with a purpose

By Carol Pucci *Seattle Times travel writer*

HANOI -- Don and Diana Holmlund's packing list for their first trip to Vietnam included a case of toothpaste, six dozen toothbrushes and 18 pounds of Beanie Babies.

Dawn Sanders will spend part of her vacation budget shopping for handicrafts made by disadvantaged Vietnamese children. She'll sell them at the Sammamish farmers market next summer, and donate the money to programs set up to train the junior entrepreneurs.

Jen Weaver, a recent graduate of Lewis & Clark University's Southeast Asian studies program, plans to spend a month volunteering at an orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon).

With Son Michael Pham, a Vietnam War refugee now a successful Seattle businessman, they and a group of 12 others from the Seattle area were in Hanoi last week for the start of a two-week, 10,000-mile "HumaniTour" across Vietnam.

They'll do the usual sightseeing, but they'll also take time out to visit schools, orphanages and hospitals, delivering clothes, medical supplies and toys they spent the past few months collecting.

It's called traveling with a purpose, a chance to not only explore another part of the world, but to make a difference in people's lives.

Making this kind of travel happen for people in Seattle is Son Michael, 50, who fled South Vietnam at age 18 with his parents and four siblings at the end of the war in April, 1975.

The family went to the Philippines, Guam, then to the United States where he lived in Arkansas and Chicago before moving to Seattle with a hotel development company.

Six years ago he formed a Bellevue organization called Kids Without Borders.

What started out as a school service project for students to sort clothes and donated items for children in other countries quickly evolved.

The organization works in 24 countries, developing schools and vocational training centers for street children and orphans and collecting donations for basics such as cribs, wheelchairs and bikes.

For Son Michael, founder and board president of the Seattle Viet Nam Association, the humanitarian tours were the logical next step.

"It's not a Habitat for Humanity type of tour," he explained over lunch in Seattle before leaving for Vietnam. Tour members aren't expected to build houses or dig trenches.

"It's a chance to engage face-to-face with the people with the goal to get involved in some way once they get back."

Like the Holmlunds, retired educators living in Allyn, Washington, everyone brought two suitcases each, one for clothes and the other filled with donations.

A local dentist sent the toothbrushes and toothpaste. A mortgage broker donated 200 pens. Diana Holmlund found the Beanie Babies on eBay.

In Hanoi, the group visited the Thanh Xuan Peace Village, a school and medical center set up to care for children with mental or physical defects attributed to dioxin (agent orange) used during the war.

With good nutrition, medical care, education and skills training, many can move on to lead normal lives, but the Hanoi facility lacks some of the basics such as adequate filtering systems for clean water.

Over tea and bananas, the group met with the director, then began unpacking boxes of bandages and medical supplies.

"This is gold for them," Son Michael said.

The next hour was spent going from classroom to classroom handing out Beanie Babies and candy, and admiring the children's handicrafts -- key chains strung with colored beads and detailed embroidery work.

Dinner that evening was at the Hoa Sua Training Restaurant, culinary boot camp for street kids and orphans who go on to work at jobs in the hospitality industry.

Son Michael introduced three young women whom Kids Without Borders mentors as part of a program called "Teach Me to Fish." The idea is to find ways for children to transition out of the orphanages, so by the time they turn 18 and have to leave, they can see a future beyond working in a sewing factory or turning to prostitution.

Two of the girls at the table were training to be bartenders. The other's career was still up in the air, but as Vietnam's tourist industry expands, it looks like she'll have some options, thanks to the man they call Chu Son, Uncle Son.

The wind ambassador

"The people are the best part," Diana Holmlund told me when I asked her what she liked the most about combining vacation time with a humanitarian mission.

That thought has been with me too during much of the past three weeks my husband, Tom, and I have been traveling in Southeast Asia.

This is our last night in Hanoi, and thanks to a delightful young Vietnamese woman I met through a Web site called www.hospitalityclub.org, I'm more convinced than ever about the way Southeast Asia is blossoming for travelers.

Le Phuong Loan, a 22-year-old medical student who calls herself Loannie, was surfing through postings on Lonely Planet's Thorn Tree bulletin board a few months ago when she across one titled "Hanoi Hell."

It was posted by a traveler whose cellphone was stolen, and he had nothing good to say about traveling in Hanoi.

"It made me cry," she told me when we met for dinner. "Every city has two sides, good and bad."

Loannie describes herself as a shy person, but she resolved to do something to help visitors discover "the real life" in Hanoi.

She joined the hospitality club and signed on with couchsurfing.com, then began volunteering her services as a guide to foreign travelers who e-mailed her.

Loannie explained that she can't offer people a real couch. She lives in suburban Hanoi with her parents, both police officers; her twin brother and a younger brother.

What she can offer is the chance to meet up for a few hours, and show visitors a little of the Hanoi "just the locals know."

Her nickname is the Wind Ambassador "because the wind comes and goes, just like people do in the world."

Loannie rode her bicycle a half and hour in the rain to meet us at a cafe tucked in an alley behind an art gallery in Hanoi's old quarter. In her backpack was a packet of sticky rice and green beans wrapped in a banana leaf.

"It's a symbol of the earth," she explained. The Vietnamese eat this around the lunar new year.

Loannie plans to become a dietitian. She's a vegetarian, and spends most of her time studying. She hasn't yet been able to make time to learn to drive a motorbike, but she receives many e-mails from foreigners, and tries to meet them two or three times a week.

She asked what we wanted to do, and we offered to take her to dinner. She suggested Quan An Ngon, probably the best place to sample authentic Vietnamese street food in Hanoi without actually eating on the street.

The concept is genius: Set up a spacious and clean garden restaurant to seat hundreds, then hire some of the city's best street cooks and install them in outdoor kitchens where customers can watch the show.

We feasted on spring rolls with crab, sticky rice with coconut, salad, bun ca or fish soup with noodles and beer, for about \$6 for the three of us.

Loannie explained that most of her friends think it's a little odd that she volunteers as a guide to foreigners, but she likes to practice her English, and she wants to help visitors avoid what she calls "duck travel," just following the guidebooks and experiencing only the tourist spots.

After dinner, we cabbled over to where she parked her bike. It was a five-minute walk to our hotel and an hour's ride home in the dark for her.

Article was reprinted in Vietnamese and French:

Từ Seattle tới Việt Nam: Cuộc hành trình với một mục đích

<http://vietbao.vn/The-gioi/Tu-Seattle-toi-Viet-Nam-Cuoc-hanh-trinh-voi-mot-muc-dich/20753143/159/>



HARVEST FESTIVAL



For the third time, KWB participated in the Annual Harvest Festival by the ARAS Foundation. The festival is a non-denominational non-profit service event involving many health and service providers, and community volunteers. An estimated 2,000 guests, who daily face socio-economic challenges, experienced the day of giving on November 3, 2007. 'The Harvest Festival is one shining example of how, with donor's money and the efforts of volunteers, ARAS is steadily expanding social consciousness, helping to make our society more compassionate towards everyone', wrote by Mary Trask of the ARAS Foundation. KWB volunteers contributed 1,000 pair of new sandals to be distributed at the festival. We are pleased to be part of this worthwhile community day of giving.



The Spirit of Giving

Mike and Alex Shimizu have announced that they will continue their partnership with Kids Without Borders on their efforts to give the gift of mobility to people with physical disabilities around the world. For the last four years, Mike and Alex have teamed up with PRO Sports Club (Bellevue and Seattle, Washington), Rotary International, the Wheelchair Foundation, and KWB to distribute more than 3,000 wheelchairs worldwide (Ethiopia, Guatemala, Peru, Uganda, Chile, Viet Nam).

The Teach Me To Fish Program has provided the most rewarding results in the lives of orphans in Viet Nam. Your gift will allow us to provide support for many more orphans during their first years transitioning from the orphanage to an independent life.

These are some of the many programs and projects made possible by your donations. During this Holiday Season, you can change a life with a small gift. You can make your contribution on-line or by completing the form below.

ENCLOSED IS MY TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OF:

\$ _____ (On behalf of) / (In Memory of): _____

Donor's Name _____ Address _____

Phone/Email _____

Credit Card Type () Visa () Mastercard Name of Card _____

Signature _____ Expiration _____

() Check # _____ please make checks payable to: Kids Without Borders

Tax ID # 76-0723622

Mailing Address: P.O Box 24, Bellevue, WA 98009-0024 USA