

Checks payable to: VSO or VinhSon Orphanage

A Humanitarian Non-profit Approved by IRS Code 501(c)(3) & California Section 23701D

P.O. Box 9322 Auburn, California 95604-9322 - Email: info@FriendsofVSO.org -Web: www.FriendsofVSO.org

Bruce Meyer Donor Challenge & Annual Fund - Overwhelming Success - \$61,678.61!

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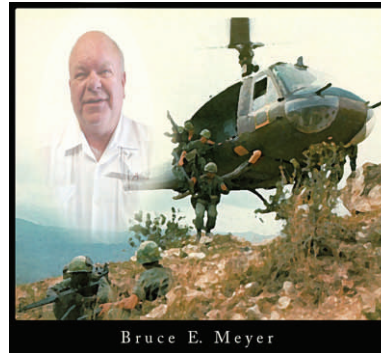
Thanks to all our generous donors who made the Bruce Meyer Challenge and the Annual Fund Drive such a tremendous success. We thought our goal was so high that the challenge date was actually extended through the end of December. However, to our surprise, the goal was achieved by the original date, while donations continued to come in right up to the last day of the year.

To say the least, we are humbled by your generosity to the children. You, the donors, made it all happen. And of course, a

huge thank you to Bruce E. Meyer who set this all in motion with his \$25,000 Challenge. Bruce, what a gift you have been to the children. Could we expect less of a helicopter pilot? They were always there for us during the war when we needed them— supply, Dust-offs (wounded soldiers to medical care), close air support, etc. Bruce was there again, but this time for the children in need. **Bruce, we are eternally grateful for this last “mission”.**

The Annual Fund results are:

\$25,000 (Bruce Meyer) + \$36,678.61 = **\$61,678.61** total. The total Funds raised for the year through other donations and Challenges was \$93,446. Once again, **Thank You All!!**



Annual Meeting - December 27, 2007

Hard to believe that another year has come to close for VSO. But what a year for the children: successful fund raising, Dr. David Berdy's medical care and assessment of the children, our February trip to VSO, and all the projects we funded for the orphanages. Key projects included a new well for Vinh Son 4 to provide safe drinking water, more than 350 pairs of glasses from the Auburn Host Lions Club, funding for basic needs, education, etc.

The Annual meeting in Richmond focused on the future. We decided that continued medical intervention with the guidance of Dr. Berdy is paramount. Funding for additional teachers, Food & other basic subsistence items, etc. will also be

priorities.

Pat Keegan, our Treasurer, proposed new procedures to improve financial controls—those will be

Board decides that medical care for the children is a primary goal for 2008

implemented this year. Dennis Coyne, Secretary, proposed we issue our first annual report. The Board concurred. Clyde Lewandowski proposed we initiate a succession plan for Board Members. The Board concurred and also recommended the election of 2 new members - Bart Ruud and Mary Waterfield. Both Mary and Bart were part of

our February 2007 trip to Vinh Son. The Board also agreed that we review our By-Laws to see if any updating or changes are needed.

(Mary & Bart below)



VinhSon Facts

- Population - more than 500 Montagnard children in four facilities
- Administered by the Sisters of the Miraculous Medal
- Location - Kontum, Vietnam in the Central Highlands
- About \$12 feeds, shelters, and educates one child for a month

Children still inspire us to action....

One of our newest and youngest donors is Lukas Brodie from Auburn, CA. Lukas has made 3 donations to VSO. He stops by Dave Chaix's home (they're neighbors) and literally has emptied his piggy bank to help the children. We find this truly inspiring. Lukas is an example of a donor moved by what he sees as a need. He wants to make a difference and truly does. **Lukas, we salute you!** By the way, now you know where that extra 67 cents came from in the challenge.

Do you remember Lauren and Lindsay

Anikis from our May 2007 issue? Yes, they are back as continuing donors. Humbled by their generosity, we salute the commitment of Lauren and Lindsay, and we are not surprised to hear they have asked their parents to adopt a Vinh Son child! Although adoption is not available at this time, the girls will continue to be some of our most loyal supporters. We commend them for their loving generosity.

Here are the pictures of our heroes of commitment: Lukas, Lauren & Lindsay: We remind all our supporters to check

our web site for the latest news and information. Click or go to <http://www.FriendsofVSO.org> to visit our site.

(Lauren& Lindsay - Lukas below)



President's Message and 2008 Outlook - Dave Chaix

Thanks to you, our generous donors, we helped these wonderful children for yet another year. You really do make a difference in the lives of the children. As in the past, **we sent 100% of your donations to the orphanages to cover basic needs and needed projects in 2007.** All administrative expenses will continue to be paid by the Officers and Board Members.

The year started with a visit to the orphanage by Board Members and a few hearty benefactors. Thirteen travelers in all. Donations were delivered for basic needs, bedroom and kitchen supplies, tractor repair, supplies for the sewing and computer classes, field operations, a well, and more. Much time was spent visiting with the caregivers and of course playing with the children.

As the year progressed, we sent funds for school expenses, flour and rice, to build a bathroom and shower, to build a kitchen, to create a sewing class for older girls, and to cover some needed medical expenses.

We again partnered with our good

friends, Colour4Kids of the Netherlands, to purchase a tractor and the Rotary Club Spring Valley, NY to build some outside furniture. Continuing work goes on with Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters 535 and 333 of Nevada County, CA and Spring Valley, NY respectively. We've also opened dialog with other groups that support the orphanages and hope to work closer with them in 2008.

Of course the highlight of our year was the success of our annual fund drive and the generosity of Bruce Meyer and his matching funds. What a wonderful and thoughtful gift by this Vietnam veteran from St. Cloud, MN.

Other matching fund drives were championed by St. Cloud Truck Sales, St. Cloud, MN, AngelTech.US, San Jose, CA and Chapter 535 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Nevada County, CA.

Our treasurer, Pat Keegan, and I will travel to the orphanages in February. We plan to close the last few items of our 2007 program and begin planning 2008. The orphanages have already made requests for flour, powdered milk,

school expenses, computers and sewing machines, a tractor and ploughshare and some needed buildings such as a boy's dormitory, kitchen and tool shed.

Along with these requests we are considering funding a visit of a dental van, working with East Meets West, creating dental hygiene areas and annual parasite removal, as suggested by Dr. Berdy and investigating providing filtered water systems at the orphanages.

Please accept my heart felt thank you for your continued support which made 2007 such a success and will help us begin 2008 with such high hopes for the children.

