



The Inland North-West Trinity Project
Home of the Rainbow Freedom Cart
15123 N Little Spokane Dr.
Spokane WA 99208

Tri-Kin Trailways

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Life In Viet Nam

In the December Tri-Kin Trailways Newsletter, we looked at life in Cambodia. This time we move just over the boarder one country to the East and look at life in Vietnam.



Yesterday this Vietnamese woman went from someone who could only move along the ground like a crab, to feeling like a queen as she was given mobility for the first time in her life.



At left is 62 year old Phan Van Binh from Ha Nam Province in Northern Viet Nam. He now has one of our Freedom carts build right here in Spokane. We'll let him tell his story in his own words: *"I have been paralyzed in both of legs since I was a child. I can feel the full burden of this suffering when I become older. The question of tomorrow is stirring in my mind everyday: "What can will I do? My parents are getting older and the family is too poor. Am I just the burden for my family?" Yet the love of my family keep me survive.*

"Moving around by myself was always a dream for me when I sat down in front of my house every evening and saw the neighbor playing around with happiness. I had to rely on my family for every move in life.

"And the day of light has come. I received the wheelchair from the donor. It's incredible. I still feel that I am so lucky. This really changes my life. In a moment, it brings me back to smile, happiness, wish and confidence which were dispelled by time. Words is not enough to describe my happiness. A disabled started to move the very first moves in his life as he learnt to drive a wheelchair by himself. Immediately, I was touched as I am loved and cared by many people. Thank you very much..."



This is Nguyen Van Quynh, 46, also from the Ha Nam Province in Northern Viet Nam. The cart he is riding is also one of our Spokane Freedom carts. We'll let Nguyen tell his own story: *"In 1992, I was paralyzed in 2 legs after an accident. I was broken down at that time when I thought of my family. I used to be the breadwinner in my family but now I became a burden for my wife and my children. But they still loved me and it brought me a motivation to keep living. Everyday, I saw the people going to work and felt hopeless. I could even not raise my children up when they fell down on the ground. Days goes by with deeper pain. But today, I receive a wheelchair. Life just immediately changes. Just moving around by myself is an amazing thing to me. It makes hope and happy again. Thank you very much."*



Tran Van Hung (right), 47, was in an accident that left him with both legs paralyzed and almost totally dependent on his wife. His dream was to own a wheelchair, but for the last 10 years, could not afford one. His wife not only has to care for Hung, but they have 3 small children to care for. He says the moment he got his free "wheelchair" his eyes were full of tears. Now he could finally move by himself which gives him new hope. He can also help his wife with household chores and help with the children.



Dinh Dai Duong (left, above), 17, was paralyzed in both legs when he was born. His family spent a lot of time and effort to help Dinh, but they ran out of time, money, and strength and have had to move to another province to look for work. For a long time his grandparents took care of him, carrying him "pick-a-back" every place he needed to go. They applied many times to the Red Cross for a wheelchair, but none were available. Now he has one of our carts made in Spokane and he is happier than he has ever been. And, his grandparents feel the same joy. His grandmother said: *"Now Duong is growing up, and he is quite heavy so we can not afford to carry him pick-a-bak all the times. Duong can go to the neighborhood by himself. Life would change to be better."*

Growing it, Selling it, and Using it ~ in Viet Nam



OUR WEB-SITE IS UP AND RUNNING
WITH GREAT PICTURES AND VIDEOS.

PLEASE CHECK IT OUT AT:
<http://nwtrinityproject.org>

A wise man once said;
"every society is judged
by how it treats it's least fortunate
amongst them."

We, in the Trinity project, routinely see so many “Bright Spots” it’s sometimes hard to keep track of them, but when we hear of one from Vietnam, we want to share it with the world. Here is a real life example of an actual one.

World Vision, a large Christian charity, headquartered in Federal Way Washington, sent a small team of missionaries to Vietnam. Their purpose was to help with the significant number of malnourished children throughout the country. However, when they arrived, the government official delegated to oversee their work told them to “Get the ‘h’ out!” The World Vision leader persisted. Their mission was critical to the children. After another “Get Out!” and more discussion, the team was given 6 months to make a significant difference or they would be forced to leave the country.

What to do? No report writing. No Think Tank study. The team went out into the villages. They saw hundreds of malnourished children: extended bellies and all. Then the leader had the team look for children who appeared healthy. In one village they found 2 healthy children from the same family: Bright Spots! They found their mother and asked her why her children were healthy and the others were not? Two elements of the culture emerged: which she purposely ignored. One was that children shouldn’t eat crab or shrimp; the other, the children ate only as much as they wanted.



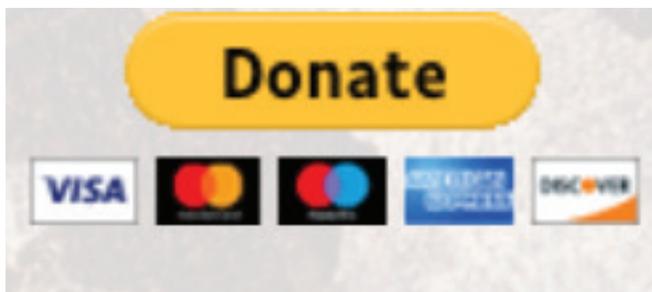
With permission, the team watched this Mother prepare food for her children and observed how much they ate. She cooked crab and shrimp and a green vegetable in their rice and fed it to her children and they ate as much *as SHE* thought they should eat!

The secret of Bright Spots was found and after 6 months, their impact was obvious, the government official invited them to stay.

How does this relate to our Freedom carts? Every time a Rainbow cart arrives in a village and is given to a leg disabled person, it becomes a Bright Spot that changes that man, woman, or child instantly. As we work day in and day out, week after week, we don’t have to look very far to see Bright Spots in the work we are doing.

Great News

You can now donate to the Trinity Project electronically. It’s done through Pay Pal, even if you don’t have a Pay Pal account. All you need is a credit or debit card. Just go to our web-site, click on any “Donate” button to get to the “Give Now” page where you will see this image. Clicking on either the “Donate” button or on any



of the credit card pictures will take you to the page to enter the amount and let us know who you are. We’ll gladly send you an official tax receipt. Our web-site address is <http://nwtrinityproject.org>. Depending on the browser you are using, you may have to prove you are not a robot, but once you get to our home page, things are very clear. Thank you in advance for your financial help. You will be a wonderful blessing to those who are confined to crawling in the dirt for most, or all of, their life.



How blessed we are to be associated with a project like this

Quite often trucks which bring produce from South or Central America to the US, return south empty. One of the original PET affiliates in Texas was loading a shipment of carts on a famous named fruit company truck when the driver got curious and wanted to know what was in the boxes. When he was told where, and why the carts would be used, tears welled up in his eyes. He was overwhelmed with the thought of people no longer having to crawl on the ground. He took the worker's hands and prayed that his cargo would safely reach the people who so desperately need help. The workers wrote that "his prayer was truly a holy moment and we all received a very special blessing."

Your editor would give a hardy A-men to this and we do thank all of you for your donations, prayers, time, and talents you pour into getting our carts to places where they are so desperately needed. **Thank You**

Ugly AND Deadly



Land Mine Status

The most recent land mine statistics available are from 2016, but the world is not moving in the right direction to limit the carnage from their explosions. Known casualties from 2016 are 8,605, including 2,089 deaths, which is almost 25 percent higher than those maimed or killed a year earlier. People live in 56 countries, where land mines are still active. Nearly 80 percent of casualties were civilians and children accounted for 42 percent of those casualties. By some estimates, 100 million or more antipersonnel land mines remain strewn across the globe, and they last up to 50 years. There are no time limits on their destructive abilities.

The risks of injury last long after the guns of war have been silenced. In Viet Nam, since the war ended in 1975, at least 40,000 are believed to have been killed and another 60,000 wounded by unexploded ordnances - land mines, artillery shells, and cluster bombs. They explode when handled by scrap-metal scavengers and unsuspecting children at play.

There may be a little good news when it comes to detecting land mines. What would take a person with a metal detector 2-3 days, takes a trained rat about 20 minutes to search a 2,000 square foot



field. The "giant" rats (about the size of a small house cat) may have very poor eye-sight, but they have an extraordinary sense of smell, and they are too light to set off a land mine. They are taught to sniff out TNT. Training costs less than \$2,000 whereas training a dog runs over \$12,000. When the rat smells TNT they either

scratch, or bite, the ground. They don't respond to verbal commands, but know they will get a treat when they hear a clicker. As you can see in the pictures, they are tethered to a line suspended across the intended search area. They then run along the line, back-and-forth across the field, until they smell the explosive.



Does your church, Sunday school class, club, or organization need a guest speaker? We are passionate about our mission and love to talk to groups. We can give a 15-minute or hour-long presentation and can bring a Freedom cart along for the ride! Call or email us to schedule your presentation. Visits to the shop may also be scheduled here: 509-466-3425 or bebold@comcast.net.

Our Spotlited Volunteer

Bill Reeves joined The Inland North-West Trinity Project in 2015, after retiring as a Spokane County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney with 30+ years of service. After spending that many years with criminals, Bill was looking forward to doing something totally different and without the stress. When Dick Carpenter approached him at church and told him about the Trinity Project, it was the answer to prayer; he could work with his hands, make something important and impact the lives of needy people. As a bonus, working at the Trinity shop got him out of the house and away from his never ending “honey-do-list”! If you ask Bill what he does at the shop, he would probably say he is on the “chain gang”, a “disassembly man” or a packer. Actually Dick says he is the “primary” Tuesday and Wednesday packer, and he has perfected packing and moving the 155 pound boxes off the packing table by himself to a real piece of art. Occasionally they even drag him from the construction end to help in the paint shop or send him off to pick up a load of shipping boxes. He is a joy to be around as well as a valuable asset to the Tri-Kin team.

Bill has deep roots in the Pacific Northwest with both his mother’s and father’s families being pioneer founding families. His mother’s family came by ship around the Horn and up the Willamette River and established a settlement there – Jennings Lodge. His father’s family came across the plains in covered wagons and settled in Portland. Bill was born in Portland in 1952. He has twin (5 years older) sisters who live in the Seattle area.



His father was a pilot in WWII and flew the China-Burma-India Hump and his mother was an army nurse until the birth of the twins. After WWII was over his dad finished law school, but then was recalled for Korea. Bill became an Air Force “brat” moving to various bases on the west coast.

After finishing high school in Corvallis Oregon in 1970, he enrolled in Willamette University in Salem Oregon and graduated in 1974. He had always planned to go into Air Force pilot training after college, but the program was closed (too many pilots left over from Viet Nam). Bill then went to Plan B, and enrolled in law school at Gonzaga University in Spokane. Upon finishing law school and passing the bar exam, he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and sent to Goodfellow Air

Force Base in San Angelo Texas where he was assigned to the JAG office as a Captain. Bill might not have liked the Texas desert, with its never ending heat and no trees, in the beginning, but then he met the Goodfellow Air Force Base Child Care Center director.....a feisty little red head named Nancy and his life would be changed forever.

Bill and Nancy moved to Spokane in 1983. They have two children (a girl and a boy) and one granddaughter. The picture is Bill and son Joel, who, I believe you can safely say, got his hair from his “feisty little red head” mother. The family also “loves” dogs.

Our “*Culture*” in the 14th year of the Trinity Project

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by Dick Carpenter

Before February 2005, we had no thoughts of starting an organization, let alone a *culture*. We were driven by the enormous need for Freedom Carts around the world; 22,000,000. As Christians, we were aware of Matthew 25 in which Jesus tells us we are doing it for Him when we do it for one of the least of these. This scripture, and the lingering memories of Viet Nam land mine horrors, pushed me into a brand new “*culture*”.

The fact that hundreds of thousands of leg-disabled men, women, and children, suffered from land mine explosions while playing, or going to school, while drawing water, or working in rice fields, gave me the motivation to do what I could to help them regain their mobility.

Seeing Christ, as the creator of a *culture* that would emerge from our work within a charity, planted the seeds of a new *culture*. Satya Nadella writes, “*Culture* is about listening and learning, and harmonizing individual passions and talents into a mission.”

An example of “listening and learning then harmonizing” came at the very beginning. I had decided to buy a building in Spokane for “only” \$95,000! It was perfect for the needs of the ministry in terms of space. Thankfully, some of the early team members advised against it. They suggested we use our existing shops and tools. I’m so thankful I listened. Had I not listened, the ministry would have lasted only a short time as we would have been saddled with a very large debt.

By listening, God set in motion a *culture*; a family of individuals, united by a shared mission. Each Tri-Kin brings to the ministry a host of skills, knowledge, experience, education, and talents, which when we listen and learn from one another greatly multiplies the resources we have for the task we were given. Here are just 2 examples.

As our *culture* has developed over the past 13 years, we have realized the importance of listening to future volunteers in choosing our staff. One potential volunteer said he was willing to do wood work. As we talked it became clear God had sent Don for an entirely different task. He left that meeting as editor of our new newsletter, you are now reading the 33rd since he started in 2009.

A very qualified husband and wife team volunteered to work in the Trinity Shop. They had built their own airplane and Dave was an excellent welder. When they discovered we had a movable jig for building the carts and a newly invented “chuck” to hold sprockets so they could be welded to the front wheel, Dave and Carol decided they could be more efficient working from home.

Satya concluded. “It takes deliberate work and it takes some specific ideas” in making a *culture* our own. As we ship our 3,000th cart this month, we can feel the *culture* that has developed so naturally. Those *cultural* moments only come from a team working and caring for one another.

After loading 70 carts into a FedEx trailer, we eat freshly donated pizza while discussing with each other the issues we are presently facing. Our *culture* also includes writing thank-you notes to the 15 companies who support us.

Satya says “*Culture* is a way of being. It encourages building, collaboration, and exploration.” I can say, we have that kind of *culture* and it feels like Love.



What a time to celebrate number 3,000, the same month we complete 13 years of ministry. It was a wonderful day (about half-way between severe snow storms) the pizza was delicious, and the cake just right to top off a great day.

You may not be aware of it, but our featured volunteer for each newsletter has no idea they are featured until the newsletter has been printed and distributed. So, it is usually quite a surprise when you see your picture and read facts about your life, that you thought were forgotten many years ago, but have been secretly written by someone who knows you well. Our featured volunteer for the December issue was Bob Fuller (the hooker man). Here, he seems to have “humbly” offered to autograph the newsletter for Jim Dixon in our paint shop.



How would you like to walk into the paint shop on a Monday morning and face this stack of “ready to paint” boards. Our wonderful paint crew actually say they love to see something like this, all prepared, hooked, and ready to go. Once the pieces are painted (twice by hand) they are ready to be assembled into the finished product. These pieces have now been assembled into completed Freedom Carts and are currently on their way to Honduras. There they will be welcomed with large smiles and used to get the leg disabled up off the ground into a life of dignity, productivity, and hope.



Some of our super paint crew hard at work. They made short work of these 200 pieces (plus many seat parts) in less than one day. That’s (l-r) Jim Dixon, Bill Reeves, Dick Hiller, and Tom Crow.

Are you aware?

That every shipment of 70 Trinity Carts represents about \$17,500 of either donated parts and services (e.g. transportation) or money from our faithful donors. As those businesses, who so graciously donate their services, either change hands or have to cut-back their donations, the cash we must raise goes up in order to get carts to those who so desperately need them. At a time when several of our business partners have had to reduce their giving, we would be extremely grateful if you would prayerfully consider giving over and above your normal gifts to help make up for former business partners who have had to cut back in order to stay in business. We are in the process of applying for grants, but so far, no positive response. Thank you ever so much for your consideration.



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There are times when our “best” friends need a little help like their two legged buddies do



Freedom Cart Connection – Contact and Newsletter Information

For volunteer opportunities, visits to the Freedom Cart shop, or to request a presentation, please call Dick Carpenter at (509)466-3425 or send him an e-mail at bebold@comcast.net. For address changes or comments about this newsletter, send to 8trikin@gmail.com. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to WCPC-Trinity Project, 15123 Little Spokane Dr., Spokane, WA 99208. Our web-site is: <http://nwtrinityproject.org>