



February 2023 Newsletter

PeaceTrees' Work in Quảng Bình Province

In June of 2020, PeaceTrees Vietnam expanded demining operations to Quảng Bình, one province to the north of Quảng Trị Province, where we have been working since 1995. We invite you to watch the short video below to meet Truong Minh Hung, a PeaceTrees demining team leader, learn more about our work in Quảng Bình Province, and see a controlled demolition of a dangerous cluster munition. Thank you for supporting our work so that we can continue to grow our programs across central Vietnam!

[CLICK HERE to watch](#)

Updates from Vietnam

January and February Citizen Diplomacy Trips

PeaceTrees is thrilled to be resuming our Citizen Diplomacy Program after a 3-year hiatus. This January and February we welcomed Citizen Diplomats back to Vietnam to travel with us and see our work in person. Both groups of travelers had the opportunity to meet with newly established Vietnamese Rotary Clubs. Prior to 2021, Rotary clubs had been absent from Vietnam for 46 years! Citizen Diplomats and PeaceTrees staff met with Rotarians in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Dong Ha, and Da Nang. Travelers also planted trees with Vietnamese Veterans, visited PeaceTrees projects, spent time with our demining teams, met with partners at the U.S. Embassy, and attended an Explosive Ordnance Risk Education event. We hope the photos below from these recent trips inspire you to travel with us! For more information on upcoming trips, please email info@peacetreesvietnam.org.



PeaceTrees Board Member, Norm, and Co-Founder, Jerilyn Brusseu, exchanging Rotary banners with the Saigon Rotary Club.



Citizen Diplomats observing PeaceTrees demining teams in Quảng Bình Province this January.



Former PeaceTrees Board Member, Tracy, participating in an eco tour in Hoi An on the February Citizen Diplomacy trip.



Norm, an American Veteran, planting trees with a Vietnamese Veteran in Khe Sanh this January.



Lake Forest Park Rotarians planting trees on the February Citizen Diplomacy trip.



February Citizen Diplomat, Bruce, riding a water buffalo as part of an eco tour in Hoi An.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Event at Ly Trach Secondary School

On February 10th, PeaceTrees Vietnam held an Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) event at Ly Trach Secondary School in Quảng Bình Province. This is the fourth EORE event PeaceTrees has held that has been supported by the grant from Rotary International. Hoang Duong Phuong Ly, a student that

attended the event shared, "Like many of my friends, I am very happy to attend today. It is the first time I have a chance to listen to a presentation on the risks of explosive ordnances that provides me with many useful knowledge and taught me how to protect myself from the explosive remnants of war." Ly was the winner of a explosive ordnance trivia game. PeaceTrees staff use games to support learning and distribute educational material to help students and their families stay safe. At this event, PeaceTrees was honored to welcome Rotarians from the US, and members from the US Embassy in Hanoi.



Students at the EORE event at Ly Trach Secondary School-Quảng Bình Province



Hoang Duong Phuong Ly, winner of the EORE trivia game, with two Citizen Diplomats- Quảng Bình Province

Upcoming Events

PeaceTrees Welcomes Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai Back to Seattle On March 15th

PeaceTrees looks forward to joining Friends of Little Saigon, The Seattle Public Library, and Elliott Bay Bookstore in welcoming Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai to the stage to discuss her forthcoming novel, *Dust Child*. Quế Mai will be joined by author and friend of PeaceTrees, Karl Marlantes, and award-winning poet Susan Lieu. This event is free, but advanced registration is required. We hope that you will join us in person for this special evening.



[Learn more and register here!](#)

The Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network Comes to Seattle

The Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network (DVAN) will be in Seattle on Saturday, March 11th hosting a poetry showcase at the Little Saigon Creative space. This event is from 6-8pm and will feature poets and writers Cathy Linh Che, Diana Khoi Nguyen, Jess Boyd, and Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai. We hope you will join this community event to hear an intergenerational dialogue around Vietnamese American poetry. [Learn more and register here!](#)

Donate a Used Vehicle to PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! We partner with CARS, a nonprofit organization that facilitates vehicle donations. All vehicles are eligible for donation, even if they are not running! CARS makes it easy and gives your unwanted vehicle a new purpose.



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