

**Friends of Danang**  
April 10, 2008  
Enrico Biscotti Company  
Strip District

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome to Guests:**

Regular members were in attendance.

**2. Silent Reflection:** individual reflections

**3. Financial Report:**

There was a reported balance of \$6,299.29 in the administrative checking account as of March, 2008, of which \$3,790 is restricted for Roger's book fund. Therefore, we have a non-discretionary balance of \$2,509.29. At our March meeting, \$140 was collected for the Larry Lagattuta Fund, which remains at \$6,635.00.

A complete report is enclosed.

**4. Veteran's Day Breakfast:**

Everything is set for the breakfast as far as the reservation, the speaker, and the mailing list. We are going to go all out to make sure that we honor all veterans from all wars and conflicts. This includes younger vets from Afghanistan and Iraq. We are going to make more of an effort to get hospitalized veterans to the breakfast. Sharing and Caring is one organization that knows the logistics of such an undertaking. The program with the ads will be a topic of discussion at the next meeting.

**A complete report is enclosed.**

**5. Vietnamese Dinner:**

Post meeting note: The Vietnamese Dinner that was scheduled for Sunday, June 1, 2008 has been postponed until further notice.

**6. Trip to Vietnam 2008:**

Thanh called from Vietnam to express her thanks to all of the travelers.

The members who traveled on the trip wanted to thank Thanh for her expertise, her patience, and all of the work that she put forth in making the trip wonderful. "God sent an angel in Thanh." The group traveled well together and enjoyed each other's company.

These are some of the comments of those who returned from Vietnam had to say:

- George gave a wonderful presentation at the bridge dedication. The Vietnamese veterans were included in cutting the ribbon on the bridge.
- The bridge looks great.
- Many young people were in attendance.
- The Foreign Affairs Dept of Danang has requested that we build a dam.
- Tom F., Tom M., and George visited a water project site which services 350 homes with clean water.
- The interaction with the Vietnamese people was wonderful.
- Tony was missed very much!
- Tony's affiliation with World Vision and EMW is remarkable.
- They had incredible translators.
- World Vision has a project that is a daycare center that includes children with ability and disabilities.
- They saw some recipients of "Let Them Walk Again".
- Met with Mark Conroy and Ron Smith of East Meets West. The drove to the bridge with the FOD along with Mark's wife.
- Tom Fallon recruited them for a Rotary Club.
- The group saw a sanitation project in the village managed by EMW which has a pump house with charcoal and sand filter. It costs 15 cents per month. Most villagers can't afford it.
- The villagers are so poor and use wells for the majority of household duties.
- Vietnam is absolutely beautiful and building up quickly.
- Tom Fallon talked to a Hanger contact.
- Danang wants business.
- Judy Lorigan's granddaughter was so professional during the school dedication and her family enjoyed the trip.
- George, Tom and Thanh took some extra supplies to an orphanage in Danang.

- The group took up a donation to give to EMW to give to two single mothers with disabled children that the group met.
- They asked Mark Conroy and Ron Smith to look for U.S. or Australian businessmen to form a Rotary and they could easily do the water projects.
- Consensus of those returning was to keep the projects centered on children which is something they would have difficulty getting there.
- Director of the Hoa Son School would like to have computers at his school.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 8, 2008** at Enrico Biscotti Co. at 7:00 pm.

See you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Enclosures:

- Financial Report
- VDB Committee meeting report

