

99 'Poorest of the Poor' Families Fed at Christmas Outreach



Last year, at Christmas time, we began a partnership with a Christian run public primary school in Takeo Province called **Roong School**. Takeo Province, where it borders Kampong Speu Province, contains some of the poorest villages in all of Cambodia, due mostly in the fact that this region gets very little moisture during the rainy season compared to the rest of Cambodia. Most crops which flourish everywhere else, shrivel up and die before they reach maturity, or at best leave sparse amounts to harvest



Francesca Ruggero

compared to the rest of Cambodia's rich green farm lands. Cambodia's richest crop, and staple in every Asian culture; rice, barely survives in the fields around the villages whose children attend **Roong School**. So the people who live in these villages, tending land passed on from generation to generation, scrounge for what ever work they can get, and the more fortunate raise livestock such as chickens, pigs, and cows to sell at their local markets.

Roong School, was founded and is operated by **Missione Possible** (www.MissionePossibile.com), an Italian Christian mission organization, and directed by full time missionary **Francesca Roggero**. MI established Roong school when it found that most of the children in this area were too poor to afford uniforms and essential supplies to be allowed to attend the nearest primary school which was also a few miles walk from this district. Now the school teaches over 450 students, providing all of the kid's basic needs so none are left behind. When we asked how we could serve them best last year, they requested that we provide rice and fish to 57 of the 'poorest of the poor' families of their students, at their annual Christmas Party. Thanks to generous partners from the US and a visiting missionary family, we were able to do so, bringing great joy to the children who quickly handed the gifts to their family who attended the event. It was one of our favorite outreaches last year.

So this year, we committed ourselves to doing it again and asked **Francesca** to let us know how many families would be needing the food supplies this Christmas. To our surprise, the amount had nearly doubled, from 57 to 99. After prayer and a plea to the readers of our Thanksgiving letter, generous donors such as **John and Jan Yoder** (my father and his wife), and **Cindy Hughes**, from North Carolina (who had just been to this region on a short term missions trip, where many had given their hearts to Christ), donated enough for us to purchase and distribute all 99 portions to some very grateful families at this years Christmas party. The children also received fruit and many useful gifts from members of a **team with Missione Possible** from Italy (pictured below) who attended the party as well.



Please follow this link:

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=37493&id=100000664719187&l=0f50b3d18f>

Feel God tugging on your heart to support any of Reaching Kids Cambodia's ministry Projects?

Send check or money order to;
REACHING KIDS INTL.
 PO Box 1591
 Prescott, AZ 86302

to see our facebook pictorial about this event, without having to be a member.



Next Pages:
MST Project featured in Phnom Penh Newspaper.
Village attends Orphanage Christmas Party.

[.Past Prayer Updates](#)

OCTOBER 2010 - www.cambodiamissions.com/oct10.pdf

JULY 2010 - www.cambodiamissions.com/jul10.pdf

APRIL 2010 - www.cambodiamissions.com/apr10.pdf

JANUARY 2010 - www.cambodiamissions.com/jan10.pdf

OCTOBER 2009 - www.cambodiamissions.com/oct09.pdf

Pastor Sothea Invites Village to Orphanage Christmas Party

When we had sent out our Thanksgiving letter, which expressed the need for funds to bless the children at our orphanage in Kampong Thum with new school uniforms, the responses came quickly; enough money was donated for us to be able to put on a curry dinner party, where we not only gave the children their new uniforms, but sports equipment also. When the pledges came in from generous donors such as **Danny & Pam Spittle**, an AZ couple who themselves founded and continue to fund a school in Siem Reap, Cambodia, my father and his wife; **John & Jan Yoder**, **Dang Samang**, our National Director, and **Mike & Nancy Topper**, a couple from AZ who I've known for many years, I called **Pastor Sothea**, the founder and director of the orphanage, to give him the good news. Soon after, he invited the villagers to attend a special Christmas program, with the promise of a homemade curry dinner at it's conclusion. Once we knew that there would be around 100 people attending, Sotey went to work pricing and purchasing all the food and supplies needed, and recruited others to help her prepare a meal which would be her biggest undertaking yet.



Curry brewing on an outdoor wood fire.



Pastor Sothea holds Christian worship services at the orphanage every Sunday, and besides the kids, has a few villagers who have come to Christ through his ministry, attending there. So being able to invite the entire village to this special day, gave him a chance to share the gospel of Christ to many more in the community who have never heard of Christ and what he did for us on the cross, or ever set foot inside his building before. When the children put on the Christmas play, showing our Savior's birth, followed by **Pastor Sothea** delivering a message on who Christ is, and his death and resurrection, the villagers seemed very attentive and appreciative. We'll know soon how many may have found Christ as their Savior after attending our evangelical outreach. The village Chief and District Chief both attended the party and were (at Pastor Sothea's behest) presented gifts from Sotey and I (pictured right) in respect for the positions they hold.



The children had a great time, blessing all of us with special song, dance, and performances, and being blessed with their new uniforms, plus soccer and badminton equipment. **Sotey** and her crew worked tirelessly preparing and serv-

ing the meal, and were rewarded many times over by compliments from the attendees. Besides the dinner, uniforms, and sports equipment, RKC was also able to provide the orphanage with much needed funds for major road repairs in front of their building and repairs to the roof of one of their buildings.

Our final gift, thanks again to those mentioned above, were sacks of rice to help sustain them during the dry season when their fish pond dries up. We were pleased to see that on their own they've begun raising ducks which when fully grown will provide 'duck eggs' which are a Cambodian delicacy (eaten when the baby duck is near fully grown inside the egg) and duck meat as well. At the time of our visit, they had close to 200 chicks running around in the pen. We're still praying for the funds needed to build a wall that would keep out thieves



once the ducks and fish are ready for market. Please follow this link to view a pictorial of this event on facebook without having to be a member; <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=37981&id=100000664719187&l=c554f7c4cc>

MST Project Update; MST Project Cambodia Featured in Phnom Penh Magazine.



In early December, Phnom Penh's popular English language newspaper; 'The Cambodia Daily', published a four page, full color article in their weekend magazine, about our ministry with MST Project in the 'red light' districts of Phnom Penh. The article came after months of back and forth discussions about whether or not we should interview based on the motivations of the publisher and their reporter who was diligently perusing the story. But after the reporter came to one of the locations where we were reaching out to men, and talked for a bit, we felt

confident to go forward and scheduled an interview shortly after. Following the interview, the reporter and his camera person joined us on one of our outreach nights, to observe what we actually do and ask more questions. As in most cases, whenever I've dealt with news media in the past, some things were misquoted or taken out of context in the final product, but overall we were pleased with the results as we felt that Christ's love for these guys and the prostitutes themselves shined brightly, as well as our sincerity in why we reach out to them in the first place.

To read the article and our comments and clarifications about it, please follow this link;

<http://cambodiamissions.com/MSTArticle.pdf>

Sotey and John Jaym's Lives Spared From Bridge Stampede Tragedy

In late November, Phnom Penh was in the national news as 360 people were killed during a stampede on a bridge during an overcrowded water festival event. Sotey with John Jaym, and several friends and relatives were talking for days about attending this event, and were still contemplating going that morning. Then somewhere around mid-day, Sotey had a complete change of heart and decided to just celebrate with friends in our neighborhood.



We praise God for speaking to Sotey's heart, mourn with the many families who lost loved ones, and pray for those who are still healing from injuries suffered during the event.

Bawng Beaver Blesses Kids at Christmas Outreach in Kampong Speu



RKC's mascot; **Bawng Beaver** was invited to a special Christmas program organized by YMC (Youth Mission for Christ), a local mis-

sion organization founded by **Dang Samang**, who is also RKC's National Director. Many non-Christians attended and beside hearing the gospel message preached by noted pastors, 100 children and their families could learn the story of Jesus as told on the back of the BB's notebooks that he handed out to the 'mob' of children who clamored to receive one. Total number of people who attended was over 300.



Jaym with Bawng Beaver

Sotey Provides Daily Low Cost Meals to Poor Workers



Since early December, Sotey and her aunt Tuer, who currently lives at our home, have been preparing and selling meals in front of our home to single people who are away from their families while working on several construction projects in our neighborhood. Serving both lunch and dinner, a typical meal of rice, fish, and vegges with pure water to drink costs \$.0.25. Meals are served from 11:00am to 1:00pm, then from 5:00pm till 9:00pm.

RKC'S ORPHANAGE STILL NEEDS A WALL TO BE BUILT AROUND THE COMPOUND TO KEEP LOCAL VILLAGERS FROM STEALING FISH, CHICKENS, AND VEGETABLES FROM THEIR GARDENS. IN THIS UPDATE, WE REPORTED THAT THE ORPHANAGE IS NOW RAISING DUCKS, WHICH IF SUCESSFUL, COULD GO A LONG WAY IN HELPING THE ORPHANAGE BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT, BUT THEY NEED THE WALL FIRST. IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE SOMETHING TOWARD THE \$1000.00 NEEDED TO SAFEGUARD THEIR ENTERPRISES;

PLEASE SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO;

**REACHING KIDS INTERNATIONAL
PO BOX 1591, PRESCOTT, AZ 86302**



**Coming up on the
'Back Page';**

**John Jaym Pics, Apt. for
Rent, Khmer Study Update**

Prayer Requests

NEXT ISSUE;

APRIL 2011

John Jaym's First Steps



Other Jaymie Pics From Last Quarter



Prayer Requests

That God continues to bless and protect Roong school and our orphanage in Kampong Thum, and would give us, as a support organization, all we need to supply their needs such as food, clean water, clothing, health care, and school supplies.

That God gives us the wisdom to find the best ways, outlets, and venues to raise funds way over and above any year we've been here, so hundreds, if not thousands of children can be spared further ravages of poverty through Christ using our hands and feet.

For the seeds we've planted in the hearts of the countless Western men we've engaged with MST Project, that they grow into change that brings them to a saving knowledge of Christ, and also change downward in Cambodia's need for a 'sex industry' at all.

That Christ will use every work we do in Cambodia, among the Khmer people, to win souls and make disciples for him. Lord help us never to lose sight of our mission here.

That a tenant for our duplex apt. will move in soon so that we can continue to do God's kingdom work here. Also for John's study time at home that it will accomplish much.

Our Duplex Apartment For Rent in Prescott Valley

Just after New Year, one of our duplex units in Prescott Valley became vacant, which sharply cuts into the income that allows us to stay in Cambodia and carry on with Christ's work for RKI and MST Project. This particular unit was my personal home from 2001-2007, when I moved to Cambodia, and I found it to be very peaceful (neighborhood) and very comfortable with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, kitchen/ dining area, large area in front for parking, fenced back yard with covered patio, and a one car garage with remote electronic opener. It has central heat and air conditioning system indoors, and washer/ gas dryer hookups in the garage. Upgrade carpet was installed in 2007, and the entire building's exterior was repainted just last summer. The adjoining tenant has been there since 2008, and maintains her place very well. It rents for **\$650.00** per month. The address is; **3240, N. Bumblebee Dr. #B, Prescott Valley, AZ.** If any of you that live in the Prescott area know of someone who might be interested, have them call **Kris Nelson at West USA Realty; (928) 759-9950**



Khmer Language School Lessons Suspended

For close to 4 years now, I've been attending a Khmer language school, 5 days a week, varying hours per day; doing home work and practice when not in class. I've learned to read, write, and speak Khmer, but still struggle to understand fast conversations and read newspapers and magazines. The main reason for this, is that I still lack a solid vocabulary knowledge. Yes, I've learned thousands of words over the years, and would say that if I had memorized every word in all 8 books that I've studied, then I'd be fluent by now. But the reality is that every day I've shown up for

school, I took home new words to learn, and if they didn't become part of my every day vocabulary, then I would eventually forget them. So for the next 6 months I will be working at home, going through all my notes and lessons to work on vocabulary memorization until I feel that I have the best grasp possible. Then I can return to school to press forward. However long it takes, I plan to stick with it until I succeed.