

# Context:

Southeast Asians & other newcomers in California's classrooms

October-November 1995 Volume 16, No. 118



## From village to doctorate

*On a September morning, five hundred people filled a church hall, decorated with flowers, plants, and blue, white, and silver balloons, to celebrate Lue Vang's doctorate in education. This is a new kind of Hmong event, a cross between a political rally and American wedding reception. The party was thrown by those who helped Lue attain his goal, the "cousins" and relatives who shared his success. It was a great honor to be asked to speak on this occasion, and the text of my speech follows.*

Americans have many stories about the poor but honest person who is clever and works hard, and who becomes famous, or

handsome rich prince. Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin and had to use the light from the fire to study his books. He became a lawyer and finally the President. Bill Gates is young, clever, has ideas, takes risks, works hard, and is now the richest man in the United States.

Hmong have these kinds of stories, too. *Nraug Ntsuag* is an orphan who is poor, who is mistreated by the parents who adopted him, and who is very clever. In stories, he defeats the stupid evil king and wins the kingdom, the princess, and all the wealth for himself.

These stories teach how to overcome obstacles. They also teach that anyone can become famous, rich, or important, if they are clever and hard-working.

To me, Lue Vang is this kind of person. Twenty years ago last May he left most of you behind, and crossed the Mekong River to Thailand with his wife. Just 19 years ago, they arrived in San Diego to begin a new life, just like orphans. Since then, Lue has completed a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, and a doctorate degree. At the same time, he worked full time in education, and has earned the respect of those of you who have come here today.

How did he do it? Were his grandparents buried in a good place? Is he just lucky? We have worked together for these past 13 years and I have watched him graduate from National University with a BA in Behavioral Science, then a master's degree in Human

*The journey began in a village on a hillside like this one, and an education—in a schoolroom like the one below—was a new idea.*



rich, or important. Cinderella has a wicked stepmother and wicked stepsisters who make her miserable. She was good, and honest, and kept trying. Finally, she won the heart of the

Behavior, and just this year, on May 19, twenty years and one week after Laos fell to the communists, watched him receive his doctorate from the University of San Francisco. By now, I have a few ideas about how and why he succeeded. I want to tell you about six of these ideas.

#### **First....**

First, Lue had a vision. *Hmong hais tias “yeem muag pom deb.”* He could see far. He could see himself in a new role. He had an idea of where he wanted to go, what he wanted to be. But nothing was guaranteed. He had to go ahead, without knowing the outcome. This was probably difficult for his wife and his *kavv tij neej tsa* to understand and support, but they did.

#### **Second...**

Second, he was willing to take a risk. He knew he might fail, but he also knew he might succeed. After he took the risk, he worked really hard (“rau siab”) to be successful. When he failed at something, he learned from his mistakes—he didn’t blame someone else—and tried again. Plus, he probably didn’t sleep very much. This was also very difficult for his wife

and his children, but they still supported him and helped him.

#### **Third...**

Third, he had the idea that he was responsible for his own future. Hmong say that it is where the grandparents are buried (“tau mem toj zoo”) that determines a person’s good life. But I think Lue looked around and saw that some people make their own luck.

He made choices that led him closer to his vision. He decided to spend his time reading. He decided to spend his money on tuition and books. He decided to borrow money to finance his education. Making choices, making your own luck: this is the third idea.

#### **Fourth...**

Fourth, when he was in Laos, he watched how some Hmong reached out and made connections with the Lao, the French, the Americans, the Australians, people who had different ideas and resources. He used that skill in this country. He smiled a lot, nodded a lot, shook hands with people, remembered names, jumped into situations that would make most people fearful. He spent a lot of time and effort establishing and strengthening connections with people. Connections is the fourth idea. But, Lue didn’t just ask these people for help.

#### **Fifth...**

He knew about exchange, about helping one another (*Hmoob hais tias “sib paув zog, sib pab”*). He gave help and most of the time got help in return. Lue exchanged help with others. Take me, for example. Lue had knowledge that I wanted. There weren’t very many books about Hmong, especially about Hmong proverbs (“piv txoj lus,” “paj lus”) and idioms. I helped him outline his notes or proofread an essay; he gave me proverbs and idioms, and his insights about the Hmong language and people. He gained someone to guide him

*Lue Vang, his family, and a few of his “kavv tij neej tsa” (Dr. Van Le, in the back row, is not kin, but is a kin-like supporter) after his graduation from University of San Francisco in May.*



through difficult new material, and I gained knowledge (that led to my master's thesis).

### Sixth...

The power of group reputation is the sixth idea. Hmong know about helping those in the immediate kinship group ("pab pawg" and all the *tsev neeg* in it) to build a good name ("nto npe"), and these traditional ideas helped Lue succeed. He had all of you—his *kew tij*, his *neeg tsa*—to support him with money and encouragement. How could he let you down?

I hope that others can do what Lue has done. He has provided a path that anyone can follow and he is willing to share what he knows. He is an example of how to •have a vision, •take risks, •make your own luck, •establish connections with people outside the family and strengthen connections within the family, •exchange help with others, and •lean on the group for support and encouragement as the group works to make a good reputation.

I think that there are many more stories about heroes who succeed against difficult odds, but I think most of them have not been written yet. We are all waiting.



**Context** is published six times during the academic year as a way to provide staff with information and ideas concerning their newcomer students and parents (compliance item LEP.8). While the focus is on Southeast Asians, most articles and resources apply to other newcomer groups as well. This newsletter is developed with Economic Impact Aid funds, and district staff with English learners receive an automatic subscription (contact Nguyet Tham at the Transitional English office). Other district staff may request a subscription, at no cost. Outside subscribers pay \$10.00 per year to cover mailing and handling costs.

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**12th annual  
Southeast Asia  
Education Faire  
March 2, 1996**

**Refugee Educators' Network**  
This group of educators  
meets at the above address  
5 times per year  
to share information  
and plan an annual conference,  
the Southeast Asian Education Faire—  
9:00-11:30, 3rd Thursdays.

Join us!

September 21, 1995  
November 16, 1995  
January 18, 1996  
February 15, 1996  
May 16, 1996

# HMONG IN AMERICA

## REFUGEES FROM A SECRET WAR



Photo: John Everingham

**Who are the Hmong?**

**Where did they come from?**

**What brought them to America?**

**How are they doing here?**



Photo: Judy Lewis

*Hmong in America: Refugees from a Secret War* was produced by the Chippewa Valley Museum, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Major funding was provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Lecture &  
discussion

**January 13**

Yang Dao

**February 3**

Timothy Castle

**February 24**

Gayle Morrison

**March 16**

Individual  
examples

Campus  
examples

Community  
examples

Exhibit

**January 12  
to March 23**

***Hmong In America...***  
**a dramatic journey**  
**that begins in the**  
**mountaintops of Laos**  
**and ends in the**  
**cities of America.**

In 1961, U.S. President John F. Kennedy sent CIA operatives into northern Laos to recruit a secret army to fight communist forces in Laos and Vietnam. For 15 years, Hmong highlanders attacked the Ho Chi Minh Trail, guarded U.S. radar installations, and acted as the frontline defense of Laos.



In 1975 the Americans withdrew. Thousands of Hmong fled to Thailand. After months or years of confinement in refugee camps, most resettled in the United States. The journey took years to complete. Many

did not live through it. Survivors faced the imposing challenge of starting a new life in a highly industrialized, technologically driven society with values and cultural practices radically different from their own.



Available for \$12.95  
plus \$2.40 postage  
and handling from  
the Chippewa Valley  
Museum Press, P.O.  
Box 1204, Eau  
Claire, WI 54702,  
(715) 834-7871.

Participants will re-  
ceive a copy of this  
book as part of the  
series.

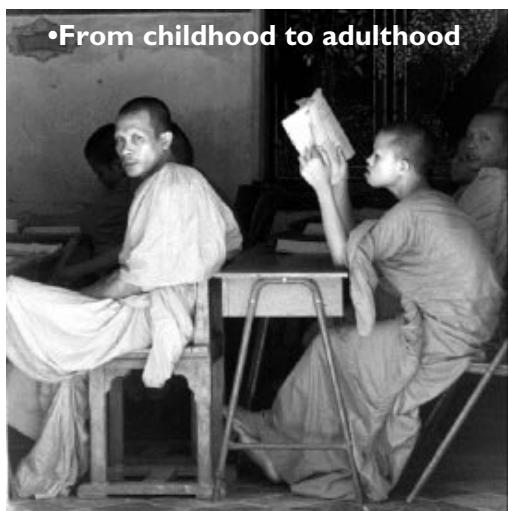
**•Be a participant:** attend all four sessions; read the materials in advance; ask questions and discuss. Advance application is required; limited spaces. Call Lue Vang, (916) 635-6815.

**•Be an observer:** attend selected sessions, listen and learn. No advance application is required.

# Journeys



- From one culture to another



- From childhood to adulthood



- From living to ancestor
- From human to spirit



- From limited to proficient.
- From outsider to insider.
- From theory to practice.
- From curiosity to respect.
- From one language to another.
- From one country to another.
- From family to society.

Sponsored by Center USD, Center for Educational Equity, Elk Grove USD, Folsom Cordova USD, Grant Joint Union High SD, International Studies Project at Sacramento, Lincoln USD, MRC Northern California, North Sacramento SD, Rio Linda Elementary SD, Sacramento City USD, San Juan USD, Stockton USD, SWRL, UCB Teacher Education Dept, Washington USD, and the California Department of Education, Emergency Immigrant Program. Proceeds benefit the Southeast Asia Community Resource Center in Folsom Cordova Unified School District.

## 12th annual Southeast Asia Education Faire

- Coming to Sacramento (Steve Magagnini)
- Back Fire: CIA in Laos, 1960-73 (Roger Warner)
- Cambodian Weddings (Mory Ouk)
- Lao New Year (Khamchong Luangpraseut)
- Khmer Women Rites of Passage (Khatharya Um)
- Death & Dying in Vietnamese Culture (Huynh Dinh Te)
- Gangs: Rites of Passage for Adolescents
- Ordination as a Buddhist Monk (Konthal Cheng)
- From Chiang Mai to Seattle (Prasit Leepreecha)
- Post-secondary Education for Hmong Students (Lue Vang)
- Education in Northeastern Thailand and Laos (Fred Baker)

- Multicultural Experiential Learning (Rosalie Giacchino-Baker)
- Tutoring Program (UCB Vietnamese Student Association)
- “Make-It-and-Take-It” (UCB Developmental Teacher Ed)
- Tai Chi (Ray Tom)
- Journey to Find My Mother (Charles Hwang)
- Iranian Students (Azar Sadrian)
- Photojourney to Laos (Scott Takushi)
- Coffee, tea, pastries.
- Vietnamese box lunch.
- Packet of handouts.
- Displays and sales.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\$45. Make purchase orders and checks payable to **Refugee Educators' Network** and mail to 2460 Cordova Lane, Rancho Cordova CA 95670. Phone: (916) 635-6815. Fax: (916) 635-0174. Deadline for registration will be February 23, 1996. Programs will be mailed 4-5 days prior to the event. No refunds. Some workshops have limited seating, require a small materials fee, and are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Vegetarian lunches will be available if requested at the time of registration.

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

△ I want a vegetarian lunch. △ I plan to attend a Make-it-and-take-it

## Surfing the 'Net: Fonts & Other Language Resources

The Multilingual PC Directory, ©1995  
Knowledge Computing, email:  
72240.3447@compuserve.com

The Human Languages Page  
Tyler Jones (tjones@willamette.edu)

### Earth Words from Editions Reny

Keywords: Education  
Hardware: SoundBlaster optional  
Displays: VGA

Languages: Arabic, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese

Description: Earth Words is an interactive animated picture and text software program that teaches spelling and character recognition in 26 languages. Menus can be displayed in either English, French and Spanish, and optional voice disks are available to aid pronunciation. Four different language sets are available. Pricing: \$24.95 each. Earth Tour 1: Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish. Earth Tour 2: Czech, Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Ukrainian. Earth Tour 3: Arabic, English, French, Hebrew, Hindi, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, Urdu. Earth Tour 4: English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Thai, Vietnamese.

### Font World International Typeface Series from Font World

Keywords: Fonts  
Hardware: As Windows  
Displays: As Windows  
Printers: As Windows  
Languages: Western European: Basque, Catalan, Danish, Dutch, French, Gaelic, Germany, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Provencal, Spanish, Swedish. Eastern European: Albanian, Azeri, Czech, Croatian, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Polish, Rumanian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian. Cyrillic: Byelorussian, Extended Cyrillic, Russian, Ukrainian. Others: Arabic, Armenian, Breton, Farsi, Georgian, Greek

(modern and ancient), Hausa, Hebrew, Icelandic, Indonesian, Malay, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Yiddish.

Description: Font World Beautiful Faces are part of the International Typeface series. They are available in Adobe Type 1 and TrueType format. All typefaces include Soft-Keyboard keyboard mapping software. The Fonts of the World promotion offers bundled typefaces at 50-75% off suggested retail prices. Pricing: \$99-\$399

### Gamma UniType from Gamma Productions, Inc

Keywords: Dictionaries, Environment, Fonts, Hyphenation, Spellchecking, Thesaurus, Translation

Hardware: As Windows 3.1.  
Languages: European package: Albanian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Rumanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, African languages, African Indian languages, Africaans, Anglo-Saxon, Basque, Catalonian, Creole, Greenlandic, Frisian, Hawaiian, Irish, Latin, Malay, Maltese, Samoan, Tagalog, Welsh. Cyrillic package: Armenian, Azeri, Bulgarian, Byelorussian, Church Slavic, Georgian, Glagolitic, Kirghiz, Macedonian, Moldavian, Mongolian, Russian, Serbian, Tadzhik, Tatar, Turkish, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Uzbek. Indian package: Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sinhalese, Tamil, Teluga. Asian package: Burmese, Khmer, Lao, Mongolian, Thai, Tibetan, Vietnamese. Arabic package: Azeri, Arabic, Farsi, Jawi, Kazakh, Kurdi, Pashto, Persian, Uighur, Urdu. Ancient/Biblical package: Aramaic, Canaanite, Coptic, Ethiopian (Ge'ez), Kurdi, Greek (classical), Hebrew, Hieroglyphics, International phonetic alphabet

(IPA), Phoenician, South Arabian, Syriac (Estrangela, Serta), Ugaritic, Yiddish. East Asian package: Chinese, Korean, Japanese.

**Description:** Gamma UniType extends Microsoft Windows 3.1 to be Unicode compliant. Additionally, UniType provides integrated support for multilingual spellchecking, multilingual hyphenation, and multilingual translating dictionaries, (machine translation under development); there is no need to go through the clipboard. Personal user dictionaries may be created in any language pair such as Arabic-Russian, German-Thai, etc.

UniType automatically generates contextual characters (e.g., in Arabic scripts), ligature shapes (e.g. in Indian languages), the correct position of multi-level diacriticals (e.g. in SE Asian languages), and also right-to-left character entry in Semitic languages. National standard and phonetic keyboards are supported.

UniType not only enables wordprocessing or DTP programs, but all applications including presentation graphics, spreadsheets, electronic mail and fax software. Many TrueType and Postscript fonts are available, providing output to typesetters.

### **Lao Professional Fonts from TAW Computer**

Keywords: Fonts

Hardware: As Windows

Languages: Lao, Thai

**Description:** Lao Professional fonts come in over 40 styles in both TrueType and Postscript formats for Windows and the Mac.

### **Linguist's Fonts from Linguist's Software**

Keywords: Fonts

Hardware: As Windows, Also for OS/2

Displays: As Windows

Printers: As Windows

Languages: Armenian, Avar, Azerbaijani, Azeri, Bahkir, Belarus, Bengali, Bulgarian, Buriat, Burmese, Cambodian, Chechen, Cherokee, Chukchi, Chuvash, Coptic, Cyrillic, Dungan, Erzya, Evenki, Georgian, Gujarati, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Inuit, IPA, Kabardian, Kalmyk, Kannada, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Komi, Korean, Lak, Lezgin, Laotian, Macedonian, Mari, Moksha, Moldavian, Mongolian, Mordvin, Nenets, Old Church Slavic, Ossetian, Ostyak, Punjabi, Russian, Sanskrit, Serbian, Syriac (Estrangelo script), Tadzhik, Tatar, Teluga, Thai, Tibetan, Turkmen, Tuvan, Udmur, Admurt, Ukrainian, Ukran, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Yakut

**Description:** Linguist's Software provides scalable fonts for MS Windows in TrueType format or Adobe Type 1 format with use with Adobe Type Manager. Each package includes a User Manual, keyboard layout charts, ANSI charts and keycap stickers.

TransCyrillic is available in Times (plain and bold) or Sans Serif (plain, bold, oblique and bold oblique), and supports all major Cyrillic languages including: Avar, Azerbaijani, Bahkir, Belarus, Bulgarian, Buriat, Chechen, Chukchi, Chuvash, Dungan, Erzya, Evenki, Kabardian, Kalmyk, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Komi, Lak, Lezgin, Macedonian, Mari, Moksha, Moldavian, Mongolian, Mordvin, Nenets, Ossetian, Ostyak, Russian, Serbian, Tadzhik, Tatar, Turkmen, Tuvan, Udmur, Ukrainian, Uzbek, Yakut and most Old Church Slavic characters.

LaserGreek in Graeca and Graeca Oblique fonts has all 36 accents, breathing marks, iota subscripts and diereses, and includes non-deleting backspacing in combination over any symbol. Also includes Nestle-Aland, UBS, Leiden and TLG text critical symbols and sigla, Roman alphabet, and French and German accents.

LaserHebrew in Hebraica and Arad Level

VI inscriptive style. 99 vowel points, accents, cantillation marks, and diacritical symbols have automatic non-deleting backspacing so they can be placed over any letter and in any combination.

TransRoman supports over 130 languages and features 41 overstrike accents and diacriticals. Pricing: From \$99.95

(The Southeast Asia Community Resource Center uses fonts from Linguist's Software for the Mac.)

### **Commercial Multilingual Resources**

HyperGlot, The Foreign Language Software Company: catalogs, demos, etc.

Lingsoft, Inc.: linguistic software for many languages.

Agora Language Marketplace: Software, resources, etc. (Gopher.)

Sound Beginnings - educational foreign language cassettes for infant and child development.

One World Distribution, Inc - commercial ESL and other language software.

Foreign Ink Ltd. - Language Translation - Asian-language translation and typesetting.

Athelstan Publications - products related to technology and foreign language learning; online includes the Technology and Language Learning Yearbook.

## Resources

### Ethnic Chinese and Economic Development in Vietnam

Tran Khanh, Singapore: Indochina Unit, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1993

### The Mark: A War Correspondent's Memoir of Vietnam and Cambodia

Jacques Leslie, New York: Four Walls Eight Windows, 1995

### Beyond the Killing Fields:

Voice of Nine Survivors in America

Usha Welaratna, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1993

### Where the River Runs:

Portrait of a Refugee Family (Cambodian)

Nancy Graff, Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1993

### The Customs of Cambodia

Chou Ta-Kuan, Bangkok: The Siam Society, 1993 (1987, based on 1902 text by Paul Pelliot)

### Korean Americans

Brian Lehrer, New York: Chelsea House, 1996

### Cultural Factors Within the Home Which May Influence Iu-Mienh Students' Academic Achievement

Chao Youd Sinh, CSU Chico: Master's Thesis, 1995

### Loz-Hnoi, Loz-Hnoi Uov

In the Old Old Days: Traditional Stories of the Iu-Mienh, Volume I

Tim Beard, Betsey Warrick, Kao Cho Saefong (editors), Berkeley: Iu-Mienh Stories

Project, Laotian Handcraft Center, 1993.

### Lao Mien Embroidery:

Migration and Change

Ann Yarwood Goldman, Bangkok: White Lotus, 1995?

### Politics of Heroin:

CIA Complicity in the Global Drug Trade

Alfred McCoy, New York: Lawrence Hill Books, 1991 (revised and expanded 1972 edition)

### Insurgency and Social Disorder in Guizhou:

The "Miao" Rebellion, 1854-1873

Robert Jenks, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1994

### Hmong for Beginners

Annie Jaisser, Berkeley: Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, 1995

### Hmong Voices in Montana

Susan Lindbergh, Missoula: Missoula Museum of the Arts, 1993

### Free People:

Our Stories, Our Voices, Our Dreams

Minneapolis: Hmong Youth Cultural Awareness Project, 1994

### Whispering Cloth:

A Refugee's Story

Pegi Deitz Shea, Homestead, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 1995

### Jouanah

The Hmong Cinderella

Jewell Reinhart Coburn, Arcadia, CA: Shen's Books, 1996

### Shadow War:

The CIA's Secret War in Laos

Kenneth Conboy, Boulder, CO: Paladin Press, 1995

### War in Laos, 1954-1975

Vietnam Studies Group

Carrollton TX: Squadron/Signal Publications, 1994

### At War in the Shadow of Vietnam:

U.S. Military Aid to the Royal Lao Government, 1955-1975

Timothy Castle, New York: Columbia University Press, 1993.

### Understanding Vietnam

Neil Jamieson, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993

### Understanding Southeast Asian Cultures:

Their Cultural Traits and Implications in Casework Practice

Van-Si Chareundi, Oak Grove OR: Asian American United Press, 1992

### Betel Chewing Traditions in Southeast Asia

(Images of Asia Series)

Dawn Rooney, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press, 1993

**Southeast Asians:**

Recent American Immigrants

William McGuire, New York: Franklin Watts, 1991

**Rice in Southeast Asian Myth and Ritual**

Anthony Walker, Columbus: Contributions to Southeast Asian Ethnography, 1994

**From Exiles to Immigrants:**

The Refugees from Southeast Asia

Ronald Takaki, New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 1995

**Parlons Lao:**

Langue, Civilisation, et Culture du Laos

Chou Norindr, Paris: Éditions L'Harmattan, 1994

**Of Rats, Sparrows, and Flies**

A Lifetime in China

Arthur Chung, Stockton, CA: Heritage West Books

**Ukraine:**

Ancient Crossroads, Modern Dreams (video)

San Ramon: International Video Network, 1994

**Russian Folk Belief**

Linda Ivanits, Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 1989

**The ACCESS Guide to Ethnic Conflicts in Europe and the Former Soviet Union**

Bruce Seymore, Washington: ACCESS, 1994

**Russian Proverbs**

Chris Skillen, San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1994

**Russian Stories:**

A Dual Language Book

12 Short Stories by Pushkin, Gogol, Tolstoy, and Others in the Original Russian and a New English Translation

Gleb Struve, New York: Dover Publications, 1990

**Lost in the Taiga:**

One Russian Family's Fifty-Year Struggle for Survival and Religious Freedom in Siberian Wilderness

Vasily Peskov, New York: Doubleday, 1992

**Russian Fairy Tales**

Budberg &amp; Williams-Ellis, New York: Harper Collins, 1991

**How to Pronounce Russian Correctly**

Bobrinsky &amp; Gsovskaya, Lincolnwood IL: Passport Books, 1994

**The Russian Way:**

Aspects of Behavior, Attitudes, and Customs of the Russians

Zita Dabars, Lincolnwood, IL: Passport Books, 1995

**Looking Toward Ararat:**

Armenia in Modern History

Grigor Ronald Suny, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1993



### What is the Southeast Asia Community Resource Center?

The SEACRC is a collection of some 5,000 items (primarily about Vietnamese, Sino-Vietnamese, Cambodians, Lao, Hmong, Iu-Mien, and Khmu) available for checkout to community members, including teachers and students. It operates as an adjunct to the Folsom Cordova Unified School District's Transitional English Program. It came into being because of the scarcity of information about these new Americans, and the importance of easily accessible information just when the need to know strikes.

### Who pays for the Center?

There are three sources of funding and support for the Center:

- Folsom Cordova owns the building, shelves, furniture, and provides the infrastructure. The district's EIA program (funds for LEP students) pays for the staff (half-time coordinator, full-time transition specialist, full-time clerk), who facilitate the eight purposes of state law.
- The Department of Education, Bilingual Education Office, provides Emergency Immigrant Education Program funds to distribute materials and information. This provides \$15,000 per year that is spent on a part-time clerk, operational supplies, and purchase of checkout items.
- The Refugee Educators' Network, a non-profit group, organizes an annual conference (see page 7) that produces money to buy books, periodicals, videos, and artifacts for checkout. This conference also helps trigger the "need to know."

### Who uses the Center?

During the past two years, about 500 people checked out materials. Others visited or called the Center but did not check out anything.

During a recent 5-day period, 45 people called or visited the Center, including a teacher-to-be who drove from Pleasanton, and a Cambodian student-teacher who drove from Stockton. Phone calls came from local people, but also from Washington D.C., Florida, New York, Kansas, Minnesota, Colorado, and Connecticut. Occasionally, the Center provides materials to individuals in France, Philippines, Thailand, and Australia. The borrowers are shown by zip code on the next page.

### Where are other Centers like this?

As far as we know, this is the only center that makes materials easily accessible to everyone. Academic centers and collections can be found at UC Berkeley, University of Arizona, University of Minnesota, Yale, Cornell, and other post-secondary institutions. This Center was inspired by the Southeast Asian Refugee Studies Project at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. A center like this could not exist on its own, as it takes more than a year or two to develop knowledge sufficient to be helpful to people; most grant funding expects results in a short period of time.

### Why doesn't the Center include other groups?

This is a frequent topic of conversation. Thus far, the decision has been to focus narrow, to go deep, and do the job well, to build "expert power." Southeast Asia was initially the focus because of the lack of available materials, and the frequent requests for information. The more recent newcomers are represented: there is an Armenian shelf, a Russian shelf, and "general" materials on Central Americans, Koreans, Middle Easterners, and others. A recent thrust has been to provide information on the differences between "oral" and "literate" cultures (cross-cultural cognitive differences).

### SEACRC Borrowers, 1993-95

95843	Antelope	11	95814	Sacramento	4
95301	Atwater	1	95815	Sacramento	2
95603	Auburn	1	95816	Sacramento	7
94703	Berkeley	1	95817	Sacramento	4
94720	Berkeley	4	95818	Sacramento	10
95682	Cameron Park	1	95819	Sacramento	18
95608	Carmichael	23	95820	Sacramento	23
95928	Chico	4	95821	Sacramento	12
95929	Chico	1	95822	Sacramento	19
95610	Citrus Heights	3	95823	Sacramento	16
95621	Citrus Heights	5	95824	Sacramento	27
95614	Cool	1	95825	Sacramento	5
95616	Davis	19	95826	Sacramento	38
95620	Dixon	2	95828	Sacramento	15
95938	Durham	1	95829	Sacramento	2
94803	El Sobrante	3	95831	Sacramento	7
95624	Elk Grove	5	95832	Sacramento	7
95758	Elk Grove	3	95833	Sacramento	3
95501	Eureka	1	95838	Sacramento	8
95628	Fair Oaks	2	95841	Sacramento	2
94533	Fairfield	1	95842	Sacramento	4
95630	Folsom	9	95864	Sacramento	4
94538	Fremont	1	84115	Salt Lake City UT	1
94555	Fremont	1	94110	San Francisco	1
93704	Fresno	1	94134	San Francisco	1
1938	Ipswich MA	1	95131	San Jose	1
92720	Irvine	1	95133	San Jose	1
95240	Lodi	1	95682	Shingle Springs	1
90720	Los Alamitos	2	95684	Somerset	1
95901	Marysville	2	95201	Stockton	1
90292	Moreno Del Rey	2	95202	Stockton	1
95656	Mt. Aukum	1	95204	Stockton	4
95660	North Highlands	11	95207	Stockton	3
94612	Oakland	2	95209	Stockton	3
95662	Orangevale	5	95210	Stockton	8
95965	Oroville	2	95211	Stockton	2
95969	Paradise	2	95685	Sutter Creek	1
95667	Placerville	2	85287	Tempe AZ	1
94588	Pleasanton	1	95382	Turlock	1
95469	Potter Valley	1	95688	Vacaville	1
2907	Providence RI	1	94596	Walnut Creek	1
95670	Rancho Cordova	51	96094	Weed	1
96001	Redding	3	95691	West Sacramento	4
95673	Rio Linda	1	95988	Willows	1
95677	Rocklin	4	95776	Woodland	4
95678	Roseville	5	95991	Yuba City	2
			95993	Yuba City	2
					491

### What is the future of the Center?

During this past year, the Center has lost two of its strongest supporters: **Dr. Van Le** retired from the Department of Education, and **Elena Léon** recently passed away, a tragic loss. Their enthusiasm and leadership will be difficult to replace.

In addition, the Department has been reorganized, and the program that provided the \$15,000 per year is now split among several departments.

If the Center loses its clerk, its collection can continue to be available to visitors, but checkouts will have to end. If we continue to hold a profitable conference, we can continue to buy subscriptions and materials. However, there will be no clerk to keep up the database, do the inventory, process checkouts, order materials, and track down late returns.

If you wish to advocate for continued Department of Education EIEP support for the Center, write to Hector Burke, Bilingual Education Office, California Department of Education, at PO Box 944272, Sacramento CA 94244-2720 (fax 916 657-5112).

### Are there volunteer opportunities available?

You betcha! We can provide internship opportunities for students from the university, particularly in education (language and culture acquisition), computer sciences (internet, e-text, desktop publishing, foreign language fonts), ethnic studies, anthropology, recreation management (conference organization). Right now, we could use someone to answer questions about SEAsians from callers, and someone to put text and image materials into electronic form.

### What are some projects just waiting to happen?

- Update resources list from 1/94 to present.
- Put past issues of *Context* into Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format.
- Every *Life* magazine from 1947 to 1973 with mention of Indochina: ???
- Index raw videotape from Hmong villages.
- Edit raw video into short MPEG or Quicktime files; develop hypertext navigator to clips.



**Make payable to Folsom Cordova USD/SEACRC—**

#9512 *Handbook for Teaching Armenian Speaking Students*, Avakian, Ghazarian, 1995, 90 pages. \$7.00. No carton discount.

#9411 *Parent Involvement in School: A Handbook for Language Minority Parents & School Personnel (Vietnamese Glossary & Summary)*, Huynh Dinh Te, 1994. \$5.00. No carton discount.

#9410 *Amerasians from Vietnam: A California Study*, Chung & Le, 1994. \$7.00. No carton discount.

#9409 *Proceedings on the Conference on Champa*, 1994. \$7.00. No carton discount.

#9308 *Selected Resources: People from Cambodia, Laos & Vietnam*. Lewis, ed. \$5.00. No carton discount.

#9207 *Minority Cultures of Laos: Kammu, Lua', Lahu, Hmong, and Mien*. Lewis; Kam Raw, Vang, Elliott, Matisoff, Yang, Crystal, Saepharm. 1992. 402 pages \$15.00 (carton discount \$12.00, 16 per carton)

#S8801 *Handbook for Teaching Hmong-Speaking Students* Bliatout, Downing, Lewis, Yang, 1988. \$4.50 (carton discount for lots of 58: \$3.50)

#S8802 *Handbook for Teaching Khmer-Speaking Students* Ouk, Huffman, Lewis, 1988. \$5.50 (carton discount for lots of 40: \$4.50)

#S8903 *Handbook for Teaching Lao-Speaking Students* Luangpraseut, Lewis 1989. \$5.50 (carton discount for lots of 42: \$4.50)

#S8904 *Introduction to the Indochinese and their Cultures* Chhim, Luangpraseut, Te, 1989, 1994. \$9.00. Carton discount: \$7.00.

#S8805 *English-Hmong Bilingual Dictionary of School Terminology Cov Lus Mis Kuj Txhais ua Lus Hmoob* Huynh D Te, translated by Lue Vang, 1988. \$2.00 (no carton price)

#S9006 *Vietnamese Language Materials Sourcebook* Huynh Dinh Te, 1990. \$2.00 (no carton discount)

**Add California tax if applicable. For orders under \$30.00 add \$2.00 per copy shipping and handling. For orders over \$30.00, add 10% shipping/handling. If you wish UPS for quantity orders, please request it.**

**#S9999    *CONTEXT: Southeast Asians & other newcomers in California, annual subscription. \$10.00.***

**Make payable to Folsom Cordova USD/SEACRC—**

#R001	Lao Alphabet Pstr	\$3.50	#R006	Hmong Primer	\$4.00
#R002	Lao Primer	\$4.00	#R007	Hmong dictionary, Xiong, (Hmoob Ntsuab	\$30.00
#R003	Lao 1st Gr. Reader	\$5.00	#R008	1992 Faire poster	\$3.00
#R004	Lao 2nd Gr. Reader	\$5.50			
#R005	Lao 3rd Gr. Reader	\$6.50			

Includes tax; \$1.00 per item shipping/handling up to \$30.00. Over \$30.00, 10% s/h.

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