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"Circle of Knowledge" Events Offer International Learning Opportunities

Members of Greater Kansas City People To People and Friends

Please join GKCPTP as we seek to make a difference, through personal involvement, in the lives of people from different parts of the world by learning from cultural presentations representing countries throughout the world. We have 4 talks that will highlight several countries.

Please invite your neighbors and friends to learn about our unique relationship with the foreign officers, some of which will be represented in these talks. These presentations are similar to those given on post (called "Know Your World"), without the need to leave your home.

We are very pleased to announce our speakers for the 2021 and 2022 Class of CGSOC for Circle of Knowledge by Zoom. Please share the information with those who

might be interested and could possibly be a future sponsor.

Circle of Knowledge #1: Vietnam

Sunday, November 14 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82230130759?pwd=czgwZWRSNFFnMTBYLzMrS2x5VkdFQT09>

Meeting ID: 822 3013 0759

Passcode: 058379

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82230130759#,,,,*058379# US (Chicago)

Please be aware that we are using a local church's Zoom account, so don't be surprised to see this message when you enter the meeting:

"Lutheran Church of the Resurrection is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting."

On Sunday November 14 at 2:00 p.m. Captain Pham of Vietnam will be our first presenter. As a child, Captain Pham moved with his family to Hanoi in 2000. His father was a Colonel in the Vietnam Ministry of Defense. Officer Pham's childhood interests included playing video games and reading books about Buddhism, wars and literature. He talked weekly with the monks at a nearby Pagoda about Buddhism and karma.

After graduating from University in 2017 he achieved the rank of 1st Lieutenant. His first appointment was with the Vietnam Department of Peacekeeping Operation. In 2018, Officer Pham was assigned as a Commanding Officer Assistant in 175 military hospitals, located in Ho Chi Minh City. This position involved planning and executing training programs for the hospital staff in the areas of security, medical knowledge and combat skills to meet United Nations (UN) requirements before deployment. Later that year he was deployed to the UN Mission in South Sudan as an administrative officer in a Vietnam level 2 hospital in Bentiu, the hot point of conflict between the Nuer and Dinka sides.

After returning to Vietnam in 2019 he worked for the Vietnam Department of

Peacekeeping Operation in the UN Mission in Central Africa and South Sudan. He had been helping prepare a new engineering company of 340 troops to be deployed in 2022 until he was selected to be at CGSOC.

Additional Circle of Knowledge Presentations Planned for 2022

- **Djibouti** Tuesday January 11 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Togo** Sunday February 27 at 2:00 p.m.
- **Slovak Republic** Sunday March 27 at 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to hear from these officers and appreciate individuals efforts toward building relationships between countries one person/family at a time to broaden our knowledge and celebrate our commonalities and differences.

Nancy Quitmeier

Program Chair

nquitmeier@gmail.com

816.835.4230

Local Access Control (LAC) New Process

Dear Sponsors,

In previous newsletters, I've mentioned a change in the submittal and processing dates for the annual LAC application. IMSD will process LAC apps for Operation International in January and for GKCPTP in February.

In accordance with that requirement, GKCPTP must submit sponsors LAC applications to IMSD no later than January 31. To help our organization meet the deadline, we will do two things:

1. include the link to application and instructions in this and upcoming newsletters
2. Military Committee member (who is your usual point of contact) will contact each sponsor to provide instructions and remind them of the deadline to complete.

Here is a summary of the process:

- Now through Jan: Complete the [LAC app](#). Complete **only** the first 2 sections of the application: 1) applicant information and 2) criminal history. Do not sign or date the form. Submit LAC apps to Pat Burnett (dburnett5@gmail.com) or Sharon Valasek (svalasek01@gmail.com).
- By Jan 31: Pat or Sharon will check each application to make sure that all pertinent information has been included (especially driver's license and criminal record box checked) and will submit to IMSD.
- Feb 1 – Feb 28: IMSD will submit all apps for processing
- By Feb 28: Notify sponsors LAC pass is ready for pickup (Pat or Sharon)
- Within 30 days of notification: LAC passes must be picked up by sponsors
- Passes will be valid until of Feb 28, 2023

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Sharon

816-213-5847 M