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Veteran Discusses Humanitarian Work in Vietnam

May 22, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— A Vietnam veteran who has led humanitarian projects for more than 20 years in the My Lai area will discuss his work May 28 at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Mike Boehm, project director of Madison Quakers, Inc., will present “Hands in the Rice Paddy: More than 20 Years of Humanitarian Work in Vietnam” Wednesday at 10 a.m. in The Ames Library’s Beckman Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

Boehm served in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969. He returned to Vietnam in 1992 to help build a medical clinic. He has said the experience changed his life, and he began initiating people-to-people projects in order to build reconciliation and mutual understanding between the United States and Vietnam. A group of Madison, Wis., individuals formed what eventually became the Madison Quakers Inc. Their initiatives include more than 3,000 loans to impoverished women, many of them widows; Peace Parks north of Hanoi and in My Lai; funding for primary schools; and an art exchange program between children in Madison and My Lai.

The presentation is sponsored by the [Asian Studies](#) program and the [May Term](#) Office. For more information, contact Professor of History Tom Lutze at 309-556-3818 or tlutze@iwu.edu.

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