

# AUGUST 2016 CAMBODIA REPORT

August 30, 2016 - Report 8  
Kevin & Catharine Carson - Cambodia

On Monday August 1st the Ship of Life sailed north out of Phnom Penh on route to the Tonle Sap Lake with Tim and Cheryl Carlin on board serving as the managing couple for the next three months. While on the lake, the ship visits very isolated floating villages around the lake perimeter and out into the flood plain that is created during the rainy season. Even though it is the rainy season and the water level has come up considerably, it is still very low compared to other years. In fact, just as the ship entered the



lake it got stuck on a sandbar. It took three local boats eight hours to pull the ship free. A former ship crew member, Sokha, has returned to the ship to replace Socheat who left us last month. Sokha calls the ship his second home and is very, very happy to be back on board. This is a testament to how special it has been for some of the crew members who have lived and worked on the

ship over the past ten years. The ship is very isolated on the lake, so keeping it stocked with provisions takes a lot of work. Recently our project coordinator Bunthoeurn brought a truckload of medication, frozen meat, food and other supplies from Phnom Penh.



It all had to be loaded onto our small supply boat by hand, and then offloaded onto the ship, again by hand. With the low water level on the lake, the ship's propellers tend to pick up old rope, fish nets, etc from the bottom of the lake. This means we have to periodically have local fishermen dive under the ship and cut the tangled mess to free the props. This year Tim and Cheryl brought some swimming goggles with them to make the task easier for the local men who helped out.



Old nets cut off the ship's propellers.

With the Carlins covering the ship for us, it has freed us up to live full-time in Siem Reap for the next three months. We are staying in the apartment that

Partners in Progress maintains in Siem Reap and we are focusing on coordinating English-Bible lessons using material from The World English Institute. We offer free, one-hour per day conversational English lessons, using stories from the Bible such as "The Good Samaritan" as the text that students read. Each hour long lesson is a one-on-one lesson with the student and their teacher. The student reads the story out loud to their teacher, answers verbal questions for comprehension, and also discusses the story with their teacher. Next they do written true-false questions, multiple choice

questions, and short-answer questions. For part of July and August we were joined by Linda Ross and Marion Waugh from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Linda had been to Cambodia before to teach WEI, but it was Marion's first trip and a huge step out of her comfort zone. They both took all the adventures in stride, and did a magnificent job teaching. Some days their first class was at 7:30 a.m. and their last class finished at 7:00 p.m. so they were busy! They were well liked by their students, and many of them came out to the going-away party we had for Linda and Marion.



Two little friends at Siem Reap's Church of Christ.

***“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.***

**Follow us on Facebook:** Catharine Kevin Carson, Ship of Life in Cambodia, Partners in Progress  
**Email:** [kevincarsonpip@icloud.com](mailto:kevincarsonpip@icloud.com)  
**Watch video clips:** [Vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com) (search “People” for “Kevin Carson”)  
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