



*FTMS*  
*Filipino Tribe*  
*Mission*  
*Sweden*



# NEWSLETTER

No.1 – 2 2014

## NEWS IN THIS NEWSLETTER

1. Annual meeting Sweden finished - the new Board
2. Annual meeting Philippines finished - the new Board
3. New projects
4. Follow-up on projects from 2013
5. Miscellaneous

## PREFACE

Our first newsletter this year is a double issue due to that we have held our annual meetings, both in Sweden and in the Philippines. We have received new members in our boards, and we show in this issue the directors and their functions. For more information, please visit our homepage at [www.tribemission.com](http://www.tribemission.com).

We have made a strategic plan to enable us to reach for personnel in the Philippines. At the moment we aim for two half time workers, but hopes to increase to two or three full time workers. It is foremost our assistance to different projects in which we assist children and youth to medical care, but too, in our work to motivate children from different tribes to participate in school education. This work demands a close cooperation with local governments, and we need continuation in our communication with the society.

It is also gratifying that we have increased the confidence from various leaders in society, both heads within social and school departments, but, too, from Chiefs where we are active together. Thanks to this increased confidence, we have been able to step up our work in motivating tribal children to continue school education, and sending children for surgery and check-ups at different hospitals, both in and outside the region.

We have too started up a new project with the pastor couple Recto and Josefa Labrador, in Butuan City, who focus full time on helping street children, which lives their lives on the streets of the city to find their daily food. Our goal is that they will attend to school, and as one of the objectives we prepare as many as possible to cope with normal schooling.

The need for sponsors to children and youth, and to our projects within nourishes feeding and child health care is badly. Help us to find more people who can help us with a monthly contribution. No contribution is too small, regardless of whether it starts at 10, 50 or 100 SEK. The fee to be a sponsor for a child is 200 SEK per month.

# 1. FTMS Annual Meeting in Sweden, January 9

FTMS annual meeting was held on Thursday, January 9 and the following points are completed:

\* The organization has adapted the governing board, after the requirements for applying and to have a 90-account. Following members was elected: for two years; Thor Klaveness, and with one year left; Per Olsson and Rosauro Maniquis. To alternates for one year following members was elected; Anton-Fredrik Klaveness, Helena Eklund and Jovelyn Klaveness

\* The organization has amended its statutes to more clearly show that we are engaged in humanitarian aid, and we have added a paragraph on association auditor. If we become granted membership in 90-account, it is required an external auditor, which makes that we adapt association auditor work to include more control on that our projects will be carried out in accordance with projects descriptions and board decisions.

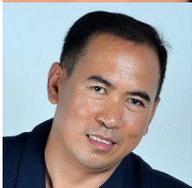
After the Board has been constituted, it looks as follows:

	Thor Klaveness	Chairman
	Rosauro Maniquis	Secretary
	Per Olsson	Treasurer
	Jovelyn Klaveness	Alternate
	Anton-Fredrik Klaveness	Alternate
	Helena Eklund	Alternate

Thank you for the confidence.

## 2. FTMW Annual meeting in the Philippines, January 17

New members elected to FTMW's board were; Nena T. Araza, and Recto T. Labrador, while Jeniffer Y. Urquia, Juralyn A. Urquia, Jovelyn Klaveness, Joey Dauz, Chris O. Buniel and Thor Klaveness was re-elected.

	Jovelyn U. Klaveness	President
	Juralyn A. Urquia	Secretary
	Jeniffer Y. Urquia	Treasurer
	Thor M. Klaveness	Auditor
	Nena T. Araza	Director
	Dr Christopher O. Buniel	Director
	Joey G. Dauz	Director
	Recto T. Labrador	Director

### 3. New projects

We will tell you more in detail below and in the next number, but in short following projects are covered; In connection with our annual meeting in the Philippines, some new projects were inaugurated. One, which is completely new, but which has had an evaluation period since last annual in 2013, is pastor Recto T. Labrador and his wife, Josepha's, work, called "Feeding the Precious" to help Butuan City's street children.

Other new projects launched are within the framework of earlier projects, among other, to train up a new coordination responsible in the Agusan del Sur province. New for the year is that we now have a separate section covering the two provinces of Agusan, this, because that our BOD members Joey Daus, Nena Araza, and Recto Labrador lives there, who can locally handle our aid better than we, as before, started from our main office in Surigao del Sur. We are also developing our breakfast program for tribal children studying in school to be able to meet Carrascal municipality's wish to extend this work to apply more villages, than alike the present village Adlay. We are also looking at the rights which are available on the paper for the indigenous peoples Mamanwa and Manobo. This is to be able to help them, in the first instance Mamanwa, to build permanent housing. The importance of this is to enable a continuous schooling for their children and youth, who are often taken away from teaching because parents have to work far from school to get food for the day. We continue our Child Health care work, and the first week in the month of March, we have a teen from Surigao del Sur in hospital in CDO, Cagayan De Oro, to finalize her palate surgery.

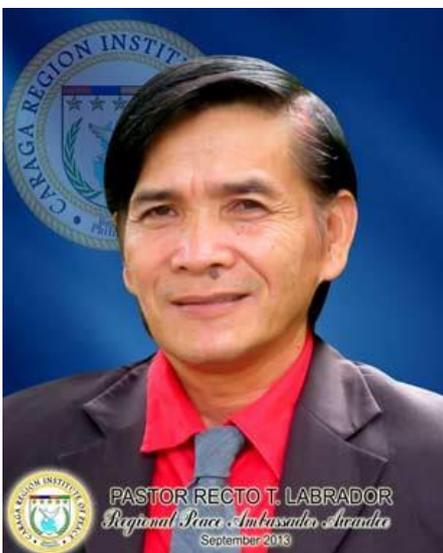
We are evaluating in addition to be able to cooperate more closely with Nena Arazas projects within ACM, Arise Ministries development work for the tribes Higaonon and Malahone in Agusan del Norte. Already today ACM is helpful to us by letting us spend the night in their premises in CDO while we have children for surgery at any of the neighbouring hospitals.

### FEEDING THE PRECIOUS



In connection with the annual meeting in the Philippines, January 2014, FTMS decided to launch a supporting program to pastors Recto and Josefa Labrador in Butuan City, provincial capital of Agusan del Norte.

On the picture to the left you see Recto and Josefa together with the manager of the Karaga Hotel, Mr. Ken Go. Ken Go has promised to help them through collecting all leftover from the hotel rooms, such as; soap, shampoo, combs etc. which the hotel donate to the work of Labrador for the street children.



They have kept on in seven years' time to seek street children to see how they have it, and if they can help them in any way.

Recto got during 2013 an award by CARAGA Region Institute of Peace for their urgent work to help Butuan's street children.

February 27-28, 2014, Recto was guest speaker at CARAGA federation of Student Leaders' arrangements to encourage youth workers in their work with children and young people in the region.

The work of Recto is at first hand to encourage children living on the streets to feel loved, needed and put their efforts on school education. But to be able to do that, he need to catch their focus from always being hungry, and for some, abstinence from different addictions, but too, distrust of adults.

That is why it is important to support Recto and his wife's work financially.



In the district Ong Yiu live a mixture of the poorest people in Butuan City, both Muslims, Christians, and other tribal peoples. In this district is endemic abuse of drugs which generates prostitution and crime, robbery assault, murder etc.

Recto and his team cook food and hold meetings for the children and their families, every weekend on a lot they have permission to use. They believe in to build up a new generation of children through their holistic program; to feed spirit, soul and body.



Pastor Recto visits children and young people he sees on the street and invites them to their programs for nutrition and training.

In spite of the fact that this is a humane action for all of us there is, unfortunately, to get that takes that one goes from words to action as Recto does. We want to encourage him and his wife Josefa in their work to lead children and young people from the street to education and training in the future to cope with the challenges that it is to live in a poor country.



## PALATE SURGERY



During the month of March we have assisted a teen to German Doctor's hospital in Cagayan De Oro to finalize her palate surgery.

A problem encountered is that parents or legal guardians do not understand the importance of why to comply with physician's recommendation on the food to eat, why her wound received infection due to intake of incorrect diet.

It is our task to make clear to parents or legal guardians and help them during healing process so that the patient is not "sinning" and causes more damage to herself.

It is perhaps self-evident in our Western society to follow the doctor's prescription, but it's not always obvious that one would break habitual living patterns to get better. Motivation is important. Maybe our experience can be a motivation for you as well?

## GODCHILDREN IN THE AGUSAN PROVINCES



A new section for our godchildren has been formed in the Agusan provinces to take responsibility for them, and to build a stable service corps which can receive more sponsors from Scandinavia and Europe.

Roldan is an uncle to one of our godchildren and help us as a controller that godchildren in his area are regularly visited by FTMW and that our commitments are complied with. Flora Mae is apprentice in the work to administer help to the godchildren in Prosperidad and Trento, while Nena help her as her mentor.

Nena is also working towards the tribal people in the tribes Malahone and Higaonon, two peoples in the Philippines living in difficult circumstances and which we are now looking for sponsors to.

When you want to become a sponsor to a child in the Philippines, we offer you to help a godchild of your choice from any of following projects/areas which we work within:

- Street children for education in Butuan City, Agusan del Norte
- Children in Mamanwa for education in the Philippine elementary, Surigao provinces
- Children in the Malahone tribe in Agusan del Norte
- Children in the Higaonon tribe in Agusan del Norte
- Children in the villages San Vicente and San Agustin, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur

## MAMANWA



In January Thor and Jovelyn had a meeting together with Mamanwa in Adlay to follow up on why the children were absent the last semester in school.

It was shown that a number of events had taken place which in different ways affected their motivation, and since they could not motivate their children to continue, they decided that the children could do as they wished, which led to that they chose to stay at home.

After examination of the problems and new decisions made in how we can help each other to encourage the children in their schooling, the Chief decided that, not only seven, but ten of their children will continue elementary education.

Since it was near to summer vacation Thor went together with Juralyn and the children to the school to see if they still had place for the children. Unfortunately the principal was not there. Later they learned that the children could not come back until school starts in June.

The children are now in preparation for summer school in cooperation with FTMW.



Mamanwa is great producers of handicraft in rattan, and here is one of the tribe's members standing with a carpet to find a customer to her own made carpet.

In this way many of the tribal members support themselves. Other works in the forest with different cultivations or through filling their storages of fire wood, food etc. They are a homogenous group which helps one another with their daily needs.

## 4. Follow-up on projects from 2013

Following projects has been followed up, of which some have been completed during the first quarter of 2014:

**Project:**

**Place:**

**Responsible director;**

**Cornea transplantation**

**DMC Davao Medical Center Jeniffer Urquia/Thor Klaveness**



The girl who received a new cornea is now well and recovered after surgery and follow-ups.

Final reading will be in June 2014, but she has already stopped taking eye drops and moved back to her family in the forest.

**Adult Education Mamanwa**

**Adlay, Carrascal, SdS**

**Juralyn Urquia/Jovelyn Klaveness**



During the past year 2013 there has been some disputes in the village of Adlay which has affected Mamanwa.

It was election to some local government units. Corruption and threats towards the local population by individuals who wanted to be elected did that a part not felt secure.

Discrimination in a workplace resulted in that a whole family left the village, while many kept away to plantation and collecting of firewood in the mountains.



During the summer of 2013, a forest fire ravaged which destroyed several houses, and in its connection, too, houses on the site of the Mamanwa.

In spite that they have been promised for several years to have houses built up and renovated, only two houses remained for several families to use. Three families moved in to the only house built to them, supposed to be a multi purpose house, while some were forced to move up in the mountains again, and because of these events lost their children's place in school.

At our meeting in January, between the leaders of the tribe and FTMS/FTMW, we have agreed that we together will help the tribal children to access primary education, and that the adult will receive the assistance needed to succeed in their daily work to support their families.

We now carry out a variety of small projects to help the tribal members to get recommended land on which they can build houses and stay on without worry that they will be destroyed by natural disasters or by politically.



Management of sponsored children in the Agusan provinces you can read about in Chapter 3, this number. A new section has been created in order to help more children and receive more godparents.

In the same way, we have already reviewed our work in the provinces of Surigao, and focus now on where the aid is best needed. In the Surigao provinces more tribal people are involved in the society and need more help from the society to offer school and work for them all. It is not everywhere tribal children can come for education. In those areas where it is hard we try to reach them continuously. But to reach some of their villages, and settlements, is very hard and winded, which demands cooperation between many different parties if we will succeed.



In the provinces of Surigao we have direct connection with the tribal of Manobo and Mamanwa. These two tribes have their own ways to solve queries, why it can at times be complicated to assist a child for school education or in need of medical treatment by a doctor. It is not always a matter for the parents alone, but they need to respect the opinion of the Chief, tribal council and the members of the own household's opinions. And because of this they need to give correct information to make their will to treat their child prevail.

Philippine authorities are relating well to the Convention on the Child which the government has signed, but it is hard to reach out locally in all parts of the country with its contents. FTMS – FTMW tries to reach out with information which helps children and parents to a tolerable life and future opportunities through education in coordination with the local authorities.

**Administration/update of FTMW BIR, SEC and bank Jeniffer and Juralyn**



To run an organization gives that there is always needed to give report to different authorities about the organizations' work. This is valid for us in the Philippines as well.

Our annual declaration is given to SEC, Securities of Exchange Office. And to have it approved, we declare our turnover at BIR, Bureau of Internal Revenue, which we then show to SEC.

Among other is shown how much is transferred from FTMS to FTMW. Your contribution is included in these numbers shown.



This year Juralyn Urquia has taken care of our paper work in Cagayan De Oro at SEC so that we can continue to help all our godchildren with their needs and the children, families, and tribes with their needs.

*The pictures to the left are from different administrative meetings with our crew.*



Fundamental to that children and youth shall assimilate the education they receive in school is that they get enough nutrition for the body to function as it should.

Since 2006, when Thor Klaveness agreed with the then rector of Adlays elementary school, FTMS – FTMW has been helpful in giving nourishment to students in school.

2012 we got additional information which indicated that approximately 160 students of the school's app. 900 lives under the limitation of starvation.

To enable us to help more, we have started a special trust for school feeding which has the term CYP1050.



Currently, the students from Mamanwa come to us every morning to get breakfast. In our engagement we help them to understand the point of nourishment and hygiene, which, too, also means that we teach them to wash with soap and shampoo and that they brush their teeth.



When they have had their breakfast and brushed teeth, they dress in the school uniform and goes to school.

Past school year, Mamanwa children have not attended school since they was not welcome back after their interruption last semester, June to November 2013. But we have registered them for start-up in June when schools start up again after summer vacation, which in the Philippines is in Mars – May.

In the meantime, we have provided them with training at our Office and followed them to the school's summer school education that is an extra support for children who need to follow up on what they missed during the previous semester.

## 4. Miscellaneous

### INFORMATION

For more information about events, see information and follow the links from our website at [www.tribemission.com](http://www.tribemission.com). There you can too fill out a form to be a sponsor to a child or a project. You can too send us a mail to our address as stated on the last page.

### *Lectures/Events*



If you want to book us to come, and that you will know more about the Philippines, and our local work there, please contact us on given numbers or e-mail as shown last in this newsletter.

Observe that we are pleased to come, if so only, for the sake of the information, for instance, the life in the Philippine provinces, and about how to help to own support. Information which can be well for use to, for instance, school youth, scouts etc.

### *Theme events*



It is you that decide the theme in cooperation with us, for instance, in connection with the UN-day, or any international engagement, or theme day at your work. School – Organization – Company, does not matter.

I ask our deepest and warmest thanks from me and our co-operators for your engagement. Please, talk with a friend about the possibility to be a sponsor to a child or to any of our many projects in the Philippines.

God's peace

Thor Klaveness

### **Offices:**

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## *Sponsorship fee*

The monthly fee for a godchild is  
€20/SEK200 or €15/SEK150 for group sponsor  
and can be paid as follows:

1. By autogiro
2. By payment card/bill which can be paid monthly, quarterly, half year or own choice.

When paid within Sweden, payment can be done  
to account shown lowest this page.

Payment outside Sweden but within  
Europe, pay to: **NORDEA Sweden**

**IBAN: SE31 9500 0099 6042 0418 2960**

**SWIFT: NDEASESS**

### *Internet pages:*

Homepage for the network:

[www.tribemission.com](http://www.tribemission.com)

Filipino Tribe Mission Sweden's homepage:

See **FTMS** in task bar

Filipino Tribe Mission Welfare's homepage:

See **FTMW** or Philippines in task bar

Godchildren:

See **Child sponsor** in task bar

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### **NOTE**

This Newsletter is written to reach people not common with the Filipino culture. To tell about the way Filipino's lives and give an opportunity to help where help is needed.

We are in no way participating in any political movements, but are involved to lift the knowledge to have patience and ability to live side by side with one another. Notwithstanding if it belongs to be to Filipino's or other.

If you want to contribute with your own experiences and/or knowledge, please feel welcome. News in our newsletters is solely based on facts from Filipino's and experiences from other within the Philippines itself. We belongs to different cultures, therefore it is sometimes different viewpoints on the news.