





NEWSLETTER

No 8 2009

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PREFACE

In this number Pastor Thor Johnny Thoresen continues his story about his work among our godchildren in the four provinces, which constitute the CARAGA-region in eastern Mindanao.

They have had no typhoons or other acts of God, and have not been fighting flooding, like in the northern Philippines. On the contrary, here are the problems more permanent and fatal.

Knowledge how to provide one self is missing and the ignorance about the surrounding cultures that exists, also besides the rights every human has, leads to armed conflicts, both now and then in bigger or smaller scale. The latest conflicts that touched the political tension between two clans in the province of Maguindanao are not visible in our area, but shows to us in Sweden and worldwide, why it is important that we support the Philippine Department of Education's striving to give an education to all children. A level we have overcome in Sweden since almost a century ago.

With knowledge, conflicts will be enabled to be solved differently. Drug kings, weapon trade and trafficking will only be limited if the population itself knows that they are equal in the presence of the law, and if the law is respected of both to the rich people and the society itself.

We are heading towards Christmas, and we have already passed the first of advent. Please give an extra gift to our work in the Philippines through a payment to our account seen on the next page.

A great thank you, to all of you who contribute, and already have contributed, you can see in the report of pastor Thor Johnny how some gifts already has reached to the godchildren before Christmas.

1. CHRISTMAS GIFT 2009

Give a child a "happy new year" by giving a Christmas gift 2009

The Christmas gift is used this year for Children's Health Service, CYP1100, to children in the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur.

Choose what you would like to give:

- 50 SEK/€5
- 100 SEK/€10
- 250 SEK/€25
- 500 SEK/€50

And pay into our **Plusgiro: 418296 - 0** or **BG 5495 - 2361** within Sweden Or why not become a sponsor to one of our children for only 200SEK/20EURO per month?

Payment from outside Sweden: Bank account: 9960 420418 2960 IBAN: SE31 9500 0099 6042 0418 2960 BIC-Code (SWIFT): NDEASESS Bank: NORDEA Sweden

1. Report 2 from Pastor Thor Johnny Thoresen

Pastor Thor Johnny Thoresen

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THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GODCHILDREN

Without thinking much about it before, I have become the representative of the sponsors of the godchildren during this time in Mindanao, in the front of the children primarily, in the front of the board, in the front of the representatives at each place, but also in the front of political authorities and departments. We are running so many projects, but that you as a sponsor set aside an amount of yours to a godchild, make impact on people down here.

I have told about Prosperidad, where Kjell and his daughter Sara helped me, as in Trento as well. The children became so blessed by the monthly payment from you sponsors, that this Christmas celebration will be a memory for life for them. Their whole life is changed thanks to your gift.

When the motorbike with the purchase for Rolando left the small guesthouse where I lived near Trento, tears of joy rolled down over my cheeks.

A sack of rice, school uniforms, shoes, school material, milk, and vitamins, is just some few things of the big load that Rolando and his elder sister brought home. I took a film until the motorbike was like a spot in the road. Around the motorbike was a platform, which can load a huge amount of articles and often up to eight persons on only one bike.

Now I turned back to Cantilan, Carrascal and the district of Adlay to reach our other projects and godchildren.

It is the couple Teodoro and Cholly Bat-ao, who is representatives in Gacub and Madrid. Our godchildren there are Elvie and Marbellyn. I had already before my accident bent to Gacub with the motorbike of Thor. This time it was slower. But mail is to be delivered and the children have got their

purchases done thanks to the sponsor's fees. The first day we brought the children to a tailor in Cantilan. New material to the school uniforms, correct measure, and tailor made uniforms.

It was worth to see; smiling children with new school uniforms. And later we went to the grocery who sells school material. Cholly is a master in this mission, and maybe that it is why she is the representative that has hardest to learn our new system which is at present for us all. The Child's needs-letter, has several purposes, one is to remind about what to buy.

This document shall also serve the treasurer when he/she revises the purchases. Here is a title for budget, a title for bill or receipts number, and of course a title for total. It was easy for me to engage all the other in the board when I told them that this is the document which I have used in South America, Thailand, India and Pakistan earlier, when I was founder and manager for the organization Skandinavisk Fjernadopsjon Forening (Scandinavian Distance adoption) in Norway.

Elvie and Marbellyn send their regards to their sponsors, with a smile from ear to ear. Happier children than these I have not seen for long.

Taganito

is an interesting project. Even there we have two godchildren. We must pray and work for a goal of at least two hundred. It is several years ago since Thor and I visited Taganito Mining Company and ignited a cooperation. They support a teacher for the children of Mamanwa. It has succeeded, as Thor has made known in earlier newsletters, that we have got nomad tribal children to start public schools. As you might already know, a private school in Manila has been supplying this project earlier with school material.

Efren Rubenial is a well known pastor, main pastor for Panikian Gospel Church and an important official in the municipal of Carrascal. It is a wonder that he is our coming leader. A very strong friendship has grown between Rubenial and me. The same has already happen between Thor Klaveness and pastor Rubenial.

Rubenial borrowed a car from a friend in the assembly, Jojo Prado, son of a former judge, and owner of the house at the beach where I, Kjell, Sara and many other guests has had the joy to stay. We drove the first day to Taganito and met the children Rachel Mae and Angel, their parents and teacher.

We filled the Child's needs-letter, budget for purchase, and received signatures from the parents and Rubenial, the representative of FTMW. Then, equally as in the Carmen project, we brought the children to a tailor. We in the team then took the car and proceeded to Surigao City, where four adult men shared a double room. Foams were laid out on the floor. We really enjoyed together and had fun.

With the lists for purchase, we bought milk, rice, vitamins and all necessities to give the children a better diet and health.

Early next morning we drove back fully loaded, and met the children at the same bus stand as the day before. A tricycle, a motorbike on three wheels, was rented to drive the purchases to the homes of the children. New pictures were taken. New tears fell from us participants and new big smiles on the children's faces, for all the good things they received from their sponsors in Sweden and Norway.

Thank you, thank you, and again thank you. We must pray and believe for more sponsors. Visit our homepage and chose your godchild today. Sponsorship saves lives! TJ

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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

FTMW

Adlay, Carrascal 8318 Surigao del Sur Philippines

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

Filipino Tribe Mission Sweden's homepage: Se FTMS in task bar Filipino Tribe Mission Welfare's homepage: Se FTMW or Philippines in task bar Godchildren: Se Child sponsor in task bar

FILIPINO TRIBE MISSION SWEDEN

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NOTE

This Newsletter is written to reach people, not used to 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 patient 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.