



Registered association for the promotion
of medical care and social support in
Northern Samar, Philippines

Bugko, April 2013

Dear members, dear friends, and supporters of Mabuhay!

Like last year, Sr. Veronica and I had to report back to Germany about our work here. On 12.12.2012 our annual general meeting of the association was held. It's always nice to meet a lot of friends and acquaintances. This time, many new faces came so our circle is growing. This time our assembly place was provided by the parish of St. Barbara parish and deacon Kirschner and his wife helped the Board in the preparation. It is nice to see how you take part in our project here, are interested and help us in various ways. Without you we couldn't run the station as we do and couldn't carry it out and treat more patients each year. We can not say enough "thank you".



On 3 January we went back because we had visitors from Brazil. Sabine and Marie Honer visited us for a short time. Mrs. Honer was formerly at the German Embassy in Manila and is now working in Brasilia in Brazil. She was accompanied by Marie, her little daughter, who did not get enough of our pets. In the short time we were able to show them much of our environment and the lives of the people here.



On 30 January, Dr. Elisa E. a young dentists from Munich came to us to do dental help here. The contact came thru Dr. Klaus Winter and the German Dentists (HDZ), which supported us for years already.



The very next day she began to work. Spectators were always enough and sometimes our young patients helped assisting with the fillings by giving the instruments. Many patients came at this time. She was supported on some days by our local dentist Dr. De S.. Unfortunately, the extractions were again at the forefront, simply because nothing could be saved. It's always terrible when you have to pull permanent teeth of relatively young patients and even children as there is no other way. The youngest patient was 6 years old. Dr. Ewers removed up to 26 teeth in a single patient. More than a frightening number and as the dentists who have previously worked here, she was also shocked by the poor dental status of the people and had the feeling that teeth-pulling has no end. Overall, we had 308 patients. In these 726 tooth extractions and 30 fillings and 27 dental cleanings were performed. The numbers speak for themselves. Unfortunately, Dr. E. had to leave already on 15 February for personal reasons.



Fortunately, some teeth could be saved here, a few examples:



Before- and after



About her time with us she wrote herself:
A trip to the Philippines sounds like a wonderful destination - marvelous weather, great beaches and friendly Asian population - as we like to travel as Europeans. With the funds that you have available as Europeans, it may be true, but if you look behind the scenes and get to know the people, life is no picnic for the Filipinos - or is it? Sugar! It is included anywhere in consumption among the population high because it satisfies the appetite and soothes the children. Sister Veronica and sister Sabine take excellent care and with all their available resources to the general health of the population and especially the children - this includes a nutrition program and a Flouride program. Unfortunately, the state is attempting with little or no help and there is a lack of education on health and in particular dental health. This caused the teeth in a dilapidated condition. Anyone who works as a dentist in Bugko must be prepared for milk tooth extraction of all teeth in young and very young children and the extraction of permanent molars among school children. The population is very much grateful to the program, but the help comes too late for many patients even if there are continues activities of Dentistry in the clinic. Fortunately, there are also patients with healthier teeth and I was pleased with every tooth I could do cleaning and filling. In those moments I had the feeling not only mitigation but avoid the damage. It was a great experience for me to be able to assist the people personally . Help is needed in two ways financially and also personally. Elisa E.

On February 26, came for a day Mr. Roland Räuber from Steinen/ Germany to us. For a long time he and the community support our programs in different ways and now he wanted to personally look around once on site. We had a short but very intense time with him and showed him a lot



On 3 March came Dr. Patrick A. and Dr. Miriam G., both dentists from Mainz/Germany and Dr. Andrea S., a pediatrician from Duisburg/Germany to us. The dentists could well build on the dental treatment from Dr. Ewers, much to the delight of our patients, who often have a long haul of suffering behind. Those of us who know toothache know what I am talking about and when we see the dental status of our patients they had a long and much painful suffering.



V.I.n.R.: Patrick A., Miriam G., Andrea S.

These teeth, as examples, could still be saved



In this it was no longer possible



Dr. A. and Dr. G. were from early morning to evening at work. Sometimes even the treatment area of the clinic had to be converted as a dentist room to treat all patients. Fortunately, many patients asked for teeth cleaning and fillings.



With Dr. S. first time we had a pediatrician with us. She is very experienced and led us also to advanced diagnostics with ultrasound and ECG . Thus, patients "Big" and "Small" were in experienced hands. Dr. S. saw many malnourished children and children with skin diseases and bronchial diseases accompanied with a very high fever. I have learned a lot from her and so her stay was a great addition.



Sometimes the dentists worked with the pediatrician and exchanged their knowledge in a variety of diseases. A really strong team!



The waiting line was often long.

In next Newsletter they will share their experiences with us in Bugko. On March 22, Ole Naval family came to our station. He is an architect in Manila and has often helped us with his expertise. This time we asked him again to make a plan, in order to extend our programs in the near future with a maternity clinic.



Now it has again become a very long letter since the first quarter here with many events, but also many new encounters and new friends established. For your Generous help and assistance in many different ways, we Thank You! We note again and again that our concern here is also yours . And so I greet you heartily from Bugko!

Yours,

Sabine Korth

Salamat (Thank you) from Bugko!

Donation:
Sparda Bank West eG
BLZ 370 60590
Konto-Nr.. 3651274
IBAN : 20 3706 0590 0003 6512 74
BIC : GENODED 1SPK

Mabuhay – Hilfe zum Leben e.V.
Geschäftsstelle:
Kaiserstrasse 11
53332 Bornheim
www.mabuhay-ev.de

Amtsgericht Bonn
VR 8364