

Buyong Sponsorship Program

News 2006

Greetings to Sponsors and Friends of the Buyong Program:

The Buyong Sponsorship Program is beginning its **25th** year of work in Buyong and surrounding villages on Mactan Island in the Philippines. Looking back, we see that this program has made a difference in many ways in the community. Deserving students have attended high school and college because of your sponsorship. Teachers observe that the children are in better health and come to school more often because of the daily feeding. More medicines are available at the health center because of our program donations. Various other projects, such as clean water and toilets, have improved village life. We plan to continue helping as we can.

Some of you keep in touch with your student and other friends there. Internet cafes in the area make this possible. Some of you, **69** in all, have traveled to the Philippines to meet the children and their families, to visit the school and attend graduations. This large number of visitors includes students and teachers from the American School, sponsors and their families, many friends and most of the Zaiser family.

March 2006 Visit

Sponsored Students



Lorena

Our nursing student who graduated in March from the University of the Visayas Nursing School and is now studying for her June board exams. (Sponsors for her senior year: Friends who donated to our fund in memory of Paul Zaiser)



Paiza

Our college student who has just finished her second year at the University of San Jose Ricoletos in Cebu City. She is studying to be a CMA, Certified Management Accountant. Only three more years to complete this degree!

(Sponsors: The PRO at the American School)

Former Sponsored Students

Since 1982 we have sponsored **64** students in high school and **32** in college. A remarkable number from a small village! Four are living abroad, the others are in the Buyong area. Almost all of our graduates are employed, and we see them taking an active part in their community as responsible adults and parents.

Mildred Cases - one of our medical assistants

Marilou Hiyas - volunteer at the health center

Romy Paquibot - our architect who designed Paul's memorial garden

Fridel Paquibot - our civil engineer - in charge of the 2005 school renovations
and 2006 water restoration in Buyong village

Dolores Dehito - officer of the new 21 family water cooperative

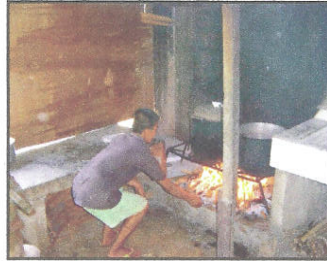
Gina Baguio - officer of the new 21 family water cooperative

Jimmy Pinote - "volunteer business manager" for the 21 families in the Buyong Village Water Cooperative

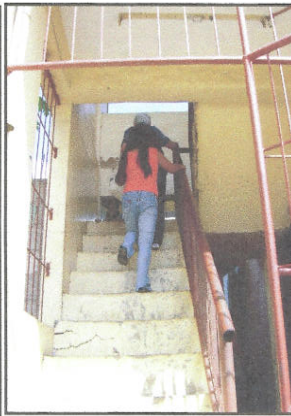
Buyong Elementary School



Feeding Program



Health Center



Buyong Elementary School

Our feeding program at the school continues - thanks to the Philippine Relief Organization (PRO) at the American School in Japan and three dedicated teachers at the Buyong school. Remember, in all of the Philippines, this is the only program that offers a free, daily meal to **every** student in the school.

Our fund also provided financial assistance in remodeling the main conference room at the elementary school this past year. The ceiling, floors, doors and windows have been redone as intruders were breaking in and stealing everything. The room is now larger, safer, very attractive and intruder free.

Health Center

The local health center is important to the community as it serves mothers and babies who cannot afford to see a private doctor. A nurse and several volunteers are on duty every day, and the doctor visits once a week. Mothers receive prenatal care - babies are given their immunizations. We give medicines four times a year to this health center - thanks to your very generous donations. Our two medical assistants, Mildred and Poinciana, keep in touch with the health center nurse and order the medicines that are needed.

We are also providing six months worth of medicine for a little seven year old girl, Abigail, who has just been diagnosed with TB in her bones.

Village Improvements

Few homes in Buyong have running water. Families must walk five to ten minutes to the road and buy daily water from vendors. The Buyong Village Water Cooperative was formed six years ago by Paul. He installed water pipes into the center of the village to provide clean water to families living so far from the vendors. Mismanagement and stolen pipes caused this cooperative to fail. In March we restored the water to these 21 families. Former student, **Jimmy Pinote**, organized the new cooperative with better guidelines and management, and our engineer, **Fridel Paquibot**, installed the system. (New pipes are in cement).

Andrew Zaiser accompanied his grandmother, Janet, to the Philippines on this last visit. We had the usual gatherings with teachers, sponsored students, their families and miscellaneous friends, and a final "despidida" party with games and prizes. Thanks, Andrew, for your great pictures which really tell the story.

You are all so important to this Buyong program. Please inform us of a change of address or new e-mail address so we can keep in touch with you. Tell others about the program and remember us when it is time to give. Contributions may be sent to Janet W. Zaiser, address below. Your concern and your financial support make a difference in the lives of so many.

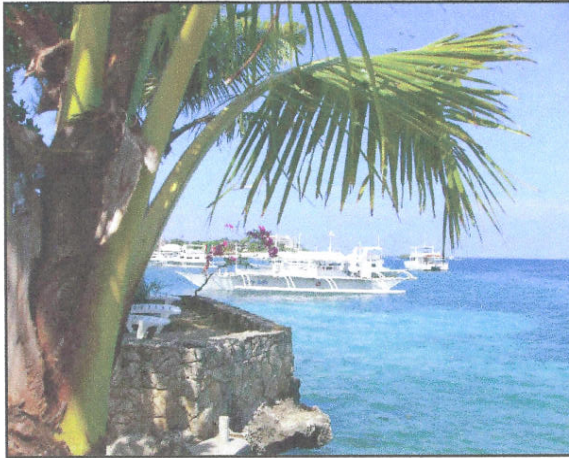
We thank you.

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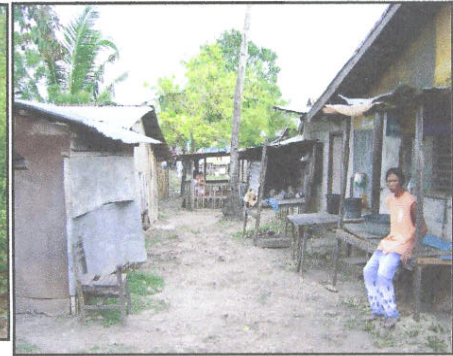
For a summary of the history and activities of the Buyong Sponsorship Program, see our web site: www.buyong.org
The web site will soon be updated by Sarah Harrigan Livnat and husband, Noam. Sarah visited Buyong in 1992 when she was a PRO member at the American School.



Mactan Island Scenes



Buyong Village



People and Parties



Operation Smile Boy, Emmanuel