



ROTARACT MONTEBELLUNA, DISTRICT 2060, ITALY

Flying to the other side of the world: our Philippine twinning!



Our dream was born one year ago when Marco (PP of our Club) invited us to go to Philippines where he lives.

On 14th January of this year, our dream became true and we left towards our marvelous experience. So, 24h after a 9942 miles journey, we landed in Cebu, a big island of Philippines, where we were hosted by Marco, his wife Jumabel, Colonel Carmagnola (Founder and PP of Rotary Montebelluna) and his wife Luisa. Once there, we were immediately fascinated by this different environment, completely dipped in the nature. We stayed in Panagsama Beach for two weeks, knowing the way of life of the inhabitants and proving what Marco told us about the necessities of the Philippines population.

On 17th we met Rotary and Rotaract of Metro Cebu in their office Casino Espagnol. We exchanged some products and Rotary things and the greetings of our Rotary and District 2060. Together we decided to complete three services in favour of Moalboal students. The first one regarded a funding for Moalboal High School that had to build a potable water tank. This one was realized in short time to permit us to inaugurate it on 23th Tuesday. We were moved when 600 students sang, to thank us, their national inn.

In the same day we concluded the other services concerning the payment of two checks of 5000 pesos each one that were used to buy some books for Elementary School of Moalboal and to repair the roof of Tunga Elementary School.



We concluded the rewarding day having lunch in Marco's house with Metro Cebu Rotaractors.

During lunch we spoke about all activities and services that we could do in the future and we signed a twin agreement. It was surprising to discover how the Rotaractor's soul is the same all over the world and how, even though the distance and differences that divide us, we felt part of the same Club and shared the same ethical values.

During the last days we visited some places nearby Panagsama and Moalboal. We went to Kawansan falls like little Indiana Jones, we had snorkelling around



Pescador Island where we met the fish "Nemo" and we could admire the wonderful reef. We spent some nights laying on the mole watching stars like in Orange Country series... unbelievable. We will never forget the delicious typical dishes we tasted, cooked by Jumabel, especially the fresh mango juice in the morning.

On 29th we met again with Rotaractors in Cebu. We had lunch together and we greeted before flying away. They gifted us a sign-book, which summarized with a lot of photos all the projects they did in the last two years, and some sweets (even mango!) to bring in Italy where we could have remember with tender nostalgia the beautiful days spent in Philippines.



We'd like to thank the Member of Metro Cebu Rotaract and Rotary and all the population of Panagsama for their warm hospitality. Halik!

*Silvia Zanon,
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&
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Secretary of Rotaract Montebelluna*