



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 came true and we left towards our marvelous experience. So, 24h after a 9942 mile 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

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.



mole watching stars like in Orange Country series... unbelievable.

We will never forget the delicious typical dishes we tasted, cocked 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

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

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MY WONDERFUL MEXPERIENCE

In November I got an email from the Italian ERIC representative, Tania, saying that there was a contest called MEXPERIENCE. Mexican clubs were giving the possibility to some people from all over the world to be their hosts for ten days.

I decided to participate. After some time I got an email from the Mexican Rotaract: I was selected!

The group that left for Mexico was me from Italy, Maja from Poland, Kylie from Australia and Katie from Canada. I can't imagine my trip with different people, the girls were so nice and we had so much fun together.

We had the opportunity to visit Mexico City, Pachuca and Puebla and

learn a lot about Mexican culture and history.

The people from Mexico are very warm and they made us feel at home. They brought us to eat tacos and quesadillas at night. We tried tamales, danced salsa, climbed up the Pyramids of Teotihuacan, visited the Parliament, discovered wonderful churches and colorful streets and much much more.

We also had the opportunity to participate in their Rotaract sessions and learn what services they are doing.

On the day before we left to our countries we did a service with the

guys from Mexico City. We gave eight wheelchairs to people in need and it was so nice to see people from different parts of the world all working for the same purpose and with the same ideals.

It was the first time I went on a Rotaract international exchange and I will definitely recommend it to everyone.

I will do my best to encourage this kind of exchange in my district. There are no words that can express how amazing this trip was!

I only want to thank the districts 4170 and 4180 for what they did. They made the Mexperience unforgettable!

You made me understand how fantastic it is to find a Rotaract open door when you travel around the world.

A special thank you to the guys from the club Las Torres-Satellite (especially Hèctor, David, Karla, Gabriel,

Katia) for being with us all the time in Mexico City and taking care of us for all the journey, they did a great job and I'm missing them so much!

Thanks to the organization staff (Tania, Carolina, Hèctor, Gabriel and Jorge) for their patience in answering every single question we had ...and for choosing me!

I would also like to thank the people who hosted me: Karla and David (Mexico City), Francisco (Pachuca), Miyi (Puebla), they are the best hosts ever!

Thanks everybody I will never forget this trip! Gracias a todos, nunca voy a olvidar este viaje!

MEXICO I MISS YOU SO MUCH!!

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