IN CELEBRATION OF WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2013
TSUNEISHI GROUP PLANTS 20,000 MANGROVES

BY LOUREINA S. EVANGELIO

Mangrove Reforestation 2013 led by Cebu Industrial Park Developers Inc. (CIPDI) in coordination with Tsuneishi Foundation (Cebu) Inc. (TFCI) and in partnership with Balamban-Multi-Partite Monitoring Team (BMMT), Local Government Unit of Balamban and Barangay Nangka held its annual mangrove planting at Sitio Langsob, Barangay Nangka, Balamban, Cebu last February 16, 2013. 700 volunteers from the different stakeholders and Tsuneishi Group employees joined the activity. Of the 700, 320 of which are employees from the Tsuneishi Group of Companies comprising of Tsuneishi Holdings (Cebu), Inc. (THI), Tsuneishi Technical Services (Phil.), Inc. (TTSP), K&A Metal Industries, Inc. (K&A), Asian Craft (Cebu), Inc. (ACCI), Tsunetetsu (Cebu), Inc. (TCI), Tsuneishi Accommodation (Cebu), Inc. (TAC), Cebu Asiatic Shipping Port Services, Inc. (CASPI), Glo-cal (Cebu), Inc. and Glo-cal Research Trading (Cebu), Corp. (GRT).

“CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE ENDEAVOR IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT”

Members of the Bikers Club, Community Service Club and the Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineers-West Cebu Chapter also took part in the event. 20,000 seedlings were planted in a 1-hectare area with an agreement between CIPDI and TFCI to be partners in taking care of the mangroves for sustainability. “A total of 35,000 mangroves were planted since 2010 in different areas of Balamban which produced a very high survival rating of 91%”, said Mr. Winnie Charcos of CIPDI. With the addition of 20,000 seedlings and knowing how important mangroves are in our eco system, he hopes that everyone would continue to support the endeavor of protecting the environment.

The activity also coincides with the celebration of World Wetlands Day that is celebrated internationally each year in February. *This was first celebrated in 1997 through endeavors to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits and promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands. The event marks the date of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands. This year’s theme was “Wetlands take care of water”.

*Wetlands provide important hydrological functions such as groundwater recharge, water quality improvement and flood alleviation. The health of wetlands depends on the quality and quantity of water that reaches them. To secure their conservation and wise use it is essential that they are managed in the wider context of catchment-scale water resource management.

LAUNCHING OF TSUNEISHI GROUP NEWSLETTER
TEAM - NEW MEMBERS

THI Balita, the Official Publication of Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu), Inc. (THI) that started in 2007 has made changes in the key positions of its team and organization. In January 2013, THI Balita is changed to Tsuneishi Balita, the Official Publication of the Tsuneishi Group of Companies. The current publication includes publication and news from Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu), Inc. (THI), K&A Metal Industries, Inc. (K&A), Asian Craft (Cebu), Inc. (ACCI), Tsumetetsu (Cebu), Inc. (TCI), Tsuneishi Accommodation (Cebu), Inc. (TAC) and Cebu Asiatic Shipping Port Services, Inc. (CASPI).

The restructuring of the team aims to involve the companies under the umbrella of Tsuneishi Group in delivering news and updates of each company creating a unified communication tool. Hence, on February 15 and 18, 2013, the Tsuneishi Balita Team underwent seminars and trainings on Strategies for Effective News Writing and Newsletter Production Workshop respectively facilitated by Full Potential Company, an organization specializing in employee’s development trainings.

Under the guidance of Mr. Hirohisa Kinoshita, General Manager of THI-General Affairs Group introduces the new members of the Tsuneishi Group Balita Team:

Gina Yang, K&A-EDITOR

"With this new assignment as part of Tsuneishi Balita Team, I find it as a great challenge to be at par with their expectations. The trainings have enhanced my skill in technical and newsletter writing. It was very comprehensive and fun!"

Gina has been with the company for 10 years as a company nurse. Aside from medical tasks, she is also in charge of time keeping, bank transactions as well as BIR documents submission and SSS loan applications. She is the petty cash custodian and the assistant secretary of their safety committee.

Mitos Villarino, ACCI-EDITOR

"Less to my expectations, the two days’ workshop we had with expert facilitators were indeed helpful especially to us appointed editors who hadn’t been fully oriented with newsletter writing yet. I was guided to improve the communications I usually use, which I all the while thought are already correct. I am grateful that the pioneers of THI newsletter team who were also with us during the training, made us feel we belong to the group as early as that."

Mitos has been with the company for 14 years and is currently holding the position as a secretary and a company nurse. She also does HR works from medical insurances, government remittances, time keeping and payroll to documentation of Safety First workers’ contracts as well as planning company events and other purchasing task.

Maricor Cayson, TCI-EDITOR

Maricor of TCI shared that the time spent for the training was worth it and that she can now share to our readers the happenings in TCI. Quoting, she says “Thanks to THI for always giving us opportunities and making us feel that we are part of the family. I may also use the acquired trainings in writing incident reports as being a Safety officer.”

Maricor has been working with the company for about 5 years as Safety Staff III.

Deralyn Ramos, TAC-EDITOR

"The trainings were really helpful and useful because it gave us a lot of new information that will guide us not just in composing an article for Tsuneishi Balita but also in our day to day paper works in the office. The seminars aid us in improving our communication skills and help us bond with the original THI Balita Team. I took this new task as a new learning experience."

Deralyn works for the HR Department about 3 years as a company nurse. She also does attendance monitoring, time keeping, sub-con’s benefits monitoring, employee’s cash advance processing and helps in company events planning.

Cecilia Alipin, CASPI-EDITOR

“The seminars were really a big help because it provided me substantial information on the proper technique of writing and producing a newsletter. Although getting into this new field is not an easy task, but with the trainings I know I am now properly guided on what to do.”

Cecilia has been working with the company under HR Department for about 8 years as a company nurse but apart from her main work, she is also handling time keeping, preparing employee’s allowance, personal cash advance, official travel and trip ticket.

Welcome New Members!
Last February 23, 2013 thirty one (31) Filipino trainees of Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu), Inc. Admin employees and Production engineers together with the Asian Craft (Cebu), Inc. (ACCI) Batch 2 trainees had experienced the full fun adventure at Nekoyama Ski Resort, Japan. Since it was the first time for most of us, it was indeed a memorable one!

Everyone savored the 2 hours stay regardless of how cold it was. The moment was worth the sacrifice. We played in the snow and threw snow balls at each other as if we were kids.

Stumbling for many times in the snow added up to the excitement and fun!

Here are some thoughts we want to share after the experience:

"Being a Filipino, in a tropical country like the Philippines, experiencing snow for the first time can be quite fascinating as it felt like walking in a big freezer. Observing from the slope line, I can only conclude that whether you are a three-year-old kid when you experience snow for the first time, or a middle-aged man, snow makes us all want to play like kids and throw snowballs in all directions. A thick layer of powdered, white snow seems to bring out the child in everyone. We definitely have a marvelous trip. Our first snow experience seems magical!" – Engr. Jan Franco Enfectana of Planning Department

"Childish as it may seem, we didn’t care at all! The coldness of the place is bearable. Fun & excitement were there, who else can feel it, and not even a single minute was wasted! Though it resulted to body pains, it’s more worth it!" – Louela Baslan, Procurement Department

“I really had fun playing with the snow and running back and forth while laughing and feeling like a kid! I tried the sled many times even when it was dangerous. I bumped with other skiers, and even almost bumped into the tree but it never stopped me to try it again and again." – Ana Marie Omayan, Business Group

“A Japan experience could never be completed without going to Nekoyama. I was blown away with the place. The place felt surreal as if it just came off from a painting. The sky and grounds were all white. The place was perfect. It was a once in a lifetime experience and privilege given to us by the management.” – Janice Villamor, HRD Group

“‘For two hours, I forgot that I was 30 years old. To see, to feel and to play with the snow for the first time was like flurry. I mean, the adrenaline rush was there. I even took off my clothes just to feel it. To see it on TV before was like ‘Wow, sana may snow din sa Pinas’ (I hope there’s snow in Philippines). But now that I experienced it, it was a dream come true.” – Crescencio Labiaga Jr., EDP Group

"As we played with snow, I observed and tried to relate it on our daily lives. I learned that when I tried to compress the snow and then formed it into a ball and threw it to someone, it made a big impact to the other person or simply the receiver. It is just like building a ship, if we try to unite our individual ideas, then we could build good quality ship and will surely be a good impact to the World. With this, I look forward to TSUNEISHI to be the No.1 shipbuilder in the World in the future." – Douglas Cuevas, After Service Group

“The experience was so great! First timer as you may call it since we do not have snow in the Philippines. We took lots of photos and videos as well. Apart from the sled and snowballs, the most memorable part of our trip was when we took off our jackets and layed down on the snow to feel how cold it really was.” – Jayson Paran, Hull Outfitting Group

WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE TSUNEISHI SHIPBUILDING COMPANY AND TSUNEISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES (CEBU), INC. (THI) FOR GIVING US A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE AND YET SO AMAZING AND MEMORABLE SNOWY DAY! DOUMO ARIGATOU GOZAIMASHITA!
HOLY WEEK IN THE PHILIPPINES

BY DERALYN RAMOS

Holy Week is the week before Easter in which the last days of Christ's life are remembered. Holy Week is the most important religious celebration for devoted Roman Catholics. In Philippines, Holy Week is also called "Semana Santa" or "Mahal na Araw". The festivity will last for more than a week, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. This 2013, Holy Week falls on Sunday, March 24, 2013 to Sunday, March 31, 2013.

Starting Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2013 private and public establishments in the Philippines shut down operations until Black Saturday or has later opening and earlier closing times as the President declares it as a national holiday in observance to this huge celebration around the country. Local television and radio stations close down or shorten broadcasting hours and feature religious programs, films and news coverage of religious ceremonies. Some observe the "Visita Iglesia" or "Church Visit", which usually involves going to seven churches to meditate on the Way of the Cross. Some goes to church for confessions as penitence since during Holy Week, parish churches across the country hold a "Kampisalang Bayan" (Confession for all) to prepare the Catholics for Easter Sunday, which commemorates Christ's Resurrection. Filipinos traditionally avoid eating meat, noisemaking and, in older times, bathing (unless required for health reasons) as a form of sacrifice in accordance with the belief that Christ died.

Due to the long holiday, many will go home to their respective provinces to celebrate Holy Week with their families, relatives and friends. Since abstaining from any meat is a practice in this solemn week especially during Good Friday, Filipino families cook traditional food such as "Binignit", a sweetened vegetable soup, "Biko", a sticky rice cake made with coconut milk and sugar and some vegetable dishes like "Monggos" and "Pinakbet". Some families are also busy preparing their religious floats for the procession, which differs in other cities wherein the volunteers walk around the street barefoot during procession, carrying wooden cross and sometimes have themselves nailed to the cross as their expression of self-punishment for their sins or thanksgiving.

Holy Week in general is the time for spiritual renewal and prayer. May the observance and traditions vary from different places and to each individual but the thought of remembering Christ's great deed for humankind, unite us as one.

The building occupied by the Production Department headed by Mr. Takeo Danjo, Production General Manager, with Mr. Reneildo Zambo, Deputy General Manager and Mr. Teresito Longakit, Production Manager.

The department moved closer to the main Accommodation site to extend the services to its employees and subcon workers at Phase 4.7. The blessing ceremony ended with snacks served to the attendees. Indeed, the occasion was a successful one.

TAC RELOCATED ITS PRODUCTION OFFICE

BY DERALYN RAMOS

Last February 11, 2013, Tsuneishi Accommodation (Cebu), Inc. (TAC) management and employees gathered to witness the blessing of the newly opened field office at Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu), Inc. (THI) Phase 4.7 K Factory with the new Maintenance Tool Room, Sewing Room and Warehouse. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Fr. Rizalino Raypan Jr. of Buanoy Parish at 9:00am.

The new field office is a two-story building housing the conference room, meeting room, employees' lockers and clinic are located at the ground floor with the Japanese Managers and staff's offices on the second floor.
PROCUREMENT GROUP’S NEW WITHDRAWAL SYSTEM

“PAPERLESS TRANSACTION, QUALITY AND RELIABLE DATA, COST ACCURACY AND FAST PROCESSING”

The New Withdrawal System initiated in November 2012, is for the issuance of all materials coming from the warehouse. Paperless transaction, data reliability and quality, cost accuracy and fast processing are but a few of the benefits we are getting from this new system. Materials are categorized into Warehouse or General Stocks, Machinery Stock, and Steel Material.

Warehouse or General Stocks are materials that can be withdrawn by all departments in facilitating their group’s project. Machinery Stock refers to the kind of materials that are stored in the warehouse, which will be used directly to the new ship exclusively, while the Steel Material such as steel plates and steel shapes are used in constructing the new ships.

With the new system, requestors can now transact their withdrawal online, and pick up the item/s at the warehouse on a given released date. Unlike before, requestors had to personally go to the warehouse with their approved withdrawal slips to present to the stock in-charge with other requestors, which was time consuming.

“The new system could contribute to reducing man-hours and eliminating waiting time in withdrawing requested item/s,” said Mr. Arsenio Macarayan, Manager of Logistics Group. “It also helps our group in providing exact, clear information and description of items indicated in the withdrawal form, which results in easy and fast preparation and issuance of the correct item/s,” he added.

Moreover, this system features a data security as all users are required to input their user ID before processing any transaction. The system can also identify those users performing the transaction at any given time. As part of its security feature, the system is programmed to restrict a user to a specific transaction. Other transaction not within the user’s scope will not be accessible. This system is not limited to Procurement Group but is also available to other groups as well.

CLAendar of EVENTS

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RATS’ DRIVE TO DANASAN ECO ADVENTURE PARK

BY JOSEPHUS L. RESMA

Sitio Langsob of Barangay Nangka was occupied with high spirits as the group of handful individuals were gathered united and together concluded a remarkable event highlighting a successful mangrove planting activity held last February 16, Saturday.

But for the Riding and Touring Shipbuilders also known as RATS, the day was not yet over as the squad of competent riders once again off to sport their stealth on the road to muster in a trekking adventure going to Danasan Eco Adventure Park, situated in a secluded barangay of Asturias, the nearest access road towards the Danasan Eco Adventure Park, the trip took only more than an hour but the travel was not so convenient though. The team had encountered sloppy and rocky terrain that...
The Community Service Club handed out packed meals to 150 indigent children of Sitio Boliring, Barangay Abucayan last January 27, 2013. Intermittent rain did not discourage the children accompanied by their parents to participate in the feeding activity of the club. The program started with a prayer and short message from Mr. Hitoshi Kono, THI President and a member of the club, followed by a short parlor games. Packed meal was then distributed assisted by barangay officials of Abucayan with a packed of used clothing and toys for each children. The club is thankful that the activity was a success despite the bad weather and grateful to those who donated clothing and toys for the children.

**CSC STREET CLEANING ACTIVITY**

Community Service Club members collected 5Tons of plastic garbage along the highway of Barangay Buanoy, Balamban Cebu during their street cleaning activity last February 2, 2013.

**RATS** has put the strong men’s riding abilities to the test worrying that they may encounter vehicular trouble along the road. Yet the obstacles have added excitement and fun. For many, the ride was a never-before experience. "Ang dalan kay pwerti kalapok og kalibaong. Niagi pa jud mi og dalan nga kild sa pang-pang. Kalba nga alegre ang amo gibati sa peggadlang namu didto sa Danasan. (The road was so muddy and rough. We even passed by a road near the ridge. It felt frightening and exciting at the same time as we drove to Danasan)," Mark Pono, a member, stated.

As the group set foot on the place, everyone spared no effort having a good time exploring the fun the park has to offer. Danasan Eco Adventure Park is open to the public to promote local tourism in the city of Danao. The park has a great deal of recreational facilities such as horseback riding, zip lining, wall climbing and riding the 8x8 rover among others, where everyone would surely enjoy. If you seek adventure, it is the place where you should go.

Curt, another member of RATS said, “The trip was tiring but the experience was great and fun because we love what we are doing”, leaving an undimmed smile on his face upon saying. Dan, an aspiring photographer shared that the place was just perfect for his shots. The tour would not have been complete if not for the delicious seafood at the Marina Port in Liloan where the group had their lunch that has brought the exhausting day a memorable one up to its finale. For more info about the place visit www.danasaneoadventure.com

To all members of RATS, see you next adventure!

**THI BABIES!**

Gabvin Grace, baby girl of Lyndon Makiling of Procurement Department-Warehouse Group

Kenneth Patrick, baby boy of Rhea Jasmine Magdacles of Factory General Manager Office