



The Anchor Gazette

SURE & STEDFAST



**“Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”**

Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)

by: Ahmed Guillermo-Letrondo

(The verse above is one of the best verses we can read from God’s Word; a verse that explicitly expresses the very meaning on how we should train the next generation of this beloved country, the Philippines.)

Last October 7th to 9th of 2016, the Boys’ Brigade Philippines conducted the recently concluded annual Boys’ Brigade National Leadership training for the kids ages 10 to 17 who became part of the Junior Leadership Program (JLP), Boot Camp, and the Leadership Development Course 1 and 2, in the beautiful vicinity of the Lord’s Garden, at Looc, Calamba, Laguna.

The excitement of the kids was like a beautiful picture painted on each of their faces. The moment they stepped inside the Camp site, you can actually see the high expectations they have actually been waiting for. Minds and hearts were ready for adventure but most importantly the kids were ready to be responsible, accountable and committed on what they would be tasked to do.

One of the most unusual moments of my life as a teacher was to take an opportunity not to talk; an opportunity to do the other half of talking - to listen. In school, I do a lot of things; I do stuff which most...

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Cultural Diversity

A lifetime experience trip to Denmark!



Camp Time!

Testimony and reflection of an LDC 2 attendee



Company Feature

CCT-VOHCS
Brigada Bata
General Santos
Company

Cultural Diversity

A Trip to Remember
by: John Samuel Ramos



Silkeborg Højskole is a folk high school located in the Central Denmark Region, or the Midtjylland Region. The school was founded by Frivilligt Dreng- og Pige-Forbund, FDF, (a uniformed, Christian Youth Organization) in 1969. The main goal of the school is to provide an alternative venue to learn through play, fun, and recreation. Being yourself and being together with other fellow students are some of the facets that make the school.

The school offers four main subjects during the spring semester- Outdoor life, Music, Politics, and Sports and Water sports. Additionally, Youth Empowerment is offered for international students during autumn semester.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT CLASS

The YOUTH EMPOWERMENT is a course offered every autumn semester in cooperation with FDF, a Christian Youth organisation and its international networks: Boys' Brigade, European Fellowship, Global Fellowship, Shalom Foundation, and YMCA. The class is an international environment for young leaders from all over the world. Young leaders get together to share their knowledge and visions regarding their roles as young leaders at home in their own youth organisation.

The Youth Empowerment Class 2016 was composed of 15 students from 9 different Nations. Together, we learn about Youth Democracy and Leadership, Dilemmas and Ethics in an organization, Fund raising and etc. We were able to visit some youth organizations in Denmark, FDF and YMCA to name some. We were able to observe and be with them as they work with the young people they are serving. To enhance our skill in leadership, we were given different projects to work on with a group.

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(continue from pp 1) ...the time I consider a job beyond-my-job-description. In the camp site, I did not have to worry about a lot of things except for the pupils and students who will be one of the officers of the Brigade Philippines someday. There, I listen all the time and I only have to worry about one thing and that is being able “not to learn” from all the things I heard.

In the camp, you have to keep everything accordingly, and one of those things is to wake up early with proper discipline. Being late has a corresponding punishment. In one of the sessions, I heard the Brigade officer telling the kids, **“You do not need to manage the time, you need to manage yourself.”** And that is really true, we all have the God-given twenty-four hours in a day and we can only give respect to our own time when we know how to respect the time of other people. In the morning, the kids woke up as early as 4:30 to prepare themselves for



the upcoming tasks, and the best moment of this preparation is the preparation of their spirituality. Praying and reading the Word of God must be the first thing in the morning.

Kids are naughty, playful and most of the time stubborn because the Bible itself declares that

“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child...” but continues



to say, “...the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”

Discipline, the one thing every child would want to stay away from. Most kids want to do their own; kids who want to veer away from any responsibility; and kids who would only keep doing something else.

The BB Philippines Leadership training focused on the **“7 Habits of Highly Effective People”** by Stephen R. Covey. In the sessions, the Brigade officers emphasized the 7 Habits by giving them activities that would show on how the kids would apply the 7 habits.

And the Seven Habits are as follows:

Be Proactive, the kids are taught that they have to take responsibilities for themselves and they just can't keep blaming others for things they have to accomplish.

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Begin with the end in Mind, the kids are taught to envision themselves and look beyond what's happening in the present time.

Put First Things First, the kids are taught how to manage themselves (not only their time) and keep their purpose, values, roles and priorities on top of those things that do not really matter.

Think Win-Win, the kids are taught to see life as a cooperative arena, not a competitive one. To Think Win-win is to instill in the hearts and minds of the kids that they have to be constantly seeking the mutual benefit in all of their interactions.

Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood, the kids are taught to have a listening ear to somebody; an ear with a heart focused for the good of that somebody than his or her own interests.

Synergize, the kids are simply taught that "two heads are better than one". It is a habit of cooperation and the kids must learn teamwork,

open-mindedness, and enjoy the adventure of finding new solutions to old problems.

Sharpen the Saw, and lastly, the kids are taught to preserve and develop their God-given talents and abilities. They are also taught to have a balanced kind of life: *Physically, Socially, Mentally and Spiritually.*

These are just some things the kids have learned from the camp. Mostly, they learned things by experience and through these experiences the kids will never remain as kids, because I firmly believe that these by the grace of God will eventually be men and women who will not only accomplish tasks for themselves but for the next generation of this country and the Brigade Philippines took this hardest role to keep a Christ-centered-Bible-Believing generation in the midst of this crooked and perverse nation. We can continue doing what we do as a nation but if we let the kids be kept away from the truth of God's word, we will have a generation who will never recognize discipline, responsibility and commitment - a generation who will not find hope in God; and a generation who will have the fear of God.

So, as the Boys Brigade's motto says, "**Sure and Steadfast**" and truly, let us keep our heads high in doing this mandate for our children. Let us continue to be sure and steadfast!

PASSIONATE FOR CHRIST

He has been teaching Lighthouse Academy for 5 years. He teaches English grammar and Music. He is passionate in teaching beyond the subject matter and influencing the youth in the light of God's purpose.

Music is one of his most favourite part of his life. He loves music as much as talking to people. He believes this is the best way in lifting up the spirits of others.

These are all made possible simply by the grace of God!







Company Feature!

CCT-VOHCS Brigada Bata General Santos Company

by: Theresa Olandres

Brigada Bata (BB) has been running in the Center for Community Transformation- Visions of Hope Christian School (CCT- VOHCS) in General Santos City for 5 years already as the MAPEH Curriculum of the school. Every Friday, preschool students (brigaders) dress up in white polo shirts and black slacks, form straight lines and respond in unison to their Captain or Lieutenant's commands. Who would've taught that these little children who used to run, scream and play around in class can be so disciplined and quiet? Through simple commands such as *Pugay kamay na* (Hand salute) or *Harap sa Likod* (About face), brigaders learn how to obey and follow instructions, which is very important in instilling self-discipline in their young age.

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Camp Time!

My Reflections

by: Elvis de Guzman Fuyertes

The Brigade Philippines sets the National Leadership Training Course that started last October 7 and ends at October 9, 2016 at The Lord's Garden, Calamba, Laguna. The National Leadership Course is a camp to train student leaders/NCOs how to lead their members. The camp was divided into four courses/classes. The Junior Leadership Program, Boot Camp, Leadership Development Course Basic and Leadership Development Course Advance.

On the first day, we tackled all about first aid and learned how to help a person when they are in trouble physically. Like when the person is unconscious, just give CPR as long as the person is really unconscious and how to carry a person in different kinds of ways. In the afternoon of the same day we had some lectures and write some notes from the training sessions.

On the second day morning, we had a devotion based from the verses in the Bible Luke 2:52 and Philippians 4:5 and we learned that we should have wisdom, stature and gentleness. The most important is wisdom.

“Wisdom is a word built on two words, experience and knowledge. Experience is the best teacher and you may gain knowledge on that particular experience.”

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(continue from pp 7) On the same day we played some group games. The LDC advance and the assigned students from each course had their assigned games for the JLP, LDC basic and boot camp to play on each stations. Each student are being put together and then divided into ten groups. After the group games the students rested until 6:30 pm to eat. We also shared our testimony during bonfire night while enjoyed a stick of burned marshmallow.

On the third day, the LDC advance class prepared an activity for the JLP to learn. The JLP were divided into five squads with the help of the LDC advance and each squad should go and complete the activity or game in within fifteen minutes per station. After fifteen minutes the squad should go to their next station. The cycle will go on until all the squads are done doing all the activities. Afterwards, the LDC advance had an evaluation on what they had done right or wrong. After the evaluation the LDC advance prepared for the Sunday service. Each student in the class was given a task to fulfil.

I learned many things on how to be a better leader. I learned that we should first know yourself better and also know your members. I remember what Sir Paul Tiu, the Brigade Philippines President, said to us when he was discussing the lectures. He said **“The key is never try to be someone else.”** After I heard this I think deeply on that statement and I realized that I should be me while leading my members. Members like to follow people who are being true to

themselves and they are not copying the leadership style of other people. Another lesson that I had learned in the camp is **“Know more about your members.”** As a leader you should know who are your members and what are they. If you give a command without asking them and your command is hard for them to do then they might not follow you because it is hard for them and they might also lose interest. I also learned not just to know how to improve my leadership skills but also to know what kind of a person I am today.

Based on the DISC, I am an S means Steady. I learned that I am a kind of person that likes to build relationship with other people and my weakness is that I always avoid conflict. Because of this lecture I learned how to overcome my weakness and face everything that comes in my life.

“This camp made a big impact in my life not just in spiritual but also in emotional and mental.”

After the camp I felt sad but satisfied. I felt sad because I may not see my classmates in the LDC 2, the senior high school students from 1st Benguet, for a long time. I am satisfied because I learned things that can be applicable in my personal life.

(Elvis serves as a volunteer in the 1st Taytay company where he graduated high school)

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Aside from self-discipline, *Brigada Bata* enables brigaders to develop self-esteem and social skills. Clyde Ryan D. Doctolero, one of the brigaders, is a testament to that. When the school started this year, Clyde used to be so quiet that it would be so rare to hear him speak or see him interact and play with his classmates. His mom also shared how he would often cling to her and go wherever she goes.



With Brigada Bata, Clyde slowly warmed up and started to interact and play with his classmates. His mother shared how he would often tell stories about what they did in Brigada Bata class and what games he played with his classmates. He also developed self-discipline and became independent, which she can see with how he interacts with his classmates as a leader or *kuya* (*big brother*), reprimanding them when they are being naughty or too rowdy. He no longer cling to her mother and started doing things independently: praying, cleaning, doing his assignments and more. He is also one of the best students in drills and memory verse.

By the grace of God, there are more stories like Clyde's that we can tell about in our coy. Truly, God has been using Brigada Bata in CCT-VOHCS GenSan as a way for us to mold our children's character to become like Christ.

(Mam Theresa is the Captain of CCT-VOHCS GenSan Coy. She has been serving there for 5 years. She is passionate in serving God through teaching little children. She desires them to know Christ's saving grace.)

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STUDY TOUR

All of the students are required to go on a tour to learn more, not just on the four corners of the school. Most Danes went to India and Palestine. Some stayed inside the nature and forest of the Municipality of Silkeborg. For us international students, together with the students with immigrant background (refugees), went around Denmark. We are able to taste the culture of Denmark in 10 days.

TEACHERS

Our teachers in Youth Empowerment Class are practitioners in their own field. Mr. Adric Etheredge is from BB Great Britain, Mr. Simon Stagis Nielsen is from FDF, Mr. Rasmus Danker Danielsen is Danish Culture Major. Other teachers are Ms. Thea Beach, youth Politics, Mr. Jacob Eyermann, the Principal, from FDF and a priest in the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Jan Lundum, The Vice Principal, from YMCA.

TO BE CONTINUED ON NEXT ISSUE



(Sir JS was the Captain of 1st Taytay Company. He also serves as the National Secretary for The Brigade Philippines. He is a nursing graduate but chose to teach. He had taught for 5 years as science teacher. He is passionate about education and training. He loves seeing another person encouraged and achieving ones best)

Announcements!!!

OFFICERS' TRAINING COURSES 2017

WHO: Teachers, Pastors & School Administrators

WHAT: Basic Course - Learning the "How To's" of running brigade in your school or church

Advance Course - Getting equipped in doing more for Christ!

WHERE: MGC New Life Christian Academy, BGC Taguig City

WHEN: May 12 - 13, 2017 from 8 am to 4 pm



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