

Pulisan Newsletter 2005

Much awaited for by PULISAN friends, addicts and those who still want to become such

Another year, dear friends, we are about to let go, and we, the Pulisan team, wish you

A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR 2006

Never let go your wishes and hopes!

Our biggest wish for the years to come is that there won't be a place for an Australian Gold Mining Company, Pt. Meares Soputan Mining, which plans to dispose of huge amounts of tailings into our pristine waters.

The school sponsorship programs

Thank you to all of you who continuously support the education of our village children.

Thanks to your continuous help - there are 33 village children whose school education is currently financed by our Pulisan Jungle Beach resort guests. This is an extra-ordinary figure and almost exceeds Katrin's limits. Fortunately Katrin is helped by some parents who take part in caring for the youths who attend boarding schools.

Eight children attend the primary school in Pulisan village, one in Manado; eight the lower secondary school in Marinsow, three the vocational school for tourism in their final class, two the first class; two are enrolled at the administration class of the nautical school Baramuli in Airmadidi, one in the second year of the navigation class, four in their first year. One boy attends a school for computer sciences in Manado, two girls a vocational high school in Bitung. And one girl we are very proud of, chose to take up a program in underwater ecotourism at the Department of Tourism of Manado's Polytechnical University. This is the first of its kind in Indonesia, and Marni is the first child ever of our sponsorship programme who made it to University level.

12 school sponsorships were newly taken up during 2005:

Yolanda Sahante, 1st class SMIP Airmadidi, School for Tourism is sponsored since July 1st by Mr. Paul Sarfati, French citizen who lives in Germany and visited Pulisan this year for the second time.

Susan M. Bindura, 1st class SMIP Airmadidi, School for Tourism is sponsored since July 1st by Mrs. Peppi Ross and Mr. Jason Marks from the USA.



Yvonne with sponsor parents and mother



The Sakai family with Andre and Gerry



Tourism is sponsored since July 1st by Mr. Jason Marks from the USA.

Abrifman Ramenaung, 1st class Yayasan Baramuli School for marine professions in Airmadidi, is sponsored since July 1st by Mr. Hans-Martin Koecher from Germany.

Ayu Raden, 1st class Pulisan primary school is sponsored since July 1st by Mr. Henk Budding from the Netherlands. Ayu is his second sponsorchild in our programme.

Efendi Dalita, 1st class Yayasan Baramuli School for marine professions in Airmadidi, is sponsored since July 1st by Mr. Christoph and Mrs. Martina Stehle from Germany who already took care of two other children of our village.

Andre Banea, 1st class Yayasan Baramuli School for marine professions, is one of the two children whose education is sponsored by Japanese—American couple Yukako and Masaki Sakai, start August 1st, 2005.

Gerry Jonas is their second sponsorchild, adopted in August as well during the Sakai family's stay. Gerry attends the 1st class of the School for Computer Sciences Manado.

Line Piter, 1st class Baramuli nautical school, administration, is taken care of by German Mr. Achim and Mrs. Erika Doemel who in July and August spent a four week holiday at Pulisan.

Maryam Patilima or in short Marni, the first girl and child ever of our program to attend University, is sponsored by the first family from France in the first program of its kind in Indonesia: Underwater ecotourism. She follows a three year program at Manado's Polytechnical University. Merci Sylvaine and Didier Ploteau!

The Ploteaus take care also of Marhaeni Kauntu who attends the 1st class in administration of a vocational high school in Bitung (since October 1st).

Yvonne Makpal is helped by Heike Orf and Heinz Krafzcyk from Germany. She attends a high school in Bitung and plans to take up medicine (since November 1st).

Frelly Ramenaung will be financed from January 1st, 2006 by Marijke Meijer and Jos Roeffen from the Netherlands. He currently attends his third class of Marinsow lower secondary school, and in July 2006 he will switch to a boarding school in Airmadidi. He already voted for the marine professions.



Yolanda Sahante



Susan Bindura



Marhaeni Kauntu



Maryam Patilima



Line Piter with Erika Doemel



Abrifman and Hans-Martin Koecher

The development projects



ZDF at the community center

Pulisan Community center with kindergarten

In January 2004 Dr. phil. Anja Leist-Villis & Carl Villis from Germany donated their wedding party's presents which amounted to 1450,- Euro. The money was being spent to build a multifunction village community center accommodating a preschool and info-theque room. Since most of the work was organized and coordinated by the village development committee, usually small workers' groups of village people doing communal work every Monday, progress was very slow but steady. Finally the original budget was burst by price increases for building materials. Fortunately Sabine & Heinz Biederbeck, Germany, came up with an additional donation of 1500,- Euro collected during their wedding party, so the project could go ahead. As the photos show the building is finished now, and already in use.



An information meeting on tailings at the com center

A leftover of the Donations which were also Added on by other guests During 2005 will be used to furnish and equip the Center with tables, chairs Wardrobes, boards, Shelves and video facility.

Thank you Anja & Carl, Sabine & Heinz and many more donators!



Marinsow Health Post

In August 2004 matching the independence day (which is the 17th 1945) Maria Gmeiner-Spallek and August Gmeiner from German Bruehl, both working as hospital health workers and both having been five times to Pulisan Jungle Beach resort, surprised us with a generous donation of 1000,- Euro to establish a health fund in the village in order to pay for emergencies. First help was incidental, for a woman with liver cirrhosis, a boy with hepatitis, two people bitten by rabies dogs and a cat as well as a woman who had to undergo Caesar surgery in order to deliver her baby. At that time the new village headwoman of Marinsow village submitted a proposal to renovate the old village office and rebuild it into a health post as there is no medical service in the area. Works started in June and are almost finished now. During their sixth stay August and Maria witnessed the progress and donated another 600,- Euro which is meant to help with operational costs. Thank you August and Maria and hope to see you back !!!



Pulisan Primary School

Our sincere thanks to the Kurt Nuessli and Lisa Buegler and the Swiss Club Singapore who contributed 1890 Sin\$ collected during a farewell party for leaving families in June 2004 to renovate our village primary





Club Singapore who contributed 1890 Sin\$ collected during a farewell party for leaving families in June 2004 to renovate our village primary school. Kurt and Lisa also took on a school sponsorship. In the meanwhile the walls could be plastered and polished, windows were repaired, ceiling renewed and new furniture (benches and tables, boards) are almost finished.

Floors and toilet buildings will follow.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE PROJECTS DESCRIBED ABOVE: Pamela & Larry Castle, USA; Dr. Hubert & Barbara Krueger, Germany; Christel Decker & Klaus Hellmich, Germany; Ploteau family, France; Jan Verstraeten & Kristel Ketels, Belgium; Madelon, Holland.

Guest activities and resort news

From **January 7—9** Pulisan Jungle Beach Resort saw very unusual guests: the large Harianto family from Jawa/Manado bringing a triplet with them. Everyone survived the jungle adventure! January is always the month to do renovation work. On the 17th we launched our new Sindbad boat built in the south of the province. Uli and his father had given the final touch before it went into the water. Without a rest the two then began building Sindbad II on the site which was to be finished six month later.



In **February** which is normally a most peaceful time to regenerate energies the resort saw a concerted action by the coconut plantation manager in office, the district, the district police and the district military chiefs to become "co-owners" of Pulisan Jungle Beach Resort. Fortunately Katrin, Annie and a local judge who happens to be an old friend were able to shatter the dreams of that self-made mafia team, although some sleepless nights and a lot of work to study the current land law situation was involved and plans for a holiday to Vietnam had to be postponed to **March**.



Vietnam 12th—29th
March 2005

From **April 13th - 23rd** Pulisan Jungle Beach Resort was the experimental ground and retreat for the international group SeTeam to find and try out new inspirations in the nature around Pulisan. The initiators of the retreat were Arie van Duijn, Netherlands, and Ellin Krinsky, New York, both living in Australia, accompanied by Alejandro Rolandi from



Arie van Daljn, Netherlands and Elin Kinsky, New York, both living in Australia, accompanied by Alejandro Rolandi from Argentine, and a dance team from Makassar, South Sulawesi: Simon Abdul Murad, Hamrin Samad, Faisyal Yunus, Satriani. The last evening of their stay they said good-bye to the village people by performing a ritual inspired dance on the beach. At least the children were scared (and maybe some of the grown-ups too) as the spirits started to rise... thanks SeTeam!



Martin & Ute hiking

On **May** 14th August and Maria arrived for their sixth stay at Pulisan. During the four weeks they could witness the progress of the health post Marinsow which is made possible by their generous donations. They met with Martin Niessen and Ute Kerstingjohaenner working for German ZDF television who stayed their second time and didn't know yet what they were up to when they decided to come back in October to cast a documentary around Pulisan. For sure they liked the first stay in May better! On May 23rd Katrin was honoured by the regency's chief for her efforts in village development. On the 27th she encountered a dugong while snorkeling in the housereef. Locals say that brings luck!

June saw the visit of Hans-Martin Koecher, an old Indonesia freak, who came for his second stay at Pulisan. As he is an active swimmer, he gave swimming lessons to the village children, and each participant could take home goggles which Hans-Martin had brought. It was a lot of fun for everyone. He also took over a school sponsorship for Abrifman Ramenaung who that way could continue from lower secondary to a vocational school for marine professions in Airmadidi.



During **July and August** our Thalassa dive team was completed by Guido, a Dutch instructor, who turned Sabine's new husband Heinz Biederbeck from a non-snorkeler into a PADI open water certified diver while electricity grand-master Heinz at the same made him into an assistant fixing and



improving our electricity system at Pulisan. Co-operation worked out well and in 2006 it will turn out if Heinz and Sabine's partnership will survive the underwater contest. On July 9th guests witnessed launching Sindbad II built by boat-grandmaster Uli together with his father. This was also the peak of a national fuel crisis which was matched by the purchase of our new Chevrolet Opel car on July 12th. We had to sneak fuel by the bottle from roadside stalls and fill tanks of new car and boat by the bottle! On July the 16th the whole sub-village of Kinunang took part in a beach cleaning afternoon collecting garbage and burning it on the spot. All participants received second hand clothes which Sabine had brought along from Germany. During their stay from July 16th to 21st Oscar Verhoef and Rita Jahja promised to each other. We expect



them for their honeymoon soon...

From the end of July into August the Sakai family from Japan came. Not only did their little son Shaun finish up all our bugs (he is a great collector) but they also became the first sponsor parents from Japan for two kids at a time from our villages: Andre Banea and Gerry Jonas. Andre attends the marine vocational school and Gerry a school for



Andre attends the marine vocational school and Gerry a school for computer sciences. Before the end of August we had one more premiere:

The Plateaus, the first sponsor family from France took on the responsibility for Maryam Patilima, the first girl ever from the village to attend university on the very first program of its kind: underwater ecotourism. She took her first dive lesson with Fery and liked it a lot!



September was a month busily renovating and building to finish our second deluxe bungalow before the arrival of Ludwig Luger and Maximiliane Braun from Munich, who were scheduled for October 5th to come for their second one-month-stay. Many of our guests already



know the beautiful and artistic underwater photos Ludwig takes. Some are exhibited in our dive gallery on the website. French Claude Darzens and Luc Nguyen, also both of them enthusiast photographers, came for their third stay. Vera and Stephan Borchert from Germany who had bought new glasses for Paulus in 2002, sponsored a new pair again which he proudly wears on the staff photo below. From September 17th to 23rd we had a divers group of ten from Belgium staying. They were not only keen to dive but also climbed two volcanoes during their short stay.

October the first started with an 85 % increase in fuel prices but despite that continued with more positive events. Like the visit of Katrin's former senior colleague at German university of Goettingen,



Birgitt



Maren

Birgitt Roettger-Roessler, now Professor of Anthropology, who came together with daughter Maren and a friend of hers. As the two girls couldn't get up early, they missed out on the second dugong this year which paid its honour to Birgitt and Katrin! Maren was rewarded though by a school of pilot whales she met out off Lembeh. October 6th Rottweiler dog Cowoh gave birth to six puppies under Birgitt's bungalow thus Birgitt had to move out. Two days

later though the little ones died. Cowoh didn't have milk.

October is the month that saw the birth of AMMALTA, a large alliance of coastal people to fight an Australian gold company that took over an old concession and plans to dispose huge amounts of slurry tailings into the bay of Batuputih. Katrin is in the committee that organizes resistance and lobbies at all levels. The movement is part of a documentary that German ZDF TV team Martin Niessen (producer), Ute Kerstingjohaenner (camera) and Jean-Baptiste Hoepfner (assistant) cast between October 25th and November 8th. North Sulawesi's natural wealth and threats towards it is the overall theme. The documentary will be broadcasted on 3sat in February. With Pulisan



being the base camp casting was done in Tangkoko, the volcanic highlands, and in the Buyat bay 4 hours south from Manado which was severely contaminated by American Newmont gold mining company. Definetely this time not a holiday for Martin and Ute.



November and December: An Ammalta delegation departs on a week long roadshow in Jakarta from Ministry to Ministry. Success: two ad hoc parliament teams are sent to the area to look into the case. It becomes obvious that the company is operating illegally, employing an environmental suitability report that is outdated and incomplete. NSWA is given opportunity to have its claims heard during a hearing with members of the parliament. Although the lobby against the mine becomes bigger and bigger, including the provincial governor, the company doesn't give in and bribes its way around the local communities trying to erode resistance. Ammalta starts to move from village to village trying to raise awareness among local people not to be bribed and stay together against



erode resistance. Ammunda starts to move from village to village trying to raise awareness among local people not to be bribed and stay together against the mine. But money is powerful in a society that is impoverishing more and more due to the most recent increase in fuel prices and all connected costs. But despite all difficulties we won't give up fighting for our environment, future and the livelihood of thousands of coastal people which is at danger. We hope that you, dear guests and friends in the years to come will still be able to enjoy the unspoilt beauty of Pulisan Jungle Beach Resort and its Surroundings! In this sense let's start the New Year 2006!

We send you our best wishes: Katrin, Annie, Frans, Uli, Mias, Alci, Lina, Lisbeth, Yunece, Paulus, Epson I and II (Wowo), Fery, Jorman and of course KINGKONG

