



# Winter Philippine Report

June-August 2005

## The Tuwali Ifugao have Genesis to Revelation

The city of Kiangan is famous for the WWII surrender of a Japanese General. On June 4th, it witnessed a greater event—more than 2,000 people came to dedicate the Tuwali Bible. When the Ifugao people started arriving, they lined the plaza area, sitting under tarps and native-style houses put there on display. They also spilled out of their homes and stores at the edge of the plaza. What a blessed sight!

The highlight of the dedication was the unveiling of the Tuwali Bibles. Then each of the Tuwali Ifugao translators—22 in all—received their own Bible and read a passage assigned to them. Matima, the oldest translator, painfully hobbled up the steep steps and across the platform, helped by a number of men and women, to read her passage. Her joyful reading of the selected verses brought tears to the eyes of all who heard her.

*(See pictures on page 2)*

### Blaan Hymnal Update

This summer a lady in California—a choir director no less—is helping us by keyboarding the Blaan hymnal. This is a huge help to us in our busy schedules here. We appreciate the fact that she is typing words she does not understand, with extra symbols on some of the letters, all because she knows how valuable a hymnbook is. Now we are hoping all the funds will come in to pay for the printing. We are still working on finding a printing company in southern Mindanao that can produce an affordable copy. We hope to print 2,000 copies at a cost of about \$1.50 each.

### School News

School begins here on August 8<sup>th</sup>. We have a full staff of teachers this year for which we praise God. This year we will have 22 students in our Bagabag School and 9 in our Nasuli School.

Our teachers come from five countries and our students come from six so we are truly international. If you were to ask our students where ‘home’ is, though, almost everyone will tell you, “Here!” We will work again this year on learning the national anthem of each country represented at the school.

Sally has spent much of the summer preparing for the new teachers and for her own class. Also she has begun writing a Christmas play for the two schools to use. This is her second one. (If she keeps going, maybe she’ll have enough for a book!)

**We can’t help but praise God** for one more people group with His complete Word. We praise God for the strong, growing church among the Koronadal Blaan. We praise God for the meaningful tasks He has entrusted to us. **We praise God for each of you.** You’ve blessed us with your love and friendship. You’ve empowered us with your prayers and financial gifts. God is faithful in all His works.

Leon  
and for Sally



### Praise ‘n Prayer

#### Praise:

- That speakers of Tuwali Ifugao now have the whole Bible—a new era witnessing to God’s love.
- For a restful summer. We had a nice break away from our jobs when we went to the beach for a week. We enjoyed snorkeling among the beautiful tropical fish at a coral reef in front of our inn. It was restful as we read, slept, and enjoyed not thinking about our jobs.

#### Prayer:

- For stability for the government in the Philippines and other countries where translation is going on. In these troubled days we are reminded that our hope is in the Lord and His daily protection of us.
- That all details work out for reprinting of the much-needed Blaan hymnal.
- Pray for our children and grandchildren to walk in the ways of the Lord. Pray for a job for our son-in-law, Chris, who has recently graduated from Biola University.
- Pray for our spiritual walk, too. It is easy to begin to rely on our own energies and ideas as we do the work God has called us to. We need to rely on Him more and ourselves less.

See the color version of our letter by going to the following web site:  
[www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm](http://www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm)

#### \*\* Letters, cards and e-mail: \*\*

Leon & Sally Winter  
SIL Bagabag  
3711 Nueva Vizcaya  
PHILIPPINES

E-mail: (we check it most days)  
[leon-sally\\_winter@sil.org](mailto:leon-sally_winter@sil.org)



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