

**BUCHANAN REPORT**  
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**May 14, 2009**

***Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,***

***Lord willing, in exactly ONE MONTH, Barbara and I will leave Davao City for Manila and then Dallas. We are to fly out of MANILA in the early morning of Monday, June 15, and arrive at about 5:12 P. M. Dallas time the same day. When the time change is calculated, it is about a 24 hour trip. It is our plan to be in the States for several weeks. And so, God willing, our next report will be written in Texas.***

***WE WANT TO ASK SOME OF YOU AHEAD OF TIME TO PLEASE EXCUSE US FOR NOT VISITING YOU ON THIS TRIP. This "old physical body" of mine is somewhat "run down" and has been very tired for some time. I want to do a good amount of "resting" while visiting family and a few supporters in the area where we will be in Texas. Usually, we try to visit supporters to say "THANK YOU!" for wonderful help that has been given for so long. When we do this, we travel thousands of miles, and it is wonderful, loving fellowship, but quite tiring. The rest we receive will help us to get back to the work.***

***It seems that more and more brothers and sisters in Christ are 'passing on' into eternity. Just this past Saturday, a brother who had been preaching for over 50 years passed away in the town of Solano, in the province of Nueva Vizcaya, brother Daton Palitayan. I am so glad that I was able to visit with him at the large "Panagkakaddua" in Baguio City a few weeks ago. He seemed to be very weak at that time. I was not able to be at his burial, but I understand that a large crowd was there to encourage the family.***

***In a class last month on the island of Negros, brother Richard Emperado and "team" had about 85 people in one of our extension classes. They baptized six. The brothers and sisters in that area are quite encouraged about these classes and Richard has scheduled them at different locations at a set time each month. I have been asked to be with them to help in teaching, but have not been able to go recently.***

***Brother Joel Carpio went to the province of Zamboanga Sibugay recently in the far west part of Mindanao to teach one of our extension classes. About 100 young people were there in a Youth Meeting, but about 35 adults were in the extension class representing about 12 congregations. They want more of these studies. Because this area is so far away from us, our "team" cannot go very often.***

### **THE "DISCIPLESHIP" CLASS IN BAYBAY**

***Because one of Richard Emprado's daughters was sick, Richard was not able to go with us to Leyte. His brother, Orwen, went to co-ordinate the class, and his aunt went with us to do the cooking for the class. We sailed on an overnight boat to Baybay, getting several hours sleep, and arriving about 3:00 A. M.. A class had been scheduled to study the little "Discipleship" series.***

***I was greatly encouraged at the way the class was organized. I ONLY TAUGHT A COUPLE OF TIMES! Lessons had been assigned to different brothers. The picture I am including shows one***

**of the Baybay elders teaching. Both elders spoke. A young man working with students at the University outside of town was one of the teachers. Certainly, this is what we want to encourage all over this nation!**



**While still speaking of our leadership classes, I will mention the encouragement we have received from the work being done by our "buddies," Dick Baguioen and Edward Tangunan in the Cagayan Valley of Northern Luzon. Each Saturday in the classes there, several self-supporting brethren are studying and "door knocking." On the Lord's day, they help several congregations in that area. If this can only be expanded more and more.....!**

**One other item that is encouraging is that brother Joel Carpio and brother Ali Fortez have just returned from teaching one of our classes in the "hard to reach" area of Jose Abad Santos south of us. About 100 kilometers over a bad road! Over many years, NINE congregations and the brothers who "preach" there have had very little good Bible teaching. Many of these brothers and sisters are from the Manobo tribe, a cultural minority group. One of the brothers from there told me a few days ago, that their Biblical understanding was "rising." He said that it had been about "knee high," but is improving. This is true in so many places!**

### **MEN'S "RETREAT" OF THE UYANGUREN CONGREGATION IN DAVAO CITY**

**For some time now, the Uyanguren congregation, which meets here at the Bible Study Center, has been studying "the eldership." We have taught classes, both men's class, and combined classes on the topic. The topic in the Men's Retreat was the same. Then, they asked me to summarize the "characteristics" of elders and the "Selection" and "Appointment" for the entire congregation. Lord willing, we will do this for THREE LORD'S DAYS beginning this last Sunday. I am including a picture of the old farm house where we met, ate, and slept. The class was held in the screened in porch on the first floor. Some slept in tents outside. We had invited the ladies, and so, some of the wives were there. It is possible that elders will be appointed soon. Everything went well, and the fellowship was very good. The only challenge was that one of our vehicles had to be pulled through the mud by a four wheel drive.**



***Brother Felipe Cariaga and I did NOT go to Palawan recently. We must still look into the matter before going. We hope it will be possible in the time ahead. Lord willing, we will have a large extension class at Southern Mindanao Bible College, about two hours West of us from June 2-5. I am working "furiously" to get the lessons prepared on "The Agony and Glory of the Cross." Brethren should be there from a number of congregations in the Cotabato Provinces. God bless you all. Thank you so much for wonderful help.***

**Your brother,  
Bob Buchanan**