

(..THURSDAY DINNER)

to host a dinner for the missionaries. Incidentally, Sally, Hector's young niece has been my good friend due to my computer troubles.

**THANKS TO THE
SULIT FAMILY
AND MOST OF ALL
TO SALLY!!**

**Friday, May 25th
BUENAVISTA**

The crowd that was waiting for us in Buenavista topped it all. Over five hundred people, young and old came to the town's Municipal compound. According to some patients, they left their homes in the hills as early as five o'clock in the morning, only to find out that there were a lot more people ahead of them and that their chances of being seen by the doctors were not so hopeful. The crowd was overwhelming, but the missionaries who were in charge of crowd control did such a good job. The Jao family took charge and made sure that the crowd did not turn into a mob. There were two Jao physicians hard at work, Rudy & Michelle. Vivian, the pharmacist, did a wonderful job at dispensing the drugs that were very much needed.

All the missionaries were there too, to give a helping hand. Dr. Virgie Madla and husband Chito, with their pulmonary exams in one side of the tent and our hardworking pediatrician, Dr. Rudy Mercader. Still, not all the people who came were seen. Some just waited under the shade of the trees to see if they could at least get some free medicines to take home. I did not have the heart to disappoint them. Children with their mothers begging for medicines for hookworms, tapeworms, coughs, and fever.



How it looks, first thing in the morning in Buenavista



Bobby Jao-Manalo have to stepped up on a table to direct the crowd to fall in line

There was a grandmother about seventy years old carrying her grandchild, probably six month of age that looks dehydrated and sick. She told us that her daughter is mentally ill and can't take care of her baby. I gave her extra vitamins for the baby. The people around us, each of them had a sad story to tell. I tried to distribute some medicines that they could use and did a quickie instruction on how the medicines are to be taken, for fever, for cough, its contradiction, the use and abuse of pediatric antibiotics and antipyretics. They were grateful even for the multi-vitamins that I gave them. Buenavista, apparently does not have a doctor. The community is a depressed area; they needed these medical missions more than they needed any of the other towns. Would we help again? Will we come again? And if so, when?