

REPORT OF THE MARANGU 4H-FESTIVAL 2010

First of all thanks a lot to Norway 4H for the support to fulfil this successful day!

Marangu 4H has no economy at all, because they are just born even the delivery started April last year!

Things take time (TTT) and we have struggled to have the right and transparent people to deal with. But we have used the “delivery-year” to know each other better, to build up a nice group of friends and knowledge-hungry youth!

With very good help from the District Adviser Mr. Edward Mrema we have had the training of all 8 clubs and they are already running very well.

My Foundation, Kilimanjaro Children & Health (KCHF) take all costs according to this seminars – three days training for all 8 Boards which have 5 members each, and their advisers, totally fifty-two persons! We had the seminars at a nice nature place by a wonderful waterfall (Kinukamori Waterfalls) where we were served good lunches. KCHF has also in March taken the youth to the International Criminal Tribunal of Rwanda (ICTR) for a seminar according to Human Rights. They attended the court and followed a case, they saw how UN is working and met a lot interesting people.

Well, back to our festival.

The programme as I have sent earlier you know about, and we followed it. Of course, a bit after the schedule....

Many of the invited guests could not attend because of long travel and also it was a big funeral in our area that day at the same time and all the village leaders etc went there. But we had professors from Hedmark University Collage and family members from Norway to the students. Our dear Mr. Mrema was the Guest of Honour! And we were very lucky with the weather, the rainy season has started and it was puring the day before and after, but this day it was not one drop from heaven - only sunshine!

Two very artistic boys (Bryson and Calvin) started with a rap and - I will not say dance but, funny “movement”! The rap was a welcome to the guests and about 4H, very good!

Then we should have the semi final for the 4 best (of 8) volleyball team. Arisi 4H and Rauya 4H was not attended, even it was 2 hour after the schedule, so to train them to be on time next time - and in respect of the others, they were out! So we dropped the semi final and only announced that Mshiri 4H and Sembeti 4H would meet in the final later that day! Ida Sorteberget, one of my students from Norway has trained all teams three months, both parts have learned a lot, not only volleyball! She even learned them about “fair-play”, for example it is not good to spit people from the other team in the face or knock them down... To play in a team either it is ball play or sitting in a Board etc, had a focus under the training, and also the importness of activity and right food for your own health.

Stephen Mtui is the chairperson of the mainboard of Marangu 4H, and he held a fantastic speech and appeal to the young guests about 4H and why they should join in as members! He switched between Kiswahili and English in a very good way!

Then it was a serious and sad drama about HIV and human rights, but also with small spots of humour. Mari Jacobsen, my other student from Norway, has built up a drama-group of youth from all 8 clubs. She let the youth themselves come with the ideas and only corrected them according to the art of drama. One of the girls made the drama, it was so good and so real! It was about a father who drank a lot, came home and bit up the wife and the children. The wife left, next year he married again and got a new baby. The same story, again and again! It easy to get HIV of this behaviour, and what about the human rights? This children`s rights to a good life without HIV? The evening before the festival, she come to my place and told me this is her own family story! She want to be open about it. Her father has been married five times and has six children with six women! I tell you, that day it was not many dry eyes for us

who knew. Without 4H we could not discover this - and now we may have the possibility to help them for a change, - I hope!

Mari did a fantastic job with this group through three months training, and again we can see how important drama and performances are for information, to come out with feelings they not have other channels to go to.

The music system we hired over-lapped between the themes in the programme.

Peter. C. Marijani was next, he had a speech from himself and about Utamaduni Theatre Group, a group who has been a lot together with 4H and are very good performers.

The leader of Utamaduni (Celvin) led then a fantastic show with all our subjects as HIV/AIDS, Environment and Human Rights included, and also about communication, corruption and youth cooperation.

After that it was the Guest of Honour, Mr. Edward Mrema our District Adviser's turn. He had a very nice speech to all of us and through his words about youth and 4H his eyes were shining and you could really feel he has 4H in his heart!

Then it was the exciting time – volley ball final! Both team, Mshiri 4H and Sembeti 4H really fought to be the winner – Mshiri 4H became the winner! It was well known it was an Award for the winner-team - a 2 days safari to Lake Manyara! Also Ida's parents had brought a beautiful silver-cup with inscription for the team. And both Mari and Ida gave certificates to the members of the drama-group and volleyball winner-team. This was to highly/big applause from the audience/guests!

Then it was my turn as the adviser for Marangu 4H to thank for all help and attendance to make this day to a wonderful festival of and for youth in Marangu!

Utamaduni then surprised us with another show full of acrobatic!

The music took over, then it was dance for they who want - and that was many!

Kinukamori Waterfalls supported lunch packets and soda for the invited guests, the Festival-Committee and the winner-team of the volleyball.

A very nice day – we hope we can “copy” this next year!

The marketing was good through the radio, banners in the village centres and posters made of the village clubs. Approximately 150 youth attended.

Tone Ellefsrud, Marangu 4H adviser, 12.04.2010