



The **CAVALIER**

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

A PUBLICATION OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY – MARCH 2024



LEAVING Our LEGACIES

ABOUT THE COVER



Hats off to the outgoing PMAAAI Board of Directors for a commendable job during their tenure. They meticulously executed the blueprints outlining their goals, demonstrating unwavering commitment to set plans into motion and ensuring their steadfast pursuit until fruition.

This edition of Cavalier Magazine serves as a testament to the enduring legacies crafted by the Board, with far-reaching effects on the intended beneficiaries. Despite facing arduous and challenging tasks, the Board members take immense pride in leaving indelible marks that have the power to make a lasting difference.

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The

CAVALIER

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Readers are encouraged to form their own opinions based on the information presented and are advised to consider diverse perspectives.

Send your featured article to:

The Editor, The Cavalier

PMA Alumni Center

Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Email address: pmaaaai@yahoo.com



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV DANILO A ABINOJA '74

Navigating the Tides, Building Legacies: A Chronicle of Progress

In the spirit of continuity and shared purpose, I present this last installment to our journey, reflecting the path we've traversed together during my tenure as Chairman and CEO of the PMAAAI. This article is not just a report; it is a collective narrative of our commitment to change, growth, and, above all, unity in our dedication to the principles that define our Alma Mater.

From the commencement of my term, I invoked the words of St. Ignatius de Loyola, urging us to give without counting the cost and to serve knowing we do God's will. Today, these words resonate stronger than ever, underscoring our shared commitment to a cause larger than ourselves.

Our roadmap has been our guiding star, our commitment to the three objectives that define our association - our duty to each other as alumni, our unwavering support for our beloved academy, and our role as contributors to national development. In the tapestry of our achievements, each thread represents a story of dedication, passion, and collective effort.

Unity in Action: Sporting Events and Fellowships

The Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship in August and the "Game of Cavaliers" Golf Tournament were not just events on the calendar; they were expressions of our unity in action. Organized by the Sports and Fellowship Committee, in collaboration with PMARAI and the Chapter Presidents, it showcased not just sporting prowess but the unwavering bond that unites us. On badminton courts, chess boards, and table tennis arenas, we weren't just competitors; we were Cavaliers, united in our pursuit of excellence.

The Golf Tournament, initiated by the PMAAAI-PMARAI Ways and Means Committee, was more than a sporting event. It was a display of our collective prowess, not just on the golf course but in raising funds and awareness for causes dear to us. It highlights how our unity allows us to adapt to and conquer various challenges,



much like we did during alert conditions during our time in the service.

Meanwhile, our support to Jurado Cup International 2024 planned this November will help ensure the continuity of this sporting event which serves as a homecoming point for our fellow cavaliers in the USA and nearby countries.

Compassion in Action: Extending a Helping Hand Within the Organization and Beyond

The PMAAAI Board continued to provide medical assistance to those cavaliers who are in good standing status and were hospitalized due to illnesses. Meanwhile, the YuleStars Concert Series in December was not just a showcase of talent but a platform to uplift our less fortunate fellow Cavaliers. It harmonized artistic expressions with a commitment to charitable

causes, creating a meaningful impact beyond the bounds of our alumni community.

Apart from this, amidst challenges faced by some members, our organization stepped forward with unwavering compassion. Contributions to the victims of the Mayon Volcano eruption and Typhoon Egay poured in, again exemplifying that our unity is not confined to moments of celebration; it also extends during times of dire need.

Expanding Horizons: Collaborations and Partnerships

Our network has expanded through strategic Memorandums of Agreement, opening doors to new opportunities and fortifying our connections. These collaborations reflect our commitment to being an active participant in the larger narrative of progress.

Our alliance with The Graduates of PMA Helping Out Project (TGPMA HOP) Foundation in September marked a profound step towards fulfilling our duty to society. The MOA signing



wasn't merely a formality; it was a commitment to being a force for positive change, reaching beyond our immediate community.

The MOU signing with the PNPAAL in October was emblematic of our commitment to forging partnerships beyond our immediate circles. This is not a mere agreement but an acknowledgment that our impact as Cavaliers extends beyond our alma mater. It's a testament to our belief that through collaboration, we can achieve more. Thus far, the following are the MUP organizations which submitted their written comments to Senator Jinggoy Estrada and other senators on their proposals in strengthening the MUP pension: AGFO Chairman Emilio C Marayag; PMAAAI Chairman Danilo A Abinoja; and, PRAI Chairman Van D Luspo.

Our board, along with members, embarked on chapter visits, turning geographical distances into opportunities for connection. These visits did not end up being not just meetings, but rather platforms for fellowship, idea exchange, and the strengthening of our collective resolve. The final visit was in our Alma Mater, PMA, where the Board of Trustees were honored with a parade-in-review and a lunch with the cadets.

Cultivating Future Leaders: Continued Support to the PMA

Our organization has continued to assist the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) through the PMA Payback Fund. This fund supports various projects aimed at improving the facilities of PMA. The recently approved allocation of P500,000 for said fund is for the launching of a new PMA Museum within Fort Del Pilar.



A Vision Unfolding: Becoming the Most Respected, Responsive, and Efficient Alumni Organization

The resolutions passed during my tenure, as encapsulated in Resolutions, also reflect our dedication to effective governance, transparency, and operational efficiency. From approving fund allocations to the transfer of accounts, each resolution signifies a commitment to keeping the PMAAAI robust and responsive to the needs of our members.

Our collective journey towards becoming the epitome of respect, responsiveness, and efficiency has seen remarkable strides in the visible progress

in the construction of our new PMAAAI headquarters. The building now stands tall, not just as a physical structure but as a symbol of our unity. It represents a permanent home, a testament to our commitment to nurturing the flame of camaraderie.

Journey's End, Another Beginning

As I bid farewell, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the dedication of the PMAAAI Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee, and each of you, my esteemed fellow Cavaliers. Our association stands strong, our finances secure, and our impact expanding.

The progress we've made is a testament to our collective strength, and as I hand over the reins, I'm confident that under new leadership, the PMAAAI will continue to scale new heights.

Yet, the journey doesn't end here; it merely transforms. Embracing change has been our constant companion, and it is through change that we'll chart new territories, make new discoveries, and achieve what has not been achieved before! As the famous line in 'Star Trek' goes – "To boldly go where no man has gone before." Cavaliers, Class 1975 'has the con' - Full Speed Ahead!





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO '94

“Our Permanent Contrails”

Now on the last leg of our flight, it is important that we have to make sure that we will reach our final destination safely and successfully. Reviewing our waypoints, there should be a lasting marks or traces that will ensure that we have not left things undone. As our term ends this March of 2024, it is but proper to look back on our major waypoints.

The first waypoint was the construction of the PMAAAI building in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. The excavation works for the building started on 28 March 2023, then the First Concrete Pouring Ceremony was conducted on 19 June 2023, as implemented by Lorean Steel Construction Corporation and supervised by AVA Consultancy, Inc., as the project manager. The Topping Off (Last Concrete Pouring) Ceremony was held on 30 November 2023.

As of December 2023 or about ten months since the actual works began, the project's status is as follows: 69.04% on structural/architectural works; 23.47% on electrical works; 26.08% on mechanical, plumbing and fire protection works; and 25.89% on auxiliary works. Its estimated date of turnover will be on the last week of February this year. The job in completing its interior requirements will be the responsibility of the incoming BOT of the PMAAAI and other stakeholders of the building. A better and more accessible home for the Cavaliers.

The second waypoint is the need for organizational change in the PMAAAI. Driven by its commitment to its members, to its Alma Mater and to national development, the association accomplished its plans and programs diligently. Its directors were transformed into trustees, the Ad Hoc Committees performed additional tasks in order to address unfinished businesses like the



PMAAAI Building Construction, the case on the ACES, the ASASAAP activities, and most important of which are the amendments to the PMAAAI bylaws. The reduction of the Board of Trustees was also implemented in order to make better resolutions and board meetings became shorter and effective. The merger of the PMAAA Development Foundation, Inc. is still delayed due to some audit requirements of the SEC before its evaluation. But with better staff it will be done hopefully this year. The PMAAAI also recognized and supported some Cavalier organizations like the TPGMA HOP and the Jurado Cup 2024 that will be held in Florida, USA this coming November. Another significant activity was the signing of MOU between the PMAAAI and the PNPAAAI last 07 October 2023 at the Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club with the Secretary of DILG, Hon Benjamin Abalos Jr. These activities prove the growing responsibility of the PMAAAI and its commitment to be more effective in its mandate.

The third waypoint is the Alumni Homecoming for 2024 on 17 February, in which the guest speaker will be the Senate President, Hon Miguel Zubiri. While, the Annual General Membership



Meeting will now be held at AFPCOC, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo on the 27th of January 2024 in order to have more attendees and to abide with the by-laws. The guest of honor will be the

Secretary of National Defense, Honorable Gilberto Teodoro Jr. A lot of pre-activities were held like the PMAAAI-PMARAI indoor sports activities, the Family Sportsfest, the Game of the Classes and the Yule Stars

Concert Series to foster camaraderie and as fundraising activities for the benefit of all Cavaliers. The AHC24 is expected to have a bigger attendance since it does not limit the number of attendees from each classes. The more Cavaliers, the better it will be. Although the COVID threat is still there but we are now more equipped against its infection. The homecoming will be the highlight of our term and ends our flight.

Our journey will not be successfully realized without your support my dear Cavaliers. Our flight ends but another flight crew will take our place for another travel destinations. We are confident that they will now be more equipped with new capability and renewed vigor in order to soar higher and to ferry us to a new level of accomplishing the mission and objectives of the PMAAAI. Always dedicated to serve where we came from and improving for what we are now all for our beloved country.

THANK YOU FOR FLYING WITH US!!!



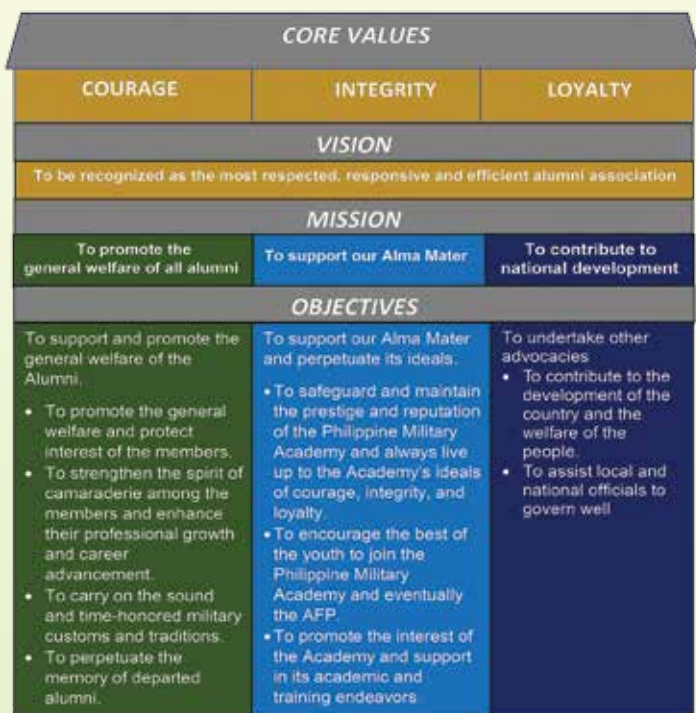
PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. Cavalier's Family Sportsfest 2023 CAV ROMEO S BRAWNER JR '89 Chief of Staff, AFP in Board of Honor and Speeches in November 2023 GRD Grandstand, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City	SPONSOR JURADO CUP 2024. PARTNERS 
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ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) AY 2023-2024 Accomplishment Report

The Roadmap for Alumni Year 2023-2024 serves as the basis for the different committees' action plans to better serve the alumni and our alma mater. Its three-fold mission aims to address various concerns of PMAAAI.



I. PMAAAI Projects and Accomplishments

a. Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship in August 2023

The Sports and Fellowship Committee of PMAAAI, PMARAI, with the Chapter Presidents organized an Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship held at three different venues and weekly schedules every Thursday from 17-31 August 2023. The Badminton Tournament at Philippine Air Force Badminton Court, Villamor Air Base; Chess Tournament at Philippine Navy Jurado Hall, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City; and Table Tennis Tournament, Philippine Army Wellness Center, Lawton Avenue, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City;

b. The PMA Alumni Association, Inc., (PMAAAI) signed a MOA with The Graduates of PMA Helping Out Project (TGPMA HOP) Foundation, Inc.

The TGPMA has a vision to serve as a reliable catalyst among graduates of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in improving the quality of life for marginalized members of Philippine society. Its mission is to provide assistance to those in need, especially the

underprivileged and victims of calamities and disasters. On the other hand, PMAAAI aims to promote the welfare and interests of its members who are all PMA graduates. It also seeks to support PMA, its Alma Mater and contribute to national development. In September 2023, both parties agreed to collaborate and support each other in achieving their respective missions and objectives by signing a MOA.

c. MOU SIGNING BETWEEN PMAAAI and PNPAAI

The PMAAAI Chairman DANILO A ABINOJA and PNPAAI Chairman GILBERTO DCCRUZ signed a Memorandum of Understanding at Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong on 07 October 2023. Both parties agreed upon several mutual covenants and undertakings that include the ability to consult each other on matters of law enforcement, peace and order, anti-insurgency, and national development. The parties may jointly organize seminars, learning sessions, and workshops to enhance the knowledge and skills of their members. They have agreed to exchange expertise, knowledge, experience, and best practices on matters of mutual concern. Finally, both parties have committed to fostering good working relationships, unity, cooperation, brotherhood, and camaraderie.

d. "Game of the Cavaliers" Golf Tournament

Through the efforts and initiatives of the PMAAAI-PMARAI Ways and Means Committee, the Game of the Cavaliers 2023 (GOC 2023) Golf Fellowship, with the theme, "Strengthening the Bonds," successfully teed-off on 21 October 2023 at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC) to accommodate players in the active service that affected by the alert conditions prior to the Barangay Election last 30 October 2023. The games at CAGC ended on 29 October while the 2nd leg started on 04 November – 08 November at Philippine Navy Golf Course.

The championship round and awarding rites were held on 12 November 2023 at Villamor Airbase Golf Course (VAGC). As a whole, it was participated in by 620 players from among the participating classes and some of their sons and wives including fraternal and associate members. The GOC Steering Committee was headed by CAV MARCELINO M LLORCA '83 and CAV JOEL D PAGDILAO '84.

e. PMAAAI FAMILY SPORTSFEST

The PMAAAI Family Sportsfest on its 2nd year, after the pandemic restrictions, was again held on 18 November 2022 at GHQ Grandstand, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. As usual, the Fun Bike-run organized by PMARAI kicked-off the PMAAAI Family Sportsfest. The Activity was attended by The Deputy of Chief of Staff Cav CHARLTON SEAN M GEARLAN '89 who represented the AFP Chief of Staff Cav ROMEO S BRAUNER JR '89 as Guest of Honor.

CAV MATTHEW P BACCAY '92, Chairman, Sports and Fellowship Committee, spearheaded the successful event, which he believes served as an occasion for bonding, fellowship and camaraderie. He also adopted the previous practice of grouping the Cavaliers and



dependents according to the CCAFP Companies the Alumni graduated with. The activity was highlighted by a series of fun games. The GOLF company bagged the overall ranking; seconded by the CHARLIE company. The BRAVO and DELTA shared on the 3rd place.

f. YuleStars: A Christmas Concert Series

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc (PMAAAI) hosted an event called "YuleStars: A Christmas Concert Series." The three-night concert series featured beloved Original Pilipino Music Artists like Joey Generoso (former lead vocalist of Side A) and Angeline Quinto on 30th November 2023; Jose Mari Chan and Christian Bautista on 01 December 2023; and Ogie Alcasid and Niña on 02 December 2023. The concerts held at the Samsung Performing Arts Theater in Circuit, Makati City. Special guests Roselle Nava and Ice Segueria also performed.



The PMAAAI launched the concert series to raise funds for the organization. The series has been made possible with the generous support of their members and stakeholders. The aim of this fundraising project is to generate resources to help the less fortunate members of the Association, including their dependents, with death benefits and medical assistance.

II. ORGANIZATION

The affairs and business of the Association are vested in the management team composed of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director. Tasked with oversight functions over the management team and policy formulation, the Board of Directors is composed of 17 members from which the following corporate officers were elected:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. CAV DANILO A ABINOJA PCG '74 | Chairman and CEO |
| 2. CAV RAUL S GONZALES PNP '75 | Vice Chairman |
| 3. CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO PAF '94 | President and COO |
| 4. CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA PA '95 | Vice President |
| 5. CAV MANUEL C KALANG-AD JR PA '04 | Corporate Secretary |

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 6. CAV RYAN L BAKABAK PN '95 | Treasurer |
| 7. CAV LEO MAC C TULIAO PAF '14 | Auditor |
| 8. CAV RAMON T PUNZALAN PN '76 | Director |
| 9. CAV JOEL D PAGDILAO PNP '84 | Director |
| 10. CAV MATTHEW P BACCAY PNP '92 | Director |
| 11. CAV DANILO E ESTRANERO PA '94 | Director |
| 12. CAV NORSAL D DIMAPORO PN '94 | Director |
| 13. CAV PRUDENCIO C PATRICIO JR PCG '94 | Director |
| 14. CAV CHARLIE L TIU JR PAF '95 | Director |
| 15. CAV MARIE ELAINE M IBANEZ PA '15 | Director |
| 16. CAV AVELINO I RAZON JR PNP '74 | Director (CPCP) |
| 17. CAV FREDERICK EVANS L RAMOS PA '84 | Director (CPCP) |

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. CAV VIDAL E QUEROL PNP '73 | PAST CHAIRMAN |
| 2. CAV MAGTANGGOL B GATDULA '76 | PETFI |
| 3. CAV GEORGE Q PIANO '78 | PDFI |
| 4. CAV GIL C MENESES '80 | PFTJI |
| 5. CAV LEO ANGELO D LEUTERIO '88 | PMAFI |
| 6. CAV ROLANDO G BORJA '82 | CAVLA |
| 7. CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89 | PMA Supt |
| 8. CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77 | Executive Director |
| 9. CAV MARCES T GAYAT PA '93 | Editor-In-Chief, Cavalier Magazine |

AD HOC COMMITTEES

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Amendments | - CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77 |
| Ad Hoc Committee on ACES | - CAV ROLANDO G BORJA '82 |
| Ad Hoc Committee on Merger | - CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO '94 |
| Ad Hoc Committee on PMAAAI Building: | |
| Executive Group | Chairman - CAV DANILO A ABINOJA '74 |
| | - CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75 |
| | President - CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO '94 |
| | - CAV RAMON T PUNZALAN '76 |
| Implementing Group | Chairman - CAV FREDERICK EVANS L RAMOS '84 |
| | Vice Chairman - CAV DANILO E ESTRANERO '94 |
| | Support - CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77 |
| Advisory Group | - CAV MELCHOR P ROSALES '68 |
| | - CAV JAIME S DELOS SANTOS '69 |
| | - CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70 |
| | - CAV EDGAR B AGLIPAY '71 |
| | - CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR '72 |
| | - CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73 |

III. APPROVED RESOLUTIONS

The PMAAAI Board of Directors for AY 2023-2024 has passed twenty-two (22) Board resolutions notable of which are:

- Extending the Amnesty program for payment of the lifetime membership in the Association from 01 March 2023 to 28 February 2024 to cover only those who are retired and who were separated from active service.
- Approving the readmission of membership to PMAAAI of Cav PLARIDEL C GARCIA '59
- Approving the reinstatement of CAV JOSE S RAMISCAL JR '62, CAV MEINRADO ENRIQUE A BELLO '79, and CAV PERFECTO O QUILCOT JR '83
- Approving the recommendation of the Finance Committee to invest P25M surplus funds in Philippine Veterans Bank in a Time Deposit with a 5.0% Annual Interest Rate.
- Approving the funding of P500,000.00 from the PMA payback fund for the launching of the new PMA Museum at PMA Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City.

- Conferring the Association Awards for Association Year 2023-2024
- Giving the "Pandemic Hero Award" to the Cavaliers for the Association 2023-2024
- Approving the giving of special Recognition Award, Plaque of Recognition and Plaque of Meritorious Recognition Award for Association Year 2023-2024.

IV. FINANCE

The PMAAAI Board has managed to keep the PMAAAI finances safe and sound. The investment of funds is being guided primarily by safety of the principal and secondarily by the rate of return.

From 01 October 2022 to 30 September 2023, the unaudited gross revenue totaled P26,614,270 inclusive of the P5,329,377 net proceeds from the Games of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament and Raffle Tickets Fundraising, with total expenses of P28,639,463, resulting in excess of expenses over revenues of P2,025,193. Total investment income for one-year period is P5,739,070, which is about 22% of the total revenues. The Board also approved the distributions of the net proceeds from the fundraising project to the following: PMAAAI – 60%; PMARAI – 30% and Council of PMA Class Presidents (CPCP) – 10%. PMAAAI's share was distributed to General Fund – P1,120,000, Special Fund for Mutual Relief – P1,000,000 and Special Fund for Medical Assistance – P1,000,000.

Moreover, the unaudited total assets as of 30 September 2023 amounted to P131,860,915. The total assets are broken down into: cash and cash equivalents – P17,111,808, investments – P103,140,226, receivables – P9,792,113 and other current assets and non-current assets – P1,816,768.

The total liabilities amounted to P1,963,918. The fund balances which stood at P129,896,997 is P2.02M less than P131,922,191 unaudited figure as of 30 September 2022. The fund balances are broken down as follows: General Fund – P15,262,907; Principal Fund – P29,358,433; Special Fund for PMA Payback – P11,934,271; Special Fund for PACDP – P43,974,336; Special Fund for Mutual Relief – P10,893,269; and Special Fund for Medical Assistance – P18,473,781. The PMAAAI Board has recently reviewed its investment portfolio to ensure the safety and productivity of the fund placements. The management is highly concerned about the safety of the funds, so all placements and investments are thoroughly analyzed and evaluated by the Finance Committee Chairman before getting the approval of the Board of Directors. Currently, the PMAAAI Board approved a P25M investment in Philippine Veterans Bank, which earns a 5.0% interest per annum for five (5) years.

In order to ensure the proper utilization and safeguarding of its assets, especially cash and investments, PMAAAI has engaged professional services of Mateo Ramos Celestino Llona and Co. to conduct an audit of its financial operations and systems. The audit firm provided recommendations for improvements and measures to enhance the policies, systems, and procedures related to the accounting process and internal audit functions. PMAAAI is now implementing these recommendations progressively to address any gaps or inefficiencies.

V. OPERATIONS

The Board of Directors, Executive Committee and management team endeavored to prudently use available resources to support the projects and activities of the Association. They gave their time and efforts to accomplish the goals and objectives set for the year.

Along this line, the operational accomplishments of the PMAAAI reflect a unity of thinking and actions to contribute to the achievement of the overall purposes of the Association.

1. Mutual Relief or "Abuloy"

The Association continued to grant "*abuloy*" to the bereaved families of deceased members who were in good standing in accordance with the approved Board Resolution No. 17-18 "Increasing the amount of mutual relief being given to the family of a deceased member in good standing from P50,000.00 to P60,000.00 and from P5,000.00 to P10,000.00 to the family of a deceased member not in good standing." For the period covered March – December 2023, the total amount of P1,925,000 from the Special Fund for Mutual Relief (SFMR) was granted as *abuloy* to dependents of deceased members.

2. Medical Assistance

The PMAAAI Board continues to provide medical assistance to those cavaliers who are in good standing status who were hospitalized due to illnesses.

Submission of the application to avail of the benefit should not be later than three (3) months after confinement from the hospital or after death of the applicant. The assistance can be availed of by a member for a maximum of five (5) times, provided that the total accumulated assistance will not exceed P50,000.00.

For the past nine (9) months, the total amount of P440,000 from the Special Fund for Medical Assistance (SFMA) was disbursed to members in accordance with the new guidelines on the use of SFMA.

3. Support for the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund

The PMAAAI continues to help the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund by supporting projects for the improvement of the PMA facilities. Recently, the Board has approved to fund the launching of the new PMA Museum in the amount of 500,000 located at PMA Fort del Pilar in Baguio City.

4. Support for the TGPMA

The group "The Graduates of PMA, Helping out Project" (TGPMA-HOP), chaired by Cav GENEROSO S SENG '72, along with its Operation Officer, Cav ROBERTO DC YAP '82, recognized the need to utilize the kindness of their fellow Cavaliers in aiding the less fortunate countrymen who were affected by various disasters and calamities. The PMAAAI Chairman, Cav DANILO A ABINOJA '74, saw the need for PMAAAI to be involved in this worthy cause and approved the release of P50,000.00 as a donation to TGPMA-HOP. This contribution will be used for various outreach programs, particularly for the Mayon Volcano victims.

VI. Cavalier Magazine

The Cavalier Magazine, the esteemed official publication of PMAAAI, is now a quarterly testament to dedication, innovation, and timeless themes curated by the discerning Editorial Board. Under the visionary leadership of Editor-in-Chief CAV MARCES T GAYAT '93 and the dynamic guidance of CAV ERNEST D CAROLINA '06, the magazine has undergone transformative strides, focusing on both substance and presentation.

Continuous Evolution - With an unyielding commitment to captivating its readers, the magazine has undergone a remarkable transformation. New engaging sections have been introduced, including: **a)** Humor in Uniform: A delightful break from weighty articles, injecting humor into the reading experience; **b)** Trivia: An intriguing exploration designed to amuse and pique readers' curiosity; **c)** Article of Faith: A spiritual haven, providing uplifting content for our revered Cavaliers; **d)** Social Advertisements: The sponsors, through

generous support, contribute to the financial success of the magazine, resulting in substantial savings for PMAAAI; e) Vignettes of Elder Cavaliers: A dedicated column illuminating the thoughts of Classes 60 to 69, offering readers a glimpse into their diverse perspectives; f) Visitor's Account: Featuring role model Cavaliers from the unique perspectives of those who have served under them.

Incentivizing Excellence - The magazine's valued writer-contributors are now rewarded with a P3,000.00 incentive and an exclusive Cavalier T-shirt for each featured article, fostering a culture of quality contributions.

Class Calls Resurgence - Through persistent reminders and follow-ups, contributions for the Class Calls Section have experienced a resurgence, reawakening dormant classes to grace the magazine once more.

Punctuality and Delivery - The editorial team takes pride in the punctual release and delivery of the Cavalier Magazine, a result of meticulous planning, conceptualized quarterly themes, and the tireless efforts of the Editorial Board and staff.

Accessible to All - The publication is disseminated individually to members in good standing and is also available on the PMAAAI website for wider accessibility.

VII. E-Newsletter

To provide an additional general forum for the alumni of the Philippine Military Academy, posting the monthly e-newsletter in different fora was one of the conceptions of Chairman ABINOJA. The project was personally executed by CAV JOEL D PAGDILAO '84 with the help of Lady Cavalier MARIE ELAINE M IBAÑEZ '15.

VIII. Association Awards

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. has selected as Cavalier Awardees for AY 2023 - 2024, 15 alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Outstanding Achievement Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award.

A. CAVALIER AWARDS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Command and Administration Award | CAV ARTURO G ROJAS '90 |
| 2. Staff Function | CAV ERIC E NOBLE '92 |
| 3. Special Operations | CAV FERDINAND L MARCELINO '94 |
| 4. Army Operations: | |
| Senior Officer Category | CAV VON ALBERT M SUMERGIDO '95 |
| Junior Officer Category | CAV CIELO ROSE U DOLORICAN '18 |
| 5. Air Operation: | |
| Senior Officer Category | CAV LEE M SARPAMONES '99 |
| Junior Officer Category | CAV ERNEST F DELA CUADRA '07 |
| 6. Naval Operations: | |
| Junior Officer Category | CAV MARK ERICK R GARCIA '12 |
| 7. Police Operations | |
| Senior Officer Category | CAV WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE '92 |
| 8. Coast Guard Operations: | |
| Senior Officer Category | CAV ALLEN J DALANGIN '95 |
| Junior Category | CAV LARRY C CENDAÑA '03 |
| 9. Private Enterprise | CAV ROBERTO DC YAP '82 |
| 10. Public Administration | CAV RAUL C TUPAS '94 |
| 11. Special Field: | |
| Retired Category | CAV EDGARD A AREVALO '90 |
| Active Category | CAV JOEY T FONTIVEROS '94 |

B. OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1. CAV MARIO F CHAN
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Federative Republic of Brazil
2. CAV ROMEO S BRAUNER JR AFP
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines
3. CAV BENJAMIN C ACORDA JR PNP
Chief, Philippine National Police
4. CAV RONNIE GIL L GAVAN
Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard
5. CAV ROY M GALIDO PA
Commanding General, Philippine Army

C. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1. CAV THOMPSON C LANTION '69
2. CAV RICARDO F DE LEON '71
3. CAV REYNALDO V VELASCO '71
4. CAV ALEJANDRO T FLORES JR '72
5. CAV HERMOGENES C ESPERON JR '74

D. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

1. DR ANDREW L TAN
Chairman, Alliance Global Inc.

For his contribution to the PMA Alumni Association by providing the funds for the construction of the PMAAAI Building in Bonifacio Global City.

2. MR KEVIN L TAN
Chairman, Travelers' International Hotel Groups, Inc.

For his contribution to the PMA Alumni Association in facilitating the construction of the PMAAAI Building that will be pushed through up to its completion.

3. MR ALEJANDRO H TENGCO
Chairman and CEO, PAGCOR

For his facilitation and approval of P300 million, invaluable assistance and full support to the PMA Alumni Association in constructing a 6-storey building.

E. PLAQUE OF RECOGNITION

1. CAV FRANCEL MARGARETH PADILLA-TABORLUPA '00
For her remarkable accomplishment in cybersecurity, where she outperformed rivals from 59 different countries.

F. PLAQUE OF MERITORIOUS RECOGNITION

1. CAV RUFINO S LOPEZ JR '74
Undersecretary and Deputy General, National Security Council
2. CAV PEDRO CESAR C RAMBOANGA JR '74
Executive Director, Presidential Commission on Visiting Forces
3. CAV OSCAR F VALENZUELA '74
Undersecretary, Peace and Order, DILG

G. PANDEMIC HEROES AWARD

1. CAV RAUL L DEL ROSARIO '84
Head One Stop Shop- Management of Returning Overseas Filipinos (OSS-MROF)

2. MR ENRIQUE K RAZON JR

An honorary member of the PMA Class of 1988, who procured vaccines for the Philippine Government, facilitated roll-outs, and built testing, isolation, quarantine, and vaccination facilities that benefited both the fellow cavaliers and the citizenry.

IX. Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP)

ASASAAP was established to enhance professional and leadership development, establish strong networking and engagement links, joint management of seminars, conferences, symposia, exchange of researches, publication and other materials of common interest and participation in nation-building.

Members of this organization include: Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PMAAAI**), Philippine National Police Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PNPAAAI**), Philippine Air Force Flying School Alumni Association, Inc. (**PAFFSAAI**), Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (**PMMAAAI**), Coast Guard Officer's Course Alumni Association, Inc. (**CGOCAAI**), Officer Candidate School Alumni Association, Inc. (**OCSAAI**), and the Alumni Society of Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, Inc. (**ASMAAPI**).

On its 4rd year, the Assembly of Service Academies and School's Alumni Association (ASASAAP) was chaired by Kasapi-Aviator JOANNIS LEONARDI B DIMAANO (PAFFSAAI). The Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc., will host the activities for the AY 2024-2025.

X. PMA Alumni Center for Leadership Excellence

The PMAAAI Building was made possible through the collaboration of the PMAAAI with DR. ANDREW L. TAN and MR KEVIN L. TAN, as Chairman of Alliance Global Inc., and as Chairman of Travellers International Hotel Groups Inc., respectively, and through their foundation, the NEWPORT WORLD RESORTS FOUNDATION INC. that have allocated the amount of THREE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (PhP300,000,000.00) for the construction of the six-storey PMAAAI



Building in Lawton Avenue, Taguig City, inclusive of all applicable taxes and contingency expenses. This project was also duly approved by PAGCOR.

The excavation works for the building started on 28 March 2023, while with the First Concrete Pouring Ceremony was conducted on 19 June 2023, as implemented by Lorean Steel Construction Corporation and supervised by AVA Consultancy, Inc., as the project manager. The Topping Off (Last Concrete Pouring) Ceremony was held on 30 November 2023.

As of December 2023, or about ten months since the actual works began, the project's status is as follows: 69.04% on structural/architectural works; 23.47% on electrical works; 26.08% on mechanical, plumbing and fire protection works; and 25.89% on auxiliary works.

XI. PMAAAI Visit Chapter Offices

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc., (PMAAAI) holds its monthly board meeting in various Chapters of the Association. The meeting and fellowship aims to bring closer to all its members and update cavaliers with current issues. The chapter Presidents also reported their past, recent, and upcoming activities. A special thanks to chapter Presidents for accommodating the mother board.



XII. AFFILIATE FOUNDATIONS

1. PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)

The PETFI was established in 1976 as a non-stock, non-profit corporation to raise and administer funds for the education of dependents of PMA alumni. Its ongoing educational assistance program covers elementary, high school and college, but due to limited funds, is presently limited to dependents of deceased and disabled regular members of the PMAAAI who are members of the Foundation. Dependents include minor unmarried children as well as younger brothers and sisters of unmarried members.

The Board approved a new policy on grant of scholarship to children of alumni who are not members of PETFI, provided that the PMA Class to which the deceased or disabled alumnus belongs had donated at least P200,000 to the Foundation, and that the scholars under this category are given a support equal to one-third only of that given to regular scholars. There are two grantees this year under the said new policy.

Presently, the amount of financial assistance being given to PETFI scholars per year are: P30,000 for college, P24,000 for high school and P18,000 for elementary. For current SY 2023-24, PETFI supports 36 scholars: 11 in college, 15 in high school and 10 in the elementary. In

2023, four (4) scholars graduated from college and fund support to the scholars was P0.903M.

Since the start, the Foundation has already supported 565 scholars, of which 345 earned their baccalaureate degrees. As of 31 December 2023, the fund balance of the PETFI is P44.17M.

2. **Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI)**

The PMAFI was established in 1988 to help the PMA improve the quality of its instruction in search of academic excellence. To attain its purpose, the Foundation is engaged in the following activities: Establish research grants and professorial chairs; Give scholarship grants to deserving PMA faculty members; Sponsor seminars, symposia and training programs; and Assist in strengthening the library, laboratory and other PMA facilities.

In 2023, the Foundation supported the scholarship of four (4) faculty members under the Facility Improvement Program and one (1) scholar under the Sec 22K Program. The PMAFI also supported two (2) regular professorial chair grants, 120 course development and administration chair grants, and eight (8) seminar grants. It also granted teaching excellence award to 15 faculty members.

The PMAFI donated computers and other training equipment, and various books to the Academy. It also supported its facilities improvement projects. The PMAFI fund support to PMA in 2023 amounted to P3.385M. The total fund balance of PMAFI has reached P111.55 as of 31 December 2023.

3. **PMAAA Foundation for Truth and Justice, Inc. (PFTJI)**

This legal assistance program was started in the 90's by the PMAAAI which established a Special Fund for Truth and Justice (SFTJ) to help regular members who are charged in court for offenses committed in the performance of their duties. The PMAAAI spun off this program in 2004 by incorporating the PFTJI as a separate foundation to avail of tax exemption privileges as a tax-exempt donee institution, and transferred to the Foundation its special fund of more than P4 million.

Hence, the PMAAA Foundation for Truth and Justice, Inc. (PFTJI) was organized in 2004 to support the objectives of the PMAAAI in providing legal assistance and services to deserving regular members of the PMAAAI who are facing criminal, civil and/or administrative charges before any courts, administrative bodies or any other tribunals for acts done in connection with or arising from the lawful performance of official duty, or who are victims of injustice, by providing them funds, material aid of any kind, technical assistance, organizational support and other suitable forms of assistance.

The Board of Trustees will be more pro-active in providing legal assistance and financial support to needy cavaliers, and to intensify its campaign for membership among graduates of the PMA.

In order to attain these ends, the Board of Trustees has updated the Foundation's Guidelines on Legal Assistance which provides policies and procedures governing the availing of its legal services and financial assistance. The former financial assistance of P30,000, was recently been increased to P50,000. In appropriate circumstances, PFTJI may provide legal service assistance to PMAAAI, the other Affiliate Foundations, and the PMAAA Regular Chapters.

The PFTJI has so far provided financial assistance to support court litigations of at least 20 members, and numerous legal service assistance, as requested, since 2004.

The PMAAAI Foundation for Truth and Justice Inc. (PFTJI), in partnership with the Armed Forces of the Philippines Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Reservist and Retiree Affairs, J9 conducted the 1st Reservists National Convention last 02 December 2023 at Tejeros Hall, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

XIII. **COUNCIL OF PMA CLASS PRESIDENTS (CPCP)**

The **Council of PMA Class Presidents (CPCP)** is an affiliate organization of **Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc., (PMAAAI)** established in 2018. It is an organization where members are Class Presidents of each PMA Class Alumni. As such, each member is given equal rights and vote should any motion will be approved by the board. It aims to promote a separate voice of the PMAAAI that can solicit opinions and views across members of graduates thereby breaking the barriers and promoting camaraderie among PMA classes.

It is with the benevolence of the PMAAAI that CPCP was able to conduct its operations for the last five years. It was then resolved that a minimum of P10,000.00 per class contribution must be collected in order to sustain the admin and operational requirements of the organization.

XIV. **ONGOING/UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

1. **PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting**

The PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting for AY 2023-2024 is being considered for a location at the National Capital Region's AFP Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo in Quezon City on 27 January 2024. The theme for this year's meeting is "Strength in Unity: Sustaining the Tradition of Excellence." The event will highlight the awarding of the Outstanding Achievement Award to conferred cavaliers who have attained the highest positions in the government. Additionally, recipients will be presented with the Special Recognition Award, Plaque of Recognition, and Plaque of Meritorious Recognition Award. The Department of National Defense Secretary, GILBERTO C TEODORO JR., will grace the Annual Convention.

2. **PMA Alumni Homecoming**

The Alumni Homecoming, a traditional event held every third Saturday of February, is scheduled for 17 February 2024, at the Philippine Military Academy in Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. The event is a day of celebration, with several highlights including conferment of the Cavalier Award and Lifetime Achievement Award. The incoming members of the PMAAAI Board will also take their oath of office, with Senate President Honorable JUAN MIGUEL ZUBIRI as Guest of Honor. The new board's term will begin on 01 March 2024.

This year's event is also a celebration for Jubilarians, with Class of 1964 as Diamond Jubilarians, the Class of 1974 as Golden Jubilarians, and Class of 1999 as Silver Jubilarians. The Class of 1994, as Lead Managing Class for the Convention and Homecoming Committee, is tasked with managing the activities of said two occasions under the guidance and direction of the PMAAAI Board of Directors.

3. **PMA JURADO CUP International 2024**

The PMA Jurado Cup International is a sports event organized by PMA Cavaliers/former cadets, who are based in continental United States and other nearby countries, aimed at promoting camaraderie and fellowship through various sports and social activities.

The PMA Jurado Cup International is held every other two (2) years within the USA the venue of which is determined by various chapters of the organization. The PMA South East Chapter USA will sponsor the next Jurado Cup dubbed as the "Philippine Military Academy Plebes and Cavaliers Jurado Cup "Disneyworld" 2024" on 08-10 November 2024 at Orlando, Florida, USA.

The event serves as a "homecoming" for the PMA community outside of the Philippines with invited members from PMAAAI. The PMA Alumni Association and its Board of Directors supports the next PMA Jurado Cup International by donating an amount of \$1,000.

CAVALIER AWARDEES

and Other Outstanding Alumni, AY 2023-2024

• **CAV RAMON T PUNZALAN '76**
Chairman, Awards Committee AY 2023-2024

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has selected the Cavalier Awardees for AY 2023-2024, fifteen alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award; Outstanding Achievement Award; Plaque of Meritorious Recognition; Special Recognition Award; and Pandemic Heroes Award. They have brought honor not only to themselves but also to our Association. Besides exemplifying the Academy's motto of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty, they have distinguished themselves among equally competent and devoted alumni-achievers. The awardees, who merit our snappy salute and highest praises, are the following:

CAVALIER AWARDEES

For Command and Administration

MAJOR GENERAL ARTURO G ROJAS '90

CAV ARTURO GO ROJAS PN(M) is currently serving as Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps, Philippine Navy. He served as the Commander of the Special Operations Command Armed Forces of the Philippines from January 2023 up until he was appointed Commandant, Philippine Marine Corps. He has 37 years of active military service in the fields of Plans and Operations and Amphibious Warfare. CAV ROJAS is a recipient of various awards, including a Distinguished Service Star, Distinguished Service Star with 2nd Bronze Anahaw Leaf, Gold Cross, two (2) Distinguished Navy Cross, and two (2) Bronze Cross Medals.



For Staff Functions



POLICE MAJOR GENERAL ERIC E NOBLE '92

Championing Camaraderie and Interoperability between the AFP and PNP through Cutting-Edge Community Affairs and Capacity Building CAV ERIC NOBLE's journey as a police officer and PMA Cavalier sets higher standards for transformative law enforcement, leadership education, investigation training, and public safety management. He leads with a vision that empowers people to become agents of change. His game-changing innovations in strategic communications and community engagement are widely adopted. His cadet-centered policies catalyzed improvements in logistics, finance, facilities, tactics, and academics. PNPA cadets regard him as a father. His legendary path shines with courage, integrity, loyalty, and nobility, inspiring cavaliers, cadets, and fellow public servants.

For Special Operations

COLONEL FERDINAND L MARCELINO '94

Aquileon (the eagle and the lion personified) and *The Gung Ho*, as his peers in the intelligence community call him, Colonel Marcelino's military career befits not simply a movie for the big screen but more of a series novel for Netflix. While detailed with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, he earned the moniker "*Mr. Incorruptible*" for exceptional integrity by refusing in many instances bribe money worth millions of pesos while courageously fighting powerful drug trafficking syndicates. Incarcerated but eventually vindicated over drug charges in 2016, Colonel Marcelino went on to lead the Special Intelligence Force of ISAFP and launched eight Special Intelligence Projects leading to the successful implementation of 198 Target Packets (TPs) here and abroad. Those TPs resulted in the seizure of several billions worth of illegal drugs; confiscation of billions worth of smuggled goods; the arrest of 895 high-risk foreign nationals, terrorists, and key personalities of various organized crime groups; the neutralization of high value targets mostly members of the Communist Terrorists Group's central committee; and the recovery of large caches of weapons and other war materiel. Col Marcelino works silently and without fanfare - unseen, unheard - for the greater good of our country and people. His life story is a legendary saga of struggles, personal sacrifices and one after the other extra ordinary accomplishments many of which are highly classified.



For Army Operations (Senior Officer)



COLONEL VON ALBERT M SUMERGIDO '95

As the pioneering Commanding Officer of the 6th Mechanized Infantry (Salaknib) Battalion, Armor Division, PA and as TF Mech Commander under the 1st Brigade Combat Team, PA, CAV VON ALBERT M SUMERGIDO exemplified superior leadership and displayed high-level of competence and professionalism that resulted to successive victories against the Abu Sayyaf Group in the Province of Sulu. During his tenure as CO, 6MECH, CAV SUMERGIDO successfully steered and inspired his unit to conduct responsive and effective mechanized infantry operations in support to full spectrum focused military operations of the 1BCT and JTF Sulu. His major accomplishments are the neutralization of 27 ASG members, to include high-value targets; the recovery of 10 assorted long firearms and one 90mm RR; and the discovery of several ASG encampments and harboring sites along with numerous ASG war materials.

For Army Operations (Junior Officer)

FIRST LIEUTENANT CIELO ROSE U DOLORICAN '18

CAV CIELO ROSE U DOLORICAN (OS) PA is a proud member of PMA "ALAB-TALA" Class of 2018 and currently the Chief, Admin of OG3, 9ID, PA. Prior to her designation as Admin Officer, she became the Platoon Leader of Scout Platoon (16 Nov 2018 to 16 Feb 2020), Training Officer, Assistant Operations Officer (16 Nov 2018 to 01 Oct 2020), Civil Military Operations Officer (01 Oct 2020-30 Nov 2021), and Community Support Program Officer (01 Oct 2020-30 Nov 2021), Commanding Officer of Alpha "Hunters" Company, 2IB, 9ID, PA (30 November 2021- 30 March 2023) all of Second Infantry "Second to None" Battalion, 9ID, PA. CAV DOLORICAN's accomplishment was recognized on different occasions which include: Gold Cross Medal during the 123rd Founding Anniversary of the Philippine Army; Best Junior Officer for CMO of 9ID, PA CY 2021-2022; Best Company Commander, 903rd Bde for CY 2022, among others.



For Air Operations (Senior Officer)

COLONEL LEE M SARPAMONES '99

A proud PMA Class "MASIKHAY" 1999 member, CAV LEE M SARPAMONES exhibited competence and excellence as a Fighter Pilot, Intelligence Officer, and Air Battle Manager in the PAF. Undeniably, he was one of the most respected pilots and leaders of his time. He has flown the AS-211 and C208B Grand Caravan EX for numerous ISR and combat missions. He received the third highest military award of the AFP – the Distinguished Service Star for his laudable and valuable service rendered as the first Group Commander of 303ARG, 300AISW, which was adjudged as CGPAF STREAMER AWARD in Combat Support Category (2nd Runner-up) during the Anniversary Year 2021. His next unit, the 582ACWG, 580ACWV, received the first-ever CGPAF STREAMER AWARD in the Combat Support Category (Champion) during the Anniversary Year 2022.



For Air Operations (Junior Officer)

MAJOR ERNEST F DELA CUADRA '07

CAV ERNEST F DELA CUADRA is known for his innovation mindset and his proactive approach in seeking opportunities to drive change and improvement. Under his guidance and supervision, he led the 18AS team in innovating various projects despite having limited resources, resulting in a significant improvement in the Squadron's operations, maintenance, and training efficiency. One of the most notable innovations was the development of a Flight Training Device that provides a full virtual reality simulation for flight training using a full control stick, pedals, power lever, and VR goggles. This project has saved a considerable amount of resources that would have been spent on purchasing a similar platform at a higher cost.



For Naval Operations (Junior Officer)

CAPTAIN MARK ERICK R GARCIA '12 PN(M)

CAV MARK ERICK R GARCIA is a member of Philippine Military Academy Class 2012. He was born in San Antonio, Zambales on June 7, 1987. He volunteered to join the Philippine Marine Corps after his graduation from Philippine Military Academy. He is a proud member of Marine Officer Basic Course CL-33, Marine Basic Airborne Course CL-43 and Force Reconnaissance Course CL 20. Following his graduation from MOBC, his first assignment was in Sulu as the Platoon Commander of 2nd MC, MBLT-2. Since then, he has participated in several Philippine Marine Special Operations missions that have helped the Corps achieve its goals.



For Police Operations

POLICE BRIGADIER GENERAL WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE '92

CAV WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE, a proud member of Philippine Military Academy "Tanglaw-Diwa" Class of 1992, made an indelible mark on the nation's security and public service. His leadership in Police Regional Offices 1 and 5 brought remarkable advancements in crime reduction, counterinsurgency efforts, and community engagement.

In PRO1, crime incidents significantly decreased by 27.4% while in PRO5, the unit attained an impressive community trust rating of 74.31% and became one of the Top 3 Contenders for Best Police Regional Office in the 2023 Police Service Anniversary. His accomplishments and commitment to the people exemplify a distinguished PMA Cavalier.



For Coast Guard Operations (Senior Officer)

CG COMMODORE ALLEN J DALANGIN '95

A thinker and a doer, CAV ALLEN J DALANGIN is a passionate leader who has conceptualized and executed several national undertakings whose missions are to promote the Philippines' sovereignty through his actions and contributions. It is also in these kinds of unparalleled efforts of CAV DALANGIN that the PCG became the primary source of intelligence when the country lodged its case before the United Nations Tribunal which ultimately led to the Philippine-China Arbitration Ruling in July 2016. CAV DALANGIN is a true embodiment of a Cavalier. His gallantry and wisdom are reflected in his selfless service to the nation, saving lives and properties at sea. He encompasses the virtues of courage, loyalty, and integrity, which are essential qualities of a true leader.



For Coast Guard Operations (Junior Officer)

CG CAPTAIN LARRY C CENDAÑA '03

CAV LARRY C CENDAÑA has distinguished himself for his outstanding accomplishments in the field of Coast Guard Operations as he was consecutively the Station Commander of CG Station Zambales, CG Station Bataan, and CG Station Manila. Notable among his accomplishments are the following: He has ably commanded CGS Zambales where his unit bagged the CG District NCR-CL Award for CG Station "C" CY 2019. His excellent leadership in maritime safety and security was proven during the 30th Southeast Asian Games from 28 November to 11 December 2019 wherein he was able to ensure the safety and security of the athletes, coaches and officials and effectively supervised the conduct of eight (8) major aquatic sports events that was held in SBMA Olongapo Zambales.



For Public Administration

CONGRESSMAN RAUL C TUPAS '94

Representative, Fifth District of Iloilo

CAV RAUL CAUSING TUPAS belongs to PMA Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 and was Class President during his cadet days. He served in the Philippine Army where he was assigned with the Special Forces.

Congressman Tupas served as Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Barotac Viejo, Iloilo for three terms (2001-2010). In 2013, he was elected Vice-Governor of the Province of Iloilo and served for one term (2013-2016). In the 2016 elections, he was elected as Representative of Fifth District of Iloilo and is now on his third term.

For the 18th and 19th Congress, Congressman Tupas is the Chairperson of the Committee on National Defense and Security and Oversight Committees on AFP Modernization and Disaster Preparedness. He is also the Co-Chairperson of the Oversight Committee on Visiting Forces Agreement.



For Special Field (Journalism)

MAJOR GENERAL EDGARD A AREVALO '90

CAV EDGARD A AREVALO is a distinguished lawyer-columnist who writes well-acclaimed articles in Crow's Nest every Sunday in The Manila Times. He uses the might of his pen to bring to the attention of the Commander-in Chief, members of Congress, and the public what the AFP cannot articulate on matters affecting the organization's leadership, morale, discipline, and esprit d' corps. Aside from contemporary national issues, most of his noteworthy articles were about the deleterious impact of the "New AFP Retirement Law", the MUP pension system, AFP modernization and the stakes in the complex regional geopolitical situation, and PMA as the beacon of service excellence.



For Special Field For Operation (Cybersecurity)

COLONEL JOEY T FONTIVEROS '94

CAV JOEY T FONTIVEROS is the pioneering Commanding Officer of the Cyber Battalion, Army Signal Regiment, Philippine Army, remarkable for successfully leading the unit's groundbreaking efforts that immensely contributed to the institutionalization of cybersecurity operations of the Philippine Army. He developed the Unit Cyber Skills Competency Roadmap and crafted the PA Cyber Incident Response Management Process. He is the brain behind revolutionizing PA Cyber operations through the development and deployment of the Cyber Assets and Risk Management Information System (CARMIS), the Cyber eExercise for eXcellence Information System Management (CeXISM), and 11 other Information Systems of the unit and Information Systems in collaboration with other PA Staff Offices. CAV FONTIVEROS fostered excellent collaborations with cybersecurity stakeholders, resulting in the accreditation of the unit as an Authorized Training Center of EC-Council for two (2) years up to the present. His achievements demonstrate exceptional leadership, service, and deserving appreciation.



For Private Enterprise

CAPTAIN ROBERTO DELA CRUZ YAP '82

CAV ROBERTO YAP embodies the spirit of an outstanding cavalier. At a young age, he paused schooling for a time and diligently sold fish to support his 11 siblings in continuing their education. His selflessness, hard-work, and determination shone further when he joined the military, and started his foray into business subsequently. Roberto believes that excellence is meaningless when the end goal is only to profit for oneself. With over 25 years working in various industries as Chairman and President/CEO, he continues to help his fellowmen by creating sustainable jobs for his employees and various charitable works for the less fortunate.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This Award shall be given to a regular member of the Association who has rendered at least fifty (50) years of distinguished, outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country and people, whether in government and/or in non-government organizations, who must have served for at least two (2) years as head of any such organization, and who must have been a recipient of any of the other Association awards.

1. PMGEN THOMPSON C LANTION '69 PNP



3. PLTGEN REYNALDO V VELASCO '71 PNP



4. COL ALEJANDRO T FLORES JR '72 PNP

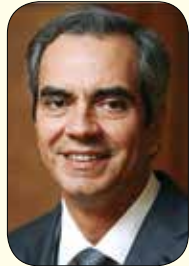


2. PLTGEN RICARDO F DE LEON '71 PNP

5. GEN HERMOGENES C ESPERON JR '74 PA

PANDEMIC HEROES AWARD

1. **LTGEN RAUL L DEL ROSARIO '84 PAF**
Head, One Stop Shop- Management of Returning Overseas Filipinos (OSS-MROF)



2. **MR ENRIQUE K RAZON JR.**,
an Honorary member of PMA Class 1988, Initiated in the procurement of vaccines, for the Philippine Government and facilitated roll-outs, built testing, isolation, quarantine and vaccination facilities that benefited not only our fellow cavaliers but the whole citizenry.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1. **MGEN MARIO F CHAN '78**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Federative Republic of Brazil



2. **GENERAL ROMEO S BRAWNER JR '89**
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines

3. **PGEN BENJAMIN C ACORDA JR '91**
Chief, Philippine National Police



4. **CG ADMIRAL RONNIE GIL L GAVAN '93**
Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard

5. **LTGEN ROY M GALIDO '90**
Commanding General, Philippine Army



PLAQUE OF MERITORIOUS RECOGNITION

1. **RADM RUFINO S LOPEZ JR '74**
Undersecretary and Deputy General, National Security Council



2. **MGEN PEDRO CESAR C RAMBOANGA JR '74**
Executive Director, Presidential Commission on Visiting Forces



3. **PBGEN OSCAR F VALENZUELA '74**
Undersecretary, Peace and Order, DILG

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

1. **DR ANDREW L TAN**
Chairman, Alliance Global Inc. for his contribution to PMA Alumni Association by providing funds for the construction of PMAAA Building in Bonifacio Global City.



2. **MR KEVIN L TAN**
Chairman, Travellers International Hotel Groups, Inc. for his contribution to PMA Alumni Association in facilitating the construction of PMAAA Building up to its completion.

3. **MR ALEJANDRO H TENGCO**
Chairman and CEO, PAGCOR for his invaluable assistance and full support to PMA Alumni Association through his facilitation and approval of Php300M for the construction of the 6-storey building.



PLAQUE OF RECOGNITION

1. **LTCOL FRANCEL MARGARETH PADILLA-TABORLUPA '00**
for her extra ordinary feat by besting international contestants from 59 nations in the field of cyber security.



Outgoing PMAAAI Board of Trustees Honored during PMA Visit

On January 13, the distinguished members of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PMAAAI) Board of Trustees, representing the years 2023-2004, were celebrated with a testimonial parade and review at the Fajardo Grandstand during their visit to the PMA.

Prior to the parade, the Board, led by Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74, embarked on a tour of various Academy facilities, including the Melchor Hall, the major services Army, Navy, and Air Force laboratories, and the Long Gray Line. The tour concluded with a brief reception at the Maharlika Lounge.

During their visit, the Corps of Cadets had the privilege of sharing lunch with these esteemed cavaliers at the Yap Hall.

Following the meal Cav Rowen S Tolentino '89, PMA Superintendent, introduced Cav Abinoja as the Chairman and CEO of PMAAAI to all present during the activity.

As a token of appreciation, all outgoing members of the Board of Trustees were presented with mementoes by the PMA Superintendent after the exit call.



PMAAAI Board of Trustees pay a Courtesy Call to HOR Speaker Romualdez



The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Incorporated (PMAAAI) Board of Trustees headed by its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Cav Danilo A. Abinoja '74 made its way to the House of Representatives to pay a courtesy call to the Honorable Speaker Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez last January 22, 2024 to follow up the sponsorship to the YuleStar Christmas Concert of the PMAAAI. In addition, he also requested funds support for the completion of the finishing of the PMAAAI building.

During the call, Cav Abinoja '74, affirmed the commitment of PMAAAI, along with the other groups present, that they will continue to uphold and defend the Constitution and the duly-constituted authorities. He denied allegations that PMA alumni are involved in any destabilization efforts against the current administration.

Expressing his appreciation, Speaker Romualdez thanked the Cavaliers particularly the retired members for pledging their support to the constitution and the duly constituted authorities. He underscored the significance of their sentiments, emphasizing the ongoing attentiveness, responsiveness, and reflection on their dedication, even after their tenure in the armed services.

On the part of Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, the incoming chairman and CEO of PMAAAI for Association Year 2024-2025, his Class, PMA Class 1975, vehemently denounced rumors linking the PMA and PNP to any actions undermining the government's stability.

Cav Abinoja also took this rare opportunity to thank Speaker Romualdez for his support to the MUP more particularly to the projects of PMAAAI.



PMAAAI Gathers for Annual General Membership Meeting 2024 at Camp Aguinaldo

Members of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) convened at the AFP Commissioned Officers Clubhouse in Camp Aguinaldo, January 27, for the much-anticipated Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM).

The event saw a convergence of active and retired cavaliers at the iconic Tejeros Hall, with this year's theme being *"Strength in Unity: Sustaining the Tradition of Excellence."*

The program's first segment featured the registration process, followed by a warm welcome from Cav Prudencio C Patricio '94, Chairman of the Homecoming and Convention Committee. Attendees had the opportunity to vie for exciting door prizes during the initial phase of the event. Cav Ramon T Punzalan '76 recited the Cavalier Prayer.

Part 2 of the program promised insightful reports from key figures, including the PMA Superintendent Cav Rowen S Tolentino '89, the President Cav Adriano SJ Duadico '94, and the Treasurer, Cav Ryan L Bakabak '95. The agenda included the approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGMM, the endorsement of Board Resolutions, and the pivotal election of the Board of Trustees for the Association Year 2024-2025.

As the day unfolded, the final segment spotlighted the presentation of Association Awards, honoring exceptional cavaliers and other distinguished luminaries. (See related story on pages 11-14 of this Cavalier Magazine.)

The Department of National Defense Secretary Gilbert Eduardo Gerardo C Teodoro, presided as the guest of honor

and speaker, adding prestige to the occasion. In his speech, he encouraged cavaliers to lead their minds to explore, to discover and to learn putting premium on the core values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty and the Honor Code. He said there should be no compromise in the performance of their duties and responsibilities, particularly when it comes to the core values of the PMA.

He also discussed the DND's efforts in enhancing the country's partnership and alliances with like-minded nations based on the common observance of the rules based on the international order, the recognition of the 2016 Arbitral Award which states that UNCLOS is the sole basis of determining what belongs to whom in terms of the sea.

He further said the 1982 archipelagic doctrine is the basis of the Philippines' existence as an integral Republic and not as a disjointed group of islands where the waters between and around these islands are international waters. Secretary Teodoro emphasized that with such arbitral ruling, the Philippines has the sole and exclusive use of natural resources within the 200-nautical miles Exclusive Economic Zone.

Another highlight of this portion was the oath-taking of honorary and associate members as presided by Cav Danny A Abinoja '74, PMAAAI Chairman and CEO.

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PMAAAI) is a revered organization that brings together past and present graduates of the Philippine Military Academy, fostering a sense of unity and tradition among its members.







At PETFI, “We Got You Covered.”

There are few things in life we wish to have but we hope we will not need. Having it, however, will either way make us a winner.

Such is PETFI, an educational trust fund created to ensure the continuing education of our dependents when we are no longer around.

Some 5,448 members agree. For just the price of a family lunch at Jollibee, the P2,000 lifetime membership fee provides a scholarship stream from elementary education to college graduation. With support from 178 affiliate members, PETFI has now established itself as an educational pillar for future leaders.

While P2,000.00 may not go a long way, taken collectively, they provide a financial base whose capital is prudently invested, and the earnings utilized to support its various scholarship and other programs.

The current PETFI Board, headed by Chairman Cav Magtanggol Gatdula '76, has set its sights on increasing its membership. The essence of this membership campaign is the core of PETFI's existence; to maximize the number of beneficiaries, and to generate more resources to help improve the services that PETFI provides.

PETFI finds the membership campaign a pleasant task as Cavaliers understand the providential role the PETFI plays. We are happy to note that from PMA classes 2010 and onwards, there is a

100% membership in every class. We look forward to going up to PMA next year to meet the graduating class of 2024, and welcome them to PETFI.

This time, PETFI will accept Associate Memberships from underclasses for P1,000.00, so they will only have to add another P1,000.00 when they graduate, in order to become regular members.

What is even surprising is that senior classes, with a diminishing probability of having dependents, are campaigning for 100% membership. Among them are Class 1971, represented by PETFI Director Cav Joey Lalian, and Class 1976, where PETFI Chairman Tanggol Gatdula belongs. *Ang sabi nila, ang anak ng isang PMAYER ay anak nating lahat.*

PETFI stands proud to have partner schools nationwide, such as the University of the Visayas, National University, and UERM. Together we are able to do more for our beneficiaries.

Several activities add pleasure in working at PETFI. The “PETFI Drive for our Scholars” netted funds amounting to P1million, while enjoying a good round of golf and fellowship last Aug 21, 2023.

We look forward to more fruitful activities, and with every PMAYER's support, achieve a full membership base. With that, we can say with confidence that at PETFI, “we got you covered!”



PMAFI Update



On 24 November 2023, the PMAFI Board of Trustees annual visit to PMA and its November Board meeting were held in the Academy, Fort del Pilar, Baguio City. Trustee Rufino Ibay thanked the PMA Superintendent, LtGen Rowen S Tolentino and his staff for the invitation and for the warm welcome extended

to the Board. Trustee Ibay acknowledged the presence of Commo Roger P Viduya PN, Assistant Superintendent, PMA; BGen Ramon P Flores PA, Commandant of Cadets, PMA; BGen Jose Demar Pauly Prof, Dean of Academics, PMA; and Cdr Emerson T Namona PN, OMA8, PMA.





On 14 December 2023, the PMAFI Board of Trustees, together with the PMA Rep and PMAFI personnel, celebrated its regular board meeting and Christmas party at Vikings Buffet, Megamall.





TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc. LATEST UPDATES

The Graduates of PMA Helping Out Project, Inc. (TGPMA HOP) Supports WPS Frontliners



Cav Generoso Senga '72, former AFP Chief of Staff and now Chairman of TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc., turns over on Dec 21, 2023 the cash assistance for personnel assigned in BRP Sierra Madre to Vice Admiral Alberto Carlos, Commander of Western Command. Witnessing the turnover were Cav Robert Yap '82, TGPMA HOP President, and Cav Lysander Suerte '82, Corporate Secretary.

TGPMA HOP Website

TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc. can now be accessed online, thru its Website, www.tgpmahop.org, which was launched on January 5, 2024.

Our gratitude goes to Cav Winston Arpon '64 for his exceptional leadership throughout the design and development process of the website. We would also like to express our appreciation to Cav Harold Ochoco '81 and his company, H2MO TMS (H2MO Technology and Multimedia Services), for their expertise and hard work in bringing this website to life.

We invite Cavaliers to visit the website and know more about TGPMA HOP. The President's Report in full has been downloaded in the website.



The website landing page

Summary of Key Achievements:

Since Dec 2021 to yearend 2023, TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc. accomplished several significant projects and initiatives:

1. **MEALS ON WHEELS:** Feeding Program - Barangay Catmon, Malabon. Dec 15, 2021. Beneficiaries - 500++ Informal settlers
2. **MEALS ON WHEELS:** Feeding Program Payatas, Quezon City Dec 16, 2021. Beneficiaries - 500++ Informal settlers
3. **PROJECT "ODETTE":** Distribution of Relief Goods Negros Occidental Dec 3, 2021 - Jan 31, 2022 Beneficiaries: 500++
4. **PROJECT "ODETTE":** Distribution of Relief Goods Cebu Hinterlands Dec 31, 2021 - Jan 31, 2022 Beneficiaries: 500++
5. **PROJECT "ODETTE"(PANAON):** Construction of 29 Houses Barangay Pinut-an, Panaon Island, Leyte January-March 2022 Beneficiaries - 45 Families.
6. **PROJECT "AGATON":** Distribution of Relief Goods Lemery, Iloilo, April 14, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++

7. **PROJECT "AGATON":** Distribution of Relief Goods Dumarao, Capiz April 15, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++

8. **PROJECT "AGATON":** Distribution of Relief Goods Concepcion, Iloilo April 22, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++

9. **PROJECT "AGATON":** Distribution of Relief Goods Sara, Iloilo April 22, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++

10. **MEALS ON WHEELS:** Feeding Program Pag-asa, Quezon City June 30, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++ Informal settlers

11. **PROJECT "PAENG":** Relief Operations and Learning Kit Distribution (for Children/Kusiong IDPs) Broce, Datu Odin Sinsuat (DOS) Kurintem, DOS, Maguindanao November 10, 2022 Beneficiaries - 500++ Children-IDPs

12. **PROJECT "PAENG":** Food Pack Distribution Broce, Datu Odin Sinsuat (DOS) November 11, 2022 Beneficiaries - 245 Families

13. **MEALS ON WHEELS:** Feeding Program Barangay 101, Tondo, Manila City May 1, 2023 Beneficiaries - 500++ Informal settlers

14. **MEALS ON WHEELS:** Feeding Program Barangay 128, Tondo, Manila City June 12, 2023 Beneficiaries - 600++ Informal settlers

15. **PROJECT MAYON EVACUEES:** Food and Relief Distribution Maurito National High School Guinobatan, Albay June 17, 2023 Beneficiaries - 252 Families++

16. **Project "EGAY":** Distribution of Relief Goods Sam Marcelino, Zabala's August 17, 2023 Beneficiaries- 400++

17. **Project "EGAY":** Distribution of Relief Goods Baguio City August 22-23, 2023 Beneficiaries- 400++

18. **Project "EGAY":** Distribution of Relief Goods Santa Teresita, Cagayan August 20-21, 2023 Beneficiaries- 400++

19. **Project "Earthquake":** Distribution of Relief Goods Calayan, Cagayan September 15, 2003

20. **Project Ayungin:** Support to military personnel assigned at WPS When: December 21, 2023

Future Projects:

1. Draft MOU between TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc., and the Armed Forces of the Philippines has been finalized, and now awaiting approval by DND, and arrangement on actual date of signing by the parties;

2. E-Learning Hub, a special project to provide an educational computer hub for a selected community. Status: ongoing collaboration with ERDA Sabana Learning Hub. The Hub was already visited by BOT members last July 19, 2023 in Tondo, Manila; and

3. Organization of TGPMA HOP Regional Chapters.



The Wonder Years

COURAGE



INTEGRITY



LOYALTY

RETIREES SECTION

• **CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75**
Chairman, PMARAI

• **CAV JOEL D PAGDILAO '84**
Director for Public Relations

PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.

PMARAI BOARD MEETING

The PMARAI held its **Board Meeting** presided over by **CHAIRMAN, CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75** every second Monday of the month from November to December 2023 at the PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.



The **Chairman of Professional Development Committee, CAV ROMEO V POQUIZ '81** conducted the **1st PMARAI Lecture Series** entitled **"LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE in the Service and Beyond"** with keynote speakers **CAV DANILO G PAMONAG '85** with topic no. 1: **Leadership in the Battlefield**, **CAV RAMON C LIWAG '79** with topic no. 2: **Good Leaders - Hope of the Filipino Nation**, **CAV JOSE RENAN C SUAREZ '82** with topic no. 3: **Achieving Financial Security** and **CAV ROMEO V POQUIZ '81** with topic no. 4: **Real Story - Leadership Excellence in Combat and Non-Combat Situations**. The lecture series was moderated by **CAV JOB NOLAN ANTONIO '82, PMARAI Director**. It was attended by 700 cadets - entire First Class and Fourth Class cadets, and some Second and Third Class cadets. The **Superintendent of PMA, LTGEN ROWEN S TOLENTINO PA** delivered the Welcome Remarks while the **Commandant of Cadets, BGEN RAMON P FLORES PA**, Senior Tac O, and other officers of PMA attended the day-long lecture series. It was a huge success as valuable lessons learned, mostly unfounded in textbooks, were imparted to the cadets who were very attentive throughout the lecture. It was held at Lopez Hall of Leaders, PMA, Baguio City last 18 November 2023.



PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC (PMARAI)

"LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE in the Service and Beyond"

1st PMARAI Lecture Series



KEYNOTE SPEAKER #1:
Topic: Leadership in the Battlefield
LTG DANILO G PAMONAG AFP (RET) '85



KEYNOTE SPEAKER #2:
Topic: Good Leaders: Hope of the Filipino Nation
ADMIRAL RAMON C LIWAG PCG (RET) '79



KEYNOTE SPEAKER #3:
Topic: Achieving Financial Security
RADM JOSE RENAN C SUAREZ AFP (RET) '82



KEYNOTE SPEAKER #4:
Topic: Real Story - Leadership Excellence in Combat and Non-combat Situations
CAV ROMEO V POQUIZ AFP (RET) '81



MODERATOR
CAV JOB NOLAN ANTONIO '82
PMARAI Director

18 November 2023
Lopez Hall of Leaders,
PMA, Baguio City



PMARAI Fun Bike-Run

The PMARAI organized a fun bike-run for the retirees and their dependents last 18 November 2023 under the **Sports and Fellowship Committee of CAV JOJO LLORCA '83**. This event coincided with the PMAAAI Family Sportsfests "*Palarong Pinoy*." The fun bike-run kicked-off the PMAAAI Family Sportsfest program and started at 6:00 a.m. in front of GHQ Grandstand and completed the two laps of 4.8km circuit. The route traversed

major streets of Camp Gen Emilio Aguinaldo. The START LINE was in front of GHQ Grandstand at De Jesus Ave. Bikers turned left to Capinpin Ave, made a U-turn at the end of Capinpin Ave (in front of AFP SLAI), then right at Crame Ave, then left at JC Morales Ave, turned left at J Francisco Ave, then left at P Santos Ave, then right at Segundo Ave, then left to Capinpin Ave (2 laps). On the last lap, from Capinpin Ave, turned left to De Jesus Ave with the GHQ Grandstand as the FINISH LINE.



PMARAI E-NEWSLETTER *THE LONG GRAY LINE*, WEBSITE pmarai.org and PMARAI FORUM AND POST viber community has been the official platform of communication to provide information, understanding and goodwill to its members for Association Year 2023-2024 under the **Public Relations Committee of CAV JOEL D PAGDILAO '84**.



PMAAAI PAF Chapter News

Golf with the Stars

This year's tournament witnessed a remarkable comeback with a registration of 86 eager participants, composed of esteemed personalities/celebrities, military officials, and notable figures from various industries/fields, and members of the PAF and PMA Classes to play golf and interact in support to the PMAAAI-PAF Chapter.

The ceremonial tee-off took place at Hole Nr 1 led by BGEN PEDRO S FRANCISCO III PAF together with BGEN JULIANO C LLARENAS PAF, BGEN FERNANDO VENTURA PAF, and celebrity guests Mr. Randy Santiago and Raymart Santiago. Their participation infused the event with a shared sense of excitement and commitment to the day's endeavors.

The awarding ceremony took place at Social House, VABGC, Pasay City.

Adding to the thrill of the game, an array of enticing prizes giveaways, and raffles was enjoyed by the participants during the awarding ceremony that took place at the Social House, VABGC, Pasay City.

	<u>Participants</u>
PAF units	41
Suppliers	17
Stars	7
PMA Classes	<u>21</u>
TOTAL	86



The PMAAAI-PAF Chapter successfully hosted the "Golf with the Stars" Fellowship and Fundraising Golf Activity on September 28, 2023, at Villamor Air Base Golf Course, Pasay City.



PMAAAI- PAF CHAPTER GOLF WITH THE STARS				
OCTOBER 12, 2023 VILLAMOR AIR BASE GOLF COURSE				
WINNERS				
SPECIAL AWARDS:				
Longest drive Hole # 18	- LTC VALDEZ	-	290 YARDS	
Longest Putt Hole #18	- LTC TIO	-	23 FT	
Nearest to the Pin Hole #12	- ERNIE CHAN	-	1 FT	
Most Accurate Drive Hole # 9	- ERYL CHAN	-	3.1 INCHES	
Most Number of Pars	- CPT MARCKO ALAMILLO	-	10 PARS	
			GROSS	HCP NET
CLASS "C" Gross Score of 97 & above				
RUNNER UP	- CPT SALVACION	-	97	23 = 74
CHAMPION	- MAJ LIMOSO	-	99	25 = 74 CB
CLASS "B" Gross Score of 88 - 96				
RUNNER UP	- COL CHARLIE TIU JR	-	88	16 = 72
CHAMPION	- BGEN FERNANDO VENTURA	-	88	17 = 71
CLASS "A" Gross Score of 87 & Below				
RUNNER UP	LTC VALDEZ	-	86	16 = 70
CHAMPION	COL CHRIS FREDELUCES	-	79	9 = 70 CB
LOW NET CHAMP	- COL DERRICK ABLOG	-	91	23 = 68
LOW GROSS CHAMP	- CPT MARCKO ALAMILLO	-	74	=

PCAI Chapter News



Police Cavaliers Christmas Gift Giving

Christmas Season is said to be a time of celebration and a time for giving. In the spirit of generosity, Police Cavaliers found a unique opportunity to extend warmth and kindness to those around them. Instead of the traditional Christmas Party, the Police Cavaliers decided to have a PCAI Christmas Gift Giving.

On December 18, 2023, during the Christmas Party in Camp Crame, PCAI distributed their gifts to the PNP strikers, maintenance and even to the construction workers inside the camp led by PCAI Chairman, Cavalier Rhodel O Sermonia '89.



On December 26, 2023, the Police Cavaliers gave their time to their brothers, sisters and children in Batangas to distribute bags of groceries and rice led by PCAI Chairman Cav Rhodel O Sermonia '89, PCAI President Cav Michael John F Dubria '91, Cav Leo M Francisco '92 and Cav Eric E Noble '92. The group visited different areas in Batangas.

The Home for the Elders , Barangay Altura Bata, Tanauan City



The Selected TODA MEMBERS of Batangas



The Mother Teresa Spinelli's Treasure (Orphanage),
Tagaytay City



Relocation Site of Taal





SUPE'S REPORT

CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89

PMA Achievements 2023: Nurturing Tradition, Embracing Change

As everything slowly goes back to where it was before, our Academy started earlier and with that, I can say that we are where we used to be. Classes are back to face-to-face, activities that were halted are already being conducted and our regular day-by-day operations are all in the normal status as of now. Increase in our activities led the Academy to attaining its mission and vision and aiming it to be at par with other Military Academies globally. Constant development and maintenance of our infrastructure and facilities are seen as several projects are completed and on-going.

These constant changes that occur for the betterment of the Academy is what we, the sons and daughters that she had, must be imprinting in these sacred grounds. Every mark we leave behind, from the day we started, our tears and sweat that we contributed to the grounds of the Borromeo Field, to the countless days until the much-awaited graduation, each of those that we leave must be instilled and be continued to the next generations of what we call PMAers to Cavaliers. Giving back to our Mother, the Academy, is not merely any tangible mark, object or monument, whatever we leave here will be an intangible, enduring, withstanding all the storms and turbulences that the Academy will have embedded in our core values from our first PMAers to the future sons and daughters that will come.

The footprint that all Cavaliers who gave a part of their officer life giving back to the Academy are all but improvements, changes and upgrades to be at par with other institutions. In my stint as the Superintendent for the CY 2023, infrastructure and facilities were enhanced, constant development of personnel was done through different trainings and seminars and conduct of the activities are still given importance for everyone to still go back and give back to the Academy. This Academy also had participation to local, national and international activities which resulted to fostering linkages, outreach and collaboration with different units. Exposure of the Academy to LGUs, other students from local and international schools, colleges and universities and to different uniformed and non-uniformed units gave them the much-needed connections that they will use later on as they enter the Officer Corps. With all of these, I am proud to give you the accomplishments that the men and women of the Philippine Military Academy had for the Calendar Year of 2023.

Infrastructure and Facilities

Several on-going projects are still in development to further enhance the infrastructure and road networks of the Philippine Military Academy. Building projects include the construction of Cadet Barracks, the HAG and HTG Building, PMA Library, Spiritual Enhancement Center Building, HSG Building, PMA Museum, five storey Officers Condominium Quarters, five storey EP Quarters and the construction of rainwater harvesting facility. Special projects for the enhancement of Canopy at Jurado Hall and the construction of the Cavaliers Memorial Monument were also done since PMA is also one of the tourist spots in Baguio City. An obstacle course rig was also given by the PMA "Matikas" Class of 1983 last 11 March 2023 which was placed in the Jurado Hall to be utilized by Cadets and command personnel.

To improve mobile signal, voice quality, and network coverage, the Academy Information, Communication and Technology Center installed Base Radio and antenna at Army Laboratory for the enhancement of CCAFP radio communication last June 2023. The Data Center and Network

was already upgraded as well as the establishment of Security Operations Center which was finished last November 2023.

These infrastructure and facilities are meant to improve the quality of education given to the cadets. The advancement in technologies are also necessary for cadets to be at par with their counterparts as well as students from colleges and universities. In the fast-changing world, cadets need to adapt with the changes and be competent enough with the demands nationally and internationally.

Trainings and Seminars

Different trainings are given to personnel as they need to be competent and be knowledgeable on the specializations that they will be handling. Trainings conducted include Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue Training Course by the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), Baguio City, conduct of Rifle and Pistol Marksmanship Training to selected PMA personnel, Fire Fighting Seminar, Eco-Waste Management Seminar, Ceremonial Artillery/Gunnery Seminar, and Water Search and Rescue (WASAR). Seminar on the Junior Non-Commissioned Officer Development Training was conducted by the Office of the Command Sergeant Major for Junior NCOs. Also, a successful conducted of the Defense Communications Specialized Training-Workshop with the Department of National Defense Communications Service (DND-DCOMMS) Training Team led by Director Arsenio R Andolong, MNSA, CESO III, Chief, Defense Communications Service, DND was conducted towards the end of the year.

The AICTC conducted several trainings to personnel such as Introduction to Cybersecurity Training at the Cyber Laboratory, ArcGIS Training from Geodata Systems Training and a Basic Radio Communication Operation Seminar to AICTC Personnel at the Cyber Lab. A Geographic Information Systems (GIS) training was also successfully conducted to selected 1CL Cadets by CAV RENE SALVALEON to equip cadets with the latest knowledge and updates on GIS in the military.

The Headquarters Academic Group spearheaded a Competency Training on Marksmanship Phase to all HAG military personnel. The group also conducted a Caser Writing Workshop as well as laser engraving training. The Headquarters Tactics Group conducted a Character Building Seminar entitled "No Apologies" to the members of the PMA Class of 2026.

These trainings given to cadets will give them the knowledge that they need as they will graduate in the Academy. The skill set from trainings given will make them competent enough as they handle designations as they become future leaders of the Philippines.

Conduct of PMA Activities

Success of the PMA Alumni Homecoming was seen during the celebrations from 17-18 February 2023 with HE FERDINAND R MARCOS JR, President of the Republic of the Philippines as the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

The recognition of PMA "TALANG DANGAL" Class 2026 with GEN ANDRES S CENTINO PA, Chief of Staff, AFP as the Guest of Honor and Speaker on 04 March 2023 was also conducted.

The Philippine Military Academy administered the Oath-taking and Reception Rites to the 268 candidates (191 males and 77 females) of PMA Class 2027 at the Borromeo Field on 01 June 2023 which

signifies the beginning of the cadets arduous yet rewarding journey. After several weeks of training, the Cadets Foot March was conducted by the Headquarters Tactics Group at Mount Sto Tomas, Baguio City. Incorporation followed last 29 July 2023 for the PMA “Mandaraig” Class of 2027 with VADM TORIBIO D ADACI JR PN, Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy as the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

For the 125th foundation day of PMA, the series of activities started with the a Tree Growing Activity in partnership with SM City Baguio, DENR-CENRO-CAR, HTOG1, 5CMOBn, 5ID, PA and 1st CRG, CRS last 21 October 2023 with the theme “*The PMA: Celebrating 125th Years of Producing Principled and Competent Military Officers for the Nation*” with no less than the Secretary of National Defense Gilberto C Teodoro Jr as Guest of Honor and Speaker. The activity was followed by exhibits and musical performances of command personnel and cadets at the SM Baguio City last September 2023. The activity inspired young individuals to embrace the challenges and aspire to become future military leaders of the country.

In line with the 125th anniversary, the Academy had a blood-letting activity, health care and veterinary fair, fun shoot, Academy Film Festival, PMA Inter-Colors, and Interfaith Thanksgiving service, all of which were attended to by the command personnel and cadets as well.

Participation of PMA in different Local and National Activities

The Philippine Military Academy Band participated in the 25th Cityhood Anniversary of Tagum City, Davao Del Norte on 06-09 March 2023 and the contingents participated in the Bayanihan (Care for School Chairs Program) on 08 March 2023. The PMA Marching Band and several cadets joined the Independence Day Flag Raising Ceremony organized by SM City Baguio and followed by their participation at Musikalayaan 2023 at Malcolm Square, Baguio City last 12 June 2023.

The PMA Marching Band also participated in the Baguio Saleng Festival-Rolling Forest 2023 Tree Cart Parade from Session Road to Rose Garden, Burnham Park, Baguio City last 25 June 2023.

Different activities in the Local and National scene gave the Cadets as well as PMA personnel exposure which aims to gain the trust and confidence of the community towards the Armed Forces of the Philippines and at the same time market the academy for future applicants.

Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines

The Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines participated in the International Jiu Jitsu Games by the Asia Sport Jiu Jitsu Federation Championships at the Bulwagang Kanlahi, Tarlac City on 14-15 January 2023 of which they earned multiple gold, silver and bronze medals. The CCAFP, Arnis Corps Squad, together with their coaches, bagged several awards during the 2023 Open Arnis Championship at Robinsons Mall, Angeles, Pampanga on 12 February 2023. Cadets also participated in the GRAND FINALS: 2023 PRO-ACTIVE ROBINSONS MALL TOUR ARNIS CHAMPIONSHIP” at the Robinsons Metro East, Pasig City on 01 - 02 July 2023 and they successfully brought home 1 gold medal, and 4 bronze medals.

Exposure of the CCAFP was also noted in a Silent Drill Exhibition in the Municipality of Pugo La Union ICOW the 5th Tinungbo Festival on 22 January 2023 with members of Class 2024 performing. In addition, the CCAFP colors participated in the Panagbenga Opening Parade from Panagbenga Park to the Baguio Athletic Bowl, Baguio City on 01 February 2023. Another silent drill exhibition was performed by 2CL Cadets during the celebration of Diro Festival of the Municipality of Bacnotan, La Union last 06 May 2023.

Cadets are also now involved in international conferences such as the 26th International Cadets’ Conference (ICC) on 01-03 March 2023 hosted by the National Defense Academy of Japan with the theme: “*Various Perspectives on the Future Security*” attended by 1CI Juan Miguel E Rama and Cadet 1CI Carlo Andrei D Valencia.

A Joint Field Training Exercise of PMA “MADASIGON” Class 2023 was conducted at NETDC, Zambales from 23 to 30 April 2023 which goal was to strengthen and build the capability of cadets in terms of the essential pillars of soldiery- individual competence and tactical leadership. The

JFTX served as the laboratory phase for previous pre-posting courses comprising three major events, namely, the Command Post Exercise and Mission Planning; the Field training Exercise execution and the Humanitarian Assistance/ Disaster Relief and Civil Military Operation.

Cadets were sent to Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, Thailand for the Foreign Academy Exchange Program from 26 to 30 June 2023 where they met with other military academies from different nations.

Academic Year 2023-2024 started with the successful conduct of the Academic Convocation for the Underclass Cadets AY 2022-2023 with LTGEN ROWEN S TOLENTINO PA, Superintendent, PMA as speaker at the Yap Hall last 01 August 2023. The activity recognized the Cadets who performed exceptionally in all courses offered by the Academic and Tactics Group for the 3rd Term AY 2022-2023.

These activities of the Cadet Corps gives them the needed exposure for their future roles and interaction with stakeholders both local and international.

Graduation

The graduation activities of the PMA “MADASIGON” Class of 2023 started on 08 May 2023 as the PMA Kapihan was conducted to present the Top Performing Cadets of the said class. This was followed by fellowship games, sports achievement and awarding ceremony and athletic show. Class crest of the PMA “MADASIGON” Class of 2023 was unveiled followed by a Ring Hop ceremony last 12 May 2023. Baccalaureate service, course excellence awards, silent drill performance and rank insignia distribution was done on 18 May 2023 followed by the Superintendents Reception and Ring Hop last 19 May 2023. Before the graduation day, awarding ceremony for outstanding cadets and CCAFP units was done and the graduation week was capped off with the CCAFP Graduation Parade, Changing of Guards and Commencement Exercises with HE FERDINAND R MARCOS JR, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

Linkages

In attaining excellence, the Academy made linkages with other school, universities and institutions. These includes visits from foreign and local universities, exchange and visits of students. Philippine Coast Guard Students visited last February and two (2) cadets from United States Military Academy (USMA) came to the Academy last March. The Headquarters Academic Group conducted unit briefing and benchmarking to San Beda University Faculty last June and visited the said school for a MOU signing last October. Likewise, an MOU signing between UP Los Banos and Philippine Military Academy was done last June and lectures were given regarding the preservation of pine trees in the reservation. The Training Development Center (TDC), NETDC, PN visited for the benchmarking of education and training last July and shared best practices on curriculum formation. In addition to the mentioned schools, an exploratory and informal visit of University of Santo Tomas Graduate School to the Academy was done for the research and extension activities that will also help the Academy in the pursuit of higher educational learning and research projects.

Visits to different Major Services was done to collect significant insights for the enhanced delivery of the BS in Management major in Security Studies program offered to cadets.

Contingents of the Philippine Air Force-Royal Thai Air Force Junior Officer Exchange Visit Program (PAF-RTAF JOEVP) went to the academy as it showcased the cadet’s life inside PMA. The Academy also hosted the Foreign Academy Exchange Program (FAEP) with Royal Military College-Duntroon (RMC-D) of Australia to deepen the enduring bonds of friendship and camaraderie between Officers and Cadets of PMA and RMC-Australia. Different foreign dignitaries were among those who visited the Academy showing their support and proposed several programs like faculty exchanges among others.

Rest assured that the Academy will continue to perform it’s mandate of producing principled and competent leaders and will focus on the primordial reason for the existence of PMA by making the “Cadets” as the centerpiece of all our efforts.





Baron's Dissemination

JOSHUA ADRIANNE T GONZALES
Cdt F/Cpt 1CI "G" Co, CCAFP
Regimental Commander

Of Legacies and Imprints

As the Regimental Commander of the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines, the weight of responsibility is not merely a burden but a profound honor. It is a privilege to be entrusted with the leadership of the finest men and women the country has to offer, those who will soon bear the mantle of safeguarding our nation's sovereignty. I reflect on the journey we've embarked upon in the Philippine Military Academy and the imperative of leaving indelible legacies that will resonate beyond the halls of this venerable institution.

The PMA is revolving in a tradition of excellence that spans over a century. It has been a crucible where leaders are forged, tested, and refined. My primary objective is to uphold and enhance this tradition, ensuring that the cadets under my command not only meet but exceed the standards set by their predecessors. Excellence in academics, physical, and military discipline, and especially character and leadership, are the cornerstones of our experience. Our legacy must fortify these pillars, leaving an indomitable mark on the institution's history. It is not enough to simply maintain; we must strive to elevate and innovate, adapting to the evolving landscape of leadership challenges.

Leaving a lasting legacy involves instilling in every cadet a sense of purpose that transcends personal ambitions. As leaders, we must guide our subordinates to understand that their role extends beyond the confines of the academy; it encompasses a lifelong commitment to service and sacrifice. Our legacy, therefore, lies not just in the titles we hold but in the positive impact we make on the lives of those we lead. Here in the Academy, we learn that leadership is not a position, but an action. Our legacy must be one of servant leadership, where we lead by example, uphold the highest ethical standards of courage, integrity, and loyalty, and prioritize the welfare of our subordinates. This ethos must permeate every aspect of the cadet experience, shaping leaders who are not only competent but also compassionate.

The foundation of any military leader's competence lies in academic excellence. Our legacy in PMA must include a commitment to scholarly pursuits that goes beyond the pursuit of grades. The academy is not just a training ground for warriors; it is a hallowed institution where minds are sharpened, and intellectual curiosity is nurtured. As the Regimental Commander, I emphasize the importance of a well-rounded education that includes a deep understanding of history, politics, and the complexities of the modern world. Our legacy here must be a Cadet Corps that produces officers capable of critical thinking, strategic analysis, and effective decision-making in the face of multifaceted challenges.

Discipline is the bedrock upon which military prowess is built. Our legacy in the PMA must include a cadet corps renowned for its unwavering commitment to honor, discipline, and professionalism. This is not merely about adherence to rules and regulations but about cultivating a mindset that embraces responsibility, accountability, and a tireless work ethic. Professionalism extends beyond the parade ground; it permeates every interaction, every task, and every decision. Our legacy should be a cadet corps that exudes professionalism in the barracks, in the classroom, and

the field. By instilling this, we ensure that our graduates are not only skilled warriors but also leaders who command respect through their conduct and demeanor.

Here, bonds are forged that transcend the individual and coalesce into a collective spirit of camaraderie. Our legacy must include a Cadet Corps that understands the importance of teamwork and collaboration. This spirit of unity is not just a pragmatic necessity in the military; it is a fundamental aspect of effective leadership. I strived to create an environment where every cadet feels valued and supported. Our legacy is not just the sum of individual achievements but the collective success of cohesive and resilient cadets. This spirit of camaraderie will serve our graduates well in the challenges they will face, fostering a sense of loyalty and mutual support that endures throughout their military careers.

The strength of the AFP lies in its diversity. Our legacy here must celebrate differences and foster an inclusive environment where every cadet, regardless of background, feels a sense of belonging. Embracing diversity is not just a moral imperative; it is a strategic necessity in a world where complex challenges demand a variety of perspectives and approaches. I advocated for inclusivity in all aspects of cadet life. Our legacy must be a cadet corps that reflects the rich tapestry of Philippine society, ensuring that the AFP is representative of the people they serve. By embracing diversity, we strengthen our ability to adapt to an ever-changing world and enhance our capacity for innovation and resilience.

Leaving a legacy in the PMA also requires a keen awareness of the evolving nature of warfare and security challenges. Our graduates must be prepared to navigate a complex and dynamic landscape, where unconventional threats and technological advancements redefine the nature of conflict. As the Regimental Commander, I emphasized the importance of adaptability and a forward-looking mindset. Our legacy must be a cadet corps that is not bound by tradition for tradition's sake but is willing to evolve and embrace innovation. This includes staying abreast of technological advancements, understanding the nuances of hybrid warfare, and cultivating a mindset that thrives in ambiguity. By preparing our cadets for the challenges of the future, we ensure that our legacy endures as a beacon of resilience and effectiveness.

As my stint as the Regimental Commander of CCAFP is nearing an end, the responsibility is not taken lightly. Leaving a legacy in the Philippine Military Academy is a multifaceted endeavor that requires a holistic approach to leadership and development. Our legacy must extend beyond the parade grounds and classrooms; it must be etched into the character, competence, and camaraderie of every cadet. The legacy we leave is not about medals or awards; it is about the lives we influence, the values we instill, and the impact our graduates make in the service of their country. As we march forward, let our legacy in the PMA honor the traditions of the past while boldly embracing the challenges of the future. In doing so, we ensure that the flame of excellence, discipline, and leadership continues to burn brightly in the hearts of those who pass through the hallowed grounds of the Philippine Military Academy.



The Corps

Magazine Update

HEINZ GERHARD A UGGAS

CDT LT 1CL 'F' CO CCAFP

Editor-In-Chief, The Corps Magazine

Legacies Inked through Time

"Let us Give Cheers to those Who Will be Left Behind."

I remembered these utterances when we were on our final days as third-years in the academy. Our Regimental Commander back then, was sure enough that we are now ready to take-over the Cadet Corps. I was flabbergasted on the idea on assuming over-all leadership. But then I was curious on what they feel as they exit the portals of the Academy. I then asked myself, *"what legacy will I leave as I depart the sacred grounds of PMA?"*

In my years of cadetship, I have witnessed dozens of cavaliers rendering their last testimonies as officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. They all have the same motive, returning to their Alma Mater and giving back to those will soon take their place as future custodians of our nation's defense. I find these very inspiring as an array of experiences and lessons were conveyed, a proof that we all share the same mantra as we become nourished by the wonderful learnings that our prestigious institution has to offer. Hearing those voices of our upperclassmen become our motivation that we also want to be like them and our drive to finish what we started grows larger as we near towards our goal. Indeed, the essence of the Long Gray Line transcends beyond graduation. It solidifies comradeship and excellence, and thus preserving a standard of workmanship for generations to come.

Leaving legacies mean creating a lasting impression that your men will always remember. And with that, I believe that in good demeanor, that is where our subordinates see our true purpose. This is quite true because in reality, a well-decorated leader with poor character has considerably lesser impact than those who have rich values and knows "how" and "when" to talk, establishing greater connections to their colleagues. They are well-known for creating enriching environments that allow people to hone their skills. They are able to generate a cloud of positive energy that does not compromise work with personal disputes, and enables the organization to systematically move in a cohesive manner. The AFP, for example, have continually operated for the past decades due to cavaliers' efforts in shaping

the landscape of military leadership. It is evident that up until this day, our forefather's contribution to the growth of the organization became more and more progressive. This continues to prosper as we gear towards shifting our defenses in non-traditional means, with new threats emerging. However, this will never dull our pursuit of maintaining the standard and that is a legacy that brothers who left us with the challenge, and that is to improve what we have and innovating it for the better.

Behind all these accolades and achievements, I think that legacy, on a particular note, cultivates the idea of creating a purpose that is not just merely due to one's desire to suffice his standing. For some, leaving a sentiment is an attached responsibility to be passed on, but this is just more than that. It is with urge to retain an attitude of consistence and desire to perpetuate an ongoing process which deemed to be beneficial or effective. I remembered my squad leader when I was still a plebe. He was never a fan of the atrocious ways of the Corps. He once told me, *"Do not do things you think can taint your reputation. Pass only the good things you want your men to continue."* That is what bloomed my realizations on the essence of passing a torch and continuously igniting that fire. Behind everything we do, we should always look forward to something bigger. Leaving legacies are not just mere a lasting impression, it is a sum of all the personal values, accomplishments, and right doings that resonate with the people around you.

Benjamin Franklin once said, *"If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."* As the Editor-In-Chief of the Corps Publications, I believe that journalism as my platform would be a lasting legacy to my urge to bequest a truthful amplification of news throughout the Cadet Corps. With pen and paper, it is assured that cadets will prosper public trust and be able to continue spreading accurately and timely information that is essential in honing future officers as effective communicators that this institution vitally needs.



FEMALE CAVALIER SEGMENT

Becoming a Cybersecurity Luminary:

From humble beginnings towards the Global

Cybersecurity Woman Leader of the Year 2023

Journey of **CAV/FRANCEL MARGARETH PADILLA-TABORLUPA, Class 2000**

• PA CHAPTER SECRETARIAT

In the dynamic world of technology, CAV Francel Margareth P Taborlupa's ascent from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) to a global cybersecurity luminary is nothing short of extraordinary.

Trademark of Excellence:

A graduate of the PMA "Sanghaya" Class of 2000, CAV Padilla-Taborlupa's journey from rigorous PMA training to the Philippine Army laid the foundation for her distinguished career in Command, Control, Communications, and Cyber

Systems (C4S). Her unwavering commitment and excellence in the Signal Corps set the stage for her trajectory to the forefront of global cybersecurity. Notably, she earned the Col Allan Dexter Award for graduating with honors at the Fort Gordon Signal School in Georgia, USA, where she completed her Signal Captains Career Course. Furthermore, she excelled in her studies, graduating at the top of her class and earning another gold medal for Best Action Plan and Project at the Development Academy of the Philippines' Master in Public Management Major in Development and Security program.

Paving the Way in Cybersecurity:

Cav Padilla-Taborlupa's foray into the intricate realm of cybersecurity marked a significant journey of breaking gender barriers in the technology landscape. Her path, less traveled as a woman in technology, stands as a testament to her unwavering commitment to excellence. She firmly believes that Cybersecurity, extends beyond securing digital landscapes, but encompasses intricate operational dimensions as well.

Her ascent through the ranks underscores her adept navigation of the complex world of cyber operations. Her

foundation in Information Systems Development, during her early roles included serving as a young and dynamic 2LT at the Army Management Information Center during a pivotal period of digitalizing systems for the Army and the AFP as a whole. Leading the Systems Development Branch as the Chief of the Information Systems Management Division, her teams developed various in-house systems, including notable ones like the PA Personnel Management Information System, AFP Dental System, NAF Billing System, Fire Arms Inventory Management System, DLO Clearance System, and the Army Fire Direction System, among others to include the Paperless Office Implementation.

Transitioning into the domain of Physical Security, she served the Presidential Security Group in roles such as Aide-de-Camp to HE Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Security Officer for distinguished heads of state. Her portfolio further expanded to include roles such as Communications Officer for Pope Francis's visit to the





Philippines and the Asia Pacific Economic Forum held in the country. Notably, she graduated Top 1 at her VVIP Course and was further recognized as PSG's Officer of the Year in 2010.

Under the Presidential Communications and Computer Battalion, her leadership played a pivotal role in the revolutionary transformation of recruiting special enlistees as programmers. She underwent the Certified Ethical Hacker Training, enhancing the capabilities in managing the newly established server farm. Initiatives included the migration of Malacanang's PABx analog telephone system to an IP-based system, the establishment of in-house IT equipment repair, and the completion of the C4S capability. For these achievements, she earned the CEISSAFP's Officer of the Year Award in 2011.

She likewise played a pivotal role as Information Systems Officer in the National Task Force Against COVID-19 and serving as Head Executive Assistant to the Chief Implementer of the National Action Plan against COVID-19 Sec Carlito G Galvez Jr. Her contributions played a crucial role in the overall pandemic response of the nation all while being a working student taking up CGSC where she graduated as an Outstanding Student awardee, with honors as Top 2 graduate from her class.

International Recognition:

Recognized as one of the Top 10 Women in Security in the Philippines in 2020 and later as one of the Top 30 Women in Security in ASEAN 2021, Cav Padilla-Taborlupa's "Cyber for Peace Initiative" advocacy during her stint as 7th Signal Battalion Commander exemplifies technology for sustainable development, earning her the Global Cybersecurity Woman Leader of the Year Award in 2023. She was also the first ever Filipino to be featured in the International Top Cyber News e-magazine during the cybersecurity month October 2023 issue. International entities revere her as an "Epic Woman in Cyber" and a "Wonder Woman in Tech." Her accomplishments extend beyond accolades, as she has been prominently featured in "Stand Out in 90 Seconds" and invited to serve as a moderator, panelist, and subject matter expert (SME) at numerous international and local forums.

Passion for Education and Community Engagement:

Cav Padilla-Taborlupa's dedication to digital literacy and online safety is apparent in her community initiatives and



collaborations with infantry battalions for service caravans, the Palayan City-IS LGU partnership, and educational institutions. Her efforts include creating on-the-job training opportunities for students, and getting her troops certified with different IS courses adding to the strengthening of the talent pool in the region and the AFP. Additionally, she contributes to the body of knowledge by providing data about technology in areas unexplored by researchers.

Balancing Roles and Personal Life.

Cav Francel's extraordinary journey includes her leadership role in the military, all while navigating the challenges of solo parenthood following the loss of her Mistah and spouse a few years ago. Striking a delicate balance between her demanding career and motherhood, she faces the hurdles with unwavering grace and determination breaking glass ceilings.

The depth of her commitment to family is evident in her sons-with her eldest Franz Justin serving as a data scientist and her youngest Cdt 3CI Fritz Jerald currently in the Philippine Military Academy, aspiring to follow in the footsteps of both his parents.

Cav Padilla-Taborlupa's story serves as a beacon of resilience, determination, and excellence. As we draw inspiration from her journey, let us strive to make a positive impact in our lives and the lives of others, breaking down barriers and pursuing excellence in the ever-evolving field of technology. The horizon is bright, and with passion and commitment, truly, there are no limits to what we can achieve!



YOUNG CAVALIER HEROES

CAV ARNEL M MORENO '15 PAF

**Unwavering Resilience
in the Face of Adversity:**

A Story of Sacrifice and Triumph

• CAV CHARLENE MAE R VERGARA '19

The tranquil surface of the water may seem undisturbed, but the impact of a large object plunging into its depths resonates in the form of expanding ripples. This analogy perfectly mirrors the life of a young man who found himself inspired by the heroes in military service, embarking on a journey that would weave its way through struggle and opportunity, much like the undulating waves in a body of water.

The fervent desire of the benevolent young man to become an Air Force pilot officer took root as he was spellbound by the thunderous roar of aircraft engines and the stoic bravery displayed by modern military heroes. In the late 1990s, amidst the tumultuous backdrop of an all-out war at Camp Abubakar, Mindanao, the stage was set for a transformative experience. The notable aircraft, including broncos (OV 10), hueys, C130s, and the gallant soldiers patrolling the region, ignited a deviant perception among the natives. Instead of succumbing to fear, a profound curiosity and gratitude emerged as the community recognized the potential for these soldiers to alleviate the cruelty inflicted by rebels.

The monumental moment arrived with the fall of Camp Abubakar in the year 2000, marking a turning point in the region's history. As the war machines gradually disappeared, men in uniform bid farewell from the backs of oversized trucks, students trickled back to school, and settlers resumed their daily routines. Here, the triumph of heroism was manifested, forging a lasting imprint on the hearts and minds of the people residing in that native land, including our protagonist, who was deeply touched by the actions that saved his homeland.

His father had served as a soldier prior to his marriage but tragically fell victim to the rebels (NPA), compelling his mother to work tirelessly as a meat vendor in the local market. Blaming the rebels for the hardships they endured, his family leaned on the support of relatives as they navigated through the challenges. Despite the adversity, both he and his sister persevered to achieve college degrees, with his sister passing the licensure exam for Criminology and himself becoming a licensed teacher.

Initially driven by a desire for vengeance for his father's death, his perspective transformed upon entering the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) on April 1, 2011. The rigorous four-year training period brought profound meaning and insight into the true essence of service. Upon graduating, he joined the Philippine Air Force (PAF) and underwent Military Pilot Training



(MPT) at Fernando Air Base (FAB) in Lipa City, Batangas. After 18 months of intensive training and acquiring fundamental flying skills, he emerged as a confident and capable pilot, entrusted with the safe operation of aircraft. He chose to be stationed at the Air Education Training and Doctrine Command (AETDC) due to his passion for mentorship and desire to leverage his teaching degree. Recognizing AETDC as an ideal platform to both impart knowledge and accumulate flying hours, it aligned seamlessly with his ambitions. Following the selection process, he was appointed as an instructor pilot at the esteemed Philippine Air Force Flying School (PAFFS), assuming the role of Supply Officer for the 101st Pilot Training Squadron and the Responsible Supply Officer (RSO) of PAFFS. This experience provided valuable insight into resource management and logistics, equipping him with a profound understanding of these critical aspects. Subsequently, he was assigned as the Director for Material of the school for a period of two years, where his logistics expertise was further refined, honing his attention to detail and oversight. During his tenure at FAB, he also served as a first-level checker for T-41D and SF260 aircraft, showcasing his leadership and technical proficiency. His unwavering dedication and determination throughout his journey are truly awe-inspiring, reflecting the indomitable spirit of a resilient and accomplished individual.

CPT MORENO's impeccable integrity led to his appointment as an admin officer and aide-de-camp to the Chief of Air Staff. One significant achievement of his team was the successful



implementation of the Electronic Document Filing System, not only within the HPAF but also throughout the entirety of the PAF, under the leadership of MGEN GLICERIO PERALTA JR PAF Ret. Subsequently, CPT MORENO was reassigned to the 250th Presidential Airlift Wing and later joined the Office of the Director for Personnel, assuming the role of Chief of Morale and Welfare. In this position, he made notable contributions, such as developing an Online Mock Examination for PROMEX and SKT of Enlisted Personnel. He also oversaw personnel awards, particularly the Lapu Lapu Award with a rank of Kamagi. Additionally, CPT MORENO played a pivotal role in updating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the office, including the Educational Aid Program, Personnel of the Year, Flight Attendant Management, and organizing various Wing activities like Bluebird's Night, Christmas Party, Wing Commander's Time, Wing Anniversary, and other routine events under his supervision. CPT MORENO has also been tapped to several technical working groups as a contributor to every success of the group that he had joined. While fulfilling his personnel duties, CPT MORENO also served as the operations officer of the 256th Security Squadron. Notably, he implemented the QR Coded Entry and Exit system for the Wing, which captured the personal data of visitors and non-organic personnel to ensure safety and security. After a year, CPT MORENO assumed the role of Admin Officer for the 251st PAS, where he introduced the QR Coded Mission Risk Profile enhancing safety for all fixed-wing





flight operations. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he diligently coordinated and prepared essential requirements for ferry-in and ferry-out flights of fixed-wing air assets and other operational requirements of the Squadron. The Captain's hard work was evident in the successful execution of international/local flights not only for code 1 engagements but to other essential mission conducted.

Throughout his flying career, CPT MORENO has achieved remarkable milestones. He obtained his senior pilot rating badge as early as first lieutenant and has recently been designated as a newly checked-out Pilot-in-Command of the C295 aircraft flying the highest rank of the land, the president of the Republic of Philippines. CPT MORENO's commitment to continuous improvement is evident in his ongoing efforts QR Code for Mission Risk Profile During Fixed Wing Operations to enhance the flight operations of the Wing. Notably, he has actively participated in missions that have played a significant role in the success of various operations. These include executing ferry flights, providing humanitarian assistance and disaster response, engaging in code 1 missions, transporting vital medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE), delivering ammunition and supplies to ground personnel, and facilitating troop deployment through efficient airlift operations. CPT MORENO's contributions have undoubtedly made a difference in the achievement of these mission objectives that made him an awardee of the Company Grade Officer of the Year (Air Operations Category) CY-2023.

Despite the high demands of the service, CPT Moreno manages to find time to spend with his family. He is blessed with a supportive family who form a crucial part of what he refers to as his "team". He is happily married to his wife Apple Grace and they have been blessed with two wonderful children, Ymillia and Wyl Fred.

Moreover, CPT MORENO is dedicated to personal growth and continual education. He holds a master's degree in public administration, recognizing the significance of obtaining expertise in this field for his role in the service. Additionally, he has completed a financial management course, understanding the importance of mastering financial skills to effectively manage limited resources. CPT MORENO's commitment in enhancing his knowledge and skills positions him as a valuable asset in tackling the various challenges encountered in his line of work. His ability to effectively manage resources and lead with resourcefulness sets him apart as a leader equipped to handle the complexities of his role with proficiency and success. CPT MORENO also took it upon himself to initiate a community outreach program in his municipality. In 2021, CPT MORENO organized a community pantry where he provided food supplies, including grocery items and rice, to support the settlers in their community greatly affected with COVID-19. In 2022, CPT MORENO took the lead in

organizing a coastal clean-up drive and mangrove planting in Brgy Baon, demonstrating his concern for the environment. This year, CPT MORENO conducted a medical mission and feeding program in Brgy Bitagan to remote settlers far from the access of medical assistance. To him, these actions are simply a way to give back in the community where he came from.

For almost two decades of being captivated by airplanes, CPT MORENO's curiosity about these airborne machines still persists. He yearns to fly with them for as long as he lives. For him, life is a series of distinct situations that necessitate individual responsibility. It is crucial to glean knowledge from past experiences, strive for improvement in the present, and work towards a better tomorrow in light of the choices life presents. Life operates as an interconnected web, where each component exerts a ripple effect, resulting in both positive and negative consequences.

As the narrative unfolds, it becomes evident that the young man's path was irrevocably shaped by the conflicting forces of strife and hope. Grappling with the desire for retribution for his father's demise, he found a most unexpected calling within the military, one that reshaped his aspirations towards the greater good of contributing to the peace and security of land. The achievements mentioned above are a living testament to the tenacity and resolve that courses through his veins, a legacy of resilience that transcends the hardships endured and embraces the promise of a brighter future.

In this tale of unwavering resilience, the protagonist's trajectory represents a profound testament to the human spirit's capacity to forge hope amidst adversity. Like the undeterred water that retains its shape, regardless of the objects dropped into it, the story of CPT ARNEL M MORENO PAF highlights the enduring strength that enables individuals to weather life's storms and emerge emboldened on the other side.



VISITOR'S ACCOUNTS

The VETERANS

• MGEN JOSE MAGNO AFP (RET)

To ALL my NON-military FRIENDS out there, this may or may not help you understand those of us that served in the MILITARY.

We Are VETERANS.

We left home as teenagers or in our early twenties for an unknown adventure.

We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives.

We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew.

We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the country.

We found new friends and new family.

We became brothers and sisters regardless of color, race or creed.

We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times.

We didn't get enough sleep.

We smoked and drank too much.

We picked up both good and bad habits.

We worked hard and played harder.

We didn't earn a great wage.

We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events.

We didn't know when, or even if, we were ever going to see home again.

We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all.

We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others.

Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't. Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't. Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare.

We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.

We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie.

We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all.

We have dealt with victory and tragedy.

We have celebrated and mourned.

We lost a few along the way.



When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.

We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures.

We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people don't experience, and few will understand.

We speak highly of our own branch of service, and poke fun at the other branches.

We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.

Being a VETERAN is something that had to be earned, and it can never be taken away.

It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.

People see VETERANS and thank them for their service.

When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.

So, from myself to the rest of the VETERANS out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country.

Try to remember the good times and forget the bad times.

Share your stories. But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a VETERAN.



The Diamond Jubilarians



Class 1964:



Completing the JUBILEE TROIKA in 2024

For members of Class 64, all roads will, as they did in 1984 and 2014, lead to Baguio City, in particular, Borromeo Field at Fort del Pilar for the PMA Alumni Homecoming parade; this time, to receive and add one more to their prized collection of a silver and golden medallion they got in 1989 and 2014, respectively.

This milestone event was anticipated as early as ten years. Golden Sword of Class 64 puts it: "Call it bravado, wishful thinking, self-fulfilling prophecy or what, but we'd rather you seriously consider not betting against this: most if not all 26 of them will be at Borromeo Field in 2024."

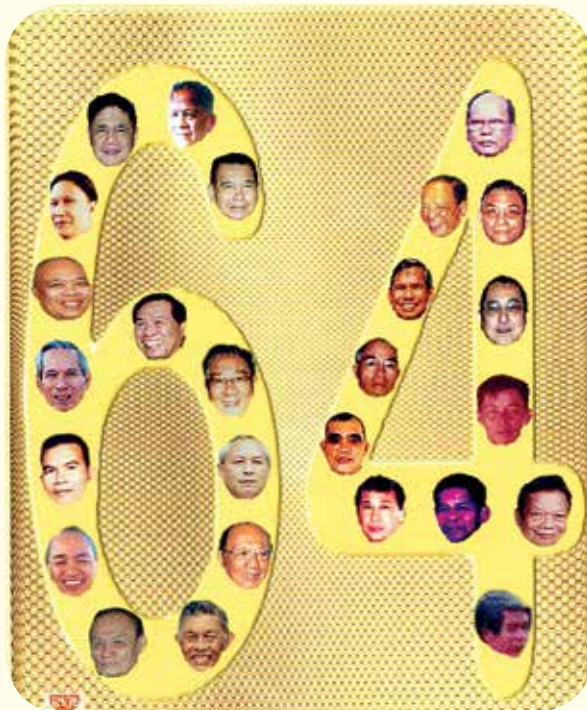
Our best hope – all 26 attending – did not quite materialize, but neither did our worst fears. Thirteen of the original 35 graduates (see Class 64 Class Call in this issue for the complete list), have made it as

proud recipients of the prized Diamond Jubilee Medallion award from the PMA Alumni Association. The 13:

1. *Jorge "George" Agcaoili*
2. *Winston "Arfs" Arpon*
3. *Santiago "Santy" Bunoan Jr.*
4. *Santiago "Tagoy" Diño*
5. *Renato "Rene" Garcia*
6. *Clemente "Clem" Mariano*
7. *Leonardo "Ding" Odoño*
8. *Rolando "Rolly" Pabellano*
9. *Ernesto "Paddy" Padilla*
10. *Salvador "Buddy" Peran*
11. *Reynaldo "Rey" Reyes*
12. *James's "Jimmy" Valeros*
13. *Ismael "Billy" Villareal*

A journey of 60 years for these 13 and the departed 22 that Class President **Clem Mariano**, as befitting one who has occupied the top AFP position of Chief of Staff and as former Ambassador, has chosen, through his still good memory, to write about this journey against the backdrop of significant national events and issues over those 60 years (Space limitations regrettably constrained us not to publish his article in its entirety).

WE WERE INTRODUCED in 1964 to an Armed Forces almost completely reliant in equipment and sustenance on its former colonial master and mutual defense partner USA. US-supplied equipment was subjected to American JUSMAG/CINCPAC visits



and inspections under the concept that this equipment were not exactly ours but theirs until officially declared unusable properties. Not conducive to the development of a self-reliant defense posture of a country striving to pursue an independent foreign policy. We relied on American supplies from small caliber bullets to air-to-ground rockets, from tiny vehicular parts to armaments' basic components. Operational commitments were limited to the Army assisting the Philippine Constabulary in fighting the HMB remnants of the communist insurgency in Central Luzon, running after bandits in Mindanao and Sulu, and the Navy apprehending pirates and smugglers at sea. Class '64 infantry men served initial assignments in Central Luzon and Mindanao with frontline units while the aspiring "sea dogs" battled loneliness and seasickness aboard unstable small patrol ships.



IN AN UNFORTUNATE VEHICULAR ACCIDENT in Pampanga, we lost **Mike Santos** at the young age of 22. The Philippine Air Force, with a few fighter squadrons, engaged in periodic training exercises while its fleet of transports traversed the archipelago in personnel and logistics flights. **Ben Danao** perished in a plane crash at Agusan del Sur piloting in bad weather an old C-47 transport. Of course, the Constabulary, still part of the AFP, had its peace and order function, and its personnel could transfer to the Army and vice versa. **Dick Alqueza**, **Eric Pilapil**, and **Eric Miraflores** opted to join the Constabulary after the separation of its roster from the Army.

THE ARMY'S OTHER MISSION, the development of the Reserve Force, was a work in progress. The Vietnam War was on-going and our Class, starting in 1966, participated with six volunteers for PHILCAGV from the Army - **Clem**, **Billy**, **Abe**, **Rene**, **Dodong** and **Banjo** - all infantrymen, except the last two from the Corps of Engineers.

IN THE 70's, the Jabidah incident in Corregidor happened and the government agonized over the ensuing scandal and the adverse reactions among minority groups in Southern Philippines as well as equally adverse international reaction, especially from our close neighbor in the south. Other adverse developments followed affecting the nation's stability and unity. A reinvigorated communist insurgency led by UP professor Jose Maria Sison gained ground from the defunct HMB remnants at the end of the 60's. The New People's Army expanded from Central Luzon to other parts of the country. Communist Front organizations led massive anti-government rallies and demonstrations in Metro Manila. The Moro National Liberation Front surfaced in Sulu and Central Mindanao led by another former UP faculty member Nur Misuari. Martial Law was declared in 1972; and the AFP came to the forefront of all that was happening in the country. It seemed just a fortnight that from peace and quiet, the situation turned chaotic in all fronts. The threat of the MNLF necessitated a rapid build-up of the AFP.

AFTER INITIAL SETBACKS, the AFP managed to hold the line against internal threat groups as most of our senior commanders and staff developed resourcefulness, imagination and aggressive leadership. Class members serving in the staff at major service level contributed to the formulation of plans and conduct of activities to facilitate the proper response. In the ensuing armed conflict, we lost **Dodong Ariosa** in Jolo in a misjudgment call of his brave and aggressive Division commander. **Arfs Arpon** served in various capacities in civil governance in Sulu archipelago, aside from his primary duties at SOUTHCOM - Flag Secretary and Chief, Special Studies Plans and Research Group (SSPRG). A book, *Laughter in the South/Footnotes to the Southern Philippines Conflict* that he wrote after his 5-year stint earned for him a Cavalier Award (Creative Arts), one of three awardees in our class; the other two, **Clem** (Command and Administration) and

Dick (Special Operations). **Abe Paray** was wounded while serving as 4th Light Armor Battalion commander in Zamboanga. **Nonong Saldares** joined ISAFP from BCT assignment. **George Agcaoili** was in Edwin Andrews Air Base in SOWESCOM with the air component at the height of the conflict. **Guzi de Guzman** was a fighting Marine Battalion Executive Officer in Basilan and Jolo earning two Gold Cross awards for gallantry in action. **Buddy Peran** commanded a Presidential Ship. **Sammy Cortes** served in various naval patrol vessels. **Rey Reyes** commanded the Nomad Squadron of PAF's 202 Heavy Airlift Wing providing lift capability for the command-and-control functions of ground units. **Dick Alqueza** was in PC Special Forces and **Eric Pilapil** was operations officer of the PC Brigade. **Sammy Farre** was with 5th Fighter Wing providing close air support to operating units. We grieved when **Gerry Ruiz** lost his life piloting a Presidential plane in a bad weather accident.

MID-COURSE IN OUR CAREER, some opted for early retirement. Class topnotcher **Valong Arevalo** joined PNB as pilot, became Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, then Director of the National Irrigation Authority (NIA); **Buddy Hocson** to Dutch Boy as its President, then as General Manager of a Coconut Oil Refining Company. **Jimmy Valeros** initially with the Corps of Professors at PMA, completed his Law studies, passed the Bar, retired, established business in Baguio, and practiced Law. **Ding Odoño** optionally retired and established his own business in maritime services after his detail at LUSTEVECO. **Santi Bunoan** settled down in Masbate running his farm. **Tagoy Dino**, the communications-electronics expert, and **Guzi de Guzman**, at the height of his combat achievements, migrated to the USA. **Tagoy** worked successfully in a US Communication- Electronic firm. **Guzi** achieved success in establishing his own business firm. **Jun Cruz** resigned very early from the service to go on real estate endeavors. **Nonong Saldares** joined his MD wife in California and helped manage their own clinic. **Rolly Pabellano** did likewise and migrated to pursue an American dream. Others were detailed with government civilian offices like **Jun Padilla**, initially with Philippine Coconut Authority, then with a Saudi Arabia firm. **Orly Cabanlig** and **Louie Bareng** were among the pioneers of the National Computer Center after their post-graduate courses in IT, then simply called Computer Science. In the interim, some class members pursued Masteral degrees here and abroad. **Arfs** earned his MS in Computer System Management degree and **Clem** his MS in Operations Research from the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. **Arfs** served as EXO and Chief, Computer Systems Services of the newly organized PN Computer Center. **Clem** established and commanded the Army Management Information Center promoting IT and Operations Research. **Manny Ison** earned his MA in history at UP while assigned at PMA. **Dodong Ariosa** and **Abe Paray** earned GSC ratings from Germany. **George Agcaoili** and **Rey Reyes** attended the US Air University; **Buddy Peran**, the Spanish Command and Staff College; **Dick Alqueza**, Command and Staff Course in Australia. **Clem**, **Billy**, and **Abe** took MBA courses in local universities. Two classmates went on extended French leave ending their military career.

WHILE THE MNLF/ MILF PROBLEM WAS CONTAINED toward the end of the 80's, the Philippine economy was in a downward spiral. The Marcos administration was facing growing opposition to its lengthy stay in power. The CPP- NPA insurgency, fueled by economic stagnation, was growing as peace and order declined in the countryside. Mass demonstrations flourished in urban areas. Political opposition came from all directions especially the church, labor unions and campuses. Military activism surfaced as the Reform The Armed Forces Movement or RAM came to national prominence highlighted by the WE BELONG display during an Alumni Day parade in Fort Del Pilar. PMA graduates were obviously at the vanguard of this movement.

THE 1986 EDSA REVOLUTION occurred and ended the MARCOS rule. **Billy**, **Rey**, **Abe** and **Ding** joined the rally at Camp Crame in support

of the peaceful revolution regarded as a new dawn in the Philippines. **Billy** became Deputy J3, **Terry Bas** and **Sammy Cortez** served on the Central Staff at HPN; **Sammy Farre**, A6 at HPAF; **Abe Paray**, G6 at HPA; **Rey Reyes**, Treasurer of RSBS. **George Agcaoili** assumed duties as Deputy J1 and later The Adjutant General. **Arfs Arpon**, serving as attaché detailed as Special Assistant the Ambassador at the RP Embassy in Washington DC, optionally retired and chose to remain in the USA as immigrant.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION unwisely released CPP-NPA founder Jose Maria Sison from government custody and the counter-insurgency situation reverted back to square one. **Clem**, SOLCOM Staff and **Rene** Battalion Comdr, found themselves in Southern Luzon where the CPP-NPA gained renewed prominence and notoriety as Sison went underground again. In the coup season, 1986-1989, **Rene** culminated his Battalion Command and became Operations Officer of NCR Defense Command, the counter-coup force. **Clem** was J3 deputy and concurrently Chief, AFP Joint Operation Center. **Billy** became Defense Attache in Germany while **Abe** attended the US Army War College. Things were moving fast in the Army. Changes were accelerating in O-7 positions and Class '64 approaching the tail end of the zone of consideration in the selection process. The GHQ building was burned down by rebel soldiers in mid-1987 in attempted coup so was **Clem's** AFPIOC.

SOONER THAN EXPECTED, the class broke the barrier in O-7 positions in early 1989. **Clem** was appointed Brigade Commander in the Quezon-Bicol Zone (QBC), then the hotbed of CPP-NPA insurgency. **Abe**, upon arrival from abroad, took the helm of the Army Light Armor Brigade in the same year. In December, the bloodiest coup attempt by the RAM-SFP was launched and it almost succeeded. **Clem's** 203rd Infantry Brigade figured prominently in the defense of Camp Aguinaldo as it reinforced GHQ, AFP from its deployment in QBZ. **Rene Garcia** became Brigade Commander in Zamboanga provinces, adding to the Class share of star-rank positions. Finally, the three were appointed Brigadier Generals in December 1990. **Billy** returned from Germany Defense Attache duties and was appointed Brigade Commander in Cotabato getting eventually his star rank. The Air Force followed with the designation of **Rey Reyes** as Commander of its Special Operations Wing at Clark Air Base while **Sammy Farre** assumed command of its Composite Tactical Operations Wing in Palawan. Unfortunately, he succumbed to heart failure before getting his star. **Rey** soon received his well-deserved BG appointment and later advanced to the 15th Strike Wing. In the PNP, **Dick** and **Eric** were initially in Intelligence work with **Eric** later appointed Director of its Logistics Unit.

WITH THE IMPROVING PEACE AND ORDER SITUATION country-wide in the 90's, the national economy showed signs of revival after the troubled decade of the 80's. Ideas on AFP modernization gained roots though very much in the far horizon as affordability and sourcing doused cold water on the enthusiasm of proponents. In the early 90's, **Clem** was reassigned initially as J8 and finally J3 in GHQ. **Abe** became CG, HSC of Camp Aguinaldo. **Rene** served as CS of HPA, later CG of Army Support Command. **Pabing Sencil** finally left his Mindanao assignment and was Deputy in the Joint Staff. His failing health, probably due to prolonged field exposure, led to an early demise. **Buddy Peran** and **Sammy Cortez** had stint in the Coast Guard after Central Staff duties. **Sammy** later opted to join J8 as Deputy. **Abe Paray** assumed command of 3rd Infantry Division until he retired in 1994. **Clem** served as CG, 4th Infantry Division, in the next two years operating against the CPP-NPA and MILF in northern Mindanao and Lanao provinces. **Rene Garcia** commanded the 6th Infantry Division in Cotabato against the bulk of the secessionist MILF. **Rey Reyes**, the only remaining PAF 64er in the active service, was CG, 3rd Air Division tasked to provide valuable Air Support for the whole of Mindanao. **Billy** headed the AFPCGSC to provide higher learning for senior officers of all the services. Retirement age caught up with the few remaining class members in the Navy except for **Terry Bas** who finally retired as AFP Inspector General, presently a three-star or Vice Admiral position.

Two adopted class members, **Ben Labre** and **Terry Dela Cruz**, reached Commodore rank, heads of GHQ HSC and Naval Training Command, respectively. In 1995, **Clem** was designated as Area Commander of Southern Luzon Command (SOLCOM) when the very devastating typhoon Rosing hit the country especially southern Luzon bringing unprecedented death and destruction surpassed only by Typhoon Yoling in 2013. SOLCOM was at the forefront of the rescue efforts leading LGUs in the initial efforts of assistance and rehabilitation. In January 1996, **Clem** was appointed as the 37th Commanding General, Philippine Army.

AS IT TURNED OUT, the mid-90s were glorious years, military career-wise for Class 64. **Billy** became Commander of Northern Command (NOLCOM); **Rene** assumed the leadership of the Visayas Command (VISCOM); and **Rey** was designated as Western Command Area Commander facing the growing border and exclusive economic zone dispute in what is now the West Philippine Sea. In the new Philippine National Police which absorbed the Constabulary from the AFP in 1990, **Eric Pilapil** headed the Civil Security Force till retirement while **Dick Alqueza**, the warrior of the Class, commanded the Special Action Force or SAF then Regional Office 9 in Davao where he served until retirement. **Billy** next became TDCS in GHQ and **Clem** was given additional job as VCSAFP aside from command of the Army. By late 1997, only three class members remained in active service and in command positions, **Rey** at WESCOM. In December, the appointment of **Clem** as the 27th CSAFP was announced. **Billy** became VCSAFP. The Class therefore gained the informal title of "**Ruling Class**" of the AFP, signifying occupation of top AFP echelons; certainly, a badge of distinction, especially for a class that has the second lowest number of graduates among post-war PMA classes - 35 cadets on graduation day - and a very diminished number remaining in the service.

FOLLOWING RETIREMENT FROM ACTIVE SERVICE, with **Billy** as the last to hang his uniform, many continued to apply their knowledge and experience in other endeavor, notably **Billy** and **Rey** in the business sector; **Clem** in the diplomatic service; **Eric**, **Terry** and **Dick** in consultancy. After a stint with the NIA, **Rene** joined his namesake, General **Rene de Villa**, Class '57, at Hero Foundation promoting scholarship grants to dependents of AFP personnel killed in combat. Those who joined the civilian sector much earlier provided valuable advice and assistance to "good to the last kilometer" retirees in their new endeavors. **Arfs**, in tandem with scores of PMA alumni migrants to the US and Canada, founded and served as Chairman and President of a non-profit, DJLF Charity Foundation (DCFI) promoting its advocacy of education and development of youth in developing countries, the Philippines in particular, through the Loakan Educational Assistance Project (LEAP); **Guzi de Guzman** carrying the proverbial torch to succeed **Arfs** leading DJLF Charity Foundation Philippines. Adding to his involvement in charity work, **Arfs** currently serves as Trustee of TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc., the HOP in the name saying it all – Helping Out Projects.

IN RETROSPECT, we can be proud of our humble contribution to the security and progress of the country as we, the 13 surviving members, celebrate our Diamond Jubilee. We can also be proud of our part in enriching its history with the dedicated service we rendered since taking our oath as brand-new Second Lieutenants and Ensigns at the old Mayo Field of Fort del Pilar on that auspicious day in summer 60 years ago.

Blue Sapphire, the first in the next jubilee troika, will be on the 21st of March 2029, for Class 64. If you are reading this as expected on February 8, 2024, that jubilee would be "only" 1,868 days away. Unless Noble Cataline, the goddess of "How Many Days" loses count. Thereafter, can our next jubilees, Platinum and Oak, in 2034 and 2039, respectively, be far behind?



The Golden Jubilarians



PMA MARANGAL CLASS OF 1974: This is Our Story

*"If you don't know history, then you don't know anything.
You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree."*

- Michael Crichton

Having this in mind, this Chapter is written to become a permanent reminder of undying efforts of PMA Class of 1974 in search of excellence and in the pursuit of progressive careers. In addition, this narrative serves as a handy guide in the understanding of highlights during its journey.

The Chapter is comprised of the following main topics: life in the academy, combat deployment and positions, awards and recognitions, and glorious years after retirement.

Reading through the pages of this narrative lets one come to the realization that the past is beautiful because it relives memories of struggles and successes and memorable experiences through the epochs of time....And that we, as a Class, have lived and tried the best we could to achieve our dreams and fulfill our commitment of excellent service to country and people always with Class spirit in mind- is the very legacy we hope to be remembered for.

PMA MARANGAL CLASS 1974: THIS IS OUR STORY



"Looking back through life you will find the pleasure of achieving your dreams is always greater than the pain you met while achieving them." - Moffat Machingura

Looking back through our early years as cadets up to our glory days as Senior officers, one



thing can be said about our class— we are men who dreamed of being excellent servicemen, faithful and loyal patriots, honorable officers, and most of all, loving and committed family men. This dream has been fulfilled in a multitude of

ways and through various paths taken, none of which have been easy, but have allowed the integrity of our characters and the strength of our training to shine through.

We are the PMA Marangal Class of 1974 – a unique breed of PMAYers who, despite the hurdles and challenges thrown at us at every stage of our careers and at every turn of Philippine history, became one of the rare few PMA Classes to ever command all major services almost at the same time.

Our Class Name and Crest

By tradition, all PMA classes get to choose their class crest and class name. Our crest was designed by Cadet Avelino Razon Jr, which symbolizes the class resolve to protect and defend our country and people and our commitment to uphold the values and traditions of the noble profession of arms.

We opted to be called “Marangal” Class of 1974. It is rooted in Tagalog word “Dangal”, meaning honor and integrity - a lofty principle which members of our class have always aspired and striven for from the time we were welcomed into the Philippine Military Academy as young men. For us, the word “Marangal” is the perfect embodiment of the PMA motto of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. Until now, every member of the Class knows that he has to live up to the true meaning of being a Marangal - a humble and dignified servant and leader of the Filipino people.



Our First Day: April 1, 1970

The early 70s was marked by a wave of counterculture where student activism, experimentation and creativity were the norm. Entering military service with all its strict rules and rigid regulations was an act of rebellion in itself. And yet, it was this strange mix of culture and experiences which formed our viewpoint during our early years and helped set the stage for our participation in history in the coming years.

April 1, 1970 was a day we would always cherish. It was at the break of dawn on a Wednesday when about one hundred and a half of us, youthful and hopeful, gathered in front of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Grandstand in Camp Aguinaldo. We were *en route* to the home of the country’s premier military institution: the Philippine Military Academy in Fort del Pilar, Loakan, Baguio City.



Amidst the din of our ecstatic but disquieted families and loved ones, we assembled according to our bus assignments then were welcomed as the incoming plebes of PMA Class 1974 by a distinguished-looking Cadet First Captain Gregorio Honasan, the Baron of PMA Class 71.

It was an April Fool’s Day that would forever change our lives, not because it was a portentous day of pranks and jokes, but because it was the beginning of our purposeful transition from a civilian to a professional soldier and the sworn defender of our country and our people. The next four years would leave an indelible mark in our individual and collective selves. That day, we began our journey and our manifest destiny.

As we felt excited and proud to be PMA Cadets, our families were even happier and more honored to have a son or a brother who belonged to the Long Gray Line. Yet this humble recognition of honor of being a PMA Cadet came with an enormous responsibility that no one could ever decipher except those who, like us, went through the four long and grueling years of cadet life. That responsibility became even greater after four years as PMA graduates. It was, and still is, a continuous challenge for everyone to measure up to the ideals of being a PMAYer.

Due to the death of a plebe in summer camp the previous year (1969), our Class was received by the PMA officers and men with the assistance of highly selected Philippine Marine DI’s (drill instructors). Staying with us until almost towards the end of summer camp, the Marine DI’s provided the backbone of the Class 74 Plebes’ transition program prior to the detail of upper class cadets.

It was a first in the history of PMA, and it became a challenge to our Class to prove ourselves equal to the glorious history of the long gray line. It was not the first time that an innovation had been implemented by



74 Plebes’ transition program prior to the detail of upper class cadets.





PMA authorities to improve the “Fourth Class System,” all with the overall objective of eliminating the dreaded “hazing” among cadets. So, the only thing left for us to do was to measure up. Moreover, we have since realized that only the individual accomplishments and collective performance of the Class can lead us to our rightful place in history. For each and every Marangal, this has become a solemn commitment to be fulfilled and honored.

When we entered the Academy, we were a bunch of 17 to 19-year-old youths who came from all walks of life with diverse backgrounds, stories, and motivations – yet all in search for a better life through service to the country. As we matured in age and wisdom, this core value has remained with us and has become a beacon of hope and inspiration on our journey.

Graduation: January 11, 1974

The Class graduated 114 strong on January 11, 1974. While the graduation rites were originally scheduled on January 5, it was moved to January 11 to ensure that President Ferdinand Marcos would preside over the graduation rites himself. The graduation was two months ahead of the traditional PMA graduation ceremonies dubbed as “March Week.” The Class was accelerated due to the “exigencies of the service” or simply, the AFP lacked junior officers in the field - a fact that was relayed to the Class in an emergency meeting at 9 p.m. sometime June of 1973 between us and no less than then the Minister of National Defense Juan Ponce Enrile.

With the urgent need to graduate early, we were made to attend academic classes even during weekends and sometimes late into the night during weekdays. Marksmanship training was intensified, and orientation programs in Jungle Warfare and Mountain Operations



Course (JWMOC) and Ranger training including karate classes became part of the regimen. Normally, first class cadets being considered as incoming military officers, enjoy their last year in the Academy. This was not the case for Class 1974. Our Class had to do double time for the eventual combat assignment upon graduation.

In the summer of 1973, four classmates (Alfredo Abueg, Jr, Eduardo Alava, Benigno Cabrieto, Jr, Danilo Abinoja) slated to join the Philippine Navy, were sent on OJT (On the Job Training) with the US Navy 7th Fleet while the rest of the Class went to 2nd Infantry Division in Tanay, Rizal to undergo JWMOC and Basic Ranger Course.

All the academic requirements leading to a bachelor’s degree were already completed as early as November of 1973, but higher PMA authorities decided, thankfully so, to graduate the Class in January of 1974 to retain its identity as the PMA Class of 1974.

At that time, the AFP was heavily engaged in fighting the secessionists in Mindanao spearheaded by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). Thus, practically all the 114 strong graduates were sent to various combat units of the AFP in the field: 44 from the Philippine Army (PA), 26 from the Philippine Constabulary (PC), 22 from the Philippine Air Force (PAF) and 22 from the Philippine Navy (PN). Those in the PA were deployed to various PA units operating in Mindanao. The same was true for the young PC 2LTs who were dispatched to different PC battalions in Southern Philippines. The PAF guys were told to report to various air force bases and stations in Mindanao area, while the PN new Ensigns were all assigned to Philippine Marines and further distributed to MBLTs (Marine Battalion Landing Teams): MBLT1 and MBLT2 in Jolo and MBLT3 in Tawi-Tawi.



When the Class graduated, the history of the PMA was rewritten again. With 114 graduates, our Class was the biggest to graduate under the old curriculum that gave premium to technical subjects. Also, in the post-war era, we were next only to PMA Class 1951 to graduate early due to a national emergency. On graduation day, we all looked forward to our field assignment, albeit nobody really knew exactly what was in store. We knew it would be hard but we were willing to undergo the test because we were confident that we were well-prepared!

Combat Deployment

The break-in of the young graduates was tremendous and fast. In the early months upon deployment, which was barely a few months after graduation, some Marangals bravely fell in combat. While it gave the



whole Class experience and exposure that not all military personnel may undergo, even in their entire military career, it was a huge and a high price to pay. Some never made it back alive while the majority who returned became seasoned combatants and mature leaders despite our young age and youthful faces. We came out scarred but unbowed, and it was ultimately our PMA training and the Marangal spirit that carried us through.

To our heroic classmates who offered the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the Motherland, we have nothing but highest respect and admiration for them. We proudly salute our Mistahs - Eduardo V. Alava, Nicasio F. Jacob, Jaime R. Liwanag, Edwin B. La Madrid, Franklin R. Nerez Jr, Michael A. Omengan, Antonio A. Roxas, Euloquio V. Talco, and Hansel B. Yen.

Communist Insurgency

When the war with Muslim rebels started to die down in the early 80s thanks to the government's efforts at "Peace talks", we found ourselves confronting yet another potent threat to national security: the communist insurgency. The insurgents were waging a relentless guerilla war against the government with the end in view of overthrowing and replacing it with communist ideology. During this period, we were already middle rank officers commanding units tasked to conduct security and counter insurgency operations coupled with civil military strategies that mobilized the citizens and communities.

In the Philippine Army, almost all Marangals were assigned as Battalion Commanders:

- Alphonsus Crucero – CO, 61IB and 11IB;
- Pete Ramboanga – CO, 8IB;
- Trifonio Salazar – CO, 54IB and 71IB;
- Paterno Escudero – CO, 77 IB;
- Jose Barbieto – CO, 67IB;
- Hermogenes Esperon, Jr – CO, 30IB;
- Romeo Tolentino – CO, SF Riverine Bn;
- Lito Aromin – CO, 49IB; and
- William Dormitorio – CO, 67IB, 4ID.

They were the first batch from our class to become Battalion Commanders. After them, other Mistahs followed suit:

- Rodolfo Obaniana – CO, 25IB, 6ID;
- Eugenio Cedo – CO, 49IB, 2ID, and 18IB, 1ID;
- Antonio Romero – CO, 35IB, 6ID;
- Ferdinand Bocobo – CO, 56IB, 7ID;
- Juanito Cabayao, Jr – CO, 6 FAB, 6ID, and CO, 25 IB, 6ID;
- Bernard de Luna – CO, 43 IB, 8ID;
- Roland Rodriguez – CO, 7IB, 3ID;



- Carlito Gamit – CO, 49IB, and 16IB, 2ID
- Horacio Lactao – CO, 1 LA Battalion and CO, 6 LA Bn, LA Bde;
- Pedro Fernando – CO, 9IB, 4ID;
- Roberto Bayona – CO, 27IB, 6ID;
- Felix Cabreros – CO, 42IB, 2ID;
- Randy Dauz – CO, 33IB, 1ID;
- Albert Mabaquiao – CO, RSAF 12;
- Anastacio Salud – CO, 1 LA Bn, LA Bde, and CO, 12IB, 3ID;
- Felicisimo Lagasca – CO, 3 LA Bn, LA Bde; and
- James de Guzman – CO, 4 LA Bn, LA Bde;



Likewise, in the Philippine National Police (PNP), almost all Marangals were designated as City/Provincial Directors and Commanding Officers of different Special Action Force (SAF) Units:

- Alejandro Gutierrez – PD Davao Norte;
- Rene Elambarang – PD Cebu;
- Oscar Valenzuela – PD Ilocos Norte;
- Tito Cagurangan – PD Bukidnon;
- Ameto Tolentino – PD Surigao Sur and Cagayan;
- Prospero Noble – PD Ilocos Sur
- Nicolas Pasinos – PD North Cotabato;
- Nicasio Radovan – PD Ilocos Norte and CD Olongapo City;
- Marcelino Franco, Jr – PD La Union;
- Errol Pan – PD Camarines Sur;
- Edgardo Doromal – PD Camarines Sur and Antique;
- Wilfredo Garcia – PD Davao Oriental, Davao Norte, and CD Davao City;
- Ernesto Belen – PD Rizal;
- Reynaldo Varilla – PD Cavite;
- Joselito Tan – PD Davao Norte; and
- Antonio Enteria Jr – PD Masbate and CD Cebu City.



For SAF units, we had Avelino Razon, Jr as CO of National Special Action Force; Nicolas Pasinos Jr, as CO, NCR SAF; Cesar Elenzano as CO, RSAF 6, and Wilfredo Garcia as CO, RSAF 11.

EDSA Revolution

Some classmates joined the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) which was initiated and organized by PMA graduates. RAM was an informal organization within the military with the objective of reforming and professionalizing the military. Its members believed that with the prevailing situation in the AFP at that time, the movement could fill up the vacuum of professionalism and introduce much needed reforms in the military organization.



From left to right: Juan Ponce Enrile, Fidel V. Ramos, and Avelino Razon, Jr.

In 1986, after a series of popular protests by members of civil society and other sectors, which culminated in the EDSA People's Power Revolution, RAM played a pivotal role in the successful conclusion of the revolution that forever altered the course of our nation's history.

Later Years



Over the years, "Marangal" Class of 1974 members were entrenched in many circles of society, within and without the military establishment, with hushed and humble achievements. There was a

time in the late 1970's that almost all *Aides-de-Camp* of active AFP Generals in different uniformed services, including key personalities in government, were all members of Class 1974. During the years that followed, select friends and acquaintances of the Class, who symbolized what the Marangal ethos stands for, had been adopted as associate or honorary members. They might not have been graduates of PMA; nevertheless, they are truly worthy of being called "Mistah."

Hence, despite some unfortunate fatalities and loss of precious lives in the service of our country, the Class swelled from the original 114 to 162 members (122 alive and kicking and 40 went ahead to answer the Last Roll Call). Of the 122, 86 are regular members and the rest are associate or honorary members. Of the 40 departed, 28 were regular, 2 were cadets and 10 were associate or honorary members.



Senior Officers



When our time came to become senior officers, almost all the active members of the Class became Generals and Flag Officers. It was well earned and well paid for with our own blood, sweat and tears. When finally we were at the helm of the military and police institutions as one of the most senior classes, we were occupying almost all major services at the same time.

The position of Chief of Staff AFP was occupied by General Hermogenes Esperon Jr; the Vice Chief of Staff was Lt. Gen. Antonio Romero; the Commanding General of the Philippine Army was Lt. Gen. Romeo Tolentino; the Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force was Lt. Gen. Horacio Tolentino; the Flag Officer in Command (FOIC) of the Philippine Navy was Vice Admiral Rogelio Calunsag; and the Chief of the Philippine National Police was Police General Avelino Razon, Jr.





We also had the Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard in the person of Admiral Damian Carlos and after him, Admiral Danilo Abinoja. Our Class can proudly say that we are one of the few PMA Classes with four Mistahs (Jun Esperon, Sonny Razon, Damian Carlos, and Danny Abinoja) who all became full pledged 4-star Generals.

Some Unified Commands in the Armed Forces tasked with combating terrorism and insurgency were headed by Marangals. Lt. Gen. Eugenio Cedo, Lt. Gen. Pedro Ike Inserto and Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Obaniana commanded the Western Mindanao Command, the Central Command and the Eastern Mindanao Command, respectively.

Eugenio Cedo's stint as Commander of Western Mindanao Command was characterized by a sustained campaign against extremists and terrorists that led to positive results, the most significant of which was the neutralization of two high-value Abu Sayaff leaders; namely Abu Sulayman and Abubakar Janjalani, who were killed in Jolo, Sulu. These terrorists had established connections with international Muslim militant organizations, including Al-Qaeda.

By the same token, Pedro Inserto had diminished if not contained the threat posed by the insurgents and other threat groups in his area of responsibility: the Visayas region. Among other accomplishments, Rodolfo Obaniana was credited for organizing and establishing the headquarters of Eastern Mindanao Command being its first commander. He was also responsible for organizing Task Force Davao. Thereafter, he was reassigned to assume the position of Commander of Southern Luzon Command.

We also have MGen Renato Miranda as Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps and PBGen Marcelino Franco, Jr. as Director of PNP Special Action Force (SAF). As everybody knows, the Marine Corps and the SAF are two of the *fightingest* units of the armed services.

When these designations at the top were happening, other Mistahs also got assigned to various key positions. MGen Pedro Ramboanga Jr was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J-3 under three AFP Chiefs of Staff. His counterpart in the PNP was Police MGen Wilfredo Garcia who was the Director for Operations (TDO). Police Lt General Reynaldo Varilla and Police Lt General Emmanuel Carta both held the position of PNP Deputy Chief for Administration, one after the other. Also, in the Philippine Navy, RAdm Rufino Lopez Jr., was succeeded by RAdm Amable Tolentino as the PN Vice Commander. Lt. Gen. Ferdinand Bocobo was the Inspector



General of the AFP. MGen Juanito Cabayao was assigned to the position of Army Vice Commander.

MGen Trifonio Salazar was Commanding General (CG) of 1st Infantry Tabak Division; MGen Alphonsus Crucero was CG of 3rd Infantry Division; MGen Jose Barbieta and BGen Roland Rodriguez both were CG of 4th Infantry Division, one after the other. BGen Pedro Fernando was Commanding General, 802 Bde, 8ID, before assuming the position of Army Internal Auditor; BGen Bernard de Luna was CG, 803 Bde, 8ID; Col Horacio Lactao was CO, 603 Bde, 6ID; BGen Roland Rodriguez became also CG, 803 Bde, 8ID; BGen Carlito Gamit was Deputy Commander of National Capital Region Command AFP, Col Oscar Randy Dauz was Commanding Officer (CO) of 501st Brigade 5th Infantry Division, and Col James De Guzman was Executive Officer of 202 Brigade 2nd Infantry Division. Rear Admiral Ludovico Franco was Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics AFP and Commodore Salvador Esguerra was Commander of Communications, Electronics and Information Service System (CEISS), AFP. Both MGen Bernard De Luna and BGen Antonio Seville served as CG of Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), Philippine Army, one after the other. Our Thai classmate, Lt. Gen. Sittiporn Patarasen of the Royal Thai Army was Director of the Defense Information and Space Technology Department of Thailand.

Other key positions in the Philippine National Police (PNP) were occupied by Marangals as follows: PMGen Nicolas Pasinos and PMGen Ernesto Belen as Director for Personnel and Resource Management (DPRM) and Director for Logistics (DL), respectively; PMGen Robert Delfin, an honorary member, as Director for Intelligence (DI), who manages all intelligence and counter-intelligence activities of the PNP; PMGen Edgardo Doromal as Director of the elite Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) – the counterpart of National Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice (DOJ).



For the Regional commands, the following were designated as Regional Directors: Police Regional Office (PRO)2- PBGen Ameto Tolentino, PRO3- PBGen Errol Pan, PRO4A- PBGen Nicasio Radovan Jr. and PBGen Prospero Noble, Jr. (after his stint as RD, PRO9) and PRO13- PBGen Rene Elumbaring. For District Commands and Support Units, PBGen Nicolas Pasinos, Jr. was Director of Western Police District then later, RD, PRO10; PBGen Oscar Valenzuela was Director of Eastern Police District and PCol Oscar Marinas was Acting Director of Quezon City Police District. PBGen Alejandro Gutierrez was Director of Logistics Support Service (LSS); PBGen Gerardo Hilomen was Director of Civil Security Group (CSG); PBGen Joselito Tan was Deputy Director for Research and Development; PCol Tito Cagurangan was Deputy Regional Director for Administration (DRDA) Police Regional Office

(PRO) 10; and PCol Antonio Enteria was Regional Director, Internal Affairs Service (RD IAS).

For the United Nations Mission overseas deployment, Emmanuel Carta was the only PNP Marangal to be detailed with the UN. In 1992-1993, he was Officer-in-Charge and concurrent Deputy PNP Contingent Commander in UN Mission to Cambodia. In 1998-1999, he was designated as PNP Contingent Commander in UN Mission to East Timor. The other Marangals who were also deployed in UN Mission overseas were Pete Ramboanga and Felix Cabreros of the Army.

When we were cadets, the Cadet Corps AFP (CCAFF) was composed of only four lettered-companies, namely, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta Companies (now it has 8). It is interesting to note that, Hermogenes Esperon is from Bravo, Avelino Razon is from Charlie, Damian Carlos is from Alpha, and Danilo Abinoja is from Delta. We can therefore say that in our Class, all the Cadet companies were adequately represented in the group of 4-star Generals. It is likewise interesting to mention that in the Class roster are four Tolentinos; Amable, Ameto, Horacio and Romeo. The four chose to carve out their careers separately and be assigned to the four major armed services Navy, PNP, Air Force and Army, respectively. All eventually reached the star-rank - uniquely Class 74. By the way, when we were first class cadets, our Baron was Cadet First Captain Edgardo Doromal, who also reached the star rank as Police Major General.

After Retirement

Most of the Class retired in the year 2007-2008 upon reaching the mandatory age of retirement of 56. Some have joined the private sector trying their hand in business much earlier.



One of these is Benigno Cabrieto, Jr who took his Masters (MBM 1982) at the Asian Institute of Management and retired early in 1991 to be part of the real estate industry. He is a licensed real estate broker and appraiser. He left the military pension fund, AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS), to become Chief Operations Officer (COO) of a publicly listed real estate development



company. In the past, he became Chairman and President of two (2) major national real estate associations. Presently, he co-owns a real estate company that constructs and sells condominium units and subdivision house and lots.

Ruben Garcia, who holds a Master's degree in Business Management from Asian Institute of Management, is to date the only AFP officer to have occupied key management positions in the AFP financial institutions (MBAI, GIC, SLAI, and RSBS). In 1982-1985, he was Vice President and Assistant General Manager of AFP General Insurance Corporation and concurrently Vice President and Assistant General Manager of AFP Savings and Loans Association, Inc. Previous to this, he was Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Head of Investments of AFP GIC. In 1985-1986, he became Executive Vice President and General Manager of AFP GIC, and the youngest officer to hold the position. During his incumbency, AFP GIC was ranked number 11 out of more than a hundred non-life insurance companies in terms of efficiency in the use of its resources. In the military pension fund AFP RSBS, he was the Head of Finance and later as Head of Real Estate Management until his resignation in 1999. He then went on as an entrepreneur and freelance consultant to date.



Rene Elumbaring owns a security firm that provides all aspects of security services. He says he started putting up a security agency in preparation for a retiree's life. Tony Enteria is also engaged in the real estate business. He is presently putting up a commercial building in Cagayan De Oro City which he intends to lease or sell to possible locators. A retired geologist, our honorary classmate, Rene Rieza, with the help of his ever-supporting wife Nora, tends to their business, The Windmills and Rainforest – an event's place which sometimes serves as the venue for Marangal get-togethers.



Other Mistahs were employed by private corporations. Wilfredo Garcia, who retired as a Police Major General, worked as Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI)'s Head of Security Department in 2007 with the rank of Vice-President. In 2017, he was appointed by BPI and Equicom Savings Bank as a Consultant, a position he holds until now.



Enrique Bernal Jr., after resigning his commissionship, was also employed at BPI and Asian Development Bank (ADB). He worked as Computer Operations Head and Production Control Head of BPI's Data Center until 1989. He then moved to ADB where he got the position of Senior Computer Center Administrator and Senior Information Technology Operations Officer at the Office of Information Systems and Technology until 2007. Marcelino Franco, Jr. and Prospero Noble, Jr. were hired as Head of Security Office of Security Bank and Bank of Commerce, respectively. Both Marcelino Franco and Prospero Noble (Class 74 Athletic Saber Awardee) reached the star rank as Police Brigadier General.



BGen Rodolfo Diaz was Security Consultant to several fishing and mining companies in Zamboanga City. Meanwhile, Romeo Ranay was appointed as Chairman and President of Milrods Wavelinx Corporation. Albert Mabaquiao, originally of the PC but who transferred to the AFP when the PC was dissolved, retired optionally in 1995 in order to concentrate on an NGO, Green Mindanao



Association Inc. as its Vice President. It operates in Northern Mindanao doing projects with indigenous people to promote environmental protection and poverty alleviation.



Nicolas Manalo, another honorary member, was a Senior Executive Officer of Shell Philippines Corporation. In 1974, he started his career as an aircraft refueller but immediately got his promotion to executive level for his exemplary performance while assigned in various critical positions. In 1989, he was cross-posted to Shell Antilles and Guianas Limited in South America. Upon returning to the Philippines, he was promoted to the position of Operations Manager NCR and later to Distribution Manager Philippines until his retirement.

And there were a few more Mistahs who upon retirement or even before retirement, chose to join financial institutions, private corporations and general aviation. We have Marcelo Santos, a retired Airforce General who became General Manager of Subic Bay International Airport – the diversion airport for NAIA and Clark. Dante Rillorta, a PAF Colonel, was designated as Chief of Aviation Safety Division of Air Transportation Office. Napoleon Garcia had been flying with several airlines for years before accepting a job in the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) as Deputy Director General for Operations. Also, Stanley Pagdilao had been working with commercial airliners for some time before becoming an executive of a private flying school.

Lito Gutierrez, after serving in the Presidential Security Command in his junior years, decided later on to work also for commercial airlines. In 1987 after EDSA Revolution, he joined the Philippine Airlines and then later to Cebu Pacific until 2007. Afterwards, he returned to PAL until his retirement in 2016. He would accept a job later in CAAP as Pilot Examiner and in Alpha Aviation Group as Head of Training Department and Accountable Manager until 2021. More than half of Romeo Buenaflor's 19 years active military service was spent with the 205th Helicopter Wing, PAF and the rest with the Office of the AFP Comptroller, J6 until his optional retirement in 1993. Thereafter, he worked with PAL for six years and eventually returned to helicopter flying in general aviation as a charter and corporate pilot. He ended his flying career in 2018 and now enjoys just being with his family and of course, playing and tinkering with his guitars.



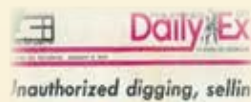
Ricardo dela Paz, a retired Air Force Colonel, served with PAF 5th Fighter Wing as an Ace Fighter Pilot. He then transferred to the Intelligence community and later on was assigned as Military Attache to Thailand. Currently, he is a Class Officer as our Sports Coordinator. Meanwhile, Mapagtapat Ongchangco, Jr. held the position of Executive Vice President of Alfaland and General Manager of Alfaland Aviation.



In the financial sector, Ernesto Belen, a retired Police MGen, is currently the President of Public Safety Savings and Loan Association, Inc. (PSSLAI), a position which he holds until now, since retiring from the police service in 2007. He is widely credited for the phenomenal rise of PSSLAI in the financial and banking industry. PSSLAI has grown into being one of the Philippines Top 400 Corporations



and a recognized driver of economic growth. Jose Nano, a retired Airforce General, became the President of AFP RSBS. Ludovico Franco, a Rear Admiral, became President of General Insurance Corporation, which operates in the Insurance Carriers and related activities industry. Alfredo Abueg Jr, a retired



Unauthorized digging, selling



Rear Admiral, served as the Executive Vice President of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Savings and Loans Association, Inc. By the way, Alfredo Abueg was our Class Valedictorian, Top 1 in the Order of Merit, when we graduated.

Other classmates have opted to become gentlemen farmers upon retirement like Romeo Tolentino and Alphonsus Crucero. Romeo Tolentino, who was a former President of the Philippine National Oil Company - Alternative Fuels Corporation, owns a farm located in Nueva Ecija while that of Alphonsus Crucero is in Tanay, Rizal. By engaging in agriculture, Romeo Tolentino says he is trying, in his sunset years, to still contribute to the economy. Alphonsus Crucero was a three-term President of Riviera Sports and Country Club, President of the Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO), and past President of PMA "Marangal" Class of 1974. Oscar de Guzman, after retiring as Commanding Officer of 15th Strike Wing of the Philippine Air Force, also went into farming and takes time to visit his family in the US and Australia. Right now, Oscar is an Adviser to the local government unit in La Paz, Tarlac.



Danilo Abinoja, a retired Admiral, is lately busy with PMA alumni matters, as Chairman and CEO of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) Board of Directors. He is credited for

his outstanding work as Editor in Chief of the Alumni Register 2021. The same sterling performance can be said with Atty Ferdinand Bocobo who, with his other concerns, presently sits in the PMAAAI Board of Directors in his capacity as President of PMAAAI Foundation for Truth and Justice Inc. (PFTJI), a position he has held for almost five years in a row since its inception. Being a lawyer and a retired Lt General, he was appointed by President Duterte in May 2017 as one of the 25-member Consultative Committee (ConCom) to revise the 1987 Constitution. After a year of deliberation, the ConCom submitted to the President the draft of the Bayanihan Federal Constitution.

Still Working as Public Servants

Some have stayed on as public servants. Upon retirement as Chief of Staff AFP, Hermogenes Esperon, Jr. was Head of the Presidential Management Staff at Malacañang Palace. Prior to this, he was the Presidential Assistant on the Peace Process. He is currently the National Security Adviser to the present Administration since July of 2016. He is the most visible among our classmates, being a Cabinet member. And yet against the backdrop of these many tasks, he declares that he is a Sunday golfer by choice. In any case, he delivers. Esperon's Undersecretary in the National Security Council is another classmate, Rufino Lopez, Jr., who was the AFP Inspector General and then Vice Commander of the Phil Navy prior to retirement. Another Undersecretary is Damian Carlos, a retired Admiral as Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard and is currently the Undersecretary for Counterterrorism.

Upon retirement in 2007, Oscar Valenzuela was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government. After that, he joined the Anti-Terrorism Council Program Management Center under the Office of the President, Malacanang, as Executive Director. In 2015, he was selected as Chairman of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Counter Terrorism Technical Working Group whose task is to assist member countries build capacities and implement projects to protect against terrorism. Later, he represented the Philippines in the 2015 White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism which was convened by US President Barack Obama.



Pedro Ramboanga, Jr. is another Undersecretary who oversees the Philippines – United States Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA). He considers his crowning glory the chance to have served as the AFP Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence J2 and AFP Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations J3. In his earlier years, he served as Military Attache and Police Attache to the United States of America. After retirement, he went on to become the President and General Manager of APFSLAI. He was also designated as Undersecretary of OPAPP by President Arroyo, and later was appointed by President Duterte as Executive Director of Visiting Forces with the rank of Undersecretary.



Napoleon Concepcion is a Governor of the Board of Investments (BOI). Coming from Mindanao, he has advocated for poverty alleviation through investments in the agricultural sector and has promoted affordable and accessible socialized housing. As Governor, he has facilitated the much-needed collaboration for industry and academe research for developing upstream and downstream value creation for local resources. Our honorary member, Rudolfo Diaz, was a Security Consultant of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) from 2018 to 2019, after retiring from active service. He was the first and, to date, the only Marine officer to become Commander of the Presidential Security Group.



Another public servant is Nicasio Radovan, Jr. who upon retirement was appointed as Chief law enforcer and security provider of all airports, piers, and customs bonded warehouses nationwide as Director III of the Enforcement and Security Service of the Bureau of Customs from 2008 until 2010. In July of 2010, he was unanimously selected by elected Congressmen, all 290 of them, as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives. At present, he is the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Commission on Appointments.



Amable Tolentino, whose last designation was Vice-Commander, Philippine Navy, is currently a Consultant of the Information and Resource Management Office (IRMO) directly under the Chairman of the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC). Prior to this, he was the Chief of Staff of the PACC which was then chaired by our honorary member, the late Dante Jimenez before



the latter's untimely demise in January of 2021. Before joining the PACC, Amable Tolentino was Head of the Office of Intelligence and Security of the Department of Foreign Affairs and concurrently Special Assistant to the Secretary, a post he held for nine years under five Secretaries of Foreign Affairs. Other Mistahs who held that post at DFA were Brig. Gen. Horacio Lactao and PBrig. Gen. Alejandro Gutierrez. Meanwhile,



retired Army Brig.Gen. Roland Rodriguez, having carved a substantial part of his career in the intelligence community, was appointed as Regional Director of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, Region 8 based in Tacloban City.

Avelino Razon, Jr. the current Class President for the second time around, was actually the first in our class to make the star. When he became a Brigadier General in the PC-INP, it was as good as "handwriting on the wall" that he will rise to the top and make it to be a full pledged General (4 stars). Eventually, as mentioned earlier, he became the Top Policeman. Upon retirement, he replaced Hermogenes Esperon as Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process. Avelino Razon is now busy with his various business interests.



Other classmates have chosen to join the political arena like our honorary Ben Corona who was first elected in 2007 as City Councilor of Tanauan, Batangas, and later on served as Vice-Mayor of Tanauan in 2018-19. He was again reelected as City Councilor in 2019. We also pride ourselves in the First Gentleman of Zamboanga City, Trifonio Salazar, husband to the good city Mayor Beng Climaco-Salazar. He was the first Major General of our class and after retirement served as Director General of National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA). Manny Carta also joined politics through his wife Councilor Annie Carta who was reelected several times as councilor of Naic, Cavite. Miguel Lopez was elected for three terms as Barangay Chairman of a barangay in the City of Manila. Ameto Tolentino, a retired Police Brigadier General, also joined the political arena through his wife Winnie who served as Vice Mayor of Aparri, Cagayan. Winnie Ponce-Enrile Tolentino belongs to a famous political clan in Cagayan.



Many, upon retirement, have chosen to "fade away" and become private citizens to spend their retirement time with wife, children, and grandchildren, if they are not playing golf with other classmates and Cavaliers. Our classmates who went through the entire length of their military careers are now blissfully maximizing their time with their loved ones.

Mistahs Abroad

Other Mistahs migrated overseas upon retirement, some even migrated earlier when they resigned their Commissionship. These include Vladimir Punto, Edgar Peralta, Larry Doria, Ching Lagrimas, Owen Luistro, Tony Ramos, Pete Cruz, Dencio Mar Laurico, Randolph Espejo, Romy Mayo, Oscar Mallabo, Antonio Seville, Serafin Padilla, Rodolfo Monte and a few others.

Vladimir Punto was Director of Operations for Alain Mikli Ltd. USA. He and his family live in Long Island, New York. He runs a private business which is into medical billing. He looks at 2021 as the transition period in winding-up operations before full retirement. Beyond 2021, he is determined in



pursuing his varied passions: golf, photography, wine, and music, not necessarily in that order.

Larry Doria migrated to USA in 1985 and with the help of Rolando Bruce, was employed as programmer/analyst in the IT department of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, the biggest power company in California. His biggest contribution to the company where he worked for 33 years was the Customer Information System (CIS) that he and Rolando Bruce put up and kept running for more than 10 years. This was no easy feat given the state of technology then. At present, he is retired and says in no mean terms that his typical Monday to Friday week means doing nothing and on weekends taking a rest. A sports aficionado, he finds time to play golf with Tony Ramos once a week and plays pickleball, at least four times a week to keep himself in shape.



The late Rolando Bruce despite being a regular guy, was known and recognized as a true genius from our class, but unfortunately he succumbed to a disease in 2011. From 1983 to 2010, he was on and off with Pacific Gas and Electric Company. His major achievement was his pet project, the Bitmicro which was publicly listed in the American bourse. Tony Ramos availed of optional retirement to join his wife and son abroad where he worked as a Manager of the Intermodal Department of Maersk Lines at its Oakland Terminal. He said he is looking forward to a happy future with his four granddaughters.



Owen Luistro retired early from his job at the Department of National Defense to work initially as a civilian helicopter pilot and as a Personal Assistant to the Chairman of Republic Glass Asahi. After that, he was made Property and Building Administrator of all properties of the GenVel Group of Companies where he stayed for 17 years prior to migrating to the US mainland with his family. He joined H&R Block, one of America's tax preparation companies, in 2009 and is still there until now. He was also accepted to the Alameda Sheriff's Office and served as Sheriff's Safety Aide working at Oakland International Airport, and Sheriff's Technician at Sta Rita County Jail until he retired in 2019.



Edgar Peralta is currently the President of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) San Jose Area Local 73, AFL-CIO since May 13, 1999 until his current term ended in January 2023. His jurisdiction spans six (6) US Congressional districts. In this capacity, Peewee oversaw the merger of four Local APWU Unions to form one of the best ten (10) APWU Local Unions in the entire United States during the last ten (10) years. Peewee is the first Asian and the first Filipino to occupy this position since it was chartered thereby giving him the bragging rights of breaking the bamboo ceiling in the US labor movement. Also, he is a Certified National Arbitration Advocate since 2000, the Chairperson of the Election Committee of the State of California since 2007 and the Electronic Grievance Instructor covering 11 states in the US Western Region since 2011.



Even while abroad, our Mistahs have shown their foreign co-workers and employers the trademark of a Marangal. Expatriates that they are, our Mistahs find time to regularly return to the Philippines and to Fort Del Pilar —to be with us, not only to re-live the old times but to get rejuvenated by it.

Reaping the Awards

Over the years, Marangals received accolades and awards for highly significant operational accomplishments which included spot promotions to the next higher rank. In 1981, Prosepero Noble, Jr. as CO of 171 PC Company and Oscar Marinas as Intelligence Officer, all of Bulacan PC/INP Command, were awarded spot promotions for the arrest of Ruben Guevarra, a top-ranking CPP/NPA leader operating in Northern Luzon. Similarly, in Southern Mindanao, Cesar Elenzano and Wilfredo Garcia were given spot promotions for their participation in an operation in Tibungco, Davao City that led to the capture of a high-ranking MNLF Commander and some followers and the confiscation of 21 high-powered firearms.

Meanwhile, in Metro Manila, Marcelino Franco, as Chief of Police Intelligence Branch, Metrocom Intelligence and Security Group (MISG), was actively involved in the solution of several high profile kidnap for ransom cases, hi-jacking cases and other organized crimes — which earned him also a spot promotion. Pinning of ranks on Elenzano, Garcia, and Franco was done during the PC/INP Day celebration at Camp Crame in 1983.

We also have several classmates who received individual and unit awards during anniversary day celebrations at national and regional levels. We have among others:

- Edgardo Doromal – 1992 Best Provincial Police Office, Antique (Regional Level);
- Oscar Valenzuela – 1995 Best Provincial Police Office, Ilocos Norte (Regional level) and 1996 Best PPO, Ilocos Norte (National level);
- Alejandro Gutierrez – Best PPO, Davao del Norte (National level);
- Nicasio Radovan, Jr – Best City Police Office, Olongapo City (National level);
- Ameto Tolentino – 1999 Best PPO, Cagayan (Regional level);
- Errol Pan – 1998 Best PPO, Camarines Sur (Regional level);



- Tito Cagurangan – Best PPO, Bukidnon and Senior Officer of the Year (Regional level);
- Antonio Enteria, Jr – 1990 Best PC/INP Officer of the Year, Recom 9 and 2003 Senior Police Officer of the Year, Region 5 (Regional level);
- Prospero Noble, Jr – 2002 Best National Support Unit HSS (National level);
- Manny Carta – 1979 Junior Officer of the Year, Recom 5 (Regional level);
- Avelino Razon, Jr – 1981 Best PC Company, 224th PC Company, Eldridge, Los Banos, Laguna (National level); and
- Wilfredo Garcia – 1982 Best INP Company, 433rd PC/INP Company, Mati, Davao Oriental (National level).

Just like other awardees, we hold in high esteem distinguished Marangals who were conferred the much-coveted Outstanding Achievement Awards by the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. in recognition of their sterling services in their chosen careers: Hansel Yen, (posthumous, 1976), Cesar Elenzano (1988), Roberto Sylim (1997), Trifonio Salazar (2004), Salvador Esguerra (2004), Rolando Bruce (2004), Jose Nano (2005), Avelino Razon, Jr. (2006), Hermogenes Esperon, Jr. (2007), Romeo Tolentino (2007), Horacio Tolentino (2007), Rogelio Calunsag (2007), Damian Carlos (2007) and Danilo Abinoja (2008).

It can be said that we, as a class, have lived up to the true meaning of being a Marangal by exemplifying the core value of excellent service in various fields and in whatever capacities, that brought honor and prestige not only to ourselves but to our Alma Mater and to our country as well.

On to the Next Chapter

Marangal Class '74 has undeniably left an indelible mark in the annals of Philippine history. What makes us special as a class are the unique experiences and challenges we had to overcome and which have proven our mettle. Our training and education have impressed upon us certain values and traits, stitched in the very fabric of our stories as individuals and as a group. That we lived and tried the best we could to make a difference and to fulfill our commitment of excellent service to our country and people always with DANGAL in mind — true to our class name — is the very legacy we hope to be remembered for.

As we celebrate our Golden Anniversary this 2024, we find in our hearts the same ardor and the same Marangal spirit as we continue to display the same enthusiasm and drive for excellence.

We look forward to our next chapters as we nurture and cherish this Marangal spirit within us and hope to leave behind the same qualities and values to our children and grandchildren. We hope to continue to serve in our own way, even in our twilight years, for GOD, COUNTRY, and PEOPLE.

The story of the Philippine Military Academy “MARANGAL” Class of 1974 lives on.



MARANGAL MEMOIRS

50 Years of The Long Gray Line



In conclusion, hereunder is a poem entitled "Saga of the Marangal PMA Class of 1974" which capsulizes the whole history of the Class:

The Saga of PMA "Marangal" Class of 1974

By: Ruben G. Garcia

They came on the first of April in 1970 to fulfill a dream,
From all walks of life they merged to become one team.

For the love of PMA- for God, country, and people
Class 1974 from whatever shore
From end to end, from pole to pole
Lives and dies with the Marangal spirit
Courage, Integrity, Loyalty to the hilt!

Against all odds '74 always with heads held high
It did its job without a sigh!
From Day 1 to the very last
Service is foremost until they turn to dust
This is the stuff men in uniform should be
Even after, as many would see!

Each member has a story to tell,
But deviates not from the collective effort to gel.
Every Marangal stands by the covenant,
To perform and deliver is what class members want.
This is the saga of '74
Let everyone know heretofore!

Individually, they do not have to be remembered,
But as a class, it is all that mattered
Personal Glory is never over Class identity
It becomes the focus of Class destiny
If one singles out the alumnus and identifies his Class
If he is '74, one shall truly raise the glass.

Fifty years after graduation- 1974 to 2024,
Nothing much has changed, the attitude galore.
The saga continues, the Class of 1974 marches on,
Day by day, night to night, until the break of dawn
The PMA spirit is there to be remembered
The Marangals of '74, then and now,
even beyond cannot be smothered!

Class Historians:

Wilfredo V. Garcia '74
Ruben G. Garcia '74
Amable B. Tolentino '74



The Silver Jubilarians



MASIKHAY Class of 1999

On March 28, 1999, I, along with 215 other young Lieutenants and Ensigns, began a journey that would shape our destinies and profoundly contribute to the defense of our nation. Our esteemed collective, the PMA Masikhay Class of 1999, has since forged a path of excellence in service to God, country, and our people. Approaching our 25th-year graduation anniversary, it's a poignant moment to pause and contemplate our extraordinary journey, celebrating our achievements, sacrifices, and enduring dedication to the nation, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and to the legacy of the Long Gray Line.

In our early years, we undertook diverse assignments spanning the far reaches of our country be it in the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The dedication and diligence exhibited by our class in these formative years established a foundation for an exceptional trajectory in the service of our country. As time unfolded, we distinguished ourselves through exemplary service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Our assignments across various branches included specialized

training, allowing us to refine our skills and emerge as leaders in our respective fields.

Our commitment to duty, the relentless pursuit of excellence, and the embodiment of the core values instilled at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) became the defining features of the Masikhay Class. Our collective journey stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to professional growth and development. Many among us have ascended through the ranks, assuming pivotal leadership positions within the armed forces. Our strategic thinking, leadership acumen, and sincere regard to the welfare of our fellow soldiers have garnered the respect of both peers and superiors alike. The legacy of the Masikhay Class is one marked by continuous achievement, reflecting our steadfast pursuit of excellence in service.

Rising Through the Ranks: Many of us have risen through the chain, unassuming public servants preserving the Filipino way of life.





The Air Force Journey

Fifty-five distinguished individuals launched their careers with the Air Force. Prior to earning their wings, these young officers were strategically dispersed across different PAF units nationwide, acclimatizing themselves to a life of service.

After an eventful five months, they were summoned to convene at VAB, to signal the commencement of their Military Pilot Training. With the limited availability of trainer aircraft at the time, only 30 student pilots were accommodated to report to the PAFFS, while the remaining 25 reported to the 580th ACWW to undergo the Weapons Controller Course.

The first batch of Masikhay aviators were divided onto two training groups in Fernando Air Base in Lipa and Buayan Air Station in General Santos City. This innovative approach paved the way for an expedited training program that concluded in just over a year.

Simultaneously, the Air Force Masikhay Weapons Controllers group embarked on their deployment adventures, with some reporting to Gozar Air Station in Lubang Island, Mindoro for RADAR Simulator Training. The remainder underwent training at Wallace Air Station, Poro Point, San Fernando City, La Union. By the 1st Quarter of 2000, all 25 Masikhay Controllers proudly earned their AWC Badge. Upon graduation, they were directed to report to the PAFFS for their Pilot training, effectively reuniting the PAF Masikhays under the umbrella of the PAFFS.

The first batch of Masikhay Aviators earned their Wings and graduated as proud members of MPT 2000B, while the second batch followed suit and graduated as members of MPT 2022. These new aviators were subsequently assigned to various PAF flying units such as the 15SW, 5FW, 205THW, and 220AW. Notably, a substantial number continued their service with AETC, assuming roles as Instructor Pilots.

As the years unfolded, our Air Force Masikhays forged different paths with some choosing to transition earlier from service back to civilian life yet pursuing their love for flying, albeit in commercial planes. A noteworthy example is CAPT Amor M. Martinez, who made history as the first female Chief Pilot of PAL Express. Others ventured into their own business while some joined the diverse corporate world bringing along with them their wealth of experience and wisdom honed thru decades of decision-making in the armed forces. Others relocated with their families to different parts of the world, including the US, Canada, and the UK.

Blessed as we maybe, PAF Masikhay endured losses along the way. Several met their fates in aircraft accidents and others to illnesses. They will forever be missed.

Presently, there are 16 Masikhay Aviators, all holding the esteemed rank of Colonel and occupying pivotal positions across various units of the PAF. Their collective journey serves as a testament to resilience, and enduring camaraderie within the ranks of the Philippine Air Force.

The Army Group

The fledgling Army officers of Class 1999 were deployed to various units where they underwent additional training and honed their skills. Their unwavering determination and pursuit of excellence didn't go unnoticed, foreshadowing a bright future for the class. Let us visit their respective units:

Gonz - CS CMOR, Dems - Chief ACPA, Cacuenes - G3 CMOR; Garic "B" CO 561B; Langcs - Chief, Inspection Div, OTIG, AFP; Obaob - Chief, RDT Div, OTIG, AFP, KC - G8, 2ID; Divines - ExO, OG4; PEPE - Commandant, Infantry School, TRADOC; Joey B. - Ex-O, OG9; Ocampo - G6, 10ID; Suma - CO, 601B, 10ID; Orbits - from G3, TRADOC to MNSA student; Belen - Chief, 5FSFO, FCPA; Baquiran - Cmdt, 11DTS, 11ID; Ottos - G8, 7ID; Catipay - Cmdt, Artillery Training School, AAR; Tulics - CO, 554EBn, 55E; Mabs - Chief, TISD, OJ2; Robs - CO, 351B, Sulu; Neps - Chief, Proj Eval and Mgmt Div (PEMD), AFPREO; Logan - CO, 171B; Awi - G3, 9ID; Jalbs - G3/ GSMO AAR; Seño - MNSA Student; Sayong - CO, 61MB, IMCOM; Bon Jove - CO, Presidential CEIS Bn, CEISSAFP; JManags - Chief, Source and Projects Management DCI; Pesase - CO 621B, 3ID; Nida - CO, 545th ECBn, 54EBde; Ondoy - AC of CEIS Staff for Opns, C3, CEISSAFP; Cabahug - Deputy Chief, OIMA; Severo - FC, DIF, ISAFP; Guzman, Chief, Training Research and Evaluation Division, OJ8; T - Chief, Research, Training and Special Projects, OJ7; Balids - U9, WESCOM; Peng - MNSA; Jerry T - MNSA; Enyaps - G1, AD; Sanchuy - G2, AD; Reno - G5, AD; Tram - CO, 2Mech Bn, AD; Bote - CO, 3Mech Bn, AD; Dencio - CO, AMBn, AD; Jo - ar - Chief, StratCom Division, OJ7; Estring - G3, 6ID; Bantoy - G8, ASCOM; Q - MNSA; Fred C - Chief, Personnel Division ISAFP; Bayong - XO, 1103Bde, 11ID; Vitenó - MNSA; Maky - MNSA; Patz - DMILAD, UNNYPM; Manay - CO, 61B, 6ID; Culvera - Chief, CNN Peace Support Division, AFPPDO; Cadungs - CO, 691B, 7ID; Iletó - MNSA Student; Garce - CO, 7DCAU; Charlie B. - IMS NPS (US); Calyong - IMS NPS (US), IMS AWC (US); Dan Laynes -

Ret (US); Fred Sabobo - Ret (US); Cedong - CO, 6MiB, 6ID; Abutin, ELA – MNSA; Abutin, LRAC – MNSA; Valdote – MNSA; Eriv - CO, 7MiB; Ka Busas - G2, 2ID; Nuylan - CO, 1SF; Ricky C. – MNSA; Paulo - G8, 4ID; Tome - Japan Tobacco Inc; and Nemeño - CO, 6SFB, SFR(A).

The Navy Group

After graduation, the Masikhay midshipmen, like eager sailors, ventured onwards and never looked back. The white caps boarded their first ships and the proud marines went to their first deployments in their platoons. The diversity of the Navy as a service allowed many Masikhays to forge different paths in their naval careers. From Ship captains to special operations, the Navy Masikhays showed their mettle and earned the respect of their seniors and peers. Instilled with the Academy's values they have made a lasting impact on different fields of specialization our Navy has to offer. Fast forward 25 long but memorable years, this group has made their collective and individual marks in the Navy. Soon the stars will come down on their sunburnt and salty shoulders. Our class members who are now Captains occupy vital positions in our Navy.

At HPN holding key positions are Cav Montalvo Deputy, N2; Cav Santos, Flag Secretary to the Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy.

With the FLEET and at CAVITE are Cav Sambalilo, Asst Chief of Fleet Staff for Weapons, Comms, Electronics and Info Systems - F6, Philippine Fleet; Cav Balduman, Assistant Chief of Fleet Staff for Education and Training, F8; Cav Lalisan - Deputy Commander, Naval Special Operations Command; At sea is Cav Obongen, Commanding Officer, BRP Tarlac (LD601); and Cav Gavilan, Chief of Staff, Naval Sea Systems Command;

At BNS are Cav De Luna, Marine Corps Internal Auditor, HPMC; and Cav Balurin - Deputy Commander, Philippine Navy Finance Center;

ACADEMIC STUDIES/ACADEME Taking their MNSA to prepare for key and strategic positions are Cav Escalona; Cav Diego, Cav Lamug and Cav Unay. Cav Pasia and Cav Nieva are enrolled in their second

post-graduate program; at PMA is Cav Maglasang, Head, Techno Scientific School, Academic Group.

With NAVAL RESERVE COMMAND and leading the recruitment for naval reserves are Cav Lugtu, Chief of Staff, NRC; Cav Japitana, Commander, NRC Eastern Visayas; and Cav Labastida, Commander, NRC Eastern Mindanao.

In the Area Commands are Cav Adrales - Chief of Staff, Naval Forces Western Mindanao; Cav Galvez, Assistant Chief of Unified Command Staff for Personnel, U1, Western Command; and at CGEA is Cav Dolor, Chief, Research and Data Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3;

Inactive But Progressive "IBP"

"We left the service but the will to serve has not left us." Masikhays who have since retired and resigned and left their branches of service are now properly positioned to take the helms of their industries in the vast economic landscape of the country. Calling themselves, "Inactive But Progressive" or IBP, by their individual contributions, these cavaliers continue to serve nation proudly and with dignity. Indeed, all are still inspired by our class name, "Masikap sa Buhay, Masikhay!"

PUBLIC SECTOR

Cav Lacson - Technical Consultant, Office of the President
Cav Makinano - Technical Assistant, Municipality of Anda, Bohol/
Real Estate agent
Cav Checa - Commander, EODG/CGSOF Philippine Coast Guard
Cav Mallo - Project Officer, CTIC, DCT

AIRLINES

Cav Palagud - Captain A320/321 Philippine Airlines
Cav Curray - Airline Pilot
Cav Prado - Aviator/ Farmer
Cav Bearneza - A330 Captain, Cebu Pacific Air (Aviation)
Cav Amor Martinez - PALEX A320 Chief Pilot/ Captain (Aviation)





Cav Emman Martinez - PAL B777 First Officer (Aviation)
 Cav Somera - PAL A330 First Officer (Aviation)
 Cav Curray - PAL A320 First Officer (Aviation)
 Cav Ferrer - PAL B777 Second Officer (Aviation)
 Cav Landingin - PAL A330/350 Second Officer (Aviation)
 Cav Lacida - Air Asia A320 Captain (Aviation)
 Cav Casauay - Consultant/ Alpha Aviation Group (Aviation)
 Cav Camacho - Saudi Geological Survey Helicopter Pilot, Farmer (Aviation)

SECURITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR

Cav King - EO - COO, CAT Security Group (SECURITY)
 Cav Parcia - Security Manager, Cemex Holdings Philippines (SECURITY)
 Cav Costales - Asia, Pacific, Middle East, Africa, Security @ UL / Virtual (SECURITY)
 Cav Villavito - Edsa Shang Chief Security (SECURITY)
 Cav Tan - Security Mgr, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (SECURITY)
 Cav Simbulan - British School Manila (SECURITY)
 Cav Marin - Security Specialist, ADB
 Cav Somera Jr - SSO, VENRAY
 Cav Acedillo - Senate
 Cav Eslava - General Manager, Deltamike Security
 Cav Pascua - President, Tactics SOG Industries Inc
 Cav Ladan - General Manager, Tactics SOG Industries Inc

ABROAD

Cav Salimbangon - OFW (Community Corrections - Sydney), AU
 Cav Malinao - OFW Sydney (Custodial Officer - CSNSW), AU
 Cav Laynes - OFW NorCal (Fiduciary Office employee) USA
 Cav Enriquez - International Student, University of Windsor, CA
 Cav Casanova - UoA Staff, AKI, NZ
 Cav Mose - SQA Engr, Emodo Ericsson, SFO, USA
 Cav Colocar - DBM, Pennsylvania, Pittsburg

The SECURITY SERVICES SECTOR has Cav Parcia, Country Security Manager CEMEX Holdings Philippines; Cav King-EO, COO, CAT Security Group; and Cav Costales, RSM, UL Solutions.

BUSINESS AND LOGISTICS: Cav Cloma Managing Director, SOW Philippines Fulfillment Inc. (PAYO Asia); Cav Miranda, President and Managing Director, SMPI ETDM; and Cav Joquiño, COO, Herma Shipyard Inc.

AIRLINES: Cav Palagud is Captain A320/321 Philippine Airlines; and Cav Curray, Airline Pilot.

PUBLIC SECTOR: Back in government service are Cav Checa Commander, EODG/CGSOF Philippine Coast Guard and Cav Mallo Project Officer, CTIC, DCT.

Our collective journey has been dynamic and multifaceted. Shaped by the demands of the profession and personal inclinations, we have indeed evolved. As we reflect on this diversity of our evolution, we acknowledge the richness of experiences and the varied stories that have woven the tapestry of our shared history. As we prepare to once again tread the revered grounds of Borromeo Field, where we solemnly pledged our service a quarter-century ago, we carry with us a profound gratitude for all those who have shaped us into who we are today. Our heartfelt appreciation extends to the faculty who honed our fundamentals and to the tactical officers who imparted invaluable experiences and leadership principles. Kudos to our upperclassmen from class 1998 to 1996 and to our underclassmen of class 2000 to 2022; you have been an essential catalyst in our development. Forging deep bonds that have stood the test of time. Finally, we thank our spouses, children and families for their unwavering understanding and support. The sacrifices they made allowed us to give our all, and be the best version of ourselves.

As we reflect on our journey, we carry forward the lessons learned and the camaraderie built during our time together. May our commitment to service and our bond as the Masikhay Class of 1999 continue to inspire excellence and dedication.

To God, Country and People. Mabuhay Masikhay!





40 Years After Graduation

The Maharlika 84 Class Officers led by Pres Banji Ramos are all exerting their best with available resources to look after the welfare and health care of all Maharlikans and their families especially in their prime age after 60... as we move on...

YEARS BEFORE GRADUATION...

The Maharlikan Dream started sometime in October 1979, where **7,812** applicants were directed to take the PMA Entrance Examination. But on October 21, 1979 only **6,170** reported in 33 examination centers throughout the country. However, that dream turned to nightmare for many applicants when only **916** passed the entrance examination, or a low 14.8% passing rate. Out of 916, only **752** dreamers found the enthusiasm to report at V. Luna Hospital. I hope nobody reported instead at Weird 24, rather Ward 24! When the fogs of blood test, lab tests, "I like flowers" NP test, fingering test and physical fitness test had settled down only **371** had a green light from the Medical Board.

On **March 16, 1980**, we started our pre-cadetship training at BNS, Ft. Bonifacio, however, not as cadets but as Third-Class Trainees!!! Yes, third class trainees under the scrutinizing eyes of Marine Drill Instructors, who were tasked to make us march in cadence properly and run distances endlessly! In short, to make us rot, and to make

our lives miserable. As a final test of our endurance, we, the trainees, were made to run from BNS to Gate 3, then to Gate 1 and back to BNS. *Marami po sa amin ay spitting rice o di kaya laylay dila na parang kurbata!!!* Our introduction to military life ended on **April 12, 1980**, with one and only "liberty" on that day. Boodles here, boodles there, boodles everywhere!

On our way up to PMA, Baguio City on **April 13, 1980**, our liberty on the previous day took a heavy toll on us. Many had indigestion, and you could just imagine the scent inside the bus. *Yung iba ay panay 'machine gun fire' pa yata!!!* It's good the fresh air going to Baguio filled our lungs. At PMA grounds, there were **347** survivors of pre-cadetship training who stood proud and feeling mighty to conquer the world. We were joined by "snappy" turned-back cadets from class 1983. *Kaya pala bigla na lang may nadagdag na dalawa sa aming apat sa squad. Sabagay mukhang snappy naman yata...ang apat!!!* In front of the Melchor Hall grounds there stood the **366** Maharlikan

plebes, with their class 1981 plebe details, ready to march off for reception. Our Beast Barracks training then started! I still wonder until today who really were the beasts.

The Beast Barracks training ended during our Incorporation Day on **May 24, 1980**. We were then formally integrated in to the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFA). Some of our mistakes did not make it to incorporation day. They vanished in thin air. *Karamihan sa aming mga naiwan ay 'thin and ugly.'* We all looked the same that's why on incorporation day our parents didn't recognize us easily inside the NCBN billet area. *Kahit kaharap ka na nila!* The words of our former professor say it best, "When I was a POW in World War II, I was so thin and ugly, uglier than Mr..."

After the Incorporation Day we had our FTX, and thereafter joined our respective companies in the Corps, from Alpha to Hawk. There were six (6) mistakes who left PMA for the US service academies (*USMA - Nap Taas; USCGA - Roy Antonio, Rey Jaurigue, Raul Mangalindan and Robert Asencio; USNA - Johnson So and Audie Embestro*), while a group of turned-back cadets from the previous class joined the Class of 1984 before the start of 1st semester SY 1980.

Fast forward. Along the way, some Maharlikans left PMA for various reasons, while we embraced with dagger looks our former tormentors who joined Class 1984. Joke only, guys! On March 18, 1984, **215*** proud Maharlikans received their BS Degree and marched for the last time with the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines at Borromeo Field. Only **147** of the graduates were original members of the Class. Also, seven (7) Maharlikans graduated from the US service academies (*USMA - 1, USNA - 3, USCGA - 3*) in 1984. This brings the total of Maharlikan graduates to **222**. *Mabuti na lang hindi naging 666!*

When we graduated, our Class Valedictorian was **Samuel Jardin** of Cebu City while the Class Baron was **James Pacis** of Quezon City. The goat was **Jun Marquez**, but he was a Dean's Lister.

Dan Tolosa also graduated from singlehood in the evening of March 18, 1984 when he had his church wedding at St Ignatius Chapel at PMA.

Sam Felipe holds the distinction of being No. 84 in the Class order of merit and also No. 84 in the Class alphabetical order during our graduation. Indeed, a double whammy for a now "yummy" senior citizen Sam.

Salih Indanan and **Alvin Tiam Watt**, both from Sulu province, were the only Muslim members of the Class when we graduated. I guess, only one of them availed of their "privilege"! It's so easy to tell.

* *The first time in PMA history that a class graduated with more than 200 cadets. This record was surpassed many years after.*

YEARS AFTER GRADUATION...

After a month-long academic break, **214** new 2LTs and Ensigns of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) reported to their respective branches of service, while **Cheang Kai-Hien (Eddie)** joined the Singapore Armed Forces. These were the leaders of the band when we started off, with quota distribution indicated: **2LT Sammy Jardin** - Philippine Army (**125**), **2LT Danny Galapon** - Philippine Constabulary (**42**), **Ens Banny Gaerlan** - Philippine Navy (**25**) and **2LT Badong Mison** - Philippine Air Force (**22**). Few months after, **five** more Maharlikan-graduates of US service academies joined the Philippine Constabulary (**1**) and Philippine Navy (**4**). Before 1984 ended, a total of **219 Maharlikans** already reported for duty to the AFP. PC **2LT Nap Venturina** joined the PA and PC groups in their SROC training at SRTC, Camp Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal, and from thereon became an adopted member of the Class.

Along the way, some Maharlikans had a change of heart and decided to join their first love branch of service: PA to PC - **2 (Artie Sindac and Joel Pagdilao)**, PC to PA - **2 (Bucoy Bustillos and Atong San Juan)**, PAF to PC - **1 (Danny Maligalig** through Self-Initiated

Elimination), PA to PNP - **2 (Raul Petrasanta and Allan Parreño)**. Indeed, first love never ever dies!

But the first change of branch of service happened in the afternoon of March 18, 1984, right after our graduation ceremony. It involved **Noel Armilla** and yours truly, **Jesse Alvarez**. Here's the almost forgotten story. Noel and I belonged to Golf Company. In fact, we belong to the same squad during our plebe year second semester. While I was going back to barracks wondering why I was given a red PC folder, he was running after me, calling me at the top of his horse, rather hoarse voice! He looked more confused than me as he declared that there must be a mix up in our branch of service. He received a green PA folder instead of red PC folder. We concluded that the dozing company clerk must have interchanged our branches of service in the Company roster. I told Noel that all we need was to go to HTG and informed them of the situation. Thereat, I signed an affidavit that my branch of service is PA and not PC, and Noel belongs to PC. Officially, our change of branch of service came in months later.

When the PA group reported at HQ Philippine Army, my name was not called during the giving of gratuitous money amounting to P1,000.00. I informed the officer in-charge of the distribution of my predicament, and he told me "Welcome to Philippine Army, Lieutenant Alvarez!" While at the PC group, Noel was told by Chief, PC, "Mr. Armilla, as far as I am concerned, you're not yet recognized as PC officer. I'm giving you three days to work on your papers." The rest is now history!

As years passed by some Maharlikans opted to leave the service early to find their true calling in life. A good number decided to leave after serving the AFP for at least 20 years, a requirement for optional retirement. However, more than 50% of those who reported for duty in the AFP in 1984 reached their compulsory retirement while serving the AFP, PNP and PCG. In 2019, the last Maharlikan standing in the AFP retired compulsorily. **Badong Mison** retired on June 20, 2019, with a rank of LTGEN as Vice Chief of Staff, AFP, upon reaching the age of 56.

A source of pride for Maharlikans especially during our active service were **Rey Guerrero** who rose to become the CSAFP and **Noel Buan** who was awarded the highest AFP award for gallantry in action, the Medal for Valor. Some Maharlikans also dipped their hands in politics, but only three of them were lucky enough to be elected. **Jon Aying** is now on his second term as Mayor of Sara, Ilo-ilo. **Alan Arrojado** served for one term as Municipal Councilor in Camotes Island, Cebu. **Rey Mutiangpili** won as Barangay Chairman of Dicklum, Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon in the last Barangay / SK elections. The coming in of the new administration saw the appointment of the Maharlikans to different positions, which are as follows: 1. **Badong Mison**, DND, USec, 2. **Joey De Leon**, DND, USec, 3. **Moro Lazo**, USec, PDEA, 4. **Gani Nerez**, USec, OPAPA, 5. **Jun Sadiarin**, DAR, ASec, 6. **Boy Caraig**, ASec, OCD, 7. **Ding Sevilla**, DILG, USec, Pres, PPSC.

In our journey towards 40th graduation anniversary in March 2024, we would like to remember our departed members: **Graduates** - 1. Jun Barayuga, 2. Boboy Brawner, 3. Ariel Briones, 4. Bucoy Bustillos, 5. Ver Capati, 6. Ismael Castillo, 7. Donato Castro, 8. Ed Collado, 9. Elmer Decena, 10. Arnel Dorado, 11. Levy Eremos, 12. Elmer Estilles, 13. Rene Fernal, 14. Roy Fradillada, 15. Tony Gimeo, 16. Rodante Guerrero, 17. Pete Hernandez, 18. Bien Leono, 19. Joseph Lim, 20. Danny Maligalig, 21. Dave Marquez, 22. Yaweh Monilla, 23. Ben Morgia, 24. Rafael Moya, 25. Ato Opena, 26. Cenon Realubit, 27. Boyet Ricaforte, 28. Jojo Rodolfo, 29. Allan Rojo, 30. Troy Sales, 31. Greg Saligumba, 32. Conrad Santos, 33. Rocky Sobida; **Rejoined the Class** - 1. Bong Diesta, and 2. Caloy Garcia.

We are happy that over the years we had some addition to our rank. These are our **adopted members**: 1. Napoleon Venturina (since our SROC training in 1984) 2. Mar Roxas 3. Mel Valdez 4. Paolo Miciano 5. Teodoro Jumamil 6. Generoso del Castillo Jr 7. Danilo Dayanghirang



Maharlika Class of 1984 Board of Trustees and Coy Officers , Taken during the General Assembly meeting @ Phil Army Golf Club in Dec 2024.

8. Don Daquial 9. Jerenato Alfante 10. Rommel Gavieta 11. Herbert Bautista 12. Renato Cayetano (RIP) 13. William Uy 14. Rodolfo Serrano 15. Nelson Chidrome 16. Ronald Uychutin 17. Sara Duterte 18. Manuel Ferrera 19. Robert Ganzon 20. Edrick Padilla 21. Mel Senen Sarmiento 22. Bernard Dy (for approval by Class BOD) 23. Francisco Suzara (for approval by Class BOD).

Also, some **non-graduate Maharlikans rejoined the Class**. They are as follows: 1. Marino Perez 2. Bienvenido Entico, Jr 3. Giovanni Masangcay 4. Alfredo Soriano, Jr 5. Agustin Dorego 6. Allen Lasam 7. Eduardo Loyola, Jr 8. Derick Rasalan 9. Gabriel Velasco 10. Robert Asencio 11. Rodolfo Abcede 12. Angelito Sacramento 13. Edgar Marcha 14. Anastacio Salera 15. Manuel Bucayu, Jr 16. Ramon Luzada 17. Leo Goddard 18. Alredo Jacinto 19. Carlos Garcia (+) 20. Benjamin Baladad 21. Wilfredo Eslao 22. Gil Fernandez 23. Ronald Jugao 24. Ramon Lusterio 25. Paul Peter Ong 26. Nonito Tan 27. Art Lim 28. John Castriciones 29. Jaime Remonte, Jr 30. William Ibrado 31. Edwin Marcial 32. Nathaniel Diesta (+) 33. Lawrence Dulawan 34. Reynaldo Linco 35. Nelson Nato 36. Edgardo Rasco 37. Vicente Raval 38. Crispin Sapit, Jr 39. Sergio Valdez 40. Bong Bunagan 41. Condrado Vicente 42. Jessamyn Nuñez 43. Edgardo Rillera 44. Rafael Parayno 45. Luigi Escaño and 46. Eugene Pamongag.

Today, **189** Maharlikan-graduates, including seven US service academy-graduates, are still enjoying what life offers them. Let us live life to the fullest and take care of our health. Here they are: Ulysses Abellera, Agane, Adriatico, Simplicio Agozar, Jr, Francis Alaurin, Noelito Albano, Richard Albano, Roberto Aligayay, Jesse Alvarez, Gerry Amante, Josephus Angan, Napoleon Angeles, Herminigildo Aquino, Filoteo Arevalo, Jr, Noel Armilla, Alan Arrojado, Roland Arugay, Paul Atal, George Avila, Jon Aying, Renato Babaran, Joel Bagasin, Benjamin Banta, Cornelio Barrios, Joseph Barte, Teodorico Basa, Orlando Belington, Johnny Bergado, Ramon Bombais, Jr, Noel Buan, Pierre Bucsit, Orlando Caballegan, Nepthali Cabanos, Harold Cabreros, Salvador Calanoy IV, Joel Cantos, Hernando Caraig, Jr, Amado Caro, Jr, Alexis Castro, Washington Catameo, Gregory Cayetano, Generoso Cerbo, Jr, Cheang Kai-hein, Edwin Cheng, Marcial Constante, Jr, and Noel Constantino.

Telesforo Dacquel, Daniel Damasco, Jr, Arsenio David, Jr, Jesus De Castro, Claro De Guzman, Rene De Guzman, Angelito De Laon, Raul Del Rosario, Steve Del Rosario, Milner Dela Cruz, Daniel Delgado, Arnold Depakakibo, Bernardo Diaz, Dino Diño, Angelito Domingo, Peter Donato, Federico Dulay, Daniel Ebesate, Bonifacio Echaz, Werner Elpedes, Joel Enrile, Ernesto Enriquez, Christopher Estella, Ramon Estella, Ronald Estilles, Arthur Evangelista, Samuel Felipe, Aaron Fetalvero, Ramon Florece, Norman Flores, Ferdinand Gabriel, Bayani Gaerlan, Danilo Galapon, Francisco Garce, Jose Gentiles, Norman Gomez, Edgar Gonzales, Pablo Gonzales, Rey Guerrero, Ranier Idio, Salih Indanan, James Jacob, Samuel Jardin, Wilfredo Jimenez, James Joven, Rowel Julian, Anselmo Junsay, Jioselito Kakilala, Robert Kiunisala, Reynaldo Labanen, Oscar Lactao, Hilario Lagnada, Moro Lazo, Elmer Logronio, Ernesto Lopena, Leandro Loyao III;

Glenn Macasero, Roger Madalogdog, Benito Madarang, Florante Malijan, Eddie Maningding, Job Marasigan, Rafael Mariano, Augusto Marquez, Jr, Joeroy Mendoza, Nestor Merginio, Jonathan Miano, Jose Mirandilla, Jr, Noel Misleng, Salvador Mison, Jr, Paterno Morales, Jose Motril, Reynaldo Mutiangpili, Agapito Nagrampa, Jr, Carlo Nava, Isagani Nerez, Louie Oppus, Manuel Orduña, Arturo Orticio, Jr, James Pacis, Joel Pagdilao, Domingo Palisoc, Jr, Gregor Pabelo, Allan Parreño, Virgilio Parrocha, Buenaventura Pascual, Noel Patajo, Arnel Patolot, Danilo Pelisco, Alfredo Peñola, Mariano Perez, Jr, Winnefred Perez, Raul Petrasanta, Martin Pinto, Manuel Prieto, Leopoldo Primero III, Nestor Quinsay, Elmer Quiros, Raniel Ramiro, Frederick Ramos, Manuel Ramos, Ernesto Ravina, Alvin Reyes, Julius Reyes, Melchor Reyes, Rolando Reyes, Jorge Roque, Renwick Rutaquio.

Ubaldo Sadiarin, Jr, Juanito Sampang, Donato San Juan, Rogelio Santiano, Ronald Santos, Rafael Sera Jose, Fernando Sevilla, Reuben Sindac, Gilbert Sosa, Pedro Sumayo, Jr, Bernardino Sun, Carlomagno Tabo, Noli Taliño, Raul Tangco, Alvin Tiam Watt, Jay Tindoy, Roy Toling, Danilo Tolosa, Danilo Ubaldo, Eric Uchida, Neofito Urbina, Rafael Valencia, Henry Valeroso, Renato Verceles, Mariano Verzosa, Roberto Villanueva, Athelo Ybañez, Joseph Ymson, Job Yucoco, Roy Antonio, Audie Embestro, Rey Jaurigue, Raul Mangalindan, Renato Maraño, Johnson So and Napoleon Taas.





Forged Under the Pines: The Enduring Legacy of PMA **BANTAY-LAYA CLASS of 1994**

Nestled among towering pine trees that stand as silent witnesses to history, the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in Baguio City is more than a training ground; it's a crucible where futures are forged and destinies are shaped. It was here, over three decades ago, that the Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 embarked on a remarkable journey—a journey that would transform them from wide-eyed civilians into esteemed leaders of the Armed Forces.

As the morning mist lifted on 01 April 1990, some 369 young men from various walks of life crossed the threshold of the PMA. They carried with them not just their belongings but also a tapestry of dreams and aspirations, each unique yet united by a common thread of patriotic duty. The air was ripe with anticipation and a palpable sense of the unknown. This was the day their lives would change forever.

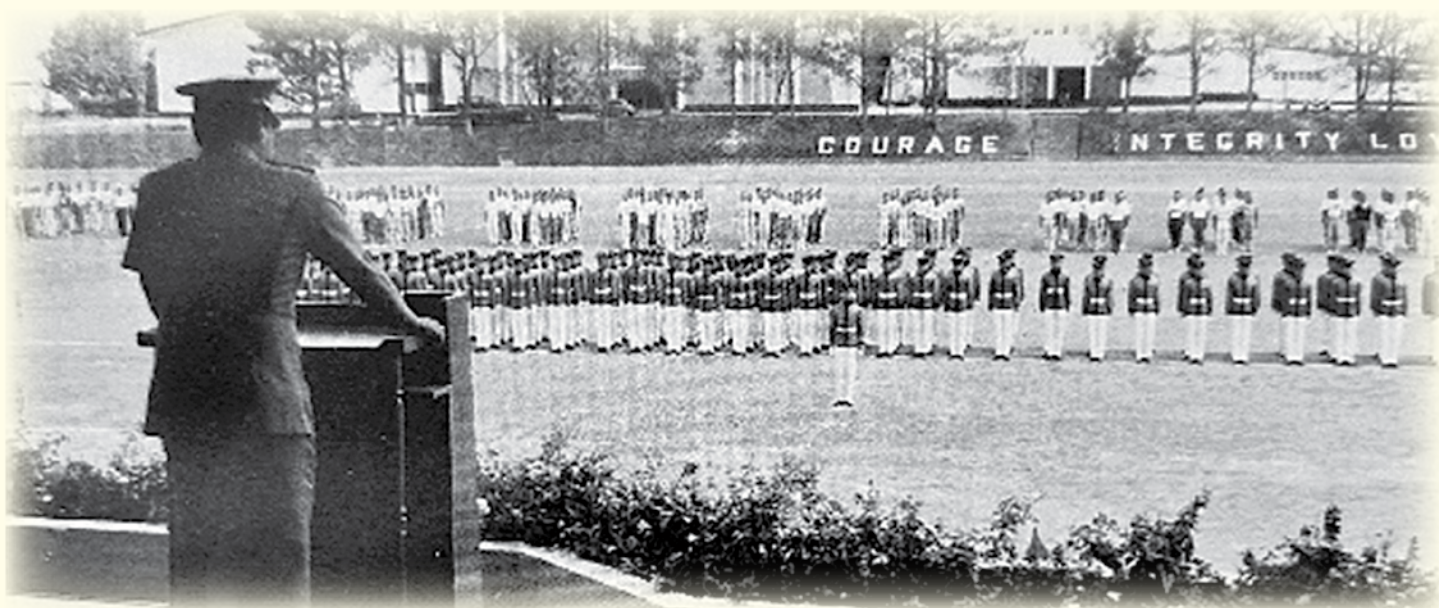
The early days were a whirlwind of new experiences, each moment a step into a world vastly different from their civilian past. The cadets, in their crisp uniforms, were a striking contrast against the lush green backdrop of the Academy. They were introduced to the rigorous discipline of military life through a series of traditions and rituals, each designed to test their resolve and build their character.

One of the most defining moments of their Plebe Year was the Reception Rites. It was a rite of passage that symbolized their transformation. The cadets, lined up in perfect formation, could feel the weight of history and responsibility settle upon their shoulders. The drill instructors, stern yet fair, were not just teachers but gatekeepers to a revered tradition of excellence and service.

As the months rolled by, the challenges grew, but so did the bonds of brotherhood. The cadets learned to rely on each other, finding strength in their unity. The grueling physical training, the endless drills, the late-night study sessions—all these hardships were endured together, forging a bond that would last a lifetime.

There were moments of joy, too—the triumphant feeling after a successful drill, the camaraderie during mess hall dinners, and the quiet reflections during evening roll calls. Each experience, whether tough or tender, was a thread in the rich tapestry of their cadet life.

The Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 witnessed and adapted to significant events during their time at the Academy. The catastrophic



earthquake of July 16, 1990, was a stark reminder of the realities and responsibilities awaiting them outside the Academy's walls. In response, the cadets sprang into action, aiding in relief efforts and demonstrating early on the leadership and courage that would define their military careers.

As the years passed, the cadets evolved, their identities as soldiers solidifying with each passing day. The Incorporation Ceremony, Recognition Rites, and other milestones marked their progression from novices to leaders, ready to take their place in the storied ranks of the Armed Forces.

The day of their graduation was a culmination of years of hard work and perseverance. The Borromeo Field of Fort Del Pilar, usually serene, was alive with excitement and pride. The cadets, now confident and disciplined, marched in unison, their steps echoing the heartbeat of the nation they were sworn to protect. The 241 graduating members destined for greatness volunteered to join the



three major services of the armed forces with 114 joining the Army, 54 went to the Air Force, while the remaining 71 joined the Navy (39 eventually signed for the Fleet, 21 volunteered for the Marines, and 11 went to the Coast Guard).

Today, the 134 Active service members of the Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 have risen to prominent ranks in the military with 69 still in the Army, 22 in the PAF, 34 in the Navy (13 Marines), three in the Coast Guard (1 transferred from Army), and finally, four in the Corps of Professors.

After three decades of dedicated and faithful service to the nation, and in their respective capacities, they have etched indelible marks and lasting contributions to the sustained development and



respectable international reputation of the country, as well as securing for the current and future generations for Filipinos, the dividends of peace that they deserve.

They now serve as generals, commanders, and leaders, but the memories of their cadet days remain vivid in their hearts. They often reminisce about the laughter, the challenges, and the sense of purpose that defined their time at the Academy. To date, there are 13 members who reached the coveted General and Flag Ranks, namely VADM Joseph Coyme PCG, MGEN Pros Rebancos PA, COMMOs Tito Andal PCG, Prudy Patricio PCG, and BGENs Stephen Agtoto COP, Jun Omar PAF, Alvin Luzon PA, Aldrin Annani PAF, Chute Adecer PN(M),



Gani Criste PA, Mon Flores PA, Ivan Papera PN(M), and Ace Ventura PAF. Additional three are awaiting their appointments as Commodores and BGen as of this writing, namely, Gerry Garrido PN, Chito Bello PA, Rhonald Juan PN(M).

There are 91 able-bodied members as BIRC, practicing professions either as commercial pilots, businessmen, public servants, and some are abroad as OFWs. We will not forget the 16 Bantay-Layans who joined our Creator ahead of everyone, namely: Dante Borebor, Pipoy Calimag, Ric Carolasan, Jonathan Dante, Rogelio Eligino, Mario Laplana, Josefino Marcellones, Rene Marcial, Gerard Padilla, Roderick Palecpec, Ferdie Panganiban, Fermin Quinson, Ronald Sacatani, Francis Salmon, Chris Teves, and Mike Velarde. May their souls rest in peace and they remain in our hearts forever.

The members are also proud to prove that “the Apple does not fall far from the tree”, as some of our brats opted to follow the footsteps of their dads, as they joined the different services in the AFP, PCG and PNP. To date, there are 12 Bantay-Laya brats who are Cadets in PMA and even in foreign service academies (USMA and USCG). There are also 26 officer Brats in the service as CPTs, 1LTs, 2LTs and Ensigns proudly serving our nation. A testament of the Bantay-Layans’ dedication and loyalty that extends to their families.

Their story is not just a tale of military training; it’s a saga of personal transformation and lifelong bonds. The PMA Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 stands as a testament to the enduring impact of those formative years, a reminder that the journey from civilian to soldier is a path paved with courage, sacrifice, and an unbreakable spirit of camaraderie.



A Spiritual Journey:

From the Fighter Pilot's Cockpit to GOD's Pulpit

Ernesto Clement L Sacro – Fighter/Helicopter Pilot. God's Servant Leader

(An Interview by Brother Romeo D Ranay with Commodore Ernesto L Sacro PCGA, Ph)

Abstract

"Whatever is your 'PROFESSION' or 'work' you are into, young or old, if GOD calls you and appoints you as HIS 'SERVANT' in HIS Vineyard to do the 'WORK' HE has prepared for you, you need to go and bear fruit – fruit that last."

Ernesto L. Sacro: A Distinguished Leader and Devout Servant of God

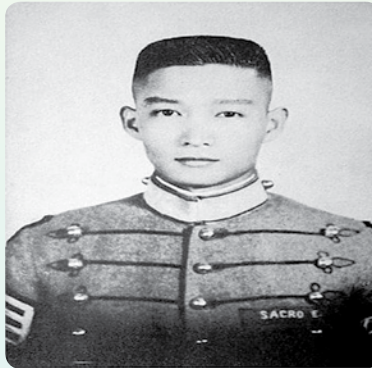
Ernesto Clement L. Sacro – with an indelible mark on both the military and spiritual landscape, is an esteemed honor graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, a combat-ready fighter jet pilot from the Philippine Air Force Flying School, a distinguished alumnus of the AFP General Staff College and one-time dean thereafter. During his military career, he occupied multifarious positions and was hailed as "a Soldier Livelihood innovator." He is a highly decorated officer and recipient of various awards for combat and community services. Despite retiring from the service in 1996, Kuya Ernie, opted a rarely pursued vocation answering God's call and serving as an ordained bishop, pastor, and chaplain of the AFP Chaplain Service.

Why did this successful man pursue a spiritual path? From the high-speed world of fighter cockpit to the spiritual pulpit, how did this professionally accomplished fine cavalier end up as Chairman Emeritus of the Military Christian Fellowship Philippines Incorporated, a role he continues to fulfill with unwavering dedication, until today?

Background: What is Military Christian Fellowship Philippines Incorporated

The Military Christian Fellowship Philippines, Inc. (MCFPI) is a community of believers comprising active, retired, and reserved members of the uniformed services including their dependents and families, as well as civilian personnel. Affiliated with the internationally acclaimed Association of Military Christian Fellowship (AMCF), the organization cooperates with local communities, other Christian ministries, churches, and fellowships to fulfill its mission, which is to spread the Word of God in alignment with the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). The MCFPI is founded on Christian faith, embracing the principle that "All one in Christ" (Galatians 3:28).

This Bible-based Christian organization actively encourages participation in military chapel programs, fostering a sense of unity among its members. They come together in prayer, outreach, meetings, communication, teaching, encouragement, and cooperation to support the government's efforts in moral



recovery, character development, ethics, and the armed forces transformation.

To Kuya Ernie, the MCFPI is a sanctuary of the Lord where he can bring the message of Matthew 28:18-20 – the mission of the MCFPI, in influencing the life of men and women towards salvation in Christ Jesus.

Kuya Ernie's Path to Leadership

Ernie Lopez Sacro, born just before World War II, received early education from his mother, a public school teacher. Growing up in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte, Ernie's home fostered a vibrant learning environment. His father, a courageous officer who fought till his death in the Philippine Army during World War II, inspired him for the service.

Beginning his leadership journey at Feati University in 1957, Ernie enrolled in BS Aeronautical Engineering. Under the Feati Air Force ROTC program, he was the Model Squadron Commander in his 3rd year and was incoming Corps Commander FU ROTC Program in his 4th year, but he chose to join the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in 1961. Ernie excelled, graduating in 1965 as an Honor Graduate aside from the Commandant of Cadets Award, marking the start of his distinguished military career as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Philippine Air Force.

Throughout his military journey, Ernie demonstrated excellence as a combat-ready pilot, operations officer, and





intelligence officer. Notably, he was part of the PAF RED ACES ACROBATIC team, holding the center slot during the Aviation Week 1971 performance.

Leadership Versatility

In 1972, Lt. Sacro's career took an international turn with intensive training in the United States. Upon returning to the Philippines, he entered the realm of intelligence at the Office of Defense Intelligence. Fate intervened when he assumed command of the 5th AP Squadron in the absence of the regular commander. Subsequently, Lt. Sacro became Deputy and Intelligence Officer for Task Force Isabela, a unit combating illicit firearms landings in Diguyo, Palanan. Leading reconnaissance missions and piloting various aircrafts, he gathered crucial intelligence, served as a co-pilot in helicopters, and as "Forward Observer" directed fighter aircraft during precise airstrikes. His exceptional skills led to his appointment as a Counter-Intel Officer, where he played a crucial role in safeguarding national security.

With the declaration of Martial Law, Task Force Saranay transformed into Northeast Command, AFP (the 2nd AFP's Regional Command) to address the New People's Army presence in Isabela. Promoted to Captain in October 1972, Lt. Sacro took command of the Composite Air Support Force (CASFP) Isabela, NEC, upon the direction of BGen Jose Rancudo CG PAF, succeeding Lt Col Romeo S David. On 1 October 1973, Captain Sacro was promoted to the rank of Major taking over the late LTC Diosdado Y Cunanan in 1974 (who met an accident), as the new Assistant Chief of Unified Staff, U2, NEC, AFP, and PIO. For his proficiency, unwavering commitment and expertise within the U-2, NEC, and AFP, he was promoted to Lt Colonel in 1 Oct 1975. In 1980, he was appointed as Commander of Task Force Hydra Alfa, NEC, AFP, a critical mission aimed at confronting NPA Commander Father Conrado Balweg in the Kalinga-Apayao. Part of his team were SF/Scout Ranger elements, the PC/INP of Kalinga-Apayao, and an Army Battalion under his command.

The Fighter Jockey Meets the Ultimate Pilot

On May 27, 1981, it marked a fateful day in Lt Colonel Sacro's journey. With Colonel Fajardo and Mrs. Kim Tanchangco, at TF Hydra Alfa Headquarters, Isabela they arranged for the New People's Army Balweg's surrender. The next day, while still aboard the helicopter about to land at the surrender site, they were treacherously ambushed upon landing resulting into the death of Colonel Fajardo and Mrs. Tanchangco. LtCol Sacro sustained injuries while fighting off the rebels. In an act of courage and a high sense of responsibility to prevent the capture of the helicopter, he signaled the pilots to take off, leaving for safety. In this life-threatening situation, he turned to a higher

power, praying fervently for assistance and vowing to dedicate his life to serving God. Lt Col Sacro kept vigil overnight and a day staying with the bodies of the two victims. For his uncommon feat, risking his life, he earned himself two medals - a Gold Cross and a Wounded Personnel Medal - a rare feat for pilots on the battlefield. In recognition of his achievements, he was promoted to temporary Colonel on 26 Dec 1982 followed by his permanent promotion to Colonel on 28 Jun 1985, retroactive to Jul 1984.

A Servant Leader's Journey

Kuya Ernie was a one time PMAAAI Cavalier Awardee in 1975 in the field of Peace and Order. An exceptional individual, Kuya Ernie Sacro made significant contributions to his community. In 1977, he was named the most outstanding new Jaycee of the Philippines and the most outstanding Jaycee of the Philippines the next year. He gained recognition as one of the Senators of Junior Chamber International. He was honored with the prestigious "Paul Harris Fellow" title by Rotary International in 1978 for his outstanding community involvement. He introduced innovative ways for people to make a living. In June 1983, he was also designated Secretary General Armed Forces of the Philippines Kilusang Kabuhayan sa Kaunlaran (KKK) and Development Secretariat replacing BGen Alexander L Felix PC. Kuya Ernie was elevated to the position of Director General of the Socio-Economic Development Center, AFP from 1 Sep 1986 to 19 Nov 1986 thereafter becoming the OIC New AFP (NAFP) Economic Welfare Systems (NEWS) up to 13 April 1989 where later he was upgraded as Commander, AFP NEWS, GHQ, AFP.

For his expertise in livelihood, he was set as an IAEC board member for many years. In the book "Pillars of Society and The Achieving Man," Clem Ulclaray paid a tribute to a living legend Colonel Ernesto L Sacro: The Soldier as A Livelihood Innovator. *"A soldier who wields not a gun of doom but a heart that is ... compassionate and accommodating – he could melt an antagonist's steel heart to surrender."* (p171)

A Transformative Journey of a Servant Leader

His life shifting from the military to the calling of God, the Lord Almighty reminded him of his commitment in 1981 during his near-death experience in Kalinga-Apayao. He sought the Lord's ways, learning from mentors, and doing counselling to soldiers he met. Through his wife, retired Colonel May Bacabac (whom he married in 1988), Kuya Ernie's unwavering commitment to family and spiritual work manifested in prayer meetings in military camps and Bible distributions. Recognizing his dedication, the CSAFP

Leading the 49 Pers in a Prayer of Faith with the Personnel of the CAAP Finance & Management Division & all its Sections on 29 July 2008 (PM).





issued an order in 1991, designating him as Auxiliary Chaplain of the Chaplain Service, AFP.

In 1995, while still in service, Kuya Ernie was named the most outstanding chaplain of the Church of God USA, foreshadowing his future endeavors. Upon retiring from his military career in 1996, he dedicated himself to serving various Christian Churches. Guided by his faith, Kuya Ernie joined the Military Christian Fellowship, where he served as Chairman from 2003 to 2008, later becoming President from 2008 to 2013. Under his leadership, MCFPI obtained non-profit, NGO, and spiritual organization status in 2008.

In his current capacity as Chairman Emeritus of MCFPI, Kuya Ernie draws on his extensive experience, seamlessly blending military discipline with profound spirituality to inspire others. His legacy resonates across military and spiritual realms, embodying qualities of dedication, leadership, and unwavering faith.

A Global Ministry

God's Word is boundless. Through Kuya Ernie, the Lord's impacts extended beyond the country, leaving an indelible mark on the international stage. God rewards the humble and the obedient. For his years of dedicated service in support of the evangelical chaplain ministry to international Armed Services, Kuya Ernie received the prestigious Centurion Award from the International Association of Evangelicals Commission on Chaplains in December 2004.

International Collaborations and Leadership

Kuya Ernie has been at the epicenter of the Military Christian Fellowship of the Philippines as part of the global Association of Military Christian Fellowship, other MCF organizations of other countries and the internationally acclaimed - Association for Christian Conferences, Teaching, and Service bonded together in expanding the Lord's territory in South East Asia.

Alongside his wife, Sister May Sacro, he organized and conducted Inductive Bible Study and Conversational Prayer sessions in MCF, South Korea, Seoul, during the 2004 AMCF World Congress.

Kuya Ernie, in 2005, trained the first Khmer Christian Leadership Training and Christian Leadership Seminar in a military school thru MCF Cambodia, a discipleship training to MCF Military and Police in Thailand and in 2013 conducted Chaplaincy Training for 20 participants in partnership with MCF Myanmar. He would later do an outreach to orphans in a Myanmar church.

Kuya Ernie represented MCF at the AMCF East Asia Conference in Taiwan IN 2007. The following year, as the representative of the AMCF SEA Vice President he delivered a powerful message in Bali, Indonesia, acknowledging the work of the Holy Spirit in the country. On November 20, 2011, Kuya Ernie was prayed over as the Vice President of AMCF SEA during the AMCF conference hosted by MCF Sri Lanka. As Vice President for MCF SEA from 2008 to 2019, Kuya Ernie Sacro had a profound impact on the South East Asian region, serving as a beacon of hope and spiritual guidance.

MILVED Program: Spreading Moral and Spiritual Values

The Military Values and Education (MILVED) program stands as a testament to Kuya Ernie Sacro's dedication and service. Together with Sister May, they prepared modules for the MILVED seminars and other spiritual trainings introducing in 2003 to the military, police, schools, prisons, hospitals, and various organizations including military units that are deployed for security assignments abroad. This is to impart moral and spiritual values to individuals in the uniformed services and civilian personnel and turn them as instruments of transformation and spiritual growth. He conducted MILVED by himself in the barangays, PNP in Camp Crame, and camps. With a directive from then Gov Imee Marcos, PNP Ilocos Norte, then under Col Antonio Mendoza, was given the seminar. With the approval from the PNP, Jolo Sulu, Rizal and Masbate PNP units also underwent Moral and Spiritual Value Education.

Anointed for God's work, he was usually the MILVED speaker. To multiply the speakers and pass on the anointing of God, he decided to conduct "Chaplaincy Training" to MCFP Leaders (active, retired, military dependents and civilian church leaders).

Promotion comes from the Lord as the Bible says. Kuya Ernie was made honorary PCGA Commodore with the late VADM Eduardo Alvarez designating him as PCGA Ecumenical Director and Commander of the 508 PCGA Auxiliary Squadron. God's positioning of Kuya Ernie allowed him to conduct seminars on Moral Values and Spiritual Enlightenment to a number of PCGA Units. As one of the Directors during Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, then USEC MGen Ciron supported Kuya Ernie in personally conducting similar training seminars to all Personnel at CAAP Main Hqs including other offices at international and national airports.

In the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Lord's hands stirred the heart of then Gen Hermogenes Esperon Jr and former TDCSAFP Lt Gen Pedrito Cadungog which culminated into the

issuance of a directive for Kuya Ernie to conduct MILVED seminars in all AFP units. CG, PA; CG, PAF, FOIC, PN/PM followed suit where he and BGen Oscar Randy S Dauz AFP (Ret) conducted seminars at 51D, PA in Gamu, Isabela; all units in Isabela, Cagayan, Abra and Ilocos Sur followed by the 1IDPA and the Army Special Operations Command under then MGen Benito Ramos in Fort Magsaysay. BGen Dauz conducted MILVED to PA personnel of the First Scout Ranger Regiment (FSRR) PA, San Miguel, Bulacan; and to 2ID PA and to all its battalions in Rizal, Laguna and Mindoro; then to 1st Infantry Division, PA in Pagadian City. All other PA infantry divisions, Regional Commands, Naval Commands and Philippine Marines Hqs with two PM Brigades, PMA, PMMA and the training commands under PA, PAF, PA were given MILVED Seminars.

Chaplaincy Training and Recruitment

Kuya Ernie is dedicated to providing comprehensive training for Community Service Chaplains, extending the program to military personnel, dependents, and civilian pastors/workers. The training supports MILVED, Spiritual Enlightenment, bible study leaders, and Area MCFP coordinators. Among the notable graduates from the military are Lt Gen Gregorio Camiling, BGen Oscar Randy Dauz, MGen Essel Soriano, BGen Jose Johriel Cenabre, current MCFPI Chairman BGen Francisco Gudani, Col Ching Saavedra, Andres Comia and wife Evelyn, Cap Josefina Policarpio, Dolores Ibrado and others actively serving in the Lord's vineyard. From the civilian sectors, some graduates are Dr. Paul Tabon from PBTS Baguio City, Bishop Glenn Inciong, Reverend Gloria Dumia, Bro Homer Marjes, Sis Vicky Dongallo, Pastora Gina Limto, etc.

Initially conducted in various locations like Davao City, Naga City, Laoag City, and more, the training adapted to virtual formats during the pandemic. Two classes were completed through webinars, with more slated for the coming year. Despite challenges, each course spans up to 42 hours, aligning with the commitment to fulfill the Lord's will.

Hospital and Prison Ministries

Kuya Ernie's compassionate ministry extended to hospitals, where he offered solace, healing, and spiritual guidance. He also played a pivotal role in the Prison Ministry, extending a hand to those who were lost and often forgotten, including National Bilibid Prison inmates some of whom turned to the Lord where he solemnized weddings. He "bore" fruits at the Bilibid prison as he also conducted a "Basic Chaplaincy Training Course" some of whom are serving as pastors and chaplains after their release. His unwavering dedication bore fruit as some of these individuals embarked on a path of redemption.

A Legacy of Unwavering Faith

Kuya Ernie Sacro's life is an extraordinary journey. His love for God and commitment to uplifting communities and individuals have left an enduring impact, both locally and internationally.

His legacy is a testament to the transformative power of faith, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to serving others. Kuya Ernie Sacro's journey from the cockpit to the pulpit is an inspiration to all, reminding us of the profound impact one individual can have when guided by faith and a dedication to serving a higher purpose.

Give my words wings, Lord. May they fly swift and far,
winning the race with the words of the worldly wise, to
the hearts of men.



The First Squadron of Chaplains was organized in Davao City: the 817 Squadron.





DECISIVE LEADERSHIP: Safeguarding Stability Amidst Destabilization Threats

• CAV JAIME S DELOS SANTOS '69

As the Holiday Season approached in December 2023, unsettling news circulated within the media, acknowledging rumblings among retired members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Despite attempts to garner support from active members, CSAFP Gen Romeo Brawner, Jr. swiftly addressed and dismissed any destabilization attempts. However, a recent manifesto initiated by certain Philippine Military Academy graduates gained attention, emphasizing the withdrawal of support from the incumbent President and the installation of the Vice-President as Chief Executive. The lead figure, lacked a noteworthy military service record, raising questions about the legitimacy of the movement.

The tenor of the manifesto was rather serious because it delved on the withdrawal of support from the incumbent President and the installation of the Vice-President as Chief Executive. Some other identified personalities did not project distinguished and meritorious services as military professionals that can generate respect and following. The issues cited include among others the national budget, corruption in government and the MUP pension. Among the many issues identified that can generate traction, if ever, towards destabilization is the MUP pension. The rest are beyond their sphere of competence. Secretary Benjamin Diokno mishandled the MUP pension issue without due regard to the military psyche. One of the cardinal rules in maintaining the stability in a military unit is that, never interfere in their salaries and wages. The others are, never interfere with their women and lastly, do not denigrate their sense of dignity. These cardinal rules date back to the time of Napoleon Bonaparte, hence, generated unquestioned loyalty from among his troops. In some Armies, mutiny erupted due to these reasons.

Coup d'état is defined by Merriam Webster as a *"sudden decisive exercise of force in politics, especially the violent overthrow or alteration of an existing government by military force."* Among the reasons are erosion of trust in the national government, differences in the political agenda, deterioration of social justice, constitutional infirmities, nepotism, and the most prevalent is corruption. A military seeks to restore good governance and political stability, more effective administration of the bureaucracy, neutralization of terrorism, and eventually, the installation of a new leader.

These primary causes are further aggravated due to personal ambitions of the coup plotters, democratic institutions are being

assailed, marginalization of the uniformed services to include their resources. In the coup against the Marcos and Estrada administrations, the intervention of the masses forming a critical mass in sync with the military's initiatives as protectors of the people were the tipping points in the success. On the other hand, the coup attempts under the Cory administration ended in failure due to the absence of mass support.

An antidote to destabilization lies in maintaining a professional Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Drawing from Samuel Huntington Ph.D's research, military professionalism comprises expertise, responsibility, and corporateness—the latter emphasizing a sense of community within the national framework. Synchronicity between the military and the masses, driven by a common purpose, played a pivotal role in past destabilizations.

The leadership factor is the greatest element that defines stability in the uniformed services. It is essential to examine closely the personalities that compose the highest echelons, their backgrounds individually and collectively. At the helm is the CSAFP and three Major Service Commanders of PA, PAF, and PN. They are Generals Brawner, Galido, Parreño, and Admiral Adaci respectively. Except for the FOIC, I have worked closely with each one of them when I was still in the active service, they, as junior officers. All rose to occupy the highest positions in the chain of command through merit, hard work, unsullied reputation and not even a whiff of nor involvement in graft and corruption. They all represent the epitome of leadership of the highest order. Likewise, as equal partners in the defense of our constitutional mandate is the PNP. The organization today has metamorphosed and continues to develop into a mature and professional institution. I am a personal witness to its positive transformation being the incumbent Chairman, PNPA Advisory Board. Chief PNP Gen. Acorda, likewise, is in the league of professionals that manifest superior leadership qualities.

The political leadership represented by Defense Secretary Teodoro completes the **Stabilization Team**. He stood firm against the ambitions of China. These statements provide a high motivational value for all to rally behind the advocacy of patriotism and nationalism.

Corruption is the one single factor that can destabilize any government. (Published in the Cavalier Magazine, January-March 2024 issue, page 70)

Leading Economic Developments and Outlook on the Philippines, 2022-2025

• **CAV WILFREDO G NUQUI '68**
Former Regional Policy Adviser
United Nations

I. Context and global outlook. This article highlights recent developments, policies and outlook on the Philippine economy. Reduction of all forms of human poverty demands sustainable and inclusive economic growth. The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) recognizes the fulfillment of such human rights can only be achieved over time. All signatory States must take immediate steps within their means towards the progressive fulfillment of these rights. State parties submit regular reports to UN committees on the implementation of the ICESCR and other UN human rights conventions. The Committees address their respective concerns and recommendations to a reporting State party in the form of concluding observations. The Commission on Human Rights observes a marked improvement in the government's treatment of human rights issues (*PDI*).

Global economic growth is projected to slow from an estimated 2.7% in 2023 to 2.4% in 2024, below the pre-pandemic growth rate of 3% (*UNDESA*). In 2023, crude oil posted its highest price drop since 2020 as OPEC+ production cuts and shipping danger in the Red Sea failed to propel prices higher (Bloomberg). The anticipated trade-off between inflation and economic growth with positive employment rate did not take root in the U.S. and Philippines.

The world faces mixed geo-economic challenges. US faces legislation impasses and a public debt to GDP ratio of 123%. China suffers from a deep crisis in the property market, local government debt risks and geopolitical tensions (*Reuter*). Some of its major supply chains have moved to other countries. Fitch and Moody's cut the credit ratings of U.S. and China in 2023, respectively. A high debt to GDP ratio of 255%, low real wages and rapidly ageing population are weighing on the Japanese economy. India is poised to become the fourth largest economy in 2024-2025.

II. Economic situation in 2022-2023 and forecasts for 2024-2025. Per capita national income of Philippines is lower than those of leading ASEAN countries led by Singapore, a country in Asia with a per capita GDP higher than many other developed countries (*World Bank*). The Human Development Index (*HDI*, *UNDP*) measures a country's social and economic development with focus on four factors: mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, life expectancy at birth, and gross national income (GNI) per capita. Philippines' HDI is lower than those of Singapore and Malaysia. HDIs of Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia are almost even.

The Asia-Pacific region remains a key driver of global growth (*IMF*). Philippines is expected to be the fastest-growing economy in Southeast Asia in 2023 and 2024. ADB, IMF and WB consider Philippines has sufficient and favorable structural drivers. They are guardedly optimistic about the country's growth prospects despite global headwinds. GDP growth forecasts of the three multilateral development banks (MDBs) on Philippines are in the range of 5.3-5.7% in 2023, 5.6-6% in 2024 and near 6.1% in 2025. Official GOP targets are 6-7% in 2023 and 6.5-7.5% in 2024. IMF and ADB project Philippine inflation at 6-6.2% (2023), 3.7-4.0% (2024) and 3% in 2025, the highest among ASEAN 6.

Philippine economic growth was a high 7.6% in 2022 (*PSA*). Renewed resilience was demonstrated in electronics, BPO, mining and services. Growth in regional domestic product (GRDP) was led by Western Visayas which posted 9.3%. Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) ranked second (8.7%) followed by Davao (8.2%). Four other regions had growth rates

above the national performance. These are: Central Luzon and Bicol, both 8.1%; Cagayan Valley, 8%; and *CALABARZON*, 7.8%.

In the first half of 2023, income poverty incidence fell to 16.4% of families or by 1.7 percentage points. The decline is equivalent to 230,000 households escaping poverty (*NEDA*). Three regions posted increases in poverty namely Western Visayas, Zamboanga and Davao. Still 48% of Filipino families feel poor as of October 2023 (*SWS survey*). Around 4.1 million minimum wage earners benefited from wage adjustments in certain regions in 2023. Another 8.1 million full-time salary employees earning above minimum wage will benefit from the correction of wage distortions (NPWC). In 2022, total fertility among women, aged 15-65 in reproductive years fell to 1.9 children from 2.7 children in 2017 (*NDHS, PSA*). Lower fertility, increase in female labor participation and further economic, social and governance reforms are expected to progressively raise their quality of life.

III. Continuing crisis in early education. Philippines remains in the bottom 10 out of 81 countries in reading comprehension, mathematics and science of 15-year-old learners (*PISA results, 2022*). A World Bank report in 2022 reveals an alarming 91% learning poverty rate among Filipino 10-year-olds. They struggle to read simple text. It identifies multiple factors which influence learning, notably family income, health, access to school materials and teachers which have the largest impact.

Findings of SWS September 2023 survey on adult schooling levels are very disturbing: (a) incomplete elementary, 11%; (b) incomplete junior high school (JHS), 28%; (c) JHS grads, 31%; (d) senior high school (SHS) grads, 19%; and (e) college grads, 11% (*Mangahas*). Admitted college qualifiers from public schools to the University of the Philippines comprise 49.8% in SY 2023-2024. The 73% of all college students are enrolled in some 200 public tertiary institutions in 2023. Philippines ranks 20th of 113 countries in English proficiency among the 26-30 age group (2023 Education First English Proficiency Index). It is just behind Singapore in Asia.

The new DepEd *MATATAG* curriculum is designed to focus on foundational skills, leading to improved learning outcomes (*PIA*). It has seven learning areas. The early grade levels will have five learning areas: Language, Reading and Literacy, Math, *Makabansa*, and Good Manners and Right Conduct. The *MATATAG* K-10 Curriculum will be rolled out in phases over five years, starting with Kindergarten and Grades 1, 4, and 7 in school year 2024-2025. DepEd must correct its deplorable administration (*COA*). A sustained reduction in learning poverty will take several years to achieve due to many political, budgetary and other learning challenges. Subsidized SUCs and LUCs and private schools must raise competencies and international competitiveness in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Increases in the 2024 budgets of CHED, DepEd, SUCs and TESDA are indeed very timely.

IV. Challenges to economic growth and inflation management. MDBs emphasize the need to boost labor productivity, infrastructure competitiveness, and climate resilience to ensure growth remains robust. "The Philippine economy has largely remained resilient, notwithstanding global uncertainties, geopolitical tensions, economic headwinds, high interest rates and inflation. Growth sources are still anchored on strong domestic demand. Household consumption and fixed investment

in both the public and private sectors remain as the biggest growth drivers. The Philippines still needs to significantly improve infrastructure competitiveness, enhance productivity and investments in both agriculture and industry, nurture its demographic dividend, and intensify climate action”.

In Dec 2023, the IMF Board noted domestic demand can be bolstered if inflationary pressures subside. *“Monetary tightening by BSP, a lower-than-expected minimum wage hike for Metro Manila and other regions and non-monetary measures helped mitigate inflation.”*

Philippines is a high-performing country in the 2024 Climate Change Performance Index ranking 6th. It earns high in the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy use categories, medium in renewable energy and low in climate policy. RA No. 11659 (Public Service Act) allows full foreign ownership of renewable energy projects. BSP will expand financing of private banks involved with carbon footprint reduction. Renewable and green energy is targeted to increase its share in the domestic energy mix to 35% in 2030 and 60% by 2050 (DoE).

The years 2015-2023 were the hottest on record (WMO). Mean temperatures in all areas in the Philippines are expected to rise by 1.8C to 2.2C in 2050 (PAGASA). China, U.S. and India account for the largest “climate debt” i.e., the cumulative negative effects of carbon dioxide emissions, whose costs are imposed on the globe without compensation (IMF F&D). Climate policies and programs are best informed by science and climate technology. A massive deployment of solar, wind, hydroelectric and other renewables is crucial to efforts to replace planet-heating coal, oil and gas and achieve acceptable lower carbon emissions by 2050. These demand stronger political will, huge funding and unselfish international cooperation.

Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. “At least 60% of the country’s total land area and close to 74% of its population are exposed to multiple natural hazards, including typhoons, floods, storm surges, tsunamis, and landslides” (WB). Risks are a direct function of hazards, exposures and vulnerabilities and inversely of capacity to mitigate and adapt i.e., $(R=f((H,E,V)/C))$. Mangrove forests especially of the right variety significantly strengthens coastal defense. Catastrophe risk insurance does not indemnify the pure ex-post loss such as on agricultural crops, but ex ante provides a payment upon the occurrence of a triggering event.

At least 65 provinces are expected to experience a strong El Niño phenomenon in 2024. Drought raises negative risks on rice and other food production, agricultural incomes and water security. Global rice prices are at a historical high since Sept 2023 (FAO). Tariff rates for rice will officially remain at 35%, while import levies on corn will stay at 5%-15% and 15%-25% for pork products in 2024.

V. Public budgeting for 2024. The P5.768 Trillion GAA for 2024 was signed into law by the President on Dec 19, 2023. It is 9.5% higher than the 2023 GAA and is equivalent to 21.7% of GDP. But the inclusion of un-programmed funds amounting to P731 billion remains legally contentious. These funds did not undergo the essential Senate and HoR hearings. Increased digitalization is expected to improve the economy, business operations and government efficiency.

Philippines ranks 95th out of 137 economies in the 2023 World Competitiveness Ranking in infrastructure (IMD). It markedly lags behind many ASEAN peers in foreign direct investments and tourist arrivals. Nine restrictive and protectionist provisions of the 1987 Constitution are a collective stumbling block to economic growth and development and require amendments (*Foundation for Economic Freedom*). Infrastructure competitiveness is faced by persistent challenges such as sufficiency, deficiencies and quality. Supreme Court affirmed that the Contractor’s License Law (RA No. 4566) allows foreign construction firms can obtain regular licenses to engage in construction in the Philippines. The ruling should compel local contractors to be more efficient and competitive.

The total public infrastructure budget accounts for 5-6% of GNP annually. Infrastructure priorities include the North-South Commuter Railway System and Metro Manila Subway Project. DoTr’s budget doubles in 2024 and focuses on mass transport including rail systems. The PUV Modernization Plan must be financially viable, phase in mass rail transport systems and consult more stakeholders especially public commuters. Investment incentives in domestic ship building and freight and passenger



shipping have expired in 2014 and urgently need enhancements with greater attention to addressing climate hazards.

Flagship infrastructure projects approved by the NEDA Board have estimated economic rates of return at least 10%. Funding and technical support from ODA and private partners is intensified. ADB recently approved a US\$2.1-billion ODA loan for the construction of the 32.15km climate-resilient *Bataan–Cavite Interlink Bridge Project*. The bridge will better link MMA to Region-III and Region IV-A which together account for 60% of GDP. It should address design, seismicity and typhoon challenges. Another approved project is the *Dalton Pass East Alternative Road* which is made up of 23.5km with a twin-tube long-distance tunnel. The P64.7-billion project is expected to be completed by 2031. It is co-planned by JICA and for co-funding by OECF.

China’s global Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which involves 155 cooperating countries, is under review. It faces issues related to increasing borrowers’ debt load, minimal use of domestic labor and sovereignty. Italy recently withdrew its membership. China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) co-financed a program loan with ADB on Philippine COVID crisis recovery in 2020. The *Binondo-Intramuros* and *Estrella-Pantaleon* bridges are grant-assisted by China. The inaugurated China loan-funded *Samal Island–Davao City Connector* (SIDC) project faces reef ecosystem environmental and economic issues (MONGABAY, 2023). Availment of fresh official Chinese loans by DoTC is under review.

Agriculture suffers from decades-old problems. These are principally low productivity arising from low fertilizer use (83% below ASEAN) and mechanization, small farm sizes (less than 7 hectares), infrastructure deficiencies such as irrigation, low and rice-centric budget, smuggling, extreme climate change and quality of seeds and policies. For 2024, DA has a larger budget in support of rice, corn, and high-value crops production. The food and learning crises reflect poor governance of several decades. Under a new leader, DA is set to unveil its upgraded strategy to modernize agriculture, boost the farm sector’s production capacity and improve the lives of farmers and fisher-folks.

Illegal occupation and destructive use of our territorial sea and EEZ have immeasurable economic and social costs. New wells are planned near the *Malampaya* gas field to replenish domestic gas reserves. Oil exploration is likewise planned. A larger portion of the 2024 GAA will support NICA, NSC, PN, PCG and BFAR to enhance surveillance capabilities. “ASEAN’s de facto unanimity-based decision-making modality is useless on the West Philippine Sea dispute. Our



government's bilateral and mini-lateral engagement with Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam seeks a modicum of united front against China's brazen bullying" (*Heydarian*). China's own constitution stipulates in Article 5 that "it shall practice law-based governance and build a socialist state under the rule of law" (*Guinigundo*).

The government of Japan recently allowed the export of finished defense products, including lethal ones as part of its official security assistance (OSA). Further relaxation of export conditions is expected. Previous guidelines only permitted the transfer of locally developed nonlethal assets and technologies, as seen with Japan's provision of patrol vessels and early-warning radars to the Philippines (*Japan Times*).

VI. Medium-term fiscal framework for 2024-2028. IMF officially shared its latest Article IV annual consultation report on the Philippines on Dec 15, 2023. IMF Board commended Philippine authorities for their appropriate policy response and implementation of key structural reforms. It observes that fiscal consolidation as envisaged under the Philippine Medium-Term Fiscal Framework is broadly on track, reflecting a strong revenue performance and lower current spending, while maintaining infrastructure outlays at or above 5% of GDP.

"The pace of consolidation is appropriate to bring the national government debt-to-GDP ratio to less than 60% over the medium-term. An even more ambitious revenue mobilization strategy could finance more social spending to achieve poverty reduction goals and to respond to natural disasters while keeping the deficit reduction path unchanged.

Fiscal reforms, including the MUP Pension and the Budget Modernization bills, are critical and should be complemented by ongoing efforts to strengthen the oversight of government-owned and controlled corporations. The renewed emphasis on financing the country's infrastructure gaps through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and the new PPP Code are most welcome. The reform of the mining fiscal regime and Mining Act aims to enact a progressive and unified tax system and a competitive investment climate."

The NEDA Board Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) is refining the medium-term economic and fiscal consolidation framework for 2024-2028. The framework addresses fiscal hindrances to sustainable growth prospects, need for massive revenue enhancement reforms and increased social protection especially of the poor. BIR and the BOC are implementing several reforms to strengthen tax administration and enhance revenue collection. These include digitalization programs

to minimize corruption, increase public transparency, and improve the ease of paying taxes. Public revenues ought to be buoyant and elastic i.e., growth in revenues must exceed growth in national incomes i.e., $dRev/dt > dGDP/dt$.

DoF works with Congress for the passage of remaining tax reforms on passive income e.g., interest and dividends and real property valuation and assessment, as well as new tax measures. These include the excise tax on single-use plastics. Philippines is one of the largest country sources of discarded waste that ends up in the ocean (*DENR*). The other proposed tax measures are the rationalization of the mining fiscal regime including open pit mining, motor-vehicle road users' tax, excise tax on sweetened beverages and junk foods, tax on pre-mixed alcohol, value-added tax (VAT) on digital service providers, carbon pricing and taxation, capital market development bill, and the military and uniformed personnel (MUP) pension reform bill.

DBCC commits to: (a) progressively target GDP growth at 6.5-8.0% annually for 2025-2028, (b) reduce the deficit-to-GDP ratio to the internationally accepted fiscal rule of not exceeding 3%, and (c) bring the debt-to-GDP ratio to 60% or below by 2028. DoF adopts a 65:35 mix in official GOP loans from local and official foreign sources, respectively. ODA loans from MDBs and governments (e.g., *OECD and KOICA*) contain long grace periods and lower interest rates. The grant element of an ODA loan is the difference between the present value of loan proceeds and the present value of principal and interest payments. RA No. 8182 prescribes that the "weighted average grant element of all ODA at any time shall not be less than forty percent (40%): Provided, further, that in no case shall the interest rate on the loan or loan component exceed 7%".

VII. Hopeful but guarded optimism. Supply side, structural reform and fiscal policies are imperative in attaining sustainable growth with price stability. Consumer inflation in Dec 2023 fell to 3.9% and averaged 6.0% in 2023. International authorities are divided if the period of high inflation and high interest rate policy responses have reached their peak. On Dec 13, 2023, the U.S. Federal Reserve left its federal funds rate in a range of 5.25-5.5% unchanged. It hinted at possible cuts by the end of 2024 (*CBS*). Global financial markets initially cheered which could be too soon.

The vigorous U.S. economy, continuing global shocks and domestic supply and logistics issues keep the inflation threat alive. BSP's 6.25% policy rate is projected to stay until a stable inflation within its 2-4% target is established even if the U.S. Fed starts a phased rate reduction process. A clearer picture should emerge in the first half of 2024.

The Dec 8-11, 2023 SWS Survey reveals respondents' hope for new year 2024 rose to 97% among Filipino adults in Metro Manila. College graduates were the most hopeful at 98%. It is 93% among non-elementary graduates, 97% among elementary graduates and 96% among junior high school graduates. Optimism is broad based. About 96% adults residing in Mindanao expressed optimism; it stayed at 97 percent in Balance Luzon, while it fell slightly to 93% in the Visayas."

The new Central Bank Act (RA No. 7653, as amended) became effective on June 14, 1993. It makes Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas independent in achieving its monetary policy goals i.e., price stability, financial stability and an efficient payments and settlements system. The law seeks to insulate it from political overreach and indulgence which contributed to the Philippine foreign debt crisis in 1983. The crisis raised inflation and interest rates to historically high two-digit levels, left GDP in real terms flat for 10 years and compelled enactment of the new BSP charter.

A broad range of macro-prudential tools such as on governance, climate change, green finance, structural reforms, fiscal consolidation and debt management must be maximized. Monetary policy must be supportive of the overriding target economic growth of 5.5-6% and 6.5-7.5% in *real terms* in 2024 and 2025, respectively and reduction of two-digit poverty incidence to achieve durable growth with social equity.

Main sources of information as of Jan 5, 2024: ADB, AMRO, Adriano F. Baker-McKenzie, Bloomberg, BSP, CBS News, CHR, COA, COP 28, DBCC, DBM, DepEd, DENR, DoF, Economist, FEF, GaI, Guinigundo, Habito C., Heydarian, HoR, ICESCR, IMD, IMF, Japan times, KULE (U.P. Collegian) Mangahas, MONGABAY, NEDA, Nikkei, OECD, PDI, PIA, Pimentel, PISA, PSA, RA 8182, SWS, UNDESA, UNDP, USIP, WB, WHO and WMO.





Mga Kaalaman ng PLEBO

"My Mistaken Ecstasy"

Perhaps I love you before but now I realize
how wrong I was to care for you.
Maybe it's time for you to know that we are
not meant for each other.
Yes I was crazy about you when the moments
of blindness were not yet realized.
Because I thought that you loved me and I love
you, too...

Love may be blind but can understand only do
lovers try.
I adore you in the past years , yes I never
denied any feelings.
I thought I couldn't live without you.
I came to the climax of the dream, the dreams
that you and I participated.

Yesterday you were my inspiration.
Now the world denies my feelings belief.
Here I am laughing at myself because of these
mistakes.
Anyway, you'll understand that to find these
new heartaches is too strange.
I am happy to live without you.
To live with someone who loves so much is so
beautiful.

But please forget me, hate me....
I shall go in the right way for me, somehow,
somewhere.
And I don't care if I'll be hurt again.
I will only raise my head and proudly say:
...that my woman is more wonderful than you
are.



◆ Tagalog Version

"Ang Aking Mali na Lubos na Kaligayahan"

Marahil ay minahal kita dati, ngunit ngayon ay
napagtanto ko kung gaano ako nagkamali sa pag-
aalaga sa iyo.
Siguro naman ay oras na para malaman mo na hindi
tayo para sa isa't isa.
Oo, baliw ako sa iyo noong mga panahon na hindi pa
ako nakakakita ng mga kamalian.
Dahil iniisip ko na mahal mo ako at mahal din kita.

Ang pag-ibig ay bulag ngunit tanging mga minamahal
lamang ang nakakaintindi.
Iniidolo kita noong nakaraang taon, oo hindi ko
itinanggi ang aking mga damdamin.
Iniisip ko na hindi ko kayang mabuhay ng wala ka.
Naging masaya ako sa katakawan ng mga pangarap
na kinasangkutan natin.

Kahapon ikaw ang aking inspirasyon.
Ngunit ngayon ay tinutuligsa na ng mundo ang aking
paniniwala at damdamin.
Narito ako, tinatawanan ang sarili dahil sa mga
kamaliang ito.
Ngunit sa huli, mauunawaan mo rin na ang ganitong
mga bagong sakit sa puso ay masyadong
mahiwaga.
Masaya ako na mabuhay nang wala ka.
Ang mabuhay na kasama ang isang taong lubos na
nagmamahal ay napakagandang karanasan.

Ngunit sana makalimutan mo ako, kamuhian mo.
Pupunta ako sa tamang direksyon para sa aking
sarili, kahit papano, kahit saan.
Wala akong pakialam kahit muling masaktan.
Itataas ko lang ang aking ulo at mariing sasabihin:
...Ang aking babae ay higit na kahanga-hanga sa iyo.

- RDCYAP '82



HUMOR ★★★ IN UNIFORM

Once upon a time in the late 60s cadet corps

A plebe just came from reporting to a 2nd Bn upperclassman and was in a hurry to get back to the 1st Bn area when he chanced upon this Charlie yearling along the hallway.

Noting the plebe's lousy posture, he tackled the dumbguard to brace up.

But this Bravo plebe was particularly skinny and chest fallen and so the yearling was unsatisfied with the compliance even after being repeatedly ordered to brace up and bring the chest out. Exasperated, the yearling asked "What company art thou?" while pounding on the plebe's chest. "Bravo Company, Sir". "Ah, no wonder!", was the quick retort.

At this juncture a Charlie plebe was passing apparently in haste to go back to his room. Notably, this Charlie plebe had an impressive robust chest that almost touched his chin. Recognizing the Charlie plebe, the yearling called him "Mr You..." to come over. Proudly demonstrating to the Bravo plebe how snappy his company mate was, the yearling boasted..."Look at the standard of Charlie, huh" and pounded his fist on the Charlie plebe's chest.

Surprisingly the robust chest collapsed producing a soft crackling sound of crumpled cellophane... "what is that?" asked

the yearling. He then ordered the plebe to unzip his dress coat and two plump ensaymadas fell out. The bravo plebe was unable to control his laughter, and the rest is history!



★★★ TRIVIA ★★★

A Plebe Forever

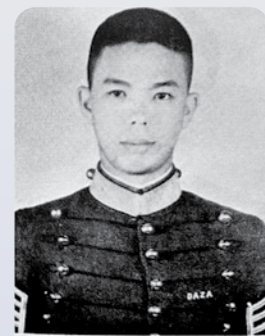
The longest record for plebehood is held by Cadet Audie Serrano (Class '78, '79, '80, '81). He is the son of Boni Serrano, a hero and awardee of Medal of Valor. Cadet Serrano entered the PMA for the first time in 1978 as a plebe and was discharged. In 1975, he joined the class of 1979 and was discharged. For the following year, he was admitted and just the same time discharged. Finally, he joined the Class of 1981 for the last time as a plebe but unfortunately discharged; this time being overaged. Cadet Serrano's acceptance in the Academy, despite being discharged for three times, was made possible because of his being the son of a Medal of Valor awardee. As such, he gets top priority in entering PMA without taking the PMA entrance examination.



Audie Serrano —Plebe forever

From Delinquent to Excellent

The largest recorded punishment meted to a cadet for a single offense is 38 demerits, 264 punishment tours and 12 months confinement. The punishment was meted to Cadet Antonio Aguila Daza; a former member of PMA Class of 1963, for giving unauthorized punishment to a fourthclass cadet. Cadet Daza was consequently discharged from the Academy for deficiencies in conduct. His orders were reconsidered and later commuted, thereby allowing him to join the PMA Class of 1965. As a member of this Class, he graduated as topnotcher receiving numerous outstanding awards and eventually became a distinguished cadet twice, a distinction given only to cadets having an excellent average performance during a particular year of their training. During graduation day of Class 1965, Cadet Daza garnered seven awards, namely: Commander-in-Chief Saber; Vice-Chief of Staff Award; Philippine Army Award; Philippine Air Force Award; Philippine Navy Award; JUSMAG Military-Professional Award; and US 13th Air Force Socio-Humanistic Award.



Cadet Antonio Daza, '65

*Oh, proud and bold you stand
Bright beacon of the land...*

*...May thy sons ever be men of
integrity, courage and loyalty.*

CLASS CALL



MANUEL B MARIANO
President
RAYMUNDO L LOGAN
Secretary

Last December 2, 2023, PMA Class 1962 was grateful to celebrate another Christmas party with the mistahs and their families. The afternoon merienda was held at the AGFO main lobby in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City decorated with balloons and banderitas. It was a festive atmosphere with potluck dishes contributed by the generous mistahs. It was an opportunity to be grateful for the members and their families to have some fun and levity amidst the challenges of the world. There was an exchange gift and a raffle. Thereafter, there were fun games that were played by the mistahs and their families. Hoping to see all the mistahs in the next gathering.





GUILLERMO R RUIZ
President
RENE LEANDRO P EBRO
Secretary

HOMAGE TO ALL ALUMNI CLASSES

From the PMA Matindi Class of 1963, we are expressing heartfelt greetings to all senior and junior host classes in 2024 as well as everyone who have made great efforts to set foot to a place that started it all.

Congratulations! May you reach as far as we have, 61 years and even go beyond.

TO THE CLASS FLAG BEARERS SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, THIS ONE IS FOR YOU

Our deepest appreciation and snappiest salute to the many young cadets carrying our noteworthy class flags over the years throughout all the alumni events. It really means so much for us to see the class flag bearers to be out there even if we cannot be there to join the parade. Thank you so much! Bravo Zulu!

Stately we stand mighty proud with you all with 31 out of 75 remaining members of our class.

MATINDING CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023

December 7 was our annual class party held at the Navy Golf Club. That oh so matinding traffic that Thursday afternoon did not stop us from having a terrific party time. It was an evening filled with prayer, fellowship, great food, laughter, games, prizes, exchange of presents, couples and communal dancing as well as singing our hearts out.

Musical entertainment was courtesy of our favorite Singing Soldier, Mel Sorillano.

Acknowledgement to Danny and Nena Delgado for the Shrimp Tempura as well as Pert and Inday for the Balut apart from being our gracious host and game master for the evening.

Our Christmas feast included crab and corn soup, lumpiang shanghai, roast beef with mushroom sauce, grilled tanigue, shrimp tempura with rice of course and buko pandan for dessert.



Matindi Class of 1963 Christmas Party 2023

Present at the Christmas party were the following: Jimmy Iletto, Naty Laput, Ching Saavedra + Lani, Vicky Agaab, Pert and Inday Andaya, Dan Pizarro, Rene and Flor Ebro + Mymel, Bill and Norma Ruiz, Ardy and Beth Abaya, Danny and Nena Delgado + May, Virgie Aquino, Aida Mayo, Rudy and Offie Javier, Beth Arevalo, and Amy Ilagan + Angel.

FIRST QUARTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Happy birthday! We were young once and we have enjoyed it to the fullest. Time

flies way too fast and indeed we don't get these years back. To the wonderful days ahead, cheers to that!

January:

- 2 - Amy Calibuso
- 11 - Luz Espejo
- 16 - Pert Andaya
- 18 - Roly Espejo
- 19 - Lina Medina
- 20 - Idelfonso Dulinayan
- 27 - Ester Ong
- 28 - Offie Javier

February:

3 - Lulu Orevillo
3 - Ting Tigas
7 - Lou Pizarro
7 - Tony Sibayan
10 - Gil Domondon
10 - Bill Ruiz
13 - Billy Enerio

17 - Bumi Bumanglag
26 - George Aquino

March:

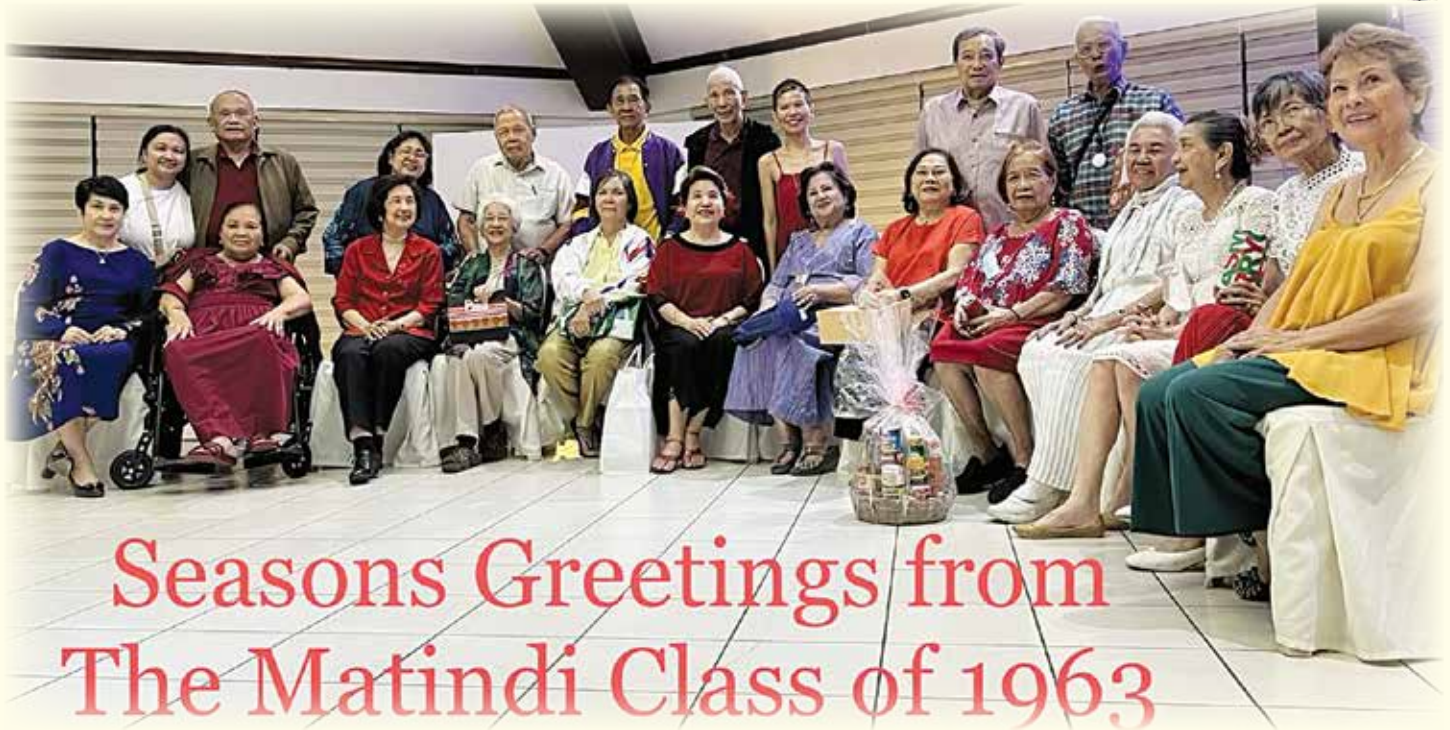
9 - Ardy Abaya
16 - Norma Sibayan
19 - Joe Pineda
19 - Rene Valencia

30 - Norma Ruiz

forEBOR NOTEWORTHY NOTES:

May you always remain hearty and hale, happy and healthy! In all your endeavors, forEBOR cheering you on!

Snappiest salute, a firm hand shake and multifold of thanks! (18121605) 



CLEMENTE P MARIANO
President
WINSTON G ARPON
Secretary

To all 35 members of the class, Diamond Jubilarians this March 21, 2024:



+Dictador Labrador Alqueza; Jorge Pabellon Agcaoili; +Manuel Antonio Serranilla Arevalo; +Amerigo Sugarol Ariosa; Winston Godinez Arpon; +Danilo Natividad Bangit; +Miguel Luis Bareng; +Asterio Baraclan Bas; Santiago Bringas Bunoan Jr.; +Orlando Torres Cabanlig; +Samuel Tolentino Cortez; +Feliciano Alcantara Cruz Jr; +Ruben Limos



Danao; Santiago Lanuza Diño; +Samuel Tadeo Farre; Renato Morales Garcia; +Avelino Balingit de Guzman; +Salvador Viloria Hocson; + Manuel Ison; Clemente Pionilla Mariano; +Eriberto Lafuente Miraflores; Leonardo Olivera Odoño; Rolando Alcazar Pabellano; Ernesto Asuncion Padilla Jr.; +Abraham Carlos Paray; Salvador Garcia Peran; +Enrique Angeles Pilapil; Reynaldo Vitug Reyes; +Guerreador Segundo Ruiz; +Casiano Valencia Saludaes; +Michael Alebin Santos; +Pablo Palomo

Sencil Jr.; +Ignacio Villarta Tiqui; James Salen Valeros; Leo Ismael Zaldivar Villareal

+ - Deceased

The celebration will be earlier, February 17, on the 2024 PMA Alumni Homecoming. The 13 surviving 64ers will be awarded by the PMAAAI the Diamond Jubilee Medallion (See in this Cavalier issue "Class 64: Completing the Jubilee Troika in 2024.") /@waga-cc2401 



MIGUEL A LEONARDO
President
EVERLINO P NARTATEZ
Secretary

GREETINGS FROM THE PMA MULAWIN CLASS !!!

Immediately after our Q4 Fellowship Gathering and Get-together at the NIU Resto in The Podium last October 4, 2023, President Mike convened the MULAWIN CLASS ManCom with Pres Mike himself in attendance with other members of ManCom, VP/Treasurer Egay Velasco; Secretary Tates Nartatez; Class Auditor Jomari Solquillo; the Board of Advisers: Rolly Cauton, Joe Lapus, Ofring Marcelo and Bert Acenas. The Mulawinettes in the ManCom were Dina Velasco; Lita Marcelo; Dona Acenas and Lynn Nartatez. The meeting which was held at the CGEA Golf Clubhouse took up various issues the first of which is the resignation of Mulawin Jomari Solquillo from his position as Auditor, citing his current health condition which prevents him from attending Board meetings as well as his ability to perform his duties in accordance with his known standard of excellence and dedication. Anyway, we wish him all the best and blessings of a healthy and joyful life pa more. To take over his position as Class Auditor, Ofring Marcelo was unanimously selected/elected to take-over the position of Auditor of trust, confidence and utmost dedication. Our eternal class bow-wow, wholeheartedly accepted the position.



The PMA Mulawin ManCom Nov 14, 2023 meeting held at the CGEA Golf Club.

All other future plans, and activities were taken up always with confidence and certainty with everyone positively and lively participating in the discussions relative to the same. More significantly, Pres Mike, with the concurrence of Class Treasurer Egay Velasco, authorized the attendance to the 2024 Alumni Homecoming on February 17, 2024 with the same amount of financial and logistical support to all who will attend, considering that the following Alumni Homecoming on February 15-17, 2025 will be our DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY, a very significant and great milestone in our lives and careers

as members of the LONG GRAY LINE and alumni of the highest military institution as well as in higher education. as part also and germane to the functions of CHED. Certainly everyone of us can still remember how high or how many feet above sea level is the PMA located. Hehehe. But as of now I am not at liberty how much exactly the support will be as this is part of the class CIF. Hehehehe and he.

As planned our MULAWIN CLASS Christmas Party Gathering was successfully carried out last December 12, 2023 at the Alano 3 of Alano Hall Philippine Navy Golf and Country Clubhouse in Fort Bonifacio



(Still am at a loss if it is part of BGC, Makati or Taguig City. He hehehe again). Anyway, it was a roaring great success as everyone had a great time enjoying the food meticulously prepared by Chef Lita Marcelo and assisted by Lynn Nartatez and of course fully supported by our Class Treasurer Egay Velasco. Everyone enjoyed and gamely participated in the program and in all the games prepared and designed by our spouses group of Lynn Nartatez; Celia Bulan; Dina Velasco; Lita Marcelo and the Benjamin of our Mulawinettes, Dona Acenas. One trivia question that was asked during the game portion was who are the spouses present in the party who all similarly have all girls and a chick children. And as gamely and joyfully answered - Lita Marcelo; Lynn Nartatez; Celia Bulan; and Aurora "Baby" Duque. They were given and awarded surprises which were all much appreciated. There was much singing and dancing by each one doing his/her assigned task and the revelation of the day was the sensuous singing of current and old songs reminiscent of some years back, was Dona Acenas. Of course I would be remiss of my job if I do not mention the sensational dancing queens



of the day -- Rose Monta and Gloria Bergado. Likewise I might be ask/ordered to knock my head if I do not mention the WINNER in the potato statue dance. And the winner is - mother-son tandem of Janet and Karlo Lapus. Also to test the memories of all those present who are all members of octa and octo Clubs, another trivia question was asked if they can still remember who was the bravest plebe of

all times who acted as an upperclass and ordered an actual upperclass (a cow) who complied with the order of the plebe for him to double time with knees high. The winner who gave the exact and correct answer (who was that plebe and who was the actual cow upperclass). Surprisingly but not unbelievably the one who gave the exact correct answer was not the youngest Mulawin present and whose first name is the singular reason for all the celebrations and parties ---JESS N CANDELARIO. Congratulations Mistah and we envy you for still having that tremendous sharp memory.

In fairness the Mulawin, Mulawinettes and Junior Mulawins attendees in our 2023 Christmas Party were: Mulawins Bert Acenas, Joe Lapus, Lito Tapia, Pepe Delos Santos, Enri Bulan, Pat Duque, Egay Velasco, Berlie Nartatez, Doming Habos, and Jess Candelario. Mulawinettes Lynn Nartatez, Baby Duque, Janet Lapus, Dona Acenas, Mimi Habos, Dina Velasco, Dianne Malig, Boots Candelario, Lita Marcelo, Gloria Bergado, Celia Bulan, and Rose Monta; and Junior Mulawins Tingting Velasco; Warly Chee Jr; Karlo Lapus; Grace Chee and Isabel Acenas.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!





MANUEL P ESPEJO
President
FREDELINO S BAUTISTA
Secretary

PAMBUNGAD

Taong 2024 na. Sa taong ito, lahat ng sixty-sixers na nagsipagtapos sa PMA noong ika – 20 ng Marso 1966 ay octagenarians na. Ayon sa Banal na Kasulatan, ang buhay ng tao ay tumatagal lamang mula 60 hanggang 70 taon, maliban kung sila ay malulusog at hihigit pa. Samakatuwid, ang taong nabubuhay pa ay may dagdag na pagpapala mula sa Panginoon. Bilang ganti tayo ay inaasahang mabuhay nang mabuti, ayon sa kaniyang mga kagustuhan.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

Another Christmas Program was added to our history when we got together last 02 December 2023 at AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. for lunch. Prior to this, we attended mass at the Saint Ignatius Cathedral, again officiated by Mons Tirso Dolina. We prayed for classmates and wives who had gone ahead to the after life, and thanked God for another year in our lives. Without saying, we felt blessed and refreshed after the mass, as we proceeded to AFPCOC for lunch and a Christmas Program. Shown in the picture below is a picture of those who attended.

From the Cathedral, the group proceeded to Dimalupig Hall for lunch and fellowship. Again, it was a moment of fun, stories and greeting each other. To



add laughter and excitement, there were games usually played by youngsters in TV shows, and raffles – managed by energetic Paz Bautista, Sylvia Agudelo and Cel Espejo. Not surprisingly many won raffle prizes ranging from PhP3,000.00 to PhP200.00

(everybody who attended, including those who were not present, contributed to the fund for the program).

In sum, Christmas 2023 was another happy moment in the class history and everybody looked forward to 2024.



A SPECIAL EVENT

On 18 December 2023, at Larry's Restaurant, Serendra, Global City, several sixty-sixers met for a special occasion – lunch with upperclassman and chatmate WAGA, acronym for Winston Godines Arpon, Class '64. Special because it was not really planned, only talked about earlier in chat exchanges, hence only a few sixty-sixers were available, namely Noli Espejo, Ruben Espejo, Viusy Daus, Bing Rivera and Fred Bautista.

It was long lunch which lasted for about four hours. WAGA proved to be a good story-teller. A prolific writer, WAGA, former Corps Magazine Editor-in-Chief during his time, wrote two editions of *Laughter in the South* and is perhaps planning to write another one before his self imposed 90 plus years of his life come to a close. (Like some of us, he may be wanting to take advantage of P1M incentive from the government for those who attained their 91st birthday).

Somebody in the group mentioned about possible traffic going back home (he resides in Lipa City, beside a golf course), and the get-together came to an end. To top it all, he rejected the class 66 KKB mode of payment for meals, and foot the bill, thanks, Sir WAGA!

P.S. He is the guy between Noli Espejo and Bing Rivera, in the picture below.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Happy natal day to those who celebrated, will celebrate their birthdays!

January – Paz Bautista (10)

February – Leo Alvez (14), Vic Belo (01), Bert Jabile (24), Pons Millena, Toots Totanes (20).

March – Temy Arugay (10), Romy Bruce (29), Bay Neis (03), and Bert Varona (1)



ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR
President
RUFINO G IBAY JR
Secretary

CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. The following were our activities for the November - December 2023 period:

November - We did not have a Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) since the one for this month was combined with the October DMF

last 26 October in NIU-Vikings Resto, Podium Mall, Mandaluyong City,

10 December - We held our Remembrance Day in honor of the departed 43 Dimasupils (out of 85 graduates), 12 Adopted Members, and 21 Spouses. It was also Thanksgiving Day for the Living, Election of Class Officers for 2024, and Christmas Party. We started the multi-purpose day with a Holy Mass officiated by Rev Fr Hector Baniel Jr, a close associate of Mistah Fr Fernando Suarez, upon coordination made by Jun and Agnes Avenido, at the AGFO Social Hall, Camp Aguinaldo, QC. Then, we had lunch

and forum in the same venue, and also our Election of Class Officers. After that, the Ladies took over for our Christmas program. With good food, fruits and red wine, plenty of parlor games and door prizes (including those for best costumes) solicited by our Ladies, and good company, it was certainly another Class affair to remember.

B. Watch out for our schedule for January - March 2024, onwards, as follows:

January - DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, and Joseph and Reina Young.



27 January - PMAAAI Annual Convention to be held at AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, QC. Attire: Coat and tie.

17 February - Annual PMA Alumni Homecoming in Baguio City. The traditional Homecoming Parade will be held at 0900H. We will have our Class Lunch (instead of Picnic) after the Parade in Baguio City. Our Post-Valentines Dinner will be in our hotel. Our attire for the Parade will be our black Class jacket, white long-sleeved shirt and black pants. Our hat will be provided by the Class at the hotel. Other details will be disseminated later.

March - Celebration of our 57th Graduation Anniversary to be hosted by Manny Dalipe, Jun and Ronnie Ibay, and Nic and Glo Parena.

April - Joint DMF for April and May to be hosted by Alice Averilla, Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio, Linz Gabuna, Rudy and Graise Gaerlan, Mar and Mely Gatmaitan, Judith Pajaro, and Bert and Ruby Torres for the April group; and Pol and Norma Aliac, and Tante and Prosy Torrechante for the May group.

June - Joint DMF for June and July to be hosted by Abe and Cora Din, Hedy Duenas, Louie and May Sanchez, and Ross and Mandie Sibal for the June group; and Jovy and Baby Sales for the July group.

UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

We are very sad that Araw Bernabe passed away on 5 December 2023 in Madrid, Spain, due to stroke while undergoing the second surgery to correct a thoracic aortic aneurysm (chest area). He was cremated the following day. Per his last request, his ashes will be brought later to Metro Manila for inurnment. Araw died at the age of 78 and is the 43rd Dimasupil who already departed, out of 85 graduates. May his soul rest in eternal peace in the bosom of the Almighty and may God comfort Maria and their family in this time of bereavement.

The year 2023 was a bad year for us, considering particularly the number of Dimasupils who left ahead of us, as follows:



Ben Libarnes, 18 March; Ed Larroza, 22 May; Pert Molato, 26 October; and Araw Bernabe.

During our Class Forum on 10 December at the AGFO Social Hall, the following were unanimously reelected as our Class Officers for CY 2024: Pres - Avenida; VPres - Santiago; Sec - Ibay; Treas - Gaerlan; Auditor - Sales; PRO/IT Offr - Patino; Service Coordinators (also Survivor and Sunshine Offrs): Air Force - Dionisio and Sibal; Army - Ballecer and Corpus; Navy - Cordero and Din; Police - Ibay and Tomas; Adopted - Sales and Reyes; Committees: Ways and Means - Lastimoso, Austria and Patino; Social Amelioration (Medical and Death Financial Assistance) - Sibal, Ibay, Gaerlan, Alino, Ballecer, Cordero, Dionisio, Patino, Sales and Tomas; Homecoming (Overall) - Avenida; Homecoming (Hotel) - Gaerlan and Din; Homecoming (Trans) - Ibay and Din; Homecoming (Food) - Avenida and Gaerlan; Homecoming (Tarps) - Ibay and Santiago. Other Dimasupils and Ladies may join any of the Committees.

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

Agnes Avenida and Papoose Ballecer recently underwent laparoscopy or removal

of the gallbladder due to the presence of stones. They are now members of the LGB exclusive group (LANG GALL BLADDER) whose members are the following: Pol Aliac, Cora Din, Rudy Gaerlan, and Jun Ibay.

We received the following note from Andy Reyes: "I extend to our Dimasupil Mistahs my deepest thanks and appreciation for their continuous prayers for the full recovery of my dear Medz. She is slowly recovering in VMMC for stroke."

Our congratulations to Carol Julianne "CJ" Dalipe, granddaughter of Manny and Maryrose, on her recent election first as SK Chairperson of Brgy Tetuan, Zamboanga City; then as SK Federation President of Zamboanga City; and finally as SK National President.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in January, February and March: Myrna Espinosa (1 January), Hedy Duenas (2), Bobby Lastimoso (4), Lita De Guzman (5), Queenie Enriquez (6), Cora Tomas (9), Edsel Salvana (14), Warlie Sadiarin (16), Joseph Young (16), Myrna Cordero (20), Ernest Escaler (23), Jun





Avenido (24), Ernie Dionisio (3 February), Myrna Andaya (5), Lou Ibanez (11), Bay Obillos (18), Linz Gabuna (26), Senyang Austria (4 March), Lea Vallejera (5), Ching Aguana (8), Josie Dela Cruz (12), Nic Parena (20), Jun Ibay (21), Benny Ventura (21), Rody Duterte (28), Mely Gatmaitan (30), and Manny Dalipe (31).

Please let us know if there are celebrators we have not mentioned or if there are wrong data so that we can correct our Class records accordingly.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be reminded that we have to pay our annual contribution to the Social Amelioration Fund in the first quarter of the year in order to benefit from the discount for early payors. We also appeal to our more fortunate Dimasupils to give their additional donation soon so that our Fund can grow faster, enough to give bigger assistance to those concerned. Please contact our Class Treasurer Rudy Gaerlan for further details.

CLASS TRIVIA

The following are interesting conversations among Dimasupils:

A. On Aging -

Vir Odulio: *"I feel lucky and blessed in my 70s. It's a bonus if I hit the 80s. It's a jackpot if I reach the 90s. And if it's the century mark, it's heaven!"*

Mar Cordero: *"Be careful of what you wish for, Mistah. To be 90 or a hundred may not be really heaven."*

B. On Prevention of Alzheimer's -

Mar Santiago: *"The tongue exercise helps to control and prevent Alzheimer's."*

Bobby Lastimoso: *"Bernie Patino and Serge Austria will be the least likely to have Alzheimer's. They have been exercising their tongues for the longest time. Ed Espinosa elevated this art one notch higher. He has a mustache as back-up."*

Pol Aliac: *"Agree! Mahilig sila sa brutchsalad!"*

C. On ED and Barako -

Pol Aliac: *"Include me in your ED list."*

Bernie Patino: *"Hindi, ah! Ikaw, si*

Sergio Austria at ako ay mga barako. Hindi tayo kasama sa listahan. Walang bayad magsinungaling, di ba?"

Ed Espinosa: *"Ang sarap nyong magbulahan. Di na tuloy malaman kung sinong nagsasabi ng totoo."*

Bernie Patino: *"Ang totoo? Mas barako ang mga Marines! Hindi naluluma ang galing sa larangan ng pambabae! Pero dumarating ang panahon na nanlalaki din ang mga iyan!"*

D. On Abbreviations -

Mar Gatmaitan: *"What is LGB?"*

Graise Gaerlan: *"Lang Gamot sa Bingi. Pwede rin Lang Gall Bladder."*

Ed Espinosa: *"Laging Ginugulpe at Binubugbog (ng Tagasupil). Kawawang Dimasupil!"*

Mar Cordero: *"How about LBG? Living By Gamot!"*

Graise Gaerlan: *"Isama natin WPI at HTS. Wrong Pindot Inc and Honorable Tungkod Society!"*

Happy New Year to all Dimasupils and other Cavaliers and their families!



ARTURO B CARRILLO
President
WILFREDO G NUQUI
Scribe

1. Our Dec 15 Xmas party at PAFCPIC was a well attended and an overwhelmingly enjoyed event. It was probably the best Class Xmas party since the Class graduated. Present were 16 outnumbered CMs, namely Pres Art C., Willy, Nori, Volts, Art J, Oscar, Art G., Rudy RR, Alex, Bobby, Rene, Patrick, Mel, Sony, Hector, and Abe. The 21 lovely ladies were Isay, Paulene, Tess, Candy, Rhodie, Marite,

Gigi, Julie, Arlene, Shirley, Vicky, Blet, Cecil, Hilda, Bebot, Millette, Luth, Evelyn, Roxanne, Purita and Pee Wee. The event was immediately followed by an afternoon merienda hosted by Blet who undoubtedly missed everyone.

2. The shared comments of some attendees captured the spirit and joy of the Class event and its efficient execution. Art C and Art J. led the sharing of gifts to all present CMs and ladies. Class reaction was both extremely thankful and grateful for the two sequential events. From Sony: *"We appreciate the efforts of Pres Art C who took care of the planning, preparation, coordination and execution of the successful affair. Thanks too to Blet and Rolly sa early dinner. We look forward to future meetings."* From Vicky,

a U.S. based '68 lady: *"To PMA Class '68, thank you for an amazing Christmas party which I'm honored to be part of. I loved the sumptuous lunch food that was served, all the beautiful exchanged gifts, and most especially the camaraderie among all the members. It's a great privilege to be a part of this highly respected group. I will always cherish every moment I'm with you. Merry Christmas to all."* And from Millette: *"To the beautiful ageless ladies of '68, Maraming salamat for the thoughtful gifts, so heart warming to exchange tokens and affection."*

3. The event started with a solemn prayer by Volts. President Art C rendered his annual year-end report to the Class consisting of our meetings and events in CY 2023 which include the celebration of

our 55th graduation anniversary and other related Class matters. It was undoubtedly a busy and unselfish year for Art, who had to attend to his full-time Patriot Cooperative presidential duty and visit his U.S. based family. Thank you for your excellent and unselfish service as Class President in the recent past years.

4. The Class shared a cash contribution to TGPMA HOP Foundation in support of AFP personnel at Ayungin. Nori confirmed its receipt by the Foundation. Three CMs shared additional and separate cash donations. Abe received a plaque on his formal adoption to Class '68 several years back. Seven CMs were nominated to

the 2024 Class Board of Directors. They are Art C., Bobby, Nori, Patrick, Willy, Volts and Rudy. The next Class officers for year 2024 shall be elected among themselves.

5. Congratulations to Patrick (as Champion) and Mel (Runner-up) for winning the Most Senior Cavalier Award of the Game of the Cavaliers 2023.





JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS
President
JESUS B DULLER
Secretary

Greetings through the Viber postings of our dedicated Suaviter Sunshine Committee of One, as always, Bobing Brillantes:

Christmas-laden Happy Birthday Greetings to the December-born Suaviter: +Rimbert Gonzales – 5 Dec, Emy Reventar – 8 Dec, Willie Wong – 12 Dec and Joey Syjoco – 28 Dec. We wish every Suaviter, young and old, near and far, Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year Wishes to all and Special Happy Birthday Greetings to the January-born Suaviter: Jorie Almaden – 6 Jan, GTom Lantion – 10 Jan, +Cutes

Bacungan – 11 Jan, +Rudy Garcia – 13 Jan, Tere Syjoco – 22 Jan, Alex Noble – 30 Jan and Meg Defensor – 31 Jan. Let's look forward to another fruitful year in 2024 with God's bountiful blessings to every Suaviter Family!

Rose-smelling Birthday Greetings to February-born Suaviter ladies: Ellen Manlongat – 11 Feb and Baby Carino – 14 Feb. And Happy Valentine's Day to All Suaviter ... wherever you maybe!

IN THE NEWS:



Gathering of PAF's King Eagles with SND Gibo and with a 69er, our very own Gen Benjie Defensor, the only PAF CSAFP!



Topping off ceremony of the PMAAAI Building, a collective partnership of past Chairmen, Cavs Mel Rosales, Jimmy de los Santos, Rufo de Veyra, Egay Aglipay, Espine Espino, Danny Abinoja and incoming Chair Raul Gonzales. It is a P300M donation of Megaworld.

Gift-giving, rubbing shoulders, etc:



Gift giving with Gen Balaoro '91, CG, 202 Inf Bde in Laguna mountain municipalities which Include Magdalena. Self-fulfilling serving the less fortunate.



President Ramos Horta of Timor Leste and Nobel Peace Prize, during a luncheon tendered by PBBM in his honor at Malacañang Palace, November 9, 2023.



Golfing Family: L-R: Reneelou (daughter), Odette, Rene and Ron (son-in-law). In golf, age doesn't matter! The will to win matters no matter how - Rene A.



Scoop from Bay Cleo and Vivienne during the Ayers Christmas Party in the East Coast, USA --- with (L-R) Oying Pinto '67, Mila and Warlie Sadiarin '67 and Cav Telly and Lino '63..!



In memory of Larry Mendoza during Sol's Birthday Celebration: A good turnout here from the Suaviter family. (Standing L-R): Jess, Chelsea, Nonoy, Tom, Amy, Sol Mendoza (the celebrant), Jimmy, Jus, Chris, Lily and Mone. (Seated L-R): Lulu, Olive, Luz, Inday B, Malou and Inday T.

SUAVITER CHRISTMAS 6 Dec 2023 at the Philippine Army Pavilion:



All our beloved widows are not forgotten. Representing them here in the picture are Amy Maligalig, Luz Lagman, Inday Berroya, Lily Garcia and Inday Tiangco.



Greg C was the star of the night, the old spark of the singing general was still a crowd pleaser. Congratz, Greg.

KUDOS to the Wedding Anniversary Celebrants:

Today, 1Dec2023, is our 52nd year anniversary. We started the day by hearing mass at the Mary the Queen Church, God is good. God is great.

To All My Classmates, thank you for all your greetings. You made our day. In my observation, almost all of the Suaviter wives were former kaydet girls, ladies for all seasons. All the best! -- **Jimmy de los Santos**

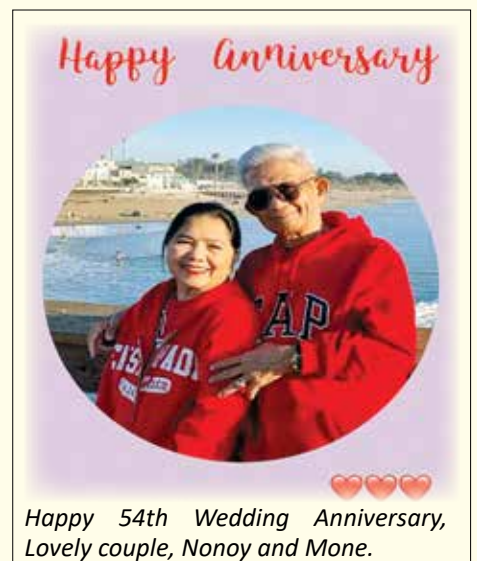
Congrats Jim n Lulu! -- **Benjie Defensor**
Happy Anniversary Mistah Jim n Lulu... a day for sweet memories! -- **Rene Aguda**

Happy Anniversary Mistah Jimmy and Lulu. May you have many more blessed ones to come!! -- **Willie Wong**

Congratulations Jim and Lulu! -- **Ike Begonia**

Happy happy 'Versary, Jimmy and Lulu. May your holy union continue to flourish! --**J&S**

Mistah Jimmy your 52nd anniversary was very inspirational as well as aspirational. --**Joey Syjuco**
(taken from Viber "PMA '69 Only" Chatgroup)



Happy 54th Wedding Anniversary, Lovely couple, Nonoy and Mone.



Happy 54th 20 Dec Wedding Anniversary to Ike and Ingging, celebrating here with youngest apo, Olie in Seoul.

ON THE MOVE: The Begonias in Seoul



In front of Seoul Cathedral with our 11-year-old grandson.



Ging with Ronan and Sophie, daughter-in-law and Apo.

Ging in Seoul costume!



Time Marches on for the Magiting '70 Wing Project

We will recall 11 weeks ago on September 22, 2023 that the

Ceremonial First Pouring of cement was held to mark the start of construction of the Magiting '70 Veterans Wing at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). This marked the day of a PMA class' dream coming true made possible by the benevolence of patriot donors. On that day, on behalf of Class '70 Magiting, Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro heartfully thanked Mr. Ramon See Ang, President and CEO of San Miguel Corp.;

Dr. Andrew Tan of Newport World Resorts Foundation Inc.; Mr. Enrique Razon of Bloomberry Cultural Foundation Inc., Magiting Jorge Consunji, President of D.M. Consunji Inc. (DMCI); Mr. Benjamin Yao of Steel Asia Manufacturing Corporation; Magiting Bert Lina of Lina Group of Companies; Mr. Joe Soberano of Cebu Landmasters; and honorary members of PMA Class 1970.





The Topping-Off Ceremony – Another Swift Event

The structural frame of the Magiting '70 Veterans Wing building has been completed. This was accomplished a little over three months after the First Cement Pouring in September last year. To celebrate the milestone completion of the structural frame, a Topping-Off Ceremony was held at the VMHC Project Site on January 5, 2024.

DND officials were led by Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans and Reserve Affairs Pablo Lorenzo. Heads of veterans organizations as well as other veterans stakeholders enthusiastically participated. The Magitings came in full force with 26 members present and were joined by major Project Funders and Partners. The Class President in his remarks during the program, emphasized the significance of the event when he said... "By signing on the last piece of roof flashing

before it is finally emplaced, you will leave your permanent mark on the Magiting '70 Veterans Wing - our tribute to our country's defenders, the Filipino veterans."



DMCI President Jorge Consunji honorary member of Magiting Class '70 delivers a project report.



DND Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans and Reserve Affairs signs the last roof flashing.



Magiting Honorable Jun Ebdane Governor of Zambales is flanked by patriot donors Jorge Consunji and Magiting Bert Lina.



Magiting Honorable Romy Acop Representative of the Second District of Antipolo signs the last roof flashing flanked by other classmates.



Magiting class president signs the last roof flashing. All guests and classmates also lined up to sign.

A Very Gratifying Visit at the Construction Site

On December 7, 2023, the Magitings played a purposeful inter-battalion golf game at the Veterans Golf Club, specially for the intention of conducting a site visit after the game. A project briefing by DMCI engineers was presented after lunch. The Magiting Wing project is technically way ahead of its target just barely two and a half months after its first pouring. DMCI proceeds with its work like an army in a hurry through bad weather and, practically day and night. The briefing was concise but complete in a display of true efficiency and dedication. Prospectively, as of the 2024 Cavalier Homecoming issue the work progress shall have been more advanced.

The salient points of the project as of the visit were:

1. The expected work accomplishment by December 31, 2023 would be 58.67%
2. The projected total expenses has reached PhP 66.04 million.
3. The roofing design is solar panel ready. The panels will be donated by Magiting Bert Lina. Wiring for solar panels is still feasible at this stage of the construction.
4. Conduct of Topping-Off Ceremony is planned in early January 2024. Unfavorable weather delayed this milestone event. Our donors will be invited for them to appreciate the progress of their generosity.
5. Detailed Weekly project progress reports by DMCI are submitted on time to the Class Monitoring Team.

An Idea Made of Concrete and Steel by the "Working Class"

In the block of photos one can appreciate the strength and functionality of the Magiting '70 Wing being compliant with mandatory technical norms for hospital buildings. The ground and the second floors are connected to the main hospital building through via a roofed bridge. An added access is a user friendly ramp for pedestrians/wheel chairs/utility starting from the basement parking leading up to the second floor. A regulation sized elevator starts from the basement to service all levels in the Wing.

The floorings of first and second level are now fully cemented hence a much delayed Topping Off Ceremony brought by exigencies of COVID-19 and the weather is being planned in early 2024 for the



PERSPECTIVE VIEW



PRIVATE ROOM



PRIVATE COMFORT ROOM

appreciation of our donor patriots. The site visit was as invigorating as the smell of fresh cement and the creative din of workers on their tasks. DMCI is veritably a professional construction firm in terms of efficiency and quality of work that characterizes the company. Class '70 Magiting proudly shares this work ethic of DMCI.

A Solid Reunion and Transition in December

Below is the yearly Turn Over ceremony for Class '70 Magiting presidency which traditionally coincides with its Christmas party and reunion. Chairman Emeritus Roy Cimatu, in a jacket, is flanked by former Magiting class presidents from left: Boots de Veyra, Ed Israel and Zambales Governor Jun Ebdane. Magiting Roy is handing over



a Plaque of Recognition to outgoing 2023 Class President Mar Ilagan while incoming 2024 Class President Nesty Carolina and Secretary Bob Nuqui beam approvingly. Former President Mar delivered his valedictory profused with thanks for the support of the entire class plus how he enjoyed the challenges in connection with the Magiting Wing. Incoming President Nesty was actually happy if not expectant of being one of the class presidents after 53 years since graduation in March 1970. He was full of praises for his company mate more dearly known as 'Mardokay' a nickname that is not easily earned. Roy shared his traditional pep talk exhorting Mistahs to recharge their energies as the 'Thinking Class' forges 'Ahead of its Time' with a finished steel beacon in 2018 on the grounds of the Academy and now the Magiting '70 Wing at the VMMC in 2023-2024. Below the rows of attractive and powerful Mas-Magitings are the

very understated but very understanding spouses of Class '70 Magitings. Please note the inset of 12 expat Magitings who sent individual video messages of merriment, thoughts of coming home and good health for all.

Magiting Fairway Habitues in Five Outings

Magiting Class '70 supported the PEFTOK Veterans Association in its Invitational Golf Tournament on September 5, 2023 at the PNGC. The event



was a fund-raising project on behalf of Philippine veterans of the Korean war. At the left photo is Mr. James Lee, President of the United Koreans Community in the Philippines.

Hon. Romy Acop '70 sponsored a Fellowship Game at Forest Hills, Antipolo on October 19, 2023. The incessant rain did not deter the enthusiasm of Magiting golfers. Fine cuisine for lunch was served at the house of Cavalier Romy just across the Club House.

Magitings participated in the 2023 Game of Cavaliers on November 6, 2023. The games were played at CGEA, PNGC and VGC. Mulligans were for sale however no statistics are available to establish if the additional stroke enabled better scores.

Class '70 hosted the Corps of 70 Fellowship Tournament at PNGC on November 13, 2023. It was organized by Magiting Clyde Fernandez six years ago for classes 70, 71, 72 and 73. Class '71 placed first, host '70 took second place. The classes donated raffle prizes while Cavalier Clyde hosted lunch.

President Emeritus Roy Cimatu hosted an inter battalion fellowship golf at the Veterans Golf Course on December 7, 2023. It was rumored that the First Battalion may have won.





JOSE C LALISAN JR
President
ARTHUR G BALMaceda
Secretary

Happy New Year to All!

2024 is the Year of the Wooden Dragon according to the Chinese Calendar. In my Google research, the dragon is a "symbol of strength, courage, creativity, and innovation." They say that people born in this year are "said to be charismatic, ambitious, adventurous, and fearless." Aside from being confident and independent, they are also visionary. Wow! Pang presidente ng Pilipinas ang mga qualities na ito.

It is expected that the Year of the Dragon will bring "unique opportunities and challenges."

My wish is that for this year 2024, all the positive vibrations will come for our country and people. Let us pray to that!

Activities and Achievements of HL'71 for the year 2023

In the last issue of the Class Call, I mentioned that the Class 71 golfers (also known as Hampaslupas'71) joined the Game of the Cavaliers hosted by the PMAAAI. There were two golf games held and, in those games, the HL'71 beat twice the team of PMA Class of 1972.

There was also the tournament of the Corps of 70s held at the Navy Golf Course last November. Again, HL'71 beat the class of 1972. Only the top 6 scores were considered. Those who scored were Rey Velasco, Rey Acop, Egay Aglipay, Tex Balmaceda, Jerry Albano, and Teody Viduya.

For the year 2023, it is worthy to note that the HL's achieved more than expected, as follows:

First, HL'71 won the Championship Award in the Corps of 70s tournament last November.

Second, there were those who made a hole-in-one namely, Rex Piad in the Navy GC, Dong Tabamo in Pinewoods GC, Rey Velasco in The Summit GC, and Joey Lalisan



Matatag Class Christmas party 2023

in the Navy GC during the second leg of the Games of the Cavaliers Tournament.

Third, Teody Viduya won the most coveted grand raffle prize during the Christmas event at the Aguinaldo GC. He won a Toyota Raize SUV. Incidentally, Teody made his hole-in-one twice in his favorite Aguinaldo GC prior 2023.

And fourth, a special achievement of HL'71 is "beating your age" challenge. There were three who accomplished this. They are Rex Paid who accomplished it twice, Rey Velasco, Tex Balmaceda, and Egay Aglipay.

Our congratulations!

Last 28 November, bunk Ed Matillano and wifey Elsie hosted lunch at the Aguinaldo GC and also a golf game for the HLs. Sobrang dami ng handa!

Last 7 December, it was the time for mistah Dong Tabamo to host his pa-birthday golf and lunch also at the

Aguinaldo GC. There was a raffle held hosted by HL Prexy Rey Acop among the attendees.

Matatag Christmas Party 2023

Last 9 December, the class had their face-to-face Christmas Party held at the Valle Verde IV Social Hall. It was a well-attended affair. A mass was held before dinner and after which the program started as prepared by the Mas-Matatags. Prexy Joey was joined by Celia, the Mas Matatag President, with the class officers in welcoming the mistahs and their ladies. There were games, line dancing, singing, exchange-gift giving, blowing of candles by the birthday celebrators, and of course, the much-awaited raffle time. Mistah Efren Fernandez won the 65-inch Smart TV donated by Mistah Sen Ping Lacson. The designated emcees were Dra Nona Legaspi and Celia Lalisan. Those who attended the affair were Balik-bayans Rollie and Mely

Degracia, Boy and Barrie Castellano, and Archie and Rose Almario, Ruben and Fe Domingo, Dan and Arlene Francia, Egay and Mawie Aglipay, Rex and Jane Piad, Sec Greg and Jane Honasan, Rey and Benjie Rivera, Gel and Lyn Molato, Wency and Puring Cruz, Oca and Jing Martinez, Jerry and Verna Albano, Dong and Lulu Tabamo, Aris and Nina delos Reyes, Rey and Fim Velasco, Dick and Annie de Leon, Rollie and Malou Garcia, Bob and Eden Sacramento, Bobby and Chit Yarisantos, Joey and Celia Lalisan, Paby and Amy Pabuyayon, Efren and Vangie Fernandez, Rey and Mina Alcasid, Amba Jun and Tess Paynor, Tiboe Fusilero and partner Gigi, Rey Acop, Bing Alano, Jun Fabros, Caloy Garcia, Lita Gil, Aleli Belonia, Bussy Cabagnet, JB Ramos, Sandy Navida and son, Tex Balmaceda, Vic Batac, Marte Chioco, Teody Viduya, Beng Ibo and daughter, Annie Lim and daughter, Esther Domingo, Diding Cataluna, and Jennie Domingo.

Lifetime Achievement and Distinguished Awards

There are reasons for the Matatags to go up to PMA this February 2024 for the Alumni Homecoming. One is that the class recommended our mistahs NICA Director-General Dick de Leon and former Chairman/President of MWSS Rey Velasco the Lifetime Achievement Award for Service of 50 years or more in the government and NGOs. Another is the possible recognition of mistah Egay Aglipay and Efren Fernandez for their laudable contributions that paved the way for the construction of the PMAAAI Building along Lawton Street in Fort Bonifacio. And of course, our golf game at Pinewoods for the HLs.

Our Condolences to Mistah Alex Lasan

The class conveys its deepest sympathies and condolences to our mistah Alex and the bereaved Lasan family for the passing of his beloved wife Thelma last 5 December 2023 due to a lingering illness. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Quote for this Issue

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right." Oprah Winfrey//JCL/20 Dec 2023



Hole-in- One achievers and other golf activities



Wake and giving of class support



ARTURO C ALABANZA
President
CELSO G DE CASTRO
Secretary

Hello and warm greetings to all.

This is the last Class Call for 2023 highlighting the activities for months of November and December. Here are the updates for your reading pleasure:

(a). Board of Directors/Class Officers Meeting:

The BOD met last 14 November at PNGC. Bing Valencia, in his written report, informed BOT that the total class expenditures to date is Ph769,525. The remaining balance available for the rest of this year is Ph107,076.22 only. The Board agreed to solicit extra from willing and able Mistahs to augment the shortage of fund for Christmas party. The bottom line is no fund to be withdrawn from the capital contribution in PSSLA. The Christmas Party will be held on December 8 at PNGC. There will be mass at 3:00 p.m. blessings of birthday celebrators, presentation of gifts, dinner, raffle draws, exchange gifts and finally, the most awaited Inter- Company singing competition. Part of the program is the presentation of Masigasig Recognition Awards to deserving Mistah/Mas. The Board approved the holding of Inter Bn Golf Tournament on 07 Dec at PN Golf Club. For 2024 Alumni Homecoming on 16-17 February, the Class will be billeted at Microtel. One (1) overnight stay will be shouldered by the Class, extra stay will be charged individually. There will be no more free service transportation going to Baguio and back; instead, we will use our personal cars. The Valentines Party and election of Class Officers will be held on 14 Feb at PNGC. The proposed attire during the homecoming will be blue jacket, khaki pants, white under-shirts for Masigasigs. Attire for MAS to be known in due time.

(b). Inter- Bn Golf Tournament: The first ever Inter Bn Golf Tournament was held last 07 Dec at PNGC. The par busters of each Bn displayed their golfing skills challenging the treacherous fairway of PNGC. When the smoke of battle cleared, 2nd Bn emerged as the winner and was awarded the coveted trophy last Christmas party. Mistah Glykes carted the lowest gross while Mistah Celoy garnered the highest score of 120 (ala NBA) and was gifted with a bucket full of balls from Yaric. As the saying goes, "it's not the winning but the joy of golfing with Mistah that matters most." Kudos to our Athletic Coordinator,



Mistah Rey O for superb management of the tournament. A rematch will be held in Pinewood Golf Course, Baguio City on 16 Dec in time for 2024 Homecoming.

(c). Christmas Party: The Christmas Party last 08 Dec was a real success, a record attendance of 70 Masigasigs/Mas and some guests. Our thanks and appreciation goes to Prez Art, BOD and members of Ladies Working Group for their excellent jobs. Of course, we are most grateful to our patrons, donors and dependents for their kind donations in cash or in kind. Everybody arrived at PNGC as early as 12 p.m. to prepare and rehearse their respective presentations for the Inter- Company Singing Competition. The party started on time with Holy Eucharist

mass officiated by our spiritual adviser, Father Glen who delivered an inspiring homily for Masigasig family. It was providential that the mass coincided with the birthday of Mama Mary. The mass was also intended for the healing of sick Mistah/Mas, eternal repose of the souls of departed Masigasig/Mas, blessings of birthday celebrators and wedding anniversaries, followed by presentation of gifts to birthday celebrators. The exchange gifts was very exciting although the mechanics was confusing at first. It was enjoyable although we did not know who the lucky winners were. Dinner was served and everybody partook the sumptuous meal from PNGC. Simple gifts were raffled to the delight of the lucky winners. Moments after





dinner the most awaited portion of the party; Company Singing Contest commenced. The four (4) Companies donned their impressive and distinctive style of costumes. The order of presentation was Charlie, Bravo, Delta and lastly, Alpha. Each Company equally did an impressive performance and there was a moment of tense as everybody waited for the verdict of judges who the winner was. Finally the waiting was over and the Judges announced the winners. Alpha: 1st Place, Charlie: 2nd Place, Delta: 3rd Place and Bravo: 4th Place. In recognition of their invaluable services rendered to the Class, the Masigasig Plaques of Recognition were presented to Phepps and Ludy Vidad, Celo and Beth Navarro, Rey Ochoza and Manong Ben. In his remarks to culminate the party, Prez Art expressed his thanks and gratitude for all the support extended to him as Class President and wished everybody a Happy and Prosperous holidays. The party ended in high note and holding hands while singing Christmas Carols. All went home fulfilled and satisfied bringing with them delicious ham and assorted gifts.

(d). Additional Updates: A mass was held last 01 Dec at LNMB to commemorate the 40th day of the death of Mistah Teody. Some Mistahs and Mas joined Choly and her family during the mass. A lunch was served at the palatial house of Choly at AFOVAI for more fellowship and interactions. The Class mourned the sudden death of Princes last October; the lovable and caring daughter of Mistah Ike and Cristy. We pray for the eternal repose of Princes' soul as she rests in peace in the Kingdom of our Lord.

We were shocked and felt so sadly on the sudden death of Mas Mila (Miles) last 16 Dec. Her untimely demise left a big dent on our morale. Miles is very sociable and religious woman and we best remember her as a loving Mom to his children, adorable and caring wife to Egay. Rest in peace, Mas Miles.

At this point we express our thanks and gratitude to Prez Art for steering the Class to greater heights. Congratulations for a job well done. Relatedly, we welcome and congratulate the Incoming Prez, Julius Yarcia.

We are looking forward for another banner year under your leadership as we assure you of our unconditional support.

Till next Class Call and happy reading to all...Oslec





AVELINO I RAZON, JR
President
WILFREDO V GARCIA
Secretary

December is always an exciting time of the year. Aside from our usual merry-making and holiday festivities with family and friends, the last quarter of 2023 and first quarter of 2024 are jam-packed with fun and memorable activities for the members of Class '74.

Allow me to give a rundown of our scheduled activities for the months of January and February. This includes some key milestones such as the 2024 PMA Alumni Homecoming, which also happens to be the Golden Jubilee Celebration of PMA Marangal Class of 1974.

I. Scheduled Activities (January 2023 – February 2024)

Event	Time and Date	Venue	Attire
Christmas Party	6:00 p.m., December 8, 2023, Friday	Villamor Golf Club	Smart casual
Board of Trustees Meeting	11:00 a.m., January 8, 2024	Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club	Smart casual
Lunch for widows/next of kin of the departed classmates	12:00 noon, January 20, 2024	Philippine Navy Golf Club	Smart casual
PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting	09:00 a.m., January 27, 2024, Saturday	AFP Commissioned Officers Club	Class 1974 blue blazer, white long sleeves shirt, maroon/red tie, beige pants, black shoes
Lunch for Mistahs from abroad	12:00 noon, February 14, 2024, Wednesday	Philippine Navy Golf Club	Smart casual
Formal Class Dinner	6:00 p.m., February 16, 2024	CAP Auditorium, Camp John Hay	Class 1974 Maroon Blazer, white long sleeves shirt, without neck tie, khaki pants, brown leather shoes
Alumni Homecoming Parade	9:00 a.m., February 17, 2024	Philippine Military Academy	Class 1974 Maroon Blazer, gold t-shirt, khaki pants, brown walking shoes/ golf shoes, maroon cap



II. Christmas Party

Christmas in the Philippines is a joyous occasion often envied by other cultures for the contagiously festive mood all over the country. It is often marked by an abundance of food responsible for widening waistlines, and of course the unshakeable practice of exchanging gifts with loved ones.

As we get absorbed into the festivities, let us not forget that the "most wonderful time of the year" is also a great time to take to reflect and focus on the true spirit of Christmas. It is, after all, a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ and a constant reminder of all His sacrifices. As we celebrate this season, let us keep in our hearts the intent

of sharing and giving, and the feeling of gratitude and togetherness.

With this in mind, we would like to share with you how our class celebrated its annual Christmas party last December 8, 2023 at Villamor Golf Club. In a well-participated event, the class had the opportunity to mingle and share a few laughs with classmates and friends whom we have not seen for a while.

The venue was festively decorated, fully adorned with Christmas decors which gave the guests a feeling of holiday cheer. The band played some of our favorite classic old songs and kept everyone dancing and in a good mood.

After the invocation and welcome remarks and Christmas message of our Class President Sonny Razon, a sumptuous dinner followed. With full bellies, some class members and their ladies then gamely participated in fun activities and games, such as line dancing and exchange gifts.

Suffice it to say, the class had a very Merry Christmas! To all the members of Class '74, we wish for you and your families a joyous Christmas filled with love, happiness and prosperity!

III. PMA Alumni Homecoming: Class 74 Golden Jubilee

On February 16-17, 2023, we will be gathered at the hallowed grounds of our

Alma Mater to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of our graduation. A significant number of classmates from here and abroad, some joined by their families, will arrive to be part of the celebration which will commence on Friday, February 16, with a formal class dinner at CAP Auditorium, Camp John Hay.

The following day, Saturday February 17, 2024, will find us assembled at the Grandstand/Parade ground for the traditional Alumni Homecoming Parade, trooping the line, and giving/awarding of golden medallions to this year's Golden Jubilarians – PMA Marangal Class of 1974.

Immediately thereafter, we will proceed to the newly constructed PMA Class 1974 View Deck at the Flirtation Walk which was built by the class and donated to the PMA. We will have lunch at the View Deck while enjoying the refreshing Baguio breeze and the beautiful view of Kennon Road.

It is our hope that the Golden Jubilee celebration for our class will be successful and something to be remembered forever.

IV. Corps of Classes 74, 75, 76, and 77 Fellowship Golf

Last December 13, 2023, we hosted the last quarter 2023 Corps of 74, 75, 76, and 77 Fellowship Golf Tournament at Villamor Golf Club. It will be played using a rather unique format called "Greensomes."





The mechanics of this format goes something like this:

Both partners tee off. On the second shot, each player hits his partner's ball. For the third shot, they shall choose one ball and play alternately from that point until they complete play of the hole. The partner whose ball is not chosen, shall hit the third shot. A penalty stroke does not change the order of play.

Each class can field as many two-man teams as possible, but to determine the Champion, only five teams shall count.

For Class 74, the following players competed:

Sonny Razon	Jun Noble	Errol Pan
Jun Esperon	Ed Doromal	Romy Buenaflor
Willy Garcia	Amy Tolentino	Hanson So

Danny Abinoja	Lito Gutierrez	Bobby Bayona
Gene Cedo	Amable Tolentino	Tony Ramos
Pons Crucero	Jun Lopez	

Results and photos of the tournament will be published in the next Cavalier Magazine issue.





RAUL S GONZALES
President
DANTE T FERRER
Secretary

Christmas Party 2023. This year, the PMA Makabayan Class 1975 has organized a program to celebrate the auspicious occasion of Christmas. The celebration was held in Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse, Quezon City through the sponsorship of the class president, Raul Gonzales on December 3, 2023. The class officers, their ladies, and some obliging members jointly helped in organizing and implementing the program. The entire main hall of the clubhouse was beautifully decorated with festivals, lights, posters, and parols by the Makabayan ladies led by Ollie Gonzales. An all-imposing LED board that served as backdrop was sponsored by Willie and Inday Palugod while Pete and Angie Cadungog provided the music and sounds. All the participants were very excited and full of enthusiasm for the celebration as they came dressed in various vivid colors of Christmas.

To set the tone for the program which started at 7 p.m, the audience began singing some Christmas carols. The opening prayer was led in tandem by Dante T Ferrer and wife, Lilly. After that, Raul Gonzales conveyed his Yuletide message wishing everyone the joy of the season and hoping that the future would be better. He reminded everybody to look forward to 2025 when the Class will observe its 50th anniversary. Nostalgic but germane to the situation, he tendered a moment of silence to reminisce the mistahs who have passed the mortal life and offered prayers for them. Likewise, he acknowledged the diligence and dedication of the organizing committee composed of the class officers. He also underscored the contribution of the ladies who are truly behind the success of the affair. They provided the soul and spirit to the celebration by assisting in organizing the program, scheming the decoration, designing the outfit to be worn by everyone, picking out the menu, and handling of the program itself, to name a few of their contributions. He also wished everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year. Moreover, he wished for the well-being of all mistah and their respective family.

For this year, a total of twenty-two (22) Makabayans, including four (4) associate, honorary, and adopted members attended the party. There were several who came



PMA Makabayan CI 75 Christmas Party 2023 held at the Valle Verde 6 clubhouse, Dec 3, 2023. The smile on their faces is a display of happy time.



Makabayan Ladies in their colorful get-ups during the PMA 75 Christmas party 2023, Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse, Dec. 3, 2023. The Christmas spirit lifts everyone with joy.



Class president Raul Gonzales delivering his Christmas message during the Christmas party Dec 3, 2023, Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse, Quezon City.



Class secretary and wife, Lilly, leading the opening prayers during the Class Christmas party on Dec 3, 2023 in Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse, Q.C.



The "village people" doing their special number during the Makabayan Christmas party.



Makabayans and their ladies enjoy the game of "siomai, siopao, suman".



Eagerly exchanging gifts...



Benny Pabalan happily receiving her raffle prize from class president Raul Gonzales.

with their wives. The widows who came to grace the occasion were Winnie Tropicales, Tess Logronio, Bennie Pabalan, and Cynthia Roxas-Guligado.

A live band provided music of the 70s, while the food and beverage were catered for by Chef Roast, a noted food specialist chosen by the organizers. Several mistahs brought additional foodstuffs, not to mention Gerry Doria's signature contribution of the famous delicacy "*papaitan*" to the satisfaction of the *connoisseurs*, Noe and Len Wong supplied the fruits so overflowing that the audience were already full by the time dinner was served. Pet and Beth Magno donated the sherbet as *pang-himagas* to the satisfaction of those non-diabetics.

After dinner, an array of surprises was presented to the delight of the audience. A special number, which was kept under wraps until its presentation, was a dance number powerfully choreographed by five

brave souls composed of Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Pet Magno, Geary Barias, and Gerry Doria mimicking an unnamed DI. The dance was captivating, even surpassing last year's *haute couture* fashion show performed by the Makabayan ladies.

This year's Christmas party was teeming with raffle prizes, though there was no major prize, everyone went home happy with at least one prize brought home. There was an exchange gift worth a modest P2,000 per couple. Various party games were staged like, "siomai-siopao-suman," "tumpakners," etc.

After all the programs were presented and the prizes were claimed, the party ended reluctantly at about 10:00 p.m., as several partygoers were still at the peak of their exciting conversation. But as booked by the clubhouse administrator, the party must end as scheduled. Thus, as the cold air start to overshadow the night, a warm and festive Christmas vibe filled everyone's

heart as they bade goodbye and hailed the customary "Merry Christmas!" to everyone.

Golf Matters. The PMA "Makabayan" Class 1975 golf team garnered the Runner-up Trophy of the Commandant's Division of the PMAAAI Game of the Cavaliers for 2023 the championship games of which were held at the Villamor Air Base Golf Course on November 12, 2023. Members of the team are Jeff Sodusta (Team Manager), Gerry Doria, Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Willie Palugod, Arsenio Arugay, Cardozo Luna, Pete Magno, Nap Cachuela, Cesar Carranza, Chito Blanco, Doming Manuel, and Ruel Hiterosa. *Congratulations!* It's not the winning that counts, but the love of the game itself that matters.

Birthday Celebrators for 1st Quarter 2024 – Birthday greetings to our 28 mistahs whose birthdays fall during the 1st quarter. Unfortunately, seven of them

are no longer around to celebrate with us. There are 21 who are still around to add another year in their bubbling life!

Willie Palugod	January 15
+Manuel Mariano Jr.	January 15
+Prudencio Regis Jr.	January 16
+Abelardo Salango Jr.	January 16
Emerito Calica	January 31
+Octavio Pabuayon	January 9
Pedrito Cadungog	January 11

Jaime Silvestre	February 1
Romeo Dayao	February 6
Arsenio Arugay	February 6
Marcelo Soriano	February 9
Wilfredo Dulay	February 14
Ernesto Boac	February 15
Dante Ferrer	February 22
Charlie Alejandrino	February 24

Geary Barias	March 1
+Ismael Rafanan	March 2
Ray Roderos	March 2
Ronald Roderos	March 2
+Antonio Viray	March 5
Dante Ganir	March 8
Leonardo Bernabe	March 8
Meynardo Santiago	March 11
Lecrecio Figueras	March 15
Teodorico Capuyan	March 25
Juanito Samuya	March 27
+Raul Heredia	March 27
Michael Rosales	March 31

We wish our birthday celebrators warm felicitations and more to come. Always remember to keep smiling and to have a positive outlook on life. Happy Birthday. dtf/12/12/2023



Jeffrey Sodusta, PMA 75 Golf Team manager, receiving the Runner-up Trophy of the Commandant's Division of the Game of the Cavaliers held at Villamor air Base Golf Course on November 12, 2023. Other Makabayan golfers on photo are Raul Gonzales, Arsenio Arugay, Pet Magno, and Noe Wong.



Congratulations to the PMA Makabayan Golf Team for winning the Runner-up Championship of the 4th quarter 2023 Corps of 74567 Golf Tournament held at Villamor Air Base Golf Course on December 12, 2023. From l-r: Ernie Boac, Arsenio Arugay, Jeffrey Sodusta, Raul Gonzales, Nap Cachuela, Doming Manuel, Ruel Hiteroza, Gerry Doria, Chito Blanco, Pet Magno, Cesar Carranza, Ding Luna, and Noe Wong.



MAGILAS CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP 2023

The Magilas Christmas Fellowship 2023, held at the elegant Solaire Resorts and Casino on December 3, 2023, commenced with a warm and inviting atmosphere. The evening began with a heartfelt AVP Prayer, setting a reflective and positive tone. Subsequently, the Magilas Pledge further strengthened the sense of unity and purpose among the attendees.

The fellowship brought together a vibrant group, with 37 couples, 16 singles,

and eight widows, contributing to the rich tapestry of the Magilas community.

The talented Milo Ibrado serenaded the audience with a soulful rendition of

an oldy song, adding a nostalgic touch to the evening. Arjie Bonnavie's performance captivated the audience, providing a memorable and entertaining experience.





The Philippine Air Force Band provided enchanting music, creating a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.

The most awaited raffle draw was made possible and exciting through generous sponsors such as: Mistah Tyrone Ong, Louie Ticman, Ed Gurrea, Jaems Sin, Lhen Calderon, Ric Blancaflor, Mon Punzalan, Joey Paz, and Carly Divinagracia among others. Salute to the PNP group for making this segment a resounding success.

The evening was complemented by a delectable array of food, ensuring all attendees had a delightful culinary experience. The tantalizing flavors added to the joyous atmosphere of the event. Vic Boco's sponsorship of liquors added a celebratory touch, enhancing the overall enjoyment of the fellowship.

The Magilas Christmas Fellowship concluded with smiles and happiness radiating from each Mistah. The generosity of the PNP group who sponsored Christmas gifts, added a heartwarming touch to the event's conclusion.

The festive celebration officially concluded at around 11:00 p.m., marking the end of a successful and memorable Magilas Christmas Fellowship. The bonds of camaraderie and the spirit of Christmas were evident throughout the evening, leaving lasting impressions on all attendees.

The Magilas community extends gratitude to all those who made the Christmas Fellowship a memorable occasion. As we wrapped up this festive gathering, we look forward to future events that will continue to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood within the Magilas community.

PMA Magilas Class '76 - 21st Anniversary Celebration Meeting

The 21st Anniversary Celebration of the PMA Magilas Class '76 marked a significant milestone in the history of

the esteemed class. The event, held in conjunction with the Board of Trustees' Meeting, not only commemorated two decades of camaraderie and shared experiences but also showcased the class's commitment to fostering plebe days and addressing the current circumstances of its members, many of whom have retired as generals in the armed forces (AFP and PNP).

The celebration began with a nostalgic journey back to the plebe days, allowing the class to reflect on their beginnings and the bonds forged during rigorous military training.

A special tribute was paid to the distinguished members of the Magilas Class '76 who have retired as generals. Their achievements, leadership, and service were acknowledged, showcasing the class's collective success.

The Board of Trustees Meeting served as a strategic platform for planning the

upcoming Golden Jubilee celebrations. Detailed discussions were conducted to organize a grand and memorable event that will not only celebrate the class' 50 years but also honor its legacy.

The meeting emphasized the association's commitment to the well-being of its members. Plans were discussed to enhance support systems, particularly for those facing challenges in retirement or health-related issues.

The Board explored opportunities for networking and collaboration with other PMA classes and military organizations. This initiative aims to strengthen ties, share experiences, and create a supportive network for the benefit of all members.

The Magilas Class '76 is actively planning legacy projects to leave a lasting impact on the academy and the community. These projects aim to contribute positively to the development of future military leaders.





Initiatives were discussed to enhance alumni engagement, including mentorship programs, career support, and educational opportunities for the younger generations within the PMA community.

The 21st Anniversary Celebration and Board of Trustees Meeting were a

testament to the enduring spirit and unity of the PMA Magilas Class '76. As the class looks forward to its Golden Jubilee, there is a palpable sense of excitement, commitment, and responsibility to continue contributing to the legacy of excellence and service.

This gathering not only celebrated the past but also laid the groundwork for a future that embraces progress, collaboration, and a shared commitment to the principles instilled by the Philippine Military Academy.



RIC A DAVID JR
Pangulo
VIXI ABAT
Kalihim

Para “*próspero año y felicidad*”
we start NEW YEAR 2024 🕒
with positive vibes.
Cast your fears aside.
At sumainyo ang biyaya ng Panginoon.
🙏

Every new year offers 365 opportunities to be happy.

👋
February 14
💕 THAT'S AMÓRE!
we love because it's the only true adventure.
O pag-ibig na makapangyarihan...
SWAK 🗝️
Sealed With A Kiss!

👋
TSIKENKLAB
The merry Masikap camaraderie continues ~
MM frolics,
Regional frolics,
Overseas frolics,
Happy hostings.
Happy lunch treats.





SPORTS

Masikap golfers join
"Corps of 74567"
4th Qtr '23 golfest 🏌️
in VAB golfcourse.



CYCLING

manny A, ochò, and dick rode 🚲 the
64-km camiguin C-road.
happy leisure roll on folding bikes.



HEALTH BULLETIN

Masikaps are ageing well.
Another new year of happy birthdays.
Passage of time ⌚



MASIKAP MINISTRY

viber group.
Regular zoom meets.
Wonderful and 'faith'ful interaction re:
matters of religion.
Ang Mabuting Balita.
The Good News.



FAITH is certain.

It doesn't rest on our opinion that
always wavers, but on the authority of
God who neither deceives nor can be
deceived.

OBIT 📄

Mistahs condole:
1. with Mon Espera on the demise of
his brother Adrian, Class 1975.
Rest in peace.





memories are kept;
to cherish, not to forget.



pma seals and class crests
are common on hats, sportshirts, mugs,
atbp.

maiba naman.



Masikap "golden tinyentes" logo for
pasyals, fairway, travels, other daily
casual wear.

storyline of logo:
"pma **MASIKAP** class
graduates in
LOAKAN, baguio,
in 1977.
we were commissioned 2Lt."
-- -- --

PMA Class 1977



2023
anniv golden "**Plebos**"
(174)



2027
anniv golden "**Tinyentes**"
(125)





FELIPE HB BUENA JR
Chairman/President
GABRIEL F GOMEZ
Secretary
HO SUN YEE
Asst. Secretary

The 18th annual Botong's Cup Golf Tournament held at the Legacy Golf Club from November 3-5 was attended recently by 71 players from the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association members and their spouses. This year's event had the highest number of participants coming from all over the US and Canada. Botong rose from being a caddy in his younger years to a golf promoter and mentor to most PMA Alumni both in the Philippines and here in the US. The event was a blessing to many especially to Class 88 (with most number of attendees) which had an impromptu Class Reunion. The early, chilly November morning at Phoenix' Legacy Golf Club provided the backdrop for a perfect weekend getaway for PMA Cavaliers and their spouses to not only enjoy themselves but also re-affirm their bonds as gentlemen soldiers who served their best years in the service of their country.



Back home in Manila, despite many of our better players were out of town, M78 golfers made it to the finals at the Game of Cavaliers Golf Annual. We shall return next year with all our players!

Putting others' interest before ours, Oca R, Sam T and Audie S organized and participated in the 3-Day Retreat for NCRPO personnel at St Michael Retreat House, Antipolo City in late November.





Whenever our Mistahs visit overseas, our overseas Mistahs are wonderful hosts - Gabby G meeting with Winnie B and Rudy C in California; Juancho S and Irene,

Marlon V and Fe, with Botong S and Joy. In the US, Rollie D and Mimi meeting with Paul M and Fred J in Australia.



We combined the 3Q and 4Q fellowship into a One Time Big Time Christmas Fellowship on 9 Dec at the Veterans Center CGEA, courtesy of USEC Rey M.

Class Officers planning for the OTBT - George P, Oca R, Ernest B, Marlon B and Chair Pipes B.



Yearend M78 Fellowship Golf was held at Villamor Golf Course on Dec 4 - Rudy M, Ernest V, Oca R, Romy P, Efren T, Rolly A and Phil P.

At our OTBT last quarter fellowship on 9 Dec, wedding anniversary celebrants had the opportunity to share two photos of the couple - their wedding photo and most recent photo together - the slide show montage brought back memories and cat calls from all participants (at least 60 pax).



Anniversary Celebrants.



OTBT last quarter fellowship at Camp Aguinaldo.



CAESAR RONNIE F ORDOYO
President
EDMUND C TAN
Secretary

It's been an unusually not cold December 2023. El Niño, in true fashion, is in the air here in our corner of the Pacific. It may not be a feel thing, but the joyful spirit of the Yuletide Season has descended upon us in the dazzling magical display of electricity and artificial lighting, everywhere we go.

Yes, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Bedazzled, we gape while driving down the street brilliantly lit by roadside or center aisle Parols leading to the Plaza or the heart of the commercial center, which is dominated by a towering giant Christmas tree girded with coruscating spirals of radiant colors with brighter bigger lights at its apex, in the middle of buildings, their silhouettes strung with lights in straight lines and cutting corners.

Yes, we ogle open-mouthed at this symphony of lights like children hypnotized by the rhythmic kaleidoscope of steady and blinking colors.

Years down retirement, there's not much for us to do. Thus, we devote our time to babysitting and doting on our apos, and play the occasional ignorant curious excited tourist on travels with the wife to lands hither and thither; then on weekends, play golf that always end up in raucous fellowship with Mistahs whose behavior and stories somehow were frozen in time stuck in the grey halls of the Academy. Yet we do not begrudge life for this gift of a second childhood. Instead, we embrace this mulligan with alacrity.

And so, on the 10th of December 2023, we Mapitagans and Ladies celebrated Christmas with a simple party at the Philippine Navy Officers' Clubhouse (PNOC) in Bonifacio Naval Station. We had to grab this once-a-year chance to enjoy the hearty company of dear friends. Amid loud guffaws and feminine chatter, we fist-bumped with classmates and shook the hands or waved at the ladies, then sought and sat at the table of our childish, er, ah, *este*, like-minded Mistahs to be child-like once more.

After hushed talk about maintenance meds and the health of some Mistahs, we listened rapt to stories and anecdotes that never get tiresome despite being retold a thousand times, tales that never fail to provoke the same if not louder laughter



The Mapitagans with their Ladies during the Class Christmas Party 2023 on December 10, 2023 at the Philippine Navy Officers' Clubhouse in BNS, Fort Bonifacio.



The beautiful Mapitagan Ladies attending the Class Christmas Party 2023.



The Macho Mapitagans . . .

about classmates, upperclassmen, underclassmen, tactical officers, academic instructors, etc. Who in his right mature mind could ever think of missing this most wonderful time of the year?

The day's festivities kicked off at 10 o'clock in the morning with a Thanksgiving Mass at the Holy Child Chapel in Bonifacio

Naval Station and to offer prayers for the eternal repose of the souls of our 20 departed Mistahs. Registration followed at the venue, the PNOC, at 11:00 a.m. By 11:30, Ed Tamayo, designated emcee for the celebration's brief and simple program, declared the start of the Mapitagans' Christmas Party 2023. Then he went into



Some of the Mapitagans and their Ladies that attended the Thanksgiving Mass at the Holy Child Chapel before the Class Christmas Party on December 10, 2023.



*Rosalina "Sally" C. Tan
(August 30, 1925-October 26, 2023)*



*Lydia L. Abogado
(February 24, 1933-November 22, 2023)*



A very proud Lolo Del Lorenzo with his first two new apos born four months apart: Girl River Xin (left), on March 13, 2023; and Boy Raphael Max (right), on July 15, 2023.



Lolo Larry Dela Cruz with his only two adorable apos: Gabriele, 5 years old last January 2024; and Baby Laura, a year and 4 months old.



Lolo Onell beaming over his two new apos Rori and Yuna named after (almost) a PGA Tour star and an LPGA pro from Japan.



The two beautiful apos of Onell born three days apart: Boy Rori (left) on September 16, 2023 to Onell's second daughter who is a lawyer, while Girl Yuna (right) on September 19 to Onell's eldest daughter, a market analyst.

a vintage Travolta-ish gyrations in body turning and twisting, arms swinging, and legs kicking number.

Jess Lomeda, here all the way from the freezing air of Canada for the holidays, led the solemn Opening Prayer. Nene Delos Reyes, VP for the Army, followed with a warm Welcome Remarks. Ed T then called on Class Prez Ces Ordoyo to acknowledge the warm body presence of every Mapitagan who eagerly looked forward to spending precious bonding moments with classmates and their ladies during this annual Class event.

Fun and amusement filled the Christmas air with the first parlor game – "Who Is" or sort of Name Bingo devised by Bogs Abogado, to identify the Mapitagan from a list of trivia clues and secure his signature alongside his full name to certify the answer's veracity. Participants must have 15 correct answers out of 30 clues to win. Onell Lleno won with 18 validated answers and the cash prize, lucky to have three Mistahs in his table and two others nearby in the list. *Hehehe* . . .

'Pastor' Jardi Mantele led the Grace Before Meals for the austere yet fulfilling

Christmas Party fare luncheon. After an hour of partaking, everyone settled down for the eagerly awaited Exchange Gifts. Participants - Mapitagans and ladies, with their gifts in hand formed a big circle. Then the "Pasko Na Naman" song was played, and every time "Pasko" was mentioned

in the lyrics, the gift was passed to the person to the right. At song's end, the gift the participant had in his hands was his gift. Everyone then went back to their seats, happy with their surprise Christmas presents.

Then it was time for the second parlor game - which the emcee Ed T dubbed as "clandestine communication" but in reality, just a Pantomime Game. After he performed a series of actions, actually bodily contortions and weird facial expressions, Class Sec Edmund Tan won this somewhat bizarre contest, marked by a rather set of complicated gesticulations that might only appeal to the uncanny mind.

With excitement still abuzz, Ed Tamayo Travolta called on our Class President, Caesar Ronnie Ordoyo, to share his inspiring Christmas Message. Prez Ces first reminded us of our fraternal bonds that have withstood the test of time. It has grown stronger despite life's challenges, mainly aging and its attendant health issues. Yes, the constant battle against weight gain, frequent trips to the bathroom day and night, the growing victories we concede to the wife in everything without even a peep of an argument, and the forgotten names, faces and moments we have relegated to the dustbin of memory.

Yet, there are so many things to be grateful for: the love and comfort of our families; and the support of our brothers from another mother (*mga mistah бага*). And Christmas is the perfect time to joyfully express our deep and sincere gratitude for these blessings. Ces exhorted everyone present to let this season bring them closer to their loved ones, to nurture friendships and deepen the bonds with Mistahs.

Ces hoped that the season may offer us respite from the rigors of life, at the

same time provide some breathing space for us to muster our strength for what may lie ahead in the future. He further said to draw inspiration from the bonds we have formed and the memories we have created. He exhorted one and all to let the spirit of this Christmas fill our hearts with appreciation for our unity and shared purpose. Ah, such words of inspiration, that warm our hearts and kick our butts to Move it! Move it! Move it!

Ces, in closing, reminded us, while we wax festive during this yuletide, to observe a moment of silence and offer a prayer for those Mistahs who have gone before us, who will spend eternity in the bosom of Almighty God, leaving behind memories that we will cherish for the remainder of our days.

Finally, he thanked all the Mapitagans, with special mention to the ladies for their wholehearted support, and the unselfish efforts of the Class Officers and VPs for the four branches, namely: Nene DLR - VP for the Army, Nes Deona - VP for the Air Force, Bogs - VP for the Navy, and Bong De Asis - VP for the Police, JLo - VP for Overseas Mapitagans, Edmund - Secretary, and Jun Sanchez - Class Treasurer who ensured that all Class contributions are well accounted for and properly liquidated in funding all Class activities. The untiring works and unwavering dedication of these gentlemen made this year's Christmas celebration a resounding and unforgettable success.

Lastly, Ces called on everyone to offer their sincerest and heartfelt thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon all of us in the past year and for all the previous years.

One more blessing was at hand in the Raffle that followed, with cash prizes at stake. The most blessed Mapitagan for the night was drawn from a makeshift tambolito by Pres Ces. And the luckiest Mapitagan was, ta da ... Herbert Yaming! We learned later that even before the end of the party, his better half Marivic who was unable to attend the Christmas Party, already texted him insinuating she knew something. Well, our better halves don't text nor call us better for nothing. *Ang galing ng intel ni Marivic. Hehehe...*

As the excitement died down, the untiring emcee declared the start of the highlight of this year's celebration. The Philippine Navy band opened with a jazz number, followed by boses-pusa (VST & Co) danceable songs circa late 70s, when Mapitagans were still cadets. Couples filled the dance floor, swaying, spinning, whirling, and twirling to what else but circa 70s disco numbers. As no couple lasted in the dance floor for just even 30 minutes, the band played pop songs, a cue for Dante Balao to oust the drummer and take over the drumsticks for one entire extended song, and remarkably well at that. Who says DDB is ancient?

Of course, the real highlight is the finale, a never-ending rendition by the Barako Boys: Lead vocals Jardi Mantale, Boss Nick Bartolome, Vic Caragan, Juni Carbonell, Dante Costes, Sec Edmund Tan, and Pres Ces, of the all-time walang kupas favorite - Bikining Itim!

In retrospect, the Mapitagan Christmas 2023 celebration was made successful by the true-blue attendance of 60 well-wishers: 32 Mistahs; 2 honoraries



Oby Antonio with wifey Chona on his Harley Davidson Sportster 833cc in the US.



The Mapitagan Riders posing with their respective big bikes on a ride to Malarayat Golf and Country Club. (L-R): Mie Mendoza, Ome Carbonell, Bobbie Ramos and Jojie Segovia.

Buboy Salazar and Danny Saberon; 21 ladies; and seven widows, namely: Beth Bernardino, Gina Jubas, Kay Navarro, Tita Noble, Chat Sugon, Ester Velasco and Joy Bernardo. As has been a Christmas tradition began by Adviser Emeritus Nick Bartolome during his lengthy tenure as Class Prez, the widows received their Christmas presents from the Class through incumbent Prez Ces. Special mention also to the Philippine Army's Los Caballeros musical ensemble, who in tandem with the Navy Band, provided as well the night's entertainment with their oldies but goldies classic favorites. Their efforts and participation deserve compliment and recognition. *Ang aming taos-pusong pasasalamat po sa inyong lahat!*

We Mapitagans meanwhile were greatly saddened with the passing of two beloved mothers recently. Sec Edmund's mother Rosalina Castor-Tan passed away quietly last October 26, 2023 at the ripe old age of 98. The following month, on November 22, 2023, Bogs' mother Lydia Ladrido-Abogado passed away peacefully surrounded by loving family members. She was 90. We pray for the eternal repose of the souls of the dearly departed mothers of Edmund and Bogs.

On a high note, on the other hand, three Mapitagans just became brand new Lolos again: Del Lorenzo with his first and second grandkids born four (4)

months apart last year; Larry Dela Cruz with his second; and Onell Lleno whose two daughters added his third and fourth grandkids born just three days apart in September 2023. Welcome to the club, Grandpas!

With golf not a priority pursuit of Mapitagans post-Games of Cavaliers (GOC), we showcase a few select holdouts who still hopelessly cling to the fading vestiges of youth. They may be in denial, but they find happiness and fun riding their two-wheeled big bikes (*not the two-legged beauties, mind you. . .*), full-throttling to faraway must-see destinations and sites. We won't bash them, because we envy them!

The Mapitagan Riders Group was organized in early 2018 by NMax 155 riding buddies Mie Mendoza and Rainier Cruz. With Bobby Ramos joining shortly, the trio, for the sheer riding and gastronomic fun of it, zipped around nearby roads and highways, stopping at roadside restos to savor the local cuisine. In January 2019, the three completed HPG's Motorcycle Riding Safety Training. With this diploma under their belts, it was time for the big league.

Ome Carbonell joined them later followed by Jie Segovia. Mie rides a Suzuki VStrom 1000cc XT; Rainier loves his Yamaha NMax 155; Bobby a Honda CB 500X; Ome a BMW F850; and Jie a BMW F750. Astride these beasts, the five Mapitagan Riders

joined the Bugo-Bugo Riders made up of active duty and retired Peemayers.

Last year 2023, our intrepid bikers had joined a homecoming ride to PMA from Manila, then back via Subic; enjoyed breakfast rides to Laguna, Rizal and nearby places with gustatory delights; joined a group of German bikers to coastal tourist spots in the east in Baler-Casiguran-Manila area; and endured long rides to destinations further south of the country, with Bobby riding to Bacolod first to meet Jojie there via Batangas-Mindoro-Aklan-Iloilo, went together to Dumaguete after a Negros loop, then all the way to Davao City passing through Zamboanga-Misamis-Bukidnon, with Bobby returning to Manila from Davao on a solo ride via the Surigao-Leyte-Samar-Bicol route, riding through constant rain, mini floods and landslides along the way. Whew!!!

Meanwhile, in the US, Oby Antonio does his own hogging around Door County in Wisconsin, usually in going to the grocery store on his Harley Davidson Sportster 883cc, that takes him an hour and a half to do so compared to just 15 minutes round trip by car. So figure that out why, which he can only answer. *Bakit kaya???*

To all Mapitagans, here's wishing you all the best for this year 2024 and may all of us be blessed with good health, long life, and happiness all through the years. Cheers to all of us, Mapitagans!!!



THE DIMALUPIG CAMARADERIE AND FUN GOES ON!!

Let the DIMALUPIGs with their LMANLULUPIGs be the first to greet all Classes a **COLORFUL, SHIMMERING, MERRY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY YEAR!!!**

We all know for sure that this greeting will be very much belated when it get published. It's the Class's way of saying there is no let up in the enjoyment of our retirement.

The Dimalupig celebrated the year with its traditional Christmas gathering to reminisce *"the warm and kindred hearts they've known before and let those memories live again."*



The Dimalupig Celebration was graced with thanksgivings for the freedom of Frank Bucayu, the recognition of Manny Bautista who is among those who initiated the Peace Talks with the CPP-NDF, the appointment

of Tony Habulan as Undercretary for the Philippine Commission on Visiting Forces and to those celebrating their birthdays in the 4th Quarter of the year. But on a sad note, we also mourn the passing away of

another Mistah Jumo Junio. Three other Dimalupigs are recovering from the bane of old age. We all know that both deceased and diseased Mistahs and all those who could not join us were all with us in spirit.



Frank Bucayu



Manny Bautista



Usec Tony Habulan



Jumo Junio
6.30.'58 - 12.9.'23



Among those Celebrating their Mid-60s Bday

The Dimalupig Golfers, despite their advanced ages made much younger classes "eat divots" by bagging the Runner-up Trophy of the Senior Tactical Division of the 2023 Game of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament. Rene Samonte and wife once again for three years in a row, bagged the Championship of the Husband and Wife Category, Father and Son (with Ryan, Champion, and with Mima, Runner-up) and son Renward Champion in the Father and Child Guest Category.

The Dimalupig Wine Connoisseurs, not to be out done levelled up their palate for fine wine by giving reading assignments to the members with "draw cards" to boot.



WINE FOLLY - WINE FLAVOR CIRCLE

The DIMALUPIGS wish to see you all at the hallowed ground of our ALMA MATER!!!



HENRY G. SABARRE
President
PERFECTO O. QUILICOT JR.
Secretary

Due to the unavoidable cycle and the seeming lack of regimentation that contrasts to the then daily perfunctory schedule that most of us had, the lives of most of the class members can now be simplified to routines with some little twists to mark what we now call innovations to break the seeming humdrums. A big part of the class is now considered empty nesters and without innovations would just have their domestic chores to get them preoccupied. Add to it the face and the habits of a person with whom they have shared their wealth, talents and time who hopelessly can no longer become the aspirational concept of what they have

dreamt of, can only mean desperation or bliss. Desperation for those who believe in physical transformation and bliss for those believe in acceptance, countenance and surrender. One word against a phrase, for obviously it takes more to live in our past choices than to take comfort in what is desirable... But hope should be central to all of us. We are now entering into a phase where, through time, we have been made more equipped, experienced and covered with "battle scars" to trudge on towards the **more real** part of living and making marks for the ones that we can truly leave behind.

Except for a very few, most of the class members are now in the business of building legacies and creating memoirs of the great years and accomplishments that they have offered to the respective endeavors they have painstakingly chosen. Maybe for some it may not still be a conscious effort but generally, the class is now in that stage when they chose to tell instead of letting their active participation

do the talking. It is for this very reason that the class is now embarking on a project called the Matikas Class Coffee Table Book. The general intention here is to consolidate all the stories that the members would like to share to the world from funny to heroics. On the lighter part, it would include even the private encounters we have with upperclassmen that we believe is worth sharing. We do not put limits, not even grammar, to portray what and how it can be best said. Here, phrases like "both of you three" or are you "handsoming yourself" will be encouraged and artfully presented to acquire a timeless perspective among us and the readers. It will be one that will be distinctly Matikas. On the more serious part, the heroics that the other members did that made marks in the annals of the Philippine Military history shall be given emphasis and shall form part of the gravamen of the materials. It is the joy that a member would experience to hear these exchanges that are shared during fellowship



that inspire the creation of this book. So as a way of preparing, each member is now enjoined to draft their share in this book. And by each member, it means ALL members of any capacity from plebe, yearling, cow, firstie-affiliates, adopted, to honorary are encouraged to participate. The editorial staff though will be vested with the authority to

see through the relevance and print-worth of the material that would be included, but for the most part it will be a compendium of Matikas treasures.

Fittingly, the class party this year was held in the social hall of the Villamor Air Base Golf and Country Club. The dynamic duo of Bong Masmela and JayAr Parra did

their magic on 14 Dec and enthralled the members of the class of the brand of Air Force hospitality. From the entrance registry and its standby ability to make raffles, the red-carpet backdrop, the presence of Dance Instructors, the high-tech quartet that provided music and ready karaoke accompaniment, the light and sound provider, the mobile bar that provided the unworldly spirits, the venue and stage decorations and even the gigantic video wall that served as the stage backdrop made the whole affair utterly grand. This made most of the members believe that perhaps the next events would have to be done by that same standard and maybe by the Air Force bugs. The occasion was graced by mistahs even coming from the Visayas and abroad. Gani Yaco and his wife have to go great lengths to be with the class. Lester Buenaobra from the great yonder of New York even joined. The participation in the merry-making was unprecedented. Jun Rasky toinks caused some deep gasps when he belted out "Let it be" by the Beatles for the first time of such a crowd. Rene Ong did his version of adulation by proxy when he allowed his love interest, Jeanette, to wow the class with her "Never Enough" version of the Greatest Showman theme song. Of course, the night again saw the undying vocal debonaire of the class like Caloy Quita, Dodo Irriberi, and Gina Junio who complied after unceasing prodding by the crowd. The event capped with the Christmas message by Ed Año who did not only gave us inspirational messages but even included some soft assurances on the state of the nation we are in.

For the first time, the class held its Christmas party with its brats being made a big part of its program. Even for such an unholy

day, a Thursday when most of our brats are working, their turn-out of attendance was significant. They were made to socialize with each other, get to know more and get to have their contacts. The atmosphere was clearly without any divide. Regardless of whether you are a child of an honorary, a general, a colonel, a captain or a former cadet, or that you are a doctor, a dentist, an engineer, a high school student or a worker, the accord was equal. This is just the start; more can be expected in the future when more deliberate and intentional event will be organized for our brats.

The class has really started to come of age and with it also comes the irreversible factor that we all can be subject to: time. And talking about time and the quest of the class to further enlarge its coffers, the class has launched its Matikas Class Watch project. This time, we have selected Seiko as the reigning brand after considering the other offers. The list has progressed quite fast in the initial canvass and more can be expected in due time that is why, everyone is encouraged to start posting their interest. Mon Averia is now actively making the list. There are some who have changed their mind



to signify for two, so he is checking his list twice. The specs of the watch are also included here for your scrutiny and reference.

Our class call cannot be complete without the tidbits in Golf of course. After getting the Senior Division Cup in the recently concluded Game of the Cavaliers, the Matikas Hampas Lupas went on into some forays conquering other leagues. Alex Ignacio featured in the Fil-Am Invitational while Dennis Canoy, the reigning marcher of the class in the realm of Golf, claimed his Class A champion Trophy in the Orchard Golf and Country Club.

SPECIFICATIONS
Stainless Steel Case
Two Tone Stainless Steel Bracelet
Automatic Movement
Caliber: 7S26
21 Jewels
Hardlex Crystal
White Dial
Analog Display
Luminous Hands And Markers
Day And Date Display
See Through Case Back
Deployment Clasp
50M Water Resistance
Approximate Case Diameter: 42mm
Approximate Case Thickness: 11mm

Matikas class has indeed ended this year with a bang! With the misthahs becoming older, wiser, closer, we have so much to hope for in 2024.



Sinagtala '86 Christmas Party

Members of PMA Sinagtala Class '86 and their ladies celebrated the Yuletide Season in a Christmas party with Sinagtala Early Messers Golf Club (SEMG) last December 5, 2023 at the Social Hall / Ballroom of Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse, Pasay City. Festive and joyful mood filled the air as misthahs and

their ladies enjoyed the night exchanging pleasantries, dining, and dancing to the music of the 51st Engineer Brigade Band and invited singers.

The occasion began with an invocation by Class Secretary Vic Magaro and welcome remarks of Class Treasurer Noli Romana. Close on the heels was the awarding of trophies to the winners of the SEMGC Golf Tournament held earlier that day, by incoming SEMGC President Arnie Fernandez. Cash and several other prizes including three SAMSUNG television sets were given away during the raffle draw, making sure that no one goes home empty-handed. Winners of the major prizes were Odie Albayalde, Vince Batac, and Ted Carranza. The class is truly grateful

to the benevolent donors for adding more excitement to our celebration.

The program ended with the message of Class President Ted Carranza. After-Party ensued with more music and dancing. Dance instructors were around leading misthahs and their ladies on the dance floor.

SEMG Year-end Golf Tournament

The Sinagtala Early Messers Golf Club held a golf tournament as its year-end activity last December 5, 2023 at Villamor Air Base Golf Course. Twenty two (22) misthahs participated, namely: Ted Carranza, Odie Albayalde, Bob Empedrad, Guido Rimando, Art Biyo, Jun Misolas, Jonny Gulla, Alex Querol, Getz Naldoza, Arleen Tatel, Willie Rigor, Pangga



Sinagtalans and their ladies pose after the Christmas party.

Fernandez, Danny Rodelas, Tim Pacleb, Edmund Gonzales, Jong Jurado, Noli Romana, Tony Gardiola, Roel Obusan, Rey Biay, Ces Mancao, and Rey Aquino.

Game Results:

AWARDEES	INDIVIDUAL AWARDS
Jong Jurado	Champion
Odie Albayalde	1st Runner-up
Arleen Tatel	2nd Runner-up
Willie Rigor	Lowest Net
Danny Rodelas	Lowest Gross

AWARDEES	SPECIAL AWARDS
Jun Misolas	Nearest to the Pin and Longest Putt
Noli Romana	Most Accurate Drive
Jong Jurado	Longest Drive

Sinagtalans in the Government and the Private Sector

Thirty-seven years after graduating from the Academy and more than three decades of conspicuously commendable and dedicated service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police, Sinagtalans continue to demonstrate relevant presence in the government service or pursue a second career in the private sector. After retirement, some mistahs ventured into politics and successfully got elected. Others were appointed to various posts in government offices and agencies. They continue to serve their terms of office as of this writing. They are:

1. Ronald M Dela Rosa	Senator, 19th Congress of the Philippines
2. Ronnie S Evangelista	Mayor, Rodriguez, Rizal

3. Edward E Carranza	Vice Mayor, Silang, Cavite
4. Melvin Ramon G Buenafe	City Councilor, Naga City
5. Jose G Caringal Jr	OIC Dept. Head, Civil Security Unit, Cabuyao City, Laguna
6. Pablo M Lorenzo	USEC for Civil, Veterans, and Reserve Affairs, DND
7. Emmanuel Anthony V Ramos	ASEC for Real Estate and Installations, DND
8. Gavin D Edjawan	ASEC for Financial Management, DND
9. Benjamin M Castro	Director, Counterintelligence Opns Office, NICA
10. Alden Juan C Masagca	Director, Office of the Director for Opns, NICA
11. Jose Harry M Barber	OIC, Policy Dev't and Planning Services, OCD
12. Claudio L Yucot	Regional Director, OCDRO 5
13. Antonio B Sugarol	Regional Director, OCDRO 10
14. Raylindo S Aniñon	Regional Director, OCDRO 12
15. Alvin A Parreno	Director, Security Dept., BSP
16. Bienvenido R Datuin Jr	Director, Financial Management Office, Bureau of Customs, DOF
17. Ramon O Purugganan	Director V, Senate Office Republic of the Philippines

Tournament winners received their trophies during the Christmas party.



There are those who chose the path towards a second career in the corporate world. Being endowed with highly competent leadership and managerial skills, and diligent attitude have enabled

them to efficiently deal with the intricacies of their job. They are:

1. Gaudencio C Collado Jr	President and CEO, AFPSLAI
2. Ronald S Diego	President, FABSLAI
3. Jesus D Madlangbayan	President, ACCC
4. Arthur M Biyo	President, PETFI
5. Guillermo A Molina Jr	Vice President, PETFI
6. John A Jurado	Treasurer, PETFI
7. Lyndon G Cubos	Trustee, PSSLAI
8. Victorino Misael G Mina	Trustee, PSSLAI
9. Johnny R Gulla	Corporate Pilot, San Miguel Corporation
10. Ronald C Arenas	Corporate Pilot, SM Prime Holdings Inc.
11. Alexander E Querol	President, Magsaysay Learning Resources Inc. and Magsaysay Institute of Shipping
12. Felimon T Santos Jr	Member, Board of Directors, Clark Dev't. Corp.
13. Dionisio C Baudin Jr	General Manager, Wisewolf Security Svcs Inc.
14. Antonio Ramon A Lim	Chairman of the Board, Landbank Resources and Dev't. Corp.
15. Dante M Hidalgo	Head, Real Estate Division, AFPMBAI
16. Amador T Tabuga Jr	Member, Board of Directors, Philippine Mining Dev't. Corp.
17. Rolando C Manalo	Member, Board of Directors, Philippine Mining Dev't. Corp.
18. Rizaldo B Limoso	Chairman of the Board, AFP Finance Center Multipurpose Cooperative
19. Rozzano D Briguez	Member, Board of Directors, ACCC
20. Noli A Romana	President, Primero Security and Investigation Agency

Sinagtala Family Takes Care of Its Own

The class has since endeavoured to assist its regular and associate members and their immediate families when the need arises. For one, the class recently expressed its collective sympathy and support to mistahs and families of mistahs whose loved ones have gone ahead of us by way of giving wreath and financial

assistance, as the case may be, consistent with existing class policies. Moreover, families of departed mistahs stand to receive insurance benefits.

Sinagtalans mourn the loss of mistahs Camilo Pancratius "Picoy" P Cascolan and Franklin "Smacky" M Catudan Jr., and loved ones of our two mistahs (Gems Molina's father and Alden Masagca's wife).



Sinagtalans at the Necrological Service for a departed mistah.



Farewell our beloved mistah PGEN CAMILO PANCRATIUS P CASCOLAN (Ret).



ROBERTO B FAJARDO
President
JOEL NM CORONEL
Secretary

Greetings, Hinirangs and all!

Service has truly been ingrained in Hinirang; even after retirement, many have answered the call to return to work in government to serve the country and people. At the early part of 2023, meetings were organized so mistahs can help each other in their new or civil government duties and responsibilities. However, during the budget hearing season, no common schedule was found, and the meetings have stopped. Well, it is 2024 and many look forward to reviving the regular gatherings ... to eat at the least. (Bob Ancan would agree-definitely!)

Per canvass done, there are 22 Hinirangs in government.

1. *Reynaldo Michael EM Agoncillo II*, Acting Mun. Administrator/OIC, GSO/MENRO/BAC Chairperson- Sual, Pangasinan;
2. *Arnel Alambra*, Chief Legal Counsel, GSIS;
3. *Roberto T Ancan*, Sergeant at Arms, Senate 19th Congress (Note: From LTGEN to SGT ... Hahahaha);
4. *Giovanni Carlo J Bacordo*, Undersecretary, Department of Energy;
5. *Loumer P Bernabe*, Regional Director, LTRFB, DOTr;
6. *Jose A. Briones Jr.*, Assistant Secretary, Deputy Administrator/ OIC, Office for Transportation Security, OTS-DOTr;
7. *Jaime J Bustamante*, Assistant Head for INTERPOL Border Control and Intel Unit, Intel Division Bureau of Immigration;
8. *Israel Ephraim T Dickson*, Assistant Secretary, DDGA, PDEA;
9. *Eugene Gepte*, Director, Civil Defense Training Institute, OCD;
10. *Bob Lardizabal*, PCO
11. *Rey Lyndon T. Lawas*, City Councilor, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental;
12. *Ariel F. Nepomuceno*, Administrator and Undersecretary, Office of Civil Defense, DND;
13. *Albert Mogol*, Regional Director, CAR, OCD;
14. *Walter Partosa*, Deputy Administrator, Management Services Group, MWSS-CO;
15. *Henry A Robinson Jr*, Assistant Secretary, Plans and Programs, DND;
16. *Ramon Evan T. Ruiz*, RD, TESDA Region VII;
17. *Rommel G. Salamanca*, Special Police Area Supervisor, Enforcement Group, BOC;
18. *Manolo M Samarita*, Director 111 , BOC;
19. *Peter Suchianco*, Chief, Judge Advocate General's Service, Reserve and Consultant to OPP, DND



20. *Reno Tolentino*, Director, Administrative Services, DND;
21. *Fernando T Trinidad* - Technical Advisor to the Governor, Central Bank; and
22. *Cornelio "Toinks" Valencia Jr.*, Assistant Director General (ADG), Plans and Knowledge Management Services, National Security Council.

The Hinirang Christmas Party was a hit!!! It was a success with 38 mistahs and their families in attendance. Tyne and family travelled from General Santos City just to attend. The event was held at the Baras Hall of Valle Verde Country Club last 09 December 2023. It was a night of fun with singing and dancing. The food was great with the hot darns. Kudos to the organizers and big thanks the many pledges and contributions that made the gathering possible and memorable.

Golf remains to be the one activity that regularly gathers mistahs together. It is not the food that you binge-on when others win the "Mekeni". It is not the "undeclared income" from "large" side bets you win. Certainly, it is not winning a lot just to pay for everyone's drinks and food (minsan abonado pa... hehehehe). Rather the joy in golf is seeing yourself improve in the game, even beating those who have low handicaps and those whose handicaps never change. Of course, there is the joy of bragging everytime you win or make those spectacular and unbelievable shots! But most of all, the simple joys are in the laughs you get from the never ending stories of the past and the mishaps of others during the game. In a gathering of Hinirang golfers, it is always F-U-N!

Here are the golf highlights for 2023:

1. At the 4th Blades International Golf Tournament in Hanoi, Vietnam, Jojo Vera Cruz won as the 2nd Day Champion of the 09 Nov 2023 tournament leg held in Sky Lake Golf Course while Lye Carabacan was the 3rd Day Champion at the 30 Nov 2023 tournament leg held in Thanh Lanh Golf Course.
2. In the Earlybirds Group, Jerry Cunanan was declared the 2023 Most Improved Player. Early this year, Jerry was a recipient of "plus" in every game; and now, in so short a time, he has emerged as Hinirang's top golf player with Nick Parilla.
3. Indeed, at the 2023 Game of the Cavaliers, Jerry powered Hinirang with a score of 53, followed by Nick Parilla (51), Jojo Vera Cruz (48), Greg Lim (46), Al Corpus (44), and Tatang Corpuz (43). Overall, Hinirang placed third



with a mere two points difference to the score of the second placer, our firsties.

4. It also rained Holes in One in 2023: Eric Vinoya at Hole# 17 VABGC on April 4, 2023; Jonas Calleja at Hole#8 CAGC on 18 April 2023; and Al Corpus Hole# 10 PNGC on November 25, 2023. Rey Dela Cruz and Bil-Bil Latorre made

their first hole in PNGC and Bong Dickson made his second in CAGC.

In the next Class Call, the intent is to make an update on mistahs in the business, academe and other sectors. Thus, mistahs near and afar are encouraged to give us updates on where you are and what you are doing right now. Best regards to all, *Toinks*.





ERNESTO C TORRES, JR
President
ADONIS R BAJAO
Class Historian

Christmas celebration was very meaningful and fruitful for all Makataos present at the Dimalupig Hall, AFPCOC in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City last December 22, 2023.

In a heartfelt display of unity and generosity, boodles overflowed, along with exciting parlor games and prizes for our beloved wives and dependents. Raffle prizes even doubled for most attendees while major prizes were won by those who patiently stayed until the end of the festivities.

Kudos to our class organizers led by Cav Jun Torres and the NTF-ELCAC secretariat volunteers who helped in the fund generation and procurement of door prizes, among other tasks. It was truly a labor of love for all those who organized and attended the activity.

Introduction (Cav Paul Mendoza)

The Philippine Military Academy's Class of 1989, reverently known as the "Makatao Class," has long been heralded as a bastion of leadership and service. Over the past 35 years, our esteemed assembly has consistently yielded trailblazers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP), carving out a legacy of excellence and influence at the highest levels of military and police services.

The prominence of the Makatao Class is underscored by the fact that one of our most decorated members presently serves as the AFP's Chief of Staff, a position that epitomizes the elite leadership qualities nurtured within the ranks. Makataos are also presently at the forefront of key military positions, including the Philippine Navy's Flag Officer



in Command, Western Command, Eastern Mindanao Command, and Southern Luzon Command, where they have been pivotal in shaping the nation's defense strategies.

Beyond the confines of military service, our class has made indelible marks on national governance and policy. Our mistahs' transition into influential governmental roles has allowed our stalwarts to reflect disciplined strategic thinking to the broader challenges of national peace and development paradigm.

As retirement ushers in a new chapter for many of our mistahs, the esprit de corps of the Makatao remains resolute. Our dedication to the nation's welfare continues through active civic engagement, contributions to the private sector, and involvement in policy discourse, aimed at fostering sustainable solutions for our country's problems.

Our enduring influence and dedication are further exemplified within the realm of the Philippine National Police (PNP). The Makatao's reach extended to the pinnacle of police leadership, with one of our mistahs recently concluding a notable tenure as the Chief of the PNP. This role was not only a testament to the class' versatility in leadership but also to our commitment to law enforcement and public safety. Even now, the only remaining 3-star general from the PNP group continues to serve with distinction, holding one of the highest command positions within the PNP echelon and upholding the values and principles inherent to the Makatao's character.

Three decades hence, our legacy is not merely one of past accomplishments but of an ongoing dedication to the ethos of service and excellence. Our varying careers and contributions stand as beacons of the Philippine Military Academy's commitment to nurturing leaders of the highest caliber. In the sphere of nation-building, our regular and associate/honorary members have been instrumental. Our associate/honorary members, the unsung bedrock of the class' endeavors, have been key to executing the strategic vision across both military and police forces, strengthening national security, enhancing governance, and promoting social stability. Together, the PMA Makatao Class of 1989, along with our associate/honorary members, embody the pinnacle of leadership and dedication, shaping a resilient and thriving future for the Philippines. Our collective legacy continues to inspire new generations to serve with integrity and honor, echoing through the annals of history and into the heart of the nation.

On another note, since most of us will be joining the ranks of happy, jolly retirees, it is timely to learn from those who trailblazed different paths in the civilian realm. So, for this issue, we have decided to feature our associate/honorary members. We did our best to research and dig into the details of some profiles and whereabouts of our associate/honorary members, with the hope that we can soon link up with them and learn from their unique experiences.

For a start, we already have a total of 48 associate/honorary members as of January 2024. Please see table below.

BRANCH OF SERVICE (BOS)	ASSOCIATES / HONORARY						
	IN THE SERVICE		NOT FROM THE SERVICE			DECEASED	TOTAL
	ACTIVE	RET	BUSINESS	IN GOVT	OTHERS		
A. PA		5	3	5	4	1	18
B. PAF		1	1	1			3
C. PN		4	1	1	3		9
D. PNP		2	4	4	6	2	18
TOTAL		12	9	11	13	3	48
LEGEND:	A	B	C	D	E	F	

In a remarkable display of dedication and patriotism, former classmates and several individuals with established and successful professions have chosen to extend their service to the country by joining our class. Seasoned professionals, be it lawyers, renowned doctors or accomplished engineers, and other professionals have embraced a dual calling, balancing their flourishing careers with a commitment to serve the nation in times of need. Their decision to embrace the Makatao spirit reflects a profound sense of duty, a selfless act that transcends their established roles and a testament to their belief in contributing to the greater good.

Through this article, we delve into each associate/honorary Makatao member's story of standing ready to offer their expertise, skills and time when called upon to respond to the call of duty and service.

For the Philippine Army (Cav Marvin Licudine)

NAME	CATEGORY	OATH TAKING		RECOMMENDED BY
		DATE	VENUE	
1. ANDRES B MORALES III	C	19 FEB '05	BAGUIO CITY	CAV NICK DRIZ / CAV NONO PLAZA
2. ARNEL DE GUZMAN	D	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV EFREN BALUYOT / CAV ROD BATANG / CAV JUVYMAX UY
3. COL MELISAN RN RECAIDO	A	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV LINCOLN TAGLE / CAV CHIC MALAYO / CAV ROD BATANG
4. COL NICOLAS R SUEMITH	B	12 FEB '15	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV OMET BRAWNER / CAV LINCOLN TAGLE
5. DANIEL M PADILLA	D	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV JOEY NARCISO
6. DR EDGARL RAPANAN JR	E	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV ALEX TUPRIO / CAV LICUDINE
7. NEMESIO B OANDASAN JR	C	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV NONO PLAZA
8. GAUDIOSO C SOLOMON III	E	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV ALEX TUPRIO
9. GOV FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R ORTEGA	D	12 FEB '15	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JUN TORRES
10. MEDEL C RAQUEL	E	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV ALEX LUNA
11. MGEN BERNIE S LANGUB	B	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JUN TORRES / CAV OMET BRAWNER
12. MGEN THOMAS SEDANO	B	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV JUN TORRES / CAV OMET BRAWNER
13. ODIE CABILLAN +	F	19 FEB '05	BAGUIO CITY	CAV BART BUSTAMANTE
14. PANFILO L SALVA JR	C	19 FEB '05	BAGUIO CITY	CAV RICK BAYHON
15. RAMILITO R CATADMAN	E	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV LEOMAR DOCTOLERO / CAV ACE ESMERALDA
16. COL ERNEST MP ROSAL	B	27 DEC '22	CAMP CRAME	CAV CONNOR CANLAS
17. GLICERIO JUAN	D	27 DEC '22	CAMP CRAME	CAV BAGNUS GAERLAN

Andres B Morales III has embarked on a quest for opportunities in the land of the golden apple, roaming the vast landscape of the United States. **Arnel De Guzman**, a fixture of PAGCOR, now dons the hat of a Pit Officer, overseeing the gaming scenes in Mactan, Cebu. Meanwhile, having retired from the Army Scout Rangers in 2020, **Colonel Melisan RN Recaido**, now thrives as a seasoned security consultant, lending expertise to various domains.

Col Nicolas Suemith, after joining the retired ranks in 2021 from the signal corps, has seamlessly transitioned into a role as a security consultant with Robinsons' Corporation. Likewise, juggling responsibilities of a Pit Officer at PAGCOR, **Daniel M. Padilla** finds balance in family life, residing in Muntinlupa City with his spouse and four (4) children.

While immersed in the world of medical endeavors, **Dr. Edgar I Rapanan Jr.** continues his meaningful work, making a difference in the lives of those in need of tender, loving care. **Nemesio B Oandasan Jr** serves as Business System Developer Manager at Desert Oasis Healthcare, orchestrating the technological symphony for the company. Nestled in Indian Wells, California, he shares his life with Dr. Dulce Oandasan and their three (3) accomplished children.

Security and Safety Practitioner **Gaudioso C. Solomon III** is currently employed as Security and Transport Manager of Makati Life Medical Center, an upcoming tertiary hospital in partnership with the Makati City Government. He is happily married to Dra. Franz with three (3) children namely: Zoey Mae, Dra. Zyla Rae and Ziegner Kyne.

Francisco Emmanuel R Ortega, while in transition from the political sphere as the former governor of La Union, now navigates life as a private citizen and adviser to his governor-daughter, Rafy, stationed in San Fernando City, La Union. PAGCOR has retained **Medel C. Raquel** who continues in his role as a seasoned Pit Officer, contributing to the dynamic gaming landscape.

MGen Bernie S Langub, who retired in March 2020, has planted new roots in Tupi, South Cotabato. This is where he expertly manages his business ventures and explores the science and business of farming. Meanwhile, **MGen Thomas Sedano** is unwinding in Los Baños, Laguna, finding solace in the world of golf after concluding his service in November 2020.

And last but not least, for the Army associate/honorary members, **Panfilo Salva Jr** is a government consultant on cyber security while **Ramilo Catadman** is lost in the mystery of the high seas, perhaps still casting his nets in distant waters.

For the Philippine Airforce (Cav Larry Tianchon)

NAME	CATE GORY	OATHTAKING		RECOMMENDED BY
		DATE	VENUE	
1. BGEN LITO VILLANUEVA	A	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV NESTY RAYOS
2. DR ARNULFO JR ACEDERA III	C	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV CONNOR CANLAS / CAV FERDZ MACASAE +
3. LTC TONY LAMBINO	D	27 DEC '22	CAMP CRAME	CAV CONNOR CANLAS

In this brief glimpse into the Philippine Air Force associate/honorary members' lives, a tapestry of updates has woven its way from diverse backgrounds, each contributing their own unique experiences and commitments.

Tolitz Villanueva, with his family in Ibaan, Batangas, occasionally travels to Manila and abroad, allowing him to experience different cultures and create lasting memories with his loved ones. This balance between his hometown and exploring new destinations provides him with a well-rounded perspective on life.

Dr. Joey Acedera, a formidable doctor, recently celebrated his birthday with a magical dream. Like any mistah, Dr. Joey A is busy attending to his profitable businesses, showcasing his entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to his professional endeavors. His ability to balance his medical career with his business ventures is commendable and adds another dimension to his already impressive achievements.

Tony Lambino, the new addition to the Air Force family, is busy with his new position as President in one of the Ayala Foundation Incorporated's conglomerates. Workaholic as he is, but he is also known to be wearing another hat as a soothing ballader - the apple of the eyes of our Kaydet girls back then.

These updates highlight the diverse paths and commitments of Air Force associate/honorary classmates. From retirement to career advancements, family matters, and entrepreneurial pursuits, each individual has his own unique journey to tell. It is inspiring to see how they have moved forward in their lives and contributed to their respective fields.

For the Philippine Navy - Coastguard (Cav Rei Picar)

NAME	CATE GORY	OATHTAKING		RECOMMENDED BY
		DATE	VENUE	
1. ATTY DEXTER HAROLD E EMPERADOR	E	JUN '13	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JOHN GARAÑA
2. BGEN CAMILO F BALUTAN PN(M)	B	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV CHAPPY REYES
3. COMM FRANCISCO O GABUDAO JR	B	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV NICHOLS DRIZ
4. JOHN G LUMICAO	E	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV BERT FERRO / CAV CHAPPY REYES
5. LCDR RANDYLL FERNANDEZ USN (RET)	B	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV ARIEL CACULITAN
6. RONALDO MENDOZA	E	15 FEB '14	BAGUIO CITY	CAV ARIEL CACULITAN / CAV NESTOR MARCELINO
7. ATTY RAUL CORTEZ	C	27 DEC '22	CAMP CRAME	CAV CHAPPY REYES

In the vibrant life of the Philippine Navy - Coast Guards, each member weaves his unique narrative into the collective fabric:

Atty. Dexter Harold Emperador, a seasoned legal mind, embarked on a decade-long journey at GSIS-Laoag City Branch Office before co-founding Tumaneng, Emperador and Associates Law Offices. After life immersed in civil, criminal and labor laws, he now revels in the camaraderie of mistahs, indulging in rounds of "bolahizing" across CAGC, PNGC and VABGC, eagerly awaiting potential return to government service after a 15-year hiatus.

BGen Camilo Balutan (Ret), a stalwart of the Marine Corps for over three (3) decades, etched his legacy in the South. From Marine Brigade Commander to Deputy Commander of the Western Mindanao Command, his journey boasts the accolade of the Distinguished Conduct Star, a testament to his gallantry in combat.

Commo Francisco O Gabudao Jr (Ret), a registered Civil Engineer, found his calling on the seas. From Officer Candidate School to Commander of the Naval Combat Engineer Brigade, he now relishes retirement, nurturing a small business in Cavite.

Ronald Mendoza, stationed in Milan, orchestrates security for Consulate events, becoming the go-to reference for military and PNP personnel passing through. His role extends to liaising with Military Attache and organizing NGO-related endeavors.

Randyll Fernandez, having retired from the US Federal

Government, embraces academia through the GI Bill. Juggling studies in Business System Management, he is set to graduate in 2024, adding to his impressive repertoire of degrees in Civil and Electrical Engineering. Alongside his academic pursuits, he finds joy in travel, gardening and culinary adventures.

Atty. Raul Cortez, the visionary Founder of Cortez Law, delves into corporate, commercial and technology-related law, with a keen focus on cybersecurity. From a stint at Microsoft Philippines to a commissioned Lieutenant Colonel in the Judge Advocate General Service in the reserve force, he has merged legal expertise with military pride.

John Lumicao, a Senior Transportation Engineer, champions public infrastructure projects. Successfully securing funding for multifaceted venture in California, he envisions a transformed landscape, hits the dirt in road resurfacing, modernizes traffic signals and builds expansive bike lanes. Beyond professional endeavors, he is celebrating 31 years of marriage, and connecting with Philippine student officers at the Naval Post Graduate School, ensuring they feel at home. As a family man, his son's impending nuptials add another layer to his rich narrative. With Monterey as his backdrop, he continues to shape his story, both professionally and personally.

For the Philippine National Police (Cav Rex Dela Rosa)

NAME	CATE GORY	OATHTAKING		RECOMMENDED BY
		DATE	VENUE	
1. ANTONIO A SALAMAT JR	C	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JUN AZURIN
2. ARNEL CERIOLO	E	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV BERT FERRO
3. ATTY ROLANDO Z CLAVERIA	E	12 FEB '15	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JUN AZURIN/ CAV RHODEL SERMONIA
4. AURELIANO F RULLODA III	D	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV ALEX TUPRIO/ CAV LICUDINE
5. GERRY CUDIAMAT	C	12 FEB '15	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV CHIC MALAYO/ CAV JUN AZURIN
6. DOMINIC AR CABALZA +	F	19 FEB '05	BAGUIO CITY	CAV BART BUSTAMANTE
7. ENGR FLORO J LOZANO JR.	E	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV CHIC MALAYO/ CAV JUN AZURIN
8. JORGE JAMES A MANINANG JR	E	10 FEB '19	AUR. RES., LU	CAV BERT FERRO
9. JUNE B SOLOMON	C	JUN '13	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV BERT FERRO
10. JUNY D LEUTERIO +	F	19 FEB '05	BAGUIO CITY	CAV JUN AZURIN
11. PBGEN EDGAR DM CACAYAN	A	12 FEB '15	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV ULYSSES GOHEL / CAV REX DELA ROSA
12. ROBERTO RUBEN B FAJARDO	D	21 AUG '02	FT. BONIFACIO	CAV JUN AZURIN
13. REY RP RILVERIA (Pilot)	B	27 DEC'22	CAMP CRAME	CAV ULYSSES GOHEL
14. JOEL CRUZ	C	27 DEC'22	CAMP CRAME	CAV RHODEL SERMONIA
15. GEMMA SOTTO	E	27 DEC'22	CAMP CRAME	CAV RHODEL SERMONIA

In the mosaic of our esteemed honorary members, **Tony Salamat** assumes the mantle of Council Adviser at the enchanting Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course, steering the course with wisdom. Meanwhile, the cosmopolitan vibes of Sydney, Australia welcomes back **June Solomon**, adding an international flair to the network.

Gemma Sotto, a beacon of compassion, stands as a stalwart for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), championing their cause through the corridors of a non-government organization. **Joel Cruz**, ever the alchemist, tirelessly weaves prosperity for the less fortunate, creating a tapestry of wealth and hope. **PBGen Edgar Cacayan**, a modern-day cultivator, tends to the fertile grounds of his farm in Cagayan, nurturing not just crops but dreams of sustainable growth. Across the vast expanse of Chicago, **Engr. Floro Lozano Jr.** remains a steadfast presence, his roots intertwined with the city's skyline.

Dean Bautista, a guardian of health and well-being, holds court at the Philhealth Central Office, contributing to the nation's welfare.

Worthy to mention also are the following: **Arnel Ceriola**, **Atty. Rolando Z Claveria**, **Aureliano F Rulloda III**, **Gerry Cudiamat**, **Jorge James A Maninang Jr.**, **Ruben B Fajardo**, and **Rey RP Rilveria**.

For Oath Taking of Associate/Honorary Members:

NAME	CATE GORY	DATE ADOPTED	OATHTAKING		RECOMMENDED BY
			DATE	VENUE	
PA					
ATTY TIBURCIO ADRIAN UMBAC	D	18 FEB '23			CAV LINCOLN TAGLE
PN					
BRIX P NABUNAT	D	10 FEB '19			CAV JOHN GARANA
CAPT VIRGILIO J MARCELO (U.S. ARMY)	A	12 FEB '15			CAV NICK DRIZ / CAV ULY GOHEL
PNP					
ATTY DEAN VOLTAIRE A BAUTISTA	D	10 FEB '19			CAV JUN AZURIN / CAV ERWIN ROBLES
FROILAN CB GRAGEDA	D	15 FEB '14			CAV JUN AZURIN
REUEL C REAL (Seaman)	E	10 FEB '19			CAV JUN AZURIN / CAV ERWIN ROBLES

For the Philippine Army: Atty. Tiburcio Adrian Umbac; For the Philippine Navy: Brix P. Nabunat and Capt Virgilio J Marcelo of the US Army; and for the Philippine National Police: Atty. Dean Voltaire A Bautista, Froilan CB Grageda, and Reuel C Real are scheduled for oath taking this year.

Together, these luminaries form a constellation of diverse pursuits, each adding a unique hue to the canvas of our collective story.

In the grand tapestry of the Makatao Class' storied history, the richness of our legacy is woven not only through our collective achievements but also through the diversity and resilience of our individual threads. Each member has traversed unique pathways, faced distinct challenges, and weathered personal storms. Despite each individual's innate diversities that test the bonds of brotherhood, the unity of the Class of 1989 has remained unshaken, a testament to our deep-seated resolve and our shared spirit of 'Makatao'—humane and kind. It is this unwavering character that continues to drive us towards greatness, not just in service to our country, but to one another.

As the years etch their passage, the Makatao Class honors the memory of those who have departed too soon, ensuring that their legacy endures in every act of service and every gesture of camaraderie. In moments of silence and reflection, we remember the

laughter and the valor, the trials and the triumphs, and in doing so, we reaffirm our commitment to the values they have lived by. The bond of brotherhood, forged in the crucible of the Philippine Military Academy, is not merely sustained by memories; it is

reinforced by a continuous commitment to embody the virtues of our formation—honor, courage, and loyalty.

To God be all praise and glory!
Mabuhay all Makataos!



DENNIS GODFREY F GAMMAD
President
CRISOSTOMO S BAS JR
Secretary

The Class ended year 2023 with a well-attended Christmas celebration with its theme: "Unity in Christmas Party" on 09 December 2023 at the Ricarte Hall, Army Officers Clubhouse, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. It was an occasion of great time for bonding and getting together of mistahs, wives, brats and adopted friends. A fun-filled event with lots of games, special numbers, recognition, oath-taking and entertainment.

There were a total of around one hundred forty six (146) attendees: forty-three (43) mistahs; forty-two (42) wives, forty-seven (47) brats and fourteen (14)

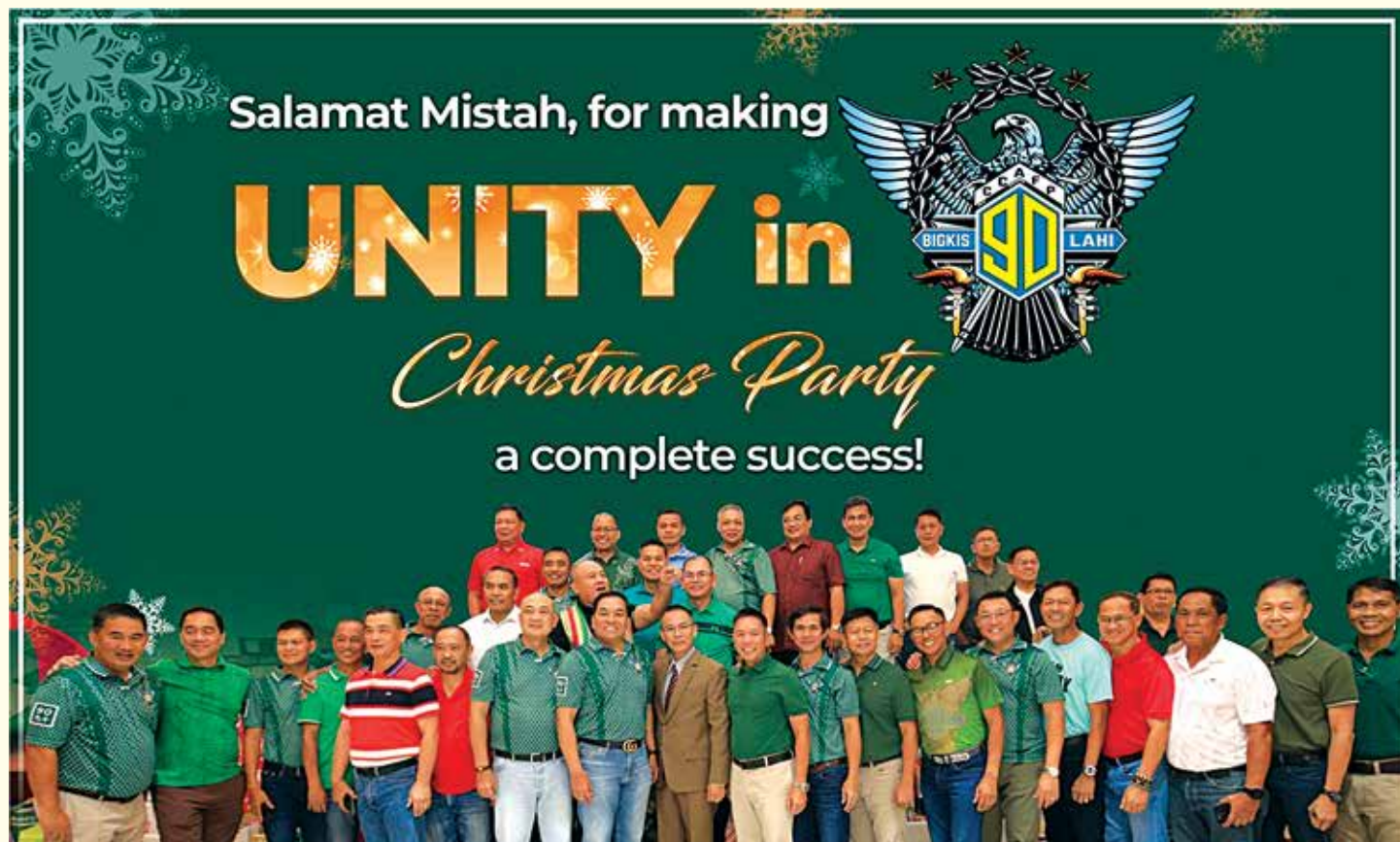
adopted members with their wives for some of them in attendance. Special thanks to PDennis for the planning and making the event happen, Benjie for the preparations and execution of the program and CGPA Roy for graciously hosting the event. The presence of mistahs (with their baon of drinks) along with their wives and brats made the occasion very exciting, fun and festive.

In the event, the class recognized the services rendered by retiring mistahs in 2023, as well as those who were promoted to star ranks and those who garnered additional stars. The event also announced the class as the 'winningest class' in the Game of Cavaliers 2023. Golf champions were recognized along with the many golf enthusiasts among the members of the class. It was a proud moment to announce that the class made it to Overall Champion in the Game of Cavaliers, for the second time (with authorized bragging rights for

next year 2024) by garnering the following seven (7) trophies:

1. Overall Champion
2. Overall Category Team Champion
3. Best Class Team Overall Category Champion
4. Best Class Team Active Category Champion
5. TAC-Os Division Champion
6. Individual TAC-O Division Champion
7. Individual TAC-O Division Runner Up

Two golfing events were specially played by mistahs to celebrate the championship victory to the Game of Cavaliers. The first game was in Cattle Creek Golf and Country Club at San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan on 02 December 2023; with the game sponsorship all made possible by Andrew, with sixteen (16) mistahs in attendance. The second game was made possible by the hosting of CGPA



Roy in the Philippine Army Golf Club, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, in the morning of 09 December 2023, the day of the celebration of the Class Christmas party, with twenty one (21) mistahs in attendance all participating in the "By Company 90 Golf Challenge" under a Modified Stratford Scoring System.

Under the leadership of PDennis the class embarked on the second class project: PMA BIGKIS LAHI CLASS 1990 CUP; a Level 2 Shooting Competition with eight (8) very exciting courses of fire designed and managed by Alex, which will be held on 13-14 January 2024 at the EMSA Firing



Range, Brgy. Culipat, Tarlac City.

The aim of this project is to generate funds to support the beneficiaries of the humanitarian projects of the class, as well as upcoming major class activities. Part of the class leadership's policy is the transparency for the use and accounting of the class funds. The latest financial report of Ula, our Class Treasurer, published a cash balance of One Million Eight Hundred Ninety Seven Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Two and 38/100 (P1,897,292.38) Pesos.

Likewise, several resolutions were made by the Class Officers to strengthen the provisions of the Articles and Bylaws of the BIGKIS LAHI CLASS 1990 ASSOCIATION on the adoption of Associate and Honorary members in order to recognize the efforts by past class leaderships on this matter, and to formalize such efforts in order to revive and enhance relationships of former classmates and friends who belong to this membership category through a standard set of rules and procedures.

Making a significant part of the program of the Class Christmas party was an oath taking ceremony made to formally adopt the following as members of the class:

1. Manuel T. Solis
2. Dr. Ferdinand Ernesto B. Samonte



3. Gil P. Ramos
4. Gilbert P. Botardo
5. Pepito F. Aboy
6. Ruben Berroya
7. Rudy Parel
8. CDR Edwin R. Catubig, USN
9. LCDR Amy Nodine Sulog, USN (Ret)
10. Jonel Quebal
11. MGEN William L. Ilagan (Ret)

12. FCSUPT Samuel Tadeo (Ret)
13. COL Gilmar Galicia (Ret)
14. MAJ Luisito s. Montemayor, PA (Res)

Heading on for year 2024, the class leadership is looking at a united, more and merrier fellowships in the coming days, as more mistahs will sponsor former classmates as adopted members.



The Maalabs Are Soaring

As we bid farewell to 2023, the Maalabs of Class 1993 stand tall, marking the close of a year filled with remarkable achievements and recognitions. This Class Call serves to celebrate the accomplishments of our esteemed members, highlighting their dedication to the armed forces and the nation.

The whole class of 1993 would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the following Maalabs:

- Maalab Jose "Vlady" Cagara as he assumes stewardship of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, Philippine Army on 01 December 2023. He ranks as 5th in the lineage of the 1BCT commanders.

- Maalab Joey Escanillas, meanwhile, was conferred the Gawad Parangal Award as Commander of 302nd Infantry Brigade being one of the outstanding stakeholders for Region 7 during the NTF-ELCAC 5th Founding Anniversary celebration on 04 December 2023.

- Maalab Mario "Jack" Jacinto for his designation as Commander of 1101st Infantry Brigade, 11th Infantry Division, Philippine Army based in Bayog, Talipao, Sulu on 12 December 2023.

- Maalab Glenn Laguardia when he assumed the command of 300th Air Intelligence and Security Wing, Philippine Air Force stationed at Villamor Air Base, Pasay City on 14 December 2023. He is flapping his wings in happiness indeed.

- Maalab Moises Micor who is now the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, A3 of the Philippine Air Force effective 27 December 2023.

- Maalab Ronnie Babac and Maalab Arseng Sadural achieved a rare feat during

the recent celebration of the AFP's 88th Founding Anniversary. Both commanders were honored with the prestigious AFP Campaign Streamer Award by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. for dismantling the Communist Terrorist Group's RHQ, SMRC, and the Guerilla Front 16, Sub-Regional Committee Northland of the Communist Terrorist Group's Northeastern Mindanao, respectively. This achievement is one for the books and will be etched in the annals of history of the Maalabs.

Moreover, as the new year 2024 begins, the blessings of stars continue to fall on the shoulders of the snappy Maalabs as they are appointed to the rank of Brigadier Generals and Commodore on





04 January 2024. They are Army Maalabs Rannie Sevilla, Arseng Sadural and Vlady Cagara; Air force Maalabs Thad Candelario, Glenn Laguardia and Toots Pasamonte; and Navy Maalab Casey Casaclang.

Meanwhile, on 11 January 2024, the Coast Guard Maalab Admirals continue to rise at a greater height as they were again entrusted by the Coast Guard Commandant Maalab Ronnie Gavan with greater responsibilities. Maalab Charlie Rances was designated as the new Commander of Education, Training and Doctrines Command; Maalab Edgar Ybañez as the Commander of Coast Guard Fleet; and Maalab Roy Echeverria as the Commander of Marine Environmental Protection Command.

On the other hand, Maalab Nelson “Masang” Morales was again entrusted by the President of the Republic of the Philippines of the newly created Presidential Security Command (PSC) as the first commander. Kodus to you, Mistah Masang! This will await for another star on your shoulders...in due time.

Retiring Mistah

CONGRATULATIONS is in order too to Maalab Romulo “Mulong” Vigilancia for his dedicated and unselfish service to the AFP and to our country. Fair winds, clear skies and following seas, Mistah Mulong. Best wishes on your next endeavor. Enjoy your retirement, the next exciting chapter of your life! Godspeed!

Maalab Brats Soar High, Too

Another attorney has added to the list of Maalab Lawyers as Maalab Brat Atty. Dorothy Sapphirine Hadith Delos Reyes Dulnoan passed the Bar Exam last September 17, 20 and 24, 2023. She took her oath and subsequently admitted to the Roll of Attorneys on December 22, 2023. Atty Dorothy is a product of Ateneo Law School where she graduated last July 23, 2023.

Moreover, Maalab Brat Ens Krystlenn Ivany Galve Quemado, PN has graduated from a 4-month New Entry Officer Course of Australian Defense Force (ADF) at Royal Australian Naval College in Sydney, Australia. This schooling was granted to Maalab Brat

Quemado for being the Number 1 joining the Philippine Navy in her PMA Class of 2022.

Maalabs Christmas Party

The Villamor Air Base Golf Course Clubhouse was painted RED as the Maalabs, with their Maalabelles and Maalab Brats, joined forces together to celebrate the Class Christmas party with over flowing sumptuous lunch and a lot of Christmas exchange gifts and the much-awaited raffles. But prior to the party, the Maalabs swang their respective golf clubs, drivers and putters during an early morning tee offs and golf fellowships. It was really a wonderful and a memorable day for everyone.

1993 Commemorative Sword Book

To highlight this class call of the Maalabs, we are mighty proud to tick off another item in our bucket list.

The long wait is over. At last, the PMA Maalab Class of 1993 Commemorative Sword book is now a reality after numerous brainstorming sessions on its conceptualization and tackling a lot of





challenges in collating, preparing and completing the materials with incessant follow-ups and endless coordination. Thanks to our Editor-in-Chief Maalab Mars "Marsguy" Gayat for the patience and perseverance to finish this splendid project.

Members of the class now hold in their hands a copy of Maalab commemorative Sword book that encapsulates our 30 years of faithful service to the nation, to the flag and to the Filipino people.

The Sword documented important phases of our military service for the past three decades and our humble contributions to keep our security environment safe and intact so the Filipino people could sleep soundly at night.

The Maalabs of 1993 are poised for another year of success and prosperity. As we step into 2024, we eagerly anticipate more luck and achievements in our continued journey within the armed profession, fortifying our commitment to the nation, the flag, and the Filipino people."



ROBERT G PINEDA
President
RIZALIN JOY T LAPINIG-VILLANUEVA
Secretary

"In Silence, We Deliver"

It has been 14 years since our class, the PMA Masiglahi Class 2009, has left the portals of our beloved Alma Mater. Surely, we have lost some good souls along the way as we fulfill our oath and take part in securing and protecting our country, our sovereignty, and our fellow Filipinos. Nevertheless, the rest of us, we carried on – wounded and scarred but unbowed, standing firm to our legacy of being the "Class to Watch." Our years of experiences and learnings have emboldened and molded us individually and as a class, inspired us to do better and achieve things far beyond what we could have envisioned ourselves when we were yet plebes. These have added leaves to our bushing laurels as we continue to gain notable accomplishments.



Cav Bayabao

Right on would be Cav April Z Bayabao PN, the first lawyer of the class. Despite the hectic schedule of being a working student, she has managed to finish her Law School at Arellano University and pass the BAR

Exam on her first take. She also topped her Basic Logistics Course which she took after passing the BAR. The Class likewise has its first licensed civil engineer in the person of Cav Ian Gibb Recidoro PA. A Gold Cross Medal recipient, he played a vital role in the 500ECB (P) that aided the SOF in successfully breaching the highly fortified enemy grounds during the Marawi Siege. On the other hand, Cav Maria Lourdes Gregorio PA took the Class on a whole new level being the Class's first recipient of the Chevening Scholarship. She graduated with a Master of Arts in Peace and Development from Leeds Beckett University in the United Kingdom. A peace warrior at heart, she is a sought-after resource person in peace and development forums.

Meanwhile, there were those Mistahs who qualified to take specialized military courses and trainings abroad. To name a few, we have:

Cav Carlo Canico V Iriberry III PA who is a graduate of the Ranger Course at the US Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, USA. A constant achiever, he has not only gained a Gold Cross Medal but was also conferred with the Distinguished Conduct Star for his service and acts of courage and gallantry as Officer-in-Charge of 3rd Scout

Ranger Company, 1st Scout Ranger Regiment during the Marawi Siege.

Cav Fidel S Susarno PA is a graduate of the All Arms Commando Course at Commando Training Center Royal Marines in the United Kingdom. He is also a recipient of numerous awards for his gallantry in action, including a Gold Cross Medal in his stint as Executive Officer of the 6th Light Reaction Company during the Marawi Siege.

Cav Archimede C Aranas PA is a Special Forces Qualification Course graduate at US Army JFK Special Warfare Center and School. Cavalier Aranas is likewise a Gold Cross Medal awardee whose leadership of the 9th Special Forces Company, 3rd SF Battalion was instrumental in freeing the Andap Valley from the NPA influence enabling the government to gain foothold in said area through the establishment of CAA Patrol Bases and Forward Operational Detachments.

Cav Modesto N Caveno Jr PA is a graduate of Field Artillery Captains Career Course at US Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, OK, USA. He is the Class' accomplished Military Planner being one of the crafters of the Philippine Army's Medium Term Capability Objectives 2022-2028, Medium Term Capability Development Plan 2022-2028, Capability Development Handbook, and the Philippine Army Manual on Short Range Air Defense Operations and Fire Support Operations in his capacities as the Assistant Development Officer of OG5, Chief Field Artillery Capability Development Officer and Air Defense Battery Commander.

Cav Janne Ness H Nara PA is a graduate of the Logistics Officer Advance Course at Army Logistics Training Center in Australia. An epitome of excellence and work ethics, she consistently topped all her specialization and career courses and has likewise received various awards and accolades.

Cav Michael L Gaerlan PN who completed the Command and Staff Operations Law Course at the Australian Defence Force, Canberra, Australia where he learned to understand the legal aspects related to command and staff operations such as international law, rules of engagement, military justice, and legal considerations in planning and executing military operations.

Cav Roldan Talaugon PAF who finished his United Nations Military Observer Course at the Peacekeeping Operations Training Centre, Air Defence College, Canberra, Australia. This prepared him for his role as a military expert within multi-national or United Nations peace operations. He is likewise an Instructor Pilot and Test Pilot of the Huey helicopter of the 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing (205THW).

Similarly, our Class aviators also had their Pilot Qualification Courses and Flight Simulator Trainings in their respective aircraft of operation in established military and

international training facilities such as Airbus Defence and Space Training Centre in Sevilla, Spain; Flight Safety International in Dallas, Texas; Abu Dhabi Aviation Training Center, Sikorsky Training Academy in Florida, USA and HMAS Albatross in Australia. The Class has a total of 38 pilots flying the different Philippine Air Force and Naval Air Group aerial platforms with qualifications varying from Pilots-in-Command, Test Pilots, Instructor Pilots and Flight Examiners.

Some took masteral courses in pursuit of self-improvement that were likewise beneficial in building the capability and encourage change in their respective units.

Cav Mary Maureen Baylosis-Susarno PA is a Chevening Scholar with a Masters Degree in Applied Security and Strategy from the University of Exeter in Exeter, UK. She has contributed to the crafting of the various AFP plans, formulation of the resource control operations, and the AFP COVID-19 pandemic plan. She is likewise the esteemed writer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines *Pagpupugay sa Kawal Pilipino* poem.

Cav Marvin R Ybañez PAF graduated from the University of New South Wales, Canberra, Australia for his Masters in Capability and Technology Management. He was able to translate the knowledge and skills learned from his education abroad as he participates in the crafting of the Philippine Air Force Master Capability Development Plan 2040. Cavalier Ybañez is also a recipient of the Air Cavalier Award for Special Operations in 2021.

Cav Arwin Jayran R Flores PAF is a graduate of Masters in Counter Terrorism at the Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. A battle tested Huey and Blackhawk Pilot, this training has equipped him with theory and practice of counterterrorism studies, the challenges related to terrorism and their implications for counterterrorism approaches and policies that would be critical in mission planning.

Cav Gian Carlo Melad PN who also completed his Master in Strategic Human Resource Management at the University of New South Wales, Australia while on his Seconded Officer Posting at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

Cav Herbert P Punio PA who is the valedictorian of his Masters in Financial Management Course in UP Diliman.

The Class also has four (4) graduates from the Asian Institute of Management: Cav Emmanuel C Absalon PN who took Masters in Development Management, Cav Douglas S Defeles PN, Masters in Business Administration; Cav Esther Joy Gonzales-Rimando PAF, one of the pioneering batch of the Executive Masters in Disaster Risk and Crisis Management and Cav Mark Joel J Delos Reyes PAF in Master of Science in Innovation and Business.

Several Mistahs have also been recipients of renowned and coveted awards for their services, gallantry, and acts of heroism as they dutifully perform their tasks and missions.

First off is Cav Veneel Joseph P Bontuyan PAF a recipient of the PAF Officer of the Year Award in 2022 and Golden Aviator Award CY 2023. He is also a Gold Cross Medal awardee and is a qualified Flight Examiner, Instructor and Test Pilot, and NVG Instructor Pilot of the Huey and Bell412 Rotary Aircraft of the 205THW.

Cav James Anthony A Montejo PAF is a Cavalier Awardee for Air Operations Junior Category CY 2023. He is a Certified Instructor Pilot for Advance Precision Kill Weapon System of the T129 Aircraft. He graduated with merit in his Masters in Public Administration at World City Colleges and completed his Strategic Intelligence Analysis Course in Australia.

Cav Romel Francisco M Bandilla PAF was hailed as the 15th Strike Wing Officer of the Year CY 2023. He is also a qualified Flight Examiner, Instructor and Test Pilot of the A-29B Super Tucano Aircraft who had his training at Sao Paulo, Brazil. One of the first to be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Cavalier Bandilla has a perfect PFT Score. He has a Masters in Public Administration which he took at the World City Colleges.

The famed Kahusayan Award was conferred to Cav Alexander G Adajar PAF for his exceptional airmanship during a series of partial engine failure and engine quit while performing his mission. He was able to save three lives without causing further damage to his aircraft. Same award was also given to Cav Robert G Pineda PAF, Cav Marco A Delima PAF and Cav Joepet T Tasic PAF for logging 2,500 accident-free hours while flying tactical, rescue and Presidential helicopter missions.

Other members of the Class have equally accomplished distinguishing feats that have helped improve Unit operations and impacted national security and nation building.

Cav Ari Ben Hernaez PA, a distinguished ranger, who initiated the Heliborne Operations that have led other Commanders to replicate the same to minimize the gap between initial aerial attacks to ground pursuit.

Cav Julius James Gabaran PA who led his men to numerous successful combat and civil-military operations that resulted to the clearing of guerilla fronts, dismantling of RGU and clearing of barangays that paved way for the successful government efforts to reduce the local communist group in his area of operation.

Cav Viktor Immanuel L Mendoza PA, a Gold Cross Medal awardee, whose efforts led to the successful neutralization of HVIs,

and the clearing of guerilla fronts and Sub-regional Committee in his area of operation.

Cav Rogelio C Moncilla PAF, the first of the class to have been conferred with a Command Pilot Rating and a recipient of the Kahusayan Award, has gained 3,000 accident-free hours flying the mighty C-130 Hercules of the Philippine Air Force performing various missions including several humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations that have been a great burden lifter to disaster stricken areas and communities.

Cav Karl Winston Cacanindin PAF and Cav Judy P Valera PAF, our fighter pilots who were recipients of the Meritorious Achievement Medals were able to fire the AGM-65 missile. They form part of the country's history of very few PAF pilots who have fired precision weapons. Their successful combat missions were also instrumental in the decisive victory in Samar and Iloilo against Communists/Terrorist Groups. They also participated and led in bilateral/combined air operations with other countries. Both cavaliers have been

hailed as the 5th Fighter Wing's Officer of the Year in 2021 and 2023, respectively.

These names were but a few of those who have been trying to make a difference. Nevertheless, all we have become, and all these accomplishments were the product of our sweat and blood, fueled by our dedication and commitment in the service to our motherland and countrymen in the name of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. And thus, we say, "Slumber we have not. For in silence, we deliver."



NICOLE L AYNERA
President
LEAN ARSEN N SADURAL
Secretary

Warm Greetings to all Madasigons!

Once again, as fresh members of the PMAAAI family, the MADASIGONS would like to share their activities for more than half a year from graduation.

The MADASIGONS have been scattered in different parts of the country in the islands of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao to start their mission of proliferating the value of "*Honor above Excellence*" as a way of the Class to contribute to the modernism and continuous improvement of systems in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and to the Nation.

How are the 2LTs and Ensigns?

As an update, the Army Madasigons recently achieved remarkable success, with several officers excelling in their respective fields during the Basic Officer Leader Course 3. In the infantry, 2LT ARROGANTE secured the top position, closely followed by LT BOQUIDA at Top 2. The armour division witnessed exceptional performances from 2LT VALENCIA as Top 1, 2LT BARIS as Top 2, and 2LT ABRINA as Top 3. Military intelligence



showcased outstanding talent, with 2LT CARANGUIAN claiming the Top 1 spot, 2LT LLAMAS at the Top 2, and 2LT IRLANDEZ securing the Top 3. In the Ordnance service, 2LT ACALA earned the Top 2, and 2LT ABELLA secured the Top 3. The Signal Corps saw 2LT TONZO excelling as the Top 2, while in Adjutant General Service, 2LT GALLAZA stood out as the Top 1 performer. All Graduated consisting of 151 graduates in BOLC3 and five DS in OCS. This collective success underscores the Madasigon Army's commitment to its class name, "Mandirigmang may DANGAL,

simbolo ng GALING at Pagbangon." The emphasis on "GALING AT DANGAL" is evident in the exemplary performance of these officers, reflecting not only individual competence but also the army's overall dedication to excellence and honour. The Madasigon Army continues to live up to its reputation as a symbol of prowess and resilience, demonstrating the values of skill and dignity in every aspect of its operations. As these triumphs unfold, the Madasigon army remains a force to be reckoned with, embodying the spirit of excellence and pride in the face of challenges.

Looking from the perspective of our Air Force Madasigons, the Class of 2023 Air Force officers, the newest in the illustrious line of PMA graduates, have distinguished themselves by combining academic excellence, military prowess, and an unwavering dedication to the ideals of service and dignity. In a short time, they have already achieved several accomplishments representing the pride not only of their Class but the whole Philippine Air Force. Among those achievements are the schoolings taken, including the Air Intelligence Officer Course represented by 2LT AGUSTIN, which took place from 30 June 2023-15 December 2023, Basic Incident Command System (ICS) Training Course represented by 2LT ABREGANA and 2LT "Jared" REYES, and Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue expressed by 2LT CAMANGYAN and 2LT VILLARMEA. Other schoolings are still ongoing, like the Air





Weapons Controller Course and Military Pilot Training.

They have excelled in academic endeavours and made a lasting impression in the athletic areas. These alumni, honourable members of PMA, have skillfully combined the academic demands with the commitment and discipline needed to succeed in athletics. Rising star 2LT ABREGANA of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) recently accomplished a spectacular achievement by winning the badminton competition at the AFP Olympics. He represented the PAF together with other military personnel from different units. Also, 2LT FLOJO also won the 23rd Aboitiz Football Cup (Men's Amateur Open) together with other men of the Philippine Air Force. Looking more closely at their accomplishments, we see that these graduates represent not just the future of the Philippine Air Force but also excellence, bravery, and integrity in service to the Filipino people.

On the other hand, our Navy Madasigons graduated in their Naval Officer Basic Course last 30 August 2023, wherein two members, namely ENS BUMANGLAG and ENS CANTOR, graduated number 1 in their NOBC Classes 43 and 44, respectively. After NOBC, everyone was assigned to their respective units in the Philippine Navy, around the Philippines and the World. ENS LAWINGAN represented the Class in the UK for the Pre- initial Naval Training and Initial Naval Training for Officer's Course. The aspiring Surface Warfare officers had their convening ceremony of the Basic Surface Warfare Officer Course at Fleet Training and Doctrines Center on 19 October 2023. They also participated in the recently concluded Exercise Pagbubuklod 13-2023. The five aspiring Naval Aviators of the Class had their convening ceremony on 23 November 2023 for the start of their Naval Air Warfare Basic Officer Course before having their Basic Pilot Training. Lastly, the 30 strong Marine-Madasigons have also been busy since their Marine Basic Officer Course

began, joining numerous Mind-Boggling training and strenuous Physical activities. The Marine Madasigons have also been active in joining various sports competitions inside and outside the AFP organization. Indeed, the efforts of the Navy Group as it expands itself to different branches of the Navy pursuing different courses and training vital



to the organization, especially in the Navy's pursuit of Top-tier Defense of boundaries in our territorial waters as an epitome of an enhanced organization toward a Modern and Multi-Capable Philippine Navy of the future.

To conclude, as first timers walking in the Borromeo Field as alumni of the prestigious institution of the Long Gray Line, we, as a proud class of PMA "MADASIGON" Class of 2023, foresight our attendance in the week-long activities back in our beloved Baguio City, having to conquer different challenges from Plebehood, Yearling, a Cow, and a Firstie to reminisce our years in the Academy being away for almost a year. Our first march in the Borromeo field as graduates is a momentous activity that happens only once in a lifetime; the bow we will do as a symbol of our respect and greetings to all our seniors in the Long Gray Line and a reminder to all our underclassmen in the Academy also to have a foresight same as ours, as we set standard and example for them to follow. The MADASIGONS will proudly raise themselves as part of the commitment to the Long Gray Line mission in its pursuit of improvement not only limited to the Armed Forces but to the whole Nation.





DOZING CLASSES

1952-59	1985	1996
1960	1988	1997
1973	1991	1998
1979	1992	2000-2008
1982	1995	2010-2022

*"Be strong and courageous,
for the Lord will be with you
wherever you go."*

LAST CALL

BGEN MAXIMINO M BEJAR, JR '58

03 Dec 1934 – 09 Nov 2023

Cav Bejar was the 14th Dean, Corps of Professors, PMA. He was the first member of the Corps of Professors, then stationed at the PMA, to become a flag officer, as the Assistant Superintendent, PMA. From 20 September 1984 to 31 May 1988, Cav Bejar served as the Dean of the Corps of Professors, and for a time - from 28 to 29 February 1986, as the Acting Superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy.

He successfully completed 34 years and two months of military service and enjoyed his retirement with his beloved wife, the late Monserrat, who was fondly called "Nita", and their children. He is survived by Maria Mercedes, Maria Pilar, Maria Ana, Paolo Lucas, Maria Cristina, and Maria Fatima. Necrological service was on 16 November 2023 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary 1, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.



RADM TAGUMPAY R JARDINIANO '57

02 March 1934 - 04 Dec 2023

Cav Jardiniano joined our Creator on 04 December 2023 at the age of 89. He was born in Dasmarinas, Cavite. He assumed as the 18th Flag Officer in Command of the Phil. Navy in 1986. Wake was held at Loyola Memorial Park, Parangue City. Inurnment was held on 14 December at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.



held shipboard, staff duties and was AFP Comptroller before he was hired by the PNB to open a representative office in Spain.

The wake was at Tanatorio M30 in Madrid, Spain.



COL FRANCISCO "BIG BOY" ADRIANO, JR '63

01 Nov 1941 – 20 Dec 2023

Cav Adriano passed away on 20 December 2023. He is survived by his wife Annabelle and children: Francisco III and Marie Michelle Linda. Inurnment was held on 23 December at St. James the Great Church, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.



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WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS - 8:00PM

FAIRWAY RATE (WEEKDAYS)

	AFP UNIFORMED PERSONNEL / ACTIVE & RETIRED (MILITARY)	FAFAS (FOREIGN ARMED FORCES ATTACHES)	SENIOR CITIZEN		PNP AND COAST GUARD	CIVILIAN GUEST		DEPENDENTS
	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES
REGISTRATION FEE	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
GREEN FEE		250.00	440.00	720.00	250.00	550.00	900.00	250.00
TOTAL	250.00	500.00	690.00	970.00	500.00	800.00	1,150.00	500.00

WEEKEND & HOLIDAYS

	AFP UNIFORMED PERSONNEL / ACTIVE & RETIRED (MILITARY)	FAFAS (FOREIGN ARMED FORCES ATTACHES)	SENIOR CITIZEN		PNP AND COAST GUARD	CIVILIAN GUEST		DEPENDENTS
	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES
REGISTRATION FEE	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
GREEN FEE		250.00	680.00	1,040.00	250.00	850.00	1,300.00	250.00
TOTAL	250.00	500.00	930.00	1,290.00	500.00	1,100.00	1,550.00	500.00

ADD FEE GALLERY: 500.00
CADDIE FEE: 500.00 (MINIMUM)

NIGHT GOLF RATE (THURSDAY & FRIDAY)

	AFP UNIFORMED PERSONNEL / ACTIVE & RETIRED (MILITARY)	FAFAS (FOREIGN ARMED FORCES ATTACHES)	SENIOR CITIZEN		PNP AND COAST GUARD	CIVILIAN GUEST		DEPENDENTS
	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	9 OR 18 HOLES
REGISTRATION FEE	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
GREEN FEE		250.00	440.00	760.00	250.00	550.00	950.00	250.00
LIGHT FEE	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	350.00	350.00	200.00
TOTAL	450.00	700.00	890.00	1,210.00	700.00	1,150.00	1,550.00	700.00

ADD FEE GALLERY: 500.00
CADDIE FEE: 500.00 (MINIMUM)

DRIVING RANGE RATE (WEEKEDAYS)

	AFP UNIFORMED PERSONNEL (MILITARY)	FAFAS (FOREIGN ARMED FORCES ATTACHES)	SENIOR CITIZEN	PNP AND COAST GUARD	CIVILIAN GUEST	DEPENDENTS
WITH MAT	80	180	278	180	330	140
WITHOUT MAT	30	130	238	130	280	90

WEEKEND & HOLIDAYS

	AFP UNIFORMED PERSONNEL (MILITARY)	FAFAS (FOREIGN ARMED FORCES ATTACHES)	SENIOR CITIZEN	PNP AND COAST GUARD	CIVILIAN GUEST	DEPENDENTS
WITH MAT	80	190	294	190	350	140
WITHOUT MAT	30	140	254	140	300	90

TEE BOYS FEE: 70.00



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