



The

# CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

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

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2024



## CONTINUING INNOVATION



**PMAAAI-PMARAI  
INDOOR SPORTS  
FELLOWSHIP 2024**

**AUGUST  
2024**



## ABOUT THE COVER



Innovation has become more than just a buzzword in a world that's constantly evolving,—it is the driving force shaping every facet of our lives. The Cavalier Magazine focuses on the theme: "Continuing Innovation," where we delve into the advancements in thoughts, ideas and concepts that are propelling society forward in ways once thought unimaginable.

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The **CAVALIER** Magazine is a professional journal published quarterly by the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI), to provide a general forum for the alumni of the Philippine Military Academy. The views and opinions expressed in articles and contributions within Cavalier Magazine are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the official stance or endorsement of the PMAAAI. The Association disclaims any responsibility for the content provided by individual contributors.

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

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# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75

Fellow Cavaliers,

**A**s we enter the last quarter of 2024, I find myself reflecting on the progress we've made since the start of the year and the road that lies ahead. Our theme, "Continuing Innovation," resonates deeply with the journey we have undertaken together. It is a reminder that while we build on the solid foundation of our traditions, we also embrace change, with the common goal of furthering our shared mission.

In my first message as your Chairman, I spoke of our commitment to the values that define us—courage, integrity, and loyalty—and how these values guide our every action. As we move forward, these values continue to be our compass, ensuring that our efforts are not just about achieving our organizational strategic objectives, but also doing so in a manner that honors the legacy of our alma mater.

One of the key areas where we've seen significant progress is the implementation of our Action Plans, which are designed to enhance our organization's impact across several fronts. I'm pleased to report that the ongoing modernization of our administrative systems is well on track. This initiative, which includes the digitization of member records and the streamlining of our communication channels, is already yielding results in terms of efficiency and responsiveness. By harnessing technology, we do not only make it easier for our members to engage with the PMAAAI but we also ensure that our operations are transparent and accountable—key tenets of good governance.

Our efforts to strengthen regional chapters have also been in focus this quarter. The rollout of support initiatives aimed at empowering local chapters has started, with several regions already benefiting from enhanced training and resources. This aligns with our strategic objective of fostering a more unified and active PMAAAI, where every member, regardless of their location, feels connected and valued.

As we continue to implement our plans, our advocacy for good governance remains paramount. Following the examples of some of our esteemed Cavaliers, such as Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong, we must remain steadfast in promoting transparency, accountability, and ethical leadership—not just within our organization, but in all our spheres of influence.

Let us remember that good governance is more than just a set of practices, it is a mindset that we must embody at all times, especially us graduates of our revered institution. Whether in public service or in our communities, our actions should reflect the integrity that has been instilled in us since our days within its esteemed halls.

Another area where our commitment to innovation is critical is in the realm of electoral reform. As a nation, we stand at a crossroad, where the integrity of our democratic processes is being tested. The PMAAAI has always been a strong advocate for electoral reforms that safeguard the sanctity of the ballot. This quarter, we are intensifying our efforts to support initiatives aimed at combating electoral fraud, ending political dynasties, and enhancing voter education.

On the international front, the situation in the West Philippine Sea continues to demand our utmost attention. As Cavaliers, we have a sacred responsibility to contribute to the national narrative on this issue. The PMAAAI fully supports the government's efforts to assert our sovereignty, guided by the rule of law as upheld by international tribunals. Moving forward, we should explore ways to amplify our voice in this critical discourse. Whether through forums, publications, or direct engagement with policymakers, we must ensure that our stance on the West Philippine Sea is clear, firm, and unwavering. Our strategic objective of national security and defense advocacy is not just about supporting the Armed Forces—it's about standing up for our nation's rights and interests on the global stage.

As we continue to innovate, let us remember that our goal is not change just for the sake of it, but change that strengthens our organization and consequently, our nation. This is why every step we take, every action we implement, must be guided by our core values of courage, integrity, and loyalty. Let us always keep in mind that the PMAAAI is more than an association; it is a testament to the enduring spirit of the Cavaliers. It is up to us now how to ensure that this spirit remains vibrant and that our legacy of excellence continues to inspire future generations.

Mabuhay ang PMAAAI! Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!





# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA '95

## Implementation of Innovation

Innovation, as we all understand, is the introduction of novel ideas into an already set structure. In business, it can be the introduction of a new product that can cater to the masses (an external consideration) or a new organizational structure (an internal affair). In everyday life it can be as simple as an acceptance of personal change or even just following your "New Year's Resolution." However, there is another concept which we confuse with innovation: a trend. We use the term "trending" to label certain societal occurrences that spread like wildfire in social media. What separates an idea or concept born from innovation to that which is simply trending is its temporality: the latter is something that is only short-lived, while the former extends its influence for as long as another innovation appears. Until that happens, an innovation is better appreciated by continuing it. While innovation is important, too much of it is detrimental. Hence, if an innovation proves to be sustainable and beneficial to the people, it must be maintained.

Here in PMAAAI, we must exemplify innovation. It is through this that we can further develop our organization into a more accomplished and renowned institution. A way to develop our organization is to implement these innovations. We have discussed the definition of innovation and what must be done with it, which is to continue practicing it. But we have not yet elucidated on how to maintain it. The answer is simple: implementation. By implementing action plans, we keep the spirit of innovation alive. We ensure its survival until the end because it is kept alive in practice through these action plans. Laying out clear action plans helps a lot, and so by adhering to a set action plan and following through with it, we help further the reach of the innovation.

For the implementation, our Membership and Welfare Committee laid out action plans regarding vaccination with our alumni and dependents. This was done on 13 JUNE 2024 in coordination with Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) which cost seventy-eight thousand pesos (P78,000). The vaccines provided included ones for pneumonia and flu. Furthermore, a mutual relief fund amounting to one million, six hundred and ninety-five thousand pesos (P1.695 M) was released for the benefit of our 29 fellow Alumni who have died in the months of March to August this year. Another five hundred and thirty

thousand pesos (P530,000) was released as medical assistance to 14 Alumni who were hospitalized this year.

Our Sports and Fellowship Committee also followed through with our commitment to implementation of innovation. They successfully conducted indoor sports activities involving PMA Alumni from 15 August 2024 to 29 August 2024. The sports included were Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton, Basketball, and Pickleball. Regarding Pickleball, it was our first ever conducted sports tournament, and the Sports and Fellowship Committee effectively conducted said tournament. These sport activities cost two hundred and fifty pesos (P250,000) which was equally shared by both PMAAAI and PMARAI.

Of course, there must also be the dissemination of our action plans and activities for our Alumni and also other people to be made aware. Hence, our Public Relations Committee launched our new Facebook page and has opportunely released three monthly editions of our e-newsletter. This program accomplished by the committee and other related activities for the alumni year will cost two hundred and forty-eight thousand pesos (P248,000).

With relation to our legislative affairs, our Ad Hoc Committee on by-laws amendment have started to craft a revision on our PMAAAI bylaws which can hopefully be proposed to the general assembly come 2025.

Finally, our Professionalism and Ethics Committee have acted on one (1) complaint against an alumni and is undergoing due process. While the situation is unfortunate, we must be vigilant with regard to these internal affairs. We must continue to uphold our values in this organization if we aim to be innovative and sustainable.

With all that being said, I am proud to say that we have accomplished a great deal of activities in our third quarter. We have made innovations through these action plans and hopefully, we can maintain them for the organization's benefit in the long run. If we can sustainably continue with our innovations, future generations can look back and appreciate all that we have done today. Let us all follow through with our accomplishments and also look forward to our fourth quarter with optimism.





# CAVALIER NEWSLINE

## Extended amnesty program ends

The PMAAAI Board of Directors during its regular Board meeting on 12 September 2024 has approved the termination of the reduced payment of Lifetime Membership dues effective 01 September 2024. Dubbed as "Extended Amnesty Program," from the maximum payment of P18,000.00 lifetime membership dues for the retired members, or those who left the service early, it has temporarily pegged the amount, on a limited time, to only P10,000.00 for PMAAAI membership and P2,000.00 for PMARAI. The program offers ways on how the members who are not in good standing could update their membership and be qualified to receive the benefits the association provides.

## Cav Valencia takes over as new PMA Superintendent

Cav Caesar Bernard N Valencia '90 has been appointed as new PMA Superintendent replacing Cav Rowen S Tolentino '89 who compulsorily retired. Prior to his appointment as PMA Superintendent, Cav Valencia served as the Philippine Navy Vice Commander in 2022. He was also the commander of Naval Forces Northern Luzon in 2019 before being appointed Chief of Naval Staff in 2021.



**Valencia**

## PMAAAI Major Service Chapters elected their Officers

The PMAAAI major service chapters held their annual meetings and election of new set of officers for year 2024-2025. Cav Robert T Rodriguez '91 has been elected as new chairman of PNP Chapter. Other elected officers of PNP chapter are: Cav Neil B Alinsangan '91, Vice



**Rodriguez**

Chairman; Cav Mario A Reyes '92, President; Cav Mafelino A Bazar '92, Vice President; Cav Jesselito L Castro '98, Corporate Secretary; Cav Sidney N Villaflores '92, Treasurer; and Cav Westrimundo D Obinque '92, Corporate Auditor.

Meanwhile, the newly appointed PMAAAI Army Chapter officers took their oaths of office in July 2024 with Cav Von Albert M Sumergido '95 as the new president. Cav Diosdado Carlos D Pambid '96 has been likewise elected as Vice President. Other officers elected are Cav Aldrin F Orejudos '96 - Public Relations Officer; Cav Honorato S Pascual '97 - Auditor; Cav Febryan G Jimenez '16, Asst Auditor; Cav Ronaldo C Mateo '98 - Athletic Officer; Cav Febryan G Jimenez '18 - Asst Athletic Officer; Cav Jonaire T Benis '12 - Secretary; Cav Well Jean D Esmeria '16 - Asst Secretary; Cav Mayleen S Salvadora '09 - Treasurer; and Cav Clayford F Gabino '14 - Asst Treasurer.



**Sumergido**

Likewise, the PMAAAI PAF Chapter has elected its Board of Directors: Cav Gerardo B Gramata '95 - President; Cav Ulysses S Mancao '96 - Vice President; Cav Pedro S Agapito '96 - PAF Rep to PMAAAI Mother Board; Cav Ann Marie T Gerodiaz '98 - Treasurer; Cav Peter GR Gelicame '99 - Auditor; Cav Dexter F Balilla '06 - PRO; Cav Bernardo C Alibasa II '07 - Board Secretary; and Cav Leoncio U Cirunay III '08 - Secretariat.



**Gramata**

## Cav de los Santos elected Chairman, Veterans of WWII

Cav Jaime S de los Santos '69 was elected recently as Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Veterans of World War II. Cav Reynaldo Alcasid '71 was elected as Internal



**de los Santos**

Auditor. This organization is composed of descendants of World War II veterans. It was created under Sec 24, Republic Act 11597 providing grant-in-aid to veterans, orphans or compulsory heirs for educational, social, charitable and rehabilitation purposes.



**Alcasid**

## In Memoriam

The PMAAAI board of directors conveys their deepest sympathy and sincere condolences to the bereaved family of the following alumni who have passed away on dates indicated:

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| COL NOEL L PATAJO '84               | 05 May 2024 |
| CAPT ILDEFONSO C CARADO, JR '80     | 12 May      |
| CAPT ARMANDO B HEREDIA '67          | June        |
| MAJ ED LEONELLE MARVIN B MAPALO '08 | 02 June     |
| MAJ RICHARD M BRILLANTES JR '69     | 13 June     |
| LTGEN JACINTO C LIGOT '70           | 04 June     |
| CAPT ALBINO C RIVERA '72            | 14 June     |
| BGEN PATRIARCH ROBINSON P PEL '92   | 20 June     |
| PMGEN RAMON E MONTANO '58           | 02 July     |
| COL WILLIAM V DORMITORIO '74        | 10 July     |
| BGEN JUANITO K DATOR '57            | 12 July     |
| COL JOSELITO F TAPIA '65            | 17 July     |
| LTCOL OMAR A LAURINARIA '88         | 21 July     |
| COMMO EDGAR J CAUMERON '77          | 24 July     |
| PMGEN MIGUEL G CORONEL '70          | 02 Aug      |
| COL MARCIAL J DE LEON '68           | 15 Aug      |
| VADM ALLAN VICTOR T DELA VEGA '93   | 16 Aug      |

The PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI) offers a scholarship to help in the education of qualified children of married deceased and disabled alumni and younger siblings of those unmarried. To qualify, their alumnus-parent/brother must have been a regular member of PETFI and regular member of good standing of the PMAAAI at the time of death or disability.

The qualified children or the widows and parents concerned may get in touch with Jane Lucente at PETFI office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. or at her cellphone no. 0968 854-5593 or by e-mail at petfi@yahoo.com.



# ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

## Nominees for Cavalier Award, AY 2024-2025

• Cav RICARDO A DAVID JR '77  
Chairman, PMAAAI Awards Committee AY 2024-2025

The second stage of deliberations for the search of the 2025 Cavalier Awards for the outstanding regular members of the Association is now set. From the initial screening of different chapters (PMARAI, Army, Air Force, Navy, Police, and Coast Guard) a total of 60 Cavalier nominees had been recommended for deliberation. They will be evaluated based not only from their manifestation of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, the epitome of values that Peemayers hold dearest but each candidate must exemplify the best in his chosen field.

The Awards Committee is calling on all alumni and other interested parties to provide further inputs attesting to the character, excellence and qualifications of the different nominees. This information will help the Awards Committee to come up with the final list of principal and alternate recommendees for each category of award who truly represent the highest ideals of the Academy in terms of outstanding accomplishments and deserve the utmost respect of fellow cavaliers. The nominees for Cavalier Award are as follows:

### Command and Administration

1. CAV LENART R LELINA '91 PA
2. CAV ALAN M JAVIER '92 PN
3. CAV JULIANO C LLARENAS '92 PAF
4. CAV FABIAN M PEDREGOSA '93 PAF
5. CAV JOEY A ESCANILLAS '93 PA
6. CAV JOSEPH M COYME '94 PCG

### Staff Functions

1. CAV MARIO A REYES '92 PNP
2. CAV JOSEPH P ARCHOG '94 PAF
3. CAV JEFF RENE S NADUGO '94 PN
4. CAV JOEL A INACAY '94 PAF
5. CAV RONNIE C CABINGAS '96 PAF
6. CAV RANI V BIROG '09 PA

### SPECIAL OPERATIONS

1. CAV LEODEVIC B GUINID '90 PA
2. CAV JOSEPH JEREMIAS CD DATOR III '97 PA
3. CAV CRIS ANTHONY B MORALES '00 PA
4. CAV RUEL C ACERO '04 PAF

### ARMY OPERATIONS - Senior Officer

1. CAV WILLIAM VICTORINO F UPANO '95
2. CAV WILFREDO C MARTIN, JR '97
3. CAV JOONEY JAY R BUSIÑOS '98

4. CAV LOUIE G DEMA-ALA '99
5. CAV MAGTANGOL G PANOPIO '00
6. CAV JOVERT S PIMENTEL '03

### ARMY OPERATIONS - Junior Officer

1. CAV CARLITO B SANTIAGO '09
2. CAV NURSAIF N RADIA '14

### AIR OPERATIONS - Senior Officer

1. CAV SIR BYRON L DE OCAMPO '00
2. CAV OMAR FRIDZKHAN S ALPA '00
3. CAV FRANCIS L DANCEL '00
4. CAV GERALD PHILIP T ESCALANTE '04
5. CAV DENNIS C TADEO '07
6. CAV NIÑO NORMAN A MATALINES '07

### AIR OPERATIONS - Junior Officer

1. CAV ROGELIO C MONCILLA '09
2. CAV MARK JOEL J DELOS REYES '09
3. CAV LAWRENCE B DE CASTRO '10
4. CAV JOHN LORENZO M EGAR '13

### NAVAL OPERATIONS - Senior Officer

1. CAV NORMAN A MUTIA '95
2. CAV HOMER D GONZALEZ '98
3. CAV CYRUS B MENDOZA '00
4. CAV JOHN PERCIE A ALCOS '02
5. CAV HARVEY R LUSTRE '05

### NAVAL OPERATIONS - Junior Officer

1. CAV JONATHAN F MIGABON '10
2. CAV DWIGHT KENT D PAYOSALAN '15

### COAST GUARD OPERATIONS - Senior Officer

1. CAV ROMMEL A SUPANGAN '95

### COAST GUARD OPERATIONS - Junior Officer

1. CAV EMMANUEL A SORIA '10

### POLICE OPERATIONS

1. CAV SIDNEY M VILLAFLORES '92

### SPECIAL FIELD - Retired

1. CAV TIBURCIO N FUSILERO '71  
- Environmental Protection
2. CAV PEDRITO S CADUNGOG '75 - Education
3. CAV NESTOR Z OCHOA '77 - Environmental Protection
4. CAV ANGELITO FRANCIS B BERMUDEZ '87  
- Global Security Management and International Peacekeeping

### SPECIAL FIELD - Active

1. CAV RICKY P BUNAYOG '93 PA - Reserve Force Development
2. CAV FERDINAND P GLORIA '95 PN - Supply Chain Management
3. CAV FRANCEL MARGARET P TABORLUPA '00 PA  
- IS/Cybersecurity/Public Affairs
4. CAV ROMULO II G DIMAYUGA '05 PN (M)  
- Military Innovation, Small Unmanned Aircraft System and Academic Excellence
5. CAV JUNIUS N ZULUETA '07 PAF - Intelligence
6. CAV JOHN R ESTALLO '08 PN - Cyber Warfare Discipline

### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

1. CAV FLORENTINO P MANALASTAS JR '83 PA/Prof - OIC, Exec. Director of the Anti-Terrorism Council Program Mgmt Center-Office of the President (2017-2021, 2022-2023)

### PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

1. CAV RALPH A VILLANUEVA '78 PA  
- Chairman, Independent Electricity Market Operator of the Philippines (IEMOP)

### ALUMNI AFFAIRS

1. CAV MELCHOR P ROSALES '68 PAF
2. CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70 PA
3. CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73 PNP
4. CAV EFREN O YEBRA '80 PNP

The Awards Committee members are: CAV FELIPE H BUENA JR '78 PMARAI (0917-319-7667); CAV MAFELINO A BAZAR '92 PNP (0917-157-1992); CAV GERARDO B GRAMATA '95 PAF (0925-579-3390); CAV HOSTILLO ARTURO E CORNELIO '95 PCG (0917-180-5292); CAV VIRGILIO C DE GUZMAN '95 PN (0917-178-1972); and CAV VON ALBERT M SUMERGIDO '95 PA (0917-318-1995). We are most happy to receive comments and information to make the selection more thorough. Inputs may be sent to PMAAAI Alumni Center through at pmaaaai@yahoo.com. The nominees chosen by the Awards Committee will be deliberated on and confirmed by the PMAAAI Board in its meeting in December 2024.





# VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR CAVALIERS

## PMAAAI in Partnership with VMMC

• CAV NARCISO A VINGSON, JR '85

**PMAAAI Vaccination Program Event:** Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program

**Date:** 14 June 2024

**Location:** PMA Alumni Center, A. Luna Ave, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

**Organized by:** Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI)

**Medical Support:** Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC)

### Overview:

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) successfully conducted a Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program on 14 June at the PMA Alumni Center, A. Luna Ave., Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The event aimed to provide essential vaccinations to PMAAAI members and their immediate families, reinforcing the community's health and well-being.

### Participants:

A total of 346 members and their immediate families participated in the vaccination program. This significant turnout highlights the trust and commitment of the PMAAAI community to maintaining health standards.

**Medical Services:** The program was supported by skilled doctors and nurses from the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), that ensured the safe and efficient administration of vaccines. Their expertise and dedication were crucial to the event's success.

### Program Details:

**Welcome Ceremony:** PMAAAI Vice President Cav Pedro A. Agapito '96 welcomed the head of mission, Dr. Alfredo C. Azarcon, Jr., MD, MHA, DPBRM, FPARM, Assistant Head of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at PMAAAI Alumni Center, along with five doctors, ten nurses, ten pharmacists, and three assistants.

**Vaccination Process:** Participants received their vaccinations in a well-organized manner, with appropriate health protocols and guidance from medical professionals.

**Closing Ceremony:** The event concluded with remarks from Cav Raul S. Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, who thanked the medical team from VMMC, the organizing committee, and all participants for their cooperation and support. Plaques of appreciation and tokens were presented to the VMMC team for their selfless service to PMAAAI.

### Outcomes:

The Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program was a resounding success, with 346 individuals (146 for pneumonia and 200 for flu) receiving their vaccines. The event reinforced the importance of proactive health measures and strengthened the bond within the PMAAAI community.

### Acknowledgments:

The PMAAAI extends its heartfelt gratitude to the doctors and nurses of VMMC for their invaluable service. Special thanks to the organizing committee for their meticulous planning and execution of the event, led by Cav Hostillo AE Cornelio '95, Chairman of the Membership and Welfare Committee, in coordination with Cav Allen J Dalangin '95, Chairman of Professionalism and Ethics; Cav Jun Umali '02; and PCG personnel. The following PMAAAI Board of Directors also assisted with the activity: Cav Juan M. Sanchez '55, Senior Overall Adviser; Cav Franklin MR Mabanag '85, Chairman of Sports and Fellowship; Cav Narciso A. Vingson, Jr. '85, Chairman of Press Relations Committee; Cav Leo AD Leuterio '88, Senior Adviser Membership and Welfare; and Cav Ryan L. Bakabak '95, Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Lastly, we appreciate all members and their families for their participation and trust in PMAAAI's initiatives. to support and enhance the lives of our community.

### Conclusion:

The success of the Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program reflects PMAAAI's commitment to the health and well-being of its members. We look forward to continuing such initiatives.

### Photo Gallery of Vaccination Program



Venue Preparation by PCG Personnel



*PMAAAI Vice President Cav Pedro S. Agapito '96 welcome Dr. Alfredo C. Azarcon, Jr., head of mission of the VMCC Team.*

#### **Vaccination Process:**



*Registration*



*Screening*



*Vaccination*

#### **Oldest Cavaliers participated in the Program**



*Cav Rosalino A. Alquiza '55*



*Cav Juan M. Sanchez '55 and his wife*



*Cav Raul S. Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, presents plaques of appreciation and tokens to the VMCC team in recognition of their selfless service to PMAAAI.*



# After Activity Report on the PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Fellowship 2024

• CAV NARCISO A VINGSON, JR '85

## Introduction

The PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Fellowship 2024 officially commenced on August 15, 2024, marked by an exhilarating kickoff event—a chess tournament hosted by the Philippine Navy at the PNO, Bonifacio Naval Station in Taguig City. This fellowship aimed to promote camaraderie and sportsmanship among participants from the PMAAAI Chapters: the Army, Navy, Air Force, National Police, and Coast Guard. It was organized to strengthen camaraderie and foster a spirit of healthy competition among the various PMAAAI Chapters.

## Event Highlights

### Chess Tournament (August 15, 2024)

The chess tournament set the tone for the fellowship, showcasing strategic game play and fierce competition. The results of the tournament were as follows:

- Champion: Navy
- First Runner Up: Air Force
- Second Runner Up: Army

### Table Tennis Tournament (August 22, 2024)

Following the chess matches, a dynamic table tennis tournament was held at the PAF Badminton Court in Pasay City. The results highlighted the competitive spirit of all participating chapters:

#### Table Tennis Winners:

- Men's Singles Class A:
  - Champion: Air Force
  - 1st Runner- Navy
  - 2nd Runner- Army
- Men's Singles Class B:
  - Champion: Air Force
  - 1st Runner-Up: Navy
  - 2nd Runner-Up: Navy
- Women's Singles Class A:
  - Champion: Navy
  - 1st Runner-Up: Navy
- Doubles:
  - Champions-Navy
  - 1st Runner-Up: Army

### Inaugural Pickleball Competition (August 23, 2024)

On August 23, 2024, the first Pickleball competition was introduced at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center Tennis and Pickleball Courts, hosted by PMARAI. This event was particularly special, thanks to the initiative of Cav Sunny Pequiras '77, marking a significant addition to the fellowship activities. The competitive atmosphere was palpable, and the winners were celebrated for their achievements.

#### Pickleball Winners:

##### Intermediate Division:

- Champions:
  - Cav Camilo Z Ligayo '89
  - Cav Richard Q Lagrana '81

- 1st Runners-Up:
  - Cav Domingo M Pequiras '77
  - Cav Ramon T Gurat II '00
- 2nd Runners-Up:
  - Cav Ferdinand P Yuzon '83
  - Cav Lucien Jay G Caiman '12

#### Beginners Division:

- Champions:
  - Cav Narciso A Vingson Jr '85
  - Cav Clayford P Gabino '14
- 1st Runners-Up:
  - Cav Joel G Cantos '84
  - Cav Agane C Adriatico '84
- 2nd Runners-Up:
  - Cav Edilberto T Panes '14
  - Cav Sarah Jane V Escobio '19

### Badminton Tournament (August 28, 2024)

The PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Badminton Tournament commenced at the PNP Gymnasium Badminton Court, Camp Crame, Quezon City. The matches were electrifying, showcasing incredible skill and determination among participants. The final results were:

#### Winners of PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Badminton Tournament 2024

##### Open Women's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Fronda and Cav Padoa - Navy
- 1st Runners-Up: Cav Roncal and Cav Claveria - Army

##### Open Men's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Apresto and Cav Delawadra - Army
- 1st Runners-Up: Cav Mercene and Cav De Guzman - Navy
- 2nd Runners-up: Cav Edra and Cav Vasquez - Air Force

##### 40 and Up Women's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Gabrido and Cav Claveria - Army
- 1st Runners-up: Cav Sisican and Cav Cuntapay - Navy

##### 40 and Up Men's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Haguring and Cav Gabao - Air Force
- 1st Runners-up: Cav Jardinero and Cav Marzan - Navy
- 2nd Runners-up: Cav Ocampo and Cav Panes - Army

##### 50 and Up Men's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Trinidad and Cav Palisoc - Navy
- 1st Runners-up: Cav Cabanlet and Cav Batalla - Navy
- 2nd Runners-up: Cav Sumergido and Cav Fagel - Army

##### Retired Men's Doubles:

- Champions: Cav Caculitan and Cav Angeles - Navy
- 1st Runners-up: Cav Laciste and Cav Ferro - PNP
- 2nd Runners-up: Cav Poquiz and Cav Malayo - PMARAI

##### Overall:

- Champion: Navy
- 1st Runner-up: Army
- 2nd Runner-up: Air Force

### Basketball Tournament (August 28-29, 2024)

The basketball tournament spanned two days, with the opening game featuring a thrilling match between the Army and Navy at

the Army Gym. The Navy claimed victory over the Army, followed by another win against the Air Force. The Army managed to secure a victory in their matchup against the Air Force on August 29. The tournament concluded with the Navy emerging as the champions, and the final standings were:

- Champion: Navy
- 1st Runner-Up: Army
- 2nd Runner-Up: Air Force

#### Closing Ceremony

In his closing remarks, Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, underscored the vital role of unity and camaraderie among all Cavaliers. He expressed profound gratitude to the Navy, Air Force, Army, PCAI, and PMARAI Chapters for their contributions to the event's success. Looking ahead, he promised that next year will be even bigger, with more games to enjoy. As the PMA Alma Mater Song echoed through the gymnasium, it perfectly captured the essence of this gathering—not just a competition, but a vibrant celebration of community, achievements, and enduring friendships.

The day concluded with a traditional boodle fight, further fostering a spirit of unity and camaraderie among attendees, reinforcing the bonds that were created throughout the fellowship.

#### Conclusion

The PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Fellowship 2024 not only showcased exceptional talent across various sports but also strengthened the bonds of friendship and unity among the Cavaliers. The success of the events is a testament to the

collaborative efforts of all involved, ensuring that the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie continues to thrive within the PMAAAI community.

We look forward to future gatherings that will further enhance these cherished relationships and promote the values of sportsmanship among the members.

#### **Sports Committee, PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Fellowship 2024**

Cav Franklin Moises R Mabanag '85  
Chairman

Cav Joel G Cantos '84  
Vice Chairman

#### Members:

- Cav Domingo M Pequiras '77
- Cav Narcio A Vingson, Jr '85
- Cav Sidney Hernia '92
- Cav Ronald C Mateo '98
- Cav Ryan A Tumanda '02
- Cav Rogelio A Ombao '06
- Cav Febryan C Jimenez '16

#### Secretariat:

- Ms Diane T Santiago
- Ms Isai Corda
- Ms Fides Ong





*Chess Competition hosted by the Philippine Navy on 15 Aug 2024, at the PNOG, Bonifacio Naval Station in Taguig City.*



*Table Tennis Tournament hosted by the Philippine Air Force on Aug 22, 2024, at the PAF Badminton Court, Pasay City.*



*Inaugural Pickleball at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center Tennis and Pickleball courts, on August 23, 2024 hosted by the PMARAI.*



*Pickleball Winners: Intermediate Division*



*Badminton hosted by PCAI on Aug 28, 2024, at the PNP Gymnasium Badminton Court, Camp Crame, Quezon City.*



*Closing Ceremony of PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Badminton Tournament 2024.*



*On August 27-29, 2024, the Philippine Army hosted the PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Basketball Tournament at the PA Wellness, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.*



*Cav Raul S Gonzales '75 underscores the vital role of unity and camaraderie among all Cavaliers.*



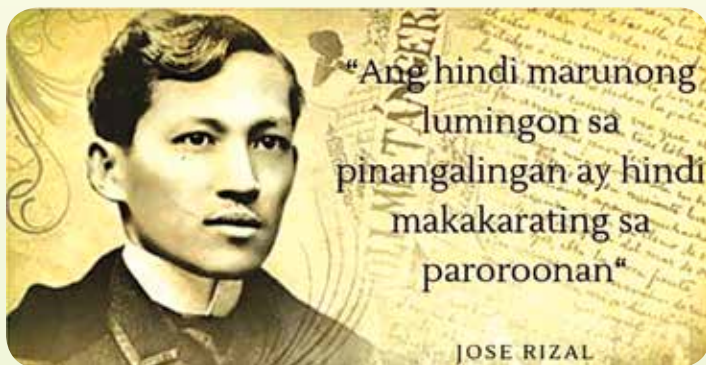
*A heartfelt thank you to our gracious hosts, the Navy, Air Force, Army, PCAI, and PMARAI Chapters for making PMAAAI-PMARAI Indoor Sports Fellowship 2024 a resounding success.*





# Executive Director's REPORT

CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77



When our national hero, Dr Jose Rizal said that famous quotation, he must have referred to that innate nature of indebtedness of Filipinos to somebody who had done favor for them. As cavaliers, that virtue was strengthened or enhanced by the kind of training each of us underwent during our stay at our Alma Mater, the Philippine Military Academy. Not all of us who passed the portals of the academy came from a well to do family. In fact, most of us came from the sector of our society that was hard up in obtaining a better education, hence, entering PMA was the best option we selected, being free, undaunted by the rigors and hardships of training that we expected. We successfully hurdled those trials and the most gratifying event in our life was receiving that diploma that declared us graduates. We bade goodbye to that Alma Mater which had been our home for four (or more years), as we are honed to be officers of our Armed Forces destined to defend our country and people. We feel jubilant! We feel the joys and the prize of our perseverance and hardwork! But as we packed our bags, prepared to leave the grounds of PMA and heading to venture the next chapter of our career, we looked back to express our heartfelt gratitude to those who made our stay at the academy fruitful, and to the very academy itself, that kept us safe, educated, and prepared to be on our own. We looked back to say, *"Thank you for all the things you have given me! Thank you for keeping me safe and thank you for providing me an education at par with the best worldwide!"*

We did not live by our words alone! We live our words with deeds and actions! And this is the very essence why our fellow cavaliers who were given the task of managing our association, came up with an effort to consolidate our undertakings in our personal desire to express our gratitude to our alma mater, in cash or in kind!

In 2010, the then PMAAAI Board of Directors, chaired by Cav Galileo C. Kintanar '60, came up with Board Resolution number 09-05 titled *"Enjoining All Members To Make Contributions to the Philippine Military Academy to Help Improve its Facilities."* This board resolution was in reply to the appeal of the PMA Superintendent to the PMAAAI Board of Directors for all alumni to help the Academy in improving its facilities, considering that its yearly appropriation is never enough to support its needs.

Citing that other universities and educational institutions here and abroad rely heavily on financial support of their alumni, and in consultation with the Chief of Staff, the Commanding Generals of each branch of service, and the PMA classes presidents, the Board approved on 12 January 2010 and ratified by the General Assembly on 23 January 2010, the following:

- 1.) A monthly contribution through payroll deduction of One Hundred Pesos (P100.00); Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00); and Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00) by company grade, field grade and general/flag officers, respectively, who are still in the active service,
- 2.) A one-time lump sum contribution of at least Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) by company grade and field grade officers who are no longer in the active service, and
- 3.) A one-time lump sum contribution of at least Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) by retired general/flag officers.

How is this being managed?

- 1.) The PMAAAI shall request the AFP Chief of Staff, the PNP Chief, and the PCG Commandant to direct their respective Finance Officers to deduct the amount of voluntary contribution prescribed in the Board Resolution 09-05 from the pay of all PMAYers in their respective services, except those who expressly object to such voluntary contribution.
- 2.) The Finance Officers concerned shall remit to the PMAAAI every month the amount collected with the list of names from whom the deductions were made.
- 3.) The PMAAAI shall deposit the collection in the bank and carry such fund in the books of accounts under Special Fund for PMA Projects (SFPP).
- 4.) The SFPP shall be invested along with other Funds of PMAAAI.
- 5.) The PMAAAI shall keep the PMA informed periodically the status of SFPP as basis for the latter to make plans for its utilization.
- 6.) The PMA shall submit to the PMAAAI projects, with cost estimates, for the improvement of its facilities, to be funded from the SFPP.
- 7.) The PMAAAI shall then release to PMA the funds necessary to support the projects submitted.
- 8.) The PMAAAI and PMA shall account for all funds collected and received by them.
- 9.) The PMA shall render a report to PMAAAI on the expenditure and accounting of the SFPP funds released to it, indicating the projects undertaken.
- 10.) The PMAAAI shall include in its annual report the status of the funds received and disbursed under SFPP.

Just in case any cavalier is not yet aware of this, NOW YOU KNOW! And please remember, this CONTRIBUTION is purely VOLUNTARY! Dr Jose Rizal may be proven in his words!





# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

CAV CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90

## “Shaping Future Leaders: The Academy’s Commitment to Education and Technological Advancements”

**E**ducation is an influential step for staying competitive and the challenge for the Academy remains tough with the robust trends in technological and educational advancements. However, the Academy is relentless in its pursuit for training and shaping the future leaders of our nation.

The three-tier competencies of the Academy: leadership, collaboration, and integrity, collaborated with its core values of Honor, Patriotism, Professionalism, Commitment, and Excellence, is instrumental in fostering growth and boosting the proficiency of our cadets. A highly skilled cadet, equipped with a solid academic background is our prerequisite for innovation and growth. Our successful outcomes benefit not just the individual, but society as a whole. The Academy is instrumental in honing cadets not only by providing them with adequate and relevant academic skills, but also preparing them to be active leaders of our society. With our collective efforts and commitment, our objectives will prove successful. This success is also highly attributed to Cavaliers who dedicate themselves to the service of generosity, by extending their untiring support through contribution to their beloved alma mater.

The continued advancements of the Academy have been driven by the active efforts of committed individuals who uncompromisingly pave a way for an efficient academic environment. Structural improvements, construction, and maintenance are completed with some continuously underway. Seminars and relevant trainings are continuously conducted for both the Academic and Non-Academic personnel and cadets to ensure efficacy, mastery, growth, and development. Stakeholders are also key characters who provide their untiring support in the field of education, training, and betterment of the facilities.

### Infrastructure and Facilities

The Academy’s commitment to shaping future leaders extends beyond educational programs and technological advancements; it is also deeply rooted in the continuous improvement of its infrastructure and facilities. This commitment ensures that cadets have access to a world-class environment conducive to learning, training, and personal growth.

Several key projects at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) have been successfully completed, reflecting the institution’s dedication to maintaining and enhancing its infrastructure. Among these completed projects are the Construction of Cadet Barracks II and the Rehabilitation/Repiping of the PMA Water System. These upgrades are critical to providing cadets with the essential living and training conditions necessary for their rigorous schedules.

The Academy is also actively working on significant construction projects that are vital for its future growth. The Construction of the 4-storey HAG and HTG Building and the Design and Build of the PMA New Library are ongoing, promising to deliver state-of-the-art facilities that will support both administrative functions and academic endeavors.

In addition to these large-scale projects, the Academy has successfully completed several special projects aimed at maintaining and improving existing structures. These include the repair of Regis Hall Barracks and Enrile Hall Barracks, the completion of the Rope Course (Phases I and II), the repair and re-roofing of the MA3/AOC Office, and the renovation of key facilities such as the Lim Hall Roofing (Phase II) and the Munasque Theater. The Improvement of the DTO Office, the Renovation of the ASupt Office, the Rehabilitation of the Sundial Fountain, and the repair of comfort rooms at Lim Hall and Maharlika Lounge have also been completed, further enhancing the quality of life and workspaces within the Academy.

Ongoing efforts continue with the repair and improvement of the MA10 Office and the completion of repairs to the Lim Hall comfort rooms on the ground floor (right wing), ensuring that all facilities meet the highest standards.

Progress is also evident in the successful completion of projects under the DND-DPWH Convergence Program (TIKAS). These include the construction of the Access Road from Globe Tower to the SAO Area (Phase II), the Concrete Road from TMC to Tower '66, and the PMA Security Road. Meanwhile, the construction of the Five-(5)-Storey Officers Condominium Quarters, the Five-(5)-Storey EP Condominium Quarters, and the PMA Museum (Phase II) are well underway, further expanding the Academy’s capacity to support its personnel and cadets.

Finally, projects under the DPWH-BCDEO Regular Infra Program FY 2023 (GAA) are progressing, including the Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of Roads with Slip Slope Collapse and Landslide at the “I LOVE PMA” area, the Construction/Rehabilitation/Upgrading of Drainage along Quezon Avenue, and the Construction of PMA Rainwater Harvesting Facilities (II and III). These initiatives are crucial for ensuring the long-term sustainability and resilience of the Academy’s infrastructure.

### Trainings and Seminars

The Academy’s dedication to producing well-rounded leaders is exemplified by its robust training and seminar programs. These initiatives are meticulously designed to ensure that cadets receive a comprehensive education that goes beyond traditional

academics, preparing them for the multifaceted challenges of leadership in the modern world.

During the 3rd Term of the Academic Year 2023-2024, the Headquarters Academic Group conducted a series of classes tailored to the specific needs of cadets at different levels:

- 2nd Class Cadets delved into advanced subjects such as Engineering 1, Leadership and Decision Making, Methods of Research, Cyber Security 2, Terrorism and Violent Extremism, Environmental Science, and Special Topics in Information Technology. These courses are designed to equip cadets with critical thinking skills and specialized knowledge that are essential for modern military leadership.
- 3rd Class Cadets focused on foundational courses including Differential Calculus, Contemporary World, Ethics, Human Resource Management, and Politics and Security. These subjects aim to broaden cadets' understanding of global issues and ethical considerations in leadership.
- 4th Class Cadets were introduced to essential skills through courses like Cyber Security 1, Essential Academic Writing Skills, Organizational Behavior, Digital Media and Design, and, Algebra and Trigonometry. These courses lay the groundwork for their future studies and leadership roles.

The Headquarters Tactics Group also played a crucial role in the cadets' education, conducting various Cadet Command and Armed Forces Preparatory (CCAFF) courses:

- DAW: Air Force Science 463 (Officer Preparatory Course) and the Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) 2024 provided cadets with hands-on experience in military science and field operations.
- DTO: Conducted a series of progressive courses (CON453, CON353, CON253, and CON153) to develop leadership and operational skills.
- DNW: Offered Officer Preparatory Courses (OPC) and On-the-Job Training (OJT), focusing on real-world application of military skills.
- DL: Focused on Small Unit Leadership (ML 223) and Honor Probation Counseling Sessions to instill leadership and ethical standards.
- DGW: Conducted OPC/OJT for Army Cadets, JFTX 2024, and a rigorous Rucksack March from Brgy. Virac to Brgy. Atok Trail and back to PMA, emphasizing endurance and tactical proficiency.

#### **International and Bilateral Engagements**

The Academy also fosters international collaboration through its Foreign Academy Exchange Program (FAEP). In May 2024, PMA officers and cadets participated in an exchange program with the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy (CRMA) in Thailand. This program, which included a reciprocal visit by CRMA delegates to PMA, aims to enhance cross-cultural understanding and share best practices between military academies.

In June 2024, PMA officers engaged in bilateral visits to the Republic of Korea Air Force Academy (ROKAFA) and the Republic of Korea Military Academy (ROKMA). These visits aimed to benchmark best practices in military education and training, with the goal of integrating these insights into PMA's own programs. Additionally, the Academy hosted officers from the Joint United States Military Assistance Group – Philippines (JUSMAG-P) to discuss a potential Faculty Exchange Program (FEP) between the United States Military Academy (USMA) and PMA, further enriching the academic environment at the Academy.

#### **Cadet Recruitment and Admissions**

In preparation for the upcoming PMA Entrance Examination 2024 (PMA Class 2029), the Office of Cadet Recruitment and Admission (OCRA) played a crucial role in streamlining the application process. OCRA facilitated the activation of the PMA Cadet Online Application System, which allows qualified and interested Filipino youth to apply for the examination. This system was made accessible through authorized PMA social media platforms, ensuring broad reach and engagement among potential candidates.

Additionally, OCRA conducted thorough validation of cadet applicants who registered through the PMA Cadet Online Application System. This step is essential in maintaining the integrity of the application process, ensuring that only qualified individuals proceed to the examination stage. Through these efforts, OCRA continues to uphold the Academy's standards of excellence in recruiting the next generation of military leaders.

#### **Special Events and Training Programs**

Several notable activities and training programs were conducted to further develop the skills and recognition of both cadets and faculty:

The PMA Academic Convocation 2024 and Awarding of Acad Olympics Winners was held on 03 June 2024, celebrating cadets who excelled academically during the Third Term of AY 2023-2024. Awards were given to members of the Commandant's List, Dean's List, Superintendent's List, Course Excellence Awardees, and Acad Olympics winners.

From 05 to 07 June 2024, the Office of ACAS for Education and Training (OMA8) facilitated the Highly Competitive Strategy and Leadership Training at Sandiwa Hall. This training, led by Dr. Brian To, a Senior Practice Professor of Strategy and Leadership at the Wharton School, aimed to enhance the competencies of PMA faculty and staff, aligning with internationally recognized academic standards.

The PMA Cadet Combo participated in the Musikalayaan 2024 Concert at Rizal Park, Manila, on 07 June 2024, and the Simultaneous Flag Raising Ceremony at Sundial Area on 11 June 2024, in celebration of the 126th Philippine Independence Day.

The Academy underwent the Annual General Inspection (AGI) CY 2024 from 13 to 21 June 2024, conducted by the Office of the Inspector General, ensuring that all aspects of the Academy meet the highest standards of excellence.

On 14 June 2024, the Oath-Taking Ceremony and Reception Rites for PMA Class 2028 were successfully conducted at Fajardo Grandstand, marking the official entry of new cadets into the Academy.

The Instructor Trainer Qualification Course Class 01-2024 saw the completion of 23 personnel from the Headquarters Academic Group and other departments. This course, held from 22 May to 20 June 2024, was designed to qualify high-performing instructors as instructor-trainers, enhancing the quality of education provided at the Academy.

The Host Parents Program for PMA Class 2027 was launched on 22 June 2024 at the Baguio Convention Center, providing cadets with additional support and guidance throughout their time at the Academy.

These remarkable achievements represent a pinnacle of success, reflecting a continuous chain of commitment and unrelenting effort by the Academy's leadership. They serve as a powerful challenge and motivation for future leaders to take even greater strides towards mission accomplishment, ensuring that the Academy continues to excel in its role of shaping the next generation of military leaders.





# Baron's Dissemination

**RONCHER L. BERNABE**  
Cdt F/Cpt 1CL "A" Co, CCAFP  
Regimental Commander

**C**hange is the only constant thing in the world and adaptability to change is the key in coping with this. Throughout the years, the Academy continues to implement relevant changes to improve the four-year training of the cadets to become efficient leaders of the country. Continuous innovation enables the cadets to advance their critical-thinking skills and ability to make decisions based on information at hand. Innovativeness fosters a culture of creativity within the cadets, encouraging risk-taking, accountability, exploration, and attention to detail leading to a more dynamic and well-considered results. Many traditions were set-aside as they were deemed unnecessary for the development of the cadets. However, the continuous emergence of technology in the form of user-friendly learning tools eases a cadet's attainment of productivity, faster submission of school work, and better monitoring of their Character Academics Military and Physical (CAMP) performance.

Change can somehow be difficult. It takes time for cadets to remove their oldfangled actions, however, resistance to change can lead to "death." In resemblance to the battlefield, a party that refuses to adopt the current military trend faces significant disadvantages compared to other hegemonic nations, which embrace change as a component of their core beliefs.

Change can both bring comfort and setbacks to the corps- an example of this is the separation of barracks of 3CL cadets from the 1CL and 2CL cadets. As far as many people know, one of the

hardest parts of cadetship after plebehood is being a yearling- the lowest mammal in the hierarchy of the upperclass. It is your responsibility to master yourself and lead your 4CL buddy while under the scrutinizing eyes of the immaculate. There is no room for mistakes since 3CL is expected to be the standard of the corps. Hence, the 3CL must be under the supervision of the 1CL to correct their lapses and wrongdoings. However, with the current barracks scheme of the corps, only selected cadets are authorized to enter the 3CL barracks. Likewise, 3CL cadets are strictly off-limits to the 1CL and 2CL barracks. This changes a lot of things, this gives a challenge to the soon-to-be lieutenants on how they will handle the transition. On the other side, this gives the 3CL cadets a chance to be leaders on their own, it will test their capabilities on how will they manage themselves despite having the same rank and responsibilities. At the end of the day, all changes have their respective rationale, separation of 3CL barracks was implemented to decrease the rising cases of malpractices and academic deficiency.

With this, marching towards innovation is inevitable, it is in our nature to rise under the challenging circumstances. The corps is composed of assiduous individuals aimed at becoming the next generational future leaders. There is no other way to embrace change but to be one step ahead of any, if not all, the difficult situations.



## Erratum

Regarding the article on the "Top 10 Graduates of the Philippine Military Academy, Class of 2024," published in the previous issue of Cavalier Magazine:

It has come to our attention that the names of the Top 10 graduates were incorrectly listed due to an editorial oversight. We sincerely apologize to the concerned parties and readers for this mistake. Below is the correct list of the Top 10 graduates of the Philippine Military Academy, Class of 2024:

- Cadet 1CL Jeneth Elumba** (Surigao City, Surigao del Norte)  
Other Awards: Magna Cum Laude, Presidential Saber, Philippine Army Saber, Jusmag Saber, Australian Defense Best Overall Performance Award (Army), Tactics Group Award, Army Professional Plaque
- Cadet 1CL Mark Armuel Boiles** (Novaliches, Quezon City)  
Other Awards: Vice Presidential Saber, Philippine Air Force Saber, Academic Group Award, Management Plaque, Air Force Professional Courses Plaque, General Antonio Luna Award, Australian Defense Best Overall Performance Award (Air Force)
- Cadet 1CL Kim Harold Gilo** (Villa Kananga, Butuan City)  
Other Awards: Magna Cum Laude, SND Saber, Philippine Navy Saber, Australian Defense Overall Performance Award (Navy), Natural Sciences Plaque

- Cadet 1CL Cyril Joy Masculino** (Nabua, Camarines Sur)  
Other Award: Magna Cum Laude
- Cadet 1CL Rosemel Dogello** (Jamindan, Capiz)  
Other Award: Cum Laude
- Cadet 1CL Alexa Mye Valen** (Kapatagan, Lanao del Norte)
- Cadet 1CL Floyd Niño Arthur Roxas** (Leganes, Iloilo)  
Other Awards: Information Technology Plaque, Department of Leadership Plaque, AGFO Incorporated Award
- Cadet 1CL Giselle Tong** (Tuguegarao City, Cagayan)  
Other Award: Mathematics Plaque
- Cadet 1CL Danica Marie Viray** (Pasay City)  
Other Award: Cum Laude
- Cadet 1CL Neriva Binag** (Cabagan, Isabela)

We extend our deepest apologies to members of the PMA Class of 2024 and our readers for this error. Cavalier Magazine remains committed to delivering accurate and timely information, and we appreciate your understanding.

— The Editorial Team



# The Wonder Years

COURAGE



INTEGRITY



LOYALTY

## RETIREES SECTION

• **CAV RAMON T PUNZALAN '76**  
Chairman, PMARAI

• **CAV NARCISO A VINGSON JR '85**  
Director for Public Relations

## PMARAI Webinar #12: Cybersecurity and Cybercrime in the Digital Age

• **CAV JOB NOLAN D ANTONIO '82**

On June 27, 2024, PMARAI hosted its 12th webinar, **"Cybersecurity and Cybercrime: Impact on Our Lives and Businesses,"** attracting over 55 participants eager to address the pressing issues surrounding digital security. The event commenced with opening remarks from Cav Ricardo A. David, Jr. '77, President of PMARAI, who emphasized the critical importance of cybersecurity in our interconnected environment. Cav Job Nolan D Antonio '82, Chairman of the Professionalism and Development Committee, then introduced the resource speakers, each bringing a wealth of expertise.

### Webinar Sessions Overview:

#### 1. **Cyber Security Awareness: Understanding Its Importance**

Led by Cav Francel Margaret Padilla '00, this session highlighted the necessity of cybersecurity awareness and the protection of personal and organizational data.

#### 2. **Cybercrime: A Clear and Present Danger**

Cav Jesus V. Lomeda '80 addressed the pervasive threat of cybercrime, detailing its various forms and their implications for individuals and businesses.

#### 3. **Government Response and Cybersecurity Counter Measures**

Engr. Zairo Shin F. Maniacop from the Cybersecurity Bureau, DICT, discussed government initiatives and counter measures aimed at safeguarding the nation's digital infrastructure.

### Engaging Q&A Session:

Participants engaged with the speakers during a dynamic Q&A, addressing concerns about cybersecurity in both the government and private sectors.

### Participant Feedback Summary:

Feedback from seven participants highlighted key insights:

- The necessity of securing personal information against hacker exploitation.

- Appreciation for the speakers' expertise.
- Recognition of the need for more cybersecurity professionals in government.
- Cybersecurity as a universal concern, emphasizing the inevitability of data breaches and the importance of a collective approach to prevention.

### Conclusion and Acknowledgments:

The webinar concluded with Certificates of Appreciation presented to the resource speakers, acknowledging their invaluable contributions. Cav Ramon T. Punzalan '76, Chairman of PMARAI, expressed gratitude to all participants for their engagement.

This webinar reinforced the vital role of cybersecurity in our lives and the ongoing need for education and awareness to effectively combat cyber threats. PMARAI is dedicated to providing its members with essential learning opportunities in this critical area.



Photo Gallery: Webinar #12 on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime in the Digital Age



Cav Francel Margaret Padilla '00 (right), highlighted the necessity of cybersecurity awareness and the protection of personal and organizational data.



Cav Jesus V. Lomeda '80, addresses the pervasive threat of cybercrime, detailing its various forms and their implications for individuals businesses.



Participants via Zoom during Webinar #12 on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime in the Digital Age

## FARMUP Webinar #13: Empowering Retirees Through Agribusiness

• CAV JOB NOLAN D ANTONIO '82

On July 31, 2024, the Philippine Military Academy Retirees Association, Inc. (PMARAI) hosted its 13th webinar, **"Farming Assistance for Retired Military and Uniformed Personnel (FARMUP),"** via Zoom, attracting over 50 participants. The session was graced by the Chairmen of both PMAAAI and PMARAI, who attended in person at the PMA Alumni Center in Quezon City.

Cav Ricardo A. David, Jr. '77, President of PMARAI, opened the event, which featured three esteemed speakers:

- Ms. Yovina-Claire A. Pauig from the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) provided a comprehensive overview of ATI's programs and resources available for retirees interested in agribusiness.

- Mr. Richel E. Zamora from ATI's Regional Training Center XI delivered insights on **"Farming High Value Crops: Cacao and Durian,"** offering practical advice on cultivation techniques and market trends.

- Cav Salvador B. Calanoy, IV (Ret.) shared his expertise on **"Introduction to Agarwood Farming and Required Permits and Certifications,"** shedding light on this unique agricultural opportunity.

Participants expressed their appreciation through feedback, highlighting the value of ATI as an educational resource and



**Webinar**

**FARMING ASSISTANCE FOR RETIRED MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL (FARMUP)**

**SPEAKERS**

**Ms. Yovina-Claire A. Pauig**  
Agricultural Training Institute  
Information Services Division  
ATI – Dept of Agriculture

**Mr. Richel E. Zamora**  
Regional Training Center XI  
ATI – Dept of Agriculture

**Cav Salvador B. Calanoy IV 'B4**  
Agarwood Enthusiast and Planter

**LIVE**

July 31, 2024  
(Wednesday)  
1:00 to 4:30 PM

**JOIN US**

Zoom Link Details are:  
Meeting ID: 542 864 3712  
Passcode: Webinar#13

PMARAI's role in supporting retirees' agricultural initiatives. Many attendees called for more agriculture-focused webinars.

To acknowledge the contributions of the resource speakers, PMARAI presented Certificates of Appreciation and mementos. A facsimile was displayed during the webinar, with actual certificates to follow.

Cav Ramon T. Punzalan '76, Chairman of PMARAI, concluded the session, emphasizing the event's success and participant enthusiasm.

#### Future Directions:

In light of the positive response, the organizing committee recommends:

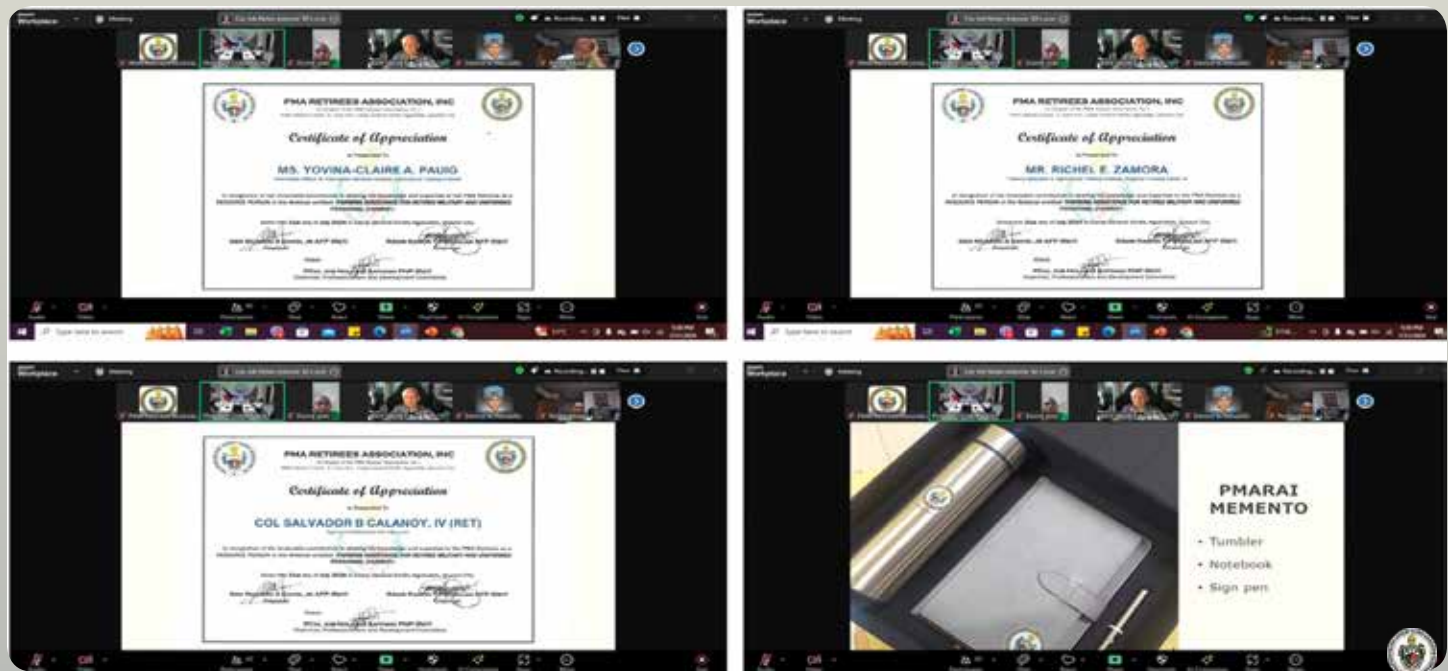
1. **Continuing Webinars:** PMARAI should collaborate with ATI for more agriculture-related webinars to build on this success.
2. **Encouraging Training Participation:** Retired personnel should be motivated to utilize ATI's training programs, particularly in distance learning.
3. **Extending Outreach:** Benefits should also be extended to the Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP) to further support retirees.

The FARMUP webinar series continues to empower retired military and uniformed personnel, facilitating their successful transition into agribusiness.

#### Photo Gallery: Webinar #13 on Farming Assistance for Retired Military and Uniformed Personnel (FARMUP)



Participants via zoom during Webinar #3 on "Farming Assistance for Retired Military and Uniformed Personnel (FARMUP)"



PMARAI presented Certificates of Appreciation and mementos to the resource speakers.

## PMAAAI PA Chapter News



## PMA Alumni Association - Army Cavaliers Chapter, Inc. Holds Oath Taking Ceremony

**F**ort Andres Bonifacio - The Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Alumni Association - Army Cavaliers Chapter, Inc. held a solemn oath taking ceremony for its new set of officers for CY 2024-2025 on July 2, 2024 at Silid Andres, Headquarters Philippine Army. It was administered by Lieutenant General Roy M. Galido, Commanding General Philippine Army.

All the Newly appointed officers took their oaths of office, pledging to uphold the principles of the Philippine Military Academy and to serve with honor and unwavering dedication.

The new PMAAAI officers are Cav Von Albert M Sumergido '95, President; Cav Diosdado Carlos D Pambid '96, Vice President; Cav Aldrin F Orejudos '96, Public Relations Officer; Cav Honorato S Pascual '97, Auditor; Cav Febryan G Jimenez '16, Asst Auditor; Cav Ronaldo C Mateo '98, Athletic Officer; Cav Jonaire T Benis '12, Secretary; Cav Well Jean D Esmeria '16, Asst Secretary; Cav Mayleen S Salvador '09, Treasurer; Cav Clayford F Gabino '14, Asst Treasurer.

In his remarks, Lieutenant General Galido underscored the importance of impactful programs and mentorship. He also emphasized the chapter's role in fostering a community of excellence. *"With the new set of officers of PMAAAI, I believe that you will take the lead in making meaningful change. As leaders,*





*you must chart a course that not only strengthens our bonds but also enhances our impact in the organization,”* remarked Lt. Gen. Galido. He also urged them to utilize their impact in the organization especially the critical role of mentorship in fostering the next generation of military leaders.

The ceremony served not only as a formal induction but also as a reaffirmation of the chapter’s mission to promote fellowship

and uphold the honor of the Philippine Military Academy. As the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association-Army Cavaliers Chapter Incorporated looks ahead to the future under its new leadership, they vowed to perform their task that is expected of them especially in serving the welfare of the PMAAAI, its members and the organization that they serves.



# PCAI Chapter News



It has been a tradition for the POLICE CAVALIERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (PCAI) to honor the highest-ranking officer in our organization, the Chief of the Philippine National Police. With

great honor and pride, the Testimonial Dinner was held last May 29, 2024, attended by the 22 remaining strong Cavaliers of the PNP and some PNP retired members of Class 91.



**Testimonial Dinner in Honor of the Chief PNP**



**Testimonial Toast**

## Honoree's Message



During the dinner, the newly appointed PCAI Board of Officers and Different Committee Chairmen were sworn in, administered by the Chief PNP, Cavalier Rommel Francisco D Marbil '91.

|                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| CAV ROBERT T RODRIGUEZ '91    | - Chairman                   |
| CAV NEIL B ALINSANGAN '91     | - Vice Chairman              |
| CAV MARIO A REYES '92         | - President                  |
| CAV MAFELINO A BAZAR '92      | - Vice President             |
| CAV JESSELITO L CASTRO '98    | - Corporate Secretary        |
| CAV SIDNEY N VILLAFLORES '92  | - Treasurer                  |
| CAV WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE '92 | - Corporate Auditor          |
| CAV MARIO A REYES '92         | - Executive Committee        |
| CAV BERNARD M BANAC '92       | - Public Relations Committee |

CAV WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE '92  
CAV SIDNEY S HERNIA '92  
CAV JESSELITO L CASTRO '98

CAV JON A ARNALDO '91

CAV ALEX G RECINTO '98

CAV SIDNEY N VILLAFLORES '92  
CAV MATTHEW P BACCAY '92

CAV NEIL B ALINSANGAN '91

- Awards Committee
- Sports and Fellowship
- Convention and Homecoming
- Professionalism and Ethics
- Membership and Welfare
- Finance Committee
- Grievance/Truth and Justice
- Ways and Means Committee



The activity was another milestone worth celebrating for PCAI, as it once again strengthened the organization's solidarity and unity.

Last June 28, 2024, the PMAAAI Board of Directors headed by the Chairman Cav Raul S Gonzales '75 visited the PNP Headquarters

at Camp BGen Rafael T Crame to pay a courtesy call to the Chief PNP with Cav Westrimundo D Obinque '92, our representative to the PMAAAI Board, and Cav Mario A Reyes '92, PCAI/PNP Chapter President.



**PMAAAI Board of Directors Courtesy Call to Chief PNP**



# PMAAAI PCG Chapter News



## ANCHORS AWEIGH: PMAAAI PCG Chapter's Activities Ahead

**T**he PMAAAI PCG Chapter is setting sail on a year of thrilling adventures, fueled by camaraderie and selfless service. Spearheaded by the visionary initiative of CAV CORNELIO, this voyage promises a calendar brimming with dynamic activities and unforgettable moments. Here's a glimpse of what's in store:

### ***Strengthening Bonds (Quarterly Fellowship)***

One of our chapter's most treasured traditions is the Quarterly Fellowship—a vibrant gathering where members come together to rekindle connections, share stories, and forge even deeper bonds. This event promises lively conversations, delightful experiences, and an atmosphere brimming with warmth and camaraderie.

### ***Honoring Cavaliers (Search for Cavalier Awardees)***

Our chapter will be at the forefront of the quest to discover the next Cavalier awardees, remarkable individuals whose exceptional service to the Philippines and the PMA community deserves the highest honor. This prestigious recognition is more than an award; it is a celebration of dedication and excellence. Our chapter's active involvement will be crucial in shining a spotlight on these outstanding leaders, ensuring their contributions are recognized and celebrated.

### ***Fundraising for a Cause (Shootfest)***

Mark your calendar for 03 October 2024, as our chapter hosts the much-anticipated Shootfest at Armscor Marikina! This heart-pounding activity will not only give our participants the chance to showcase their shooting prowess but also serve a greater purpose. By joining Shootfest, you'll be directly supporting our chapter's diverse initiatives and impactful programs with every shot taken contributing to the betterment of our community. Don't miss the chance to have fun, test your skills, and make a meaningful cause.

### ***Celebrating Sportsmanship (SportsFest)***

Our chapter's calendar is brimming with excitement, with the upcoming sportsfest taking center stage. Set to take place in October 2024 at General Headquarters Camp Aguinaldo, during the PMAAAI Family Sportsfest, this event will be a celebration of friendly competition and camaraderie, bringing together cavaliers and their families for a day of fun and fitness. Whether you're into basketball, volleyball, badminton, or track and field, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Don't forget, our highly anticipated badminton event is tentatively scheduled for November of this year, adding yet another thrilling chapter to our year of sports and community.

### ***Honoring Service (Testimonial Dinners for Retirees)***

This year, our chapter will honor retiring members with testimonial dinners, celebrating the invaluable contributions of





those who have devoted their time and energy to service. We are particularly excited to host these heartfelt gatherings for CAV SOMERA and CAV PUNZALAN, paying tribute to their exceptional service and dedication. These evenings will be a blend of gratitude, reflection, and celebration, as we come together to acknowledge their profound impact and extend our deepest appreciation.

#### ***Celebrating the Season (Christmas Party)***

As the year draws to a close, the chapter will sparkle with holiday cheer at our Christmas Party, set for the first week of December. This festive extravaganza promises an evening filled with lively music and vibrant entertainment. Jingle and mingle with us as we embrace the season's joy and warmth, making memories that will light up our hearts well into the year ahead.

#### ***A Grand Reunion (PMA Alumni Homecoming 2025)***

The PMA Alumni Homecoming 2025 is set to be a highly anticipated event that will bring together alumni from all over the world. Our chapter will be actively involved in repairing to play a key role in orchestrating this momentous event, ensuring every detail contributes to a memorable experience. Highlighting the festivities, the PCG Fellowship Dinner will be hosted at Newton Plaza Hotel Baguio City. This evening promises to be a spectacular blend of nostalgia, camaraderie, and celebration, marking a truly unforgettable gathering for all.

As the PMAAAI PCG Chapter embarks on a year brimming with thrilling activities and enriching experiences, we invite all members to dive in and play an active role in our journey. Together, we'll weave a tapestry of success, embracing and celebrating the core values and cherished traditions of the Philippine Military Academy. Let's unite in our mission to serve our community and make this year one of remarkable achievement and lasting impact.



# PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)

It was an auspicious moment when the current Trustees of the PETFI Board met with our scholars, a moment of awakening at how fulfilling it is to nurture sons and daughters of our comrades who have moved on and entrusted to us the care of their children.

Because of the pandemic, the Board, for several years, was not able to meet our scholars. Thus, when Cav Joey Lalisan '71 became the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, he immediately proposed to PETFI Chairman Tanggol Gatdula '76 the regular meeting with our scholars, approved as fast as it was proposed.

Thus, last 16 July 2024, at the Veteran's Center in Camp Aguinaldo, the 35 current scholars (10 - Elementary, 12 - High School, and, 13 - College) were gathered for an afternoon of fun and fulfillment, and a relationship that goes beyond mere tuition fees and stipends was born.

It was a reunion like no other. Friendships made among PETFI Trustees and surviving spouses, instant foster parent programs, tales of tragedies and survival, how they were able to cope, and heartwarming gestures of love and caring that came when most unexpected.



# HIGH SCHOOL (12)

|                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p><b>BALIGNASAY, XIANNE C.</b><br/>Grade 9, Assumption Antipolo<br/>Lot 53 Cluster C Bagong Nasyon, Antipolo City<br/>0917-360-7843</p> <p>15 years old, born on November 18, 2009, daughter of Cav Elwood Balignasay'05 PA, who was killed in action in Poblacion Cotabato City on May 8, 2013. Her mother, Mrs. Shaleemar Balignasay, is currently working abroad.</p>                                    |
|    | <p><b>BAYAO, GABRIEL CYRIL J.</b><br/>Grade 8, Urdaneta City National High School<br/>171 Diamond St. Urdaneta City, Pangasinan<br/>0922-882-3847</p> <p>13 years old, born on April 7, 2011, son of Cav Marc John M Bayao Jr'07 PAF, who died due to aircraft crash on January 31, 2015 in Nasugbu Batangas. Her mother, Mrs. Abigail Bayao, is a full-time DepEd teacher.</p>                              |
|    | <p><b>BERNARDO, LUCIUS FEODORE P</b><br/>Grade 7, Ateneo de Naga University,<br/>Naga City, Camarines Sur<br/>0998-950-1443</p> <p>12 years old, born on December 26, 2012, is the son of Cav Fiorello D Bernardo'10 PAF, who died of a serious burn injury sustained in a helicopter crash on July 23, 2020, in Cauayan City, Isabela. Currently, his mother, Mrs. Lumbien Bernardo is unemployed.</p>      |
|   | <p><b>DAGUIO, MARLJON R</b><br/>Grade 7, Saint Jerome's Academy<br/>Purok 1, North Murog, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya<br/>0917-543-7974</p> <p>12 years old, born on December 30, 2011, older brother of Marc John Dagui, son of Cav Marlou C Dagui'05 PA, who died due to severe acute pancreatitis on January 01, 2023. His mother, Mrs. Joanne Dagui, works as a contractual nurse at a regional hospital.</p> |
|  | <p><b>DAGUIO, MAHRIELLE BRYNNE D</b><br/>Grade 10, Mintal Comprehensive High School<br/>Purok 11-A Villa Celeste, Tipanoy, Iligan City<br/>0965-548-2532</p> <p>15 years old, born on January 23, 2009, daughter of Cav Rodel B Dagui'07 PA, who died due to Cardiomyopathy on June 15, 2012.</p>                                                                                                            |
|  | <p><b>GABUNA, MATTHEW PIO B</b><br/>Grade 9, St. Mary's College<br/>487 Las Villas Del Cielo, Morning Star Dr. Sanville Q.C<br/>0917-523-5202</p> <p>14 years old, born on April 6, 2010, son of Cav Orville Gabuna'67 PNP, who had a massive stroke on April 11, 2018. His mother, Mrs. Linda Gabuna is currently unemployed.</p>                                                                           |
|  | <p><b>GABUNA, MIGUEL PIO B</b><br/>Grade 9, St. Mary's College<br/>487 Las Villas Del Cielo, Morning Star Dr. Sanville Q.C<br/>0917-523-5202</p> <p>14 years old, born on April 6, 2010, son of Cav Orville Gabuna'67 PNP, who had a massive stroke on April 11, 2018. His mother, Mrs. Linda Gabuna is currently unemployed.</p>                                                                            |

There was boodles galore, may pang Sharon pa, and lots of school supplies. Amidst all these, the stories of single parents on how they struggled to move on, and how PETFI helped them recover, left us all teary eyed.

In all these, PETFI played a crucial role in their lives, providing scholarships from elementary until they graduate from college. To date, a total of 552 scholars have benefited from the program.

PETFI is thankful for the increasing membership (member ka na ba?) and the support coming from fund campaigns and other contributions (may maitutulong ka ba?). While we do not pray for more scholars, your contributions will allow us to increase stipends and provide for better scholarship programs.

For after all, these scholars are not PETFI scholars. They are scholars of all PMayers.

PETFI just provided the mechanism so that we can all say.."bunkmate, we got you covered!"



|                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p><b>PANTALEON, ZACH NICOLO L</b><br/>Grade 12, Xavier School, Inc.,<br/>28 8th St. Zone 1 Signal Village, Taguig City<br/>0933-824-1052</p> <p>16 years old, born on September 05, 2007, son of Cav Christopher Pantaleon'04 PA, who was killed in action on December 29, 2009 in Zamboanga City. His mother Mrs. Marife Pantaleon is working in a Pharmaceutical company.</p>                          |
|   | <p><b>PASCO, RAJAN JIROU M</b><br/>Grade 9, Don Bosco Technical Institute<br/>AFP MOQ Camp Aquino Tarlac City<br/>0933-824-1052</p> <p>14 years old, born on August 30, 2010, son of Cav Rexzon Pasco'04 PAF, who died due to aircraft crash on June 23, 2021, in Capas Tarlac. His mother, Mrs. Juroan Pasco is currently managing their business.</p>                                                   |
|  | <p><b>QUIANO, DIAN CHARLYZ A</b><br/>Grade 12, Ateneo de Zamboanga University<br/>1st St. Tala Rd, Boalan, Zamboanga City<br/>0917-552-1992</p> <p>18 years old, born on August 25, 2006, daughter of Cav Dennis Ellis A Quiano'92 PA, who died due to vehicular accident on April 21, 2013. Her mother, Mrs. Charmaine Quiano is currently unemployed.</p>                                               |
|  | <p><b>QUIANO, ROX NEO A</b><br/>Grade 10, Ateneo de Zamboanga University<br/>1st St. Tala Rd, Boalan, Zamboanga City<br/>0917-552-1992</p> <p>16 years old, born on December 19, 2008, son of Cav Dennis Ellis A Quiano'92 PA, who died due to vehicular accident on April 21, 2013. His mother, Mrs. Charmaine Quiano is currently unemployed.</p>                                                       |
|  | <p><b>TAGANAS, ICELYN FERDINAND DC</b><br/>Grade 11, Elims School for Values and Excellence<br/>734 Ramos Ext. Sibut San Jose City, Nueva Ecija<br/>0915-185-4044</p> <p>16 years old, born on June 29, 2008, the daughter of Cav Ferdinand D Taganas '06 PNP, who died of renal illness on August 20, 2009. Mrs. Taganas, her mother, works as a police officer with the Philippine National Police.</p> |

## UPDATES ON PMAFI



**O**n 5 July 2024, the PMAFI Induction of Officers and Trustees was held with Atty Nilo T Divina as the Inducting Officer. Atty Divina, an adopted member of PMA Class 1988, is a professor, best-selling author, and educational administrator. He is the founding and managing partner of Divina Law, a law firm. He is a former President of the Philippine Association of Law Schools. He is also the Dean of the UST College of Law.

The Board of Trustees appreciated Atty Divina's pledge for the additional donation of P500,000 for the establishment of his Endowment Fund – Gold Category, augmenting his initial donation of P250,000 for a Professorial Chair in 2021; for hosting a sumptuous lunch at the Café Aurora, Pacific Star Building, Makati City; and for sharing his book (Questions and Answer on the Revised Corporation Code, 2024 Edition), which he personally autographed, for the PMAFI Trustees.





On 3 July 2024, the PMAFI Board of Trustees paid a courtesy call to the Chief, PNP GENERAL ROMMEL FRANCISCO D MARBIL PNP, at the NHQ Building, Camp Crame. General Marbil pledged to donate to the Foundation for the

establishment of his Professorial Chair. During the courtesy call, lively discussions on various perspectives related to the PNP, PMA, and the Foundation were made.



On 16 August 2024, the PMAFI Board of Trustees also paid a courtesy call to the Administrator, PVAO, USEC REYNALDO B MAPAGU at the PVAO Conference Room, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The PMAFI is a non-stock, non-profit organization whose officers and members are veterans of the AFP. It helps the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) and serves

the future officers and veterans of the AFP. The Philippine Veterans Affairs Office supported the PMAFI by establishing its Professorial Chair and Endowment fund. During the courtesy visit, energetic insights, inquiries, and suggestions re: the Filipino war veterans, PMA, and the Foundation were discussed.



# FEMALE CAVALIER SEGMENT

**CAV/APRIL Z BAYABAO '09**

## Making the Leap: Transitioning from CIVILIAN to MILITARY Life

Cavalier April Bayabao is a member of Echo Company (but Foxtrot as a plebe) who is affectionately known as “Ape” by her family, relatives, and friends. Interestingly, her Mistahs later dubbed her “Ayabs” or “Oyababs,” a playful rearrangement of the letters in her surname. Although she was born and raised in Cotabato City, Cavalier Bayabao spent two years of college in Iligan City, where she took Metallurgical Engineering at the Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology. While juggling with her studies, she also had significant work experience at a famous local fast-food joint. She takes pride in the resilience she cultivated from a young age, having learned to navigate life by selling small snacks to her classmates in elementary school. That hustle didn’t stop there; she kept it going in college by selling sandwiches and showing that she could deal with whatever came her way. In 2005 when she was 17 years old, she entered the Academy. She celebrated her debut as a plebe during a squad run. Looking back, she can’t help but think about how early she had to give up those carefree teenage years. Despite the challenges she faced, she acknowledges that her prior experiences in life made her transition from civilian to military life not easy but more bearable.

### Charting a Unique Path: From Sailor to VIP Protector to Lawyer

Cavalier Bayabao kicked off her career at the Philippine Navy Finance Center, where she held the dual roles of Staff Secretary to the Commander and Admin Officer for the Office of the Inspector General. Her military leadership was first honed during her three years of Junior Billet assignment on the Presidential Yacht, BRP ANG PANGULO, under the Sealift Amphibious Force of the Philippine Fleet. While on board, she received training as a VIP Protection Officer, which led her to join the Presidential Security Group (PSG). At PSG, she had worked in various offices, including the Office of the Commander and the Logistics Office. Having passed the Philippine Bar Examination, Cavalier Bayabao has been assigned to the President, taking on tasks that align with her skills as a lawyer.

In addition to completing her career courses, including the Naval Officer Basic Course (NOBC) and the Naval Command and Staff Course, as well as specialization courses like the AFP Financial Management Course and the PN Basic Logistics Course with impressive rankings, Cavalier Bayabao considers her role as a VIP Protector in the Presidential Security Group (PSG) to be one of the highlights of her military career. Notably, she served as the security officer for Her Majesty Empress Michiko of Japan during her visit to the Philippines in 2016. She has also acquired valuable logistics experience by serving as PSG’s Task Force and Sub-Task Force Logistics Coordinator during national events, such as visits from foreign heads of state and ASEAN Summits. While staying long in one unit or





position is not encouraged, Cavalier Bayabao believes her experience working with three different Presidents in various capacities at PSG has provided her with a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that has significantly shaped her current pursuits.

With the support of her former Cavalier bosses, she felt motivated to pursue her law studies confidently. *"They were all supportive and even pushed me to finish my studies without backing down,"* she shared. Before enrolling in law school, she sought advice from several senior Cavaliers, including one who was a lawyer. *"The law is a jealous mistress and requires long and constant courtship. It's not won by trivial favors but by genuine dedication,"* she noted. Pursuing a law degree demands a lot of commitment and time, and juggling work with studies is no easy feat. She remembered how her major exams often coincided with significant work events she had to attend. Even during her graduation, which was held online during the pandemic, she had to attend a promotion board at the same time. But she emphasized that all those sacrifices were worth it. *"I like to keep it simple. When I'm at work or in the office, I don't study. I can count on one hand the few times I've managed to squeeze in some studying. It's my way of showing gratitude to my unit for giving me the privilege to pursue my studies in law."*

She also shared one of the best advices she received from a senior Cavalier: *"Don't be afraid to pursue this path. Remember, your organization should be supportive and excited about your growth. Personal development is linked to the growth of the organization. Your contributions to the organization will improve as you improve."*

#### **Empowered Woman: Celebrating Achievements and Pursuing New Horizons**

Cavalier Bayabao fondly recalled that in 2016 she won an online contest titled "Tell Us Why You Are Confidently Beautiful

with a Heart." Her winning answer was, *"As a military officer and a woman, I am confidently beautiful with a heart, proudly serving the nation in a male-dominated armed forces."* Reflecting on the same question today, she would give the same response, emphasizing her pride in being a woman in the armed forces and acknowledging that, in her role, she serves the country just as men do.

She also reminisced about a heartfelt note she received from a President, thanking her for her work as an admin officer to the Commander. The message highlighted that his success in fulfilling his duties would not have been possible without her assistance. This experience inspired her, and she wishes to share that there is no task too big or too small within the organization. Everyone plays a valuable role in the mission's success—whether you are male or female, performing mission-critical tasks or support roles. Each person is a vital piece of the puzzle. Without any single piece, the entire picture cannot be complete.

Her interests have grown significantly, likely due to her current experiences in her role. Recently, she attended the Winter Courses at the Hague Academy of International Law in The Hague, Netherlands. The program was tailored for professionals and students who have a strong background in international law and provided an in-depth experience to keep abreast of the latest and most significant advancements in the field of public and private international law. There, she participated alongside over 250 attendees from countries around the globe. In addition to this, she is currently halfway through her Master's in Business Administration, specializing in Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the University of Cumbria. This educational pursuit represents yet another exciting chapter for her, driven by her newfound fascination with AI and its applications across various fields, including the Armed Forces.

#### **The Role of Discipline and Purpose**

*"The reality is, we won't always feel motivated, which is why learning to be disciplined is so important for everyone striving to achieve their goals. I'm grateful that the Academy instilled this lesson in me, and I'm sure that discipline has been a major factor in my ability to juggle between work and law studies. Balancing both is incredibly challenging, especially when faced with diverse situations and dealing with various personalities, including some difficult ones. However, instead of letting those tough situations and people bring me down, I've chosen to see them as inspiration."* Cavalier Bayabao shared that when she feels demotivated, she finds it helpful to revisit her 'why'—the reasons that drive her passion for her profession and life. Understanding those deeper motivations, she said, can reignite that spark and empower to improve work and excel in all endeavors.



# YOUNG CAVALIER HEROES

## CAV/ FLORANTE M MON JR '21

“...I don’t want to be in my deathbed asking what if,” Kevin said while contemplating about his future as he continues to tread the path as a Navy SEAL, The Philippine Navy’s “Special Operations Force.”

Ens. “Kevin” Mon, Team Leader, Naval Special Operations Unit 4 (NAVSOU4), Naval Forces West, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, initially intended to pursue a career in BS Civil Engineering, but decided to pursue his childhood dream and joined the Philippine Military Academy. “Regret” was a word he never wanted to feel, and a word that became his motivation to strive and hurdle the challenges he faced as he continues to dedicate himself to serve the country selflessly.

Through his strong mindset, attitude and determination, Ens. Mon chose to join the Philippine Navy’s “Special Operations Force,” after successfully completing his education at the Philippine Military Academy “Masaligan” Class of 2021. Decorum, Discipline, and Patriotism are what Ens. Mon observed at the Philippine Navy SEALs, and are what made him

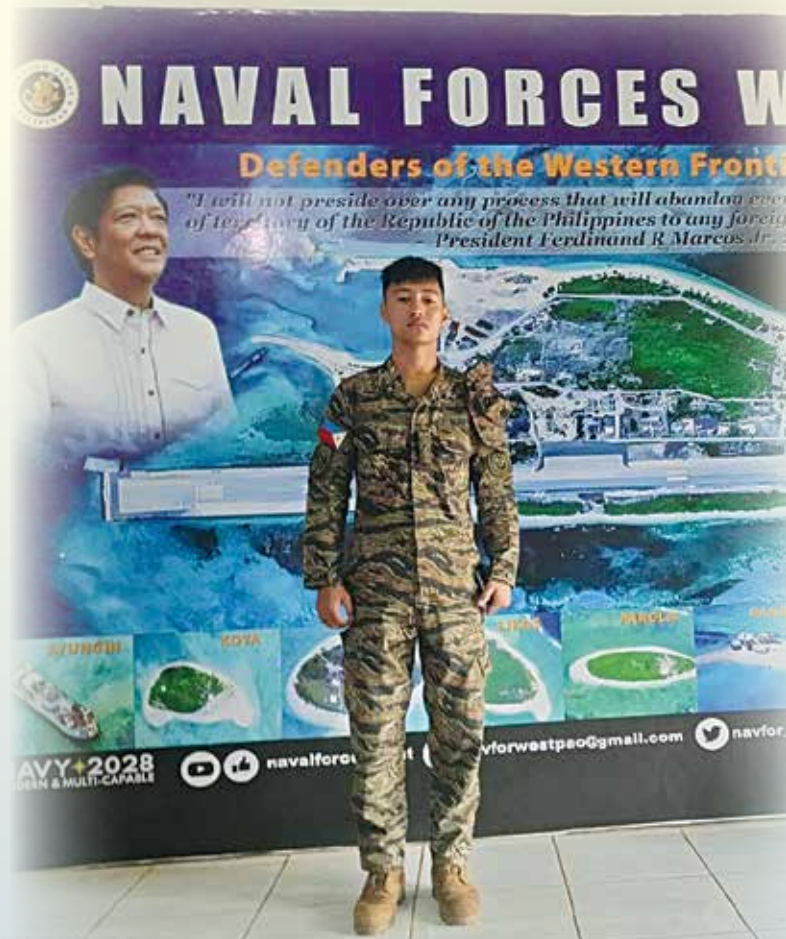
decide to take the challenge and become part of the “Frogmen”. Although the journey was tough, he successfully completed the Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Course and SEAL Qualification Training, all to make his Alma Mater proud, and selflessly serve the country.

Kevin is a recipient of various awards from missions he successfully conducted, such as Chief of Staff Commendation Medal and the Order of Lapu-Lapu. Both awards were given for the conduct of Rotation and Reprovision Mission at LS57, West Philippine Sea, as part of the External Defense Operations efforts of the Philippines. He successfully led his team, composed of ten (10) personnel, to replenish the provisions of the soldiers at LS57, and despite the harassments they faced, he was able to successfully command his team to remain true to their mission and resort only to peaceful means.

Unwavering Patriotism, Loyalty, and Honor led him to complete every mission he was given despite his tender rank, “... *make each day count...*” he further says.

This young leader sacrifices his own personal safety, comfort, time for himself, time and for his family. A leader who pushes himself to overcome his limits “... *gusto kong maconquer sarili ko... at maging better*”, and encourages others to “be an aspiration to our country”. “To Live with no regrets.” This is one of his recipes to continue treading the path of being a Navy SEAL.

He expresses his outmost gratitude to the people who inspired him and those who believed in him, and encourages all cavaliers to “...continue to be an inspiration to our country, and countrymen, most specially to the young who will carry on... make our Alma Mater proud,” he said as he ended the interview.



# VISITOR'S ACCOUNTS

## Cavalier Ronnie Gil L Gavan '93: **A Beacon of Leadership in the Philippine Coast Guard**

• ENS ALEN MAE G BUDIONGAN

**T**he Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) stands as a testament to maritime safety, security, and environmental stewardship in the Philippines. At the helm of this esteemed institution is the 30<sup>th</sup> Commandant, CG ADMIRAL RONNIE GIL LATORILLA GAVAN, the 30th Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard, stands as a testament to exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to maritime security. His journey is marked by remarkable achievements that have significantly elevated the capabilities and reputation of the PCG.

Hailing from the coastal town of Maitum, Sarangani Province, Admiral Gavan's deep-rooted connection to the sea is evident in his passion for maritime affairs. A graduate of the Philippine Military Academy "Maalab" Class of 1993, his academic pursuits extended to a Master of Maritime Studies by Research focusing on Philippine Maritime Border Security and the Law of the Sea. Further enhancing his leadership acumen, he pursued studies at the National Defense College of the Philippines and Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

### **A Proven Leader with a Strong Record**

Admiral Gavan's ascent to the helm of the Philippine Coast Guard was a testament to his distinguished career, marked by exceptional leadership and a proven track record of service. His extensive experience, cultivated through commanding various Coast Guard Districts, major units, and flagship vessels, as well as his command of BFAR ships, uniquely prepared him for the challenges of the role. Admiral Gavan's capabilities were put to the ultimate test during the COVID-19 pandemic, where he demonstrated extraordinary leadership. As the architect of the PCG's pandemic response, he spearheaded the first Coast Guard unit to aid returning Overseas Filipino Workers, and his strategic acumen was evident in the implementation of the "Hatid Tulong Initiative" for Locally Stranded Individuals.

### **Champion of Women in Maritime Service**

Admiral Gavan's creation of the "Angels of the Sea" was a visionary step in both gender equality and national security.

By establishing an all-female radio operator team, Admiral Gavan challenged traditional gender roles within the maritime sector and opened doors for women to take on leadership



positions in a male-dominated field. This initiative not only empowered these women but also served as an inspiration for other aspiring female professionals.

Moreover, deploying this team to the West Philippine Sea was a strategic move. Their presence strengthened the PCG's operational capabilities in a critical region, enhancing communication, surveillance, and overall maritime domain awareness. This, in turn, contributed to the country's ability to protect its territorial waters and exclusive economic zone.



### Focus on Capacity Building and Humanitarian Response

As Commander of Task Force Pagsasanay, Admiral Gavan enhanced the PCG's public-private partnerships for humanitarian and disaster response operations. He also prioritized capacity building and preparedness, ensuring the PCG's readiness to address maritime challenges.

Admiral Gavan's exceptional leadership, coupled with his deep understanding of maritime issues, has earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues, subordinates, and the nation as a whole. As a member of the PMAAAI, he continues to contribute to the advancement of the military profession and inspire future generations of leaders.

### Legacy: Inspiration and Impact

The Commandant's journey from a young cadet at the PMA to the leader of the PCG is a powerful testament to the impact of the PMAAAI in shaping military leaders of exceptional caliber. His legacy is not just in the advancements made under his command but also in the inspiration he provides to future generations PCG officers.

The achievements of the PCG Commandant underscores the importance of dedicated leadership in public service. As he continues to lead with excellence, his story serves as a guiding light of inspiration for all who aspire to serve their country with honor, duty, and unwavering commitment.



# Vignettes of Elder CAVALIERS

## The Call for a Philippine Canal

• CAV RODRIGO A SILVERIO '62

**T**he Quezon Canal. The Quezon Canal was conceptualized by the late Alejandro Melchor Sr., during the Commonwealth years (1935-1942). To date, the Quezon Canal has remained a concept.

The four-year presidencies of Roxas, Quirino, Magsaysay, Garcia, Macapagal, the Marcos dictatorship of 21 years, and Corazon Aquino's six years, did not consider the canal a major economic infrastructure.

President Ferdinand E. Marcos was given a proposal for the Quezon Canal by a Delaware-registered Architectural and Engineering Consultancy company, headed by the late Antonio S. Dimalanta. Marcos was, however, more concerned with the continuity of Martial Law (1972 to 1986). Corazon Aquino was beset by the staging of several coup attempts launched by military rebels during her term. She was more concerned with ridding the government of all vestiges of Marcos' martial rule. After his state visit to Panama, Ramos was provided a copy of the Dimalanta Proposal for the Quezon Canal, he prioritized the Agrarian Reform Program and the dismantling of the telecommunications and energy generation monopolies.

On May 9, 1995, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), engaged the services of the associated firms of the Engineering and Development Corporation of the Philippines (EDCOP), Quezon Management Consultants, Inc., and the APT & Partners, when it issued a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to conduct a pre-feasibility study within a completion period of eight (8) months for the Quezon Canal. The Canal ended in the pre-feasibility study stage.

**Senate Bill No. 216.** On 30 June 2007, the late Sen. Edgardo Angara filed Senate Bill No. 216, during the 14th Congress of The Philippines. It was an Act to create an Authority that would negotiate with interested private investors and be responsible for the construction, operation, management, and administration of the Quezon Canal and the Canal Zone in the Province of Quezon. On the First Reading, it was referred to the Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Public Services; Ways and Means; and Finance. On 03 September 2008, Committee hearings were conducted. After that, nothing was heard about the result/status of the committee hearings.

**Panguil-Pagadian Waterway.** On 20 January 2018, the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), a government agency, issued a Notice Of

Award to Science And Vision For Technology Inc., and Sy Consult, Incorporated, a joint venture, for consultancy services to conduct a feasibility study for the proposed 15-Kilometer Panguil-Pagadian Waterway. The channel will connect Panguil Bay in the north and Pagadian Bay in the south, both in Mindanao. The project is enlisted under a Private-Public Partnership (PPP). The PPA has recently announced that this will be the Philippines' largest waterway project.

**Build, Build, Build Program.** Former President Rodrigo Duterte's Build, Build, Build Program, envisioned the accomplishment of 119 infrastructure flagship projects (IFP) at a total cost of P5.08 trillion. The program included the construction, widening, and maintenance of roads, construction, retrofitting, rehabilitation, and replacement of bridges, and the building of local bridges. The Quezon Canal was not among the IFPs of President Duterte's Build, Build, Build Program.

**Build, Better, More Program.** The Build, Better, More Program of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., will continue Duterte's Build, Build, Build Program. The administration aims to spend at least 5% of gross domestic product (GDP) on infrastructure development. As of late, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has approved 23 new infrastructure flagship projects (IFPs) bringing the total of IFPs to 185 with a value of P9.14 trillion but does not include the Quezon Canal.

**From Quezon Canal to Philippine Canal.** Considering the anticipated political and economic contribution of the Quezon Canal to the country, a group who have long advocated for the construction of this noteworthy infrastructure, thought of calling the Quezon Canal, the Philippine Canal. They registered the Philippine Canal Project/Idea as required by law with the National Library for a copyright with the Intellectual Property Rights Office

**The Philippine Canal.** The Philippine Canal will be a navigable waterway in one of the narrowest points of Quezon Province, with a length of about 17.5 kilometers, 2 ½ kilometers longer than the Panguil-Pagadian Waterway. It will link Lamon Bay on the eastern side and Tayabas Bay on the western side. The Lamon Bay mouth of the canal will be in the Municipality of Atimonan, while the Tayabas Bay end will be in the Municipality of Unisan.

**The Proposed Philippine Economic Zone.** The establishment of an economic zone alongside the Canal will spur the economic development of the Philippine Eastern Seaboard Provinces of

Aurora, Quezon, Alabat Island, the two Camarines Provinces (Norte and Sur), Catanduanes, Albay, Sorsogon, and the island provinces of Masbate and Romblon. The total number of people who will directly benefit from this development is at least 5.0 million, without even mentioning the amount of indirect taxes that the local as well as national government will get from this project.

In addition to its economic and financial contributions to national development, this Project will also positively affect the socio-political, environmental, and national food security stability and progress on an immediate, medium-term, and long-term basis. An economically and financially secure country will be free of the poverty, and peace and order threats that hound the Philippines today.

With the anticipated shifting of global trade to the ASEAN countries and the Pacific Basin estimated to be over US\$5 trillion in ship-borne trade that passes through the sea annually, the proposed Philippine Canal Zone will render the Philippines a center for major transshipment activities which will contribute immensely to the growth of our international trade and commerce. Due to the strategic geographical location of the Philippines and the proposed canal zone, travel or shipping time between the Pacific and the Southeast Asian ports will dramatically be reduced. This would bring about better profitability among the various sectors of the economy benefiting from this Canal Zone Project. The transshipment and warehousing activities will give the Philippines a competitive advantage over Hong Kong, Singapore, and Kaohsiung.

The Canal Zone Project will serve as a magnet to the burgeoning urbanized centers of the country that will stimulate and promote the development of the depressed areas of Eastern Luzon to counteract the activities of the dissidents in the region due to the socio-economic inequities in the development of the region. The Project will promote agriculture and agri-businesses, including aquaculture and marine sea farms around the Economic Zone.

The provinces and regions close to the Philippine Canal Economic Zone are coconut producers. The coconut industry is expected to have locators in the Zone that will demand manufacturing facilities, and will augment and boost the livelihood and cottage industries in the surrounding areas. There will be unprecedented employment during the construction phase of the Project. Locators in the Philippine Canal Zone and all other activities after the Project is completed will contribute to more job opportunities in the area.

The Philippine Canal will reduce the congestion in the Port of Manila and consequently contribute to easing the worsening traffic problem in Metro Manila which has been described as “the worst traffic on earth”. The Project will enhance the viability of other economic Zones such as Cebu, Batangas, Mindoro, Pagbilao, Subic, and Clark by providing easy and direct access to and from the Pacific Bases and the Americas, as well as Japan. The Project will provide a valuable alternate route for international shipping to and from Manila, and other principal ports of the Philippines.

The Philippine Canal has geopolitical, economic, territorial defense, and national security importance for the country. It will influence the ongoing ASEAN economic integration and spin-off effects in the Asia-Pacific region. The world in this 21st century has pivoted towards more economic activities, specifically towards innovation, technological and information-gathering advances, more attention towards climate changes and natural disaster mitigations, renewable energy, and elimination of extreme poverty. The Philippine

Canal and the Project’s geopolitical, economic, defense, and security aspects cannot be ignored.

**A Game Changer.** The Philippine Canal will be the direct alternative to the Chinese militarized South China Sea sentry. A mere surface study of the Asia-Pacific geography will instantly show this. It will have a neutralizing effect on China’s military buildup and a game changer in reducing geopolitical tension in the area.

The military and security significance of this Project lies in the accessibility of the eastern coast of Luzon to security units of the Armed

Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine Coast Guard. The Canal will increase our capability to patrol and safeguard our territorial integrity, especially in the eastern seaboard like the Benham Rise which is within our EEZ and is believed to be rich in oil and gas reserves, and other marine resources. The Philippine Navy and Coast Guard will be able to provide immediate relief goods and services to communities during natural calamities and other emergencies.

**The Role We Can Play.** We can play a major role in pushing for an economic turnaround nationwide to boost national development, with the accompanying dispersal of wealth and wealth creation efforts in the countryside. Our members, active and retired, including adopted members who are financially and politically well-placed in our society, can collaborate to get the Government to include the Philippine Canal Economic Zone as one of its major Infrastructure Flagship Projects.




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**The Canal will increase our capability to patrol and safeguard our territorial integrity, especially in the eastern seaboard like the Benham Rise which is within our EEZ and is believed to be rich in oil and gas reserves, and other marine resources.**

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## Cavalier Quest: Navigating the Spiritual Realm

# Life Guards: Saving Lives

The Life Guards is one of the two oldest regiment of the British Army under the Household Cavalry.

This unit protects the King and his household. To date, it upholds the safety, practices and time-honoured traditions of the British Royalty. This section is created to highlight the need of protecting, and the safeguarding of the soul of every uniformed man and woman serving the country.

• CAV EUSTACIO NIMROD P ENRIQUEZ '93



Prayer Breakfast at the Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management, AFP at GHQ-Camp Aguinaldo, led by CAV JOEL PALOMA '91.



Prayer Breakfast at OG1, 4ID, PA in Camp Evangelista, Patag, CDO with CAV JOHN TUPAS '98 and Evangelical Chaplain, Maj Saballo.

### A man in authority meeting the One in authority

A centurion is an officer in the Roman army, commanding a *centuria*, a military unit of around a hundred men, and has increased over time. The office of a centurion is a major command in the Roman military structure, maintaining order on the battlefield and ensuring military successes over centuries. They are chosen by merit and are considered the finest men in the Roman army.

The mention of an unnamed centurion in the Bible demonstrates the span of Jesus' influence and ministry in all areas of life: personal, family and government life. After His usual daily schedule of ministering to crowds on that certain day, Jesus entered Capernaum.

*"<sup>5</sup>When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. <sup>6</sup>'Lord,' he said, 'my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.' <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Shall I come and heal him?' <sup>8</sup>The centurion replied, 'Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." <sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard this, He was amazed and said to those*

*following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith." (Matthew 8:5-10)*

One of the finest men in the land asking Jesus for help. A Roman centurion, a leader of many is coming to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus admired the centurion, *"I have not found anyone in Israel with such a great faith."*

**What did it take for a powerful military man to truly experience Jesus?**

#### 1. *The centurion embraced Jesus as His Lord*

*"Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly."* The centurion, concerned about the well-being of his sick servant has all the means and access to medical services, manpower and even monetary resources to alleviate his servant's condition. But he came to Jesus, addressed Him as "Lord" and asked for his help. The recognition of the centurion of Jesus, as his Lord, manifests his personal acceptance and recognition that Jesus, is the Lord of his life and of the life of others, including his sick servant.

#### 2. *The centurion emphasized the authority of Jesus over all life.*

*"But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I*

*tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."* Jesus, upon asking the centurion of his need to see the servant, *"Shall I come and heal him?"* was refused by the centurion, affirming his confidence on Jesus' capacity to heal, even from afar.

As a leader of a *centuria*, the centurion understood the dynamics that even if the leader, or the man in authority is physically absent, his word and standing order prevails and will be implemented.

A powerful man in the Roman army, recognizes that the person he is talking with, is the Authority over all life on earth and if He deems to grant life, by His word alone, it will come to pass. The centurion clearly understood that Jesus Christ is the Life and He is the Authority over all life.

### 3. *The centurion experienced the promises and blessings of trusting Jesus Christ*

*"Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that*

*moment."* The sweet promises and blessings of God always come with a premise. The centurion, having recognized Jesus Christ, as his Lord, experienced what it is to become a child of God. In the presence of God are pleasures evermore! His earnest and noble desire for his servant's healing was granted by Jesus, that day.

Oftentimes, in difficult and struggling times of life, God gets the blame. People question Him. God gets accused of man's sufferings and hold Him accountable for their pains. The centurion, in his grief, for his servant, **embraced Jesus as his Lord, emphasized the Authority of Jesus over all creation** and thus, truly **experienced the joy and reward of trusting Jesus** and staying close to Him, even in troubled times.

***Man in authority, have you yielded your life to the ONE who is over all authority?***

Your friend,  
ike '93

**CG RADM EUSTACIO NIMROD P ENRIQUEZ JR (Ret)**

Head Pastor

Coastguards' Christian Lighthouse Community



*Weekly Values Formation and Spiritual Enlightenment Seminar at 4DTS, 4ID, PA Malaybalay, Bukidnon.*



*CAV JOHN TUPAS '98 sharing the Love of Jesus to new RRT Batch at 4ID, Patag, Cagatan de Oro.*

# HUMOR IN UNIFORM

## Ocean Planet

After completing a patrol with the fleet, a young lieutenant approaches the squadron master chief to complain. "Chief, I joined the Navy to see the world," he said, "but in the past eight months all I've seen is water."

"Lieutenant," he replied, "What the Navy has been showing you is 3/4 of the world. If you want to see the other 1/4, join the Army."

## Accountability

Two soldiers sharing a foxhole...

Soldier 1: "You know when I lost my rifle the army charged me its full price"

Soldier 2: "I guess that's why in the navy the captain goes down with the ship"



## \*\*\* TRIVIA \*\*\*

### Did you know that...

- ❖ The original name of Philippine Military Academy was the "**Constabulary School**" pursuant to General Orders Number 71 on 17 August 1905, which changed the designation of the Manila Garrison to Constabulary School. It was located in Intramuros where the known Manila Garrison of Philippine Constabulary was stationed. Its first Commanding Officer was **Captain ARTHUR S GUTHRIE** who during that time retained his position as the Commanding Officer of the Manila Garrison, Philippine Constabulary.
- ❖ The status of Constabulary School was elevated, transformed into an Academy and renamed it "Academia para Oficiales del Cuerpo de Policia de Filipinas" or the "**Academy for Officers of the Philippine Constabulary**" pursuant to Act No. 2605 dated 14 February 1916, better known as the Jones Law. Its expanded mission was "To educate and train the students for service as officers in the Philippine Constabulary or in any other institution which may hereafter be created."
- ❖ From the year 1916, **only Filipinos were admitted in the Academy** in line with the strong policy of Filipinization in the government. In place of the Commandant, a Superintendent was detailed to head the school, which was now raised to Academy level. The officer privileged to be the first named to the new position of Superintendent was **Major GEORGE S. HOMES, U.S. Army**.
- ❖ The cadets had to possess not only physical stamina but also patience and iron determination. After passing the entrance examination, they were required to report to Philippine Constabulary Headquarters in Manila. For their



With the formal establishment of a Constabulary School on 17 August 1905, changes occurred also with the educational value of the Constabulary.

## EXCITING NEWS: Launch of the Official PMAAAI FACEBOOK PAGE!

• CAV JOSEPH RICHARD CALMA '11



Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc.

372 likes · 289 followers



Like

Message

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We are thrilled to announce the launch of the Official Facebook Page of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PMAAAI)! This new platform serves as a vibrant hub for all alumni, friends, and supporters of the Philippine Military Academy.

On our page, you'll find a wealth of information, including updates on our activities, upcoming events, and initiatives that celebrate our esteemed alumni. We're dedicated to sharing inspiring stories of service and leadership that reflect the values and spirit of the Philippine Military Academy. We invite you to like and follow our page to stay informed and connected with our growing community. Join us in celebrating our shared heritage and commitment to excellence! Stay connected, stay inspired! <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564489627018&mibextid=ZbWKwL>



trip to Baguio, they boarded a train at Tutuban Station for San Fabian, Pangasinan, the farthest terminal at that time. It took seven hours of bumpy tracks before the train could arrive at the end of the line. The rest of the journey had to be negotiated by foot. Two days had to be spent along the fifty-kilometer trail, which gradually ascended from sea level to five thousand feet elevation. Carrying haversacks and blankets, the new cadets had to spend cold nights along what is now known as Kennon Road.



# BRIDGING EXCELLENCE: UP Alumni Uniting Vision and Legacy

• CAV JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS '69

Last August 17, 2024, the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) celebrated its Annual General Alumni-Faculty Homecoming. This annual event offers an opportunity to renew friendships, network, and reminisce about some of the best years spent on campus. This year's homecoming was a resounding success, centered around the theme, "One UP, from Vision to Reality." The UPAA Board, led by its President Robert Lester Aranton, a PEZA Board member and an accomplished businessman and industrialist with interests in real estate development and logistics, deserves the highest accolades. Congratulations are also due to UP President Angelo A. Jimenez for the overall success of the affair.

This year, seven former UPAA Presidents and Alumni Regents who are still living were awarded the Presidential Merit Award for Service in recognition of their leadership, achievements, and contributions to UPAA that have created changes benefiting the lives of many. These distinguished individuals are Estelito Mendoza, Gladys San Juan, Alfredo Pascual, Edgardo Espiritu, Ponciano Rivera, Reynaldo Laserna, and Jaime S. de los Santos. Their profiles represent legal luminaries, government technocrats, business executives, and one from the military and defense sector.

Outstanding alumni, selected from a group of exceptional achievers representing a widely diverse field across the globe, were also recognized. The Most Distinguished Alumnus Award was bestowed upon Isidro Consunji, BSCE '71, an accomplished professional and industrialist, and the 2024 Management Person of the Year. Newly-designated Education Secretary Juan Edgardo Angara, LLB '00, received the Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award. I had the singular privilege of nominating Architect Felino Palafox, an outstanding urban planner par excellence.

UPAA's membership extends across nations and international borders, represented by many chapters. Cooperation and teamwork pervade its membership. UP alumni bear the responsibility to help build a nation that Filipinos can be truly proud of. Having benefited from UP's culture of academic excellence, they are in an ideal position to help UP fulfill its mandate of shaping the political, economic, and social landscape of the country. They are UP's greatest resource.



*Cav Jaime de los Santos '69 received the Presidential Merit Award for Service and Leadership Excellence from UP President Angelo Jimenez during the General Membership-Faculty Homecoming last 17 Aug 2024.*

UPAA undertakes aggressive fundraising campaigns to support professorial chairs and for the provision of new facilities and equipment. It also assists in efforts for more effective participation in the development of Philippine society and aims to establish an efficient job placement bureau for UP graduates. The challenge for the alumni is to provide an important link between the country and first-world modern technologies, new ideas, and other engines of change. They are



*In photo from left to right, UPAA President Aranton, awardees Atty Gladys San Juan, former UP President and DTI Secretary Alfredo Pascual, the author and UP President Jimenez.*

in the best position to help UP find its place in the international academic community, particularly considering that many of its graduates have sought employment opportunities abroad. This must be viewed as brain gain rather than brain drain. The alumni assist UP in fostering and deepening nationalism among its citizenry.

My initiation to UPAA was abrupt and unprecedented. Right after retirement, former UP President Fidel Nemenzo invited me to teach at UP, which I willingly accepted. In retrospect, I must say that he was the most progressive and liberal-minded UP President, inviting a military professional with a steep military mindset to join the faculty. My initial appointment was as Professorial Lecturer I (part-time), and I was eventually promoted to Professorial Lecturer II. At the same time, the UPAA election process was in progress. I was invited by one party to join their slate, which eventually won, and I was subsequently elected as their President.

In retrospect, I can competently say that my leadership training in the military served me well. As a military professional, I can modestly assert that the management and leadership styles I exhibited were beneficial. Let me share some of these principles:

- **Unity of Command:** This principle means that all forces act under one responsible commander. Unity of command creates unity of effort to concentrate combat power on the main objective. This principle forged a stable and relevant UPAA structure that

transcends regional, cultural, and religious aggragation. Concomitant with this principle is the continuous availability of dedicated officers as prescribed in a rational succession plan. This principle establishes an organizational climate that promotes teamwork and esprit de corps.

- **Respect for All Stakeholders:** The heterogeneous character of its alumni opens diverse viewpoints, interpretations, and biases. UPAA, being the repository of the best and brightest, requires patience and fortitude to accommodate all interest groups. The overall outcome has been positive.

- **Participative Management:** All inputs, whether suggestions, comments, or even criticisms, are welcomed. This approach serves as a tool to extract the best ideas, encouraging creativity and innovation.

- **Decisiveness:** Decision-making must manifest organizational harmony. In non-military organizations, decisiveness is enhanced through diplomacy. This trait is firmly exercised through skillful communication, respect for diverse backgrounds and orientations, and good public relations.

UPAA is an institution that mirrors the values that define UP—values of honor, excellence, and service. Its graduates are dispersed across the world, beyond the boundaries of the Philippine archipelago. They cut across professional fields and endeavors in the arts and sciences, and their relevance is priceless and timeless. UPAA has greatly influenced the outcome of the political, social, and economic landscape of the nation.



*Reprint from the Manila Bulletin dated Aug 19, 2024 under OPINION, Barracks and Strategy.*

*Postscripts: I rendered almost two decades of meritorious service to UP, among others as Trustee and Member, Executive Committee, UP Foundation, Committee Member for Honorary Degrees and Search Committee, Dean, Virata School of Business, President, UP MBA Society Inc. and National Commander, UP Vanguard. I also received the Oblation Award and the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the UP College of Business Administration, UPAA Special Recognition and Leadership Awards in previous years. Indeed, my training as a military professional helped me to navigate the complex and challenging world of the academe.*

## Another Look

# Will the Military Intervene?

• CAV FREDELINO S BAUTISTA '66

*This is a reprint of the article earlier published in the September-October 2009 issue of the Cavalier Magazine.*

*The subject elicits concerns once again, amidst reports in print and broadcast media, and even among discussion groups, of alleged unrest and discontent within the ranks of the military, both active and retired. Add to this, the recent upheaval in Bangladesh where the armed forces played a crucial role in stabilizing the increasingly volatile situation.*

*The reprint is however written in Filipino, to give importance to the National Language Month, now celebrated in August every year in honor of President Manuel L Quezon who was born on 19 August 1878 in Baler, Tayabas (now Quezon).*

*Filipino is the national language pursuant to Section 6 of the 1987 Constitution, as implemented by President Corazon C. Aquino pursuant to Executive Order Nr. 335 dated 25 August 1988. It has tremendously enriched the old Tagalog dialect. Many native dialect and foreign words mostly English, Spanish and even Latin have been added by simply following the rule "kung ano ang bigkas, siyang baybay" or spell it the way it is pronounced. The enriched Filipino language can be seen in at least two books, namely: English Filipino Dictionary by Vito Santos and Luningning Santos (1995), 1603 pages and UP Diksiyonaryong Filipino, Binagong Edisyon by Virgilio S Almario, Chief Editor, 1350 pages (2010).*

## Isa Pang Pananaw

# Manghihimasok ba ang Militar?

• CAV FREDELINO S BAUTISTA '66

### A. Paunang Salita

Ang maikling disertasyong ito ay walang layuning sagutin ang tanong at hindi rin tungkol sa mga nangyayari sa ating bansa. Ang layunin ay magbigay ng balangkas para sa mga manunulat at nagmamatyag sa mga pangyayari upang hulaan ang mga galaw ng militar sa harap ng mga nangyayari.

Sa isang lipunan na may malakas na damdamin sa halaga ng demokrasya, ngunit malayo pa nilang marating ang kaunlaran, at may mga kaguluhan, ang panghihimasok ng militar ay pinangangambahan. Ang posibilidad na lalabas ang mga sundalo sa kanilang mga kampo, sa anumang dahilan, upang lumahok sa labanang politika ay nariryan. At may mga dahilan upang mangyari ang kinatatakutan ng mga mamamayan.

Naranasan ng mga hindi pa natatagalang naging bansa at umuunlad pa lamang, lalo na sa mga bagong kawala sa pagiging isang kolonya ng mga mayayamang bansa ng Europa, ang pagiging aktibo sa politika ng mga militar – mula sa pag-impluwensya sa mga lider-politikal, pag-kontrol sa koalisyon ng mga sibilyan at militar at tahasang pag-angkin ng kapangyarihan.

Ayon sa manunulat na si S.E. Finer sa kanyang aklat na "*The Man on Horseback: The Role of the Military in Politics* (1962), mayroong 50 bansa ang nakaranas ng panghihimasok ng militar mula 1958-1973. Tatlong apat na bansa ang nakaranas ng isa, at ang iba'y wala tulad ng Iraq at Syria (P. 272).

Napag-alaman din niya na 12 taon pagkalipas na ma-imprenta ang kanyang aklat noong 1962, may 101 pang kudeta ang nangyari at ang mga bansang pinamunuan ng mga rehimeng militar ay tumaas ng 38. Nangangahulugan na 25 porsyento ng 150 bansa ay nasa ilalim ng

mga militar. Kahit na sa mayamang Europa na kung saan umusbong ang demokrasya, ang panghihimasok ay naganap sa France, Turkey, Greece at Portugal.

Ang pagsulat tungkol sa paksa ay kawili-wili at hindi mahirap. Ang literatura tungkol dito ay mayaman at nadaragdagan pa. Sa Latin-Amerika, Afrika at Asia, na kung saan marami ang panghihimasok, ang militar ay bumalik na sa kampo, at nasa lugar na ang sistemang demokrasya dito, kahit may kahinaan pa, ang pangamba sa mga kilos ng militar ay nananatili. Ang paliwanag ni Karl Liebknecht, ang sumulat ng aklat na "*Militarism and Anti-Militarism*," ang militar ang may-ari ng kaungusan ng lakas-pisikal (P. 2), na siyang nagbibigay sa mga kawal ng damdaming makapangyarihan, ang kapangyarihan na nagmumula sa barrel.

Sa kabutihang palad, sa mundo ng bagong kabihasnan, ang panahon ng kudeta, na siyang pinakatanyag na paraan upang makamit ang kapangyarihang politikal ay nakalipas na, maliban sa ilang kaso sa Thailand at New Guinea noong 2008. Ito ay dahil sa mga pagpipigil ng internasyonal na komunidad, pangunahin na ang Nagkakaisang mga Bansa na may kakayahang pigilin ang "*men on horseback*."

Subalit mayroon pa ring mga bansang nahuhuli sa pag-unlad at ginagamit ang militar sa kanilang pagpunta sa kaunlaran. Dagdag pa rito na sa pagtugis ng kanilang pambansang interes, ay hindi lamang sa loob ng hangganan ng kanilang mga baybayin at lupain. Ang kalawakan at kailaliman ng mga lupa na kinaroroonan ng mga yamang dagat ay kasama na sa mga larangan. (Gaano kataas sa langit at lalim sa lupa ang maituturing na bahagi ng kanilang teritoryo o eksklusibong pook pang-ekonomiya?)

## B. UGAT NG PANGHIHIMASOK NG MILITAR

Higit na mauunawaan ang panghihimasok ng militar, kung pag-aaralan ang mga kasaysayan. Makikita rito ang mga naganap sa Europa noong Edad Media o higit na maaga pa, noong nangingibabaw ang kapangyarihan ng mga hari at emperador, na may kapangyarihan sa mga hukbo. Ang mga kawal ay sumusunod sa mga utos, pumaparoon sa mga labanan at digmaan na walang pasubali, at tinatakot at inaapi ang mga taong nasasakupan.

Marahil din, malaki ang nagawa ng paghihimagsik ng mga Pranses upang masira ang kapangyarihan ng mga hari at umusbong ang mga prinsipyo ng kalayaan at pagkapantay-pantay. Kahit ganito ang nangyari, naiwan pa rin ang takot sa mga may hawak ng sandata kahit nagkaugat na ang mga prinsipyo ng demokrasya, karapatan at hustisya. Hindi kalaunan, nagkaroon na rin ng saligang batas at mga batas na kumikitil sa kapangyarihan ng militar. Naipanganak din ang konsepto ng kapangyarihang sibilyan sa ibabaw ng militar.

Dahil sa mga pangyayari, kahit may mabuting hangarin ang militar, ay mayroon pa ring suspetsa o takot ang mga mamamayan. Wika nga, nabuksan ang “*Pandora’s Box*.” Napalala ang pangamba ng mga mamamayan dahil sa mga kudeta pang nangyayari na nilunsad ng mga militar na kilalang may mahusay at malakas na pagkakaisang organisasyon.

Noong isinulat ni Finer ang kanyang aklat, maaaring hindi niya pa napag-aralan ang mga unang kasaysayan ng mga panghihimasok ng militar hanggang sa mga naganap noong medyibal na Europa. Ganoon pa man, ang kanyang paliwanag sa mga dahilan kung bakit nanghimasok at nangibabaw ang militar sa politika ay ginagamit ngayon ng mga manunulat upang suriin ang mga galaw ng militar noong mga panahong nabanggit.

Ayon kay Finer, inaagaw ng militar ang kapangyarihang politikal dahil sa dalawang dahilan – ang kanilang disposisyon at ang pagkakataong manghimasok. Ayon din sa kanya, ang disposisyon ay isang kamalayan o kagustuhang kumilos. Ito ay hinubog ng kanilang motibo o lagay ng pag-iisip. Naniniwala sila na ang kanilang organisasyon ay itinadhanang magliligtas sa bansa (P. 20). Sa ibang komunidad ang tawag dito ay mesianikong pag-iisip. Inuugnay rin ng

militar ang sarili sa pambansang interes (P. 30). Ang pagtatanggol sa pambansang interes ang kanilang pinakadakilang tungkulin.

Bagamat may pambansang interes sa mataas na pamantayan, mayroon din higit na mababa, at dahilan upang manghimasok ang militar. Ang mga ito ay seksional, grupo, rehiyonal, relihiyon at pati na sarili nilang interes (Pp. 30-41).

Naniniwala si Finer na ang motibo ay madaling makita, ngunit ang lagay ng pag-iisip ay higit na mahirap maipaliwanag. Ang huli ay nagmumula sa paniwala ng organisasyon na may sarili silang katangian na naiiba sa mga sibilyan. Alam nila na mayroon silang kapangyarihan at may mataas na pagtingin sa kanilang sarili. Dagdag pa ni Finer, may kimkim silang mga hinanakit na sanhi ng mga politikal na isyu, at galit sa kanila ng mga grupo at rehiyon.

Ang pangalawang sangkap sa balangkas ng pagsusuri ni Finer kung bakit nanghihimasok ang militar ay ang pagkakataon upang kumilos na dulot ng mga pangyayari sa bansa. Isa na rito, kung may mga suliranin na hindi kayang malutas ng gobyernong sibilyan, ay aasa sila sa militar upang lutasin ito. Magiging popular ang militar, at ito ay magiging isa rin na pagkakataon na makialam sila sa politika sapagka’t magkakaroon sila ng paniwala na sila lang ang may kakayahan.

## C. MGA PROPOSISYON NI WELCH-SMITH

Ayon sa pag-aaral sa mga nangyayari sa Thailand, Nigeria, Peru, Ehipto at Pransya ni Claude Welch at Arthur Smith, na mababasa sa kanilang aklat “*Military Role and Rule*” (1974), mayroon mga panloob na sangkap na humuhubog sa pag-iisip at pag-uugali ng militar. Ang mga ito ay ang kanilang misyon, katangian ng kanilang organisasyon, lalo na ang pagkakaisa ng mga kawal. Apektado rin sila ng mga bagay sa labas ng kanilang samahan lalo na sa ekonomiya at mga bagay na panglipunan. Batay sa mga ito, nakabuo sila ng maraming proposisyon o pagpapaliwanag, kung bakit tataas ang probabilidad na manghimasok ang militar.

### Ito ay ang mga sumusunod:

- Kung ang militar ay masangkot sa uring-pulis na operasyon.
- Kung ang militar ay uutusan, laban sa kagustuhan ng kanilang mga pinuno, na gumamit ng dahas laban sa mga kaaway ng gobyerno.





- Kung ang militar ay bibigyan ng utos na kilalanin ang pagkakaiba ng serbisyo sa gobyerno o serbisyo sa mamamayan.
- Ang militar na may mataas na uri ng pagkakaisa ay may higit na kakayahang manghimasok.
- Kung papalitan ang mga basehan sa paggawa ng mga desisyon, laban sa payo ng militar.
- Kung may mga tulong panlabas na magtataas ng autonomiya sa pagtupad ng tungkulin ng militar.
- Ang sentro ng mga grupong nagbabalangkas ng panghihimasok ay may kaugnayan sa mga grupong laban sa mga palakad ng gobyerno.
- Kung natalo sa digmaan at may paniwala na hindi nagbigay ng tulong ang gobyerno.
- Kung magsasama ng mga bagay-politikal sa pag-aaral ng mga pinuno.
- Kung may paglala sa labanan ng mga etnikong lipi.
- Kung may paglala sa kalagayan ng ekonomiya.
- Kung walang mga napagkasunduang pamamaraan sa mapayapang pagbabago sa politika.
- Kung ang mga magkakalabang grupong politikal ay hihingi ng suporta sa militar.
- Kung may mga katanungan sa legalidad ng gobyerno.

Ayon pa rin kay Welch at Smith, ang panghihimasok ay malamang na binalangkas ng mga pinunong panlarangan, at kung walang tiwala sila sa sistemang politika, higit na matagal ang pamamalakad ng rehimeng militar.

#### D. MANGHIHIMASOK BA ANG MILITAR?

Ito ay \$64 na tanong ngayon.

Sa kasalukuyang mundo, at kung saan ginagalang ang militar, ang prinsipyo na may higit na mataas na kapangyarihan ang mga sibilyan sa militar at kung ang militar ay isang propesyonal na samahan ng mga

kawal, ayon sa pagpapakahulugan ni Samuel Huntington sa kanyang aklat *"The Soldier and the State: Theory and Practice of Civil-Military Relations"* (1957), at ginagawa nang mahusay ng internasyonal na komunidad (UN) ang kanyang tungkulin, na rendahan ang mga militar, ang sagot ay maaari lamang na pagpapahayag ng pag-asa, hindi katiyak.

Ang mga situwasyong pinaliwanag ni Smith at Welch kung kailan may posibilidad na manghimasok ang militar, at ni S.E. Finer tungkol sa disposisyon, kalagayan ng pag-iisip at pagkakataong manghimasok, makikita pa rin lalo na sa tinatawag na Pangatlong Mundo, mga bansang malayo pa sa kaunlaran. Ganoon pa man, ang kanilang mga pag-aaral ay mahalagang batayan ng mga manunulat, iskolar, at taga-himay ng mga kilos-militar. Mayroon pang ibang mga aklat na mababasa at nadadagdagan pa ang mga nakasulat. Mananatili ang militar na pagkakaabalahan ng lipunan at ang takot ng mga mamamayan ay mamamalagi.

Maliban pa rito, mayroon ng mga karagdagang larangan, ang kalawakan sa itaas at sa kalaliman ng mga lupa na walang bansang makaka-angkin na kanyang teritoryo lamang. Dahil dito, ipagpapatuloy ng mga bansa na umasa sa militar upang ipagtanggol and kanilang pansariling interes.

Ang isang higit na mahalagang pagkakaabalahan: Paano makukumbinsi ang militar na huwag lalabas sa kanilang kampo at huwag manghimasok sa politika? Isang kasagutan dito ay ang konsepto ni Huntington tungkol sa makatarungan na kontrol ng sibilyan sa militar, o sa ibang mga kataga-hubuging militar ang hukbo.

Kailangang mahalin ng lipunan ang kanyang militar, hindi lang sa salita, kundi sa gawa. Pangalagaan niya ang mga kawal at igtalang ang mga bayani at kanilang mga tradisyon.

*Pahabol na salita: 1) Mapapansin na paminsan-minsan sa pagsasalin, ginagamit ng may akda ang mga salitang Ingles na ginawang Filipino. Halimbawa: Democracy – Demokrasya, control – kontrol; 2) Ang salitang militar ay tungkol sa hukbo, mga kawal.*





*In this screen grab from the video provided by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, a Chinese coast guard ship uses water cannons and closely maneuvers beside a Philippine resupply vessel Unaizah May 4 as it approaches Second Thomas Shoal, locally called Ayungin Shoal, at the disputed South China Sea on Saturday, March 23, 2024. (Armed Forces of the Philippines via AP)*

# A Need for a National Will to Fight

• CAV EMILIO C MARAYAG JR '76

The continuing harassment of China Coast Guard (CCG) reached an unprecedented level in late March 2024 when three (3) Filipino troops on a replenishment mission were wounded after CCG cutters 21555 and 21551 attacked by water cannons the civilian wooden-hulled supply boat Unaizah May 4 carrying passengers and supplies intended for the Philippine stranded ship BRP Sierra Madre in Ayungin Shoal (Second Thomas shoal).

The incident irritated President Ferdinand Marcos Jr who said that “Filipinos will not be cowed into silence, submission, or subservience.” He then signed Executive Order No. 57 strengthening the nation’s maritime security and maritime domain awareness to effectively protect our maritime zones and vigorously seek options to prevent repetition or escalation of unwanted actions in the West Philippine Sea (WPS) and other areas where the country exercises sovereign rights.

President Marcos’ resolve to address the country’s maritime issues did not escape other nations’ attention including the US whose President invited President Marcos to attend a trilateral meeting with the U.S. and Japan on April 12, 2024. The summit discussed the conduct of joint patrols in Indo-Pacific waters in 2025, reaffirmed the commitment of the three countries to international law in South China Sea (SCS), and made initial plans to launch a new economic corridor in the Philippines as part of G7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure

Investment involving projects on clean energy, ports and agriculture. The meeting sends a clear response to China’s “adventurism” in the SCS.

Under the UN Charter conflicts between states and non-state actors must be resolved peacefully within the ambit of international law. Some analysts advance that contemporary conflicts are classified as state, hybrid, and non-state.

State conflicts involve the employment of large-scale military force and advanced technologies across the five-dimensional battle space to prevail over an adversary. Their probability of occurrence is the lowest among the three but the consequence is the highest in terms of human, physical, and financial costs.

Hybrid conflicts, on the other hand, combines conventional and irregular forces and employs asymmetric systems to “create ambiguity, seize the initiative, and paralyze the opponent.” Their probability of happening is higher than state conflicts but the consequence is lower.

Non-state conflicts utilize small units and networks to undermine governments and gain control of the population. Compared with state and hybrid conflicts, non-state conflicts occur more frequently but with a less devastating outcome.

China’s maritime campaign in South China Sea including the West Philippine Sea is a form of a hybrid conflict. This campaign started in 1974 when China seized full control of the Paracels situated in the

northern portion of South China Sea, equidistant from Vietnam's eastern coastline and China's Hainan province, and some 700 miles west of Zambales. In 1978, China engaged the Vietnamese navy in the Spratlys resulting in dozens of fatalities. It then established permanent presence in several features in the Spratlys that are far beyond China's maritime zones: Fiery Cross Reef, Subi Reef, Mischief Reef, 1st Thomas Shoal, Gaven Reef, Johnson Reef South, Ladd Reef, Len Dao Reef, and Cuarteron Reef. Fiery Cross, Mischief and Subi reefs have been reclaimed as artificial islands and fortified to accommodate PLA Navy's air and surface assets as well as militia boats.

To put up a semblance of legitimacy in the entire Spratlys, China established two administrative districts, covering nearly 90% of the South China Sea, under the local government in Sansha located in Woody Island and within the authority of China's Hainan Province. Sansha's Nansha district based in Fiery Cross Reef covers the Spratly Islands; while the Xisha district collocated in Sansha handles the Paracels, the Macclesfield Bank and the Scarborough Shoal. China has devised a four-pronged strategy to protect its maritime gains in the SCS: totally ignore the 2016 Arbitral Ruling, permanently occupy its island bases and features, regularly patrol Spratly waters employing its three seagoing forces, and wear off the other claimants through persistent dissemination of false and threatening narratives.

Among the claimant countries in the SCS, the Philippines has been a victim of incessant harassment. Of late is an incident in Bajo de Masinloc on April 30, 2024 when China's CCG-3105 and CCG-5303 cutters, supported by several China Maritime Militia (CMM) boats, water-cannoned and rammed BRP Datu Bankaw (MMOV-3004) causing damages on the Philippine supply boat's radio communications and electrical systems. A nearby Philippine Coast Guard ship BRP Bagacay (MRRV-4410) was also hit and sustained damages on its railings and other main deck temporary structures. As expected, China issued a false narration of the incident.

The Philippine government has time and again reacted passively. Some quarters are alarmed with this pacifist stance but few asked if we have the national will to fight in case the hybrid war escalates into a state conflict. While the probability of state conflict remains low, the Philippines may have to undertake preparations to confront the challenge, with alliance or partnership support, or on its own.

The national will to fight, as defined by a think tank, is the "determination of national government to conduct sustained military and other operations for some objective even when the expectation of success decreases or the need for significant political, economic, and military sacrifices increases." The responsibility to initiate, continue, and end the engagement in war is the "national" government. The political decisions to press on with operations during a conflict refer to the "will." Such decisions set aside the personal issue of bravery and are based on thorough deliberations on three vital components: resource, economic, and moral. The "fight" pertains to the employment of military force and other aspects of national power in accordance with a strategic plan. This would include non-kinetic activities like diplomatic initiatives, economic pressures, and informational efforts.

The same policy institute cites that the national will to fight has four centers of gravity: government, population, military, and international community. In arriving at the decision to engage, there are seven factors to consider: government type, social cohesion, economic resilience, national identity, stakes/interests, popular support, and conflict duration. These factors depend on four relevant conditions that do not change abruptly: civil-military relations, military capabilities, economic leverage, and allies/partners. The four enablers that strengthen or weaken the national will to fight include economic pressures, engagement with international community, messaging/indoctrination, and casualties.

Of the four centers of gravity of the national will to fight, the military takes the largest slice in resource allocation due to its complex systems of human and physical resources that are used to engage an adversary. The military capability (fighting power) of a nation consists of three components.

The first is the conceptual component that refers to the principles of war, warfighting doctrines and thinking processes. The second is leadership in the organizational, operational and people dimensions.

And the third is physical that comprise of manpower, equipment, readiness, and sustainability. Given the country's population trend, manpower requirements could easily be filled up. On equipment, a balanced sourcing between foreign and domestic maybe considered. The nation's shipbuilding and ship repair industries could be tapped to design, construct, and maintain ships for maritime operations. The readiness of the forces and their sustainability are functions of manpower and equipment.

The conceptual and leadership components are predominantly qualitative; while the physical component is basically quantitative. Technology pervades all components.

The sum of the national will to fight and the nation's military capability is called military effectiveness, the ability to produce favorable military outcomes. This effectiveness is complemented by the type of government, culture, civil-military relations, and human capital.

Democratic political institutions cultivate superior leadership and initiative in the battlefield and democratic states win more battles than non-democratic states. Culture implies that the norms and values of the society and military organizational structure are important in winning battles.

The relations between the civilian and military leaders are vital in making sure that military ethos, like discipline, esprit d' corps, and meritocracy, are observed and respected by the civilian leaders who must maintain their oversight functions.

On human capital, some studies found that better educated soldiers are more receptive to training, more proficient at operating and maintaining sophisticated equipment and platforms, and more capable in executing tactical maneuvers in the battlefield. As Vietnamese Army General Võ Nguyên Giáp once quipped: *"In war there are two factors: human beings and weapons. Ultimately, though, human beings are the decisive factor. Human beings! Human Beings!"*

A survey group in March found that "77% of Filipino adults are willing to fight for the country in case of external conflict." But the society's elite, media, peasants, and other advocacy groups are silent. So are the top officials in government and Congress. On the other hand, the country's armed forces joined a Maritime Cooperative Activity with three other nations and participated in the annual bilateral exercises with an ally. These maritime engagements demonstrate a collective commitment to strengthen regional cooperation in support of freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific waterways.

The *national will to fight* requires high level political discussions, multilateral exercises, and tactical training. There is a need to craft a comprehensive plan that includes threat assessment, contingency plans, war gaming, doctrines update, and strategic guidance on intelligence, force planning, potential operations, international engagements, and messaging. This whole-of-nation plan must clarify the roles, responsibilities, priorities and tasks of every government agency and the civil society to address the diplomatic, informational, economic, and military efforts of the national command authorities.





## The Grandstand

# A Tribute to a MAPITAGAN

• CAV JESS LOMEDA '80

**W**hy do people say nice things to a person only during his funeral and not while he was alive? Why would I give tribute to a man who did not graduate from my Alma Mater?

I remember the story of a motherless mistah, an only child. When his father died, he buried him soon after. His relatives complained. My Mistah told them, "When my father was on his sickbed, nobody from you ever visited him. Now, he is dead .... he will never know that you ever cared!"

### A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

This brought me to write this story. I care about a man who had a part in building my confidence and character; and tell him of his greatness while he is still alive. This article is not an obituary.

**CADET LIEUTENANT 1ST CLASS WILFREDO PABLO ESTRADA UMALI C-4062**, S3, 1st Battalion (from Charlie Company), CCAFP – the Chairman of the Honor Committee. This was his last designation. Serendipity had decreed that we become bunkmates for three years, from Plebe to Cow. Being bunkmates ended during firstclass year, when Willy moved to the 1st Battalion Staff room, and I remained with Charlie Company as a platoon leader.

We must admit that all living beings who passed through the portals of PMA as cadets were somehow afflicted with PTSD. For me, it came early. In our first night as plebes, I found myself crying in bed, asking how on earth did I end up in this part of hell? Willy kicked the bottom of the upper bunks, where I was. From inside

his mosquito net, he whispered, "Bunkmate, listen!" I thought he heard me crying, but it was just about preparing me for the tough days to come; and making our misery humorous and bearable. I could hear others bawling and calling their mothers out loud to come get them and bring them home. This made me laugh.

The following early morning, Willy woke us up, still dark and the room unlit. While holding a flashlight, he barked at us his seven squadmates, "Maligo na kayo!" In bathrobes back to our cubicles from the communal bathroom in Melchor Hall, we found



**Jesus Villarin Lomeda Jr**

**Bunkmate (Budo): Sayang! Just wait for me. If you want to**

*1980 Graduates, The Sword*



*Plebe Year Foot March Lunch Break: Willy (at the rightmost) with his five squadmates (L to R) Randon Selirio, Ome Carbonell, Bong De Asis, Dippon Carado and me; not in picture: George Carranza and Pol Santos.*

out he had ironed our BDA fatigue uniforms, with very distinct lines on the pants, as well as the three lines at the back of our olive-green shirts. Our combat shoes were brightly shined.

After dressing up, he would form us his squadmates in one straight line, facing him, as he checked our appearances: if we shaved, splashed aftershave, and shined our buckles. He then would take out a comb from his pocket, groom our hair one by one. All of these while we were still in shock. He would do this in the days that followed until we got the knack of things.

I learned that Willy was a turnback, noticing his serial number, compared to mine. Our plebe details would punish him for our laxities. He was repeating “Beast Barracks,” as an “unrecognized” dumbguard. I often found him standing at the back of the grandstand, with other turnbacks, during our military science lectures. They would caution dozing or slouching classmates.

One Mistah from a different company complained to me while pointing to a shabby turnback, who endorsed erring plebes to his former classmates, the Yearlings. The exact opposite of Willy, who really went out of his way to help us adjust to our new life.

After summer camp, the Class of 1980 was integrated with the Cadet Corps. The platoon where I belonged became the plebes of Bessang Company, which corresponded to “Alfa” in the order of sequence. The plebes were each assigned an immaculate Firstie to be his “Kuya.” Plebe and Kuya became roommates.

One athletic afternoon, Willy had a big laugh when the rubber shoes he was looking for among the pile of laundry behind the lockers were on my foot, and discovered me sleeping. The three uppies were already inside the room and I could not get out. Willy was unable to control his laughter, but as always, he saved me that day.

Study period became our letter writing time (during exams, he would review early dawn, saying that memory retention is much better). He would edit my letters. One uppie discovered his talent and let Willy write his love letters for him to exchange with his girlfriend. In a happy ending, the uppie married her after graduation. Thanks largely to Willie.

During our Yearling year, Alfa Company moved to Regis Hall. Willy would call plebes from the adjacent room by placing his mouth before the outlet, at the level of his desk, using it as an intercom, and shout “One Bug!” During study periods and taps, he

would let those plebes tell jokes or sing through this improvised “intercom.”

During Cow year, the Corps reorganized because of the Salas case, where a plebe died of hazing, resulting in the dismissal of 25 classmates. He would push me to compete with him with our grades. Willy promised to give me the PC branch of service, if ever he would get it.

Every semestral break, I spent my time with his family in Los Banos – gallivanting around in his Volkswagen beetle at UP Campus. Willy is from a humble family of seven siblings, a child in the middle. His mother is an elementary school teacher, his father a hobbyist “magtatari” (an expert who places sharp blades to the spurs of fighting cocks). His petname at home is “Budo,” a monicker for Buddha because he was chubby when he was younger. Sometimes, other mistahs would join us. We always had a grand time in Los Banos, and never ran out of things to do.

### ENTANGLED IN ADVERSITY

When we were graduating cadets, Willy went to the city to enjoy his “Privilege” but in coming back to barracks, he was late together with Ifor Magbanua, a mistah. The two were reported “Late” by the Officer-in-Charge (OC) of that day, Maj Gaudencio Torres PA. Ifor, who is the First Sergeant of their Company, decided to screen the delinquency report (DR). The Tactical Officer (Tac-O), who made the report, went looking for the DR. The missing DR complicated the matter, and they were tried by the Battalion Board (Tac-Os as judges) for “Honor Code Violation,” namely cheating. The case was not handled by the Honor Committee (cadets as judges) because the system belongs solely to the cadets. Likewise, the new chairman, Ager Ontog, who replaced Willy, cannot try the case because there was no report. Moreover, Willy and Ifor could not report themselves because it would be a plain admission that they were guilty – a Catch 22 situation. The Battalion Board sentenced the two for separation from the academy.

During the trial, Cpt Oscar Martinez, the Senior Tac-O, lambasted Willy sincerely, leading to Willy’s depression ... until now, whenever the incident comes to mind.



*Cow Year Charlie Roommates: Ifor Magbanua, me, Willy Umali and Romy Palaraon.*



*At Willy's Backyard in London: (L to R) Willy, Tata, my wife Blue and me.*

### A NEW DAWN

The following school year, General Orlando Antonio '58 PC, a townmate of Willy, went to see him, telling him that he can return to the academy. The general, now deceased, knows Willy very well – as a potential officer and a gentleman. Willy however refused, for the simple reason that his accusers were still in the academy.

Willy was the one who inculcated in me as a plebe with, "Never to take life on honor!" Willy wrote in the Corps Magazine: <https://cyberarnis.wordpress.com/2022/04/01/the-honor->

Meanwhile, Ifor was accepted back the following year. He graduated with the Class of 1981, joining the Philippine Constabulary later. He retired in 2012 as a Police Brigadier General.

Willy, on the other hand, finished his Bachelor's degree in Management and Industrial Engineering in Mapua in 1983, with honors (he was supposed to be in the Top 5 of class 80). He told himself, "Whatever happens, I will try my best in what I do."

Willy is the best Database Administrator (DBA) I ever met, being Microsoft certified. As we all know, DBAs are the life of the company, who store and maintain information. DBAs have the responsibility to protect sensitive data from criminals, hackers and other unauthorized prying eyes. Nothing untoward happened during his watch. Even the recent global outage had no effect on him.

Willy worked in a prestigious British company in Ayala, JARDINE DAVIES and INVESTMENTS INC. He was sent to London in 1989 to design and develop the financial information systems of JARDINE LLOYD THOMPSON (JLT) GROUP INC., a multi-national merger that provides insurance, employment benefits advice and brokerage services. He worked with the company for 25 years. Then, he became a DBA of Dental Directory, covered by HIPAA (another layer of data protection), for about seven years. He was even sought by Scotland Yard to handle the database of London Police. He refused the last job offer and decided to just enjoy his remaining life as a retiree traveling.

When Willy and his wife, Tata, arrived in London, an immigration officer asked them, "Business or pleasure?" Willy answered that he came there to work. Immigration officers whisked them to a room, grilling them for hours, checking and confirming from his old and new offices if really he was hired and not merely looking for work. The British immigration officers were in disbelief that a non-British was picked to do a sensitive job. In the office, his officemates would ask Willy often how come he can speak and write English so well.

### REFLECTIONS:

Life indeed is full of twists.

In the Class of 1980 yearbook, The Sword, I wrote under my portrait: "Bunkmate (Budo): Sayang! Just wait for me." And so he did...

In May this year, 2024, I had the opportunity to pass through London and grabbed the chance to see Willy, with my wife and daughter and son-in-law, on our way to Rome.

I know Willy as a soft-hearted, compassionate and spiritual person. So, there was this incident when life's circumstances went against him that he needed to take an entirely new course. That time when he resisted authority and challenged those who wielded power when they tried to put him down. If Willy wasn't too rash or impulsive, he might have been able to weather the storm, but his principles always prevailed.

Nevertheless, it was time to chart a new course. In the end, he did particularly well.

The key to harnessing his tremendous energy was identifying and finding pleasure in the simple things that made him happy – a nice balance between optimism and practicality.

He is motivated when pursuing his goals. He taught me and his squadmates to be productive and resourceful. He thrives in teamwork. He is practical in his choices, keeping his feet firmly on the ground and honoring tradition, in tried-and-true methods. He has the power of practicality, realism, and caution on his side. He is attracted to strong and determined people. With intellect and intuition equally strong, he is highly interesting and an intelligent friend.

The debacle spurred him to put his life in order, in a very significant way. Improved concentration, a more realistic outlook, and a practical awareness of the limits of time, all helped him to make steady progress, particularly in his new career. The key to his success is adopting a realistic, practical, disciplined, and orderly approach to life. Let this be an inspiration to others.

He told me he is sick. He looks good from the outside, but he is suffering from the inside, healthwise. He almost succumbed to a stroke while self-administering insulin for his Diabetes. His doctor advised him to avoid driving anymore, but he drove us around London and brought us to Stansted for our flight to Rome.

Let me tell you now, Willy. You are a good and honorable man. A true Mapitagan. Thank you for being a light that beacons. The entire Class of 1980 are very proud of you Mistah. You certainly deserve our snappiest salute. (Edited by Paul Mendoza '89)



# The Legend of the Plebe who was not Hazed

## (HOW TO STOP HAZING FOR GOOD)

• CAV JOEL JESUS M SUPAN '81

### Hazing is never allowed in the Academy, but it persists.

There was a plebe that was not hazed. This story is incredible to the over 12,000 alumni and cadets who went through “plebe hood” in the Academy. This story may not pass as a legend, because a legend is a story that is traditional, popular, and believed by many, and it cannot be proven to be true.

Contrary to these attributes of a legend, this story is not traditional and unknown except to few people so that this can be proven to be true because this former plebe is still alive. This is a story of true and pure grit and courage. Legend or not, this can be the ultimate solution to stop “hazing” in the Academy.

We all know that “hazing” is not allowed and it is not tolerated. Perpetrators of “hazing” are expelled from the Academy and punished with imprisonment. Despite the regulations, “hazing” happens. It is perpetrated by those who are undeserving to become Officers of the Armed Forces but were not caught. “Hazers” are caught only when a “plebe” “squeals” on them, would not lie when asked by an officer, and a “plebe” gets sick or dies.

The weird thing is, “hazers” call Officers, who ask a plebe if he was hazed or not, “shabby.” “Hazers” take pride in not being caught. It is “weirder” that the “victims” do not “squeal” and take pride in surviving the “hazing” and making it a staple topic among themselves during gatherings. I am one of the “weirdos” for being “hazed” countless of times and not prevented it.

Despite the regulation and the stiff, life-changing punishment for “hazing,” it persists. Five years have passed since Cadet Dormitorio died of “hazing.” The talk on how to stop “hazing” has stopped. As in all cases, no one will talk about stopping “hazing” until another plebe dies because of it. The persistence of “hazing” should motivate us to find a lasting solution now even if a “plebe” dies or not.

#### Present Measures to Prevent Hazing in the Academy

The Academy has implemented measures such as segregating the barracks of the “plebes” from the upperclassmen and installing Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras and Recording in the barracks hallways. I have not been informed of any other measures. These measures must have been well thought out and meticulously deliberated upon by brilliant men in the Academy. The segregation of barracks looks to be a perfect measure to prevent “hazing.”

My reservation with this measure, however, is the missing out on the opportunity to exercise leadership by the upperclassmen, all the leadership’s principles and attributes, including the discipline of restraint and anger management (unrestrained anger is the primary and most prevalent reason for hazing together is with psychological issues). The absence of such an opportunity for training in anger management may not be felt in the short term, but I am not optimistic about its effect in the long run when cadets

become officers. The upper class would miss out of exercising their being models of propriety, sobriety and character which are primary attributes of a leader. The manifestations of these attributes are ideally done in the barracks on a moment by moment basis much more than in rank formations during accounting and ceremonies. With barracks segregation, the “plebes” would also be deprived of the opportunity to have models in their upperclass who the former look upon as “immaculate” which serve as their inspiration to attain their aspirations.

On the other hand, the CCTV Camera System and the stiff punishment are said to be deterrence for “hazing.” CCTV Cameras may serve as deterrence for “hazing” but only where the cameras are installed. But, “hazing” is never done in the hallways. The CCTV Camera Recording System might only provide the “circumstantial evidence.” In my long practice of Organizational Security, I have learned that deterrence is the weakest measure for prevention. The camera and its recording system, in most cases, is an instrument for investigation. This would be after damage has been done or more specifically for the Academy, after “hazing” has been done. It is not far that the “un-gentlemanly” and undeserving cadet will find a way to go around the system which he would rationalize as being resourceful. As regard punishments, the capital crimes are still perpetrated despite the capital punishments. Deterrence is a weak measure for preventing crime. Nevertheless, it is good that these two systems are in place. However, their inadequacy without other preventive systems in place to prevent hazing should make us open to new, more effective ideas.

The late Cavalier Roberto D. Domines, Jr. of PMA Class 1982, in his Research Paper on Maltreatment in 1991, recommended 50 ways and their combinations to stop “maltreatment” in the Academy. The deaths of Cadets Dormitorio and those who died of “hazing” before him, like Cadet Ace Bernabe Ekid in the year 2000, Cadet Edward Domingo and Monico de Guzman in 2001, showed that the “anti-hazing” measures Cavalier Domines recommended were neither effective if heeded and applied nor were not given the light of day at all.

#### How this “Plebe” Prevented Himself from Being Hazed

I have long intended to relay this story and offer a solution to stop ‘hazing’ in the Academy for good. This story has gone in and out of my consciousness, but it has remained untold, perhaps because there has been no death due to hazing in the Academy since Cadet Fourth Class Dormitorio’s death in 2019.

I call this plebe “LC,” which is the initial for “Legendary Courage.” LC was my bunkmate at the BOQ in our early years as Junior Officers. In LC’s words one night about the time we were bound for bed, casually said he was not “hazed” when he was a plebe. That made me wide-eyed and incredulous.

He said that on the first time he was made to “take his post,” he mustered all his courage, mixed with prayers to all the saints, and with his balls in his throat, he was able to mutter to the “would-be hazer,” “May Fourthclassman LC make a statement, Sir!!??” To which the “would-be hazer” said. “Whaaatt?”. LC spoke the unspeakable, “I am sorry, Sir, if you haze me, I will have to report you.” The “would-be hazer” was struck speechless and seemingly saw his bleak future pass in front of him, stopped. Looking horrified and with utter fear in his voice, he was able to mutter, “Scram”! After that incident, it became much easier for LC to deal with other “would-be hazers.” In short, he was never hazed.

It is a conclusive presumption that all those “would-be hazers” could not have discussed their encounter with LC and endorsed him to the others because of embarrassment. Was LC a “squealer”? He was not. There was nothing to “squeal” about because “hazing” was not committed.

LC is a “snappy” plebe. Like any other “plebe,” he “squat thrust-ed” in the hallways at every open time. He braced up with his chin in, trotted, and “cut corners” in going from one point to another. He has imbibed overdoses of condiments in pure or mixed forms. He knocked his head a million times. He lost “millions” hours of sleep studying, writing orders and letters, shining shoes, ironing pants, scouting for victuals and flowers, trading picture of girls with other plebes, memorizing the Guard Detail for the day and the personal circumstances of the assigned OC, OD and SG, reading and memorizing the menu for the day, picking up a bottle of chilli and the day’s newspaper from “smugglers,” memorizing headline news, sports, editorial and comics sections, making crafts for the mess hall on Thanksgiving and Christmas, running in the parade ground, swimming in freezing water, preparing for “Best-Best,” etc. But, being hazed was never his cup of tea. He kept his “anti-hazing measure” to himself. He passed “plebe hood” with enough horrifying stories for his grandchildren, and graduated from the Academy.

Perhaps LC has not realized that his story could be the elusive if not evaded solution every academy administrator has been looking for or avoiding. His story has to be told and used to stop hazing for good.

### How to Stop Hazing for Good

The story of LC gave me this “out of the box” idea on how to stop hazing for good. We can stop hazing in the Academy for good if we implement the measure as illustrated. I have shown this to many former cadets and respectable graduates I know, without batting an eyelash, they gave it a “thumbs up.” One even said: “Let’s do it now.” With its implementation, the barracks of the plebes and the upperclassmen can be integrated again. The



upperclass will then be given the opportunity to be trained in every aspect of leadership and the Plebes will have their “immaculate” models.

To stop hazing, make the sweatshirt of all cadets with the text as illustrated. We will only know that it will work once we try it. I am sure it will stop hazing. If not given a try, then we will know that those who are charged with the running of the Academy are not serious in stopping “hazing” and make the plebes fair game to “would-be hazers”.

### Who was that Plebe?

I was sworn to not to reveal the identity of LC so I am not giving any other circumstance except my name and class to give the clue as to who he is. LC will most likely read this and keep his counsel with gratification that he has left a legacy of proper and upright training and development to the plebes to be leaders without having to haze to exercise their leadership. Those “would-be hazers” of LC who might most likely read this will remain silent about who LC is and let out a sigh of relief and gratitude that this plebe had the courage to caution them and prevented them from being potentially dismissed. Despite its being true, my keeping LC’s identity, his story and his courage will make him a true legend in every sense of the word. Let his legend live on and his courage be emulated by every plebe that pass through the portal of our most revered Academy. This is the courage that is not only used to face the enemy but the courage to speak the truth, challenge the status quo for better ways. It is this true grit and courage that is needed to redeem image of the Academy that is tarnished by “hazing.” It is this true grit and courage that is needed to be rekindled in every Cavalier to help the government and the Country find it bearing for a brighter and progressive tomorrow for every Filipino.

-oOo-

*The Author, Joel Jesus M. Supan, is the author of the book “The Art and Science of Security” which is an original publication and given a copyright by the U.S. National Library of Congress and was subsequently given a five-star rating by a Literary Review and Critic in the U.S. as a Business and Economic Book. He is the former Chairman of the Technical Committee of the Commission on Higher Education in the Philippines that created the Curriculum for the new undergraduate academic program for the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Security Management. He has been invited as a speaker in various Global, Regional and Local Security Conventions and Forums for his original security concepts such as Organizational Security Culture as a New Paradigm for Corporate Governance; Stonewall Security Model; and the Threat Differentiation Model. He has an unpublished book, “National Security Culture: A New Paradigm for Governance. He is a former Naval Officer and a member of the PMA Dimalupig Class 1981. He can be contacted through his email: stonewall.sec81@yahoo.com.*



*“Security is the bridge to every goal.... to every dream.”*

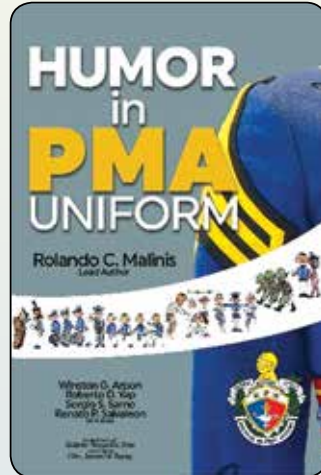


# HiPMAU the Book: Humor for a Cause

• CAV ROLANDO C MALINIS '71

## It All Started with a Dream

Cavalier Winston G. Arpon of PMA Class 1964, a PMA Alumni Association (PMAAA) Cavalier Awardee in Creative Arts in 1980 and editor-in-chief of the Corps Magazine during his senior year at PMA, had always expressed his long-held dream of a book that will not only put forward the serious side of cadets' life as they undergo rigorous military training, but also reveal the cadets' human side and their light-heartedness. In 2023, being so busy for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reprinting of his book *"Laughter in the South: Footnotes to the Southern Philippines Conflict,"* he instead approached a PMA alumnus from Class '67 and asked the latter if he could write a book about the humor in PMA uniform; but the latter begged off due to health reason.



## The Invitation and Search for Team Members

In early 2023, Cavaliers Winston G. Arpon '64 and I were members of the 'Graduates of PMA Viber group' created by Cavalier Roberto A. Yap '82 with graduates of PMA as members. During a casual Viber chat, Cavalier Arpon invited me to write the book, *"Humor in PMA Uniform"* (Acronym - HiPMAU). Feeling confident, after having published two books in 2015 and 2021 and a PMAAA Cavalier Award in special field – Literature in 2021, I gladly accepted the invitation to write.

The book concept took shape thereafter. As to its contents, together we envisioned a book that would trigger more recollections of true-to-life funny stories by former cadets of the Academy as they passed through the portals of this institution. Making the book available for general public readership, we aim for a book that would include explanations to the various cadet jargons and other military terms to enable the civilians to fully comprehend the humor in them. As to its mechanics, both agreed to form soon a HiPMAU team to cover the different facets of the project: book's authorship and publication, soliciting of funds from sponsors, marketing, and distribution.

Subsequently, aware of the magnitude and scopes of this big project we sought for volunteers from among the PMA alumni to help us in the publication of the book.

First to volunteer was Cavalier Roberto "Bob" D. Yap of PMA Class '82, whose wide network of PMA alumni he built through several Viber groups he created has proven helpful in mobilizing graduates and non-graduates to contribute their anecdotes and funny stories. Later, Cavalier Yap, with his network and reputation for generating fund support from alumni, is instrumental in soliciting more than enough funds to cover for the printing of the book.

Early on, we could feel the enthusiasm at the 'Buga-Bugos Viber group' composed of former PMA cadets as many funny stories started to pour in. One alumnus, Cavalier Sergio S. Sarno '87, stood out in this forum as he exhibited persistent efforts and patience of gathering and

collecting the data for "What's in a (cadet) name?" an important component of the book. Thus, Cavalier Sarno was invited to join the group.

Last, but not least, to join the team was Cavalier Renato P. Salvaleon of PMA Class '88. Through the endorsement of Bob Yap, Cavalier Salvaleon, a former editor-in-chief of *The Academy Scribe* (1988), managing editors of other cadet publications in 1988, and proponent/managing editor of *"The Philippine Army First 100 Years"* (1997), was invited too. His rich background and experience as an editor were valuable in the book-creation mission of the group. He led the fund solicitation among alumni living abroad, particularly in the US; and maintaining the website of HiPMAU to enhance its internet presence.

## The Birth of HiPMAU

Thus, the pentagonal group, "Arpon, Malinis, Yap, Sarno and Salvaleon team (HiPMAU team for short)," was born in May 2023. Together, the group launched an aggressive campaign among former PMA cadets to encourage them to contribute their funny stories, anecdotes, and entertaining stories. My book, *"Brothers: The Untold Story of the Philippine Military Academy 'Matatag' Class of 1971 [2015, 2021]"* provided many humorous stories as starters. As the lead author, my task is to weave these raw stories collected from various media by the HiPMAU team and transformed them into a coherent manuscript through filtering, rewriting, grouping, restructuring, sorting, and analysis of the submitted data. The completed full-draft, which repeatedly underwent several rewritings and revisions, was finished in January 2023, after eight months of hard work. The task of putting up finishing touches to the manuscript (book editing) was left to the hands of the editors, before its submission to the printer.

Many alumni from various PMA classes supported our project. One of them is former Senator and Cavalier Panfilo M. Lacson '71 and his capable team of communicators and speechwriters when he was still at the Senate (Ping fondly calls this team his "chickens") composed of: Jenrose Manalo, Claudyn Caparon, and Joel Locsin, who provided their book editing services for free. Cavalier Gabby B. Riego De Dios '81 contributed cadets' cartoon drawings. A former Class '03, Clint James N. Tayag did the book cover design. Ms. Corina Carlos, wife of USNA Class 1989 Vice-Admiral Alberto Carlos, did the book proofreading. Cavalier Paul M. Mendoza '89 also helped in editing the introduction portion of the book.

## The "Soft Launch"

The "soft launch" of the book was held at PMA on July 14, 2024 with the superintendent of PMA Lieutenant General Rowen S. Tolentino of PMA Class 1989 receiving the first book proof. Other Cavaliers-attendees during the soft launching included Assistant



*Reception Room with the Superintendent before watching the Silent Drill Exhibition.*



*Watching the Silent Drill Exhibition.*



*PMA Staff and HiPMAU team after Silent Drill Exhibition posing for a group picture.*



*Lunch with the Cadet Corps, AFP.*



*Invocation by Command Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Arnold T. Vergara CHS.*



*Introduction to HiPMAU and Reading of Select Book Excerpts by Cavalier Sergio S. Sarno '87.*



*Presentation of the Book HiPMAU. L to R: Cavalier Erwin Rommel R. Luga (Ret) '82; Cavalier Gregorio B. Cagurangan '71; PMA Superintendent Cavalier Rowen S. Tolentino '89; Cavalier Sergio S. Sarno '87; and former 2003 Clint James N. Tayag.*



*Final Message by Lieutenant General Rowen S. Tolentino '89, PMA superintendent.*

Superintendent Commodore Roger P. Viduya '93, Head of Academic Group Brigadier General Jose Demar A. Pauly '92, and Commandant of Cadets Brigadier General Ramon P. Flores '94. Cavalier Sergio S. Sarno '87 represented the HiPMAU team.

The "hard launch" of the book is set for October 2024, culminating the one year and four months of the team's hard work. The date chosen is significant because it will coincide with the 116<sup>th</sup> PMA Foundation Day celebration to be held at Fort del Pilar, Baguio City.

### **The Ultimate Dream and Its Success**

HiPMAU has become a project for a worthy cause, as it was decided by the team that the benefits of the project will go to PMA, our way of giving back to our Alma Mater. Book sales proceeds will be used to finance the construction of a digital kiosk at the PMA museum, improving the newly created cadets' library, and other noble endeavors.

The HiPMAU team overcame numerous challenges to fulfill their mission of spreading laughter, not just among former PMA cadets and

other military-men-and-women, but also reaching out to civilians and the broader public.

The project suddenly turns amazing and almost magical because what has started as a team effort has been transformed into a community undertaking now known as "*Humor for a Cause*". To express their appreciation and support, 126 Cavaliers and 26 other associates, honorary members, and relatives/friends together donated more than enough funds to support the printing of 3,000 copies of the book.

With enough fund supports from Cavaliers, former cadets, and relatives/friends from the US too, the simultaneous printing of about 200 to 300 copies by a printing company in the US is also surely forthcoming.

The momentum is on our side as we urge more graduates, non-graduates, and the general public as well to support this worthy cause benefitting our Alma Mater! We praise her.

PMA, Oh Hail to Thee!





Rear Adm. Caesar Bernard Valencia (at podium) delivers his assumption speech as the 85th Philippine Military Academy superintendent as Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief Gen. Romeo Brawner Jr. presides over the change of command ceremony at Fort del Pilar in Baguio City on July 20, 2024. (Photo from the author)

# Raising the BAR of EXCELLENCE in LEADERSHIP

• CAV EDGAR A AREVALO '90

*(The article "Raising the Bar of Excellence in Leadership"  
was first published in The Manila Times on 04 August 2024.)*

In an archipelagic nation of 7,641 islands, with a coastline stretching 36,289 kilometers that is the sixth longest in the world, and an exclusive economic zone measuring 2.2 million square kilometers, the Philippines has about 115,000 soldiers in the Philippine Army, about 26,200 sailors and Marines in the Philippine Navy, and roughly 20,570 aviators and airmen in the Philippine Air Force that make up the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

From the vestiges of war, the forebears of the AFP fought primarily internal security threats. From the Hukbong Bayan Laban sa mga Hapon, the Communist Party of the Philippines-

New People's Army-National Democratic Front and the Moro secessionist movements to the Islamic extremist Abu Sayyaf Group and the Daesh-inspired Maute Group, the military faced these national security challenges with the basic skills of "shoot, move, communicate."

At the turn of the 21st century, however, the Philippines found itself embroiled in a territorial dispute with a rising hegemon and aggressive expansionist neighbor. After the Philippines terminated its military bases agreement with the United States in 1991 and after all American bases were vacated in 1994, China began occupying Panganiban

(Mischief) Reef in 1995. China's illegal occupation, through its destructive construction of artificial islands in Zamora (Subi) Reef and Kagitingan (Fiery Cross) Reef in 1998 and four other reclaimed islands in the West Philippine Sea, were declared illegal in the July 2016 arbitral ruling that holds Beijing liable for damages it caused to the marine environment.

These changes in the geopolitical landscape, in an environment that is volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous, shaped the urgent need for a modernized AFP that is capable of defending the country's territorial integrity. And in this era of rapid technological advances and with the advent of artificial intelligence, military education and training institutions have to cope by producing leaders who are no longer just able to shoot, move, and communicate.

The nation's cradle of future military leaders, like the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) and other AFP officer candidate schools, must adapt. Rear Adm. Caesar Bernard Valencia, the new PMA superintendent, stressed during his assumption speech last month that the academy must "produce officers [who] are future-proof and attuned to the times." He said that while the PMA's mission "to instruct, train, and develop the cadets so that each graduate shall possess the character, the broad and basic military skills, and the education essential to a successful pursuit of a progressive military career" had weathered the tests of time, it must evolve.

Valencia, a member of the PMA Bigkislahi Class of 1990, sees no use for PMA graduates who rely on "vault files" or "doctrinal" solutions to new and emergent problems but future officers who are "critical thinkers and able to see beyond the obvious," "able to communicate ideas clearly and succinctly," and have the "ability to collaborate with nontraditional partners to find solutions that are multicausal and multifaceted."

He envisions the PMA to equip today's cadets with the wherewithal to meet the challenges they will face when they become the "nation's leaders in the 2050s and 2060s" to fit an AFP that Defense Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. describes as "multi-threat, multidomain and highly technical armed force ready to face both conventional and asymmetric challenges."

Notwithstanding the skills and mindset demanded from mid-21st century officers, the new PMA superintendent underscored a very important point by giving emphasis to the "immutable factors" in the PMA that must remain undisturbed, and these are the "values of discipline and the intractable adherence to the Honor Code." These twin values, to Commander in Chief and President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., are "non-negotiables."

I was among the thrilled crowd during that foggy afternoon who loudly applauded the speeches of Valencia and his retiring predecessor, Army Lt. Gen. Rowen Tolentino of the PMA Makatao Class of 1989. Both are staunch advocates of the PMA's ideal of excellence and bastions of the academy's mottos of courage, integrity and loyalty.

I couldn't agree more. What makes PMA alumni a cut above the rest is discipline and adherence to the Honor Code and the Honor System that is unique to the PMA.

*"We, the cadets, do not lie, cheat, steal or tolerate among us those who do,"* says the Code, which makes cadet training one of a kind and the four-year stay in the academy a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live in an ideal society where words are taken at face value. Where the honorableness of an act is tested by asking oneself questions that must be answered with "No:" "Do I intend to deceive?" and "Do I intend to take undue advantage?" The challenge, therefore, to every PMA superintendent and the PMA community — including tactical officers, faculty members and alumni — is how to imbibe the Code beyond the academy's hallowed grounds.

The PMA no longer has the monopoly of the *crème de la crème*. Officer candidates in the Army, Navy and Air Force nowadays are Marine engineers, naval architects, aeronautical engineers, aerospace engineers, robotics engineers, computer engineers and data analytics, to name a few. Professional Regulations Commission-licensed and topnotchers in their fields are given preference. Take the twin immutable attributes of the highest standards of discipline and the strict adherence to the Honor Code away, and PMA graduates may pale in comparison to the pre-entry qualifications of applicants for commissionship as AFP officers.

The challenge, therefore, of hitherto officers, especially PMA graduates, is setting an example to junior officers — from whatever source of commission — of the highest form of professionalism by subordinating one's interest to that of the organization. Of manifesting a principled stand as a superior taking the cudgels for unjustly treated subordinate officers. Of insulating the AFP from partisan politics that seeks or dangles advancement of personal interest rather than that of the institution. Of being able to answer "no" to the two basic test questions of honorableness in their dealings with superiors, peers and subordinates.

The military profession does not require angels and saints in its ranks. But it does need men and women of moral and physical courage, principled loyalty and unqualified integrity to lead and be led in the 21st century AFP.



*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 28 May 2024, the 86<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of Herman S. Valera (+) of PMA Batch 62, or "Vale" was attended by his PMA Mistahs, colleagues in the Air Force and Philippine Airlines at Wine Story, Bonifacio Global City. His daughters, Patricia Ann V. Tambuyat and Karla Regina D. Valera-Chua, as well as his granddaughter, Jorgianna V. Neri, were likewise present during the event. It was a night of melancholy with Class 62 mistahs reminiscing about their memories with Vale. Speeches were likewise given by General Charlie Tanega, Captain Rodrigo Silverio, former Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force Willie C. Florendo, who is Vale's brother-in-law, and PMA Class President, General Manuel B. Mariano.





**CLEMENTE P MARIANO**  
President  
**WINSTON G ARPON**  
Secretary

**Q.** After our Diamond Jubilee with our Souvenir Publication, Salute to our Fallen Classmates video and of course our Qtr2 Class Call, are we continuing with our regular quarterly Class Call?

**A.** Why not? Class 51 had one until the last survivor.

(Moved and seconded. No objection. Following class protocol – when at least two members are present, there is a majority – proposal to continue was approved)

## Milestones

### BIRTHDAY

July - 01/1939 – *Jorge Agcaoili*

September - 16/1938 – *Jimmy Valeros*  
22/1941 – *Santi Bunoan* 30/1942 – *Rey Reyes*



### LAST TAPS

July 30/2023 - *Louie Bareng*

### EVENTS

PHILCAG VETERANS Reunion July 21, 2024 at LNMB; wreath-laying ceremony

at the PHILCAGV commemorative Pylon. Present: the group with US Army, other group leaders of Veteran Groups and PVAO reps and some children of departed veterans. Late breakfast at the Pavilion culminated the event. Class 64's very own **Clem Mariano**, **Billy Villareal** and **Rene Garcia** were among the attendee-survivors.

**Arfs Arpon** working on a biographical book, *Twists and Turns Aplenty*. **Rey Reyes** was requested and generously agreed on a writeup on Class 64; in the word of **Arfs**, one of several significant twists and turns in his life's journey.

In continental US, Chicago in particular, **Tagoy** and **Sophie Dino** continue with an active life with a group of seniors; the Dinos, as always, regaling the group and



living up to their well-deserved reputation as one of the best dancing couples on that side of Illinois. And **Tagoy** – bless his thoughtfulness - keeps us constantly posted photos.

MEANWHILE, someone got and shared a photo from the archives of Class 64 past.



In the photo: **+Paz Bareng; +Pilar Arpon; Beth Villareal; +Mercy Padilla; +Amy Bunoan; Sofie Dino; +Vilma Ruiz with Judy; +Baby Garcia.**

**Billy Villareal; Tagoy Dino; Santy Bunoan; +Gerry Ruiz; Arfs Arpon; + Dodong Ariosa; Jun Padilla; Rene Garcia; +Eric Pilapil; + Sammy Farre; +Louie Bareng. /@waga/cc64-2403**





**MIGUEL A LEONARDO**  
President  
**EVERLINO P NARTATEZ**  
Secretary

We are very sad and the whole PMA Mulawin Class 1965 family is in deep mourning for the death of Mulawin classmate and dear friend, COLONEL JOSELITO F TAPIA (Ret.). He passed away last July 17, 2024 culprit or cause of death is the BIG C which is now very common specially to the elderlies, prostate cancer. Lito died at the age of 84 and is the 30th Mulawin who have already departed. He now had joined too, his OAO Mely who had gone ahead of him by three years during the COVID pandemic. Lito was buried at the Manila South Cemetery on the 23rd of July 2024 at the height of super typhoon Carina. Despite the heavy rains and the attendant knee deep flooding in the cemetery, the show must go on and the military honors due to any military man who have served his country well was appropriately given to our dear classmate. The Philippine flag that was draped on his coffin was given to Ms Joseree Tapia, the eldest of the two children of Lito by the Honor Guards that provided the honors. May the soul of COLONEL JOSELITO F TAPIA rest in eternal peace in the Bosom of the Almighty and may God comfort Jesseree and Joel in this time of bereavement.

Despite the heavy rains and super typhoon Carina, most of the members of PMA Mulawin Class 1965 who are Manila-based have braved the masungit na panahon to personally extend their condolences during the four-day wake and joined as well, sa paghahatid kay Mulawin Lito sa kanyang huling hantungan. Lito last attended the thanksgiving mass offering to deceased Mulawins and spouses last March 27, 2024 at the St Ignatius Cathedral in CGEA QC and our 59th Graduation Anniversary thanksgiving lunch buffet at the Cavaliers Resto Bar at the LOGCOM area also in CGEA, Q.C. At that time there was no showing that he was suffering from any discomfort or sickness.

The Class Q3 gathering and get together fellowship was held on August 15, 2024 and as usual a lunch buffet but this time at The Viking's Mega Mall, EDSA, Mandaluyong, actually just a stone throw away from our usual venue of The NIU



*As per our usual practice our Class always holds a meeting after the burial of a Classmate, so, paghatid namin kay Lito T sa kaniyang huling hantungan sa Manila South Cemetery on 23rd of July 2024, the Class ManCom had a meeting over lunch at Max Resto, Jupiter St., Makati: Ofring Marcelo, Rolly Cauton, Tates Nartatez, Pat Duque, Baby Duque, Donna Acenas and Egay Velasco. Present but not in picture - Jess (the betterer one).*

resto in The Podium. It was also timely to welcome Balikbayan classmate, JUN TUCAY who arrived last July 31 from the US where he is permanently based. It will be recalled and as reported in the last issue of The Cavalier, April-May-June Issue his wife Daisy, died last March 28, 2024 and as understood from Jun, he brought home her ashes to be interred here at the LNMB (Daisy served in the AFP for about six or seven years, as a military nurse).

At this time six months remaining and we will reach another milestone, our Diamond (60th) Jubilee. We the Class Officers and ManCom members are all committed to the putting out of a Class Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Yearbook and as previously announced, we are reiterating the submission of all the required pictures and documents to either Mulawin Ofring Marcelo or Mulawin Tates Nartatez. So Gentlemen



*The last posing of Mulawin Col Lito F Tapia with his two children Jesseree and Joel and classmates from PMA Class 1965 - Rolly C, Tates Nartatez, Ofreng Marcelo, Jess Candelario and Boots, Bert Acenas and Donna, Ernie Sacro, Pat Duque and Baby.*

Mulawins Sirs, please, if you have not yet complied yet, may time pa to catch up.

Wishing all the birthday celebrators in the months of July, August, and September a Happy Birthday, all the best and continued blessings of good health:

(1) Adolf Borje - Sept 23; (2) Enrique T Bulan - Sept 7; (3) Feliberto Camacho - Aug 22; (4) Raoul V Cauton - Sept 25; (5) Warlito V Chee - July 22; (6) Antonio Daza (+) - July 31; (7) Rodrigo S de Guzman (+) - Sept 19; (8) Manuel de Leon (+) - August

15; (9) Patrocel Duque - July 13; (10) Guerrero Guzman - Sept 3; (11) Jose C Lapus - July 9; (12) Nicanor Lugtu - Sept 16; (13) Jose Mendoza - July 19; (14) Felix Turingan - July 29; and (15) Rogelio Umali (+) - July 20.



#### PAMBUNGAD

Totoong habang nadadagdagan ang ating mga taon, para naman bumibilis ang mga paglipas ng mga araw at oras. 'Yong mga bukas na ating hinihintay na darating, hindi natin namamalayan ay kahapon na pala. Ganoon din marahil ang hinihintay nating pagdating ng Pebrero 2026, na kung kailan ay ating pinananabikan pagkat sa taong ito, muli tayong paroroon sa PMA, Loakan, Baguio City dahil sa ating Diamond Anniversary ng pagtatapos ng pag-aaral doon – nakalipas na pala!

#### THE SHOW MUST GO ON, HOWEVER

That is why, our Class of 1966 continues to live and be active day by day. We find time to be together, even in small groups, for during these occasions, we find joy, even in telling stories that are not exactly recalled the way they happened. In the process, we unconsciously follow the advice of experts – your life is prolonged, not so much by following health regimens like diet, seeing your doctor regularly, following a so-called healthy life style, etc. In short, have a peer group of friends – exactly what we are doing. And this has given birth to a group called Back to the Slope, or in code, C6-4567.

#### BACK TO THE SLOPE

This phrase is actually the result of an accident. Sometime last year, Mistah Louie Fernandez, the Super Admin of our chat group Class of 1966 Plus while inviting other members of the class to join the chat group, accidentally cliqued the wrong key. Two names responded willingness to join – Raoul Cauton '65 and Winston Arpon '64. Louie was just too happy to include the two, having high regards for them as cadets and for a time as officers, and after receiving strong “endorsements,” (whatever this means), from the other mistahs, made them members of the chat

group. And to cut a long story short, they have been very active in posting valuable, educational, funny and “horny”, (not a misspelling of corny) posts.

Since then, the walking group '66, which we have reported several times in Class Calls, had added a Tuesday breakfast schedule at Lartizan Resto, Serendra, Bonifacio Global City. This is in respect to the preference of WAGA (the latest acronym of Winston Atilano Godinez Arpon '64), who comes all the way from home city Lipa, even ahead of most of us.

Not long afterward, WAGA convinced the group to expand to invite other “bugo-bugos” from other classes to join. Again to cut a long story short, the C6-4567 came into being. It literary means “The Corps of the 60’s, composing of members of classes ‘64, ‘65, ‘66, and ‘67. If others with like

thinking would join later on, the symbol Plus (+), would be written at the end. Finally, why “Back to the Slope”. It was a brainchild of WAGA.

Call it being sentimental. In the ‘60s, or even ‘70s, the strength of the Cadet Corps was only a few hundred cadets. The Tactical officers were strict and zealous in inculcating precision and snaps during drills and ceremonies. If they saw mistakes, they would order the cadets to march from the Borromeo Field back to Melchor Hall building along the sloppy road flanking the parade ground. Back to the slope was therefore a “popular” term then, attributed to a strict Tactical Officer. Now, we can call it our battle cry. Like “Steady On” of the then 1BCT, 1ID, PA fame of the Korean War in the ‘50s.



### WHO ARE AFRAID OF BOODLING?

Not our spouses/ladies, for sure, if we look at the food on their table at Mandarin Sky Express, Market Market, Bonifacio Global City on 28 July. The occasion was in celebration of Iyay Urgello's early (seventy\_?) birthday. She is shown fifth from left if our counting is correct. No boys are allowed (?) but one could be seen, and another one claimed he was there. But this was not an issue, for as a rule, anybody could gatecrash in, but be prepared to foot the bill, if...

### REMEMBERING CORDS

We give special sentimental attention to mistahs who have gone ahead as our advance party to another dimension in life. So on 30 July, we specially remembered Bay Mars Cordova who went ahead last 2022, during a dinner at the PN Gold Club, after a holy mass in his memory. Together with our spouses, we joined Patri and her family, relatives and family friends in an iconic restaurant which is a favorite of golf addicts because it serves delicious, but



cheap Filipino cuisine. And to top it all, Patri gave take home packs to most of the ladies.

### ARE YOU A MEMBER OF VFP?

Probably, not all sixty-sixers are members in good standing of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines,

the government corporation mandated by law to be the mother organization of all veterans (per old and new laws).

Thanks to departed Mistah, Charlie Batayola who once served as an executive officer of VFP, he spearheaded the organization of Sixty-Six Veterans and Associates, Inc. (SSVAI) with all sixty-sixers made as members before they become sixty-six years old, their membership dues paid by the Class '66 Class Fund. However, upon reaching age 65, which, bylaw made them old-age pensioners of PVAO, they should apply for membership in good standing by paying P500 annually to VFP thru PVAO.

Perhaps, there was an omission of sort, or an oversight here – not everybody is a member in good standing of VFP. But there is a solution in the making - hopefully of course. There is a new name of SSVAI – it is now Veterans Sixty-Six and Associates, Inc. (VSSAI). The arrangements of the letters matter.

Thanks to the initiative of Mistah Temy Arugay who once served as PVAO Director during the time of Mistah Angie Reyes as SND, the Bylaws of the old SSVAI had been amended in 2019. Since then, the new organization, Veterans Sixty-Six and Associates, Inc. (VSSAI) has been regularly meeting after the COVID pandemic scare. Its registration with the SEC has been updated. In fact, on 27 June 2024, it held its annual membership meeting and election of Board of Directors at Veterans Center, Taguig. On the same date, the elected directors were inducted by no less than LTGEN REYNALDO P MAPAGU AFP (Ret), Undersecretary/Director of PVAO.

And to complete the story, the elected directors made a Courtesy Call on Supreme Council/VFP Chairman Professor Cesar P Pobre at VFP Main Office, Arroceros, Manila. The said directors





*From left to right: Bert Sabularse, Romeo Ucag, Dr Cesar Pobre, Fred Bautista, Pons Rivera, Ret PAF MGen Romeo Alamillo, VFP President.*

could clearly see the elation of Prof. Pobre on seeing his former students in History.

#### **THE SIXTY-SIXERS HAVE GROWN**

On the initiative of Edd Santos, the long-dreamed plan of mobilizing the class brats to insure the propagation of

the memory of the class, finally saw its beginning on 10 August 2024 at the Alano Room of the PN Golf Course Restaurant, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Assisted by daughters Christine and Ana, the Alano Room became the venue of a get to know each other program, attended by

the available originals, the spouses and the second and third generations, to include a third generation "bugo-bugo." All in all, those who were able to attend numbered 48 (picture below).

Since this part of the Class Call, was submitted after the deadline, more about this event would be written in the next issue of the Cavalier Magazine.

#### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS**

Before we end our Class Call not so news for the period, the Class would like to greet those who will celebrate/celebrated their natal days.

**July** - Bantolo, J (07); Dumadapat, G (20); Parrenas, G (10); Espejo, Cel (10); Iyay Urgello (11), Cordova, Patri (21).

**August** - Bautista, F (25); Rivera, A (02); Alba, Alice (15); Varona, Portia (22); Agudelo, Sylvia (28); Perez, Olive (22); Gay-ya, H (28).

**September** - Aquino, J (11); Belleza, S (09); Tanedo, R (19); Belo, Tita (02); De Leon, Lulu (06); Lachica, Dolly (20); Eco, Puri (30); Cabusao, L (24); Lapus, J (12).

Happy birthday fellow senior citizens. Onward to 101!



**ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR**  
President  
**RUFINO G IBAY JR**  
Secretary

#### **CLASS ACTIVITIES**

A. The following were our activities for the May - July 2024 period:

**May** - No Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) was held since the one for this month was combined with the April DMF as reported in the last Class Call.

**26 May** - The Dimasupil Class Officers and SAF (Social Amelioration Fund) Committee had a joint breakfast meeting at the residence of Ross and Mandie Sibal in Marikina City. Agenda: SAF Concerns and Other Important Class Matters.

**20 June** - Our joint DMF for June and July was hosted by Abe and Cora Din, Hedy Dueñas, Jovy and Baby Sales, and Ross and Mandi Sibal in The Alley Resto, UP Town Center, QC. During the meeting, we confirmed the reelection of the incumbent Class Officers until the next election in December 2024 and also the need to keep the SAF afloat.

B. The following will be our schedule for August - September 2024, onwards:

**4 August** - Meeting of the Dimasupil Diamond Sword Committee in Cafe Via Mare, UP Gate, Katipunan Ave, QC.

**6 September** - Joint DMF for August and September to be hosted by Sergs Austria, Fred Encarnacion, Ed and Myrna Espinosa, Vir and Marina Odulio, and Mar and Beth Santiago for the August group; and Jake Caruncho, Merle Odi, Vlady and Josie Olivares, and Elen Reventar for the September group.

**October or November** - Joint DMF for October and November to be hosted by Aging Alino, Joe and Myrna Andaya. Ching and Papoose Ballecer, Andy Reyes, and Sammy and Cora Tomas for the October group; and Cords and Myrna Cordero, Lea



*Dimasupil Cl 67 June 2024 Lunch Fellowship at the D Alley by Vikings at the UP Town Center.*

Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Eve Villacorta for the November group.

**December** - Remembrance Day in honor of the departed Dimasupils and Tagasupils, Christmas Party, and Election of Class Officers.

#### UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

Last July 2024, Typhoon Carina brought heavy rains to Luzon which flooded Metro Manila and neighboring provinces. Unfortunately, the houses of Mar and Beth Santiago in Q.C. and Alex and Lita De Guzman in Katarungan Village, Antipolo City were submerged, destroying most of their appliances and other valuables. Incidentally, Alex had been confined in VMMC at that time, for "transient ischemic attack", since 26

June. As of now, he is still there in VMMC.

Warlie Sadiarin made a very short visit here last May to accompany his nephew in making perpetual profession as a Capuchin at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Q.C. He did not stay long as he missed Mila, who stayed behind in Virginia, USA where they are based.

#### UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Sergs Austria and his family on the passing away of Senyang on 27 May 2024 in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, due to cancer. May she rest in eternal peace in the bosom of the Almighty.

We also convey our profound

condolences to Andy Reyes and his family on the death of Meds on 27 May 2025 in VMMC, QC where she had been confined due to stroke. May she rest in eternal peace in the loving arms of the Almighty.

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and Tagasupils who celebrated/will celebrate their birthdays in July, August, and September: Reina Young (2 July), Vic Laurilla (8), Alex de Guzman (10), Ben Samonte (15), Tita Fragante (19), Romy Villanueva (20), Oying Pinto (21), Mandie Sibal (22), Pol Aliac (24), Glo Parena (24), Archie Balboa (26), and Jovy Sales (28); Aying Patino (2 August), Marina Odulio (3), Sergs Austria (11), Mar Santiago (19), Vir Odulio (23), Nanding Perez (25), Ed Espinosa (27), Titong Enriquez (28), Graisie Gaerlan (28), and Fred Encarnacion (29); Arleen Brawner (2 September), Elen Reventar (2), Vlady Olivares (3), Claude Francisco (7), Baby Sales (12), Jake Caruncho (23), Nina Quiambao (26), and Ruby Torres (28).

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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We have been informed of the following schedule of Alumni activities:

**25 January 2025** - PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting (Convention) at AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, QC; and **15 February 2025** - PMA Alumni Homecoming in Baguio City.

For those who intend to attend the Homecoming, please contact Jun Avenido for the hotel reservation in due time.

2. Manny Dalipe is inviting all Dimasupils and Tagasupils to the city fiesta of Zamboanga City on 12 October 2024. Please let him know if you are interested to attend so he can help make the necessary arrangements.

#### CLASS TRIVIA

The following are interesting conversations among the Dimasupils:

1. When we greeted Ross Sibal on his 80th birthday last 16 June, he replied: *"Am so glad to have reached this age considering that I had cancer 18 years ago. God bless us all Dimasupils and our families."*

2. Bobby Lastimoso posted on Viber a story of a miracle that happened to a very sick woman. Vic Laurilla commented: *"Kabayan, ikaw ba yan? Kung ikaw nga, totoong may milagro nga!"* Bobby retorted: *"The best miracle, Kabayan, is when you start attending our Class fora!"*

3. Cords Cordero declared: *"The tongue exercise is very much part of the Lion pose in*

*Yoga. I used to do this before sleeping or upon waking up.” Bobby Lastimoso answered: “Toto Naning, no need to go through the Lion pose to exercise your tongue because you are an Ilongo. Matigas na talaga ang dila natin.”*

4. Agnes Avenido remarked: “We need a miracle for a better Philippines.” Ross Sibal replied: “We need strong leaders who are honest and morally upright and who will show good examples and instill discipline to

everyone. Sadly, there is corruption in all the branches of our government. Yes, you are right, Suprema. We need a miracle!”

**May God be with all of us and our families always. Mabuhay tayong lahat!**



*Taken on June 1, 2024 during the wake of Remedios (Medz) Reyes, wife of Col Andy Reyes, at the Arlington Memorial Chapels along Araneta Avenue.*



*Taken during the wake of the late Arsenia Austria in Cabanatuan City.*



*With Col Sergio Austria during the wake of his late wife Arsenia Austria last May 31, 2024 in Cabanatuan City.*



*Wake of the late Medz Reyes at Arlington Memorial Chapel.*



**ART CARRILLO**  
**Interim President**  
**WILFREDO G NUQUI**  
**Interim Scribe**

1. Recent months brought both blessings and sadness to our Class. Tony Siapno is now recovering the normal vision of his eyes after successful medical procedures. Many thanks to Nori for referring him to Tzu Chi Foundation which provided excellent medical treatment to Tony. Mae is equally elated and thankful for answering their prayers.

2. With extreme sadness Shirley Costales joined our Creator on June 30, 2024. Her wake was well attended by the Class and ladies consisting of 13 CMs and 14 ladies, namely: Volts and Rhodie, Nori and Candy, Patrick and Bebot, Willy and Isay, Bobby and Purita, Abe and Roxane, Hector and Peewee, Rudy and Arlene, Mel and Millette, Art C, Art J, Paco F, Rene S, Julie R, Tess P, Luz S, Marite G, and Angging Dumlaio. Alex and eldest daughter Aleli were gracious and led in welcoming our respects. We sincerely encourage other CMs and ladies to attend Class wakes to bid their last goodbyes.

A 40th day mass solemnized by Fr Anto Pascual was offered for Shirley and the Costales family on Aug 8, 2024. Bert, Art C,

Abe, Willy, Volts, Hector, Mel, Patrick, Rudy and Bobby attended. The accompanying ladies were Isay, Rhodie, Peewee, Millette, Bebot, Purita and Tess P.

3. Surviving CMs who are now age 77 years old and above are thankful for our Lord's life blessings. *United Nations* reported that the population of Asia and the Pacific today have a *life expectancy at birth* increasing to 74.7 years and the proportion of older population now stands at 10.5% of total population. *The life expectancy of females is higher than that of males due to differences in biological, hormonal, lifestyle, and risk factors.* This is the true for Class 1968.

4. The Class had an official meeting on July 17, 2024 at CAGC. Present were Art



PMAAAI general assembly meeting January 2024.

C, Willy, Patrick, Mel, Volts, Rudy, Bobby, Alex, Nori and Hector. They took up the following:

- a. Status of Class officers for CY 2025;
- b. Updates on key activities of PMAFI, PFTJI and PETFI foundations, construction

of the PMAAAI building at Fort Bonifacio and other alumni matters;

- c. Class funds deposited with AFPSLAI and Patriot Cooperative which require build up towards our 2028 diamond graduation anniversary; and

d. Avoidance of sensitive political and religious views sent through the Class Viber groups which may 'hurt or offend' other CMs.

5. The annual Christmas party and annual election of Class officers for 2025 are scheduled in early Dec 2024.

6. Public policy matter. The adverse impact of high food and energy inflation and the high policy interest rates that were implemented earlier by BSP's Monetary Board are now being felt and are likely to continue. Indeed, households' consumption expenditures continued to be anemic in the second quarter of 2024. Congress and DoF ought to work harder in raising tax and non-tax revenues to avoid unsustainable reliance on public debt and using funds of gov't-owned corporations (GOCCs) which address earmarked public health and other legally protected priorities. **Executive Order No. 64 authorized a four-year tranche salary adjustment for government personnel starting in CY 2024. Non-discrimination and increased national security challenges dictate a similar, immediate and imperative measure for MUPs and retirees.**



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS AND WISHES

These postings are taken from the vault files of our long-time Sunshine Committee OIC, Bingbo/Bobing Briliantes

who just recently died on 13 Jun 24. In his honor, here are the birthday greetings for Suaviter celebrants in June, July and August using his original postings.



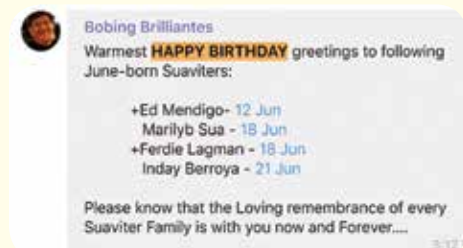
In this issue, we will recall how saddened the Suaviter community was by the passing of our beloved Mistah Bobing Briliantes, Jr. on 13 Jul 24. In the days before his death, everybody was expecting him to recover from his medical ordeal which started in the Asian Hospital and Medical Center in Muntinlupa and later transferred to Veterans Hospital Medical Center (VHMC) in Quezon City. The transfer between the two hospitals was rather smooth, thanks to the hands-on coordination by the leaders of the class. Close follow-up and monitoring as posted in the class Viber chat indicated that the treatment and care of Bingbo was well-managed and later the expectation for his eventual recovery was guarded

but hopeful. However, complications unexpectedly appeared which later resulted into a respiratory failure, the cause of death. Bingbo's wife, Vikki, conveyed to the class her sincerest thanks and gratitude for everything especially the outpouring of help and prayers during Bobing's last moments. She also requested for continued prayers for the eternal repose of his soul. Bobing's remains lied in state at Loyola Chapels in Sucat until cremation time. To Vikki's expression of relief and gladness, her expectation for Bobing's appropriate official burial rites and honors were properly observed and orchestrated, befitting a military veteran officer and gentleman.

The narrative of Bingbo's last days, including the necro service, is well captured and monitored in the class Viber group chat. Here's the salient reminiscence of the events as posted sequentially, which may not be exactly chronological.

1. The first posting was on 10 Jun 24 when Jimmy (who was still abroad) requested Bingbo's transfer and admittance to Veterans Hospital and Med Center from the Asian Hospital's ER department.

2. At about 8:30 p.m., Willie posted that he called up Dr. Gali about



Bingbo's situation. He was told that the hospital staff was able to manage Bingbo's condition. Benjie talked to Dr. Chiong of VPMC for Bingbo's reservation.

3. Jimmy issued a status report from info gathered from the family. Bingbo was tested in isolation area, transferred to ICU Staging due to COVID strict protocols. He will be treated initially for pneumonia with possibility of pulmonary edema. Bing didn't look well.

4. 11 Jun 24. According to Willie, Bobing was still critical and not yet over the hump. He developed a pulmonary ailment which was being treated. His kidney was also being managed. Bingbo was weak but conscious, although isolated (per COVID protocol) from Vicky and Richie, who just came from Hongkong.

5. Nonoy posted an update on Bobing's medical condition/treatment as

earlier related to him by Vicky. Bobing was transferred to MITU where most patients were Nephro cases, meaning critical. A bit of good news, he was negative for COVID. Creatinine was high. Dialysis was the eminent treatment. The family would still discuss and process other doctor's recommendations. The bottom line: Bobing's stand on DNR or DNI should prevail.

6. Outpouring of cash assistance and support from the Suaveters came spontaneously, for which Vicky expressed her gratitude and appreciation.

7. 12 Jun 24. Bobing was scheduled for dialysis.

8. 13 Jun 24. Jimmy posted that Vicky called to inform the class of the demise of her beloved, our Mistah Bingbo Brillantes. The family would announce shortly the admin details relative

to his death and the ensuing burial arrangements.

9. Offers of sympathy, prayers and condolences poured in from the Suaveter and Cavalier families all over, here and abroad.

10. Vikki's family issued the announcement, "Bobing's remains will lie in state at Loyola Chapels Sucat ... until Tuesday where his remains will be cremated at 3:00 p.m. Vikki requests all pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul ..."

11. Col. Ted Diocampo was requested to orchestrate proper military burial arrangements for the late Ret. Col. Richard Brillantes, Jr. Coordination was made with various personnel and offices to ensure funeral honors and services are provided.

**At the NECRO Service ... Special thanks to Mistah Joey for providing the photo and video coverage of the Necro Service.**



*Our class wreath is now in the Lisbon room.*



*Changing of the Vigil Guard.*



*Snappy Vigil Watch. Kudos to PA.*



*Opening Prayer by Chris.*



*First Eulogy by Benjie.*



*Greg presiding wake service.*



*Richie assisting Greg.*



Robyn's husband did the reading.



Jess Regala with his eulogy.



Jus Manlongat doing his eulogy.



Vikki's response to all eulogies, prayers, sympathies, assistance of all kinds, encouragements, supports and love. "You made us feel God's presence in your love. Thank you." – Vicky.



Sent by the Suaviter Ladies. Thank you for your complementing the Suaviter's efforts and concerns. You are combat multipliers. Mabuhay kayo. --- the PMA 69ers.



#### Nonoy Carranza's Tribute To a Classmate, Friend and Comrade

Today, we gather to honor and celebrate the life of a remarkable person who was not just a classmate and a friend, but also a comrade in arms. The loss we feel is profound, and words often fall short of capturing the essence of a person who has touched so many lives. Yet, we try, because it is in remembering that we keep their spirit alive within us.

Bobing, from the very first day we met during our plebehood in 1964, it was clear that you were someone special, a

bunkmate and all. Your warm friendship and take life attitude kept us facing our daily challenges with brightness. You were also there when Mone and I needed you to capture our precious moments. I clearly remember how you artistically photographed me and my kaydet girl as we walked along the streets of Fort del Pilar... We treasure those photos forever.

As a friend, you were unparalleled. Your kindness, compassion, and unwavering support were a testament to your character.

*You had a way of knowing when someone needed a kind word or a helping hand, and you never hesitated to offer both. The memories of our shared laughter, the late-night conversations, and the countless moments of joy will forever be cherished in our hearts.*

*In times of challenge and adversity, you stood firm like a real Suaviter. Your courage, dedication, and resilience were evident to all of us who had the privilege of being your friend. You faced every obstacle with a spirit that was unbreakable, and*

*your commitment to those around you was inspiring.*

*Your legacy is one of love and unwavering strength. While your physical presence may no longer be with us, the impact you made on our lives as our mistah, and class historian and custodian of class details will never fade. You have left an indelible mark on each of us, and for that, we are eternally grateful.*

*As we say our goodbyes, we remember your genuine friendship and care. The warm greetings you posted every time we*

*had our birthdays. We honor the love you shared, the strength you embodied, and the courage you displayed in facing the last challenging moments of your life. You will forever be missed, but never forgotten. Your spirit will continue to live on in our hearts and in the stories we share.*

*Rest in peace, dear Mistah Bobing. Thank you for being a part of our lives, for your friendship, and for your unwavering strength to go through life's most challenging moments courageously. Farewell Mistah Bobing, until we meet again.*

#### **Comments, Reactions on the Necro Coverage:**

**Willie Wong:** Thank you Mistah Joey for bringing us to the necro with your photos and videos. May Mistah Bing rest in peace.

**Rene Aguda:** Tnx, Joey.

**Dan Reventar:** Thank you Joey, for transmitting the video of the necro service on Viber and to all our Mistahs who comforted and supported Vikki and her family during their time of grief! May God bless you all!

**Benjie Defensor:** Special mention to Jimmy and Jus for keeping CI 69 closer, stronger and singing forever!

**Jimmy de los Santos:** Mistahs, Benjie's comments ay nakakataba ng puso. Let's continue the march in attending to all our concerns as we navigate the last quarter of our life. God Bless!

**Jake Duller:** Ok na ok, Mistah Joey. Thank you. God bless.

**Ike Begonia:** Thank you for the photo coverage of the entire necrology! It's like us not being absent after all! We are still proceeding to Alaska for our family (US side) trip to Earl's in-law's state!

#### **SUAVITERS ON THE GO! BEYOND THE SEAS! GALLIVANTING! HAVING FUN!**



Sharing pics, our yearly reunion with Dan and Emmy in Houston, Texas. Oca Mauricio 70, Jake Caruncho 67 and Rudy Eco 66 were unable to join.



July 4th boating with Odette at Panther Island, Fort Worth, Texas!



We are enjoying our US visit, doing grocery and even driving. Regards to all.



I love my funboat ... did fishing at Eagle Lake, FW, Texas.



...and watching July 4th fireworks at Panther Island, FW, Texas.



Enjoying and capturing Alaska ambience!



Steak dinner at Earl's residence. Fun!



Got in the day before Olympic Opening. Paris, France.



At Indian Shores, Largo, Florida.



Celebrating AF Day at Bahamas breeze, Clearwater, Florida.

#### Suaviter GRANKIDS Corner



With our son and granddaughter, Frankie.



Our grandson in Portland, Oregon who graduated in High School. He is going to LA College of Music in Pasadena.



Our snappy grandson, Matthew, new USNA Graduate, Class of 2024.



College graduation of my granddaughter, LouAnn, at UC San Diego, CA, June 16 '24. She took up BS Psychology.



Justin (non-academic academics) works during summer break. His elder brother Joshua works at Panera Bread. ---Jimmy



#### MAGITING MILESTONES.

**L**t Gen Jack Ligot Submits Final Scorecard at 76:

Until his very last day Magiting Jack just cannot forget to share his love and joy for the game of golf. Loving wife Len

completely understood Jack's affection for the game as well as the fine company of golfing Mistahs. He passed away quietly leaving a trail of sad hearts and lasting memories of more than 55 years. Thus it was not a surprise when Len informed the class that Jack wanted a happy reunion instead of the customary necrological program.

Len kept her loss in the company of the Ligot family, friends, relatives and Class '70. At the Heritage Chapels in Taguig, the class sang PMA Oh Hail to Thee for the final time with Jack's remains in a

marble urn. President Nesty handed the Philippine flag to symbolize the nation's gratitude for Jack's devotion to duty. Just the same Roy and Nesty spoke a few words of endearment.

In the early evening of the wake on July 7, guests from Class 72 and 73 partook of a few glasses of beer and joined in singing like it was a regular fellowship in a typical Corps of '70 golf tournament. Jack always brought a number of raffle prizes during these fellowships. During the wake, the class contemplated a 40th day celebration. It was going to be a golf fellowship.

**Bobot rejoins her beloved SJ:**

Mas Magiting Margarita "Bobot" Sera Jose, the wife of the late Cavalier Augusto A. Sera Jose '70, passed away on May 25, 2024. They are survived by four successful children Joseph Francis, John Richard, Mary Jocelyn and Sarah Candice. President Nesty handed over Magitings' assistance to Joseph. SJ joined the Philippine Marines in 1970. His last taps was heard on January 7, 2014.

**Mas Magitings fete their third quarter birthday celebrants:**

Dina Gaerlan, Emy de Veyra, Josie Calvo, Tess Atienza, Malou Visperas and Nene Galvante enjoyed the cheerful birthday treat of Mistahs at the PN Golf Club restaurant.

**A MAGITING FARMS SERIES**

**Godo Olores' Farm of Refuge, Thanksgiving and Worship:**

Godo maintains a farm for leisure and solitude at Kalikid Norte, Cabanatuan City. Its unique highlight is a small but cozy chapel. It is a most welcoming sight and beckons guests to say a prayer for an unforgettable visit. The chapel was derived from Godo's dream after his healing in February 2008. It was blessed on a Easter Monday on July 26, 2008 during the birthday of Tatay Federico PMA '41. Nineteen Magitings and even more Mas Magitings attended. Monang and Dionet hauled priests and seminarians to the blessing and boodle fight.

Godo succeeds in growing a colorful bloom of flowers. His farm hosts small



herds of French and German breed of goats and sheep. For the feathered kind, there are Philippine hornbill as well as

Chinese, French and German geese.

For his farming agenda, he wants to raise deer, wild and native pigs, and range chicken. This includes fruit bearing trees such as mango, sampalok, singuelas, santol, guyabano, mabolo, atis, avocado and banana. (Note: More Magiting farms will be featured in the next Class Calls.)



Mas Magitings and Magitings at Bobot Sera Jose's wake @ Loyola Memorial Park Pasig, May 29-30, 2024

Nesty hands over Assistance to Joseph



Mas Magitings

Magitings

**VMMC MAGITING 70 WING: Ready for a Soft Opening**

**The Final Phase is very nearly complete:**

A legacy project of Magiting Class '70, the medical facility which is an annex to the main Veterans Hospital building is already 97% completed. As stipulated in the Project Contract with D.M.Consunji, Inc. (DMCI), the contractor shall hand over said facility to the Amethyst Corps Seventy Foundation, Inc. (ACSF), the Class '70 corporate arm, upon substantial completion of 95% of the contracted Scope of Work. After the pre-inspection



Birthday of Dina Gaerlan, Emy de Veyra and Josie Calvo at PN Golf Club



Birthday of Tess Atienza, Maleu Visperas and Nene Galvante at PN Golf Club

conducted by the VMMC Project Management Team, a final inspection was undertaken by the Magiting '70 Project Inspectorate Group on the 12 private rooms, two nurse stations, hallways, a connecting bridge to the main hospital, an emergency ramp from the basement to the first level, basement parking and the elevator. The facility is more than ready to operate.

The inspectorate group led by Lt Gen Rudy Garcia, with the technical assistance of DMCI project engineers Raph Daluz and Mark Sy as well as assistance of ECCruz Corp consultants, conducted the project inspection in the afternoon of June 14, 2024. A so-called Punch List specified the items that must be inspected and recommended for corrective action if necessary. The inspection was observed by a VMMC technical staff comprised of Chief Engineer Jess Colcol, Engr Arsenio Gonzaga and Architect Grace Bautista. The result of the project inspection was outstanding.

#### Certificate of Completion:

The VMMC Inspection Team reported that the Punch List items have been satisfactorily complied with. Consistent with the contract, a Certificate of Substantial Completion (CoSC) was jointly signed by VMMC and ACSFI who further furnished the certificate to DMCI.

#### Additional Works:

Notably, the CoSC addresses only the Scope of Work (SoW) in the DMCI-ACSFI contract. In a Supplemental Contract between ACSFI and DMCI, the latter shall complete the additional works in accordance with the approved Project Work and Financial Plan. As DMCI President Mistah Jorge Consunji pronounced during the Topping-Off Ceremony early this year, the ACSFI-DMCI partnership is committed to turnover a fully functional medical facility. The additional works must to be completed before the hospital annex can



Magitings and Mas Magitings at the capilla, note expats Rody & Marites, Irwin & Gemma



Godo Olores and brood enjoying a cool shade



Brahma chickens



French and German geese



Colonel Federico '41 and Godofredo '70 Olores memorabilia room



Godou Olores' farm



Godou Olores' farm



Godou Olores' farm



Godou Olores' farm

be turned over to VMMC, to wit:

- 1) Water system solely dedicated for the annex building
- 2) A separate stand-alone water supply for the fire system that is compliant with the hospital building code.
- 3) Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E)
- 4) Other approved variation orders.

#### Compliance to Hospital Building Code:

The need to construct a water system for the annex building came about during a technical meeting. It was found out that the VMMC is allocated only 15 psi of

water pressure from Manila Water and the hospital has no sufficient water reservoir. The Code requirement for a hospital demands a robust 40 to 50 psi. Additionally, the VMMC main hospital building does not have a stand-alone water source to support a fire alarm system which is also a major Code requirement.

Additionally, the cost of Furnishings, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) items which VMMC proposed in its CY-2024 Budget was not included in its appropriations. It was reiterated in the CY-2025 Budget Proposal but did not make it to the DBM approved agency ceiling.

To assure the delivery of the FF&E items before the turnover of the annex building, the Class graciously included the FF&E budget among the additional works to be funded.

Since the construction of the VMMC Fire System requires a new fund outlay, Hon. Romeo Acop, a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and Welfare, suggested that this requirement should be made an integral part of the DND FY- 2025 budget already. It is noteworthy that the Magiting '70 Veterans Wing now complies to the basic code requirements on the fire alarm and sprinkler system, piping network, firefighting equipment and earthquake resilience.

#### Project Handover and Acceptance:

Having undertaken the final inspection and achieved substantial compliance to the Punch List items as per results of the VMMC Pre-inspection, the Chairman of the Inspectorate Committee Lt Gen Rodolfo Garcia and ACSFI Legal Officer Atty Teddy Delarmente, signed the Handover and Acceptance Form. Thereafter, DMCI, represented by Engr Arjay Evangelista, turned over all the Operation Manuals to ACSFI/Magiting '70.

#### Additional Funding:

The budget for the additional works was not covered in the original Project Contract Budget. Hence, additional fund donation of Php30M had to be sourced out from PAGCOR. Protocol for the flow and expenditure of donations must be administratively flawless. The MOA between PAGCOR and ACSFI was promptly signed on June 11, 2024. After complying with prescribed supporting documents, the additional funding proposal was approved by the PAGCOR Board. Following this, the supplemental fund was released to ACSFI on July 23.

#### The Way Forward:

The VMMC responsible staff/ officials have received all the keys and operating manuals from ACSFI, have physically taken over the building security as well as upkeep of the hospital annex. To assure that the completed facility would be operated and maintained without further delay, it was agreed as initiated by Mistah Jorge Consunji, that the VMMC already utilize some of the rooms and to partially operate the building by way of a soft opening.

The water system is expected to be finished within three weeks while the delivery of the FF&E items will be in mid-August. The timeline for the inauguration and final turnover of the Magiting '70 Veterans Wing to the VMMC is in September, after the so-called "ghost month." As the newly constructed medical facility becomes operational, Director Franklin Gali revels at the big boost in upgrading VMMC's services to Filipino veterans/AFP retirees.

#### **Fairway Habitués**

##### Lt Gen Jacinto Castillo Ligot Memorial Golf Fellowship:

Magittings held a golf fellowship in honor of Jack on July 19 at the PN Golf Club. A number of Corps of '70 golfers from Classes 71, 72, 73 and guests from classes 69, 74 and 75 also joined. Some of

Jack's golfing buddies attended. Magiting Uly Sevilla waxed emotional as he recalled his partnering days with Jack and how he chose to join Magiting Class 70. Mistahs Roy, Nesty, Egay and members from the various classes gave tribute to Jack's kindness and soft spoken ways. Jack will not be forgotten.

Magiting North golf mainstays Vic Signey, Egay Galvante, Eloy Garcia and Primo Esguerra occasionally joined by South golfers Nesty Carolina, Roy Cimatu, Glenn Rabonza, Ed Israel, Boots de Veyra, Bert Tagayuna, Uly Sevilla and Bob Nuqui played seven sorties in April, May, June and July at VMMC Golf Course. Notably, after a long hiatus Rudy Garcia made a comeback game on July 11.

North and South golfers converged to join the PMAAAI/PMARAI 2nd Invitational Fellowship Golf at CGEA Golf Course on May 23, 2024.





In the name of Class '70, Magiting Honorable Romy Acop registered as a major sponsor in the second tournament leg of the Federation of Senior Amateur Golfers of the Philippines at Villamor Golf Club on July 9, 2024. Magitings Roy Cimatu, Santi Santillan, Nesty Carolina,

Glenn Rabonza, Bob Nuqui, Bert Tagayuna and guest Bernard Bobadilla played.

#### Magiting Roy Cimatu's Traditional Birthday Golf Fellowship:

Roy's birthday treat was very well attended. South golfers teed-off except for

Boots who was vacationing in Japan with his family. North Golfers and Mas Magitings joined for lunch at Roy's residence in AFPOVAI. A boodle fight of fine cuisine never ran out except for the customary Tomahawk steaks that disappeared in a flash.





**JOSE C LALISAN JR**  
President  
**ARTHUR G BALMaceda**  
Secretary

### Class Meeting and Fellowship

Last 2 June 2024, the Matatags had their second quarter meeting and birthday celebrations. During the meeting presided by Prexy Joey Lalisan, one of the matters under discussion was the disposition of the class fund in the future. Suggestions were given by the mistahs in attendance such as: equitable distribution of the class fund among the living mistahs; distribution of the class fund except the investment in AFPSLAI; give a certain amount upon reaching the age of 80 years old; and others. Since there was a long discussion, a motion to create a Study Committee on this was approved. Prexy Joey designated VP for the Army Atty Oca Martinez as Chairman and VP for the Air Force Dan Francia, VP for the PNP Rex Piad, and VP for the Navy Soc Brazal as members. Sec Tex Balmaceda was designated as recorder. The Study Committee was tasked to submit its recommendations/options during the third quarter class meeting.

After the class meeting, a mass was offered to the birthday celebrators. This was followed by lunch sponsored by the celebrants via potluck. The fellowship was opened by Prexy Joey and wifey Celia, who is the Mas Matatag President by welcoming all mistahs and their ladies and thanked mistah Egay and Mawie Aglipay for making their residence as the venue for the meeting and fellowship. The celebrators were greeted with a birthday song as they blew their candles. Accompanied by the One-Man Band Michael, songs were rendered by the brave and not-so brave mistahs and ladies to the delight of all. What made us happy was when Aris and Nina Delos Reyes participated in the singing. That moment was a first time! Prexy Joey had to call everyone to join the merriment, and may I report, the event was a blast. Those who attended were Egay and Mawie, Joey and Celia, Dan and Arlene, Jerry and Verna, Rey and Benjie Rivera, Rene and Sara, Nelson and Chit, Sen Greg and Jane, Wency and Puring, Aris and Nina, Dong and Puring, Tex Balmaceda, Sandy Navida, Beth Ramos, Aleli Belonia, and Vic Batac.

### Hampaslupa'71 (HL'71) Activities

HL'71 celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary last 17 June 2024 at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course. HL'71 Prexy Rey Acop donated the golf uniform. Those who joined the golf



*Hampaslupa '71 Activities*



*Prayer warriors*

fellowship were Rey Rivera, Rey Alcasid, Bing Alano, Teody Viduya, Jun Fabros, Oca Martinez, Jerry Albano, Marte Chioco, Rey Velasco, Dick de Leon, Egay Aglipay, Dong

Tabamo, Caloy Garcia, and mistahs based in USA Reggie Regalado and Boy Castellano.

The Hampaslupa golfers have the greatest number of fellowships among

mistahs. Their golf activities were done at Beverly GC in Pampanga, at Canlubang GC in Laguna, at Riviera GC in Cavite, Villamor GC, Navy GC, Veterans GC, and Aguinaldo GC.

By the way, mistah Tex Balmaceda had his second Hole-in-One in Canlubang as witnessed by mistahs Rey Rivera and Rey Alcasid. Our congratulations!

#### Prayer Warriors

Last 3 August 2024, the first Saturday of the month, the Mas Matatag Prayer Warriors had the rosary novena for the sake of the mistahs and ladies who have health issues. Present during the prayer meeting were Mawie Aglipay, Celia and Joey Lalisan, Lita Gil, Jinggoy Martinez, Aleli Belonia, Vicky Seron, Lulu Tabamo, Benjie Rivera, Tessie Paynor, Chit and Bobby Yarisantos, Jennie Domingo, and Chato Perico.

#### Long lost Brother and Mistah Jess Paredes and author Rollie Malinis

After a PETFI meeting at the PMAAAI Building in Camp Aguinaldo, lo and behold, I accidentally met our mistah Jess Paredes, who for a long time, has not attended either our class meetings or fellowships. I discovered he was doing research for his doctorate degree at the PMAAAI library. Mistah Jess was my brod in the UP-Vanguard Fraternity together with our late mistah, Cutes Cataluna. Our batch was known as Vanguard 69. Mistah Jess, a lawyer and a member of the Philippine Constabulary, became the Matatag's first assemblyman during the Regular Batasang Pambansa in the 1980s.

May I extend our congratulations to our class historian Rollie Malinis for the



Second Quarter Class Fellowship

Mistah Jess Paredes and a Brod in UP Vanguard Frat.

launching of the book Humor in PMA Uniform last 14 July 2024 where he is a co-author. Mistah, this is another feather on your shoulders. My snappy salute!

#### Quote for this Issue:

"Yesterday I was clever so I wanted to change the world, today I am wise, so I am changing myself". /Rumi /JCL/7 Aug 26



Hello to all. This class call covers the activities and events during the months of May to August. Since February, we didn't have any social or fellowship activities due to the advent of El Nino which triggered the heat index to soar in alarming proportion. Here are the monthly updates for your info and reading pleasure.

#### MAY:

The 40<sup>th</sup> days of Mistah Pol Lacerna's death was commemorated last 24 May at Santuario San Antonio Church, Forbes Park, Makati City. After the mass a

simple but sumptuous lunch was served at the social function rooms of the church. Thirty six Mistah/Mas attended the commemoration. Last 28 May, the ladies were treated with SPA bonanza like body and foot massage, manicure and pedicure at Nexus SPA located at Xentro Mall, Antipolo City. This activity was sponsored by the Class as part of health

and wellness program for the ladies. For those who were not able to join that spa treat you missed that special bonding. The activity ended with lunch at palatial home of Monying and Vangie in Cavalier Hill Village in Antipolo City. Thank you very much Monying and Vangie for your hospitality and kindness.



**JUNE:**

The Masigasig family deeply mourned the sudden demise of Mistah Albin Rivera last 14 June due to lingering illness. He is an epitome of goodness, low profile and professionalism as an officer and a gentleman. We miss you Albin and may you rest in peace eternally. To Mistah Lou and family, again; our sincerest condolences. The 40<sup>th</sup> day of Albin's death was commemorated last 24 July at Bahay Pagibig, Holy Angel Village, Angeles City followed by lunch at Nijon Resto. Due to massive flooding, only four Mistah/Mas (Ric and Cely, Pehpps and Ike) were able to attend.

The Class was supposed to celebrate the out of town 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter fellowship last 28 June in Pangasinan. Initial plan and coordination with Mistah Espines were done already. In the end, the Board decided to reset the plan to later date as advised by Mistah Espines due to high heat index prevailing in Pangasinan at that time. Maybe November or December are the ideal months for out of town activity.

**JULY:**

The Board of Directors met last 15 July at PNGC. The main agenda were as follow: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter social, home visitations to sick Mistahs/Mas, reach out program to orphanage and home for the aged, flu and pneumonia vaccinations and award of Plaque of Recognition to Mistah Art and Carol. The Board scheduled the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter social on 17 Aug, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. at AGFO Social Hall, Camp Aguinaldo. The program activities will be posted soon in our class VCGs. For the spirit of coming Christmas, the Class will conduct visitations to orphanage and homes for the aged to be organized by the Ladies Technical Working Group. At the same time the Group was also tasked to spearhead visitations to our sick Mistahs/Mas to boost their morale. As for annual anti flu and pneumonia vaccinations, the Class will wait for the arrival of vaccines from abroad while exploring the idea of requesting



vaccine allocations from AGFO and VMMC like what we did in past years.

**AUGUST:**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter social will held on 17 August, Saturday at Social Hall of AGFO, Camp Aguinaldo. Holy Mass will commence at 9:00 a.m. to be followed by information drive to be conducted by resource persons from PGMCAFP and financial institutions from AFP and PNP. The program of activities and other details will be posted in our Viber Chat Groups. By the time you are reading this Class Call the said social is "nalpasen" already.

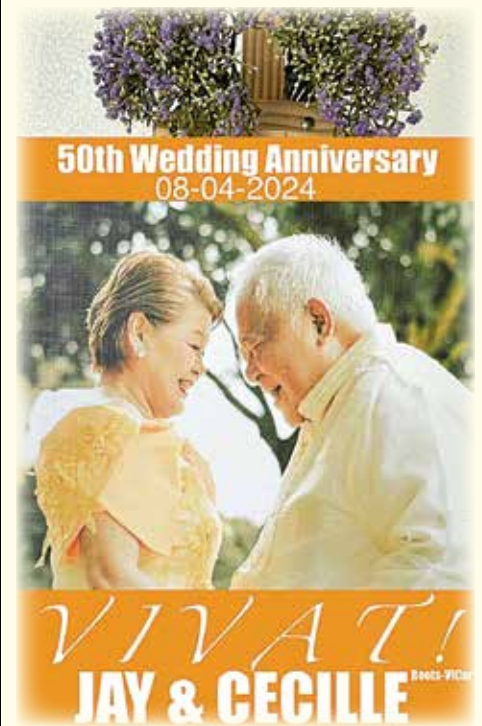
**CLASS NEWS:**

Mistah Rey Jucutan has a new moniker as "DR J" for having Doctorate degrees in Philosophy from BCU and Juris Doctorate



from SLU, College of Law, in addition to his MA in Public Administration from BCU. He is also a graduate of Bachelor of Law from SLU. With these credentials, he is probably one of the most educated Masigasigs in our Class. Congratulations DR J. We are proud of you.

We extend our best wishes to Bing and Yoly and Jay and Tata on the celebrations of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries last 01 May and 04 Aug, respectively. You are indeed very lucky and blessed for reaching



that rare milestone of your married life. We hope we are still alive and kicking to witness your Platinum wedding anniversaries. He-he-he. To the two certified Bravo mates and wonderful couples, congratulations again; stay sweet and loving all the way. May you have more blessings from the Almighty.

To Masigasig family, let's continue praying collectively and incessantly for

the healing of Mistahs Alex Quirante, Gil Batestil, Johnny Salvana, Elmer Romano, Cris Balaoing and Mas Marivic and to other Mistah/Mas who are sick but suffer in silence. May the mercy and love of the Lord be with them.

**Healing Prayer:** "Heavenly Father, we come before You in faith, seeking for Your

healing touch. We believe in Your power to restore health and well-being. Please lay Your hands to our sick Mistahs/Mas and remove any sickness or pain from their bodies. Grant them strength and vitality so that they continue to serve you and others. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN."

Till next Class Call. Happy reading to all... OSLEC



The "Maagaps" held several significant activities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2024, which were not included in the 1973 Class Call for the period due to dateline constrains. Therefore, we are including them in the 1973 Class Call for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter issue of the Cavalier Magazine.

#### THE GEN QUEROL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Last May 03, 2024, VQ Querol presented to the Administrator of the City of Malabon University (formerly Malabon Community College) the check representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester School Year 2023-2024 tuition fees of the Gen Querol Scholarship Program (GQSP). VQ and Mayette together with their children have been supporting several scholars since 2002 up to the present.

Furthermore, the GQSP also sponsored several students enrolled at the Navotas Polytechnic College. VQ met the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of School Year 2023-2024 Grantees of the GQSP last Apr 25, 2024 at the Kapitbahayan Multipurpose Building in North Bay Boulevard, Navotas City.



Joe and Tina renew their Marriage Vows in a religious ceremony at the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Fernando Air Base, Lipa City, Batangas.



Joe and Tina pose with their wedding entourage after the the religious ceremony.



Above: (L-R) Matt, Sammy, Del, Denden, Chris and Alan pose for a photo after the ceremonies.

Left: The Maagap Ladies occupy the pews reserved for them in the church.

Mistah VQ, your support for the education of deserving Filipino youth is very much appreciated and may we quote our National Hero, Jose Rizal's words: "THE YOUTH IS THE HOPE OF THE FATHERLAND".

#### JOE AND TINA REYES 50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Last May 04, 2024, Joe and Tina Reyes celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with a 'RENEWAL OF VOWS' at the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church in Fernando Air Base, Lipa City at 2:30 p.m. The ceremony was a grandiose event.

The ceremonies at the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church was followed by a sumptuous dinner at the Main Hall of the Aquamarine Reception Center in Banay Banay, Lipa City.

The event was culminated when Mistah Denden Sanares invited all the Maagap attendees to a 'PIPING HOT' serving of the renowned 'BATANGAS LOMI' at his residence in Lipa City!

Joe and Tina, may you have many more years of joy, bliss and contentment together!



VQ Querol turns over to the Administator of the City of Malabon University a check to support the GQSP Scholars enrolled in that University.



*The Maagap Ladies pose at the entrance of the central aisle of the church. (L-R): Edith Lorenzana, Monet Billones, Imelda Romero, Chato Cabalquinto, Monsie Torres, Gee Mayuga, Toots Uy, Virgie Cabuhay, Janet Magsino, Glecly Bagasin, Joy Sacdalan, and Rosemarie Manzano.*



*The Maagaps and their Ladies enjoy the delicious 'BATANGAS LOMI' at the residence of Denden Sanares in Lipa City, Batangas; specially, those who still have a long journey back to Metro Manila.*

#### **MOTHER'S DAY 2024**

Sunday, May 12, 2024, was Mother's Day. Several Maagaps treated their 'BETTER HALVES' to show their appreciation of the Ladies' services to their respective families.

In the evening of May 11, 2024, George Uy, together with some of his children and grandchildren, treated Toots to a grandiose

dinner at 'ITALIANNI'S RESTAURANT' at Alabang Town Plaza, Muntinlupa, Metro Manila.

Matt Mayuga, on the other hand, treated Gee to a Mother's Day Aerobic Exercise Session at Ayala Avenue, Makati; since, the street was closed to vehicular traffic from 6-10 a.m. on May 12, 2024.



*George and Toots with several of their children and grandchildren enjoying their sumptuous dinner at Italianni's.*



*Matt took a 'SELFIE' with Gee along Ayala Avenue on Mother's Day.*



*Gee took her place in the formation with others before the start of the aerobic exercises.*

#### **THE JAN VINCENT MUYARGAS JOGGING LANE**

The Naval Station Jose Francisco (NSJF) Jogging Lane was reinaugurated in honor of the late LTJG JAN VINCENT MUYARGAS PN (M) on Jun 14, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. The Guest of Honor during the ceremonies was VADM Toribio D. Adaci PN, the Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy. In attendance were the brothers of Jan, Ramon (PMA CI '80) and Jose with his daughter and her three children. The Maagaps were well represented during the event. Simple snacks were served at the NSJF Grandstand cemented area.



*George Uy, Maagap Class President and Monching Muyargas, brother of Jan, exchange pleasantries with VADM Adaci, the FOIC PN before the formal ceremonies.*



Jan's siblings who attended the Reinauguration Ceremonies: (L-R) Monching Muyargas, Jose Muyargas, Arthur Sebastian M. Salim, Mary Lourdes Muyagras-Salem, Amanda Louise M. Salem, and Amiliah Josephine M. Salem.



The Maagaps and Lady who attended the Reinauguration Ceremonies: (L-R) Franklin Mangonon, Boy Sosa, Val Prudencio, Sid Lapena, Tani Besas, Tiks Besas, VADM Adaci, Chris Datu, Matt Mayuga, George Uy and Bong Habacon.

Jan was the first casualty of the Maagap Class. He was mortally wounded



Jan's siblings who attended the Reinauguration Ceremonies: (L-R) Matt Mayuga, George Uy, Monching Muyargas, Amanda Louise M. Salem, Mary Lourdes Muyagras-Salem, Amiliah Josephine M. Salem, Jose Muyargas, Arthur Sebastian M. Salim, VADM Adaci and the CO, NSJF.

when he led his company in an amphibious landing operation against well-entrenched



The attendees enjoying their snacks after the ceremonies: (clockwise from front left) Bong Habacon, Franklin Mangonon, Matt Mayuga, VADM Adaci, Monching Muyargas, George Uy, Boy Sosa, and Sid Lapena.



The Maagaps having 'ONE FOR THE ROAD' before finally going home: (clockwise from front left) Chris Datu, Sid Lapena, Tiks Besas, Matt Mayuga, Boy Sosa, Val Prudencio, Franklin Mangonon, George Uy, and Bong Habacon.

Moro National Liberation Front insurgents in Maluso, Basilan on 24 Feb 1975. Because of the severity of his wounds, he finally succumbed on 17 Mar 1975.

#### REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING IN HONOR OF DENNIS A. SANCHEZ

Last June 15, 2024, Alice, and the Sanchez Children, Alex, Toto and Thirdie, gave a 'REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING CEREMONY' in honor of Dennis Sanchez. It was held at the Max Restaurant at the Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City. Several Maagaps and their ladies attended the event.



Alice Sanchez greets all the Maagap Ladies, with her usual charming smile, as they arrived at the venue.



The Maagaps and their ladies had a wonderful time reminiscing the unusual antics and funny jokes of Dennis in the golf course and during Class '73 gathering.



## GOLF TOURNAMENT IN HONOR OF THE LATE CAV JACINTO LIGOT

Last Jun 19, 2024, a Golf Tournament in honor of the late Cav Jacinto Ligot CI 70 was held at the Philippine Navy Golf Course in the Naval Station Jose Francisco in Ft. Bonifacio. PMA Classes '70, '71, '72, '73, '74, '75 and '76 participated in this event. Class '73 Sports Director, Val Prudencio, made all the necessary arrangements for the Maagap Contingent.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE PMAAAI BUILDING AT THE BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY

A new PMAAAI Building began construction at the Bonifacio Global City during the term of VQ Querol as Chairman of the Association in 2022. Last Jun 20, 2024, VQ visited the construction site. In his assessment, the building will be ready to be turned over by the end of July or early August of 2024. Then, the 'FIT-OUT' phase could commence; and hopefully, occupancy of the building could be done by November 2024.

## OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MAAGAP GRANDCHILDREN

### 1. MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD



The Guangdong Hong Kong Macao, Greater Bay Area Mathematical Olympiad Big Bay Bei Final Round 2024 presented the 'GOLD AWARD' for the Senior Secondary Group to Reuben Joseph 'RJ' Felix last March 18, 2024. He is a grandson of Joe and Tina Reyes.

RJ was also given the 'GOLD AWARD' by the Thailand International Mathematical Olympiad (TIMO) 2024 Finals held on April 28, 2024. He is only in Grade 10, while, the



*The Maagap Contingent to the Golf Tournament in honor of the late Cav Jacinto Ligot CI 70: (L-R) Chris Datu, Bong Habacon, Boy Sosa and Val Prudencio.*



*VQ Querol inspecting the PMAAAI Building being constructed at the Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila.*

other contestants were either in Grade 11 or 12.

WELL DONE RJ! You are still young and will have many more 'MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIADS' to participate in. We sincerely hope that you will reap more awards in the future.

### 2. THE ADIDAS OUTDOOR NATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD COMPETITION AND THE US JUNIOR OLYMPICS

This is a 'POSTSCRIPT' on the article in the 1973 Class Call in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter issue of the Cavalier Magazine. In that article, Noa Mayuga Schlossberg, the 'APO' of Matt Mayuga and daughter of his Daughter, Joy, did extremely well during in



*The Maagap Contingent enjoying their coffee with the participants from other PMA Classes.*



the Interclub Track and Field Competition in Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

This time, she again 'HOGGED THE LIMELIGHT'; this time, at the amateur track and field community of the State of North Carolina, USA. She qualified to compete in the Adidas Outdoor National Track and Field Competition District Qualifiers that was held at the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical (A & T) State University in Greensboro, North Carolina on Jun 15-16, 2024.

She topped Heat 3 of the Girls 200 Meter Dash Middle School with a time of 28.64 seconds. She also excelled in the Long Jump.



*Noa Mayuga Schlossberg (left) with her Mother (right), Joy Mayuga-Schlossberg, the daughter of Matt Mayuga.*



*Noa Mayuga Schlossberg crossed the Finish Line ahead of the other runners with a time of 28.64 seconds in the 200-Meter run.*



In the Long Jump, her 'LIFT' is .....And her 'LANDING' is really good. adequate.....



On August 03, 2024, Noa competed at the US Junior Olympics. She placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in this Tournament. She registered a time of 1.02 seconds which placed her on 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 400-M and was awarded the Silver Medal for this event.

The Philippines might just have 'GOLD MEDALS' in the 100/200/400 Meter Run and the Long Jump during the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

On Jul 01, 2024, Noa participated in the Regional Qualifiers. She did remarkable well in all her events. She placed 10<sup>th</sup> among 32 participants in the 100-Meter Dash; 4<sup>th</sup> in the 400-Meter Run; and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Long Jump. With those figures, Noa is going to the US Junior Olympics scheduled in August.



This was Noa's heat in the 400-Meters which she won 1st place and qualified her to participate in the US Junior Olympics.



Noa (No. 2) was second in the Finals for the 400-Meter Run. The Winner (No. 1) crossed the Finish Line ahead of her.



**AVELINO I RAZON, JR**  
President  
**BENIGNO T CABRIETO, JR**  
Secretary

For this quarter, here is a list of activities that the members of the PMA "Marangal" Class of 1974 participated in:

#### Quarterly Joint Birthday Celebration:

The class held a joint birthday celebration for class members and their spouses whose birthdays fall in the second quarter at the AGFO in Camp Aguinaldo on May 17, 2024, a Friday. Despite some members arriving late, the event was well attended. Class members and their wives, particularly those traveling from the south, endured over two hours of traffic due to rush hour on a Friday evening. With the one-man band providing music, everyone enjoyed a fun-filled night of singing, dancing, and camaraderie. As we

grow older, we recognize the importance of social activities like this for enhancing our quality of life, mental well-being,

enhanced cognitive function, better physical health, emotional support and increased longevity.





### 70th Birthday Celebration of Honorary Mistah, Jess Bartolome:

On July 12, 2024, the class held another reunion to celebrate the 70th birthday

of our honorary Mistah, **Jess Bartolome**, during lunchtime at the Philippine Navy Golf Club. The celebration began with a golf tournament in the morning, followed

by lunch. The event was well attended by class members, their spouses and other guests of the birthday celebrant. After lunch, awards were presented to the winners of the golf tournament. We were pleasantly surprised to see attending the event our long-lost Mistah, **Pete Cruz**, who most of us had not seen in over 35 years. This was his first visit to the Philippines since relocating to the U.S. in the late 1980s. Welcome home, Mistah **Pete Cruz**!

### In Memoriam:

This quarter, we lost two Mistahs, **Rody Obaniana** and **Willy Dormitorio**. Rody, who attended our Golden Anniversary celebration and participated in all class activities at PMA from February 16 to 18, 2024, passed away on April 25, 2024. The Golden Anniversary was the last time most of us saw him alive. He is survived by his wife, **Irene**, and their children. A necrological service was held on May 1, 2024, at the Mortuary of Libingan ng Mga Bayani, where eulogies were delivered by his former superior officer, Cavalier



*Pete Cruz (3rd from left) sits next to Prexy Sonny Razon and Jess Bartolome, who celebrated his birthday, along with other Mistahs.*



*Interment of the ashes of Rody Obaniana at the Everest Hills Memorial Park in Muntinlupa City.*



*The widow Irene Obaniana with Marangal Ladies.*

**Clemente Mariano** Class '64, **Mistahs Jun Esperon, Sonny Razon, Damian Carlos, Danny Abinoja, Pons Crucero, Gene Cedo**, and other friends. The following day, he received departure honors at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani before being cremated. His interment took place at Everest Hills Memorial Park in Muntinlupa City.

**Willy Dormitorio** passed away in Cagayan de Oro City on July 10, 2024. He is survived by his wife, **Jasmin**, and their children. Our Cagayan de Oro-based Mistahs, **Tito Cagurangan** and **Albert Mabaquiao**, represented the class during his wake at Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapel in Cagayan de Oro City. He was laid



*Mistahs Albert Mabaquiao and Tito Cagurangan with the widow Jasmin and her family during the wake of Willy Dormitorio at Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapel at Cagayan de Oro.*



*Mistah Tito Cagurangan delivering his message in behalf of the class during the interment of Willy Dormitorio at the Cagayan de Oro Gardens.*



*Interment of Willy Dormitorio at the Cagayan de Oro Gardens on July 18, 2024.*

to rest at Cagayan de Oro Gardens on July 18, 2024.

**A Very Rare Golf Feat:**

At our age, one of the popular pastimes for retired Cavaliers is playing golf regularly, whether among classmates or in tournaments with several classes. Occasionally, family members join us in these games. A remarkable golf achievement was accomplished by **Arik Wilfred Garcia**, the son of our Mistah

**Willie Garcia**, who made an albatross (or double eagle) by scoring 3 under par on hole #15, a par 5, at the Philippine Navy Golf Course on May 24, 2024. According to Google, the odds of scoring an albatross are approximately 1 in a million for average golfers, depending on the course rating. This is an almost impossible feat for the average golfer, as it requires reaching the par 4 green in one stroke or the par 5 green in two strokes. Congratulations to **Arik** and his father, **Willie Garcia**! He truly

represents an improvement in the family lineage.

**Forthcoming Class Activities:**

The class will hold its quarterly birthday celebration for Mistahs and their spouses born in the third quarter on August 22, 2024, Thursday, at the Villamor Airbase Golf Clubhouse. All Mistahs are enjoined to attend as these social activities are beneficial to us as mentioned earlier.



**H**omecoming 2025 Preparations – The Makabayan Class of PMA 1975 puts itself into high gear as the most-awaited time – Golden Jubilee celebration is six months away. Preparations for this landmark commemoration started as early as four (4) years ago when the newly elected president then, Raul S Gonzales, led the class to the daunting job of producing the sources to foot the equally forbidding estimated expenses. The core strategy for this endeavor is to allow the maximum number of Makabayans to participate with the minimum amount of expenses on their part. To add flavor to this concept, a steering committee composed of officers decided to have the following complimentary schemes namely, one place to stay, uniformed attire for gentlemen and ladies, respectively, for the various activities, a couple of dinners for the class to rub elbows together and



*Video capture of the Zoom meeting participated in by classmates who are based abroad and some domestically.*

to catch up with one another, and the printing and publication of the Golden Jubilee edition of the “*Ang Kalis*” – the class yearbook. Kudos to Pete Cadungog and Benny Brizuela who painstakingly laid out the book and its publication. Periodic meetings among the class members and the class officers were held to gather ideas and put these ideas into motion.

One of the universal problems affiliated with the homecoming event is accommodation. Fortunately, there is one mistah who has access to the hotel the class resolved to stay in. Noe Wong took

the cudgels and made the reservations at the Baguio Golf and Country Club which includes deluxe rooms, executive suites, and cottages enough to lodge the class.

The plan also includes two (2) dinners for spouses only and another dinner for the gentlemen only which will coincide with the election of the new set of class officers for the term 2025-2030. The first dinner is a welcome dinner designed to break the ice and reconnect with one another. It will be held at the Baguio Country Club grand ballroom. It will be on February 13, 2025, hence, a pre-Valentine’s Day affair.



*Members of PMA Class 1975 holding a General Membership meeting at the PMAAAI Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City on July 3, 2024.*

The couples will wear the Corps Jacket courtesy of Willie and Inday Palugod. The second dinner is also a husband and wife-only affair at the Mama's Table located at 888 Ambuklao Rd., Baguio City. Jeff and Nitz Sodusta were gracious enough to host this dinner. It is a private dining concept known for its French delectable cuisine. The couples will wear the blazer with a black turtleneck for men, and appropriate dress for the ladies.

There will be a video presentation portraying the history, chronicle of the class, and current updates. The video is being prepared by Charlemagne Alejandrino for the February 13 dinner. Charlemagne explained further the presentation as comprising three (3) parts - cadet days, as officers in the active service, and post-retirement period. It would be a 30-minute production following the guidelines of the professional to make it short lest it becomes boring. The video presentation is a collaboration among Charlemagne Alejandrino, Ronald Roderos, Dick Capuyan, and Dante Ferrer.

During the homecoming parade, the gentlemen will wear barong and black pants with the *tabungao* – an indigenous head gear depicted in the class crest. The ladies will wear dresses they have designed and made aptly for the event. After the homecoming parade, the class and their entourage will have lunch at Lopez Hall. This gathering would allow the families of mistahs the opportunity to re-establish acquaintances. The final dinner will be on the night after the parade at the Baguio Country Club Function Hall where the election of the set of officers will be conducted.

For the convenience of those who do not have transport of their own, the organizers will provide one (1) bus to ferry



*PMA Class 75 President Raul Gonzales stressing a point during the class meeting on July 3, 2024, at the PMAAAI Center Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.*

mistahs and their family from Manila to Baguio City and back. However, priority will be given to those mistahs who are coming from abroad and do not have their transportation. Once in Baguio City, six (6) PMA buses have been earmarked for shuttling the members and their entourage from the hotel to PMA and back. Ernie Boac has been charged with arranging this facility. Mistahs are discouraged from using private vehicles because parking inside the PMA compound is certainly overwhelming.

**Preparation for the 2024 PMA Class 75 Christmas Party** - In preparation for the 2024 Christmas Party, the class officers and the ladies decided to host the event at the Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse on December 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Before the Christmas party, there will be an hour or two dedicated to commemorating class members who

have passed away as a sign of respect and reverence dubbed "En Memoriam." A special video presentation arranged by Charlemagne Alejandrino will portray the lives and services of the departed classmates. Willie Palugod and Jeff Sodusta have agreed to sponsor the entertainment part of the Christmas program by inviting a music band to perform oldies songs, which most classmates could relate to. If the performance is well-received, they might also be invited to perform at one of the dinners in Baguio City in February 2025.

**Birthday Celebrators for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter** – There are 26 Makabayans celebrating their birthdays. Nine (9) of these birthdays are celebrated in memory. Everyone is encouraged to pray for their eternal rest. They will always be remembered for their lives and the memories they left in our hearts.



*PMA Makabayan Class 1975 officers holding a meeting at the PMAAAI Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City on July 31, 2024.*



*Gerry Doria celebrating his birthday with the PMA Class 1975 officers and ladies at the PMAAAI Center Camp Aguinaldo Quezon City on July 31, 2024.*

On the other hand, 17 gentlemen are celebrating another year of their vibrant lives. Gentlemen, always remember to keep smiling and maintain a positive outlook on life, and everything will be fine. Happy Birthday!

## July

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Eulogio C. Baltazar +   | 3 July  |
| Rodolfo F. Petican      | 9 July  |
| Silverio R. Ilagan      | 10 Jul  |
| Dominador L. Makinano + | 14 July |
| George R. Quisido +     | 14 July |
| Alberto B. Villanueva + | 25 July |

German B. Doria

## August

Pedro J. Binuya  
Benjamin D. Tesoro +  
Noe A. Wong  
Merito A. Quijano  
Raul S. Gonzales  
Petronilo P. Magno  
Bonifacio B. Ramos

## September

Dominador A. Flores Jr

31 July

3 August  
4 August  
11 August  
12 August  
17 August  
26 August  
30 August

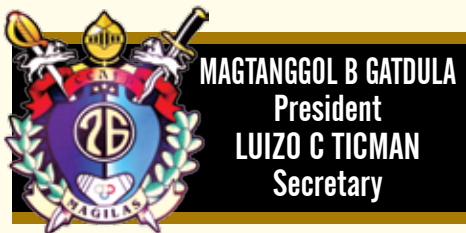
5 September

Cardoso M. Luna  
Andrian P. Espera +  
Benjamin S. Gonzales  
Napoleon C. Cachuela  
Wilfredo G. Pabalan +  
Van Cornelius D. Luspo  
Alejandro C. Geronimo  
Alexander D. Aleo  
Antonio R. Medina +  
Tirso R. Danga +  
Napoleon B. Malana

7 September  
8 September  
9 September  
13 September  
15 September  
16 September  
17 September  
19 September  
23 September  
24 September  
27 September

(+) - deceased

/Dtf/31/07/2024



## Class '78 Golden Reception Reenactment

The special reenactment of the Class '78 Reception was done on April 6. The event was a poignant tribute to the camaraderie and brotherhood that define the Magilas Class '76 with the Makatarungan Class '78. Festivities started with a spirited golf tournament, a traditional boodle fight, Reception Reenactment and culminated with a celebratory dinner.

## Araw ng Kagitingan in Lingayen

Mayor Pol Bataoil hosted and paid tribute to the valor and gallantry of our World War II heroes. Several Magilas '76 members (Bong and Bebet Ibrado, Joey and Vita Salvacion, Pat and Zaida Labiano, Raul and Petty Caballes, Samie and Babette Narcise, Pol and Gina Bataoil.) attended the celebration of Araw ng Kagitingan in Lingayen last April 9.

## Balikbayans Andy and Monching

Coming from abroad were: Andy Tenazas from Los Angeles, California, USA and Monching Dela



Cruz from Auckland, New Zealand. They were feted with sumptuous lunch by the class during their brief visit. Henceforth, the BOT adopted a resolution giving bienvenida/ despedida to any visiting Mistahs coming from abroad.

### Wednesday Golf Group

On full steam for the Magilas golf and health enthusiasts every Wednesday. Lunch after the games usually with laing of Rey, longganisa of Len, guacamole of Abner, and durian of Josol.

### Way Forward

As the Magilas Association embarks on its journey towards the momentous Golden Jubilee Anniversary in 2026, preparations are underway for what promises to be a landmark event in the association's history. With unwavering dedication and forward-thinking initiatives, the Magilas Board of Trustees on its 2nd term is gearing up to celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime milestone.



The Masikaps still continue to hold its Chicken Club whenever the situation warrants. This varies depending on the availability of kind hearted mistah who would share his blessings with others. Gone was the moniker of a "freedom fighter", because most of us now do not consume much food intake, unlike when we still have the plebe appetite. Most of us would shy away from carbo-rich foods because we are all on the maintenance routine. That is why, many of us attend chicken club not because it is free or someone has shared his blessings, but more on fellowship and updates on what's happening in our circle. If you are not present at the chicken club, chances are, you are the one presently on the agenda of the lunchtime discussion. Nowadays, the chicken club is normally jibed with the golf practice of those who are addicted to the sport. You could see that despite the distance of his residence and the monstrous traffic he has to undergo in going to the venue of the chicken club, Mistah Orly Pestano is probably the most

loyal subscriber to this class activity. Wonder not! He was one of the pioneers of Chicken Club back when he was still in the active service.

Talking of golf, our Class was the champion at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr leg of the Corps of 74567, a golf fellowship tournament participated in by PMA Classes 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977 held at the Philippine Navy Golf Course. Our Class was the host for this leg. The awarding ceremony was enlivened

by the international champion shooter, Mistah Benjie Belarmino, who brought his new found gadget where he can sing in a duet with famous international singer by just a mere touch on his mobile phone screen. Not to be left alone, Mistah Chito Mangubat also sang his favorite repertoire.

The Class will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee year in 2027. This early, our industrious Class Officers have mobilized and started the preparations already. For





one, Mistah Roy Camagay has finalized our early billeting reservations at Baguio Country Club. The Committee on Uniform also started canvassing for suitable tailor that would make our uniforms for the event. Other areas of concerns in the preparations are also being considered already including schedule of programs, transportations and the like. Every Masikap therefore is encourage to cooperate and assist in whatever they can to make our Jubilee year a success!

While we are too enthusiastic looking forward to that golden jubilee year, we are saddened by the loss of our three mistahs. Our ever best dressed and groomed mistah Raffy Pabustan succumbed to his illness on 22 March 2024. A week later, our attorney Mistah Mar San Diego followed suit on 29 March 2024 and lately, our kindest mistah, Ed Caumeron also bade goodbye to us on 24 July 2024. We pray that they all are rested in peace in the arms of the Lord.

For us who are still able and physically capable, let us always maintain our health well! Regular exercise, they said, is still the best medicine this nature can provide. It is free and we only have to develop our discipline to follow what is good exercise for us. And one of my recommendations where seniors like us could indulge is the pickleball sport. This is a hybrid of tennis, badminton and pingpong rolled into one. If you are playing any of the mentioned sports, there is no reason why you cannot play pickleball. One game of 11 points is more or less equivalent to an hour of squat thrusting in the hallways on Regis Hall sweating like the dickens, but not so stressful. Everyone is encouraged to try this sport and experience firsthand the beauty and benefits of this exercise.



Let us also greet the birthday celebrants for this quarter – July, August and September.

#### **JULY**

- 6 – +Del Rosario, Dan
- 7 – Minano, Don
- 7 – Cornelio, Rod
- 11 – Moreno, July
- 15 – Bontol, Tong
- 16 – Onate, Mike
- 17 – +Pan, Ted
- 19 – Ojeda, Nickie
- 29 – Noblefranca, Bobby

#### **AUGUST**

- 7 – Bangit, Rey
- 7 – Martin, Eugene
- 8 – Diaz, Roger
- 8 – +Saculles, Benjie
- 15 – Javier, Eric
- 15 – Tira, Bal
- 16 – Maranon, Roque
- 24 – San Miguel, Mike
- 25 – Goseco, Ned
- 29 – Igama, Lester
- 29 – +Arancon, Jun

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 2 – Taluban, Arman
- 4 – Cataluna, Jake
- 4 – Catacutan, Mar
- 15 – Bacalzo, Raul
- 18 – Sevilla, Benhail
- 18 – Melegrito, Jess
- 20 – Villa, Gil
- 23 – Castro, Nestor
- 23 – +Lapinid, Lino
- 23 – Calingasan, Lino
- 29 – Hontanosas, Art





**ROMEO D LUSTESTICA**  
President  
**FELIPE HB BUENA, JR**  
Corporate Secretary

On 17 May 2024 we kicked off our joint Q1 and Q2 Birthday and Wedding Fellowship at the Philippines Korea Friendship Center at Fort Bonifacio.



Class would not miss the opportunity to support the 2024 PMAAI-PMARAI Golf Tournament on 23 May 2024 at CAGC.



2024 Retirees' Golf Fellowship on 31 May - 78 team did us proud - MGen Jess F won the longest putt of 17 feet and LGen Oca R the Class B Runners Up.



Some 25 of the class participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service for our late Mistah Vic Porto on 6 July 2024 at LNMB Bulwagan.



Kape-kape of '78 ladies after a dance rehearsal to be presented during the joint birthday celebration of Juliet and Nestor Los Bañes at the PNGC on July 13, 2024, 5:00 p.m., accompanied by two well trained '78 gentlemen security drivers.



At Century Park Hotel Fellowship of Makatarungan CI 78 Air Force Group on 16 July 2024, an advance birthday celebration hosted by the lovely host Lilian P.



At the AGFO Forum: "Geopolitics and Assymetric Warfare in WPS"

Seven Mistahs and four Ladies attended the commemoration of Odee Cabading's 13th Death Anniversary on Thu, Jul 18, 3:00 p.m. at the Bulwagan LNMB.



#### Mapitagans in Government Service

A decade has passed since the last Mapitagan took off his uniform then hang it for good, bidding goodbye to more than 30 years of dedicated service to the Filipino people. Most of us have embraced retirement, doting over their grandchildren in rendering self-imposed apostolic duties, while several others were employed by private corporations working either full-time or as consultants. And still a few were appointed to key positions in the government.

The latest to sign on to join the present administration's cabinet is Mandy Espineli, whose appointment as Presidential Adviser

on Special Concerns with the rank of Undersecretary, was signed by the President last June 3, 2024. He was later sworn into office by Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin. Our loudest and proudest congratulations on your appointment, USec Mandy!

Meanwhile, we stand by and support another Mapitagan currently a Commissioner of the National Commission on Senior Citizens. Last June 2024, Comm. Rainier Cruz and four other commissioners signed a manifesto which called for the resignation of the NCSC Chairman for reasons deemed inimical to public interest. We salute Comm. Rainier for adhering to his principles over personal interests, upholding foremost what is right, and safeguarding the welfare of all senior Filipinos.

On the other hand, Baguio resident Mon Loria's spirit of volunteerism towards the well-being of the community was duly recognized by the humanitarian civic organization he belongs to. Monlors, as he is fondly called, was elected President of the Baguio Pines

City Lions Club in July this year. He was later inducted in a formal ceremony along with other elected officers of the club. Congrats, Monlors!

#### Mapitagan Commemorative Markers

"Old soldiers never die, they simply fade away." Indeed, we may fade away, but we will leave behind lasting reminders of that fleeting moment in time when we offered proudly our youth and vigor to serve. So far, three significant commemorative markers have been built and dedicated in recognition of the service of the Mapitagans of Class 1980.

Mapitagan Loop in Camp Macabulos, Tarlac City. Dedicated on 17 September 2007 during Camp Macabulos Day when Nick Bartolome was PNP Provincial Director of Tarlac. Among his notable achievements was the massive facelift of the camp to make it a comfortable office and home to its personnel reflective of being a friendly police camp to the community.



*Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin swears in Mandy Espineli as the Presidential Adviser on Special Concerns under the Office of the President with the rank of Undersecretary.*



*Mandy Espineli, his wife Janet (leftmost), and youngest daughter Sarah (rightmost), pose for posterity with the President after his swearing in.*

This corner of the loop that connects all completed projects for camp development was named as the Mapitagan Loop, in honor of our Class of which Nicky Bart is a proud member, having served as the 17th Chief, Philippine National Police on 16 September 2011.

Mapitagan Class 80 Fountain at Villamor Air Base Golf Course, Col Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay City. The looming marker greets every golfer as he makes the turn to the first of the Back 9 holes, a reminder that his readiness to tackle the exacting 9 holes must be resolute. On the lighter side, it has served as backdrop as well for many golfers' souvenir photos, to claim bragging rights that they too have played in this tough championship course.

A mere spitting distance from the tee markers of Hole #10, the fountain was constructed in 2012 behind the efforts of Larry dela Cruz, who served as the 32nd Commanding General of the Philippine

Air Force. He took over the reins of the organization on January 9, 2012.

The Terraces 80 at Signal Hill in Fort del Pilar, Baguio City. At the junction of the road on the east side of Signal Hill, as you turn left to ascend the uphill road leading to the hilltop, stands The Terraces 80. The ample size pavilion was built purposely as a meeting place and rest area for Mapitagans and their families especially during the annual Homecoming. It also serves as a picnic area every time they visit the PMA grounds and other majestic sights of the camp. It first served as the main venue of the class luncheon fellowship during the 2014 Homecoming.

The Terraces 80 was constructed in November 2013 under the auspices of Bogs Abogado during his incumbency as Superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy. He took over the stewardship of our

Alma Mater on May 21, 2013.

### **Golf and Mapitagans**

In the wee hours of July 5, 2024, 14 Mapitagan Golfers, two Mapitagan Lady Golfers and a Mapitagan Golfer Friend motored to Hacienda Luisita in San Miguel, Tarlac for the monthly Mapitagan Golf and Fellowship to be played at the Luisita Golf and Country Club. Hosted by Herbert Yambing, the golfers partook of a sumptuous breakfast in the al fresco clubhouse over a cup of fine full bodied brewed coffee from a blend of Robusta and Arabica beans from Panama and Brazil. A few who ordered seconds had to consume in one count the brew to make the 8 o'clock tee time.

With the heat wave at its height as El Niño pummeled the country, the 17 golfers endured the searing air over Luisita's fairways, braving the 86% humidity. Just over



*Comm. Rainier Cruz (leftmost) and four other NCSC commissioners with their signed manifesto.*



*Induction ceremony for the newly elected President, Mapitagan Mon Loria of the Baguio Pines City Lions Club and other new officers.*

four hours later, no one complained though but beamed with satisfied smiles, gushing over the long wide fairways, the more than average number of water hazards and the challenging greens.

A "sumptuous" lunch welcomed the tired but happy golfers at the clubhouse. After the banter and jovial bragging rights claimed over a round of light and pale Pilsen beers, cups of coffee were served to wash down the food and beer. Again, the coffee lovers asked for a second cup. Before three in the afternoon, the gratified golfers, after expressing profusely their thanks to the gracious host, boarded their sedans, vans and SUVs for the two-hour trip back to Manila.

### **The Mapitagan Tribe Increases**

First time grandparents Bogs and Sionie Abogado welcomed their first apo, Malaya Olivia Sta. Barbara Abogado last June 2, 2024. The 8-pounder baby girl is the product of their son, Navy aviator Egee and

daughter-in-law Kala. We learned that Bogs' phone gallery is now bursting with photos and videos of Malaya, thus its storage needs some cleaning up.

To keep fit for his apostolic duties, Bogs faithfully sticks to his daily cardio walk, bolstered by his preferred calorie burner - weekly golf with Mapitagan Golfers. We also heard him say, rather excessively, "Ang cute ng apo ko!" Congratulations Lolo Bogs and Lola Sionie. Welcome to the club!

### **Mapitagans Abroad**

Emil Sarmiento is braving the cold frigid winds up in the eternal daylight of the Arctic Circle as member of the Philippine Rifle Shooting Team battling it out with teams from other countries in the 2024 IPSC Rifle World Shoot in Oulu, Finland. Emil represented the Philippine team during the opening ceremony of the shoot fest on August 2, perhaps because he is the most senior in the group. LOL.

In open defiance of his age, Emil competed in the Standard Division, Super Senior Category. Standard to mean iron sight. Yes seniors, you heard that right - plain, simple iron sight, no hi-tech scope sight gizmo that can provide accurate point of aim. While the world shoot was in progress, Mapitagans mostly the MGs were cheering "Go Emil! Go for the target bullseye!" that really made him hit but on a different kind of target? Alam ni Jess Lomeda yan . . .

On the other hand, Nick Bartolome and roommate Noemi, were happily touring Europe, visiting three interesting countries transiting through the fascinating cities they are renowned for. On the 1st of August, the couple arrived in Zurich, known worldwide as Switzerland's financial district.

After four days in that country's biggest city, the couple then flew to Paris for the 2024 Olympic Games. For Nick, his going to the Olympics was mainly just to watch the Men's Basketball Tournament, his favorite



*Mapitagans Nicky Bart and Efren Yebra showcase the Mapitagan Loop marker and commemorative plaque in Camp Macabulos, Tarlac City, July 22, 2024.*



*Mapitagan Golfers, led by Class President Ces Ordoño, pose reverently at the Mapitagan Fountain near Hole #10, Villamor Air Base Golf Course, May 2018.*



*A Mapitagan in The Terraces 80 Pavilion in Signal Hill, Fort Del Pilar, November 2014.*



*Mapitagan golfers, ladies and friend in Hole #1 in Luisita GCC for their time, to tee off one after another in flights of four and three.*

sport. Nick even posted a photo of himself inside the Bercy Arena in Paris watching the game being played between Brazil and the USA.

At the conclusion of the quadrennial event in France, they next went to The Netherlands to visit Amsterdam, famed for its vibrant culture and beautiful canals, and Holland, the land of windmills and tulips. Nick and Noemi surely savored the scenic

romantic canals, rich history and iconic cultural scenes in the above places they toured.

#### Mapitagan Titos Financial Assistance

A beneficiary of 20 Mapitagans for board and lodging and other minor expenses in his last year in medical school has sent word to his benefactors, the 20 Mapitagan "Titos," his heartfelt

gratitude for their kindness and generosity.

Dr. Mike Prado, after he finished his internship at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center on July 26, 2024, conveyed, "I want to thank you deeply for the support and help you have given me throughout my journey! I appreciate all the help from you guys ... Thank you for all the help and support, Titos!"



The Mapitagan group after the friendly round are all smiles during the hearty lunch in the al fresco clubhouse of the Luisita GCC.



Brand new Lolo Bogs ang Lola Sionie beaming proudly while presenting to the world their First Apo Malaya, the daughter of son naval aviator Lt Egee and daughter-in-law Kala.



Emil Sarmiento in prone position, aiming his rifle at the 350-meter target in the 2024 IPSC Rifle World Shoot in Oulu, Finland in August 2024.



A happy and appreciative Dr. Mike Prado during his internship graduation ceremony at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.



Nick Bart and roommate Noemi in Paris for the 2024 Olympic Games. The couple flew in from Zurich, then next visited Amsterdam to conclude their European tour.



## THE DIMALUPIG SUMMER, FEELING GOOD AT 66!!!

The DIMALUPIG CLASS spends its summer by Golf, Golf and more Golf. Barely three months after the successful First Dimalupig Golf Tour, the Class had its Second Golf Tour. This tour is also a resounding success. Both tours showed the depth of supporters and benefactors who believe in the Dimalupig Spirit. Proceeds from the Golf Tours will fund the Class's Civic and Social Projects.



Golf by day and party by night. The Dimalupigs' bottomless energy keeps them going from the fairways to the dance floor. In large or small groups, they dine, sing, and dance like there is no tomorrow wherever they are with whatever fare.



When one of the class's youngest turned 65 and still feels good, the birthday bash would surely be a blast! The celebration during Greg C's Birthday Party has set the standard for merriment and fun. It is something that will warm our memories in time.



After a night of merriment, the Class's Golfers are off to another island for another round of golf to shake off the hangover, cholesterol and uric acid, explore and conquer other fairways and other classes who come their way.



In a more serious note, the Class Baron, Lito Cuy finally hang his gloves after 47 years with unblemished record in public service. Lito is the true flag bearer of the Class from day one. Finally, we can rightfully say to him, "Welcome to the Club", pun intended.



#### Update on Sinagtalans in Government Service and Private Sector

Our class President Ted Carranza, the Vice-Mayor of Silang, Cavite, was sworn in as Acting Mayor last April 25, 2024. He assumed higher office on the strength of a 6-month preventive suspension order issued by the Office of the Ombudsman against erstwhile Mayor Alston Kevin Anarna on allegations of

Grave Misconduct, Serious Dishonesty and Conduct Prejudicial to the Best Interest

of the Service. Fully aware of his greater roles as acting local chief executive, Ted



*Ted Carranza takes his oath of office as Acting Mayor of Silang Cavite.*

is determined to perform his job with zeal and excellence to meet the expectations of his constituents and pass public scrutiny.

Carlomar "Pepoy" Concepcion recently joined the Air Cavalier Credit Cooperative (ACCC) and was designated as Vice President for Marketing, Membership and Community Development. His entry is an added boost to the management team headed by President and CEO Jess Madlangbayan. Another prominent mistah in ACCC is Rozz Briguez who chairs the Committee on Governance and Nomination; and Committee on Compensation. ACCC, which previously catered to the financial interest of Air Force Cavaliers, now extends regular membership to all PMA graduates. This initiative allows said financial institution to achieve capital growth and expand clientele.

Pepoy also serves as Trustee of PMAAAI-PETFI, an educational foundation that provides financial assistance for the educational needs of deceased/incapacitated member-cavaliers' children. He works alongside fellow mistahs, Gems Molina and Jhong Jurado. Gems was elected as President of PMAAAI-PETFI last May, succeeding Art Biyo who remarkably served his four years (2020-2024) tenure as Past President; while Jhong is the foundation's Treasurer. Gems is also the Asst. Accountable Manager, School Administrator, and Facility Manager of flight school, First Aviation Academy since last year.

Gau Collado's two years term (from 2022 to 2024) as President and CEO of AFPSLAI ended last May. Through his leadership, AFPSLAI achieved the following milestones: a 3% growth in membership despite the termination and cleansing activities done in 2023; establishment of AFPSLAI ATM to help ease banking transactions; significant increase in AFPSLAI's capital asset that reached P150B; fulfilled CSR initiatives/programs through the release of P136.81M that benefitted 473,150 individuals; and introduced various innovations that enhanced IT, infrastructures, human resources and products and services to clients.

#### **Repair of the Canopy at the Lopez Hall Veranda**

The Canopy at the Veranda of the Lopez Hall, which the PMA Class '86 adopted as a project several years back, went through repair to replace the broken panels and gutters which were



damaged by a strong typhoon that hit the country last year. It has now transformed into something conspicuously more presentable. While the Class provided funds to defray the cost, it is thankful to the Post Engineer Company, HSG, PMA for extending assistance in undertaking the repair works on the facility.

#### **2nd Quarter Golf Tournament**

The Sinagtala Early Messers Golf Club (SEMGC) hosted an inter-battalion golf tournament on May 31, 2024 at the Villamor Air Base Golf Course. As in the past, this tournament gathered together Sinagtala golf enthusiasts for a good dose

of competition and relaxation. This event was a solid venue to strengthen bond among brothers. A fellowship ensued as a treat to birthday celebrators for 2nd Quarter of 2024.

Participants were organized by battalion, as follows:

1st BN - Valfrie Tabian, Jun Misolas, Guido Rimando, Harry Barber, Jong Jurado, Rozz Briguez, Ludy Dela Paz, Vince Batac, Gau Collado, Alex Gopico, and Cris Tumanda.

2nd BN - Odie Albayalde, Art Biyo, Danny Rodelas, Jun Santos, Jogi Guillermo, Arwel Oropesa, Arnie Fernandez, Cris Cabangbang, and Johnny Enguerra.

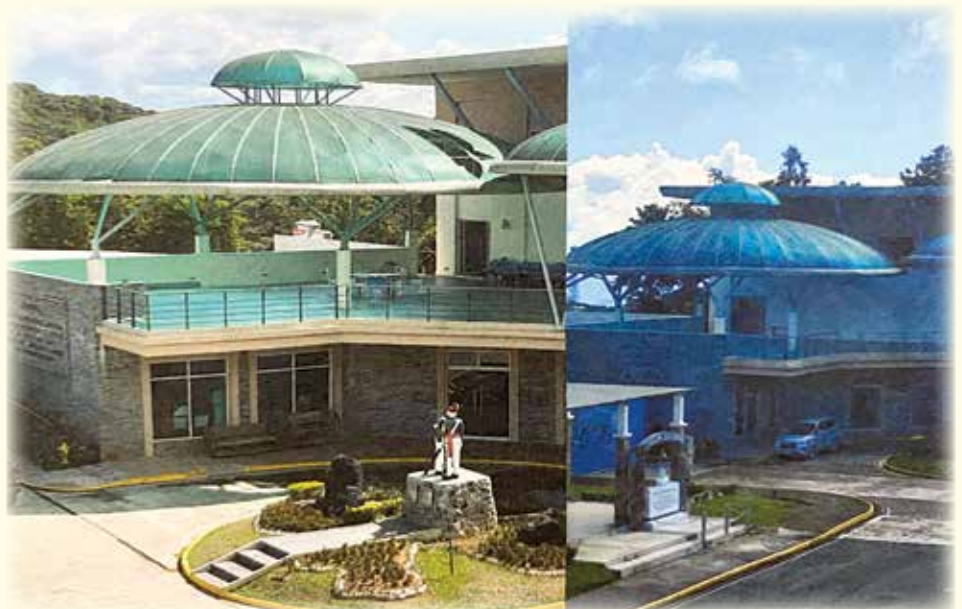


*Photo shows the damaged portion and after the repair was done.*

3rdBN - Ronnie Evangelista, Gems Molina, Ces Mancao, and Kid Arenas.

4th BN - Johnny Gulla, Edmund Gonzales, Arleen Tatel, Willy Rigor, and Ninoy Aquino.

### Results of the tournament

#### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Gems Molina - Champion, Class A  
 Jun Misolas - Runner-up, Class A  
 Jong Jurado - Champion, Class B  
 Arwel Oropesa - Runner-up, Class B  
 Cris Tumanda - Champion, Class C  
 Alex Gopico - Runner-up, Class C  
 Danny Rodelas - Lowest Net  
 Gems Molina - Lowest | Gross

#### SPECIAL AWARDS

Guido Rimando - Most Accurate Drive  
 Harry Barber - Longest Drive  
 Ronnie Evangelista - Nearest the Pin  
 Johnny Enguerra - Longest Putt

#### INTER-BATTALION CONTEST

1st BN - First Place  
 2nd BN - Second Place



Apart from mistahs, some guest players also joined the tournament. They were Robert Hernandez, 1LT Alfons John L Tumanda PAF (Cris Tumanda's son), Ilyn Saavedra, and Malou Guillermo (Jogi Guillermo's wife).

4th BN - Third Place  
 3rd BN - Fourth Place

#### Sinagtala Family loses loved ones

The Sinagtala Family expressed its condolences to two mistahs who lost loved ones. Elbert Pagente's elderly mother Pilar,

aged 90 years old, died in her sleep last May 25, 2024, while Albert Ocon's wife Maricel succumbed to cancer on July 21, 2024 after a prolonged battle with the illness. We offer our collective sympathy, and prayers for strength and comfort to the family in the midst of their grief.



1st BN Players pose with their 1st Place trophy.



**FERNAN T TRINIDAD**  
 President  
**TOINKS H VALENCIA**  
 Class Historian

#### Greetings to all Hinirangs!!!

It has been a very busy quarter for the class. In the Hinirang Class Officers, Board of Directors and Trustees Meeting last 30 April 2024, it was decided that the First PMA Hinirang 87 Charity Golf will be held on 30 July 2024 at the West Course of Wack Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong City. One objective is to generate funds for important Class activities like the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of

Hinirang. It was a big decision considering time was deemed short for the required planning, coordination, finding sponsors and selling of tickets. But as usual, the

Hinirang Class Officers are never short of courage— "kaya yan!"

On 07 May 2024, President Fernan Trinidad signed a contract with GMC





Events/Golf Marketing Central known to manage golf events since 2007. Miss Hazel Soriaga, Managing Director represented the GMC. The contract was signed in the presence of our Hinirang Foundation Corporate Secretary Peter Suchianco.

The HOUSE OF SOMANG or the HOUSE OF HOPE was chosen as beneficiary of the First PMA Hinirang 87 Charity Golf. It is a non-government institution and charitable residential facility for abandoned and homeless elders in Metro Manila. Fernan, Loumer, Toinks and Hazel visited their Paranaque facility last 04 May 2024. The center is under the care of the Kkottongnae Sisters of Jesus.

We checked their spacious grounds, common areas and peeked into their living and sleeping rooms. One can only be happy to see the place clean and organized, which was a testament to the good personal care given to them. Right there and then, we knew that we rightly chose a beneficiary deserving our help.

We met an old man who was endearingly coaxed to sing. With some hesitation, he obliged and with smiles and action, the elderly sang "You are My Sunshine ... my only sunshine". Even in the delightful and cheerful scene, one cannot escape a certain sadness that pierces through the heart, a mistah confessed later. Indeed, it unfathomable to us that their children left them; but here it was—for real.

We realized HINIRANG CAN BE A LIGHT OF HOPE for the abandoned elderly; and our respective families can share their blessings with them. Each of us can be that undying ember TO LIT HOPE in their hearts; and we can also do this— AS ONE BIG HINIRANG FAMILY. It was clear to us, in making the House of Somang our beneficiary, we are establishing a relationship that will go beyond our class project.

After posting the pictures of the visit and the call urging mistahs to get solicitors

for the Golf Project, Stephen Ramos messaged: "Mas maraming sponsor kung ang recipient ng pa-golf bonk e House of Somar lol". 🙏

While mistahs were in the thick of getting sponsors for the Golf Tournament, the ladies led the preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fellowship held last 15 June 2024 at the "Hinirang" Social Hall of the Office of the Civil Defense Building in Camp Aguinaldo. Kudos to USEC Ariel Nepomuceno—for providing the venue.

Thanks to Eugene Gepte for the site facilitation.

It was a well-attended with 28 couples: Fernan/Gina, Loumer/Leonor, Mao/Cookie, Joey/Babes, Erick/Myla, Lyndon/Ping, Jess/Ching, Guillor/Lally, Nelson/Majo, Cesar/Carina, Ramie/Choelo, Eric/Naneth, Apol/Gigi, Bob/Tess, Mike/Ge, George/Agnes, Geps/Gigi, Ariel/Jane, Noly/Sarah, Bart/Cecille, Poopsie/Eve, Noel/Mabel, Cesar B/Agnes, Erwin/Tess, Joby/Rachel, Jaime/Rose, Ding/Gina,





and Nong/Nene. The singles include Peter S, Ely G, Sagat, Empiso and Toinks.

Led by the beautiful Gina Trinidad, the lovely Hinirang ladies conceptualized a "denim" inspired event. The casual blue attire set the tone for a relaxed and fun atmosphere for the whole night. The backdrop was well done thanks to Naneth Vinoya and daughter. The backdrop was dynamic; it changes into different frames with witty denim quips—fantastic, great concept, great impact! The artistry was evident, and the messages meaningful. Technically, it was well done. Surely, it took time and effort making it, great execution! I hope Eric did not supervise (hehehehe). 🤔

Naneth Vinoya led the prayer. Let me share excerpts, *"As one family, we especially pray over every Hinirang father present, and those not here tonight. We thank you Lord for the endless days that you were faithful and merciful to them. From the abundance of your grace, you have made each of these fathers a brave-hearted warrior, protector and defender of their families."* And before the end, she said, *"We commit to you Lord our celebration of Father's Day tomorrow. Let it be not just a ritual celebration with food and gifts, but a thoughtful expression of Father's Day, which is for us to honor WHO the gift is more than WHAT the gift is."* Thank you for the wonderful prayer.

The indefatigable and brilliant Hermie Bongolan was emcee; and to everyone's surprise, she started dishing out trivia questions and mishaps grappled to answer. These reminded mishaps of years past and generated good laughs. She later admitted having read "to heart" the articles in the Hinirang 35 Yearbook. She even quipped, "kasi naman kayo basahin ninyo"! True, the yearbook has many stories from mishaps accounts that are interesting. So mga mishaps, go over the yearbook and read it. Show it to your apo!!!!

The food was sumptuous, and it was so good, making you come back again and



again. Thanks to Cookie Aplasca for the fresh fruits, the lechon and for choosing a good caterer.

There were 18 birthday celebrants present. They were called to the stage to be recognized and each was given a cupcake with a lighted candle. The birthday song was played, and everyone sang with glee. The candles were blown, and wishes were made. It was capped with a toast from handsome Toinks. He said many great things to the celebrants; and ended saying, *"let us be thankful to the Hinirang Ladies, they are the reason*

*we are fathers!"* They supported us to be great dads and husbands.

After dinner, it was dance, dance and dance. The group dance was a hit with many mishaps and their ladies jumping out of their seats to take the center stage and display their dancing prowess. Their endurance was surprising, as music after music their dancing remained in high gear, full of energy without missing any turn and hand gesture that the lead dance instructor makes. Well for those born with two right feet, they were in their seats mesmerized and some laughing heartily when mishaps



occur. It was really a cool and fun night.

The ladies pulled out another surprise. They moved around the hall, looked for their hubby and offered or gifted them with sweet cakes, a kiss and hug ... poor me and those that came alone (hehehehe). I ended taking their pictures. In writing this segment, Gina Carreon helped me. I was told that the cakes were two pieces of giant cream puffs ... sweet!!!

Not to be outdone, mistahs were mustered to the stage and everyone sang Kaydet Girl to the lovely Hinirang ladies. The sweetness of the night soared higher than Caloy Yulo's 15.116 score and mistahs again danced with their lady humming and singing the Kaydet Girl. Certainly, it was a night to remember.

The inaugural PMA Hinirang 87 Charity Golf held on 30 July 2024 was superbly held and executed at the West Course of the Wack Wack and Golf Country Club in Mandaluyong City.

Days prior to the event there was a frenzy in the preparations and the solicitors were in a mad scramble to follow up their sponsors. Of 109 sponsorship letters sent by 39 mistahs, a total of 77 sponsors supported the project. Thank you also to the many mistahs who donated to the project. Although there is no competition, let us recognize and congratulate Albert Mogol and Fernan Trinidad for raking in the most from sponsorships. Closely trailing them is Bob Ancan followed by Ringo Licup and SJ Sobejana. Congratulations to all, we did well!

On D-Day, there was an air of excitement. At 0630H mistahs and guests started arriving at the Wack Wack Pavillion to register and have breakfast. Beautiful promo girls welcomed them at the doors offering sunscreen. Some had sunscreen sprayed on them, the naughty or happy ones had them rubbed in their arms, necks and forehead. There were sponsor's booths selling and showcasing their products. The stage was professionally



done, it was impressive.

At 0800H, the ceremonial tee off was held with Fernan, Loumer, Mao and Ringo giving long drives. Afterwards, all participants—the sponsors present, mistahs and other guests gathered at Hole Nr 1 for a group photo to remember the event. Then, everyone rushed to their designated holes. All were excited, waiting for the signal to start the tournament.

It was a great sunny day. The weather was supposed to be rainy, and the forecast mentioned the possibility of a thunderstorm in the afternoon. I guess the

offered eggs did their job. Later at around noon when no clouds were blocking the scorching sun, a mistah said ... "sumobra ata ang alay na itlog!" ☺

The tournament was fun and competitive. Side bets were made, all hoping to win something. The car in Hole Nr 3, the 100K worth of prizes in Hole Nr 8 and 14, and the 50K cash prize in Hole Nr 11 were teasing the players. Unfortunately, no one got a Hole in One. Nonetheless, Joey A won big when one his children gifted him with a Cobra golf set – lucky dad. Joey was so excited and confident believing his





brand-new golf set would bring wonders to his score. Indeed, after the game, he wondered what happened?!" 🏆

The last flight finished around 1430H. Everyone had their late lunch while small prizes were raffled. Scores were computed with results as follows: Overall Champion - John Boy De Fiesta and the Low Gross Champion - JB Estoesta. During the awarding, Fernan noted, he could not believe that the great Hinirang golfers had a hard time at the fairways and the unusually fast greens of Wack Wack's West Course. In this regard, one commented "halatang hindi sanay ang mistah sa magandang course—pang Aguinaldo lang!" 🏆

The Men's Division winners: *Class A Champion* - Egbert Davis, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up - John Bautista, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up - Nick Parilla; *Class B Champion* - Jojo

Vera Cruz, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up - Carlos Cruz, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up - Arnel Morada; *Class C Champion* - Lyndon Latorre, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up - Gino Tantuico and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up - Loy Morales; *Class D Champion* - Ringo Licup, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up - Bobby Sheen and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up - Jimmy Hidalgo. What is the most notable result? Lyndon simply bested Ringo and clobbered the rest of mistahs. It is a significant improvement indeed, but does that mean no more "plus" in the next games? 🏆 For the Ladies Division, the Champion is Ma. Lourdes Roxas, the 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up is Gabby Macatulad and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up is Yla Trinidad.

The fun holes also generated excitement when players realized that in each flight, one is declared most accurate or nearest the pin—and is given a special prize. "Doon na lang inalaw ang sarili sa magagandang sunscreen promo girls dahil

*masama ang palo.*" "Doon naman sa hole na ang prize ay virgin coconut oil, tinanong yung namimigay. Para saan iyan? Sabi ng promo lady iniinom po. Inuulit-ulit, para saan yan? Di ma-gets ni promo lady na ang gustong sagot ay pangmassage—para maipahid sa kamay." 🏆

The Official Fun Hole Winners: Bert Limbo for Nearest the Pin, John Boy De Fiesta for Most Accurate Drive and Anto Florida for Longest Drive. However, there was a protest. Jojo Bueno asserted that he should have won the Longest Drive. He emphasized that he left Pangasinan very early and drove to Manila to attend the tournament. He asked, "isn't that the longest drive?" 🏆

For Major Raffle Winners: Alejandro Reyes won a Recliner Chair, Gerry Cunanan a 55-inch Smart TV, and Nelson Bondoc a 65-inch Smart TV. There are two back



stories here. First, Gerry made a 5K pledge because he had no plans of going to Wack Wack. But for some reason, he played. Like everyone, he was made to pay the tournament ticket. "Napilitan mag bayad ng 10K pero gusto sana bawiin ang 5k na pledge nya. Okay na sana, kaso nanalo ng 55-inch TV; kaya ang sabi nina Prez at Loumer, sigle balik ang 5K pero balik din ang TV." 🤔 The second story is interesting. Fernan picked the winning stub. Looking

at the name, he was amazed and happily announced: the winner is someone whose wife plans to buy a new television. Fernan and Gerry were talking about this plan before the game. Gerry might be doing something good!

There are still many stories to tell; but it would suffice to say the inaugural PMA Hinirang 87 Charity Golf was a great success. Sponsors, mistahs and guests were all happy and satisfied. For mistahs,

it was again an excuse to meet and enjoy a beloved game. Many thanks to the Hinirang Ladies who came to support us.

Congratulations to the core group that frequented planning meetings, especially during the food tasting, which coincided with the birthday of Peter. They are Fernan T, Loumer B, Peter S, Joby B, Ringo L, Herry R, Mao A, Robert A, and me.

Until next time. God bless Hinirang!!! 🙏



**DENNIS GODFREY F GAMMAD**  
President  
**CRISOSTOMO S BAS JR**  
Secretary

We are proud to declare that we went through a successful class project, the **PMA CLASS 1990 GOLF TOURNAMENT 2023**, last 30 May 2023 at the Canlubang Golf and Country Club (North Course). The entire event was under the leadership and oversight of our class president Dennis Gammad and the chairmanship of Toods Detoyato, with Benjie Hao as Project Director (along with him is his active CMO team) and with the backing and support of Team Army. The success of this project proved once again that we can achieve our goals through the commitment, talent and contribution that each member of the class can bring in whatever ways they can to a project.

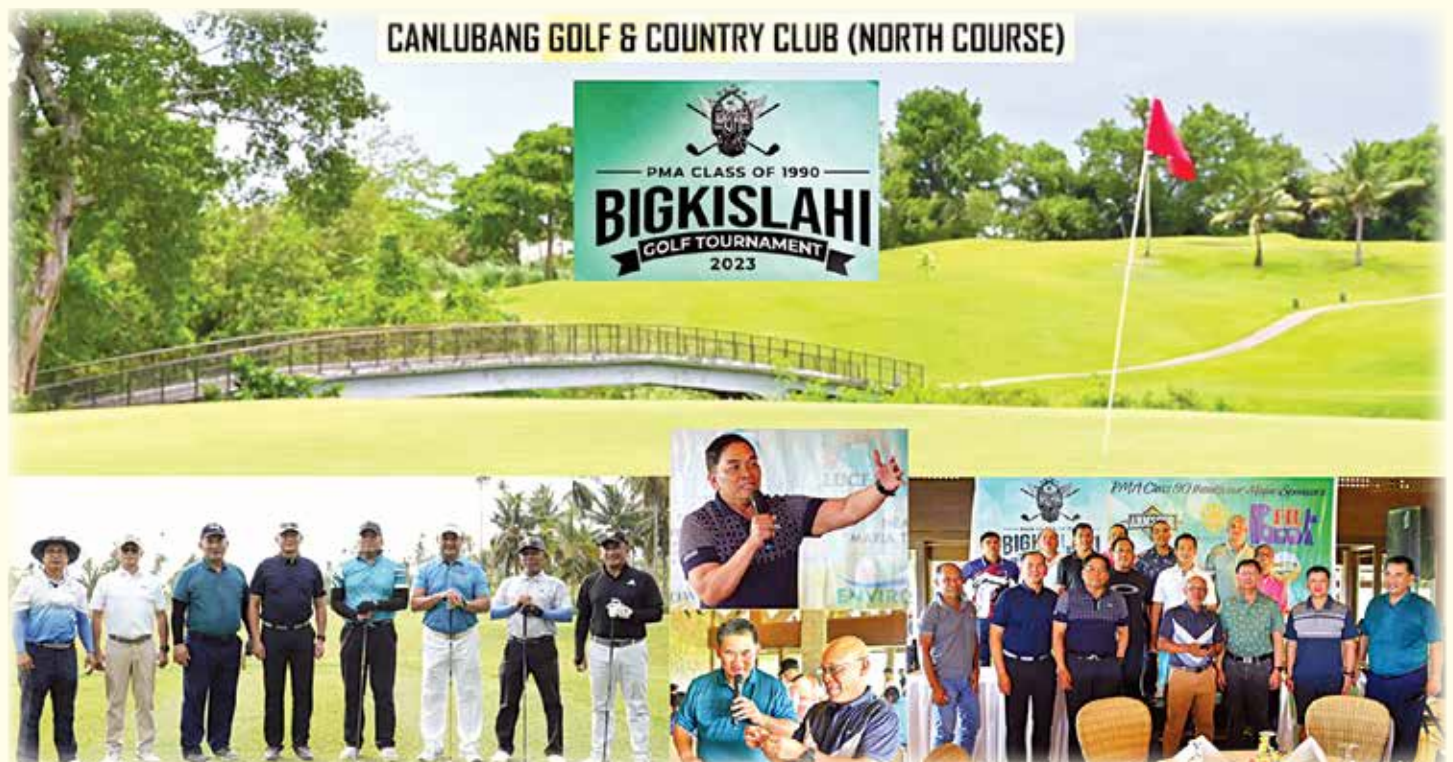
Despite the earlier bad news of a stormy weather that may have caused the cancellation of the event, our perseverance paid off which made joyful memories for 76 players who enjoyed playing on the finely cultured and pristine golf course, the club food that we offered for breakfast and lunch, and the prize-gifts and token that we gave to each player to bring home. All these became possible through the efforts of those mistahs who invited friends to become sponsors and players to this golf event.

We give special thanks to the following mistahs who brought us the Major Sponsors: Ulanday (5), PGammad (3), Costelo (2), Cababasay (1), Ortilla (1), Teofilo (1), Artuz (1) and Detoyato (1). For the Minor Sponsors we give thanks to the following mistahs: Enmodias (4), PGammad (3), Hao (2), Munoz (1), Detoyato (1) and four other minors sponsors brought in by mistahs who remained anonymous. Some minor sponsors that Enmodias made are those that come from Ely Cruz, Olay and Dongbo. Last, but

not least, we give thanks to our mistahs who brought us Patron Sponsors: Enmodias (14), Hao (9), Posadas (7.5 with lechon), PGammad (6.5), Capulong (4), Mamauag (3), Natividad (1), Costelo (1) Artuz (1) and one mistah who remained anonymous.

The sponsorship provided us around 30 percentage of our pool of players during the game, as we gave complimentary golf ticket/s on each category of sponsorship. But a large majority of players that are invited to join the golf game came through the sale of golf tickets. We will give special mention to the following mistahs who purchased and sold golf tickets for themselves, their acquaintances and friends: Mamauag (10), Solis (4), Guinid (4), Hao (4), Glen Cruz (4), Endona (4), Talja (4), Enmodias (4), Petrola (4), Teofilo (3), Laguardia (2), Bergante (2), Amano (2), Percol (1) and Tello (1).

The class leadership will publish the financial statement of the golf tournament in our class group chats. As promised, we will give all class members with the updates to





**Gathering of mistahs during the retirement parties of PMGENs Cruz and Olay.**



the status of our class fund in line with the outcome of this project. This is part of the transparency policy that the class leadership would like to impose upon themselves to keep the confidence of the entrusted mandate given by the class members. Due to the undertaking of the class project, we unfortunately canceled our summer outing because of manpower constraints and scheduling concerns. Anyway, we will keep you posted of future class activities.

Moving on, our class leadership plan to undertake two class projects for the rest

of the year, a shooting competition and a raffle (or Bingo). The chairman for the shooting competition is Alex Sintin with the backing of the PNP Team, while the chairman for the raffle (or Bingo) is Benjie Hao with the backing of the Army Team. Meetings and discussions are underway to thresh out the mechanics, administration and management of these projects. We will integrate the lessons we learned and correct the missteps we made from the golf project into the planning and implementation of succeeding projects.



**Congratulations and well wishes to LTGEN ROY GALIDO as CGPA.**

No significant changes in the status and updates of mistahs from our latest 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Cavalier Magazine Class Call publication, except for the following mistahs. Congratulations to the appointment of LTGEN Roy Galido as Commanding General, Philippine Army, BGEN Doming Gobway as Commander, Installation Management Command, Philippine Army. Also to Retired MGEN Noli Mempin as Undersecretary and Retired BGEN Noel Baluyan as Assistant Secretary both in the Department of Education.

We welcome PMGEN Ronnie Olay, PMGEN Ely Cruz and Colonel Greg Docil who joined the retirement field, wishing them a well-deserved rest, enjoyment and stress-free quiet life.

The class also congratulates our new hexagenarians: Toods Detoyato, Adonis Palma, Bobby Mesa and Roger Percol. They are our proud flashers of their newly acquired senior citizen card who will enjoy the discounts and benefits it brings.

We would like to extend our condolences and sympathy to the families of Alex and Maydee Espinosa for the death of their son, and to Andrew and Vangie Costelo for the death of Andrew's father.



**RONIE D PETINGLAY**  
President  
**ULYSSES S MARQUEZ**  
Secretary

The entire Maalab Class of 1993 family deeply mourns the passing of **Maalab CG Vice-Admiral Allan Victor Tamayo Dela Vega PCG**, Assistant Commandant for Administration of the Philippine Coast Guard, who departed on 16 August 2024. Mistahs

and their families, along with friends and the Coast Guard community, shared in the sorrow of his passing. They gathered to pay their respects during his wake and attended the necrological service held at the mortuary of the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB). Maalab Allan was laid to rest with full military honors on 25 August 2024 at the LNMB, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. Paalam Mistah Allan!!! May you rest in peace in heaven with our Lord God Almighty.

#### **MAALAB New Designations and Promotions:**

1. **MGEN FRANCIS ANTHONY M CORONEL PA** – Deputy Chief of Staff for Financial Management, J10, AFP;

2. **MGEN THAD RUFINO P CANDELARIO PAF** – Inspector General, PAF;

3. **BGEN ERIC A GACHALIAN PAF** – Wing Commander, Tactical Operations Wing-Northern Luzon;

4. **BGEN WALTER P ICARO PA** – Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance, AJ6, AFP;

5. **COMM CONSTANCIO ARTURO M REYES JR PN** – Deputy Commander, External Defense Operations, WESCOM, AFP;

6. **BGEN JONATHAN M AQUINO PAF** – Wing Commander, 355th Aviation Engineer Wing, PAF;

7. **COMM JUARIO C MARAYAG PN** – Deputy Commander, Philippine Fleet, PN;
8. **COMM EDWARD IKE M DE SAGON PN** – Commander, Naval Forces Northern Luzon, PN;
9. **CAPT IRENEO D BATTUNG PN** – Deputy Chief of Staff for Naval Operations (N3), PN;
10. **COL HUBERT S ACIERTO PA** – Commander, Army Artillery Regiment, PA; and
11. **BGEN ROMMEL R CORDOVA PA** – Acting Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, J5, AFP;
12. **CAPT RAUL A REGIS PN** – Commander, Offshore Combat Force, Philippine Fleet, PN; and
13. **BGEN JOSE BONIFACIO F CALUB PAF** – Acting Wing Commander, 410 Maintenance Wing, Air Logistics Command, PAF.

#### MAALAB Achievements:

- **Maalab Eric Gachalian** celebrated the third quarter of the year with a remarkable achievement in his golf career by scoring a Hole-in-One on the 17th hole at Villamor Air Base Golf Club. Kudos to you, Mistah Gachie!

- Congratulations to **Maalab Charlie Rances** for being honored as one of the “Gawad Pilipino” Awardees, recognized for his unwavering passion and dedication to promoting national integrity, prosperity, and freedom.

- Kudos to the tandem of **Maalab Elmer “Tex” Suderio**, Commander of the 102nd Infantry Brigade and **Maalab Eddie “EDP” Pilapil**, Deputy Brigade Commander, for their significant accomplishment in eliminating the Western Mindanao Regional Party Committee (WMRPC) of the Communist Party of the Philippines. The last three elements of the Communist Terrorist Group operating in Zamboanga peninsula have surrendered with their firearms. A truly outstanding achievement by the great MAALAB warriors!

- Congratulations to **Maalab Henry Anthony Torres** for earning the Silver Frontline Leader Award and Bronze Excellence in Recruitment Award during the 2024 GAMA Leadership Awards ceremony. You’re doing a great job, Mistah! Truly, the burning desire to serve is still within you even beyond of your military service.

#### MAALAB Family Achievement:

- Maalab Brat **Gabriele Bolaños** – BS in Sports Science, University of Santo Tomas;
- Maalab Brat **Leander Sadural** – BS Nursing, University of Santo Tomas;
- Maalab Brat **Pompeyo Jason Almagro II** – BS in Nutrition and Dietetics, University of San Carlos, Cebu City;
- Maalab Brat **Jason Lance Almagro** – BA in Political Science, Ateneo de Manila University;
- Maalab Brat **Annie Fleurdeliz Encabo** – BS in Economics, Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology;



- Maalab Brat **Monica Marielle Lachica** – BS in Architecture, University of the Philippines – Mindanao;
- Maalab Brat **Marie Xander Nanong M.D.** – Post Graduate Internship, Cardinal Santos Medical Center;
- Maalab Brat **Julian Troy Narcise M.D.** – Post Graduate Internship, Cardinal Santos Medical Center;
- Maalab Brat **Leila Pasamonte** – BS in Development Communication, Adventist University of the Philippines;
- Maalab Brat **Angelica Belarmino** – BS in Medical Laboratory Science, San Pedro College, Davao City;
- Maalab Brat **Gyron Mark C Besana** – Associate in Aircraft Maintenance, Philippine State College of Aeronautics;
- Maalab Brat **2LT JET PETINGLAY PAF** – 2nd Runner-up, PAF Innovation Challenge;
- Maalab Brat **1LT ARJEL JAIRUS M FERNANDEZ** – Certified Philippine Air Force Blackhawk Pilot.
- Maalab Brat **Nicole R Pilapil** – BS in Nursing, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila
- Maalab Belle **Mybel C Besana** – Master of Arts in Nursing – University of Makati

#### MAALAB Wedding:

The Maalab family extends its warmest congratulations and best wishes to newlywed **Maalab Ali Luis and Josephine Macawaris**. The couple celebrated their union in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony on 11 July 2024 at St. Michael The Archangel Chapel, Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the Philippine Army Officers' Clubhouse within the Headquarters Philippine Army, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. **To Ali and Jo**, may our Lord God Almighty always bless and guide you towards everlasting love and a successful married life.

#### MAALAB Retirement:

As **Maalab Federico Enriquez** prepares for his retirement from the active military service on 23 September 2024, a series of courtesy calls and honors have been conducted. Most notably, a Testimonial Parade and Review was held in his honor by the Philippine Military Academy on 29 June 2024 at Fort del Pilar, Baguio City. As a proud member of the Maalab Class of 1993, Maalab Eking witnessed the ceremony performed by the Cadet Corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Additionally, a "Champagne Flight" was accorded to him by the Air Education, Training, and Doctrine Command at Fernando Air Base, Lipa City, Batangas on 23 July 2024. This traditional flight marks the culmination of a distinguished military career, honoring his service before retirement.

As we move forward with pride and gratitude, we continue to uphold the values of service, excellence, and camaraderie



that define the **Maalab Class of 1993**. Let us remain united in supporting one another, celebrating our achievements, and honoring the memory of those who have gone before us. May we carry the

torch of leadership and dedication, ever ready to serve our nation with unwavering commitment and integrity. Together, we are the Maalabs – always burning with the fire of duty and honor.





**ADRIANO SJ DUADICO**  
President  
**IVAN R PAPER**  
Secretary

For more than 34 years in the Armed Service since our memorable march at Borromeo Field on April 01, 1990, the time has come for some of our Bantay Layans to finally shed their uniforms and bow out of the service. After years of dedicated and faithful service to our nation, the first to officially retire is MGen Proceso Rebancos PA, The Chief Engineer, AFP.

To give due recognition for his unselfish and unwavering commitment to the Armed Forces, he was given a Testimonial Honor and recognition by our Alma Mater at PMA last June 29, 2024. It was presided by no less than the Superintendent PMA, LTGEN Rowen Tolentino PA, and attended by the Chief of Staff, AFP, GEN Romeo Brawner PA and his lovely wife Mrs Melody Brawner. The event was truly memorable as attended by more than 20 of our mistahs, ladies, and their dependents. Special acknowledgement goes to the Bantay Layans at PMA led by the Commandant of Cadets, BGEN Mon Flores for the planning and commendable preparations for all the events laid for the honoree, Pros Rebancos, his wife Fe, and children.

#### **MGEN PROCESO S REBANCOS' Blueprint for Success in the AFP**

The 47th Chief Engineer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, MGEN PROCESO S REBANCOS PA, looks back on a long career highlighted by leadership, devotion, and technical brilliance as he gets ready to retire. Since taking over this crucial position on January 23, 2023, MGEN REBANCOS has demonstrated the qualities that make a military officer stand out.

MGEN Rebancos' story is one of perseverance, continuous learning, and unwavering commitment. Born in Ligao City in Albay, he embarked on his military journey as a proud member of the Philippine Military Academy "Bantay-Laya" Class of 1994. His early years were marked by a determination to excel, which saw him become the first in his class to attain the rank of Major General in the AFP.

Prior to becoming Chief Engineer, MGEN Rebancos served various important staff and leadership roles. He served as the Commander of the 53rd Engineer Brigade, where his leadership and strategic wisdom were instrumental in numerous successful



operations. His time serving as the Army Chief Engineers of the Philippine Army further demonstrated his capacity to oversee challenging engineering projects that were essential to the organization's infrastructure and operational readiness.

Among his other noteworthy positions were those of Deputy Army Internal Auditor, Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics, G4 at the 52nd Engineer Brigade and the 4th Infantry Division, and Commanding Officer of the 544th Engineer Construction Battalion. Each of these roles added to the depth and breadth of his knowledge, forming a well-rounded and exceptionally capable leader.

MGEN Rebancos' commitment to his profession is evident in his extensive educational background. As a registered Civil Engineer with a background in Management Engineering, he has always recognized the need of lifelong learning. The Scout Ranger Orientation Course, the Basic Airborne Course, the Special Operations Team Training, the Battle Simulation Training, the Instructor's Operation Course, and the Basic and Advanced Engineer Officer's Courses were among the many training courses he finished.

He also finished his Command and General Staff Course at the AFP Command

and General Staff College. To further enhance his strategic understanding, he pursued a Master in Public Management major in Development and Security and completed the National Security Studies Program at the National Defense College of the Philippines.

Multiple awards and decorations have been given to MGEN REBANCOS for his leadership and dedication over the course of his career. These include three Distinguished Service Stars, the Gawad sa Kaunlaran, 24 Military Merit Medals, seven Military Commendation Medals, the Interfet Medal, United Nations Service Medal and Ribbon, Long Service Medal, Military Civic Action Medal, Silver Wing Medal, Meritorious Achievement Medal, and multiple Certificates of Commendation and Appreciation from both military and civilian sectors. These honors represent a career committed to quality and service rather than just being decorations. They show how well-liked and respected he is by both his peers and subordinates.

Beneath his well-groomed uniform and stellar career lies a man devoted to his family. He is happily married to the former Ms Fe Bustamante Torres. Together, they have built a loving family with their three children: Arianna, Nicollo, and Vanessa. His family has been his steadfast support system throughout his professional life. Their support has enabled him to succeed to great heights and manage the challenges of military life.

MGEN Rebancos' career serves as a blueprint of success within the AFP. His meticulous approach to project management and leadership has strengthened the AFP's operational capabilities in addition to creating strong



infrastructures. His ability to combine military strategy with engineering expertise has redefined the role of a military engineer. His legacy will serve as a model for upcoming leaders, demonstrating that

a mix of expertise, strategic thinking and uncompromising commitment to one's responsibilities is necessary for true success.



**HOSTILLO AE CORNELIO**  
President  
**IVAN V SAN JOSE**  
Secretary  
**CHARLIE L TIU, JR**  
Writer

## The Enduring Legacy of the Marilag Class of 1995: Unity, Leadership, and Service

### Introduction

Historically, the "Five Finger" gesture is almost universally used for greeting or celebration. It can also be used as a signal to 'stop' or 'halt.' The first theory claims the high five was done during a basketball match in 1977 – but it's quite likely that the origin of this gesture began way back. Contrary to the universal view of the Five Finger Sign, Kannan Nadar,

Head of Programme (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) at UNICEF, depicts the hand as a metaphor for the team. Each finger symbolizes different traits and characteristics. The pinky represents 'sincerity and hesitancy,' the middle finger for 'rebellion and innovation,' the index finger for 'confidence and accountability,' the ring finger for 'commitment and reliability,' and lastly, the thumb for 'optimism and energy.' Hand gestures play a role in non-verbal communication, and are adopted by many. This, too, was adopted by the Philippine Military Academy as a means to represent something that means a lot to them. All cavaliers and trainees from the PMA have invented a sign as a way to represent their class. Particular to adopting and using the 'Five Finger Sign,' are the Marilag Class of 1995.

In 1991, a group of young cadets entered the Philippine Military Academy

(PMA) with dreams of serving their country. Little did they know, these cadets would form a bond that transcended their rigorous training and military careers, leaving an indelible mark on the institution and the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Known as the Marilag Class of 1995, their journey from cadets to seasoned officers is not just a tale of military prowess but a testament to unity, leadership, and unwavering dedication to service.

### Unity Forged in Symbolism

At the heart of the Marilag Class's unity is the iconic "Five Finger Sign." Adopted during their years at the PMA, this gesture symbolizes their shared values of camaraderie, strength, and loyalty. More than a mere gesture, it became a rallying point that reminded them of their principles during the toughest challenges of their military training and



subsequent careers. This unity extends beyond their professional lives, as they continue to gather periodically, celebrating achievements and supporting each other through personal and professional challenges.

#### **Leadership, Commitment, Social Responsibility, Family and Impact**

The Marilag Class of 1995 has produced leaders who have significantly shaped various branches of the Armed Forces of

the Philippines. Their leadership extends beyond military strategy; these men are pillars of their communities, advocating for social development and ethical conduct. They embody the PMA's core values of honor, courage, and excellence, serving as role models for future generations of cadets. Each officer's journey is marked by resilience, dedication, and a deep-seated commitment to defending their nation.

Individually, they excel in their respective fields within the military,

contributing to operational prowess and strategic leadership. Collectively, their impact resonates in the halls of the PMA and beyond, where their legacy inspires others to uphold the noble traditions of the cavaliers.

Beyond their military duties, the Marilag Class of 1995 exemplifies a broader commitment to social responsibility. They actively engage in community development initiatives, recognizing the importance of giving back to the society they swore to protect. Their experiences and values have shaped their approach to leadership, emphasizing integrity, compassion, and accountability in all aspects of their lives.

Central to the success and resilience of the Marilag Class members are their families, particularly their wives, who provide unwavering support throughout their careers. These relationships are celebrated during gatherings where they not only honor achievements but also cherish the bonds forged through years of shared experiences and challenges. The class's commitment to family mirrors their dedication to their military responsibilities, creating a holistic approach to leadership and personal fulfillment.





### **Legacy and Inspiration**

As the Marilag Class of 1995 continues to navigate their careers with resilience and honor, their legacy remains firmly rooted in the annals of the Philippine Military Academy's history. Their story is one of courage, sacrifice, and service, inspiring future generations to uphold the values of unity, leadership, and unwavering commitment to duty. Their impact extends

far beyond their years at the PMA, shaping the landscape of the Armed Forces and leaving an enduring mark on the military profession.

### **Conclusion**

The Marilag Class of 1995 stands as a testament to the transformative power of unity, leadership, and service. From their humble beginnings as cadets to their

current roles as distinguished military officers and community leaders, their journey exemplifies the best of what the Philippine Military Academy instills in its graduates. As they continue to uphold their values and inspire others, the Marilag Class of 1995 remains a beacon of hope and dedication, ensuring that their legacy of excellence and commitment endures for generations to come.





***In Memoriam  
of  
Cav Dennis Atega Sanchez Class '73***

## Super Seniors' Sojourn

• GLECY BAGASIN AND ALICE SANCHEZ

Midway through last year, we, Samy and Glecly Bagasin, together with Dennis and Alice Sanchez embarked on a journey from Luzon to Visayas and Mindanao. This travel was the fulfillment of Samy's long-standing request to Dennis to let him experience continuous land and sea travel to various places in the country. Dennis and Alice had done this five times before, the most recent of which were with the MUX Owners of the Philippines, which he founded.

The starting point of our expedition was the Class 73 outing at the newly built farmhouse of Tiks and Tani Besas in Padre Burgos, Quezon. With fond adieus, the Mistahs and their spouses wished us safe travel. And off we were on an expedition many of them long to undertake.

First stop was Pili, Camarines Sur at the 9th Infantry Division (ID) as guests of Division Commander Major General Adonis Bajao and Assistant Division Commander Brigadier General Jimmy Abawag. We were welcomed with a dinner at the clubhouse attended by men and women officers. It was a nostalgic night for the two retired officers who shared their memories of active days in the military. The next morning, we awoke to the sight of a huge, quiet, clean and orderly camp. Credit goes to the officers for maintaining such an engaging atmosphere.

After the sumptuous breakfast with our gracious hosts, we resumed our land travel with Mount Isarog as backdrop in the east and the excitement of seeing Mayon Volcano in Albay. Unfortunately, what we could see was only the throes of the volcano's eruption; and thus, what we saw was only smoke.

Reaching Matnog in Sorsogon, we boarded our 'Roll-On Roll-Off (RORO)' vessel to Allen Port in Northern Samar. After disembarking, we headed directly to the 8th ID at Camp Gen Vicente in Lukban, Catbalogan City. It was again five-star accommodations, starting with dinner with the officers at Payao Mangrove Grill and Restaurant. The following morning, the Division Commander, Major General Camilo Z. Ligayo tendered breakfast for us in his quarters.

From Samar, we crossed to Leyte via the grand San Juanico Bridge, long, neatly paved, and enticing for a leisurely stroll.

Our next destination then was Liloan, a small municipality in Southern Leyte, which is famous for its beaches. Liloan Port was where we boarded another RORO vessel, this time to Surigao City. From there, we drove to Butuan City to visit the 402nd Brigade, which was once headed by Samy. The said brigade used to be in Prosperidad, Agusan; but it has been relocated beside the Butuan airport. Again, we had a taste of the Army brand of hospitality complete with comfortable accommodation, delicious food, souvenirs, and a tour

of their offices. The new building of the brigade can match modern corporate headquarters with its state-of-the-art technology and structure.

On our sixth day, the Sanchezes stayed in Butuan to see relatives while the Bagasins headed to Davao City to unite with the family of Glecly's sister, Crising Patino.

In Davao, the Bagasins enjoyed durian-eating at the famous Magsaysay Avenue accompanied by Samy's former Army military driver, Tito Paulo. Tito is now Chief Security Officer of a mining company in Davao to which he had been endorsed by Samy. A full day was spent by the Bagasin with the Patino family consisting of a visit to St. Francis Church and a pampering session at DermPath, the spa and dermatological clinic of Glecly's niece. Indeed, it was a happy family reunion capped with dinner at the Hilltop in Davao City.

The Sanchezes, meanwhile, were able to have lunch with relatives in Butuan City before proceeding to Cagayan de Oro and Bukidnon to transact with government agencies and a private company regarding some real estate properties. Notable along the route they took was the picturesque mountain road in Claveria, Misamis Oriental with its cool climate, pine trees, lush flowering plants, and giant-sized fruits.

We reunited at the Monastery of Transfiguracion at Malaybalay, Bukidnon. After paying homage at the said shrine, we drove to Del Monte to meet retired Colonel Mar Lacbain who is the Security Manager of the company. At the clubhouse, we were treated to the renowned Del Monte steaks and fruit shakes.



*Samy Bagasin (4th from the left) and Dennis Sanchez (5th from the left) posed with several 4th ID Staff Officers at Camp Evangelista Golf Course.*



*The Sanchez and Bagasin couples posed for a 'SELFIE' in front of the #DumaGetmE signage at the Seaside along Rizal Boulevard in Dumaguete City: (L-R) Dennis Sanchez, Alice Sanchez, Glecly Bagasin, and Samy Bagasin.*

The highlight of this phase was the sentimental weekend of Samy at the 4th Infantry Division in Cagayan de Oro (CDO) where he was once assigned. Here, we were billeted at the Division's guesthouse. Dinner was at the camp clubhouse with the officers of the division. The following day, the men played at the golf course of the Division. The ladies visited the Cagayan de Oro Cathedral, St. Augustine Church, enjoyed window shopping at the commercial center, and there relished the taste of lechon belly.

The next day being Sunday, the Bagasins heard mass at St. Ignatius Chapel while the Sanchezes joined an online worship service.

We, thereafter, toured the 4thID offices, and admired the modern building where they were housed; which were a far cry from the former structure at the same site. We had fun posing before the photograph of Samy at the gallery of past 4th ID Commanders, at the display area of 4thID insignias, as well as in other spots in the building. This was truly a memorable visit for Samy.

After lunch at the scenic Panagatan Restaurant in CDO, the next stop for the day was Iligan City where we were joined in a hearty dinner by the Mayor of Iligan, Frederick Ciao with his Chief of Staff Jun Patacan, and Samy's longtime friends, Henry and Beverly Chu.

The tenth day of our journey meant early land travel to catch the scheduled seacrafts. We passed by historic Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte where Samy had participated in what is now known as the Marawi siege. We then had a short ferry ride to Dapitan and a four-hour RORO ride to Dumaguete.

In Dumaguete, we felt the energy level going down; so, we decided to rest for two days. We spent the time touring some scenic



*The Sanchez and Bagasin couples took a 'SELFIE' in front of the statue of Horace b. Siliman, the founder of Siliman University: (L-R) Alice, Dennis, Glecly, and Samy.*

spots like the Silliman University and the Cathedral of St. Catherine, the oldest stone church in Negros. Going around the city aboard a pedicab, the primary means of transport, was an experience like riding the "Tuk tuks" of Bangkok. We feasted on local delicacies at Casa Ilongga for lunch. In the evening, the Sanchezes had fun viewing the lights display at the Seaside along Rizal Boulevard. The Bagasins settled for dinner in a nearby mall.

The twelfth day consisted of a five-hour drive to Bacolod before taking a RORO bound for Port Dumangas in Iloilo. Hankering for seafoods and fresh coconut, we checked out A Restaurant By The Sea – Ondoy's. This early dinner proved to be a heavy one; enough for us seniors to simply drive to the city to cap the day. The long travel also made us decide to take it easy and relax in Iloilo the next day.

The thirteenth day saw us bidding farewell to each other. The Sanchez couple sailed off to Manila after staying overnight in Oriental Mindoro and a brief stopover in Batangas.

Meanwhile, the Bagasins took another ship to Boracay for a five-day rest and recreation. This being the first time for Samy and Glecly



*Two lovely couples enjoying their early dinner at a restaurant by the sea - Ondoy's: (L-R) Glecly Bagasin, Samy Bagasin, Dennis Sanchez and Alice Sanchez.*

have gone to the place after the three-year pandemic. They were curious of the changes the Island underwent because of its half-year closure. They were not disappointed. Boracay remains blessed with a long stretch of powdery and white sand, crystal clear azure waters, and a stunning sunset. Palm trees, bars and restaurants still lined the shore, creating the perfect panorama that the Island is famous for. They dropped by must-see Wily's Rock, which is iconic of Boracay.

They were pleased at the availability of 'HOP-ON HOP-OFF' buses cruising the whole island with strategic stops; so that, one can enjoy the place, take pictures and experience the vibes of the sites. They joined many others in frolicking in the beach by day, watching the beautiful sunset in the afternoon, reveling in night life activities, and savoring what the countless restaurants offer to feed one's stomach with gusto.

Five days were over and the Bagasins found themselves leaving Boracay. To use the phrase in one song, 'THEY LEFT THEIR HEARTS' in that amazing place and vowed to return. For now, it was goodbye to Boracay as they took the overnight RORO ride from Caticlan to Batangas.

This sojourn of over two weeks is one for the books. We were delighted in seeing several parts of the country, tasting local foods and observing both the traditional norms, as well as, the latest developments. Best of all, however, was spending time with the kindred spirits -- our Mistahs -- and getting to know each other, such that friends of the road have become friends of the heart.

In April this of 2024, Dennis departed with fair winds and following seas to meet His Maker. He had traveled to many countries but it was the trips to the many beautiful places in his beloved Philippines that he enjoyed most and encouraged others to take.





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# LAST CALL

## **CAPT ILDEFONSO C CARADO, JR '80**

22 Feb 1956 - 12 May 2024

Cav Carado succumbed to acute respiratory failure due to community acquired pneumonia in the early morning of 12 May 2024. His remains were laid at the St. Peter's Memorial Chapel Commonwealth until May 17 when it was cremated.. His urn was finally laid to rest on 19 May in the Columbarium of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Cubao, Quezon City.



## **LT COL ED LEONELLE MARVIN B MAPALO '08**

06 Oct 1985 - 02 June 2024

Cav Mapalo passed away on 02 June 2024 and was interred at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig. A family man, brave warrior, and decorated officer of the Philippine Marine Corps and an Awardee of the Distinguished Conduct Star, the second highest medal of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.



## **MAJ RICHARD M BRILLANTES JR '69**

11 Nov 1947 - 13 June 2024

Cav Brillantes' remains were laid at Loyola Chapels, Sucat, Paranaque from 15 June until his cremation on 18 June. He is survived by his wife Vikki and children: Richelle, Raj, Richie and Robyn.



## **LT GEN JACINTO C LIGOT '70**

17 Aug 1948 - 04 June 2024

Cav Ligot passed away in the embrace of his family on 04 June 2024 after a lingering illness, he was 75. A service honoring the life of Cav Ligot was held at the Heritage Chapels in Taguig and inurnment on 13 June. His last position held in the AFP was as Commander of the Central Command. He is survived by his wife Erlinda and children: Paulo, Riza and Miguel.



## **CAPT ALBINO C RIVERA '72**

05 Feb 1949 - 14 June 2024

Cav Albin Rivera joined our Creator last 14 June due to lingering illness. A building contractor and entrepreneur after his retirement, he was an epitome of goodness, low profile and professionalism as an officer and a gentleman.



## **BGEN PATRIARCH ROBINSON P PEL '92**

04 Sept 1970 - 20 June 2024

Cav Pel, a member of PMA Class of 1992, quietly joined our Creator on 20 June 2024, he was 53. His remains were laid from 21-28 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) Mortuary and finally laid to rest on 29 June at the LNMB. He is survived by his wife Juliet and children: Angela Louise, Priscilla Jean, Johanne Nicole, and Aliah Julianne.



## **PM GEN RAMON E MONTANO '58**

13 Mar 1937 - 02 July 2024

Former Chief, PC-INP, Cav Montano died peacefully, surrounded by his loved ones on 02 July 2024, he was 87. A necrological service honoring the life of Cav Montano was held at the Heritage Park, Taguig City. Interment was held on 6 July at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. Cav Montano was married to the former Fe Pareja, who later became mayor of San Jose, Negros Oriental.



## **COL WILLIAM V DORMITORIO '74**

20 Jan 1949 - 10 July 2024

Cav Dormitorio passed away peacefully in his family's arms in Cagayan de Oro City on July 10, 2024. He left behind his caring wife Jasmin with whom he had three children. A necrological service took place at the Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapel in Cagayan before his interment on 18 July at Cagayan de Oro Gardens.



## **BGEN JUANITO K DATOR '57**

27 Dec 1932 - 12 July 2024

Cav Dator passed away peacefully at the age of 91. Wake was held at the Mortuary Hall, Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) on 14-17 July. Interment on 18 July at the LNMB. He was married to the former Leticia Vergara and they were blessed with six children: Jomini, Juanito Jr, Lorraine, Leila, Lizza, and Jaime Jacinto.



## **COL JOSELITO F TAPIA '65**

05 Jan 1940 - 17 July 2024

Cav Tapia died peacefully on 17 July 2024 at the age of 84. Wake was held at Don Bosco Chapel from 19 to 22 July. He was buried at the Manila South Cemetery on the 23rd of July



2024. Cav Tapia was married to the late Melecia Tapia with whom he had three children, +Judith Lourdes, Joel Maurice and Jessere.

## **COMMO EDGAR J CAUMERON '77**

04 Oct 1952 - 24 July 2024

Cav Caumeron peacefully joined our Creator on 24 July surrounded by his loved ones. His remains were laid to rest at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig City.

He left behind his loving wife Eloisa and children Edward and Edwin. His last position held in the AFP was as Chief of the Office of the Legislative Affairs.



## **PM GEN MIGUEL G CORONEL '70**

08 May 1946 - 02 Aug 2024

Cav Coronel, a member of PMA Class of 1970, passed away on 02 August. Wake was held in Camp Crame. He was a former Exec Director of the National Drug Enforcement and Prevention Center from Feb 2001 to May 2002. He left behind his loving wife Winniefreda and children Vanessa and Mark.



## **COL MARCIAL J DE LEON JR. '68**

12 Apr 1945 - 15 Aug 2024

Cav deLeon Jr. died peacefully with his family on August 15, 2024 at the UVA Health Haymarket Medical Center in Virginia, he was 79 years old. He lived an amazing life as a pilot, colonel, husband, provider, and proud servant of the Most High God Jesus Christ.

He is survived by his loving wife Bernadette; children Geraldine, Joshelynn, Farrah and Jian; sons-in-law Robert Clawson, Benson Asis and Charles Phongsavan, daughter-in-law Janice; grandchildren Adriana, Angelina, Isiah, Joshua, Zachary, Asher, Ava and Eliana.



## **VADM ALLAN VICTOR T DELA VEGA '93**

10 Jan 1970 - 16 Aug 2024

Cav De la Vega met his untimely demise on 16 Aug 2024. He was the PCG Deputy Commandant for Administration at the time of his passing. Necrological service was held at the Mortuary, Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB), Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. He was finally laid to rest on 25 August at the LNMB. He is survived by his loving wife Mary Anne and children Aivanne Miguel, Allianne Matthew, and Aljanne Martin.





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