



The

CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

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

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024

CREATING CRITICAL IMPACT



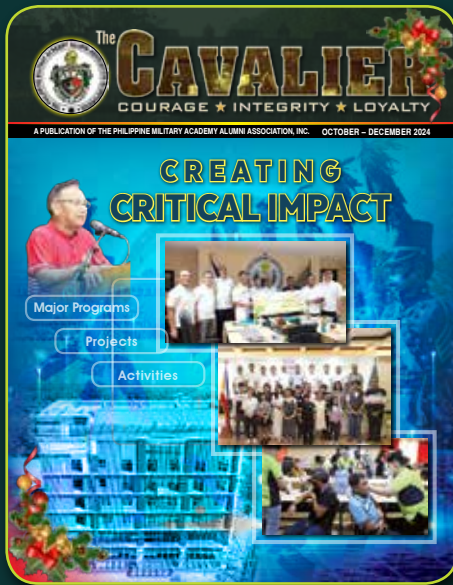
Major Programs

Projects

Activities



ABOUT THE COVER



The cover concept serves as a visual embodiment of the mission to foster transformation, influence outcomes, and ignite innovation, inviting all who engage with it to join the pursuit of a future shaped by critical impact.

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The CAVALIER

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Chairman's Desk.....	1
President's Corner	2
Adjutant's Bulletin	
Notice of PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting	4
and PMA Alumni Homecoming Schedule of Activities	
PMAFI Notice of Annual Meeting	5
Game of Cavaliers 2024	6
PMAAAI Stands United for Justice for CAV WESLEY BARAYUGA '83.....	7
GOC 2024 Championship Leg Results.....	8
Executive Director's Report	10
PMA Affairs	
Superintendent's Report	12
For Baron's Dissemination	13
PMAAAI Chapter News	
The Wonder Years (PMARAI)	
PMARAI Webinar No. 14: Rethinking Healthcare for Retirees to Promote VITALS	14
PMARAI Expresses Gratitude to QUAD Committee for Pursuing Justice to CAV WESLEY BARAYUGA	15
Newly Promoted Philippine Army Generals: Strengthening Leadership for National Defense	16
PAF Chapter Board of Trustees and Committee Chairs Hold Courtesy Call and Oath-Taking Ceremony	18
PN Chapter: Golf for a Cause	19
Pres Marcos names CAV JOSE MA. AMBROSIO EZPELETA as Navy Chief.....	20
PCG Chapter A Night of Camaraderie: PMAAAI-PCG Chapter Comes Together	21
Affiliate Foundations	
PMAAAI Education Foundation, Inc. Endowment Funds on the Rise	23
PMAFI 36 th Founding Anniversary Celebration	25
The Graduates of PMA Helping Out Project Foundation, Inc. (TGPMA HOP): Updates on latest Activities and Projects	28
Female Cavalier Segment - Breaking Odds and Norms: Inspiring Journey of CAV "BON" NUNAG-CASTILLO '97 PAF	29
Young Cavalier Heroes -1LT JUNJUN BAYUDAN Class 2020 (INF) PA Earns Prestigious US Ranger School Leadership Award	31
Visitor's Accounts:	
An Open Letter to MAJOR CAV LEOPOLDO BATAOIL '76	33
Dr. Mercedes Cuello Lazaro-Musngi: A Legacy of Courage, Integrity, Patriotism and Loyalty	34
Vignettes of Elder Cavaliers: Cheated Death Twice by CAV MANUEL MARIANO '62	38
Life Guards: Saving Lives by CAV NIMROD ENRIQUEZ '93.....	39
Humor in Uniform	41
Trivia.....	41
Philippine Economic Governance and Policy Challenges.....	42
• CAV WILFREDO G NUQUI '68	
Unsolicited Advice In Cybersecurity.....	45
• CAV JESUS V LOMEDA JR '80	
Modernization Done Well: Good Project Management A Must	48
• CAV JOSE RENAN C SUAREZ '82	
Will Another Trump Admin be Good for the Philippines? Implications on the SCS and WPS?	52
• CAV FRANCIS D ALAURIN '84	
Class Call	53
Last Call	111

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

Send your featured article to:

The Editor, The Cavalier

PMA Alumni Center

Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Email address: pmaaaai@yahoo.com



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75

Fostering Significant Change

We are called to reflect on this year's journey as we close the 4th quarter of 2024. This issue, with the theme, "Creating Critical Impact," serves as a lens through which we can evaluate the success of PMAAAI's major programs, projects, and activities. But more than an assessment, it's a call to arms—a reminder that our collective actions as Cavaliers hold encompassing significance for our country's future.

The PMAAAI's mandate goes beyond the preservation of values; it requires us to act as a beacon of integrity and service in times that demand accountability and transparency. With the 2025 Midterm National and Local Elections (MNLE) fast approaching, our role becomes more as crucial. As Cavaliers, we are challenged to lead by example by advocating for an honest, wise, and principled electoral process.

Upholding Integrity in the 2025 Elections

Elections are a cornerstone of our democracy, and the PMAAAI has always stood well founded in advocating for the principles that underpin free and fair electoral processes. We call upon PMAAAI members to exercise their influence and to foster informed voting among their families, communities, and professional circles. Let us educate those around us on the value of their vote and the importance of electing leaders of principles, of integrity, of competence, and of patriotism.

Assessing Major Programs and Projects

This year of 2024, PMAAAI has launched and maintained programs that are aligned with our mission to uplift and support the Cavaliers. Whether in professional

growth, community outreach, or national engagement, each initiative has been executed to embody our shared values. As we evaluate these projects, we find lessons that strengthen our organization, refine our approaches, and improve our overall impact. This critical evaluation is not just a metric of success but a commitment to continuous improvement.

Addressing National Issues

More than our commitment to the upcoming elections, we must also confront other pressing national issues. Matters such as national security, modernization in defense, peace-building, and economic stability require our insights and contributions. As PMA graduates, our unique perspective and training can significantly influence discussions on policy, reform, and leadership in these domains. Our voices are needed to be heard, and so is our action to put into reality.

Looking Ahead

Let us keep the spirit of "Creating Critical Impact" at the heart of our efforts as we move forward. The times demand not only commitment but clarity of purpose, dedication, and courage. I enjoin every Cavalier to actively engage, be vigilant, and inspire positive change within and beyond our organization.

Together, we are stronger, and united in purpose, we can make a critical impact that resonates across generations.

Let us remain steadfast in our mission and relentless in our pursuit of courage, integrity, and loyalty.





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA '95

Creating Critical Impact (Evaluation of PMAAAI Major Programs/Projects/Activities)

One of the most debated topics in science today is about the extinction of the dinosaurs millions of years ago. However, one thing that most scientists agree on regarding the reason for their extinction is due to an asteroid impacting the surface of the earth. While we might never know how catastrophic the asteroid is, we can surmise that it was enough to have led to the dinosaurs' extinction. The impact reached a critical level to change the course of life on Earth forever.

We must ensure that we can create an impact that reaches a critical level. Here in PMAAAI, we strive towards creating change

for the betterment of our organization. The question now would be: *"How do we measure if the impact we created is at critical level?"*. For us to understand and learn from the impact we have created, there is a need for its evaluation and measurement. Without a standard upon which to establish certain criteria, every accomplishment done will become mediocre: neither good nor bad. Before the impact can be considered as hitting critical levels, we have to know how and why it is so.

The answer to this question is straightforward. We evaluate our major programs of the past year, our projects, and our activities. We take a look back and analyze our accomplishments



PMAAAI Board of Directors turnover symbolic cheque donation amounting to P8,723,997.35 to CAV CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90, PMA Supt as support to PMA projects.



of gym equipment, etc. The total amount requested for both these projects amount to P8,723,997.35. We hope that with these projects, we can ensure that our organization's morale remains high so that we can also create further impact in other avenues of the organization.

As the year 2024 nears its end, we need to look back and assess. It is through the assessment of past activities and major projects that we can understand just how much we have changed. By looking back, we see our own mistakes and shortcomings, and finally improve for the better. We look back at this past year, 2024, so that we can prepare ourselves for the future, the incoming 2025. We must plan for programs and activities in the future which are founded on the lessons we learned from the past, so that we can fully create an impact which reaches the most critical level. And so, may I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope

for the year. As the president of PMAAAI, I have reported upon several of these issues back.

In June, I wrote about the PMA Center of Leadership and Excellence, or our Alumni Building. While its total completion is still at 98.7%, there has been enough progress to ensure that the finalization of the building's construction is underway. Its mechanical, auxiliary, and electrical works are at 93%, 96%, and 99.7%, respectively. Awaiting testing are the elevator installation, generator set, and sewage treatment plant at 80%, 85%, and 95%, respectively.

For the month of September, I talked about the implementation of our action plans. We held programs for the vaccination of our alumni and dependents in June. We also held a sports activity during the month of August, which was joined by our own alumni. We also had the revision of our PMAAAI bylaws to be hopefully proposed to the general assembly by 2025. Furthermore, we launched our new Facebook page where the dissemination of our plans and activities are made. I believe that we have created an impact big enough to have made a change for our alumni and our organization.

Since the creation of the Special Fund for PMA Payback in 2012, a yearly allocation of P1 to 4 million pesos has been done yearly. However, for this year, the Association has released more than P 8,000,000 in assistance. This was done to support different projects for PMA, like the construction and/or improvements of its different facilities. Furthermore, the PMA Payback was financed by PMAAAI from the different PMA Classes, Alumni, and other donors. To give specifics regarding this, the PMAAAI Board approved last October the request for the following: For **JURADO HALL**, the construction of its roof deck roofing, repair of wall-climbing facility, and the replacement of its electronic basketball scoreboard system. For **PRTC**, additional gym equipment, which included air bike, curved treadmill, adjustable bench and painting

that we all become people who create good, life-changing critical impacts on other people and ourselves in the coming year.



ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

Annual General Membership Meeting

25 January 2025, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo

PROGRAMME

Attire: Men - Coat and Tie
Ladies - As appropriate

PART I (0800H) – Registration

- Entry of Colors (PMA cadets)
- National Anthem (PMAAAI AVP)
- Cavalier Prayer
- Welcome Remarks
- Acknowledgement of Departed Cavaliers
- Acknowledgement of Classes

PART II (0915) – Annual General Membership Meeting Proper

- Call to Order
- Proof of Notice of Meeting
- Proof of Presence of a Quorum
- Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Annual General Membership Meeting
- Matters Arising from the Minutes
- Report of the PMA Superintendent
- President's Report
- Ratification of Resolutions and Acts of the Board and Management
- Approval of Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws
- Election of Directors
- Other Matters (Open Forum)
- Adjournment (1015H)
- Fellowship Snack (Recommend to move after the exit of colors)

PART III (1030H) – Arrival of Guest of Honor

- Presentation of the Association Awards
- Introduction of Guest of Honor and Speaker
- Speech of Guest of Honor and Speaker
- Alma Mater Song
- Exit of Colors
- Recessional
- Raffle Draw (Major Prizes)



PMA Alumni Homecoming

15 February 2025, Saturday

PROGRAMME

PART I Arrival Honors

0830H - Arrival Honors for the Guest of Honor

- IF - Photo Opportunity (Sundial Area)
- IF - Guest Book Signing
- IF - Reception at Maharlika Lounge
- IF - Proceed to Longayban Hall

PART II Alumni Parade (Fajardo Grandstand)

0930H - Alumni Parade

- Entry and Formation of Troops and Colors
- Welcome Remarks **CAV CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90**
Superintendent, PMA
- Awarding Ceremonies
Lifetime Achievement Awardees;
Cavalier Awardees;
Diamond Jubilarians, Class '65;
Golden Jubilarians, Class '75; and
Silver Jubilarians, Class 2000
- Oathtaking of the new PMAAAI Board of Directors
to be administered by the Guest of Honor
- Remarks and Introduction
of the Guest of Honor by: **CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75**
Chairman, PMAAAI AY 2024-2025
- Message of the Guest of Honor
- IF - Presentation of Memento
to the GOHAS by: **CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75**
Chairman, PMAAAI AY 2024-2025
- IF - Singing of Alma Mater Song
- IF - Pass-in-Review

PART III LUNCH



Notice of PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Trustees

**To: All Regular Members
PMA Foundation, Inc.**

References: Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines (2019); PMAFI Bylaws and Manual of Operations, Third Edition, 2017, Chapter 3.5 Election of Trustees; and PMAFI Election Guidelines AY 2025.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Membership Meeting of the PMA Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI) will be held on Friday, 7 March 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City for the following purposes:

1. To approve the minutes of the 2024 Annual Membership Meeting;
2. To consider and act upon the annual report of the President;
3. To confirm and ratify all acts and resolutions of the Board of Trustees and the Management;
4. To elect seven (7) members of the Board of Trustees for AY 2025-2027; and
5. To take up such other matters as may be properly brought before the meeting.

On the election of Trustees, the Nomination and Election Committee or the Secretariat will accept written nominations from 6 to 20 January 2025 at the PMAFI Office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Nominators and nominees must all be PMAFI regular members in good standing for at least one (1) year preceding the period of nomination, which means that both must have been members of the Foundation on or before 31 December 2023. Nominees shall sign the nomination and acceptance form or submit a letter of acceptance of their nomination. It is understood that by signing, nominees accept their nominations and signify their commitment that, if elected, they will attend meetings of the Board of Trustees and other

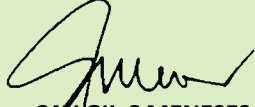
activities of the Foundation. Election ballots with the names of not more than 14 candidates will be distributed personally to the members or their representatives from 03 February 2025 to 28 February 2025. An accomplished ballot may be submitted at the PMAFI office personally or sent individually by mail or any DICT-accredited private and/or messenger delivery service (not in bulk), or thru a personal email account to PMAFI_PMA@yahoo.com on or before 5:00 p.m. of Friday, 28 February 2025. Only regular members of PMAFI as of 31 December 2024 are qualified to vote. This notwithstanding, the voters who have not yet cast their votes may attend the PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election and cast their ballots thereat not later than 10:00 a.m. Members who claim to have not received or to have lost or misplaced their ballots may request for a replacement ballot at the Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. not later than 9:00 a.m. on Friday, 7 March 2025. The conduct of the PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Trustees will be done in a blended manner (a combination of In-person and Virtual via Zoom).

Members opting to join the Zoom meeting, please use the following Zoom details: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89398110846?pwd=SUU3ZzNpcTlpVVYzQzExWC9lYXZPZz09>

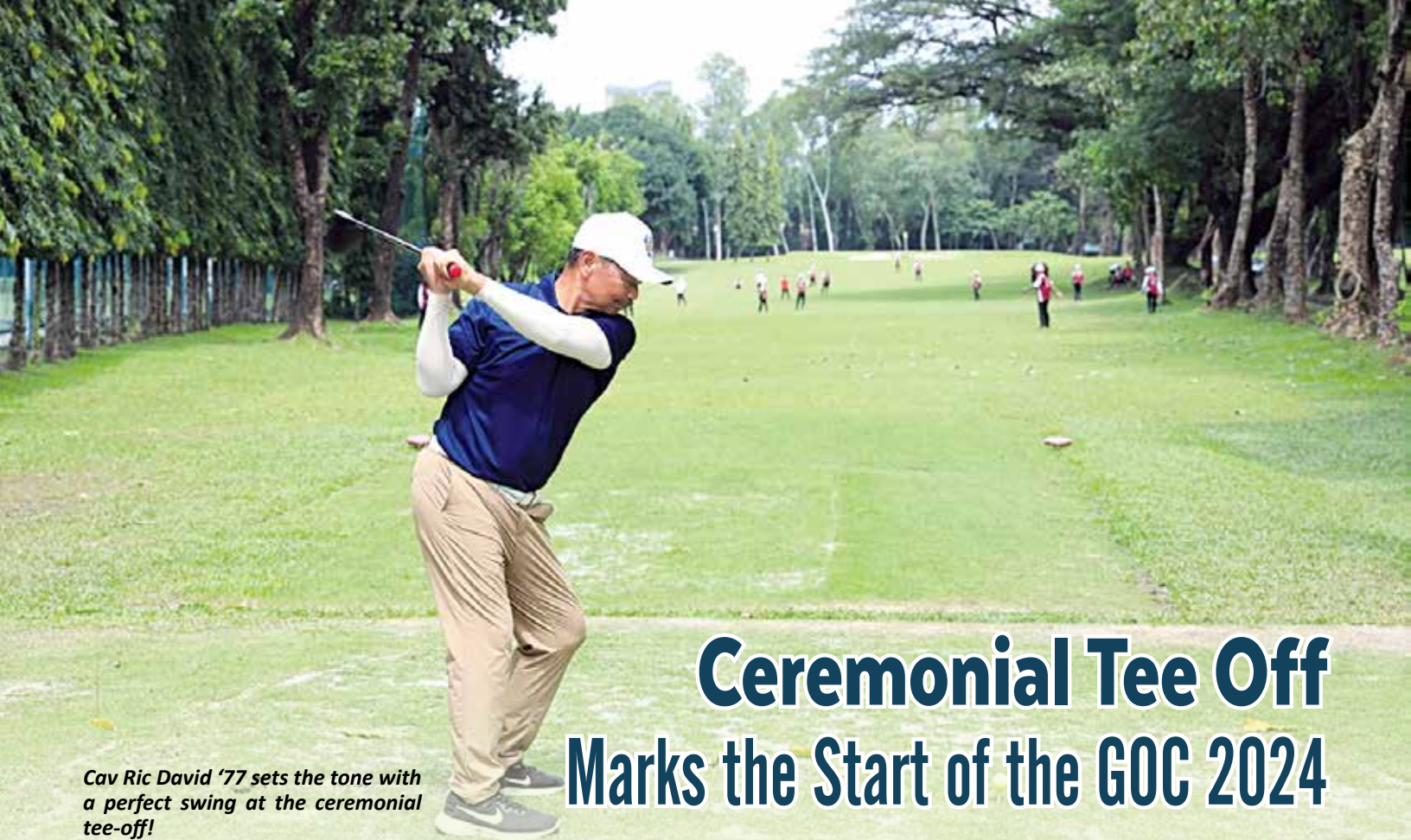
Meeting ID: 893 9811 0846
Passcode: Election

For any inquiry, you may contact Ms. Maribel B Galano at Cellphone No. 0917-8081456 / Ms. Rhodelyn B Gantuangco at Cellphone No. 0927-7558595 who can be reached at Tel. No. (02)8911-7642, or you may also email at PMAFI_PMA@yahoo.com.

Your presence at the meeting is important and will significantly contribute to the attainment of the primary objective of PMAFI of assisting PMA in enhancing its quality of education. Be counted!


CAVIL C MENESES
Corporate Secretary





Cav Ric David '77 sets the tone with a perfect swing at the ceremonial tee-off!

Ceremonial Tee Off Marks the Start of the GOC 2024

Following a brief postponement due to inclement weather, the First Leg of the highly anticipated Game of Cavaliers (GOC) 2024 officially commenced with a ceremonial tee-off on October 28, 2024, at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC). Leading the event were distinguished Cavaliers: Cav Ricardo David Jr, President of PMARAI; Cav Franklin Mabanag, Chairman of the PMAAAI Sports Committee; Cav Joel Cantos, Tournament Director for GOC 2024; and Cav Narciso Vingson Jr., Chairman of the PMAAAI Public Relations Committee. Organized through the collaboration of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) and the PMA Retirees Association, Inc. (PMARAI), this annual GOC event brings together Cavaliers, honorary members, associates, friends, and invited guests for spirited competition and camaraderie. The 2024 GOC schedule includes rounds across four premier military golf courses in Metro Manila, reflecting PMAAAI and PMARAI's dedication to fellowship and supporting alumni initiatives. The tournament spans four stages: First Leg: Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC) – Oct 28-31, 2024, Second Leg: Veterans Memorial Golf Course (VMGC)-Nov 5-7, 2024; Third Leg: Philippine Navy Golf Course (PNGC)- Nov 12-15, 2024; and Championship Leg: Villamor Air Base Golf Course (VABGC)-Nov 24, 2024. In response to feedback from active-duty Cavaliers, we've coordinated with the General Managers of CAGC, VMGC, and PNGC to ensure weekend playdates for maximum participation. Participants will compete

across various divisions, individual events, and special categories, with ample opportunities to showcase their skills on the greens. Beyond fostering camaraderie, GOC 2024 directly supports the programs and goals of both PMAAAI and PMARAI.



Ceremonial Tee-Off at Hole No. 1 with Members of the GOC 2024 Tournament Committee.

GOC 2024 @ CAGC



Heartfelt thanks to the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course management for their exceptional support, making this event a resounding success!

1st Leg Success at CAGC

We're delighted to share the resounding success of the first leg of GOC 2024, held at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC) from October 19 to November 4, 2024! With an incredible turnout of 474 enthusiastic players, the event showcased a perfect blend of camaraderie, friendly competition, and a shared passion for the game. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, affirming that this tour has truly become a highlight for our community. Beyond the competition, this event celebrates fellowship—the heart of our gatherings—where the joy of playing together is the true prize. The smiles, sportsmanship, and shared moments capture the essence of the GOC tour, fostering bonds that reach far beyond the fairways. Our deepest thanks go to the CAGC Management, especially Cav Stephen Marsan '03, General Manager of CAGC, for their commitment to creating a memorable experience for all participants, even in the face of some weather challenges. We're also grateful to the participating PMA classes and their Team Managers for their unwavering support to GOC 2024. We're excited to see everyone at the second leg of the tour at VMGC. Let's keep the spirit alive and look forward to another fantastic round of fun, friendship, and great play. Fore!

PMAAAI Stands United for Justice for General Wesley Barayuga

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has issued a manifesto expressing solidarity with the family, friends, and colleagues of General Wesley Barayuga (PMA Class of 1983), a retired PNP General and PCSO Board Secretary, following his tragic and wrongful death. The PMAAAI calls upon all alumni, uniformed and non-uniformed personnel, and the public to support a thorough, impartial investigation to ensure justice. General Barayuga was an exemplary public servant known for his dedication to fairness and the rule of law. His murder is a profound loss to his loved ones, colleagues, and the nation he served with honor.

The PMAAAI calls on the DILG, PNP, DOJ, NBI, and NAPOLCOM to conduct a full, transparent investigation, ensure witness protection, and bring all responsible parties to justice. This manifesto, approved by the PMAAAI Board of Directors on October 10, 2024, is a pledge to uphold the principles of justice and democracy, serving as a tribute to General Barayuga's legacy and a commitment to restoring public confidence in the nation's justice system. Signed on behalf of the PMAAAI members on October 15, 2024, at Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.



MANIFESTO OF SUPPORT for the Conduct of Thorough & Impartial Investigation on the Murder of GENERAL WESLEY A BARAYUGA

PREFACE:

This manifesto represents a commitment to stand in solidarity with the family, fellow alumni, and friends of Cavalier Wesley Barayuga, a member of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1983, a retired General in the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the board secretary of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), in order to ensure that justice prevails for his wrongful heinous death. We encourage every cavalier, uniformed and non-uniformed service personnel and the Filipino people to support this call for a thorough investigation, reaffirming our collective resolve to uphold peace, justice, and the rule of law in our beloved nation.

We, the graduates of Philippine Military Academy and all members of its alumni association, the PMAAAI, express our collective grief and profound concern over the untimely and gruesome murder of GEN. WESLEY BARAYUGA, a dedicated public servant who demonstrated his commitment to fairness, justice, and equality in the performance of his duties as a public servant. His tragic death is a painful reminder of the ongoing threats faced by those who are dedicating the best years of their lives and careers to the service of our beloved country.

General Barayuga's exemplary service record reflects his deep sense of duty, courage, and integrity. He stood as a stalwart defender of the rule of law and an advocate for the rights of the Filipino people. The loss of a man of his caliber is not only a tragedy for his family and loved ones, but a grave blow to the morale and spirit of the institutions he represents—the PMAAAI, the Uniformed Services of the country and the government office he has worked in.

We call upon the proper authorities, including the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Philippine National Police (PNP), the Department of Justice (DOJ) and National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM), to ensure a thorough, impartial, and swift investigation into this deplorable criminal act. It is imperative that justice be served without delay and that those responsible for the brutal assassination of Gen Wesley Barayuga be held accountable to the full extent of the law.

In the pursuit of truth and justice, we strongly request, the following:

1. An independent impartial investigation, with transparent oversight, be conducted to ensure that no stone is left unturned and that all leads are pursued without fear or favor.
2. The protection of witnesses and individuals who have come to the open and identified in the Quad Committee hearings of the Philippine Congress, and shield them from being influenced by the perpetrators and the latter's benefactors, from recanting their testimonies.
3. The immediate apprehension and prosecution of all persons involved in the planning and execution of the crime, regardless of their status or position, as a signal that the law applies equally to all.
4. Assistance and support to the bereaved family of General Barayuga, ensuring they receive the full assistance and protection of the government as they navigate this difficult time.

We believe that justice for General Barayuga is justice for the entire nation. His murder represents not only an attack on a dedicated public servant but an affront to the principles of justice and democracy that we all uphold.

Finally, we pledge our full support to all efforts aimed at bringing the perpetrators to justice and restoring the public's confidence in our nation's justice system.

Approved by the PMAAAI Board of Directors during its regular board meeting on 10 October 2024, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Signed for and on behalf of the members of PMAAAI on this 15th day of October 2024 at Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

GEORGE M. BERGONIA
COL PA
President and COO

RAUL S. GONZALES
PBGEN (Ret)
Chairman and CEO

Attested by:

DANILO E. ESTRANERO
COL PA
Corporate Secretary



GOC 2024 Championship Leg Results

The Championship Leg of the Game of Cavaliers (GOC) 2024 concluded on 24 November 2024 at the Villamor Air Base Golf Course, capping off an exciting series of tournaments. The event showcased stellar performances across various categories, marked by camaraderie and competitive spirit.

Overall Team Awards

Category	Team	Awards
Overall Team	1992	Champion
	2006	Runner-up

Category	Team	Awards
Overall Team (Retired)	1990	Champion
	1972	Runner-up
Overall Team (Active)	2007	Champion
	1995	Runner-up

Division Team Awards

Division	Class	Awards
COMMANDANT'S DIVISION	1974	Champion
	1972	Runner-Up
SENIOR TAC O'S DIVISION	1983	Champion
	1981	Runner-Up
TAC O'S DIVISION	1990	Champion
	1992	Runner-Up
FIRSTIE'S DIVISION	1993	Champion
	1995	Runner-Up
COW'S DIVISION	2006	Champion
	2007	Runner-Up
YEARLING'S DIVISION	2011	Champion
	2010	Runner-Up

Special Awards

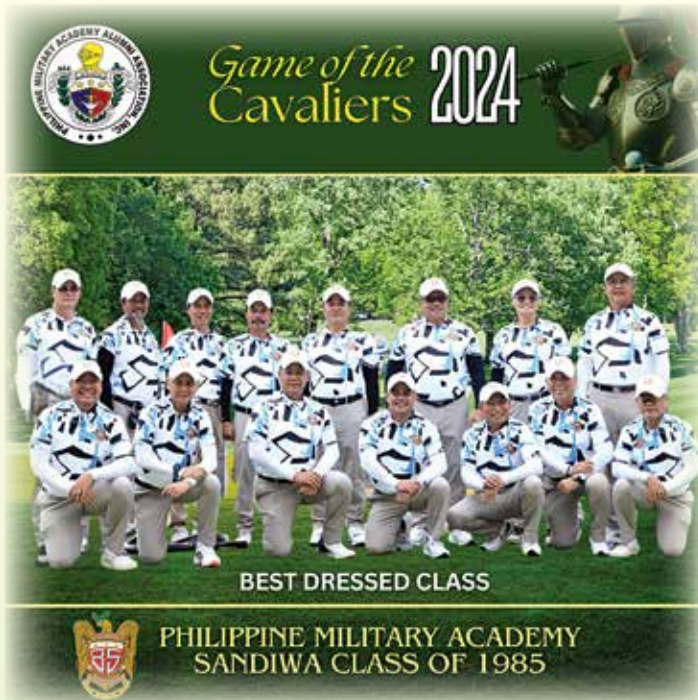
Division	Class	Name	Award
Cavalier Family	1981	De Vera Family	Champion
	1981	Vidad Family	Runner-up
Alumni Friends	1987	Amber Pagtalunan	Champion
	1985	Richard Querido	Runner-up

Associate and Honorary	1978	Ernest Villareal	Champion
	1983	Mariano Mejia	Runner-up
Young Once	1968	Cav Patrick Madayag	Champion
	1968	Cav Melchor Rosales	Runner-up
Cadet Company	All	Alpha Coy	Champion
	All	Bravo Coy	Runner-up

Division Individual Awards

Division	Class	Name	Award
Cavalier Ladies	2007	Cav Eva Mabborang	Champion
	2006	Cav Charo Española	Runner-up
Superintendent's	1968	Cav Patrick Madayag	Champion
	1968	Cav Melchor Rosales	Runner-up
Commandant's	1974	Cav Prospero Noble	Champion
	1974	Cav Hermogenes Esperon	Runner-Up
Senior Tac O's	1983	Cav Alexander Ignacio	Champion
	1980	Cav George Regis	Runner-Up
Tac O's	1988	Cav Noel Beleran	Champion
	1990	Cav Rommel Tello	Runner-Up
Firstie's	1993	Cav Greg Nieveras	Champion
	1994	Cav Gino Guinolbay	Runner-Up
Cow's	2006	Cav Jomar Cañazares	Champion
	2006	Cav Ryan Edmar Samonte	Runner-Up
Yearling's	2011	Cav Joecarnine Pulangas	Champion
	2011	Cav John Michael Loon	Runner-Up
Overall Individual	2006	Cav Jomar Cañazares	Champion
	2006	Cav Ryan Edmar Samonte	Runner-Up

Best Dressed Class



On November 16, 2024, during the GOC 2024 PNGC Leg, Cavalier Joey Lalisan '71 achieved a remarkable hole-in-one at Hole No. 10 of the Philippine Navy Golf Club (PNGC). Ball Used: Srixon #1, Club Used Yamaha Enpres 7 iron.

This extraordinary feat was witnessed by distinguished individuals, including former DENR Secretary Cavalier Roy Cimatu, Cavalier Rey Alcasid, and Cavalier Bob Nuqui.

The GOC 2024 continues to showcase both competitive and memorable moments among its participants, celebrating camaraderie and excellence on the greens. Congratulations, Cavalier Lalisan, for this impressive achievement!

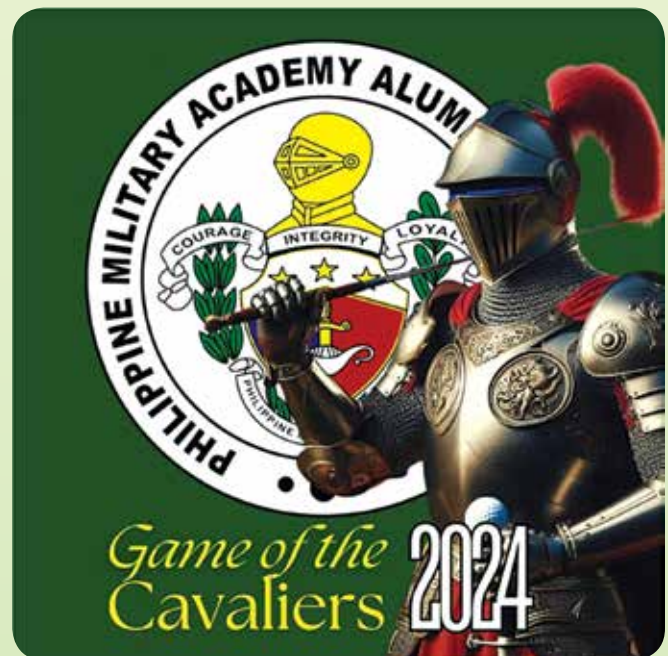
Hole-In-One Award



In conclusion, these awards reflect the passion, camaraderie, and sportsmanship that have defined the Game of Cavaliers 2024.

The message from Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, PMAAAI Chairman, highlights the significance of the event by acknowledging the winners' and participants' contributions. His words emphasize the community's collective achievement, fostering a sense of pride and unity.

We look forward to even greater success in the next Game of Cavaliers.





Executive Director's REPORT

CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77

The Jurado Cup 2024



Gala Night

The PMA Jurado Cup International in the U.S.A. is a biennial event hosted by various PMA Chapters across States and Cities. It aims to foster camaraderie among U.S. and Canada based former PMA cadets (family and guests) through competitive sports and social activities. This event provides a time for fellowship and enjoyment, spanning a 3-day weekend in Summer or Autumn. Teams compete in various games, with social activities like the hop and boodle fight adding to the experience. It also become a 'HOMECOMING' event for the PMA community outside of the Philippines.¹

¹ Excerpt from juradocup.org



Delivering my speech before the participants

I was fortunate enough to have attended this event held at Orlando, Florida from November 7 to 11, 2024. My first attendance was in September 2022 in Ceritos, Los Angeles, CA.

This year's Jurado Cup featured various sports which included golf, badminton, bowling, volleyball, basketball, table tennis, and the trending game of today, the pickleball. Participants were grouped into ODD and EVEN classes, the year they graduated or should have graduated from PMA. Participated in by more or less 200 ex-cadets and dependents, the affair was a resounding success. Kudos to the organizers chaired by Cav Rico Lloren with the able and strong support of his team members. There are a sizable numbers of participants that came from the Philippines; notably Classes 79, 83 and 87. Also, the presence of our former Defense Secretary Cav Delfin N Lorenzana made the event more memorable. My attendance was both a personal wish and official representative of PMAAAI being its Executive Director. Thanks to the Board for extending support to me for this travel. During the Gala night, I was given the privilege to speak before the crowd where I dished out information about what PMAAAI is now, including membership qualification, our upcoming programs and

activities and the news about our newly constructed PMAAAI building at the sprawling Bonifacio Global City.

What does this biennial activity of our brothers/sisters being held in foreign land mean to our mother association, the PMAAAI? My personal opinion is that cavaliers, far and wide, no matter where they are, what they are now, how they are, when gathered together, ignite that feeling of belongingness and camaraderie imbibed in each of us by our Alma Mater! It is an unexplainable feeling of happiness, excitement and affiliation seeing your mistahs, upperclasses and underclasses partake in events where everyone relish a common bond inculcated in the ideals of courage, integrity and loyalty! The sports competitions are there not necessarily to outdo our opponents but to show our individual skills guided by our long motto of *"winning is second only for the love of the game itself."* Sportsmen as we are, we all emerged as winners in all the sports we have played! There is no substitute for the happiness it brings to us collectively and personally!

To the organizers and to all cavaliers, ex-cadets and friends who are now based in foreign land, our snappy salute! Please carry on the good job that you have initiated! See you again next Jurado Cup! God willing!



With Sec Delfin Lorenzana 3rd on my back during the entrance ceremony.



Awarding of medals of recognition to chapter heads



Bowling





SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

CAV CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90

Dream Big, Achieve More, Be Better

I stepped into the role of Superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy last 20 July 2024, a designation that carries immense responsibilities and an honor that only 84 officers prior me were privileged to do. On my shoulders now lies the responsibility and accountability of molding boys and girls from the “land of the Kings” into the future leaders of our Armed Forces and our Nation. With these, our key priorities lie on the enhancement of current PMA curriculum that will reflect challenges in our security environment, total eradication of hazing and maltreatment and to elevate the Academy to international military standards.

The enhancement of the current PMA curriculum should reflect changes in security environment as well as its relevance to the Comprehensive Archipelagic Defense Concept (CADC). As mentioned by our SND that “the AFP must evolve into a multi-threat, multi-domain and highly technical armed force ready to face both conventional and asymmetric challenges.” This statement of SND is a call for the Academy to step up on its curriculum and take the task of ensuring the next generation of leaders of this country is ready for emerging and future challenges. Therefore, with this view in mind, our goal now is to develop a curriculum that combines the theoretical foundation of modern warfare, and essential practical skills needed for contemporary and future military operations anchored on the AFP’s CADC. This will be attained by opening the Academy’s doors to collaborate with the AFP’s Major Services to ensure graduates possess necessary skills and competencies to tackle current and emergent security challenges. Cadets not only to be equipped with these but side by side upholding the values within the cadet corps and view maltreatment as taboo in the Academy.

The PMA upholds the required respect in the cadets as we treat them as professionals. However, a story of maltreatment is etched within our Academy’s pillars. **Hazing** is illegal, inhumane, and just plain wrong. The recent decision of the RTC Baguio regarding Dormitorio’s case is but a **stark** reminder that what happened is a tragedy for all, for the victim, and has resulted to undue anguish to the family. It has also resulted for the perpetrators wasted futures and potentials. We do not want this to happen again. In this regard, I have directed the Commandant of Cadets to devise more ways to put a stop to this. Initiatives could include benchmarking with similar institutions that were successful in their anti-hazing campaign, establishing a hotline for 4CL cadets direct to the Commandant, regular anger profiling of cadets to establish maltreatment tendencies, 360-degree appraisal rating, and other innovative and out-of-the-box proposals. The PMA community must be invested in this mantra – Hazing is wrong and illegal, period. This step could be a leap to elevate the Academy and be on par with international military standards.

The Philippine Military Academy is known for being the “premier military academy” in the country. This phrase will soon be changed to be the “premier military academy” in the region or maybe in the world. We will not be able to achieve this except by elevating the PMA with the required international military academy standards. Achieving international standards is a long-term process. Nevertheless, we should already set up the building blocks that will elevate PMA into international standards. We need to align our education and training programs with global best practices, enhancing Academy graduates’ effectiveness and professionalism. This approach also integrates modern techniques and technologies through internalization of the Academy’s curriculum, mobility of cadets and faculty exchange programs, and strategic partnership with allied military academies not only in Asia but also in other regions. By fostering international partnerships and exchanges, we enrich the educational experience of cadets and cultivate a global perspective on military strategy and cooperation. Further, our Academic Faculty members must also elevate itself to international military standards. I personally dream of a day, when our professors are recognized as experts in their field by their peers.

In addition to my primary objectives, I have delineated several secondary initiatives crucial to the Academy’s transformation. The first step is implementing the PMA Transformation Roadmap, our strategic blueprint for achieving academic excellence, modernizing infrastructure, and enhancing governance. This roadmap will detail specific targets, timelines, and performance indicators to ensure progress is measurable and transparent. I am committed to fostering an environment where innovative ideas can flourish, through collaborative projects with other military institutions and partnerships with academic entities.

Moreover, strategic planning is vital; I have proposed a comprehensive six-year plan that addresses immediate needs while preparing for future challenges. The importance of discipline cannot be overstated; instilling a rigorous sense of discipline woven into the fabric of PMA’s honor code is essential. This principle serves as a moral compass, guiding cadets in their actions and decisions. My aspiration is for our graduates not only to excel in military operations but also to embody the values of integrity and honor, which are vital traits for ethical leadership.

Reflecting on this journey, the guiding tenet is the mantra: “Dream Big, Achieve More, Be Better.” This philosophy serves as a constant reminder of our mission at PMA. It urges both cadets and faculty to push beyond their limits in the pursuit of excellence. Together, with this guiding principle illuminating our path, I believe we can cultivate a new generation of exceptional leaders who will safeguard our nation and inspire future generations to follow in their footsteps. The journey has just begun, and I eagerly anticipate what lies ahead.





Baron's Dissemination

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

From the very beginning when the PMA Siklab-Laya Class of 2025 has taken charge of the Corps, a lot of vital changes have been implemented to correct the wrong things that the Corps were accustomed to. Resistant to change was inevitable, many have questioned us, cadet officers as to why is it necessary or why does it have to be on our time. The answer is simple, if we ourselves become stagnant to the wrong customs, we won't be able to speak up if something immoral occur among the officer Corps. The Corps is the simulation of the larger organization of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Changes are necessary to uphold the academy's values and aspirations to allow the Corps to cope with the continuous changes brought by time.

No decisions were made without an in-depth understanding and consideration from the various council. Coordination with other councils was essential to ensure that all concerns are heard and given solution. The main reason why cadets often neglect changes is the of lack of consideration of the current situation. Such situations can be seen during the implementation of the segregation of thirdclass cadets from the upperclass barracks. Many have grumble on why such changes must occur. This change will significantly affect the leadership development of the thirdclass cadets due to lack of supervision and separation from their other responsibilities. Indeed, all sides have points to ponder, however, cadets are in a world of command, all instructions are expected to be executed with excellence and genuity. Hence, it was a job for the cadet officers to cascade and inculcate to the Corps the reasons and the essence behind such changes.

In addition to the challenges encountered, another primary reason why such changes are difficult to implement is due to weak implementation mechanisms. This can be connected to the first challenge which is resistance to change, few cadets still

uphold their old norms as a way of ruling, thinking that such changes may remove the essence of being a true cadet. This is a fallacy in many ways, cadets with such mentality are hesitant and neutral in supporting new regulations. With the presence of these cadets, implementation of regulations would be disrupted, affecting other changes that is requisite with the latter.

Finally, one of the three nemesis of the cadet Corps is mediocracy. Various cadets are incompetent in showing and practicing their leadership capabilities, prioritizing the mentality of maximizing the remaining days in the Cadet Corps instead of cooperating in effecting the changes. Many succumbed to the mentality of leadership by popularity, so they lead their subordinates based on the pleasure of their underclass even if it meant undermining relevant changes. This mentality removes the competency of the young future lieutenants hindering their capability to lead in line with the mission and vision of the CCAFP.

The Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines is the simulation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, every training and every regulation implemented within the academy is assured to be in line with the vision and mission of the AFP towards its goals.

Change is the only permanent thing in the world. No individual can escape the changing nature of the world specially in a military environment. With the vast growth in the technological advancement affecting the modern warfare, it is important that cadets must learn to adapt as early as possible in the academy. Rest assured, all problems encountered are being addressed with great excellence by the cadet officers. The Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines is the simulation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, every training and every regulation implemented within the academy is assured to be in line with the vision and mission of the AFP towards its goals. A lot of challenges are waiting to occur in the distant future, and resistance to change will affect the whole AFP itself. This gives the reason why cadets are expected to be adaptable in various changes maintaining its integrity and excellence in accomplishing every task.



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 No. 14: Rethinking Healthcare for Retirees to Promote VITALS

• CAV JOB NOLAN ANTONIO '82

October 2024 – In our continuing efforts to enhance the professionalism and well-being of our members, PMARAI hosted Webinar No. 14 entitled, *“Rethinking Healthcare for Retirees to Promote VITALS: Vitality, Independence, Training for Mental and Physical Health, Active Lifestyle, Longevity, and Strength.”* The event was a resounding success, thanks to the participation and support of the PMARAI community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Cav Ricardo A. David, Jr., President of PMARAI, for his warm welcome and unwavering support to this initiative. His leadership and commitment to the well-being of our alumni serve as the foundation for these vital programs. We also owe special thanks to Cav Job Nolan Antonio, Chairman of the Professional and Development Committee, for his tireless efforts in organizing this meaningful event. His dedication ensured that we had access to a lineup of highly qualified speakers who brought valuable knowledge to the table. The distinguished panel of speakers included: Dr. Amadeo A. Alinea, Jr., who shed light on mental health and its importance for retirees, offering strategies to maintain emotional and psychological balance. Ms. Ma. Clarice D. Sanchez discussed on nutrition and provided actionable advice on maintaining a healthy diet as we age. Dra. Barbara Amity N. Flores outlined effective wellness programs designed to keep retirees physically and mentally active. Dra. Maria Vanessa Felisa Santos-Cajucom addressed the specific needs of veterans' medical care, offering insights into healthcare services available to retirees.

Their combined expertise gave us practical tools that will undoubtedly be invaluable as we move forward in our retirement journeys. In his Closing Remarks, Cav Ramon T. Punzalan, '76, Chairman of PMARAI, emphasized the importance of continued learning and collaboration within

our community. He encouraged all attendees to take the lessons learned to heart and apply them to foster a healthier, more fulfilling retirement. This webinar marks another significant step in our mission to support our members' well-being. To explore healthcare resources, please visit the VMMC Website at: <https://vmmc.gov.ph>. Stay tuned for upcoming webinars and initiatives that aim to support our retirees in living vibrant, healthy, and empowered lives.

PMARAI WEBINAR Nr. 14
Rethinking Healthcare for the Retirees to Promote VITALS:
Vitality, Independence, Training for Mental & Physical
Health, Active Lifestyle, Longevity, and Strength.

Topic 1
Mental Health After Retirement
Dr. Amadeo A. Alinea, Jr. FPPA
Medical Specialist IV
Department Head, VMMC

Topic 2
Health and Nutrition for the Elderly
Ms. Ma. Clarice D. Sanchez,
Nutritionist - Dietitian (COS), VMMC

Topic 3
VMMC Wellness Program for Retirees
Dra. Barbara Amity N. Flores,
MMHOA, FPAFP, FSHPM
Medical Specialist I, VMMC

Topic 4
Veterans Hospitalization & Medical Care Program
Dra. Maria Vanessa Felisa Santos-
Cajucom, MMHOA, FPAFP
Medical Specialist II, VMMC

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, 21 October 2024 (Monday)
Zoom Meeting ID: 542 864 3712
Passcode: WEBINAR#14

PMARAI Expresses Gratitude to QUAD Committee for Pursuing Justice for General Wesley Barayuga

In a recent letter addressed to the QUAD Committee of the House of Representatives, the Philippine Military Academy Retirees Association, Inc. (PMARAI) expressed deep appreciation for the committee's efforts in the ongoing investigation into the tragic assassination of General Wesley Barayuga (PMA Class of 1983). Chairman Cavalier Ramon T. Punzalan '76 extended PMARAI's gratitude on behalf of all alumni, recognizing the committee's dedication and thorough approach to uncovering the truth and holding those responsible accountable.

The letter commends the QUAD Committee's diligent investigation, highlighting how their commitment to truth and justice honors Cav Barayuga's legacy. Their efforts, it states, renew hope for the PMA community and the Filipino people, demonstrating that tragic losses like these will not go unanswered and reinforcing confidence in the legislative process. PMARAI stands united with the committee and the public in seeking justice for Cav Barayuga, underscoring the importance of addressing this loss to prevent future injustices.



House Quad Comm Hearing, Source: ABS-CBN News



PMARAI RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC. (PMARAI)

(A Chapter of PMA Alumni Association, Inc.)

PMA Alumni Center, A. Luna Ave., Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Mobile number: 0917-7355-773 / Email Address: info.pmarai@gmail.com

The Honorable Members

QUAD Committee
House of Representatives
Republic of the Philippines

Dear Honorable Members of the QUAD Committee,

On behalf of the Philippine Military Academy Retirees Association, Inc. (PMARAI), I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your diligent inquiry into the tragic assassination of our esteemed brother, Cavalier Wesley Barayuga, PMA Class of 1983.

Your commitment to pursuing justice and the meticulous manner in which you conducted your investigation have been pivotal in identifying the alleged suspects involved in this heinous act. This inquiry not only honors Cav Barayuga's memory but also reaffirms our faith in the legislative process to bring forth truth and accountability.

We are profoundly grateful for your dedication to serving our nation and your unwavering commitment to justice. Your efforts provide hope to all those who seek to ensure that such tragedies do not go unanswered.

Thank you once again for your exemplary service.

Respectfully yours,

CAVALIER RAMON T. PUNZALAN
Chairman, PMARAI





Newly Promoted Philippine Army Generals: Strengthening Leadership for National Defense

In recent ceremonies honoring the dedication and achievement of 31 Philippine Army's top officers, a group of distinguished generals were formally promoted, namely CAV FERNANDO M REYEG PA '91, CAV FACUNDO O PALAFOX IV PA '90, CAV LUIS REX D BERGANTE PA '90, CAV FERDINAND T BARANDON PA '91, CAV PEDRO C BALISI JR '92, CAV GULLIVER L SEÑIRES PA '92, CAV DANILO D BENAVIDES PA '91, CAV LEONARDO I PEÑA PA '91, CAV FRANCIS ANTHONY M CORONEL PA '93, CAV FERDINAND B NAPULI PA '92, CAV ROMMEL R CORDOVA PA '93, CAV CERILLO C BALAORO JR PA '91, CAV ADONIS ARIEL G ORIO PA '92, CAV ROY ANTHONY O DERILO PA '94, CAV CHARLEMAGNE F BATAYOLA JR PA, '92, CAV DARWIN F HERNANDEZ PA '94, CAV WALTER P ICARO PA '93, CAV CESAR A MOLINA PA '91, CAV FERDINAND GEMINIC P RAMIREZ PA '92, CAV JAMEL P SAMONTE PA '94, CAV JESUS JEFFREY F GRAPA PA '92, CAV HUBERT S ACIERTO PA '93, CAV ROSENDO C ABAD JR PA '93, CAV MICHAEL G LOGICO PA '93, CAV TED B DUMOSMOG PA '91, CAV CONSTANCIO M ESPINA II PA '94, CAV RODERICK A BALBANERO PA '94,



CAV ALLAN JOSE L TAGUBA PA '93, CAV JOSE AMBROSIO F RUSTIA PA '93, CAV RONALD JESS S ALCUDIA PA '93, and CAV ALARIC AVELINO P DELOS SANTOS PA '95.

Representing a new era of leadership to bolster the nation's security and resilience, these promotions are more than a testament to personal accomplishment; they signify a strategic shift towards enhancing the Army's capabilities in addressing complex security challenges and ensuring peace and stability across the country. The newly promoted generals have shown an unwavering commitment to their duty, honing skills through years of service, commanding troops in various missions, and contributing to essential defense policies and initiatives. These leaders have been entrusted with their new ranks due to their demonstrated abilities to inspire their units, manage resources effectively, and achieve mission objectives, even under challenging circumstances. This promotion acknowledges not only their past achievements but also their potential to guide the Armed Forces of the Philippines in responding to an increasingly dynamic security landscape.

The promotion of these generals marks a step forward in the AFP's pursuit of modernized and adaptive leadership. With backgrounds in areas ranging from field operations to strategic planning, logistics, intelligence, and cybersecurity, these leaders bring diverse expertise critical to shaping a responsive and versatile defense force. The newly promoted generals will be pivotal in advancing the AFP's core initiatives, which focus on upgrading capabilities, expanding operational readiness, and strengthening alliances with regional and international partners. As they assume greater responsibilities, they are expected to lead their respective units in implementing reforms and innovations aligned with the



Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) modernization program. From improving joint and combined force interoperability to enhancing the Army's capacity to respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises, their leadership is essential to ensuring that the Philippine Army remains resilient and capable in any scenario.

Beyond the battlefield, these leaders have demonstrated a commitment to serving the broader Filipino community. Many have been involved in community outreach, disaster relief efforts, and various civil-military operations, which underscore the Philippine Army's role as both a protector and partner of the people. Their promotion further solidifies their commitment to serving as defenders and advocates for peace, progress, and development in local communities.

The newly promoted generals in the Philippine Army are more than just officers; they are leaders who embody the values of honor, patriotism, and courage. Their promotion is a proud moment for the Army and the nation, as they are poised to lead with integrity, vision, and an unyielding commitment to the defense and welfare of the Philippines. As the Army strengthens its ranks with these accomplished leaders, the future of national defense and security shines with new promise and dedication.



PMAAAI PAF Chapter News

Newly elected PMAAAI-PAF Chapter Board of Trustees and Committee Chairs hold Courtesy Call and Oath-Taking Ceremony with Commanding General PAF

On October 29, 2024, under the theme “Leadership Through Excellence and Camaraderie,” the newly elected Board of Trustees (BOT) of the PMAAAI-PAF Chapter, led by President CAV Gerardo B. Gramata '95, together with the newly appointed Committee Chairpersons, paid a formal courtesy call to Lt. Gen. Stephen P. Parreño, Philippine Air Force Commanding General at Agunod Hall, CJVAB, Pasay City.

During this distinguished event, the organization presented its Programs, Activities, and Projects (PAPs), underscoring its commitment to impactful initiatives and the advancement of its mission. Following the presentation of PAPs, Lt. Gen. Parreño officiated the oath-taking ceremony for the BOT members and Committee Chairpersons, marking a significant milestone in the chapter's dedication to leadership and camaraderie.

The following are the newly elected BOT members and newly appointed Committee Chairpersons of the PMAAAI-PAF Chapter:

PMAAAI-PAF Chapter Board of Trustees:

- President: CAV Gerardo B. Gramata '95
- Vice-President: CAV Ulysses S. Mancao '96
- Treasurer: CAV Ann Marie T. Gerodiaz '98
- Auditor: CAV Peter George R. Gelicame '99
- Public Relations Officer: CAV Dexter F. Balilla '06
- Board Secretary: CAV Bernardo C. Alibasa II '07
- Junior Board Secretary: CAV Leoncio U. Cirunay III '08
- PMAAAI Mother Chapter Representatives:
 - CAV Charlie L. Tiu Jr. '95; and
 - CAV Pedro S. Agapito '96

PMAAAI-PAF Chapter Committee Chairpersons:

- Welfare and Grievance: CAV Ranell L. Bugash '02
- Sports: CAV Jeezer Julius L. Molve '02
- Female Cavaliers' Affairs: CAV Jeazzine Ingret E. Actub '08
- Ways and Means: CAV Marco A. Delima '09
- Socials: CAV Roger A. Abitria Jr. '10
- Awards: CAV Ethelbert L. Tumamac '10
- Education and Professional: CAV Ramon Kristofer G. Engay '11
- Membership and Election: CAV Paul Ramil L. Llanes '12
- Public Affairs: CAV Ruben L. Paleyan '13



PMAAAI PN Chapter News

Golf for a Cause



BONIFACIO NAVAL STATION, TAGUIG CITY - The PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2024-2025 board and committee members gathered on October 29, 2024 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course to give back to the community through a Golf for a Cause Activity.

The annual get-together of the PMAAAI-PN Chapter members was made more meaningful this year with a special Golf for a Cause tournament. The activity, which attracted 120 players among the total 147 participants, proved that promoting camaraderie and sportsmanship among the PMAAAI-PN Chapter members can go together with fostering generosity and charity, especially as we approach the "Season of Giving."

"The Golf for a Cause is more than just a game. It's a chance to swing with purpose and putt with passion. Every drive, every chip, and every hole bring us closer to making a real difference in people's lives. By participating, we're not just celebrating the game; we're coming together for a cause bigger than ourselves, helping to create positive change one shot at a time," said PMAAAI-PN Chapter 2nd Vice President, Cav Oliver B Reforba '97.

The funds raised during the tournament were donated to two reputable organizations – the "Citizens Support Your Navy Foundation Philippines Inc" (CSYNF) and the Philippine Navy Officers Wives' and Husband Association (PNOWHA). Both foundations are committed to worthwhile causes such as the

undertaking of programs and projects for the upliftment of the materiel, physical, social, economic, morale and welfare of the Philippine Navy, for the former and the promotion of causes and activities that will both bring together the wives and husbands of all Philippine Navy Officers, for the latter.

Overall, Bravo Company gained the most points (117 points), followed by Charlie and Hawk Companies with 100 points each. Third in place was Delta Company which received 87 points. Meanwhile, Foxtrot Company acquired 78 points, Golf Company collected 63 points, while Alpha and Echo Companies earned 61 and 58 points, respectively.





Pres Marcos names Cav Jose Ma. Ambrosio Ezpeleta as Navy chief

President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. has selected Rear Admiral Jose Ma. Ambrosio Ezpeleta ’91 as the new Flag Officer-in-Command of the Philippine Navy.

President Marcos led the retirement and change of command ceremony at the Philippine Navy Headquarters in Roxas Boulevard,

Manila as Vice Admiral Toribio Adaci Jr.’89 bade farewell from the service.

The President expressed confidence that Cav Ezpeleta’s leadership would continue the high standards set by his predecessor.

“As Vice Admiral Adaci has demonstrated, your predecessors are always difficult acts to follow, but given your competence, your experience, and mental fortitude, I am confident you will continue to lead the Navy with integrity and surpass any challenges that you might confront,” Marcos told Ezpeleta.

“I look forward to working with you and I give you my full support as you build on your legacy,” the President said.

Cav Ezpeleta previously served as Vice Commander of the naval forces from August to November 2024, Chief of Staff of the Philippine Navy from August 2022 to August 2024, and Commander of the Naval Forces Southern Luzon from September 2019 to August 2022. **(Source: GMA News Online)**



PMAAAI PCG Chapter News

A Night of Camaraderie: PMAAAI-PCG Chapter Comes Together

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. - Philippine Coast Guard (PMAAAI-PCG) Chapter gathered at the PCG Headquarters Function Hall for a night of fellowship, fun, and meaningful connections on 11 September 2024. The event, which was attended by esteemed members of the chapter, was a testament to the strong bonds of camaraderie and shared values that unite the PMAAAI-PCG community.

The evening began with a warm welcome from the chapter's president, CAVALIER HOSTILLO ARTURO E CORNELIO, who delivered the opening remarks and set the tone for the evening's festivities. His inspiring words highlighted the importance of unity and cooperation among members, emphasizing the chapter's commitment to fostering a spirit of brotherhood and mutual support. CAV CORNELIO's message resonated deeply with the attendees, who were eager to reconnect with fellow members and strengthen the bonds that tie the chapter together.

The program was carefully crafted to promote interaction and engagement among attendees, featuring a range of activities designed to bring out the best in everyone. From lively games to a sumptuous dinner, the evening was filled with laughter, conversation, and the sharing of ideas, insights, and experiences.

The relaxed atmosphere allowed members to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and strengthen the bonds that bring cohesion to the chapter. The games, in particular, were a hit, with members showcasing their competitive spirit and teamwork in a series of fun and challenging activities.

The event was also graced by the presence of two distinguished personalities, former Commandants of the Philippine Coast Guard, CAVALIER DANILO A ABINOJA and CAVALIER EDMUND C TAN. Their attendance was a testament to the chapter's strong ties with the PCG and the respect that the chapter's members have to their former leaders. The two former Commandants were warmly received by the attendees, who were eager to catch up with them and hear about their experiences and insights.

The presence of the current Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard, CAVALIER RONIE GIL L GAVAN, was also a highlight. With his characteristic leadership and vision, he emphasized in his message the importance of unity and cooperation among the members, urging them to work together towards a common goal. His words resonated deeply with the attendees who were inspired to continue striving for excellence and upholding the values of the PMAAAI PCG Chapter.





As the night wore on, the chapter's leadership took the opportunity to look to the future, sharing exciting plans for upcoming events that promise to be just as memorable. The highly anticipated Sportsfest and Christmas Party are already generating abuzz, with members eagerly anticipating the chance to come together once again and celebrate the chapter's spirit of unity and camaraderie. The Sportsfest, in particular, is expected to be a highlight of the chapter's calendar, with members competing in a range of sports and activities that will test their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The PMAAAI-PCG Chapter's fellowship event was a resounding success, demonstrating the power of shared values and a commitment to community. As the chapter continues to grow and thrive, its members remain dedicated to upholding the principles of loyalty, honor, and service that define the Philippine Military Academy and the Philippine Coast Guard. The chapter's leadership is committed to providing a platform for members to connect, share experiences, and support one another, both personally and professionally.

Our chapter is more than just a group of individuals - we are a family, united in our pursuit of excellence and our commitment to one another. That night, we celebrate not only our fellowship but also our shared vision for a brighter future, one that is built on the foundations of unity, cooperation, and mutual support.

As the evening drew to a close, members of the PMAAAI-PCG Chapter departed with renewed enthusiasm and a sense of purpose, already looking forward to the next opportunity to come together and celebrate their shared bond. The chapter's fellowship event was a testament to the power of community and the importance of nurturing relationships that transcend professional

boundaries. As the PMAAAI-PCG Chapter continues to grow and thrive, its members remain committed to upholding the values of unity, camaraderie, and service that define their community.

The PMAAAI-PCG Chapter's fellowship event was indeed an undeniable triumph, demonstrating the strength and resilience of the chapter's bonds. As the chapter looks to the future, its members remain dedicated to upholding the principles of loyalty, honor, and service that define the Philippine Military Academy and the Philippine Coast Guard. With a strong sense of unity and camaraderie, the PMAAAI-PCG Chapter is poised to continue making a positive impact in the lives of its members and the wider community.



PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)

PETFI Endowment Funds on the Rise



LTGEN Stephen Parreño

PETFI gratefully acknowledges recent benefactors to the PETFI Endowment Fund. They are: the Philippine Air Force thru LTGEN Stephen Parreño AFP for P250,000.00; the Philippine National Police thru PGEN Benjamin C Acorda Jr PNP for P500,000.00, and the Philippine Navy thru VADM Toribio D Adaci Jr AFP for P500,000.00.

These contributions have been added to our total investable assets, from where interests and other earnings derived are utilized to support the requirements of PETFI scholars. As only the earnings are primarily used for PETFI's mandate, the principal remains invested in order to indefinitely perpetuate the existence of our scholarship program.

With this in mind, PETFI Chairman Magtanggol Gatdula '76, and Pres Guillermo Molina '86, have made it PETFI's primary goal to

enhance our endowment fund. The bigger the endowment fund, the greater the assistance we can provide to our current scholars, and the better prepared we can be to meet the rising cost of education.

We are happy to announce that the Philippine Coast Guard, thru its Commandant, ADMIRAL Ronnie Gil L Gavan, has pledged to send their contribution next week, and with that, to encourage all PCG Cavaliers to be members of PETFI, so they will all be covered by the scholarship program. A very brilliant move indeed, Adm Ronnie!

More contributions are in the pipeline, which we shall acknowledge in the next issue.

In behalf of our beneficiaries, we thank our present and future benefactors for helping ensure the existence of our scholarship program long after we are gone. Maraming maraming salamat!



COURTESY VISIT TO THE CPNP
at the Office of the Chief PNP, Camp BGen Rafael T Crame, Quezon City
on March 29, 2024 Tuesday

PGEN Benjamin C Acorda Jr



VADM Toribio D Adaci

13 PETFI College Scholars

BULATAO, GENRICK PAUL D



2nd year, BS Accountancy, St Louis University-Baguio
Villa Rufina Subd, Talavera, Nueva Ecija
0922-805-7778
18 years old, born on April 17, 2005, son of **Cav Erick G Bulatao '03 PA**, who was killed-in-action on May 22, 2005. His mother, Mrs Geraldine Bulatao, is currently unemployed.

CARANDANG, PAULO MIGUEL J



1st year,
Ymbong Cmpd, Humay Rd, Gun-ob, Lapu Lapu City, Cebu
0928-432-0019
19 years old, born on July 18, 2005, son of **Cav Apollo A Carandang '03 PAF**, who died due to traumatic injuries on February 24, 2010 in Capas Tarlac. Currently, Mrs Cristeta Carandang, his mother, is unemployed.

CORPUZ, PAULINE G



2nd year, BS in Med Science, University of Baguio
Cabaroan, Bacnotan, La Union
0926-095-2879
19 years old, born on April 25, 2005, sister of **Cav Jun Corpuz '14 PA**, who was killed-in-action on November 02, 2014.

Her mother, Mrs Elizabeth Corpuz is currently unemployed.

DELA VEGA, ALJANNE MARTIN Z



1st year, BS Computer Science, UP Diliman
Brgy Milagrosa, Project 4, Quezon City
0966-841-3055
19 years old, born on May 5, 2005, son of **Cav Allan Victor T**

Dela Vega '93 PCG, who died due to cardiac arrest on August 16, 2024. Her mother Mrs Mary Anne Dela Vega is a government employee.

DE LEON, REECIE LEIGH N



1st year,
Gov Pascual Rd, Mulawin, Orani, Bataan
0932-563-5473
18 years old, born on February 28, 2006, daughter

of **Cav Raymond N De Leon '03 PAF**, who died due to aircraft crash on April 28, 2011. Her grandfather Mr Wilfredo Nico is looking after her.

FOJA, RODRIGO V JR



1st year,
Sta Maria, Sto Tomas, Batangas
0905-665-1284
19 years old, born on March 25, 2005, son of **Cav Rodrigo A Foja Sr '87 PNP**, who was killed-in-action on July 21, 2004. Currently, Mrs Myrna Foja is unemployed.

FOJA, RAMON RICARDO V



4th year, BS Accounting, Maranatha Christian Academy, Sta. Maria Sto. Thomas, Batangas
0905-665-1284
20 years old, born on August 30, 2003, son of **Cav Rodrigo A Foja Sr '87 PNP**, who was killed-in-action on July 21, 2004. Currently, Mrs Myrna Foja is unemployed.

GABUNA, MIKAELA LIANA B



2nd year, BS in Respiratory Therapy, Trinity University of Asia
487 Las Villas Del Cielo, Morning Star Dr. Sanville Q.C
0917-523-5202
20 years old, born on May 20, 2004, daughter of **Cav Orville**

Gabuna '67 PNP, who had a massive stroke on April 11, 2018. Her mother, Mrs Linda Gabuna is currently unemployed.

GABRIEL, MARY GABRIELLE P



2nd year, BS Fine Arts, UP Diliman
554 Vincenzo St. Cor L. Gonzales Hagdang Bato, Libis, Mandaluyong City
0995-124-0067
21 years old, born on October 13, 2002, daughter of **Cav**

Randy E Gabriel '01 PAF, who died in an aircraft crash on May 24, 2005. Her mother, Mrs Jennie Gabriel is unemployed.

GAYOSA, DANIEL INRI II O



2nd year, BSBA-, University of Negros Occidental
Silay, Bacolod
0998-550-4437
20 years old, born on November 25, 2004, son of **Cav Daniel Inri S Gayosa'93 PCG**, who died from a lung cancer on April 27, 2009. His mother, Mrs Mary Anne Gayosa works at the Silay Airport.

NAVIDA, MIGUEL ROBERTO E



1st year, M-by Learning
743 Amistad St. Buenavida Homes, Meville Park Subd, Parangue
0936-975-9396
21 years old, born on March 25, 2003, son of **Cav Roberto Navida'71 PNP**, who died due to heart attack on October 13, 2016. Miguel has a learning disability. His mother, Mrs Suzane Navida is unemployed.

PASCO, RAJMUND JAROMIR M



2nd year, BS Medical Technology, NU MOA
AFP MOQ Camp Aquino, Tarlac City
0933-824-1052
18 years old, born on January 30, 2006, 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.

SACRAMENTO, BIANCA MARIE G



1st year,
Avida Vita Towers 2, Brgy Bagong Pag-asa, QC
0918-967-2006
18 years old, born on February 20, 2006, daughter of **Cav Roberto Sacramento'71**, who was diagnosed with chronic obstructive lung illness in July 2018.



PMAFI NEWS

PMAFI 36th Founding Anniversary Celebration



The Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI) celebrated its 36th Founding Anniversary on 23 September 2024. The occasion was graced by RAdm Caesar Bernard N Valencia PN - PMA Supt; Cav Ramon Punzalan - PMARAI Chairman, who represented the PMAAAI Chairman, Cav Raul Gonzales; Cav Gil C Meneses – PFTJI Chairman; Cav Ryan Bakabak - Treasurer, PMAAAI; and Cav Domingo Pequiras - Executive Director, PMAAAI. This milestone event brought together distinguished guests to echo the foundation's achievements and future endeavors.

The affair was hosted by Trustee Aquino, who commenced the program with warm greetings for everyone. PMAFI President, Trustee Leuterio, welcomed the guests and greeted the Board of Trustees, "Happy Anniversary", thereafter introduced the guests and each one of the Trustees, emphasized the foundation's mission and vision, and acknowledged the roles of the Trustees and the staffs. Trustee Leuterio also recognized former trustees who have made significant contributions to the Foundation, one of whom is PMAFI Chairman Emeritus, Trustee Rosalino A Alquiza, the





founder and an incorporator of the Foundation; and the former Trustees Cav Fredelino S Bautista, and Cav Rene Leandro P Ebro. Trustee Leuterio recalled the unwavering commitment of Cav Alquiza to serving not only the PMAAAI, but also the four (4) other PMA Foundations – PETFI, PMAFI, PDFI, and PFTJI.

The above-mentioned esteemed guests shared their congratulatory messages. Ex-Officio Trustee, RAdm Caesar Bernard N Valencia PN - PMA Supt, emphasized the vital role of the PMAFI in raising the bar of excellence in the education, training and character building of the PMA cadets thru an empowered Corps of Professors and faculty members, and modern classroom equipment. He then highlighted the programs and the contribution of the PMAFI in PMA for the last 36 years that have made a difference, underlining the importance of continued fund support and collaboration.

Trustee Leuterio announced the donations of the following Trustees: BGen Restituto L Aguilar PA (Ret), and BGen Florentino P Manalastas Jr Prof (Ret) who gave P100,000

each for the establishment of their PMAFI Endowment fund. Chairman Trustee Ibay also announced his pledge of P50,000 for his PMAFI Endowment fund as an additional donation to his PMAFI Professorial Chair fund. Trustee Manalastas also announced the initial donation of P50,000 from the AFPSLAI President and CEO, RAdm Nichols A Driz PN (Ret), which would be deposited any time of the day for the establishment of his PMAFI Endowment Fund.

Trustee Leuterio announced that the birthday celebrators for the month of September 2024 were: Trustee Lalisán (9), Trustee Manalastas (15), and Trustee Bacarro (18). Everybody cheerfully greeted the celebrators.

The Chairman, Trustee Ibay, thanked all attendees, Trustees, and staff for their invaluable support and service to the Foundation. He assured everybody that the present PMAFI Board remains committed to its primary mission and vision of supporting the Academy. He encouraged everyone to continuously engage and help in the foundation's future initiatives and projects.



Philippine Military Academy (PMA) celebrates 126th Founding Anniversary, 26 October 2024

The said event was graced by the representative of the lone district of Baguio City, Congressman Marquez "Mark" O. Go; the PMA Foundation, Inc. through its representative Gen Bartolome Vicente O Bacarro PA (Ret); and the families of the Awardees for Teaching Excellence (PMA Faculty).



The PMAFI Board of Trustees Annual Visit to PMA Fort del Pilar, Baguio City

15 November 2024

The PMAFI Board was greeted with a warm welcome by the PMA officials and staff, upon arrival led by the Dean of Academics, BGen Jose Demar A Pauly (COP). The tour began with a visit to the iconic academic center where cadets obtain rigorous academic and leadership training – the Melchor Hall.

The PMAFI Board of Trustees was convened thereat for its November 2024 Board Meeting to discuss projects in the Academy which are being funded and supported by the Foundation. Chairman Ibay thanked the Asst. Superintendent, PMA, BGen Paulo C Teodoro (PAF) and staff for hosting the Board meeting.

During the dialogue with the PMA Faculty, a key part of the meeting was focused on the current academic programs offered to its professors by the PMAFI. The faculty raised some matters on Course Development and Administration Chair Grant, Faculty Improvement Program, and other related matters.



In the PMAFI Membership Campaign with the First Class Cadets, the PMAFI Board emphasized the importance of becoming members of the Foundation and how their membership contributions will go a long way in producing military professionals of excellent character in the service of the nation and the Filipino people.

Highlight of the PMAFI visit was the presentation of the Teaching Excellence Awards to deserving faculty members in a ceremony attended by the PMA officials, faculty and cadets. The event served as an opportunity to publicly acknowledge the valuable achievements and contributions of the recipients in the education of the cadet corps, and to inspire other PMA faculty to strive for excellence. Awardees received certificates of recognition, along with cash grants to support their individual professional endeavors.

The ceremonial turnover of donations of books and modern equipment marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts of PMAFI to support PMA and its cadets, and showcased the spirit of generosity and commitment of numerous PMAFI donors whose contributions greatly enhanced the cadets' academic and training programs and facilities.



“Endow our hearts with kindness that we may sympathize with those who sorrow and suffer.”



The Graduates of Philippine Military Academy Helping Out Project Foundation, Inc.

tgpmahop.org

Updates on Latest Activities and Projects:



**Relief goods distribution to flood victims
(Typhoon Carina) in Barangay Imelda, Quezon City
on July 30, 2024.**

Present were Cav Nori Azcueta '68, Cav Robert Yap '82 and Cav Lysander Suerte '82. With 11th CMO Battalion, CMOR, PA.

Beneficiaries: 120 families.



**Relief goods distribution to fire victims
at Barangay 105, Tondo, Manila on
September 25, 2024.**

TGPMA HOP provided P100,000.00 worth of relief goods.
With 11th CMO Battalion, other partners and stakeholders.

TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc. Statements of Changes in Fund Balances (Sept. 30, 2024)

Beginning Balance (Aug. 31, 2024)		2,234,461.46
Add	Donation (Sept. 2024)	31,555.55
	Interest Income	143.81
Subtotal		2,266,160.82
Less	Administrative Expenses	2,100.00
	Program Cost and Expenses	100,000.00
Current Balance		2,164,060.82



Monthly Board Meeting on October 16, 2024

Sec Cav Carlito Galvez '85 of OPAPRU hosted the monthly BOT meeting at Senju Restaurant, EDSA Shangrila.

Special Announcements:

- Incoming Project: eLearning Hub to be established in Barangay Bagong Silangan, Quezon City
- New BOT Member: Warmest welcome to our new BOT Member Cav Melchor Rosales '68!



FEMALE CAVALIER SEGMENT

Breaking Odds and Norms: Inspiring Journey of Cavalier “BON” NUNAG-CASTILLO ‘97

In a traditionally male-dominated organization, Filipino women today are not only making their mark—they are redefining professional boundaries and showcasing their excellence and worth, challenging long-standing stereotypes. In the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), women are stepping into critical combat and leadership roles, breaking through gender barriers with unwavering dedication. One remarkable woman in the AFP is Colonel Ma. Consuelo Nunag-Castillo, known to many as “Bon.” As the first female spokesperson and head of the Public Affairs Office of the Philippine Air Force (PAF), her extraordinary journey embodies the resilience and determination of modern Filipino women, who are courageously embracing both traditional and non-traditional roles in society.

Bon’s roots trace back to Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac City, where she attended the College of the Holy Spirit of Tarlac (CHST) in 1991, then an all-girls school. Excelling academically, she graduated as high valedictorian. Afterwards, she pursued a pre-med course at the University of the Philippines-Diliman before discovering a deeper calling in military service.



Marking the beginning of her military career, Colonel Nunag-Castillo entered the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in 1993, proudly among the first female cadets. As one of the seven pioneering members of the “Kalasag Lahi Class of 1997,” her training instilled in her the values of courage, loyalty to her country and organization, and integrity—principles that have guided her throughout her career.

Upon graduation, she became the Philippine Air Force’s first female tactical helicopter pilot, undertaking combat support missions across the nation, including in Mindanao and other high-risk areas. Her contributions earned her the distinction of being the first female flight commander for the UH-1H helicopter, where she led pioneering all-female flight crew in active operations. Additionally, she was one of the first female pilots



of the Bell 412 presidential helicopter, showcasing her exceptional skill and dedication.

Beyond her achievements as a pilot, Bon continually pursued career growth through advanced training and education. She graduated at the top of her class in both the Basic Officer and Air Intelligence Courses and was the first female air force officer to undergo specialized training in the United States at Maxwell and Sheppard Air Force Bases. Her pursuit of knowledge is further reflected in her three master's degrees, which have enhanced her strategic acumen and expertise.

Bon's unwavering commitment to service has propelled her into key positions within Personnel, Operations, Civil-Military Operations, and Reservist Affairs. Before serving as the PAF spokesperson, she was the Commanding Officer of the 1st Air Reserve Center and the Deputy Senior Military Assistant to the Department of National Defense's Office of the Undersecretary for Special Concerns. Her remarkable journey is a testament to how the foundational values instilled during her PMA training continue to shape her leadership and dedication to her country and organization.

One of Colonel Nunag-Castillo's enduring legacies is her embodiment of the resilience, commitment, and courage of modern Filipino women. Despite the demands of her career and family life, Bon maintains a positive outlook, crediting her success to the steadfast support of her family, friends and colleagues. Married to Colonel Charles DZ Castillo of the Philippine Army and a mother of three, she acknowledges that balancing family



and career is her greatest challenge. Yet, she embraces these difficulties as opportunities for growth, inspiring those around her to flourish alongside her.

Colonel Nunag-Castillo's career symbolizes how dedication, resilience, and passion can break boundaries, reminding all that masculinity knows no gender when it comes to fulfilling one's calling.



YOUNG CAVALIER HEROES

1LT JUNJUN BAYUDAN CLASS 2020 (INF) PA

Earns Prestigious US Ranger School Leadership Award



The Lt Col Antonia Leadership Award

GEORGIA, UNITED STATES -- First Lt Junjun M. Bayudan (Infantry) Philippine Army is the first foreign military student to receive the Lt Col Keith Antonia Leadership Award in the history of US Ranger Courses. He received the award during the US ranger course graduation in Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade (ARTB), Fort Moore Georgia, USA last September 13, 2024.

The award is given to the highest-ranking officer who passed all leadership positions and gained positive evaluations from his peers after demonstrating exceptional leadership and motivation, which embodies the leadership ideals and spirit exemplified by Lt. Col. Antonia. It is also given to recognize ranger students' outstanding achievement during the course.

The US Ranger Course

The US Ranger course is renowned as the toughest and the premier leadership course in the US Army. It is designed to

assess and then develop the military skills, physical and mental endurance, stamina, and confidence a soldier must have to successfully accomplish combat missions.

The course is broken down into three phases that encompass lowland, mountain, and coastal marsh operations, stimulating a realistic combat environment to cultivate critical thinking, decision making and combat leadership, exposed to a wide range of physically and psychologically demanding conditions.

With a passing rate of only 49% for the last 12 years, and less than 20% average of those who made it through without being recycled or dropped from the course, the course requires physical and mental fortitude, resiliency, and determination.

US Ranger to a foreign student

As a foreign student, the course was tougher, learning and adjusting to the US Army's tactics, techniques, and procedures





(TTPs), doctrine, way of conversation and language, their values and culture, and a new environment was all but anew to a tropical and Asian soldier.

The Preparation Phase and the Filipino Community

But as soon as First Lt. Bayudan arrived in Columbus, Georgia (GA) for his in-processing and preparation for entering the ranger school, he established his baseline. Also, with the generosity of the Filipino community who fostered him in Georgia, especially Kuya Rod Tumpalan, Kuya Mark Cabacungan, and Sir Lino Mercurio, as he calls them, they helped First Lt. Bayudan understand the American culture and adjust to the new environment faster. Ranger Bayudan also took advantage of this time to prepare physically and mentally, understand and familiarize the doctrine of the US Army as his mentors had advised him. Self-discipline and perseverance to finish daily workouts and study every chapter of the ranger handbook was a non-negotiable on his day-to-day routine. With utmost commitment and dedication, he arrived at the ranger school well-prepared and overcame the conundrum as a foreign military student.

Inspiration and Mentors

Inspired by his mentors, First Lt. Castilion Antalis who was his former executive officer at the 12th Scout Ranger Company (SRC), and Lt. Col. Ricarte A. Dayata, his former battalion commander, who both have the prestigious US ranger tab, he took advantage of the opportunity given to him to undergo the said course to further cultivate his leadership attributes and tactical combat skills. His mentors told him how tough the course was, especially as a foreign military student, but gave pieces of advice on how to survive it as well.

First Lt. Bayudan exemplified the qualities of a Philippine Scout Ranger, upholding the triple S -- Skill, Stamina, and Spirit -- to his advantage to survive the course. His expertise in small unit tactics, and the ability to adapt to any environment made a good impression among his peers. Sincere humility, utmost commitment to finish the course, and faith in God almighty - he listened to his mentors and indubitably kept it with him during the course.

Being assigned as a platoon leader in the field, leading men into actual combat missions while grasping the new learnings taught in during their training also led him to his success.

Back to actual combat operations

First Lt. Bayudan is currently designated as platoon leader in the 12th Scout Ranger Company, 4th Scout Ranger Battalion of the First Scout Ranger Regiment. After finishing the US Ranger Course, and spending his academic break he is aught to report back to his previous company in Northern Samar, and apply his new learnings, with the high hopes of positively impacting their mission and contribute greatly to their success.



VISITOR'S ACCOUNTS

The Editor
The Cavalier
PMA Alumni Center
Camp Aguinaldo, QC

Dear Sir:

Greetings from Lingayen, the Capital Town of the Great Province of Pangasinan!

May I respectfully contribute an article for our 4th Qtr issue of Cavaliers Magazine being a retiree in public service and a proud member of PMA Magilas Class of 1976.

My contribution is an Open Letter from a certain Atty Alvarez (FB blogger). It's kind of self serving, but may I share it just the same with the indulgence of the alumni corps.

It might also interest you to know that I have been a PMA Cavalier Awardee twice, a 3rd Termer Congressman (member of 15th, 16th and 17th Congress), 2nd Termer Mayor of Lingayen, consistent SGLG awardee of DILG (Lingayen LGU) including 3 times COA awardee being unmodified audit report (Lingayen LGU).

Herewith is the Open Letter for your appreciation...

An Open Letter to Mayor Leopoldo Bataoil (by Atty Alvarez):

Dearest Mayor:

Our Congressman, words aren't enough to thank you for all the good works you've done for our town, Lingayen. Not only that you bring progress, but discipline and sense of humanity were also seen among Lingayenenses.

Mayor, you just don't know how much you've inspired so many people to follow your footsteps in making sure that good governance is achieved.

You're so **SUPPORTIVE** and a **MAN OF HIS WORDS**. You've supported all the projects proposed by your higher officials, yet you take time to step aside when it contradicts the principles of law.

You're **FORGIVING**. Hindi po kayo ma-POLITIKA. You could have ran after and permanently get rid of the past administration after all the records they've passed on you, yet, you chose to be silent and fixed what should be fixed.

You're a very loving human and a **FATHER** of the town. You've dedicated so much of your time in serving the people, oras na minsan napapatanong na lang kami kung deserve ba namin?



Sa sobrang pagmamahal ninyo, wala kayong pinipiling tao. When you think that someone has same visions like yours, you give them chances, you give full support, you give utmost respect, and most especially, you give love.

Mayor, we can't help but wonder, how do you still stand a feet and give us your good smile despite what's happening due to traditional political behavior; when people think you're no longer beneficial to them, they will leave you hanging.

It must have been so hard for you knowing that the people whom you considered your children, people whom you once had a genuine conversation, are exactly the same person who will leave your heart broken.♡

This is very heartbreaking, despite your goodness, despite your kindness that's naturally within your heart, people are brave enough to take advantage of it.

Mayor, some may not like you, some may not appreciate you, some may hate you, but please know that, **SOME** are also here secretly applauding you 😊

You've done so much beyond expectations. Please gain more courage as you take another step into a big battle ahead. Just do remember, you have people behind you.

Walk with God, **WIN** with God 🙏 



1ST LT DR. MERCEDES CUELLO LAZARO-MUSNGI: A Legacy of Courage, Integrity, Patriotism and Loyalty

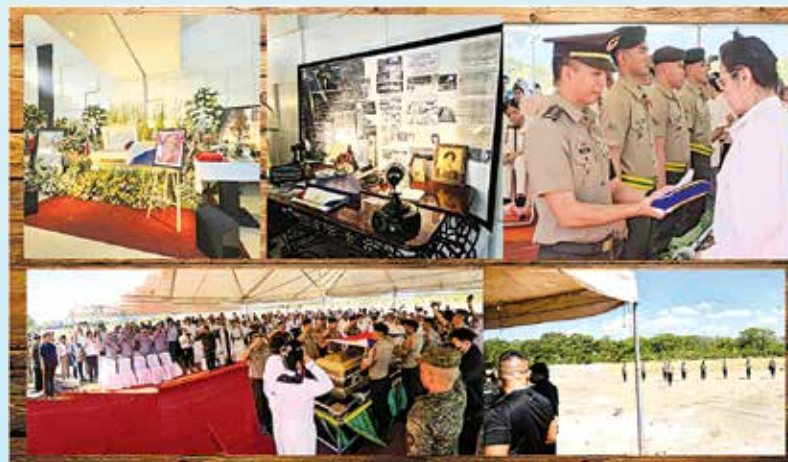
• MS. YLAYSHA MUSNGI-GOSIACO

I write with a heart full of love, pride, and reverence for my grandmother, 1st Lieutenant/Dr. Mercedes, a title given with deep affection and profound respect by her comrades and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, though her official military rank was that of a simple soldier and first aid medic who did what had to be done. In the hearts of many, she remains an unsung WWII hero who exceeded the duties of her role. More than just a warrior, she was a loving mother figure—Mommy Ched, as she was fondly called by those who knew her. Her unwavering dedication to saving lives, particularly during the fierce battles of Cavite, Manila, and Batangas, earned her the admiration and respect of all who served alongside her. To many, she was not only a leader and a healer but also a hero—embodying the very spirit of selflessness, sacrifice, and fierce dedication to people, family, country and GOD, she left a mark that will endure for generations.

Her passing on March 13, 2024, at the remarkable age of 100 and seven months, left a void in our lives, but her legacy lives on. Her actions were not for recognition or appreciation but out of a profound sense of compassion, humility, duty, dignity, and love for her country—an embodiment of the Philippine Military Academy's core values of courage, integrity, and loyalty. These three virtues, etched into the hearts of countless soldiers, old and young, perfectly capture the essence of her life. I hope my grandmother's story will enlighten this generation of Cavaliers and PMA Graduates, especially the young military generation... on how my grandmother "Mommy Ched" humbly exercised these three everlasting virtues before, during WWII and even after until her passing. Dr. Mercedes was not just simply a doctor, soldier, or mother—she revolutionized the very essence of what it means to be a *bayani*, a true hero.

Courage: A Life of Service from the Battlefield to the Clinic

From the moment she was born in 1923, valor coursed through her veins. Raised by patriots, her father Victorio Pascual Lazaro served as an aviation mechanic for the Philippine/US Navy, while her mother Guadalupe Tagle Cuello, who came from a family of Katipuneros in Imus and Bacoar. Courage and valor were not something she learned; they flowed through her blood and veins as a descendant of Revolutionary Fighters and Military men.



Her mini museum boards showcase her life of service during her wake and burial at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani with the Philippine Army, Philippine Navy, and a U.S. Embassy and Army representative, and various Christian ministers and clergy from different religious denominations in the Philippines.



Her mother, a Katipunera named Guadalupe Tagle Cuello (left), Mercedes at the age of 15 (middle), and her father Victorio Pascual Lazaro of the Philippine/U.S. Navy in Cavite Naval Station, Sangley (right).

Her father, Victorio Lazaro had saved drowning Navy personnel in Cavite Sangley Naval Station. He unfortunately succumbed to pneumonia and died before WWII officially began. Her mother Guadalupe “Opheng” began to secretly smuggled weapons to Filipino guerillas, leading underground resistance groups of women in Bacoor during WWII, Cavite. At the age of 18, Mercedes braved the horrors and dangers of World War II by volunteering in makeshift hospitals. Afterwards, my grandmother almost became a comfort woman, but fought back against the Japanese Imperial soldiers in an attempted gang rape and escaped. Unfortunately, her friends were all raped and taken away as comfort women. In spite of tragedies, she became more courageous and decided to fight in her father’s honor and take revenge for all the women who were brutalized.

By 19, she was in the underground guerilla movement, fighting alongside her mother and performing first aid and life-saving amputations on guerilla soldiers. By 22, she was officially enlisted as a soldier and medic during World War II for the Philippine Army and the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE). She was brave, bold, fierce, and relentless, running back and forth on the battlefield to administer first aid to wounded soldiers and civilians.

As a guerilla combat medic and surgeon technician, she confronted unimaginable dangers, performing amputations and surgeries that saved countless lives. I remember her telling me stories of how she faced unspeakable horrors when she had to take on the role of a doctor to conduct amputations herself because the doctors were exhausted and many soldiers still needed to be saved. This was astounding given that she was just a highschool student without a medical degree during that time. The casualties were so high she would collect limbs, arms, and legs in buckets, especially during the Battle of Manila... but she never backed down. General Douglas MacArthur himself noticed her bravery while visiting, awarding her a scholarship to study medicine in the United States. But for my grandmother, courage was about doing what was necessary, regardless of the consequences.



Digitally restored photographs. Mercedes dressed in a medic uniform during WWII (left). After WWII, she graduated in medicine with the US Military-sponsored scholarship as a USAFFE veteran (right).

Loyalty: A Love for Country That Knew No Bounds

Loyalty, perhaps more than anything, defined Mommy Ched’s life. Her loyalty to her country, her family, and her faith was unshakable. The war gave her an opportunity most people only dream of. After saving the life of an American 11th Airborne Division elite infantry soldier named Johnny/Danny, also known as “Daniel,” she formed a deep friendship with him—one that blossomed into love amidst war, brutalities, and violence. He fell in love with her, proposed marriage, and together with General MacArthur’s scholarship to Mommy Ched abroad and a military position... offered her a life which would allow her to live in America and start a new life away from the war-torn Philippines.

But she said no.

She chose the harder path, though heartbroken, by staying behind with her widowed mother to serve her country, the Philippines, and the Filipino people. In a generation when emotions often drive us to forsake everything for love, her decision stands as a testament to a rare, unwavering loyalty. It wasn’t that she didn’t love him—she truly did—but her love for her widowed mother, her devastated country, and her sense of duty to Inang Bayan was even greater than her own personal desires.

Her loyalty extended beyond the war years. After the war, she became a doctor specializing in infectious diseases sponsored by her US military scholarship from General MacArthur. She worked in Veterans Memorial Hospital and San Lazaro Hospital. During this time... she became an advocate for veterans’ rights, using up almost all of her life savings to support disabled and paralyzed Filipino and American soldiers, the patients she treated during WWII. She organized free medical missions for her Filipino comrades, veterans, and soldiers, giving home services in their homes and treating them for free. Even in her final years, her loyalty to her country and comrades never wavered. She never forgot them, even when the war was over.

After retiring from her medical career at 65 she continued to dedicate herself to the military causes she pledged allegiance to and dedicated her life to serving the poor, the marginalized, and the forgotten WWII veterans. She traveled across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao to the hills, jungles and mountains, treating indigenous people, widows, orphans, and even Muslim communities in dangerous terrorist group infested areas such as the Abu Sayyaf and the New People’s Army.

She continued as a medical doctor until she was 90 years old. Even at 100 years old, she remained committed to the causes she believed in. Her loyalty extended far beyond the battlefield, and even then for the remaining years, she then advocated for psychological healing and mental health education as a Christian servant and missionary preacher of GOD until she was 100 years old. Her last mission was in Amadeo, Cavite, when she was 100 and three months old. She never retired in her service to GOD, country and people until her last heartbeat and breath went out.

Integrity: A Guiding Light Through Life’s Trials

If courage was her shield, integrity was her sword. It guided every decision she made. After the war, she became a young widow at 40 with seven children. She suffered tragedies and numerous injustices from people and friends she trusted, who stole her home and farmlands and exploited her kindness, leaving her homeless and impoverished for many years. After WWII, she struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and war shock due to the guilt she felt over the things she had to do as a soldier and the many brutal amputations, which left her with no choice but to execute without anesthesia in order to save lives. I asked my grandmother if she killed someone during WWII, and she told me, “In war, either you kill or be killed or raped. Kaya laban! Patay kung patay. (Fight, even to the death, if it must be.)”

Despite the guilt and traumas of her military past, her integrity and resilience wouldn’t allow her to give up. There were two offers

of adoption for her youngest daughter, my mother Kit, but my grandmother declined. She promised each of her seven children: *"Kakayanin ko ang lahat para sa inyo, Igagapang ko kayong lahat hanggang makatapos kayo ng kolehiyo."* And she honorably kept that promise despite the overwhelming odds. To survive, she worked 24-hour shifts and spent her nights at the hospital. When her house burnt down in a fire she became homeless but was wise to divide her children into seven different households to survive. She visited them every weekend, bringing food. As a result, all seven of her children graduated from high school and college, a testament to her honor as a mother and the sole provider for the family. Thus, she is not just a hero of this nation but a real hero of our family. Not just a warrior but our mother and hero.

Though victimized by so many people and injustices, she held her head up high with honor, integrity, dignity, and strong moral principles. She forgave those who wronged her, extending forgiveness. In their dying days, she even provided her transgressors with free medical services, prayers, and peace. A fact that astounds me until now.

Even when Mommy Ched was struggling in poverty, she never charged anyone more than what they could afford and even offered free medical services if they had no money though she herself was widow and struggling in poverty. After accepting the LORD JESUS in her heart, spiritually and intimately, not just because of religion, she was healed from all her traumas. She understood that the scars of war were not just physical but psychological, and most importantly, spiritual. She healed then with the unconditional Love she found in the LORD and her unwavering faith in GOD.

"In fact, my grandmother was denied a pension by the US government because her military service records were not found. Despite this setback, she never pursued the matter for personal gain or proved herself. Instead, she upheld her integrity, continuing her life with the same sense of duty and selflessness that had guided her throughout her military service. Her unwavering dedication to serving her country and improving the lives of Filipino and American soldiers—and even civilians—never wavered, even in the face of adversity and poverty.

Now, as new military records come to light, truly revealing that she served both countries...they reveal the untold contributions of women in the military—those who served with a deep commitment to their country and their fellow soldiers. Her story exemplifies the core value of integrity: doing what is right not for acknowledgment, but because it is the essence of one's character. It is a testament to the resilience and courage of countless unsung heroes, and I hope it inspires us all to honor their legacies by living with the same steadfast principles."

A Legacy for the Next Generation

When she passed away from hospital-acquired pneumonia...we thought Mommy Ched's story ended with the 21-gun salute at her

burial in *Libingan ng mga Bayani* last April 2, 2024. But her legacy extended far beyond her wake and burial. Her story quickly spread through various news media outlets, inspiring young people to share it in their schools, communities, and churches. The Philippine Army, through Colonel Marces Tolarba Gayat INF (GSC) PA of the Civil-Military Operations Regiment, provided us with a platform to honor her resilience, faith, patriotism, and valor. For the first time, Mommy Ched's panels became a public mini museum exhibit for Philippine Army History, held in the heart of historical Luneta, Rizal Park, during the Independence Day celebration.

Following this Mini Museum event, both civilians and soldiers requested that Mommy Ched's story be shared more widely so more people could hear her story of a new hero, a bagong bayani... and be aware of WWII history and trauma informed mental health education. This led to the BAGONG BAYANI Traveling Mini Museum, an idea created by the masses themselves who suggested bringing her memorabilia and educational panels to schools, churches, organizations, and government bodies. Thus the Mini Museum travelled to different cities in NCR and to schools, churches and different organizations. With the support of the Philippine Navy and OIC Commander Jun Deacosta of Naval Forces Reserve-NCR, the Traveling Mini-Museum was recently also showcased at Quezon City Hall as part of a Mental Health Awareness campaign amongst the Navy forces.

Further recognition came when the esteemed Philippine Veterans Affairs Office invited us most recently to showcase our **Bagong Bayani Traveling Mini-Museum** at their 78th anniversary event. The BAGONG BAYANI mini-museum, which includes a unique WWII Unsung Heroes Diorama created in her honor, has been acknowledged by the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office and historians as the first of its kind in the country. We were incredibly honored and humbled to see the support of veterans, soldiers and reservists for our WWII travelling mini museum and diorama. What began as a personal tribute has now expanded into a nationwide initiative, reaching all levels of society. It stands as a testament to Mommy Ched's enduring legacy and a tool for raising awareness of WWII history and trauma-informed mental health education.

Today, we continue her advocacy for trauma-informed mental health education through KALASAG seminars to ensure this generation would be better equipped to heal from their trauma holistically the way she did. This BAGONG BAYANI travelling mini museum, along with the Mind Warriors KALASAG seminar, inspired soldiers, veterans, and everyday Filipinos alike. Many people from different walks of life and branches of AFP—civilians, seniors, and youths—loved her story and saluted her for the extraordinary life she lived. Dr. Mercedes "Mommy Ched" was almost forgotten, but now she will be forever remembered, along with many more unsung veteran heroes.

With tensions rising in the West Philippine Sea and the looming possibility of global conflict and WWIII, her story of survival is an urgent warning call to action and preparation. She left behind a legacy for us to follow: a vision of trauma-informed mental health education, the inclusion of World War II history, and unsung veteran heroes in educational curricula to strengthen national security, soldiers' psychological resilience, and youth nationalism. Mommy Ched's dream was to see a well-informed generation ready to defend the country against any future threats, including World War III, which my mother and I will passionately continue in her honor and memory.

There are many more testimonies and revelations yet to come about her military service. We hope that as her records are fully uncovered, more details will emerge about the incredible legacy she left behind. But my grandmother stands as a powerful example that, regardless of rank—whether from the humblest private to the highest general—the true duty of a soldier is to serve God, protect our country, and love and serve our people unconditionally.

I also hope that this recognition will pave the way for more unsung women heroes to be acknowledged and celebrated.



The different news agencies and social media reporting her stories and the supportive comments from netizens.

Women, like my grandmother, who defied the odds and exceeded the roles expected of them during those times, often went unnoticed, and whose stories were almost forgotten. Her story highlights the unsung contributions of countless women in the military, whose dedication is often overshadowed by the focus on higher ranks or gender. It is crucial that we re-evaluate our military history to honor the remarkable contributions of these women, whose bravery and dedication to our country during times of war and peace deserve to be remembered and celebrated by the nation and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

In truth, this generation's love for the country feels distant and is on the verge of dying, leading many fellow Filipinos to lack the sense of nationalism, heroism, and patriotism that our nation so desperately needs. But Mommy Ched's life of selfless dedication to others is a testament to what it means for us to love unconditionally—to have an unwavering love for GOD, love for countrymen, and love for our nation. Through the atrocities of WWII and the aftermath of civilian life, she remained resilient, fearless, and fiercely committed to the well-being of others, always putting her life on the line for those who needed her care even after WWII. In short, she rekindles the lost love for the Philippines in all of us, igniting an undying lost love of country and of people.

As a generation increasingly disconnected from the past and unprepared for the future, we must look to unsung WWII heroes like Mommy Ched, who remind us that the future is built on the foundation of courage, integrity, and loyalty, and let us add unwavering faith in GOD. Her life embodies the same values of courage, integrity, and loyalty above all faith in GOD that our Philippine Military Academy graduates uphold—from their cadet days to the end of their service. These four foundational virtues are what we need today, especially in a time when faith in our institutions is tested due to disheartening corruption and disunity.

Her life challenges this generation to rise above and reignite the flame of nationalism and patriotism. I know in my heart that her story will continue to inspire a generation that will truly love the Philippines—a generation that will learn to honor and memorialize our unsung veteran heroes and take up the continuing mantle of service and sacrifice.

To the young generations of the Philippine Military Academy, I hope you understand that true heroism goes far beyond rank or recognition. The essence of a true Filipino soldier, like Mommy Ched, is not defined by the title we carry, but how you go far and above your rank with selfless service, our unwavering commitment to duty, and the sacrifices we make for the greater good. We may be young and beginning in many ways but Mommy Ched's story is a powerful reminder that even the most humble and youngest among us can leave behind extraordinary legacies.

As you continue your training and graduate to become the future living heroes of our country, I pray her example inspires you to excel, not for praise or position, but because it is your duty to serve with courage, loyalty, and integrity... and may I importantly add, Faith.

Truly, Faith, Courage, Loyalty and Integrity are the values that will define the next generation of military leaders... of *bayani*, a generation prepared to defend our nation, uphold its dignity, and carry its legacy forward.

*Maka-**tao**. Maka-**bayani**. Maka-**DIYOS**.* Tanging Ina ng Pamilya at ng Bayan na binigay ng Maykapal. Maraming Salamat, Mommy Ched. Laban Pilipinas! KALASAG!

(One for the people, One for the country, and One for GOD. The only mother of this nation and of our family that GOD has given. Thank you very much, Mommy Ched. Fight Philippines! To shield and defend!)

1. To the brave veterans, soldiers and cadets of the Philippine Military Academy, our future military leaders and heroes... if you are inspired by her story of resilience and heroism,

we invite you to like and follow the Facebook page of Dr. Mercedes "Mommy Ched" Cuello Lazaro Musngi, a WWII veteran and true patriot of our nation which shows the BAGONG BAYANI Travelling Mini Museum and WWII dioramas we have done in honor of her life and WWII veterans.



MOMMY CHED - 1Lt Dr. Mercedes Cuello Lazaro Musngi: <https://www.facebook.com/MommyChed>

2. If you want to stay updated on the release of her upcoming book trilogy and comic book featuring her remarkable life story, and honors her service and sacrifice of our unsung WWII veteran heroes! Please check AFFR (Almost Forgotten, Forever Remembered) out!



AFFR: Almost Forgotten, Forever Remembered
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566856268591>

3. Additionally, *The Mind Warriors KALASAG* offers trauma-informed mental health education lectures and seminars, equipping you holistically with tools to strengthen resilience as future leaders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Let her life and the many lives of our unsung WWII veteran heroes inspire your journey into being the warrior hero soldiers of our nation!



The Mind Warriors Project KALASAG
<https://www.facebook.com/TheMindWars>



Vignettes of Elder CAVALIERS

Cheated Death Twice

Call it sheer luck but Army 1st Lt. Manuel B. Mariano '62 cheated death not once but twice during his tour of duty in Vietnam with the PHILCAGV contingent at the height of the war in 1966.

Thinking back aloud to what transpired half a century ago, Mariano, who retired with the rank of brigadier general, could not believe how he survived unscathed in both bloody incidents which he said he will never forget all his life. He recalls every detail as if it was only yesterday.

As the logistics officer of PHILCAGV, the young officer saw to it that all requirements of the 2,600-man Filipino civic action contingent such as C-rations, medicines and medical equipment, construction materials and others were always available, courtesy of the United States government that was spearheading the Allied Forces in fighting the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops in Vietnam. Mariano recalled that it was sometime in 1966, shortly after they arrived in South Vietnam that his unit was going to Tay Ninh to deliver logistics supply to the PHILCAGV contingent conducting civic action work there.

The supplies, mostly medicines and construction materials and equipment, were loaded into 15 military trucks. The PHILCAGV trucks were part of a US-led convoy of 150 vehicles that would traverse the 100-kilometer highway going to Tay Ninh. Mariano tapped 100 PHILCAG personnel as security escort. Travelling by land was fraught with danger because the convoy was exposed to ambush by the Viet Cong, who lurked around the area. Nevertheless, the 26-year-old logistics officer was undaunted.

Before boarding their vehicles, he told his troops *"to spread out"* but they chose to ride with the Americans.

There was no untoward incident as their convoy was still in Saigon but *"upon reaching the town of Cu Chi we heard a loud explosion. I was sitting beside my driver when I saw our 6x6 truck ahead of us blown several meters upward. We were shocked. Luckily, my driver and I were safe, but 12 of my men were killed on the spot and several others wounded."*

"We immediately disembarked from our vehicle and helped retrieve the casualties. I grabbed our two-way radio and called for rescue."

Since he was commissioned in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) upon graduation from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), Class of 1962, it was the first time that Mariano saw with his own eyes a military vehicle with soldiers on board blown into pieces up in the air. It was a horrible sight, more so that the casualties were his troops.

U.S. helicopters arrived and evacuated the wounded to the hospital while the fatalities were brought to the PHILCAG Headquarters in Tay Ninh. American and Filipino security escorts were virtually caught by surprise. Besides, the Viet Cong were nowhere to be found as they detonated the landmine by electric wire while they were hiding safe and sound in their underground bunkers. The landmine explosion that killed a dozen of PHILCAGV troopers was the headline of Manila newspapers the following day. *"But what surprised me was that I was mentioned in the newspapers that I was one of those killed!"* Mariano said during an interview with the author.

"My PMA classmates in Manila went to our house to check with my wife what happened to me because they read in the newspapers

the following morning that I was among the casualties. However, I was glad to know that my wife was not fond of reading newspapers, otherwise, I don't know what would happen to her upon learning that I was killed in that landmine explosion," Mariano said, shaking his head.

The second time he cheated death was when he was scheduled to go back home to Manila for a short R & R (rest and recreation). After he packed up his things he told his driver to bring him to Tan Son Nhut International Airport in Saigon where he, and other PHILCAGV personnel and American servicemen, would take a US C-130 plane to Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

"While waiting for our departure I felt hungry since it was already 11:30 a.m. Since the plane was still not available, I told my driver to take me back to our villa some two kilometers away to have our lunch," Mariano recalled.

"When I went back to the airport at high noon, I was shocked to see that the airport was bombed by the Viet Cong and many were killed. In fact, the seat where I was seated was directly hit! Had I not decided to take my lunch at the villa, I would have been killed. It was the second time I cheated death. Most of those killed were American service men," he said.

He was full of sorrow to see many of the casualties retrieved by rescue workers. The bombing was perpetrated by the Viet Cong. After the area was cleared of debris, Lt. Mariano, together with other servicemen, boarded a C-130 plane for their R&R. Aboard the plane, he thought of the grizzly bombing that claimed the lives of many. As he recalled that horrifying incident that almost cost his life, Mariano said that *"in a war anything can happen."* It was the second time that he cheated death.

After his R&R, Mariano went back to Saigon to perform his duty as PHILCAG's logistics officer. It was in Vietnam that he honed his skills on how to properly manage in the distribution of logistics supplies to all units, particularly those involved in civic action work. During his stint with PHILCAGV, Mariano is proud to say that he performed his job with all honesty, knowing that every supply counts, that it could spell the difference between failure and success of the organization he served, and in this particular case the PHILCAG that represents the AFP in particular and the Philippine nation in general.

He was also glad that he was given the opportunity to help the Vietnamese people in their hour of need as he cited their sense of nationalism that helped them achieve their goal of unifying their divided nation into one country that would propel them towards prosperity and development. Because of his sterling performance as logistics officer of PHILCAGV, 1st Lt. Mariano was promoted to the rank of captain. His motto in life is *"honesty, hard work and professionalism."*

Brigadier General Manuel B. Mariano

Chapter 31

Cheated Death Twice

Warriors For Peace

The Saga of the Filipino Soldiers in the Vietnam War

Ruben "Ben" Bautista Cal

2018 Revised Edition



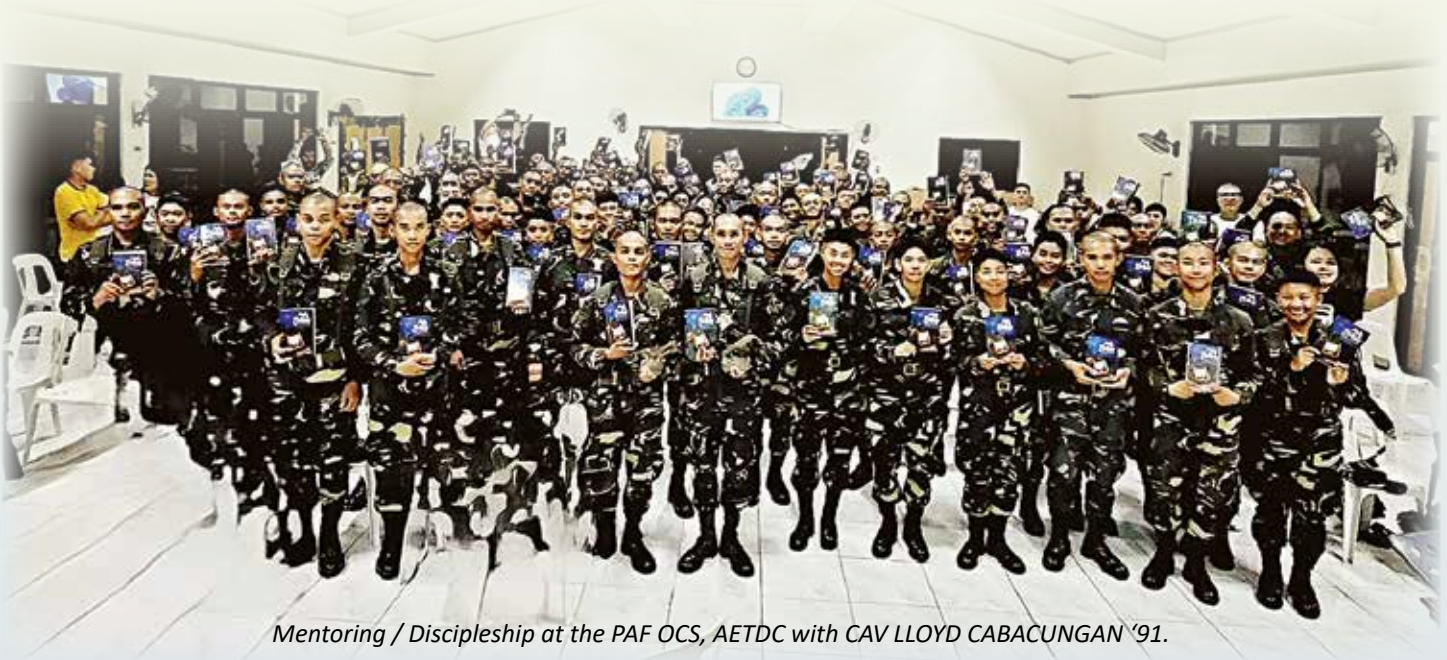
Cavalier Quest: Navigating the Spiritual Realm

Life Guards: Saving Lives

The Life Guards is one of the two oldest regiments 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.



Mentoring / Discipleship at the PAF OCS, AETDC with CAV LLOYD CABACUNGAN '91.

We saw His star!

“¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.””

— (Matthew 2:1-2)

The anticipation of a star is a phenomenon, that has been desired, not only by military officers of the present times but also of wise men of long ago. Around the reign of king Herod, estimated in the historical references to be between 6 - 4 BC, a star appeared in the East, for which Herod, himself, also inquired about.

A study of ancient architecture by British writer and journalist, Graham Hancock, documented his 30-year research on a Netflix series showed that many ancient structures reflected an intricate relationship between celestial objects showing how ancient cultures revered the stars as reflected in their magnificent edifices. These cultures share a common reverence for celestial beings which they often associate with divine guidance and connection, fate, and laid a solid basis for many scientific explanation of seasons and earthly cycles.

This was the essence of the Magi's journey. The term “Magi” came from the Latin term “*magus*” derived from the Greek “*magos*”, referring to a priest or a learned individual. They are

usually associated with wisdom and religious knowledge, also with astronomy and astrology.

THE SEARCH

The Magi's journey began as they followed a star that appeared in the East, but the search began many years back as they accumulated knowledge and written prophecies about the coming “*King of the Jews*.” This search was not only propelled by knowledge but by the truth that they embraced.

They knew that the appearance of the star, they have been longing to see, is a declaration from the heavens that God's glory is now revealed in the fulfillment of His promise:

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)

These wise men, did not only behold the culmination of their many years of study but have truly experienced the Truth that they have anchored their research on. The star heralded the “*Word became flesh and dwelt among us*”.

As they posed the question, “*Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?*,” it was not only an investigatory question but an inquiry of faith that led them to truly search for what matters most. The Magi's search began with a truthful



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investigation, and as they unfolded one truth after another, they embarked on a courageous journey.

THE SACRIFICE

The journey of the Magi did not only begin when they saw the star. The sacrifice they have to make in acquiring knowledge, understanding the seasons through what they see in the heavens and the decision to traverse the dangerous deserts of unknown territory, estimated roughly to be 800-1000 miles from Persia or Mesopotamia (modern day Iran or Iraq) to Jerusalem, on foot, showed the Magi's determination and sacrifice. They did not only pursue for the search of Truth but sacrificed for the Truth they knew they will experience first-hand.

Their sacrifice mirrored the gravity of the Truth they are pursuing. The difficult ordeal ahead was worth making because the Magi knew they will soon behold the Truth they have longed to see and embrace.

THE SURRENDER

"2...We saw His star when it rose and we have come to worship Him." (Matthew 2:2)

After the long and arduous journey,:

"11On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)

These wise men, respected and revered as kings from the East arrived to this small town and worshipped Him. Meeting the child Jesus, they immediately knew that the prophecy (they have heard and studied) is now fulfilled, that heavens are now rejoicing and that the Light of the world has truly come!

This Son they are worshipping and according gifts to is the King who will have the government of nations on His shoulders,

will fill all the gaps in the world by being the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace."

Their wisdom and experience are now crushed and humbled at the feet of Jesus, and they worshipped. They surrendered to the Kingship of Jesus! They met the One who transformed them from men of knowledge to men of faith!

"12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route." (Matthew 2:12)

The true test of Magi's transformation happened after their personal encounter with Jesus. Having been warned of Herod's plot against Jesus, the Magi's surrender to Jesus' Kingship was now translated into visible form ~~~ their absolute loyalty to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

The phrase *"they returned to their country by another route"* manifests their loyalty from worldly authority to the absolute authority of Jesus Christ. Not returning to Herod demonstrates an uncompromised life and one that is fully surrendered to Jesus Christ.

In our present, modern-day context, many of the military men and women accorded with stars on their shoulders are considered wise, learned and well educated.

May this season bring all the wise in the land to embark on a meaningful *Search of Truth, pursued in selfless Sacrifice, culminating in true Surrender* to the One who brings all wisdom under His feet and truly transforms lives. Men who are wise still seek Him. *"Sir, have you seen His star?"*

Your friend,
ike '93

CG RADM EUSTACIO NIMROD P ENRIQUEZ JR '93 (Ret)
Coastguards' Christian Lighthouse Community



Mentoring / Discipleship at the PAF OCS, AETDC with CAV LLOYD CABACUNGAN '91

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

A Lifetime Left

At Airborne School, soldiers were being taught what to do if the parachute malfunctions. While the use of a reserve chute was being discussed, a student raised his hand.

"If the main parachute malfunctions," he asked, "how long do we have to deploy the reserve?"

Looking the soldier square in the face, the instructor replied, "The rest of your life." 

RHIP

During a training exercise, a lieutenant driving a 4x4 down a muddy back road encountered an army jeep stuck in the mud with a red-faced Colonel at the wheel.

"Your jeep stuck, sir?" asked the Lieutenant as he pulled alongside. "Nope," replied the colonel, coming over and handing him the keys. "Yours is." 

<<< TRIVIA >>>

Earliest Class to be Commissioned as Officers

The earliest Class in PMA to be commissioned to the Armed Forces was the PMA Class of 1943. The members of this Class were commissioned Third Lieutenants during their secondclass year on December 13, 1941. The Japanese attacked the Philippines

on December 8, and eventually started the Second World War. The graduation of PMA Class 1942 and 1943 (first class and secondclass, respectively) was accelerated while PMA Classes 1944 and 1945 were disbanded.

The Class to Graduate in the Longest Span of Time

Sometime in December 1978, members of PMA Class of 1944 passed a resolution requesting the Academic Board of the PMA to consider them graduates. In a subsequent meeting of the Board, the resolution of the said Class was approved. Graduation Day for them was February 24, 1979, thus, setting a record then, as the Class to graduate in the longest span of time. They had Major General Fortunato U Abat, Commanding General of the Philippine Army, as guest speaker.

Going back in history, there were many Classes that laid claim to the distinction. First was the Class of 1942, which officially graduated in March 1948, then the PMA Class of 1943 which graduated in 1961.

However, the PMA Class of 1945, the last of the pre-war classes followed suit after their former yearlings. At nine o'clock in the morning, February 17, 1980 the Class of 1945 had their Commencement Exercises at the Jurado Hall with Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile as the Guest of Honor. Over 36 years late from their actual schedule, they finally garnered the title of being the only Class to graduate in the longest span of time. 



CLASS SUMMARY
PMA CLASS OF 1945
 GRADUATION DAY: February 17, 1980
 NO. OF CADETS APPOINTED: 92
 NO. OF CADETS GRADUATED: 76
 NO. OF CADETS GRADUATED
 WITH ORIGINAL CLASS:
 GRADUATION SPEAKER:
 BULL RINGSTONE: Ruby (Faceted)



Source: Academy Scribe



Philippine Economic Governance and **POLICY CHALLENGES**

• CAV WILFREDO G NUQUI '68

- I. **Context.** Public governance covers four broad areas: legal framework for development, public sector management, accountability, and information and transparency. The 1987 Constitution defines the country's principles, state policies and bill of rights. The goals of the national economy and patrimony (Article XII) are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the under privileged.

India followed by Vietnam, and the Philippines **are** the current and projected leaders in economic growth (6-7% annually) in the Asia and Pacific region in 2024-2026 (ASEAN AMRO). The Philippine economy grew by 5.8% in the first three quarters of 2024. Economic growth is now led by the labor-intensive services sector. However, there is an urgent need to substantially increase productivity in agriculture, promote higher-value manufacturing and reduce two-digit underemployment and income poverty rates.

China's economy is projected to slow to 4.8% in 2024 and 4.3% in 2025 (WB). ASEAN's exports to the U.S. surpassed those to China in the second quarter of April-June 2024, highlighting America's growing importance to ASEAN. China's faltering export-driven growth impacts on investment flows and supply chains especially in Asia.

Developments in U.S.-China relations, other parts of Asia, and the maritime Indo-Pacific region will increasingly affect economic and security conditions in 2025 and beyond. PH-U.S. bilateral trade in 2023 amounted to \$22.98 billion, favoring the Philippines (UN ComTrade). President Trump has vowed to impose blanket tariffs of up to 10-20% on imports from all countries and a 60% levy or higher on goods from China (Nikkei-Asia). This measure and the U.S. large budget deficit are however, considered inflationary. Another Trump priority

is to extend the effectivity of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (CNN Business) to raise economic growth.

- II. **Principal economic agencies and tools.** The President-chaired NEDA Board and its four sub-committees, along with its technical secretariat, the Department of Finance (DoF), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), are primarily responsible for formulating economic policy and regularly reporting on the execution of their mandates.

The primary macroeconomic policy tools include tax and non-tax revenues (e.g., user charges and tariffs on international trade), free trade agreements, public debt, private-public partnerships (PPP), public expenditures, incentives (such as reduced tariffs on electric vehicles), subsidies (e.g., DSWD Pantawid) and interest and foreign exchange rates.

Data-intensive macro-econometric, risk-adjusted, and reduced-form models are used to quantitatively estimate the significance, strength and stability of relationships between economic policies and target outcomes, such as economic growth, income, employment, and inflation. The results-based analytical framework helps ensure the consistency of development inputs and processes with desired outputs, outcomes, and human impacts. It is particularly useful for public budgeting, project development, and economic cost-benefit analysis.

- III. **Leading economic challenges.** The NEDA Board sets annual targets for economic growth, social equity, and human development. It approves public investment projects, including PPP projects that leverage private capital and latest technology for infrastructure development such as tollways, base load and renewable energy, and airport upgrades, as well as upcoming subway operation. Advanced science and technology are key

to increasing productivity and enhancing the positive impacts of economic and social policies and projects.

The Philippine Statistics Authority, Tariff Commission and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies support NEDA. The NEDA, National Nutrition Council (NNC), and PSA regularly assess thresholds levels for household income and nutrition poverty to inform economic and social policies.

DoF prepares an annual Fiscal Risks Statement, highlighting public debt sustainability as a primary fiscal risk. The NEDA Board Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) has set macroeconomic targets (as a percentage of GDP) for the proposed 2025 General Appropriations Act (GAA): revenues at 16.4%, a budget deficit of 3.7%, and public debt at 55.0% by 2028. However, these revenue targets fall short of potential and are below those of other progressive ASEAN economies, the budget deficit exceeds the globally acceptable threshold (<3%) and public debt projection is optimistic (<60%).

Increased fiscal discipline through more robust fiscal consolidation measures is imperative at both national and sub-national government levels to address rising budget deficits and reduce debt stock accumulation. Misallocation and misuse of public funds as manifest in DBM budget hearings and COA findings are companion risks.

“The proposed 2025 Philippine budget adopts a broadly neutral fiscal stance to help mitigate downside risks to growth. Additional tax policy measures, such as excise taxation, enhancing VAT efficiency, and ensuring effective control of tax incentives, could help create fiscal space for priority spending areas. The IMF recommends medium-term fiscal consolidation supported by sustainable plans to increase tax revenues and implement expenditure reforms to protect social spending and achieve deficit targets (IMF, Oct 2025)”.

Another fiscal risk involves the Philippine social protection and pension system led by DSWD, SSS, GSIS and PhilHealth, which faces sustainability issues due to reserve deficits, limited coverage, benefit disparities, and integrity concerns (IMF). Harmonizing the formulas for MUP and government civilian pay and pensions to reinforce fiscal sustainability remains a challenge.

In October 2024, the Supreme Court issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) on the transfer of “excess” PhilHealth funds to the National Treasury, a move directed by the Department of Finance (DoF). Former Supreme Court Justice A. Carpio argued that such a transfer violates the Philippine Constitution, citing that “no law shall be passed authorizing any transfer of appropriations” under paragraph 25, Section 5 of the Constitution.

The DBM, Commission on Audit (COA), and BSP contribute to fiscal governance. The annual General Appropriations bill is based on the medium-term economic parameters set by the NEDA Board’s Development Budget Coordination Committee, which includes targets on economic growth, revenue generation, acceptable deficits, and prudent public debt levels.

A rising fiscal risk is un-programmed expenditures which have no firm funding sources such as in the DBM proposed 2025 GAA. Such expenditures crowd out priorities like the modernization of the AFP and are reminiscent of congressional pork barrel allocations, which the Supreme Court had previously banned (Sec. Recto). For instance, DPWH Secretary M. Bonoan discovered that no budget allocation was actually set aside for the P70-billion counterpart funding for official development

assistance (ODA)-assisted projects in the Congress-approved 2024 GAA (Villanueva, PhilStar).

These un-programmed expenditures reduce available funds for other critical public priorities, such as DepEd’s budget given poor learning outcomes and AFP modernization. Recently enacted laws defining the country’s maritime zones and archipelagic waters strengthen the Philippines’ sovereignty and economic rights over the West Philippine Sea. Collaborative projects including PPP agreements address financing and technology gaps for defense-related infrastructure, like dockyards and shipyards. The country must develop a modern defense industry as there are limits to diplomacy and UN and other international frameworks (SND G. Teodoro Jr).

The latest World Justice Project’s Rule of Law Index ranks the Philippines below global averages in areas like regulatory enforcement, corruption absence, and open government. **COA audits all accounts related to government revenue, receipts, expenditures, and the use of government funds and property.** This is reinforced by the Congressional inquiry into possible budget misuse by DepEd and OVP in 2022 and 2023. It is notable that Davao City had confidential funds amounting to P2.6 billion in 2016-2022 (COA Annual Reports). The House Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability is considering a bill that would regulate and improve audit standards on confidential funds.

BSP plays the principal role in promoting financial stability and inclusion. It maintains adequate international reserves through banking regulations, defines interest rate policies, implements foreign debt policies and sets liquidity and inflation targets. BSP also promotes the growth of digital finance. The balance of payments (BOP) is monitored by BSP. It summarizes the Philippines’ global transactions, including accounts for goods, services, capital, and finances. The persistent trade deficits (imports less exports) partly reflect the large import component of the public infrastructure program.

BSP boosts its income and international reserves by purchasing monetary gold in forms such as ingots, bars, or coins, benefiting from high international gold prices. Most gold is sourced from local miners. The Philippine international reserves, which include selected foreign currencies, exceed international standards. **Significantly**, the Philippines since 2010 has been a net creditor in the IMF’s Financial Transactions Plan (BSP), lending more than it borrows.

A continuing challenge is whether the BSP’s inflation guidepost of 2-4% annually can be maintained amid recurrent supply issues, fluctuating energy prices, and global geo-political tensions. In 2024, the annualized consumer inflation rates are 2.3% in October and 3.3% in January-October (PSA). BSP’s 2024 risk-adjusted inflation forecast is 3.1% and projections are 3.2% for 2025 and 3.4% for 2026. BSP is expected to guardedly lower its 6% policy interest rate and bank reserve requirements as inflation softens. BSP closely monitors the policy interest rate difference with that of the U.S. Federal Reserve which strongly influences capital flows and the peso-to-dollar exchange rate.

BSP enjoys fiscal and administrative autonomy from the national government (NG) in executing its mandated responsibilities. The Secretary of Finance is the only NG representative on the BSP’s seven-member Monetary Board. This minimizes the risk of NG influencing BSP’s monetary policies, a significant issue during the Philippines’ foreign debt crisis in the late 1970s. During the COVID-19 pandemic, BSP

provided a P540 million advance to NG, which helped mitigate losses in fiscal revenues and human capital.

Other major public agencies contribute to promoting economic goals. The agricultural sector is the weakest source of economic growth although the biggest source of employment. Consumer inflation in the Philippines is largely driven by food supply conditions. Efforts to boost agricultural production include providing credits to farmers, climate-resilient seeds, mechanization, and modern storage facilities. In addition to technical assistance from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Taiwan plans to introduce advanced rice farming technology in the Philippines in partnership with the Department of Agriculture. The Rice Tariffication Law is a rich source of revenue in support of rice farming.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Transportation (DoTC), and Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) lead public infrastructure investment programs, which represent 5-6% of GNP and include 174 solicited and unsolicited PPP projects as of October 2024. Major challenges face the building of public infrastructures, such as right of way acquisition and development of the country's 18 river basins. The recent international Conference of Parties on Climate Change (COP 29) failed to agree on an increased global funding target to sufficiently mitigate extreme climate change especially in most vulnerable countries such as Philippines.

Competition laws **promote** economic efficiency by penalizing anti-competitive practices in trade, industry, and commerce. The Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act designates smuggling, hoarding, profiteering, cartel formation, and financing of such activities as economic sabotage.

IV. International development partners. The Philippines intensively collaborates with multilateral and bilateral institutions, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and USAID. These institutions provide technical assistance and official development assistance (ODA) loans and grants with favorable terms, which carry below-market interest rates and extended repayment and grace periods. ODA loan funded projects require counterpart budgetary funds. ODA remains as the largest source of external financing to mitigate extreme climate change.

Global investment and credit rating agencies **evaluate the** Philippines' economic and financial policies, growth trajectory, and progress in fiscal consolidation. The economic team is actively working to secure a sovereign credit rating upgrade to "A" by 2028. The concessional conditions of ODA loans shall be reduced if and when Philippines becomes an upper middle income country in the next 2-3 years.

Under Article IV of the IMF's Articles of Agreement, the IMF collects economic and financial information and engages in discussions with member states. Countries borrowing from the IMF must agree to economic and financial policy adjustments to address issues like balance of payments deficits or unsustainable debt. Private-sector loans from international banks (commonly referred to as the "Paris Club" of banks) cannot be rescheduled or restructured without IMF endorsement, a process that was necessary during the Philippine external debt crisis in the 1980s.

The United Nations (UN) System works with Philippine national and local institutions across a broad spectrum of development areas. This includes climate adaptation, disaster risk management, food security, reduction of malnutrition, peacebuilding in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), judiciary reform, human rights, and other developmental initiatives (UNDP, Oct 2024).]

V. Reform agenda in economic governance. The NEDA Board collaborates on legislative matters through the Executive-Legislative Development Advisory Council. Economic planning **and policies** aim to better integrate physical planning tools. Remote sensing sharpens land use, irrigation for agriculture from river basins and deltas, flood control, human settlements, and climate adaptation and mitigation. A proposed land use bill, which would support these objectives, has remained pending in Congress due to differences in approach and programs.

Economic disparities among local governments highlight the need for reform. Local governance best practices, annually recognized by *Galing Pook* awards, provide valuable models. The 1981 Local Government Code calls for a comprehensive review to address the current allocation of national tax collections based on land area, population, and equitable sharing, fiscal responsibility and the devolution of such public services as health and agriculture.

The prestigious Nobel Prize highlights the importance of institutional integrity in economic development. The 2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to three international economists whose research suggests that "extractive institutions"—those that enable a small elite to extract resources from the population—stifle economic growth, while "inclusive institutions"—which promote broad political participation and economic opportunity—foster innovation, investment, and sustained growth. These findings echo elements of the Philippines' economic history.

Recent economic reforms in the Philippines, such as the Ease of Doing Business Act, Public Service Act, Renewable Energy Act, Rice Tariffication Act, VAT Reform Act and CREATE More Act, have created pathways for faster and inclusive economic growth. Notably, amendments to the Public Service Act allow full foreign ownership of businesses in airports, railways, expressways, and telecommunications. Previously, foreign ownership in the public services sector was limited to 40%. Renewable Energy Act of 2008 allows full foreign ownership of renewable energy projects. Philippines ranks as the 4th most attractive emerging economy for renewable energy investment (Bloomberg).

Further policy reforms should focus on repealing outdated economic protectionism, defining political dynasties in the context of the 1987 Constitution, minimizing crony capitalism, avoiding extractive economic practices, increasing government transparency, sharpening public accounting and auditing standards, tightening public accountability and strengthening public institutions.

*WILFREDO G. NUQUI, PMA Class 1968. Principal references: Bloomberg, BSP, COA, DBM, DoF, NEDA, ADB, ASEAN AMRO, World Bank, IMF, Rappler, Reuter, PIDS and UPSE studies.



Unsolicited Advice in CYBERSECURITY

• CAV JESUS V LOMEDA JR '80 SIGNAL CORPS (RET)

Now, I can fully retire and let this article be my last hurrah, as a cybersecurity professional.

I was unlucky. Someone else got hired for the position of Deputy Director General (DDG) for Cyber and Emerging Threats at NICA that the President created on January 2024 by virtue of EO#54. Let's call the position – DCET, for simplicity.

On creating a critical impact, I am worried in what I heard in the grapevine. The one taking over is a noob. Someone pointed out that he is coming from an ISP business, legislative sector and PAF service. Another critic said, he is just a wide reader, YouTuber and a theologian, without any hands-on practice or certifications to show. There are other things said that are unprintable. Now, our country would let him defend our cyberspace from state sponsored hackers, who are highly skilled individuals, no longer against a hooded kid in a basement.

I already congratulated the new DDG and sent this notion, offering suggestions that I think could be undertaken in his capacity as DCET. He thanked me. I offered him my help. I told him that I am glad though that he was the one selected, being young and energetic. As a fellow Peemayer, I hope that he may heed my unsolicited advice extended, with the best of intentions.

To put things in the proper perspective, I do not begrudge his appointment. For me, he can rise as a leader with experts around him, as consultants (one of them is Angel Redoble, the former CISO of PLDT). The new DCET is a very charismatic speaker in interviews and cybersecurity fora. He has his own support system – the PICSPRO. As a former congressman, he may have the ears of government functionaries. Thus, he will be able to deliver and make things happen for us. I wish him luck and hoping he will consider these suggestions and eventually emerge as the messiah that we have all been waiting.

My mistah, Police General Gil Pacia '80, who used to be the IT whiz of NICA and who applied also for the job, had dreamt of setting up his forensics, ethical hacking, VAPT, SOC, CERT and cyber threat intel assets. I said no, "**Kailangan lang natin LAWAY (pardon the word).**" I told him this opportunity is too good to pass up, I can be his assistant. **PARA SA BAYAN!**

I had thought of volunteering for the job because there is a shortage of cybersecurity professionals and wanted to offer a best option. I felt my time is running out. I am getting older and there

"To be a successful cybersecurity professional, there needs to be a creative side. You must be able to look at a problem and see different solutions, things that nobody else sees." — John Harbaugh, an NSA Executive

will be no more next time. I believe I still have many things to share, in solving cybersecurity problems that the national government has overlooked and neglected.

General Pacia and I possess already the necessary security clearances. We were both experienced heads of IT units, as well as intel-eligible, trained investigators and most importantly, belong to the **SIGNAL CORPS**, where cyber combatants emanate.

You may wonder, what motivates me to shun retirement? Well, cybercrime is everywhere and growing. Such as the recent global outage that paralyzed hospitals and airlines, or government sites being defaced. Even the website of CBCP was vandalized. *Walang patawad*. Even the Honda service center workstations, where I had my CR-V checked, went down. *Lahat na lang!*

Perhaps, you can relate better with this example. You, or someone you know, had their Facebook account hacked. The scammers then ask money, using a variety of pretext, from friends of victims via GCash transfers. Like Fr. Gerard, a gifted healer and the founder of a school for indigents, who lost almost a million of cash donations. I reported the incident to CICC, but nothing came out of it. We all are hapless and helpless; we are on our own. The best thing we can do is to warn the public that our FB accounts were hacked, with a comforting discovery who our true friends really are, when they sent money to the scammers, thinking it was us, without asking any questions. For the hackers, it's business as usual, trolling for the next victim, *parang wala lang!* There is no stopping them, much less hunting them down.

I read the National Cyber Security Plan (NCSP) 2023-28 over and over – looking for answers. In my opinion, the NCSP lacks coordinating instructions, something similar to military OPLANS; and sadly, things still exist just on paper. The NCSP was crafted and enacted into law before the creation of DCET. As such, there is no mention of DCET in NCSP 2023-28, a key player, much more a focal point.

Therefore, let us start. For the designated DCET, I suggest these coordinating instructions:

1. First and foremost, invoke EO#189 of 2015 and EO#95 of 2019, that mandated the creation of the National Cybersecurity Inter-Agency Committee (NCIAC). It is composed of the Executive Secretary as chair with

DICT and NSC as co-chairs, with committee members from DOE, DOF, DFA, DILG (to include PNP), DOJ (to include NBI), DND (to include AFP/PA/PN/PAF), DOTr (to include CAAP and PCG), PCOO (as spokesperson), NTC, NPC, ATC, CICC (as Secretariat) and BSP (not Boy Scout). I recall BGen Nick Ojeda '77 of the defunct ICT Office who once presided over meetings during pre-DICT days. In one meeting, the NBI reported that the hackers responsible for the COMELEC breach were already under their custody, before the news broke out. This is the kind of NCIAC that must be revived, a clear-cut instance of management by objective (MBO), and not about procedures and strategies, as enunciated in the NCSP. (As a footnote, Senator Imee Marcos has seen the importance of NCIAC and she is proposing in her Senate Bill number 1365 dated 5 October 2022, an act institutionalizing NCIAC by renaming it to National Cybersecurity Council)

2. The task of co-chairman held by National Security Council (NSC) can be delegated to the DCET, co-chairing with DICT (the USec for Cybersecurity). With this arrangement, the DCET can now preside and orchestrate its work at NCIAC, just like General Ojeda.
3. DCET can evolve the fight from exclusively cyber to a hybrid form, incorporating effective kinetic solutions. The government must do something dramatic, like what the Israelis did to Hamas, with a stark reminder that they can track the Hamas hackers and can pinpoint their exact whereabouts, thereby instilling fear. It does not mean bombing the hackers' lairs, but to apprehend those who have committed cybercrimes, charge them in court and hopefully secure convictions. If cybercriminals are based abroad, then work with international law enforcement arms.
4. At NICA, as its primary task, DCET must build up the National Cybersecurity Threat and Database which highlight types of threats, vulnerabilities and mitigation strategies, to include dossiers of hackers and scammers with their identified IP addresses, and to include, counterintelligence. Conduct workshops as well, focusing on the Order-of-Battle (OB) to identify and then neutralize the notorious groups, such as: Anonymous, Pinoy Vendetta, Medusa, Dark Pink, Pinoy LulzSec, DeathNote, to name a few. Then, consider intel-sharing with local and international agencies, as DCET needs the help of everyone, utilizing Human Intelligence (Humint) network.
5. DCET must place under his guidance all military cybersecurity assets, to avoid duplication and competition among them, as pointed out by General Pacia that these units will all acquire his wish-list; better, divide the list and let each one specialize. DCET must manage, improve teamwork and follow-up deadlines:
 - a) The Office for Cyber and Information Systems Management (OCISM) at DND. The Department has virtual machines for sandboxing of ransomware (the number one and most feared cyber-attack) and other malware. The office possesses the names of members and points-of-contact of Experts Working Group (EWG) for Cybersecurity of the ADMM+ plus nations, composed of ASEAN countries plus Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States. They exchange Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) among them. The office is

also working for the creation of the Department for Cyber Warfare in PMA, where future military leaders should be taught with the Tallinn Manual, about the rules of engagement in cyberspace, *jus ad bellum*.

- b) AFP-Cyber Group. This will be the future Cyber Command that is envisioned in the NCSP. The unit can best be described as bug and threat hunters. Likewise, it can be a proponent for the creation of Philippine Cyber (PC), a new branch-of-service, in the same level as PA, PN and PAF – for joint and combined operations.
- c) Army Cyber Battalion, Army Signal Regiment (ASR), PA. DCET must understand the definitions and distinct differences of cybersecurity, cybercrime and cyber defense. As a cyber defense unit, the Army should be deep in the Dark Web for cyber espionage, terrorism (recruitment of radicals) and hacktivism. The unit essentially is the guardian of the Army Comm Systems. One Army – One Network.
- d) Naval Information and Communications Technology Center (NICTC), PN. It already has cyber range and trained CERT. Its personnel secure the National Coast Watch Center, while the Center monitors the WPS.
- e) 950th Cyberspace and Electronic Warfare Wing (P), PAF. DCET must support its regularization from a provisional status. The unit primarily protects from cyber-attacks our Air Control Systems and Air Defense Systems that monitors and counters unidentified aircraft entering our jurisdiction; control of inbound and outbound commercial planes is the concern of CAAP (as office of DOTr, a representative may also sit at NCIAC). In January 2021, PLDT-Smart President Manny Pangilinan funded the groundbreaking for the building that will house the Cybersecurity Center for Excellence. The Center will develop standard and best practices in cybersecurity, with the goal of partnership between private and government officials in having basic literacy, fluency and eventually, mastery in cybersecurity.
6. DCET must encourage the above-mentioned cyber units of the different branches-of-service to recruit IT professors and CISO from private corporations to join their respective Ready Reserve Forces. In the Army, we have COL. ROLAND J. ONG, MNSA PA (RES), the Head of Cybersecurity Architecture, Asperiq based in Switzerland; and LTC JANNETTE C. ARCEO, MNSA PA (RES), a female battalion commander in a Ready Reserve and a lecturer in cybersecurity, hailed as ASEAN Top Women In Security. They are both assets to the AFP. In recruiting professors from schools and universities, DCET can gain access to their talented and gifted students – offering them opportunities to serve our country.
7. DCET must take control of National Cybersecurity Coordination Center (NCCC), composed of officials



LTC JANNETTE C. ARCEO PA (RES)

from member agencies of NCIAC. The NCCC does not need to be housed in NICA, as everything can be done virtually, online. Find a way to receive incoming reports from informers and whistleblowers by phone or email. A combat scoreboard can be published in the web (answering the five W's and one H) with corresponding statistics of success, or failure ... in order that the public may be updated, and their confidence level be uplifted regarding our improving cybersecurity situations; likewise, the news on police works will deter would-be black hat hackers to commit cybercrimes.

8. DCET must volunteer to become an ex-officio member of the Cybersecurity Committee of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Multi-Sectoral Governance Council (AFP MSGC), to keep the committee informed as well as to garner their support.
9. DCET must establish a close working relationship with Facebook and other social media platforms where scammers thrive. Facebook must find ways to block fake news that have proliferated in the platforms. Canada, for instance, has found ways to eliminate certain links in Facebook. Moreover, as mid-term elections is upon us and the Presidential election in USA, Facebook must be vigilant for cloned accounts misused as trolls (sock puppets). There should be a way for complainants to remove fake accounts.
10. DCET should make permanent contact with the Cybersecurity Tech Accord, composed of global technology vendors, to alert us and be able to immediately patch glitches, similar to the CrowdStrike mishap.
11. DCET must support and sponsor RootCon, the premier hacking conference in the Philippines. This will be the prime source for professionals with the best skills. I

suggest DCET should attend the DefCon in Las Vegas to observe how G-men there take advantage of such events and understand that everything is hackable!

12. For legal matters, establish rapport and foster cooperation with the DOJ, through the Office of Cybercrimes and the National Bureau of Investigation – Cybercrime Division, to run after cybercriminals. The NBI-CCD operatives are armed with warrants to search, seize, and examine computer data. These are the actions they made to run after the POGO operators.
13. The Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group, PNP-ACG. This group process direct complaints in their regional offices or through official channels. The public, specially Cybercrime victims, must know this.
14. Should the DCET require assistance from Telcos regarding smishing, vishing and other phishing tricks in cellphones, there are Peemayers at Globe, PLDT-Smart, Dito and PT&T – as I have given their names to him. All are willing to help him!
15. Lastly, always **Be prepared to conduct Special Operations.**

In summary, my comprehensive advice covered the five pillars of cybersecurity: Legal, Technical, Organizational, Capacity Development and Cooperation. In the recent Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI 2024 5th Edition), which measured our commitment to cybersecurity, the Philippines is ranked 53rd out of 194 countries.

With the success of DCET, our GCI rating will improve, to assure Filipino citizens their safety and protection in cyberspace, in line with the vision of PBBM and DICT to realize a One Digitized Government, One Nation.

Let us give our full support to the appointed DCET and feed him with A1 information because his success is our success ...

An arrest a day, keeps hackers away!



Joined, as Cyber Arnis, in DEFCON 25 (Silver Anniversary) held on July 27-30, 2017 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, USA.

COL ROLAND J ONG PA (RES)
PMA '92 Honorary Member

Modernization Done Well: Good Project Management a Must

• CAV JOSE RENAN C SUAREZ '82

A PROJECT is a temporary endeavor with a unique goal to create a product, service or result.

INTRODUCTION

The Modernization Program must be the topmost concern and of the highest priority for the Armed Forces. It must be managed properly and superbly. The highest degree of professionalism and diligence should be applied so as not to squander a rare opportunity to strengthen national defense capabilities and the huge budget allocated to the numerous projects. Program and project managers must be conscious of the enormous costs of the modernization projects. Each of them need to be taken seriously. Since the expenditures do not come from taxpayers' money, decision-makers and project management team members should not mistakenly think that buying a major defense item is just like buying sweets at the candy store.

They must be concerned about what had to be given up in other sectors so that big ticket items like ships and aircraft can be funded and acquired. Those involved must pay attention to quality so that the country may get its money's worth. They should greatly value time so projects are finished promptly. Each one must be conscious that delays incur additional costs. Everyone must ensure that the process itself is not wasteful nor a drain on national finances. Many seemingly small losses can add up to substantial amounts that could be used to cover shortages in other areas. Each role-player in the Modernization Program must be concerned, competent, diligent and keenly aware of the stakes involved in the work he or she does.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

Multiple Interlinked Components

The Modernization Program is composed of organizational development, doctrines development, human resource development, infrastructure development and capability upgrade. These complement each other to build strong defense forces that could adequately perform their mandates, on the ground, on and under the sea and in the air. The complementarity requires close cooperation, coordination and collaboration among the services and individual units in multiple functional areas. To fully acquire and develop the desired capabilities, co-dependencies and jointness of the individual units and projects must be adequately dealt with and managed well.

Many Modernization Projects

Across the armed forces are dozens of major projects which joint headquarters and the services require. Aircraft, ships, fighting vehicles, artillery, unit and personal weapons and domain awareness and command and control systems are earmarked for acquisition and



Construction of new corvette

integration into the defense and security apparatus. Ensuring that the desired specifications and the performance outputs of each are achieved, is necessary to accomplish the goals of the Modernization Program. A good fusion of men, money and other resources is necessary to make things work. Adequate systems and processes have to be in place to ensure excellent execution and delivery of quality outputs.

Billions of Pesos Allocated

The funding required for the total Program is staggering and runs into the trillion-peso mark and some big-ticket items cost billions, particularly multiple systems-platforms like naval warships and combat aircrafts. The high price tags demand good returns on investment. Defense forces must be capacitated to do their tasks, fulfill their mandates and satisfy the high expectations of the people. The huge budgetary outlays that are obtained over the competing requests of other departments need to be proven wise and cost-effective and able to deliver the great benefits needed to defend the country and protect the people. The billions expended must be proven to be good investments and not merely big expenses.

Quality and Quantity of Items Assured

As national defense requires superior capabilities, quality of projects must be paramount. Since quality is measured by

compliance to contract specifications and meeting timelines without exceeding budget, adherence to plans is vital. Goods and services in the desired number and in the right specifications and conditions need to be delivered on time and within budget. Deficiencies must be addressed early on or in a timely manner so as not to compromise quality and not reduce the quantities set. Stakeholders must be engaged proactively to prevent difficulty, mistakes and misunderstandings that would compromise project quality and prevent achieving the desired results.

Reputation of the Armed Forces Is on the Line

As a principal stakeholder on the projects, the Armed Forces' reputation and credibility is at stake. Delivery of the products of modernization is not only for a better armed forces but more so for truly bolstering an adequate national defense and security posture against threats, particularly in the surrounding EEZ. With great budgetary allocations that could be also used elsewhere to improve the country, there is a great obligation to do a good job and prevent wastage of valuable financial and material resources. The proper and good execution of projects would showcase AFP patriotism and professionalism.

Security of the Country Is at Stake

Doing modernization well is essential so that defense capabilities can be upgraded to face external threats and challenges. As potential rivals possess significant military strength, multiple capabilities and good experience in operating combat platforms, the products of modernization must at the least able to close capability gaps and reduce enemy material advantages. The greatest value-additions are needed to better defend sovereignty and vital national interests. Coming short would present ever grater problems and reduce capacity to defend the country. Without the needed capabilities envisioned, the country will continue to face great challenges and difficulties in defending itself.

No Mistakes, No Failure, No Waste Demanded

Extreme care must be exercised in the formulation, execution and completion of the projects. The implications to defense readiness, the viability of the Program and its public acceptance depend on error-free, effective and efficient execution of the projects. There must be no compromise to the quality of the process and the delivery of the right products on time and within the programmed budget. Flawless execution would ensure sustainability and continued support for the Program. The cost-effectiveness of the Program would garner external adherents and foster rapport among the military, the public and industry.

Time, Money and Resources Optimized or Saved

The Program, wholly or in parts, must be cost-effective. From the defense perspective, there is a great catching-up to do in the matter of capabilities, the infrastructures to sustain them and the experience of personnel to operate and maintain systems. There is also the great need for resources to fund the Program vis-a-vis other public needs. Hence, it is imperative that modernization projects are delivered at the right specifications, on time and at cost. Optimization results in better and faster delivery and gain savings that could support other projects and programs. The ability to do things better than adversaries is an important advantage.

THE NATURE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Projects, in contrast to operations, are finite activities that have an end. Project management provides structure and control of the project environment so that planned activities will produce the right products or deliver the required services to meet an organization's

needs. Projects are temporary and must be properly managed and controlled to meet objectives.

- Setting clear objectives outright
- Creating a proper plan
- Organizing and managing resources
- Assessing risks and dealing with changes in project implementation
- Monitoring progress and performance diligently

Project management brings about better customer satisfaction, improved efficiency, collaboration, better communication, competitive advantage, higher quality deliverables, risk management, budget and cost management, clearly defined project goals, time management, empowered teams and good leadership. Success criteria are established ensuring the alignment of project outcomes with the stakeholders' expectations. Benchmarks and measures to assess project team performance and progress are established. The project life cycle would be adequately managed.

Project management considers processes, outcomes and resources. It focuses on accomplishing scope (deliverables) within set time frames without going beyond projected costs. There are five (5) phases – initiation, planning, execution, monitoring and control and closing. Managing a project considers scope, cost, schedule, stakeholders, resources, communications and risk. Management plans are made to address each of these areas. Integration of all elements are done throughout.

The requirements of the project cycle are taken cared of. In the initiation phase, needs, requirements or value-adding initiatives are determined and a project charter is created. In the planning phase, the details in doing the project are threshed out. The execution phase is the actual conduct of the project following the plans. In the monitoring and control phase (which serves as the project oversight), appropriate actions to deal with problems and issues are instituted. At the end, the closing phase covers the completion of the project and assures that the learnings gained are recorded for the betterment of succeeding projects.

At the head of the team is the responsible professional who leads. He is responsible for the organization, planning, and execution of projects amidst budget restraints and schedule deadlines. He possesses the right credentials in doing and leading projects. He has the education, experience, skill, competency and character required to lead and execute the project he heads. He is ultimately responsible for the completion of the project. The members of his team are also competent in their respective areas of contribution. Together, they work in cohesion and harmony to accomplish project outcomes in accordance with the project scope, on time and within budget.

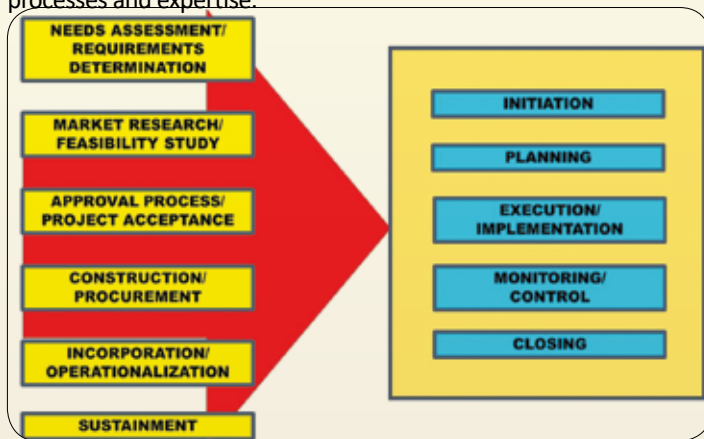
Peculiar AFP Set-Up and Process

The AFP Modernization Program process can be initiated by an order or a need analysis that determines a need that is to be addressed. Approval by authorities through the chain of command authorizes the execution of each project. The initiation phase already includes a lot of planning as approval hinges on having a clear path ahead. The decision-makers have to be satisfied that the finished projects provide real value and justified to be included in the Program with the concomitant budget estimate. At the start, there is a team (technical working group/TWG) formed to work on the approval process. This team would transition into or be replaced by a project management team/PMT to execute and see the project through. The approval process may take very long and have uncertain timelines.

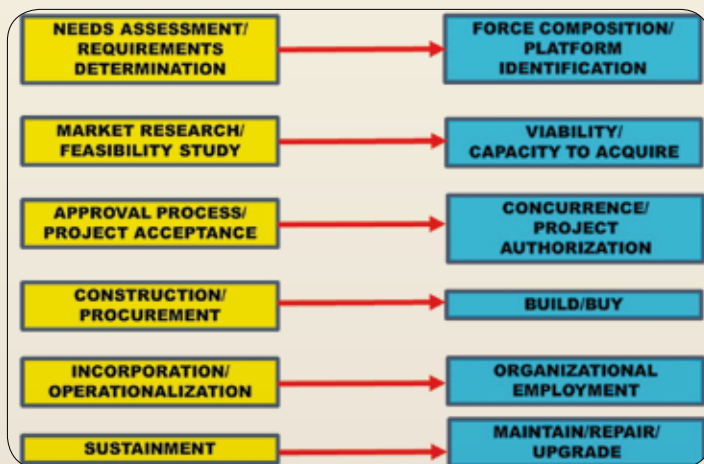
The composition of the teams may be ad-hoc where those who are available or who are simply assigned are designated to work on a project. The right personnel qualifications are not met at times and those tasked have to perform even without proper training or experience. They may also be holding another job that diverts their

focus and divide their time. Being hampered by doubt and confusion and without adequate support, the quality of these personnel's work and project outcomes are compromised. The indiscriminate personnel allocations' unwanted and undesirable consequences compromise quality, increase cost and cause delays to the projects and eventually to the Program.

While there may be a process and framework in conceptualizing and doing projects, standard project management expertise may be absent because there is no ecosystem to support good project management. By not maintaining a pool of qualified individuals who have roles and tasks to perform for the project team and to engage various stakeholders, performance is hampered and results are compromised. Lessons are not derived and experiences are not taken advantage of. Project closings are likewise fumbled. The knowledge and experience gained from the management of projects are not consolidated, preserved and utilized to constantly improve policies, processes and expertise.



AFP Modernization and Project Management Process



Integrating New Assets to Operations

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Creation of a Project Management Ecosystem

Having a system that ensures that projects are managed properly and delivering quality outputs and outcomes is vital in bringing together and synchronizing policies, resources and infrastructure, each complementing the others. An environment that provides teams the means to do their job well and deliver value to the organization is a prerequisite for successful project execution. Projects that comply

with the scope set and finish on time and within budget can be ensured. Providing a setting that enables people to work effectively and efficiently cannot be overemphasized.

Establish a Core of Project Management Professionals

People who have adequate foundation, training, experience and interest in the project management field have to be at the center of the project management teams. Without a core of professionals, there is no assurance of project success or quality delivery. Risks are magnified and poor performance is inevitable all across the spectrum of activities. Haphazard personnel selection puts a lot on chance and can set back not only projects but even whole programs. Unqualified personnel who are only in project teams to fill up vacancies can only be deadweights, if not self-sabotaging. Unqualified people would bring a team chaos, generate more problems or cause wasted efforts.

Adoption of Appropriate Literature

The progress of project management as a profession as a specialized undertaking has produced a tremendous amount of literature that are helpful. These materials enable one to know and apply principles, gain knowledge of the project management tools and how to use them. The wealth of knowledge shared by practitioners and predecessors are valuable resources and guides. Those with little to go on with or with less experience can benefit from what is handed down or what are made available to capacitate individuals, teams and organizations. Without valuable source materials, good execution and the pursuit of excellence are prevented or stymied.

**The Project Management Institute (PMI) has published several editions of the Project Management Book of Knowledge (PMBOK) to standardize the field of project management.*

Institute Proper Training

A pool of competent personnel cannot be established without adequate training programs to prepare them for their roles and improve their knowledge and knowhow. Capacitating project management personnel and enabling their continuing development and advancement in the field are crucial to the establishment of the pool of practitioners and ensuring the availability of professionals ready to perform their jobs. Proper training establishes standards and makes sure that personnel concerned are up to those standards. It is indispensable to a strong project management capacity.

Form Professional Management Teams

Professional teams not only know what they are doing and more likely to deliver good outputs and outcomes than unprofessional ones. The former's work is systematic and can be configured for optimal performance. They would have the competence and confidence to do their work. They would be thorough and able to establish adequate parameters to see their projects through. Their workflow would be more effective and efficient than a team crewed by unqualified individuals. It may not be easy to get the right people, but organizations cannot do otherwise if they wish their projects to be done well.

Cultivate and Maintain Institutional Knowledge

The ability to learn and continue to progress is an essential quality of strong organizations. Being able to harness the rich experiences peculiar only to an organization itself, is necessary to get better. The lack of institutional memory is a major drawback because success factors can be easily forgotten or not replicated, or mistakes cannot be corrected or else be repeatedly committed. Putting on record the experiences (good or bad) gained serves as a guide for succeeding leaders and teams, heightening chances for success and

standardizing the formula for getting the best results and delivering value. Replicating project management success would be easy.

CONCLUSION

Good project management must be recognized as an indispensable tool for organizational strength and continued improvement. It must be practiced organization-wide purposefully,

diligently and consistently. The success of the transformative AFP Modernization Program hinges on the good execution of the projects and delivering the sought after results. This vital instrument in making Philippine security and defense strong and secure stand to benefit greatly with well-established and professionalized project management that assures: RIGHT SCOPE, NO DELAY, NO COST OVERRUN.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Essential Skills

- Time Management
- Communication
- Decision-Making
- Problem-Solving
- Team Management

Essential PM Qualities

- Leadership
- Strategic Planning
- Problem Solving
- Time Management
- Communication
- Risk Management
- Adaptability
- Budgeting + Cost Control
- Process Improvement
- Technical Expertise

PM Certifications

- PMP
- PRINCE2
- CAPM
- ACP
- CSM
- ITIL
- PgMP
- MSP
- PMI-RMP
- PMI-SP

Essential PM Tools

- Gantt Chart
- Network Diagram
- Risk Register
- Issues Log
- RACI Matrix

Cash Flow Principles

- Time Value of Money (TVM)
- Net Present Value (NPV)
- Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
- Return on Investment (ROI)
- Payback Period
- Working Capital
- Capital Budgeting
- Financial Leverage
- Breakeven Analysis
- Financial Ratios

Project Management Terms

PROJECT temporary endeavor with a unique goal, to create a product, service, or result

PROJECT MANAGEMENT planning, organizing, executing, and controlling projects to achieve specific goals and objectives within a defined time frame and budget

SCOPE project boundaries; what is included and excluded from project deliverables

STAKEHOLDER anyone with a vested interest in the project

SCHEDULE timeline of sequence and duration of project tasks and milestones

BUDGET project's financial plan, including estimated costs and allocated resources

RISK uncertain event or condition that can impact the project's objectives

QUALITY degree to which deliverables meet requirements and expectations of stakeholders

KPIs

- Project completion rate
- Budget variance
- Schedule variance
- Scope variance
- Quality metrics
- Resource Utilization
- Risk management efficiency
- Stakeholder satisfaction
- Change request volume
- Team member turnover
- Time to market
- Project efficiency
- Return on investment (ROI)
- Customer satisfaction
- Project complexity
- Project flexibility
- Project communication effectiveness
- Milestone achievement rate
- Lessons learned
- Project health index

PM Approaches

Waterfall / Traditional
Agile Scrum
Lean Hybrid

Management Process

```

graph TD
    A[CHANGE REQUEST] --> B[CHANGE EVALUATION]
    B --> C[CHANGE APPROVAL]
    C --> D[CHANGE IMPLEMENTATION]
  
```

CHEAT SHEET

by Dr. Justin Bateh

Project Lifecycle

- INITIATION**
 - Define purpose + objectives
 - Identify stakeholders
 - Develop project charter
 - Conduct feasibility study
- PLANNING**
 - Define project scope
 - Develop WBS
 - Estimate time/cost/resources
 - Create schedule
 - Identify potential risks
- EXECUTION**
 - Assign + track tasks
 - Manage resources + budget
 - Ensure quality control
 - Communicate with stakeholders
 - Provide progress updates
- MONITOR + CONTROL**
 - Track progress
 - Identify + address deviations
 - Manage changes
 - Risk assessments + mitigation
- CLOSURE**
 - Deliver final product/service/result to customer
 - Conduct post-project review
 - Document + archive records
 - Celebrate successes!

Project Planning + Scheduling

- Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)
- Estimate Time + Resources
 - Expert judgment
 - Analogous estimating
 - Parametric estimating
- Create Project Schedule
 - Precedence Diagramming Method (PDM)
 - Critical Path Method (CPM)
 - Gantt Charts
- Scheduling Tools:
 - Gantt Charts, Network Diagrams, Resource Leveling, Schedule Compression

Learn the same

PROJECT MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS

I have taught to students in other world's top companies

“Will another Trump Admin be good for the Philippines? Implications on the SCS and WPS?”

• CAV FRANCIS D ALAURIN '84

From where Trump left in his first administration in 2021, wherever China footprints will be is where Trump be to confront and frustrate its board, ambitious and saturating want to influence and redirect global affairs to satisfy its ever-expanding, insatiable interest. Trump recognizes that - not Russia, not Iran, not North Korea - but China is the biggest threat to global security of the contemporary times.

Therefore, what would Trump's victory mean to the Philippines, the Indo-Pacific Region and the world?

Predominantly, the Trump Presidency will provide renewed, moreso, emboldened, security guarantees to countries that, traditionally, formed the US alliance tremendously weakened by the Biden Administration, and were disrupted and tattered, by China's bribes, promise of flourishing trade and commerce, enticement of loans (notwithstanding) of exorbitant interest, and threats of economic sanctions. Shrewd and cunning as he is.

1. Economically, Trump will -

a. disrupt China of its unfair trade practices and intemperance, aware that only an economically weak China can be denied of a powerful armed force that has the legitimacy to rival America's primacy as a global power;

b. work for the withdrawal of the “most favored country” status granted by the WTO in 2001 that, consequently, flooded global, regional and local markets with state-subsidized, fake, imitated and low-quality goods, that made its products so cheap that local markets cannot, almost impossible, or could hardly compete in a free and open trade market;

c. sue and make China pay for the violations of Copyright Laws and the Intellectual Property Rights it has stolen from the US and the developing countries;

d. increase import tax on goods produced in China up to 60% so that China-based US multinational corporations are enticed to relocate production bases back to the US or to other third country; and,

e. reduce corporate tax domestically so that growth of domestic trade and investments and the local markets are stimulated and enhanced.

2. Militarily, Trump will -

a. strengthen the QUAD that brings together four countries — India, Australia, Japan, and the US — fully committed to support and protect an open, free, and inclusive Indo-Pacific Region, that includes the WPS, the East China Sea and defense of Taiwan;

b. neutralize China's militarization and excesses in and outside the Philippine territorial waters, and push back its belligerent activities within its territorial waters (Remember the Philippine Navy sailor who lost his right thumb during a violent confrontation in June with China Coast Guard and had his severed finger reconstructed?); and

c. play a deaf ear on China's long and repeated “peaceful rise” narratives, and will meet all its military adventurism forcefully and head-on.

3. Trump will put to a conclusive end -

a. the Middle East conflicts on four (4) fronts - Iran, Hamas (Gaza), Hezbollah (Palestine) and Houthi (Yemen) - after warning



Israel during his campaign appearances to, once and for all, agree to a ceasefire and peaceful settlement of conflict, highlighting that the deaths of 44,000 Palestinians is catastrophic and unconscionable enough to avenge the 07 October 2023 attack, shock and humiliation it suffered from Hamas. This will avert the possible escalation of conflict from inter-state or religious war to a unwanted full-scale global conflict, disrupt oil production, and radically derail supply chain worldwide; and, swell to an unprecedented scale the repatriation of OFWs from the region; and,

b. the Russia-Ukraine War, as Trump categorically cautioned Putin and Zelensky of the need for a just political settlement of the conflict. Only Trump can persuade, even force Russia - faced with crippling economic sanctions, depleted war machinery and logistics, completely obliterated combat leadership, and lack of actual ready-deployable force, and Ukraine - threatened with the withdrawal of US support, could end the war without losing faces, reminding of the consequential threats it poses to regional and global peace.

In summary, the American Electorate has spoken. It want Trump back. Who can be the better judge of Trump than the American People themselves. Trump deserves a second Presidency. He who possesses the extraordinary grasp of world affairs, and the uncommon, often unconventional, leadership deserves the helm of global affairs. He has the coercive power feared by adversaries, and respected by allies. He makes good with his promise and keeps the job done - building the wall in the US-Mexico border, forced deportation of immigrants, trade war with China, etc.

The refreshed mandate of the US electorate confers Trump of the trust and confidence that he will deliver on the “America First” campaign promise, and contribute to the wider Democratic World. The purposive leadership, the confidence and the aura of an effective global leader he exudes are the qualities that conspicuously lack the Biden Administrations.

Various labels were called of Trump -

“a convicted criminal, tax evader, anti-immigrant, consummate liar, white supremacist, sex offender, and many things other than giving the US President Office the decency, integrity and respect it deserves.”

However, “everybody deserves a second chance,” a dogma most divine in both Christianity and the Islamic faiths. Trump considers a second shot to the Presidency as a redemption of his past excesses.

The American People have spoken. The overwhelming mandate of 73,305,677 votes has put to rest the issue on who the Americans really want at the helm.

That, beyond the glitter, emotional suation, and good skin of celebrities (Taylor Swift of 289.2M followers, Lady Gaga of 57,587,384M, Ophra, 22.5M followers, etc) who tried to rescue the American Presidency for Harris, the American electorate stood unmoved at the side maturity and pragmatism in choosing their Head of State.

Congratulations, President Donald Trump. Make America, and the Democratic World, great again!



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

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

CLASS CALL



JOHNNY M SANCHEZ
President
ROSS JOSEPH S ALQUIZA
Secretary (2nd Generation)

PMA Class '55 Support Program for Its Foundation Members (1st and 2nd Generations)

1) 1st Generation (Class '55 Members and Wives/Widows)

a. Benefits:

BENEFIT	PHP	FREQUENCY
Medical	100,000	One Time
Death/Abuloy	100,000	One Time

b. Special Recognition:

The Foundation gave special recognition, as an appreciation for "Job Well Done" to the five (5) members of the class fundraising team namely Buddy Mison, Johnny Sanchez, Ernie Ravina Sr., Rene Tanseco and Ros Alquiza. These individuals were primarily responsible for raising over ten million pesos (Php10 million) through fundraising initiatives such as raffle, movie

premiere, golf tournament, and donations since the Foundation was formed. Over the years, they protected and maximized the collected funds by utilizing it wisely, and invested it in AFPSLAI and PAFCPIC.

c. Program Status:

The Foundation has fully settled the Medical and the advance payout of the Death/Abuloy benefits due to all 1st Generation members (both dead and surviving) as of March 21, 2024.

d. Fund Source:

The Foundation mainly sourced its budget from the interest earnings of its accumulated funds and partially from the principal.

2) 2nd Generation (Maximum of 2 Children per Family)

a) Benefits:

BENEFIT	PHP	FREQUENCY
*Medical	75,000	One Time
Death/Abuloy	100,000	One Time

*Maximum Amount

b) Special Grant:

The Foundation has extended the ten thousand (Php10,000) Cash

Gift to the 1st Generation surviving members (class members/wives/widows) as an expression of the 2nd Generation's appreciation and gratitude to the 1st Generation for their generosity and sincere concern towards them. The Cash Gift will be given on the birthday month of the surviving 1st Generation member.

c) Fund Source:

The fund needed for the 2nd Generation's plans and programs will be sourced from the remaining five and a half million pesos (Php 5.5 million) turned over by the 1st Generation to them last December 2023. It is expected that the 2nd Generation will manage, protect, grow and utilize wisely the remaining funds for the sake of all Foundation members and for the legacy of PMA Class '55.

d) Program Status:

The Birthday Cash Gift benefit given to the 1st Generation members is ongoing. Other plans and programs are still being discussed.



MANUEL B MARIANO
President
RAYMUNDO L LOGAN
Secretary

A Night to Remember

Mom's 80th Birthday

Colonel Victoria S. Ramon, a retired military nurse and wife of Colonel James P. Ramon of PMA Class 62, celebrated her 80th birthday surrounded by a large gathering of family, friends, colleagues, and PMA Class 62, making it a truly memorable occasion. It was a perfect time to celebrate such a milestone as her



birthday - August 31st fell on a Saturday to have the event held at the Luna Hall of the Fort Bonifacio Philippine Army Officers Clubhouse, beautifully decorated to reflect the celebrant's vibrant personality and rich life experiences. The room was filled with laughter and warm conversations as old friends reconnected and family members shared stories.

Colleagues and classmates from different stages of Vicky's life came to honor the milestone, reminiscing about shared experiences and celebrating her incredible journey. A heartfelt program included stories shared by family members, a 3-part video tribute, and an entourage of ballroom dancing for both young and the not so young, all in honor of the celebrant's wisdom, kindness, and accomplishments over the years.

As the evening came to a close, there was a sense of love and admiration in the air, a testament to the impact Vicky has had on the lives of so many. All the guests danced with the celebrant as everybody knows that Vicky loves to dance. It was an unforgettable celebration of a life well-lived, surrounded by those who mattered most.



BIRTH

October

05/1941 – *Arfs Arpon*

November

13/1944 – *Ellen de la Cruz*

16/1944 – *Beth Villareal*

December

01/1941 – *Ernie Padilla*

WEDDING

October 16 (1968)

Billy and Beth Villareal

November 22 (1969)

Tagoy and Sofie Dino

December 16 (2011)

Jim and Vanessa Vandervoort



IN MEMORIAM

November 17 (2022)

Guzi de Guzman

November 22 (2000)

Terry Bas

November 27 (2020)

Terry de la Cruz



Following in the wake of their Navy man brother USNA alum **Jim Vandervoort**, 64ers left standing, with or without a cane, have seemingly succumbed in recent weeks to the wanderlust urge. **Ray Reyes**, reprising his regular annual trips to the US, left on October 23 and found himself, along with son **Derrick**, in his usual haunts in the US that included Arizona where father and son met with **Jim Vandervoort**. **Ray** will be back not later than December 10, the day he has arranged for the traditional Christmas Class lunch at Vikings SM-Aura.

Meanwhile **the** vagabond shoes of **Ray** will find him in Las Vegas, meeting with **Rolly Pabellano** as well as loveBirds **Billy n Beth**. The **Villareals** left for the West Coast, USA for a double celebration – their 54th year as husband and wife, and the 80th birthday of **Beth**.



With **Glo, Jim Valeros** left the comfort of their home in Baguio, interrupting the marketing of his good-selling autobiography **STOWAWAY**. As in previous years, they are on another visit to Canada, to spend Christmas with daughter **April** and her family.

Not to be outdone were **Tagoy** and **Sofie Dino**, taking a well-deserved break in Las Vegas Sep 28 – Oct 5 from their busy schedule and engagement with a couple of senior organizations in Chicago where they are an acclaimed dancing pair. Account of **Tagoy** on the 'highlights of this weeklong vacation': Visited briefly **Sofie's** brother **Cosme**, 90, in Los Angeles (40 minutes flight each way), ballroom dancing with a couple we've shared dance lessons with for almost 30 years and having lunch with my cousin **Josie** and her husband **Richard**. We stayed at the vacation resort Elara Hilton Hotel which is ultra-high tech; the curtains, kitchen appliances, TV sets, etc., are all push button controlled. The pool and the 24-hour Fitness Center attracted us. Best of all, Elara is attached to Miracle Mile Shops and the Planet Hollywood Casino. We went to the Hilton pool twice a day as a soothing balm for the 100 degrees temperature. We also gained numerous friends, both young and old, while soaking at the whirlpool.

Clem Mariano returned October 23: after three weeks in Europe – "still jet-lagged and recuperating from fatigue due to early morning rise up, too many foot mileage and climbing castle/monasteries, steps and hills in the 15-day Balkans packaged tour, (six countries, Athens to Croatia, in two time zones) despite a 5-day rest/shopping- pabili extension in Paris. Of course, ageing matters this time and helped by my beloved stick/cane for steps/stairs and uneven surfaces/ ancient cobble



stone streets. I can now claim having visited most of Europe, from the western, mediterranean, central, eastern, Baltic and lastly Balkans. Because of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, I miss out Moscow though I had seen St Petersburg in a cruise. I had seen the western major cities when I

was still in active service several times on brief official travels and side trips. It is only after retirement that I began checking out my bucket list, though old age interferes. As the saying goes, when younger, we lack the means; when the means finally come, we're too old to enjoy." @waga 64-2404

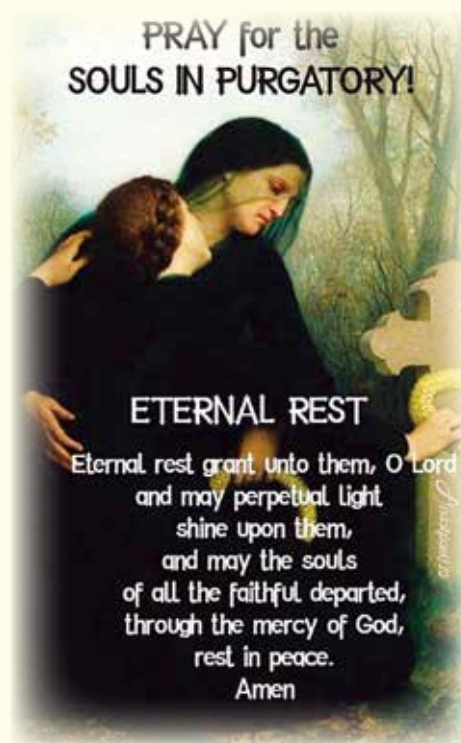




GREETINGS FROM THE MULAWINS OF PMA CLASS 1965!

As the whole Christendom troop to the final resting grounds of their loved ones in accordance with tradition and religious practice, we the Mulawins of PMA Class 1965, pray too, for all our relatives and friends and more particularly to our Mulawin classmates and ladies who are now in that great beyond: *"ETERNAL REST GRANT, UNTO THEM, OH LORD AND MAY PERPETUAL; LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM, AND MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN."*

As per our Morning Report (MR) today, 31 Mulawins are all there now and thanks God, 27 pa ang nandirito sa lupa enjoying the good and divine blessings of God. Of these 27, two are in Canada (Guy Camacho and Ces Flor); one in the East Coast USA (Jun Tucay); one in West Nevada USA (Robert Bruce); one in the Midwest USA (Andi Superable); three in the West Coast USA (Mon Azurin; Doming Habos and Nic Lugtu); one in down under (Joey Mendoza) one in Southern Philippines (Adolf Borje), one in Central Philippines (Jun Arque); two in Southern Tagalog (Jess Candelario and Pat Duque aka Cris). and 14 in NCR



(Tates Nartatez; Enri Bulan; Rolly Cauton; Bert Acenas; Joe Lapus; Jomari Solquillo; Ofring Marcelo; Ernie Sacro; Warly Chee; Pepe delos Santos; Mike Leonardo; Gerry Guzman; Ladio Tangan and Boy Baron Turingan).

Last October 27, 2024 the class held an emergency meeting at the Cavalier's Resto Bar, LOGCOM driving range area Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Despite the short notice and the activities

related to the All Souls Day and All Saints Day with a correspond declaration of a very long weekend holidays, coupled with the attendant effects of Super Typhoons Kristine and Leon that were still raging at that time, most members of the Class were able to respond to the call of our Class President Mike. Those who made it to the meeting were Pres Mike himself; Rolly Cauton, Ofring Marcelo, Tates Nartatez, Egay Velasco, Jolaps, Jomari Solquillo, Bert Acenas, Joey Mendoza, Roger Bergado and 2nd generation representing their parents - Tingting Velasco, Warlito Chee Jr, B. Rafaelito Alejandro and Francisco Domingo Fernandez. As a major agenda included the scheduled Class Christmas party on the 5th of Dec 2024, three magnificent ladies attended the meeting, Lynn Nartatez, Donna Acenas and Gloria Bergado. The three ladies discussed and prepared the program and the menu for said christmas party and they also discussed the proper uniforms for our Diamond anniversary next February 2025.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!!

P.S. The class deeply mourns the passing of our two mistahs, Jesus T Toling and Felix L Turingan, who joined our Maker on 31 October and 4 Nov 2024, respectively. May their souls rest in eternal peace in the loving arms of our Almighty.





MANUEL P ESPEJO
President
FREDELINO S BAUTISTA
Secretary

PAMBUNGAD

Sapagka't sa paglabas ng siping ito ng The CAVALIER ay Disyembre na, marapat lang na sa unang bahagi pa lamang ng CLASS CALL ay binabati na namin ang lahat ng sixty-sixers ng Maligayang Pasko 2024 at Manigong Bagong Taong 2025. Napakabilis ng paglipas ng mga taon lalo na at lahat tayong mga nagsipagtapos sa mahal nating alma mater ay nasa edad 80 at pataas na. Ating pasalamatang Panginoon sapagka't isa pang taon ang ipinagkaloob Niya kasama na rito ang pagkakataong maghanda sa pagdiriwang ng ating ika-60 anibersaryo ng ating pagtatapos sa PMA.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, VIUSY

And life goes on for the Class.

On 19 October 2024, Viusy Dauz celebrated his 80th birthday at the PA Officers Clubhouse in Fort Bonifacio. It was a well-attended affair, which included mistahs and their ladies led by Mercy Dauz, neighbors in Cavalry Hills Subdivision,



comrades in arms in the service, relatives and church group members. Without saying, it was an occasion of story telling and reviewing pleasantries among friends

who have not interacted with each other for a long time.

HAPPY NATAL DAY, CEL

And the momentum was maintained the next day, 20 October, at the PN Officers Clubhouse at BNS, Fort Bonifacio, this time with Cel Cunanan as the star of the show, with Gerry providing the supporting fire. It was one of the most attended occasions, with Gerry and Cel's foundation/social group members filling the 500-seater function room of the PN Clubhouse. The picture below shows Gerry and Cel posing with attendees from Cavalry Hills and vicinity.

WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN YOU

For the last many, many years, those of us who are still around, have made it a tradition of sort – that on All Saints/Souls Day of November, we will remember our mistahs and spouses, who have gone back to the Creator, ahead of us.

Thus, on 26 October, the ladies of Class Sixty-six arranged for a requiem mass for our departed at St. Michael D' Arcangel Cathedral Parish Church at Bonifacio Global City. Many were present, including sons and daughters and grandchildren.



It was actually, the first part of our yearly tradition. The second part was an actual visitation of gravesites at Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio and Heritage Park in Taguig City on 30 October. The group which volunteered for the walk-through of the graves assembled at the gravesite of mistah

Angie Reyes at the Dignitaries Section/Generals' Row.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Happy birthday, fellow octogenarians!

October – Dauz, Viusy (20); Nicolas, Roy (24); Santos, Edd (16); Garcia, Fil (07); Arugay, Tess (03); Reyes, Tess (06); Garcia,

Lita (15); Galon, Margie (17); Cunanan, Cel (21); Glo Domingo.

November – Bello, Ces (29); Espejo, Ren (09); Fernandez, Louie (23); Carrion, Rose (11); Pagineg, Au (21); Jabile, Del (26).

December – Bruce, Conri (04); Millena, Cena (04); and Sarmiento, Lucy (05).



CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. The following were our activities for the August - October 2024 period:

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

06 September - DMF for August and September 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 Rentavart for the September group, in NIU-Viking Resto, Podium Mall, Mandaluyong City.

10-13 October - Visit to Zamboanga City by 20 Dimasupils and Tagasupils to see the beautiful tourist spots and to join the month-long festivities to honor the city's patron saint Nuestra Senora de la Virgen del Pilar with street dances, regatta, parade of lights, food crawl and a sardine boodle fight. This year, the city

led by its young and energetic Mayor John Dalipe, son of Manny and Maryrose, spearheaded the celebration with tourists and invited guests flying to the southern city. Among the invited guests were members of the PMA Dimasupil Class of 1967. The Dimasupil delegation was composed of Nenie Abendan, Agnes Avenido, Alice Averilla, Libbie and Arleen Brawner, Abe and Cora Din, Myrna Espinosa, Mar and Mely Gatmaitan, Linz Gabuna, Jun and Ronnie Ibay, Jovy and Baby Sales, Mar and Beth Santiago, Ross and Mandie Sibai, and Evelyn Villacorta. The delegation was hosted by Manny Dalipe and his two sons Congressman Mannix and Mayor John. (For more details, see Class Trivia on p.60.)

29 October - DMF for October hosted by Aging Alino, Joe and Myrna Andaya, Ching and Papoose Ballecer, Andy Reyes, and Sammy and Cora Tomas for the October group; together with Myrna Cordero, Lea Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Eve Villacorta for the November group, in NIU-Viking Resto, Podium Mall, Mandaluyong City.

B. The following will be our schedule for November - December 2024, onwards:

10 November - DMF for November to be hosted by Bobby and Penny Lastimoso

in Club Filipino, San Juan City. This will also be a celebration of Penny's birthday.

02 December - Remembrance Day in honor of the departed Dimasupils and Spouses, Christmas Party, and Election of Class Officers to be held in AGFO Social Hall, Camp Aguinaldo, QC.

January 2025 - DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, Edsel and Toto Salvania, and Joseph and Reina Young.

25 January - PMAAAI Annual Convention in AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, QC.

15 February - Alumni Homecoming in PMA, Baguio City.

UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

We are very sad that Mariano "Cords" Cordero passed away on 4 October 2024 due to heart attack at his home in QC. His body was cremated immediately and the wake was held at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Commonwealth, QC on 5-7 October. The details about his inurnment will be announced in due time. Cords died at the age of 80 and was the 45th Dimasupil who already departed, out of 85 graduates. May his soul rest in eternal peace in the loving arms of the Almighty. And may God comfort Mina and their family in this time of sorrow.

We are also very sad that Alejandro "Guzi" De Guzman died on 9 October 2024 at the VMMC where he had been confined for some time due to a lingering illness. The wake was held at the LNMB Mortuary, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City on 10-14 October and his interment was in LNMB on 15 October. Guzi died at the age of 82 and was the 46th Dimasupil who already left. May his soul rest in eternal peace in the bosom of the Almighty. And may God comfort Lita and their family in this time of bereavement.

Jun Avenido was rushed to the hospital on 27 September 2024 due to mild stroke. He stayed there for five days. He is now recuperating at home, under "house arrest", and is well on his way to full recovery.

Vir Odulio was also brought to the hospital on 3 October 2024 due to mild stroke. He was confined for three days and even stayed in the room which Jun A used. He is now recovering well at home.

We received the following message from Mar Gatmaitan last September 2024: "Would just like to inform you that I am home from a one day confinement as I have been having extreme abdominal pain going on for three weeks. All tests,



Wake and Necro of late Mariano A Cordero in Loyola Chapels Commonwealth, Q.C.

urinalysis, ultrasound, CT-scan did not show any possible cause. At the emergency room of Makati Medical Center, they noticed blisters on the areas where pains were coming from. They said that it could be shingles! Further consultations with my internists and gastro doctor confirmed it was shingles! Thank God! I thought I would need invasive and costly procedure. I was given antiviral and pain reliever for two weeks. Hopefully I will be completely healed by then. Lesson: If you had chicken

pox at an early age (I had mine when I was in grade 5), the virus remains in the body and lies dormant for years! I don't know what triggered the virus to be active again! For those who did not have chickenpox before, there is a vaccine for shingles! Do get it as pain is so excruciating! Maybe Dr Merle Odi can add something to this narrative! Happy to be home!"

Digong Duterte (FPRRD) is running for mayor of Davao City in the May 2025 election. Good luck, Mistah!

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

We received the following message from Jun Ibay on 20 October 2024: "Ronnie is now in the ER of FEU Hospital after fainting in our room at home. She's talking naman, but mumbling and incoherent.... She suffered a mild stroke."

The following Dimasupil brats are running for elective positions in the May 2025 election: Congressman Mannix Dalipe (son of Manny and Maryrose) as Mayor of Zamboanga City; Mayor John Dalipe (also son of Manny and Maryrose) as Congressman of Zamboanga City; Ernix Dionisio (son of Ernie and Dinsay) for reelection as Congressman of Tondo, Manila; Paolo "Polong" Duterte (son of Digong) for reelection as Congressman of Davao City; Mayor Sebastian "Baste" Duterte (also son of Digong) as Vice Mayor of Davao City; Omar Duterte (grandson of Digong) as Congressman of Davao City; and Rigo Duterte (another grandson of Digong) as Councilor of Davao City. Good luck to all of you!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in October, November, and December: Lulu Larroza (4 October), Joe Andaya (6), Ching Ballecer (8), Sammy Tomas (9), Toto Salvana (9), Aging Alino (17), Andy Reyes (17), Mila



Wake of the late PBGen Alex de Guzman in LNMB chapel.



Picture of the visiting members of Dimasupil Cl67 and Ladies with Mayor John Dalipe.



Dimasupil 67 September Lunch Fellowship at NIU.



September '24 lunch fellowship at NIU of Tagasupils 67.

Sadiarin (26), Norma Aliac (27), Sonia Briones (29), and Ronnie Ibay (31); Bernie Patino (3 November), Libbie Brawner (4), Proserfina Torrechante (5), Penny Lastimoso (10), Merle Odi (13), Cesar Quiambao (17), Nora Ruelos (20), and Papoose Ballecer (29); and Moises Boquiren (4 December), Lulu Perez (6), Lea Libarnes (10), Emay Bautista (11), and Abe Sadul (27).

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

Considering that our Social Amelioration Fund (SAF) is now running low, the SAF Committee would like to remind all concerned to pay their contributions for this year 2024 and next year 2025. Please contact our Class Treasurer Rudy Gaerlan for further details.

We enjoin all Dimasupils and Tagasupils to be members of the exclusive "PMA Dimasupil Class 1967" Viber group. There are notices and publications there that cannot be found or posted on our Messenger and Facebook groups.

CLASS TRIVIA

A. Ang Tsinelas, Bow:

He went to Grade 1 without tsinelas. His father was a high school graduate. His mother was a grade 4 pupil. But with sheer determination, he finished high school as valedictorian. He graduated from PMA and PAF Flying School as Government scholar. He got his MBM at AIM as full scholar. A real probinsyano, he went back to his hometown with tsinelas already. Today he is 78 years old, not rich but happy, with one wife and one family. His name is Manny Dalipe. (CTTO)

B. The editor of the LA Zamboanga Times, a friend of Nenie Abendan, wrote this article. It's published locally and in the US (Los Angeles based newspaper):

PMA Class '67 Set to Embark on an Unforgettable Journey to Zamboanga City!

Excitement is in the air as the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1967 prepares for a remarkable four-day visit to Zamboanga City from October 10-13, 2024!

This highly anticipated event promises a delightful blend of cultural immersion, historical significance, and scenic exploration, making it a memorable reunion for the esteemed alumni.

The adventure kicks off on **Day 1** with a warm welcome reception at Hotel Marcelina, where attendees will gather and reconnect. Following this, the group will pay tribute at Camp Abendan (named after PC Colonel Romeo Abendan '67) with a wreath-laying ceremony, honoring their shared history and service. The day continues with a vibrant street dance competition at the Grandstand, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Zamboanga. To cap off the evening, a sumptuous dinner awaits at Dalipe's Residence, offering a taste of local flavors and camaraderie.

Day 2 brings more excitement as the alumni enjoy breakfast before embarking on a courtesy call and briefing about Zamboanga's planning initiatives. A trip to Sta. Cruz Island follows, where participants will indulge in leisure activities and experience the unique Barter Trade and Yakan culture. The day concludes with an exhilarating concert and another delightful dinner at Dalipe's Residence.

On **Day 3**, the journey continues with a visit to Ecozone for an insightful briefing, followed by a tour of Dalipe's Farm, where attendees will savor a delicious lunch amidst lush surroundings.

Finally, **Day 4** wraps up the adventure with a city tour before heading back to Manila.

This visit is not just a trip; it's an opportunity for PMA Class '67 to strengthen bonds and create lasting memories while celebrating the beauty of Zamboanga City! (CTTO)

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



Dinner of Dimasupils 67 at the residence of Mistah Manny Dalipe in Zambo City.



ART CARRILLO
President
WILFREDO G NUQUI
Scribe

1. Senior life continually reminds of both cheerful memories and health challenges. Reunions with our ever growing families and Class always generate deeply rooted joy and social satisfaction. Very recently the Class enjoyed a surprise and splendid lunch, courtesy of our generous CM Arthur O. Juan, former president of agriculture and food operations of San Miguel Corporation (SMC). Thanks to President Art C. for bringing the bright idea to Art J.
2. Lunch was at Canton Road Shangri-la Hotel, BGC on August 24, 2024. Bobby S. almost went to Candon, Ilocos Sur but had a presence of mind to find the correct venue. The event was well attended with seating done according to our PMA Alfa, Bravo, Charlie and Delta Companies. Present were CMs Art C +1, Art J (the kind host), Oscar, Patrick, Volts, Art G, Rene, Willy, Hector, Abe, Rudy, Mel, Bobby and Nori. The ladies were led by Paulene (the host's lady) and included Roxanne, Bebot, Marite, Isay, Rhodie, Arlene, Peewee, Arlene, Millette, Julie, Purita, Tess P, Angging, Candy, Tita and Gigi.
3. Evelyn Mamaril Erolin, Lindo's wife, joined our Creator on Sept 16, 2024. Many CMs and ladies attended the necrological service and bade their last goodbyes. Evelyn was a very active participant in Class activities. May her soul rest in eternal repose.



4. Our dearest and most friendly CM Alex Corpuz Costales, former vice commander of Philippine Army, passed away on Nov 5, 2024. May his soul rest in eternal peace with that of his beloved spouse Shirley. Both were regular participants in lively and productive Class activities. They will be extremely missed.
5. Surviving CMs are starting to reach the age of 80 years and counting their blessings e.g., grandchildren. *"The best things in life are free: the joy of a smile, the comfort of friends, the sound of laughter, the bond of family, the beauty of cherished members and the wonders of nature."*



Canton Rd @ Shangri-la at the Fort, lunch hosted by ArtJ and Paulene 14/09/2024.



JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS
President
JESUS B DULLER
Secretary

In loving memory of our long-time Sunshine Committee OIC, Bobing Briliantes (RIP), here are the Birthday Greetings to our Suaviter celebrants in Sep, Oct, Nov and Dec 2024:



Warm and Loving Happy Birthday wishes to all **September**-born Suavifers and lone Lady Suaviter. And following the Pinoy practice when entering the "Ber" months, please allow us to be the first to greet all Suavifers and advanced Blessed MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 2024!

Rene Aguda – 5 Sep
Dan Reventar – 7 Sep
+Pacoy Chanco – 8 Sep
Benjie Defensor – 12 Sep
Vikki Briliantes – 15 Sep
Chris Abanes - 16 Sep
Jake Duller - 22 Sep
Pol Gange - 23 Sep

Love-laden HAPPY BIRTHDAY greetings for all **October**-born Suaviter Mistahs and Ladies:

+Nick Garcia – 4 Oct
Jus Manlongat – 17 Oct
Lulu de los Santos – 19 Oct
Nonoy Carranza – 23 Oct
Sarla Duller – 28 Oct

Warmest Happy Birthday greetings to **November**-born Suavifers – the MOST NUMBER in the Class:

Sol Mendoza – 1 Nov
Flor Toribio – 4 Nov
Marian Tangingco – 12 Nov
Greg Camiling – 15 Nov
Vivz Erfe – 26 Nov

Sadly, 8 out of 13 have since passed on to the Great Beyond, may their souls rest in Eternal Peace:

+Max Balansay – 8 Nov
+Oca Tangingco – 10 Nov
+Bobing Briliantes - 11Nov
+Lito Labao – 21 Nov
+Cres Villanueva – 24 Nov

+Jess Almaden – 25 Nov
+Romy Sua – 26 Nov
+Mon Martinez – 30 Nov

Sweetest HAPPY BIRTHDAY greetings to **December**-born Suavifers. Now, we've come to the end of greeting our 2024 Birthday Celebrants! Allow us to greet everyone a Merry Christmas 2024 and a Happy New Year 2025!!!

+Rimbert Gonzales – 5 Dec
Willy Wong – 12 Dec
Emy Reventar – 8 Dec
Joey Syjuco – 28 Dec

If you notice, there's a cross sign before Pacoy Chanco's name. On 13 Oct 24, Ike Begonia notified the class via our Viber group chat: *"I am sad to inform the class that our 'missing' Mistah, Pacoy Chanco, passed on last 31 July 24 in the West Coast, USA. This was relayed by Delia, his widow, who reluctantly shared the news to us. The circumstances of his death were not mentioned. In today's feast day of our Lady of Fatima, let's all pray for the repose of the soul of our Mistah Pacoy! May he finally rest in peace!!!"*

More details on Pacoy's death to come in future issue. May God's face shine upon him!

CLASS ELECTION RESULT: On 20 Sep 24, JimmyD and JusM got a new 26-year landslide mandate to continue managing the affairs and finances of PMA Class 1969 as President and Treasurer, respectively. Why 26 years? Benjie explains, *"I was Class President for 25 years, I move that Jimmy can serve for 26 years. Snappy na,*

Golfer pa." This side motion was seconded by Willie and strongly endorsed by Greg. Since there was no objection, the motion was unanimously carried. This heightened display of support came after the original motion had been initiated and seconded in our Viber Chat Group basically to reaffirm the Suavifers' approval, legitimize the continuation of the current officer's term and, therefore, dispel any iota of doubt relative to their honest intention to serve and promote the interests of the class. The Suavifers have spoken and overwhelmingly voted "Yes" for the motion. Official voting result: NO (0). YES (16): Jimmy, Jus, Rene, Willie, Jake, Cris, Dan, Jess, Cleo, Tom, Joey, Nonoy, Ike, Willie, Benjie, Greg. Abstention in absentia(3): Smokey, Alex, Pol. The motion was carried. Congratulations to you, Jimmy and Jus! The class has recognized your invaluable service and unselfish donation of your time and efforts for all of us in the past. We have no doubt that you will continue to serve the class with the same zeal and enthusiasm for the next 26 years or more. Here's Jimmy's simple words of heartfelt acceptance: *"Mistahs, with humility, I accept the awesome responsibility to continue as Class President. I shall endeavor to do my best. God Bless us all. Thank you very much."*

Thankyou, Jimmy and Jus. The Suavifers are proud of your dedicated and humble service!

We are indeed privileged to have you. Looking forward to more productive years!

RENE AGUDA'S 79th Birthday Party

What a blast! The festive mood was pretty obvious from the entrance door to

Talking about representation, here's one of JimmyD's ops to enhance the prestige of the Suavifers.



the dance floor. The celebrant was on the microphone every now and then just to make sure everybody was having a great time. The line dancing, the boogie and cha-cha music made sure everybody was on their toes. Way to go, Suavaters!

Happy Birthday, Rene. May you have more birthdays to come and more birdies in the golf course.

Thanks, Rene, for sharing these photos upon request. Captions are really not necessary. Just focus on the swaying hips and the smiling faces of the attendees and the celebrant!



The UP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Award Night: Jimmy D, the first General Awardee, with Rene A and Ike B.



I and Rene were proud witnesses of the Awards to Mistah Jimmy. Keep it up, Mistah. Above photo was with Gen Joe Mag. --- Ike Begonia

UP Alumni Association Award presented (shown in middle photo): Never in the 116 year-history of UP that a General was given this Award. There were only four awardees: our very own Gen Jaime de los Santos, legal luminary and former Solicitor General Estelito Mendoza, lady lawyer and Regent Gladys San Juan and Former Metrobank President Edgardo Espiritu.

The OCTOBERIAN BREAK-FEST at PAUL'S BOULANGERIE, Global City, 5 Oct 24



The Suaviter Ladies



The Suavitters

Except for a minor mishandling of orders, everything went just fine. Everybody had a good time!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY October Celebrants
JUS, LULU, NONOY and SARLA!**

IN MEMORIAM for the Magnificent 24 Suavitters



Thank you, Mistah Willie, for producing and sharing this picture.

Here's our Halloween, All Saints Day and All Souls Day Greetings to all the young and not so young members of the Suavitters Family through this timely posting from Virginia, USA.



Last but definitely NOT the least:
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

To Our Brother Suavitters Who've Gone Ahead: As we ponder upon this year All Saints Day and All Souls Day this year, although it is a painful nostalgic endeavor to reflect once more on the days of our past – the yearlong punishing regimen of plebehood we endured to gain the privileges awarded the upperclassmen, the grueling summer of marches and field exercises, the rituals of parade and reviews, bivouacs and war games of summer camps, the brain stress of academics and ... after graduation, the free-spirited adventures and camaraderie of our lieutenant days and beyond. All these are the longings as well as the pains of our prayers for you and for us who are still left behind ... together we are united in spirits towards the finality of our souls in the softness and endlessness of the Great Beyond ... where we will meet again. May God bless us all. Amen.



MAGITING MILESTONES

Preparing for the 2025 PMA Homecoming

Class '70 Magiting is one of the hosts in the PMA Alumni Homecoming in February 2025. Resident Magitings as well as immigrant Mistahs to the United States and Canada are arranging their schedules for a grand reunion at the Academy. The successful construction of the Magiting 70 Wellness Center at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) became a proud rallying point for the homecoming. Its inauguration in November 2024 is much awaited with the appearance of His Excellency Ferdinand R. Marcos, President of the Republic.

Birthdays, Visit Abroad, Fellowship

Magitings are never too far from the birthday treats of Mas-Magitings. Obviously, the ladies prepare a more sumptuous array of boodles, that's why. Ed Israel finally found time to visit his son and grand children in Canada. Ernie and Cecile del Rosario with Ed and Bendie Castellanes gave Ed and Jessie a warm welcome in cold October. Our Honorables Romy Acop and Jun Ebdane made time for a working dinner at Senju Japanese restaurant at EDSA Shangri-La with President Nesty, Vic Signey, Boots de Veyra and Bob Nuqui, in connection with the inauguration of the Magiting 70 Wellness Wing in November 2024.

Commemoration for Revered Mistahs

Magiting Mike Coronel was an Academic Star awardee in his First Class year. His AFPCGSC grade of 98.2 is still unsurpassed since 1985. In 1988, he was one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) and in 1999 he received a Dangal ng Bayan award. He is proudest of his two Cavalier Awards. The apex of his police career is marked by "Best of the Year Award; Best PNP Staff Officer, Philippine Constabulary Officer of the Year and Provincial Commander of the Year. Mike is survived by his equally intelligent and amiable wife Winnie. Mike will be known



Magiting 70 class meeting ICOW 55th Anniversary and PMA Alumni Homecoming 2025. Alano Hall, PNGC, October 3, 2024. Presiding is Class President Nesty Carolina.



All charming Mas-Magitings treated their October birthday celebs at Alano Hall, PNGC on October 2, 2024. Seated from L to R: Emy de Veyra, Remy Gojo, Baby Ilagan, Len Ligot, Susan Fernandez, Enya Santillan, Beth Delarmente, Tess Javier and Airene Perez. Standing from L to R: Dina Gaerlan, Au Carolina, Nancy Pipo and Nona Tagayuna. The joyous celebrators were Susan, Au, Tess and Airene.



A group photo of ever lovely Mas-Magitings with spouses during the birthday treat for October celebs, @ Alano Hall PN Golf Club. Celebrating ladies with bouquets are the charming Aireen Perez, Tessie Javier, Au Carolina and Susan Fernandez. Magitings celebrating their birthday for the third quarter are Nesty Carolina in October, Bang Adriano and Danny Sta. Clara in November, and Jun Ebdane in December.



Godo Olores treats available Magitings to lunch at Spice and Soy at Mitsukoshi, BGC. L to R: Glenn Rabonza, Vic Signey, Mark Marquez, Rudy Garcia, Nesty Carolina and Godo.

Working dinner at Senju Japanese restaurant on October 21 at EDSA Shangri-La for the inauguration of the Magiting 70 Wellness Center at the VMMC complex.



Ed and Jessie Israel visited their son and his family in Canada during the cold season in October. Seen at lunch in a Japanese Restaurant in Toronto are Jessie, Cecile del Rosario, Bendie and Castellanes, Ernie and Ed. They later moved to a nearby Starbucks Coffee shop to continue conniving until 7:00 in the evening.



After the program for Mike, gentlemen and ladies enjoyed a fellowship dinner at Hot Pot Restaurant, Greenhills courtesy of Governor Jun Ebdane.



Magitings pose for a picture with the family of Police Maj Gen Mike Coronel. Mike's beloved Winnie makes her response. She receives a Flag of the Republic from Nesty Carolina. On the flank are PNP classmates former LTO Chief Edgar Galvante and Police Major Gen Vic Signey.



The first anniversary of the late Magiting Willie Parayno was commemorated with a Holy Mass at St. John Paul II Chapel at Aseana Chapel, Parañaque. Beloved wife Alice was joined by Ed and Jessie Israel, Dina Gaerlan, Emy de Veyra, Bert and Sylvia Lina, and Nesty and Au Carolina. Well wishers from Willie's co-workers in government and private sector came to pay homage to his good company and good work. The pictures above make us recall the final salute and company of Magiting gentlemen and ladies last year.



as an all-time emblem of unrelenting integrity.

MAGITING 70 WELLNESS WING

A Legacy Project is Finally Complete

MAGITING '70 initiated the construction of a modern medical facility aimed at addressing the acute lack of private rooms at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). The two-storey

building features 12 private rooms inclusive of four suites, two nurse stations, a lounge area, basement parking, elevator, emergency ramp and connecting bridges to the VMMC main building for easy access to modern diagnostic and state-of-the-art therapy facilities and a seamless array of medical services.

A Culture of Wellness Among Veterans

The visionary one-stop Wellness Wing will serve as the core facility of the VMMC Wellness Program. It is designed to instill

among veterans and AFP retirees the habit of undergoing regular medical check-up to promote a culture of prevention. It is recognized that regular health check-ups are essential for early detection of health issues and serve as a crucial foundation for a proactive approach to healthcare. Wellness ensures that veterans-patients receive timely interventions and guidance ultimately enabling them to reduce risk of diseases and to enhance overall quality of life.

The MAGITING '70 Wellness Wing is envisioned to accelerate the modernization of the VMMC Wellness Program. The building was designed to allow extension for additional private rooms and spaces for the installation of facilities for Hyperbaric Medicine as well as for Telemedicine. These facilities aim to allow for earlier management of chronic diseases while minimizing the need for patients to leave home.

A Model of Multi-Sector Cooperation

The undertaking was made possible through the strong partnership between Class 70 corporate arm Amethyst Corps Seventy Foundation, Incorporated (ACSF) and D.M. Consunji Incorporated (DMCI), a leading engineering based integrated construction company. Moreover, the project is the outcome of the purposeful exercise of Corporate Social Responsibility of our major funders – the Philippine



These pictures illustrate the actual furnishings that have been delivered in October. Every room and the nurses' station are provided with amenities such as dining tables and chairs, refrigerator, television, microwave oven, water dispenser, sofa bed, clock and air conditioner. Each room has its own toilet and bath.



Pres. Nesty presenting a coffee tablebook to DMCI Pres/CEO Jorge Consunji, flanked by Engr Gerry Punzal and Joffrey Gacula.



Pres. Nesty pays DMCI Treasury for the mechanical and electrical works for water and fire systems with Engrs Gerry Punzal and Aris Cuevas as witnesses.

Amusement and Gaming Corporation, Bloomberry Cultural Foundation, Newport World Resorts Foundation, San Miguel Corporation, and the Lina Group of Companies.

The Commander-in-Chief as Guest of Honor during the Inauguration

We have invited President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to be the Guest of Honor during the inauguration scheduled on November 18-22, 2024, which, incidentally, is the Founding Anniversary Week of the VMCM.

The auspicious event is expected to be attended by leaders of veterans organizations such as the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, Filipino War Veterans Foundation, PEFTOK Veterans Association, Association of Vietnam Veterans of the Philippines, Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, Association of Generals and Flag Officers, PMA Alumni Association, Inc., Philippine Veterans Legion, AFP Retired Veterans Association of the Philippines, Board of Trustees of Veterans of WWII and, senior PMA Cavaliers and AFP retirees.

MAGITING FARMS SERIES 2

A Farm in Bangui, Ilocos Sur

Roy Cimatu's farm came to life quite late even after his long and progressive military career. In the years to come after retirement the man had neither choice nor rest. President Gloria Arroyo sent him to the Middle East as a Special



Roy marvels at his orchard of sun ripened, fleshy and supple native mangoes. The slope protects the land from flooding.



Another orchard of naturally sweet, firm and plump papayas. A citrus farm likewise bears pleasant pomelos.

Envoy during the Iraq War in 2003. Very soon after, President Rodrigo Duterte sat him on the prime chair at the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DENR) in 2017. Finally, in 2022 after more than two decades past his duty as CSAFP, Roy finally found time to till his land and return to his farm refuge in his birth town Bangui, Ilocos Sur.

One will also see healthy goat herds and native chickens wandering the field. Roy is endlessly enthusiastic of his farm and July is always a good month for all. Mistahs, relish the prospect of taking home a bag of papayas and mangoes. It is Roy's birth month and the fruits are in full season. Guests leave Roy's birthday treat tugging bags of these fruits. As always a few were luckier than the rest.

Roy tends a very special area that he considers as his mainstay and named it the "Secretary's Forest." Venerable Narras and Molaves already over a hundred years old dwell in this mainstay. Ten years ago, he planted more Kamagong and Lawaan in the sprawling forest while he was still the Secretary of DENR. After almost three decades the farmstead has acquired a life of its own, it nourished Roy's grit no end. Roy has truly set an example to farm folks that respect for mother earth and perseverance makes a farm refuge.

CONTINUING PUBLIC SERVICE

Career and Service After Retirement

Magiting Honorables Hermogenes Ebdane Jr and Romeo Acop represent the more prominent elected public officials



Active members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines at AFPCOC, CGEA in one of their conferences. The country has a very active veterans sector.



PEFTOK Memorial Day, Libingan ng mga Bayani, September 7, 2024. This event is always well-attended by the grateful Koreans.



Honorable Magiting Hermogenes Ebdane was awarded for making Zamboanga del Sur among the two highest income earners for FY 2022 and for FY 2023 for being in the Top 5 for the same feat. Governor Jun is seen co-chairing a meeting with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) for typhoon preparedness. Gov. Jun is running unopposed for re-election.



with almost two decades of combined service between them. It is interesting to parse the origin of their authority and influence in the public domain. Their character is inborn as it is the case with more successful men. Both men derived inspiration, education and moral energy from the Academy. Innate character and institutional culture converged in their persona. Many alumnus are likewise personified in such convergence many of whom can be found among our fellow veterans and retired elective officials.

A Glimpse of Untapped Collective Energy

The energy of retirees does not fade away, they transform in character in many aspects. A handful become prominent actors on the political screen, others succeed in private business and many more become active in the retiree concerns and opportunities. A good number of them still serve actively on veterans welfare with their skills, fellowship and good example.



Honorable Magiting Romeo Acop is respected by his colleagues in the Lower House as well in the Senate. His duty is invariably devoted to the public good. He is the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and is a sought-after member of the so-called Quad Comm currently hearing malfeasance in government and private connivance. Cong. Romy is running for re-election unopposed in the 2nd District of Antipolo.



FAIRWAY HABITUES

Corps of 70 Golf Fellowship

This quarterly golf friendly game series has been running for more than 10 years now. It was conceived by Magiting Clyde Fernandez for classes Maagap 73, Masigasig 72, Matatag 71 and Magiting 70. A number of similar golf groups among other classes have been inspired by this concept.

Matatag 71 hosted the games on August 31st at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course. Matatag President Joey Lalisan postponed the games that day. The expected rain however did not come instead a very well prepared buffet at the Veterans Center was wiped out while the sun shone brightly outside. President Nesty gifted Class 71 officers with a coffee table book on Valor. The book was a joint

undertaking between the Philippine Veterans Administration Office and the Department of History of the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

Golf Sorties in the 3rd Metro

Magitings played in all Metro courses. The Game of Cavaliers 2024 is still unfinished business for Magiting golfers. Playing in the

tour are Boots de Veyra, Ed Israel, Nesty Carolina, Vic Signey, Glenn Rabonza, Dionet Santiago, Uly Sevilla, Bert Tagayuna, Bob Nuqui and guest Bernard Bobadilla.



At PNGC on October 1, 2024 going for 18 holes. L to R: Bob, Roy, Dionet, Bernard (guest), Glenn, Nesty and Ed.

Dionet, Bob and Nesty on the rainy Fairways of Army Golf Club.



At PNGC on October 1, 2024 going for 18 holes. L to R: Bob, Roy, Dionet, Bernard (guest), Glenn, Nesty and Ed.



Lunch with a bucketful of agenda after 18 holes.



Magiting North golfers at VMMC Golf Club on September 12, 2024 L to R: Eloy Garcia, Rudy Garcia Egay Galvante, Primo Esquerro, guest and Vic Signey.



Magiting North golfers at VMMC Golf Club on September 26, 2024. L to R: Primo, Vic, Raffy Sevilla (guest), Egay, Glenn Rabonza and Nesty Carolina.



JOSE C LALISAN JR
President
ARTHUR G BALMaceda
Secretary

From the Matatag Class of 1971, we convey our Christmas Greetings to all cavaliers. May the yuletide season bring endless joy and blessings to all. Merry Christmas!

Significance of Fellowships and Golf

For this fourth quarter of the year, the Matatag Golfers had frequented the Aguinaldo and Veterans golf courses. Why? It is because of the easy access of these courses to members of the Hampas Lupa '71 who live at the north and south of Pasig River. In most cases, the tee off time is quite early at about 0630H and traffic is light an hour before this time. HL '71 Prexy Rey Acop who resides in Tarlac, travels at about 0400H and reach Aguinaldo or Veterans Golf Course before 0600H. The Quezon City boys Rex Piad, Bing Alano, Tex Balmaceda, Caloy Garcia, Jerry Albano, and Rey Velasco can travel in less than an hour and so with Pasig golfers Egay Aglipay, Dong Tabamo, Oca Martinez, Teody Viduya,



Matatag Hampas Lupa golf and fellowships.

and Marte Chioco. Mistah Twiggy Zubia and Ed Matillano have to leave two hours earlier coming from Antipolo. They must beat the

traffic before 0530H along Ortigas Avenue. Rey Rivera, Jun Fabros, and Rey Alcasid who reside near BGC can reach Aguinaldo GC in

less than an hour. Meanwhile, Rolly Garcia and me, who are from farther south, have to leave one and a half hours early and beat the traffic along EDSA to reach Aguinaldo GC or the traffic along Quezon Avenue in going to the Veterans Golf Course. What makes these travel “sacrifices” significant is the fellowship that follows the gentlemen’s game of golf. The endless “bolahizing” makes the trips worth it. Stories and experiences despite repeatedly shared and often retold are still welcome and refresh the nostalgic memories of yesteryears. A panacea against Mr. Alzheimer. As much as possible, we avoid topics about politics and religion. It is a common understanding that our fellowship must be light and positive over bottles of beer and single malts. For after all, life must be enjoyed among us retirees. Di ba?

The Matatag Golfers joined the Games of the Cavaliers 2024 last 24 October 2024 at Camp Aguinaldo GC and last 5 November 2024 at the Veterans GC. Twelve members played to support the fund-raising activity of PMAAAI. The class also sponsored one hole. The HL’71 team members include Rey Acop, Rey Velasco, Rey Rivera, Rey Alcasid, Tex Balmaceda, Stan David, Joey Lalisán, Oca Martinez, Dong Tabamo, Danny Belonia, Teody Viduya, and Jun Fabros. Our civilian friend Francis Pua also joined the GOC under the Guest Category.

Lanzones Picking Event of Mas-Matatags

The Mas-Matatags had a surprise farm visit in Batangas and enjoyed the lanzones picking activity hosted by Esther Cataluna. To some of the ladies, this was a first-time experience. They were also treated to a luxurious meal and merienda. Actually, the visit was hastily planned and there was no time to invite the other ladies. Those who “harvested” and enjoyed the experience were Mawie Aglipay, Vicky Seron, Lita Gil, Jennie Domingo, Celia Lalisán, Tetet Domingo, Jing Martinez, and other guests of Esther Cataluna. One lady complained: kinagat daw siya ng mga langgam. Ouch!

Remembering our departed Mistahs

Every November, we honor and remember those mistahs who went ahead of us. We offer our prayers for the repose of the souls of the following: Willie Tapia, Tony Duran, Rey Doria, Tates Nartatez, Ariel Domingo, Ted Runes, Hercules Cataluna, Popop Ocampo, Cesar Ibo, Babes Galvez, Jimmy Canatoy, Safix Sarmenta, Tito Legaspi, Bong Ebuén, Frank Brawner, Johnnie Velasco, Bobby Navida, Narcing Dauz, Ed Mana-ay, Nolan Ramos, Ernie Lumang, Benjie Casabar, Ambet Costales, Nonito Dallo, Art Lim, Edwin Cuenco, Virtus Gil, Ralph Flores, and Peewee Peralta. May the eternal light shine upon



Matatag Ladies lanzones harvesters.



Class 1971 Prayer Warriors.

them. May their souls rest in eternal peace. Amen.

Prayer Warriors

Every first Saturday of each month, the ladies initiate the novena for the Matatags and Matatags who have health issues. Last 2 November 2024 was their 14th month of praying the rosary. Through this, we heard

news from affected mistahs and ladies of improved health and successful life-threatening medical procedures. Indeed, group prayers create miracles. A strong faith heals all. What we can say to all these: Thanks Lord for the blessings and answered prayers. The class prayers warriors are Mawie and Egay Aglipay, Boy and Barrie Castellano, Joey and Celia Lalisán, Vicky and Bay Seron, Jie

and Rey Rivera, Jing and Oca Martinez, Mel Acosta, Lita Gil, Aleli Belonia (Prayer Leader), Jennie Domingo, Chit Eslao, Tetet Chioco, Lulu Tabamo, Tess Paynor, and Verna Albano.

Quote for this Issue:

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." – Abraham Lincoln



JULIUS F YARCIA
President
CELSO G DE CASTRO
Secretary

Hello everyone.

Time passes by so fast, unaware that year 2024 is about to end. We don't care the passing of years, but one thing is certain; we enjoy every great moment together despite the challenges we confronted along the way. One thing sure, the Masigasig spirit will never wane regardless of the passage of time. Big cheers to Masigasig family, forever united, come what may.

For now, let me highlight the significant events and activities that transpired last September and October and proposed plans for November and December:

September:

The month of September was a black and sad month for us. Mistah Elmer Romano passed away last 18 September due to lingering illness that he endured for a long time. A simple but dignified necrological services was rendered in his honor during his last wake at Mortuary in Camp Aguinaldo. He was also accorded a solemn military honors prior to his inurnment in Funeraria Paz last 24 September. Two days later after the death of Elmer, our dear Mas Marivic joined her Creator and



Mistah Eric in the Kingdom of the Lord last 20 September. Elmer and Marivic suffered too much and fought hard for their lives. Marivic was honored by Mas (Ludy, Lucille and Cely), relatives, and friends during the necrological services last 25 September at Loyola Memorial Chapel, Quezon City prior to her cremation last 26 September. Finally she was laid to rest in a simple and solemn rites at the gravesite of Eric at Libingan ng Mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio last 01 October.

We deeply mourn the demise of Mistah Elmer and Mas Marivic. Your memories will always be remembered by us. May you rest in peace in the Kingdom of loving God. Again, our heartfelt condolences and

sympathies to their respective families. We express our profound thanks and gratitude to Mas Lily and Marivic for their supreme sacrifices, love and care of our Mistahs; Elmer and Ericson, respectively. Thank you very much and God bless.

October:

The Board of Directors convened for Special Meeting last 17 Oct at Closed Mess, AFPCOC. In attendance were nine Directors and key members of Ladies Working Group (Ludy, Lucille, Beth, Fe, Pilar, Vangie and Mila). The following agenda were unanimously approved by the Board:





a. Plan and preparation of the Outreach Program as presented by the Ladies of Working Group.

b. Updates on the status of fund solicitation from Masigasig/Mas intended for the Outreach activity on 14 November. To date a total of P102,000 was remitted to the Treasurer.

c. Allocation of 10k for the solicitation requested by PMAAAI and 10k for the support to our golfers competing in Cavaliers Golf tournament.

d. Sending of get well cards and assorted fruits to our sick Mistah/Mas in lieu of home visits for health issues as recommended by Ladies Working Group.

The one (1) year death anniversary (babang luksa) of Mistah Teody was commemorated last 23 October at 10 a.m. at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani. The mass was celebrated at Bulwagan instead at the gravesite of Teody due to bad weather. A simple lunch was served later. Thirty one (31) Mistahs and Mas attended the commemoration rites. Last 30 October, the 40th day of Mas Marivic's death was also commemorated. A mass officiated by Fr. Orbos was held at the gravesite of Eric at LNMB, Fort Bonifacio in the presence of 37 Masigasigs/Mas, family and friends of Marivic. The commemoration ended after lunch and fellowship at Bulwagan.



November/December:

On 14 November, the Class will conduct Outreach program for the benefits of orphans and abandoned children from two orphanages in Sucat and Pasig City, to be spearheaded by our ever efficient ladies of Working Group. This a humanitarian endeavor envisioned by the Class to bring hope and temporary happiness to unfortunate children of God from the two institutions in time for the advent of Christmas season. The fund intended for this activity will come from the donations of willing and kind-hearted Mistahs and Mas, their sons, daughters and their friends.

The traditional Christmas Party will be held on Friday, 06 December, from 10 a.m. onwards at Social Hall, PVAO Social Center

at Camp Aguinaldo. The schedule of activities/ program will be published in due time. (Note: By the time you are reading this Class Call, the party is "nalspasen".

Wellness and Welfare:

To enhance wellness and health welfare among Mistahs/Mas we encourage everybody to indulge in physical activities regularly and eat with moderation. Our golfers are playing regularly and winning tournament is only secondary to health benefits derived from golfing. But "salamagan" they must win also to give justice to the fund support complemented by Class. He he he.

Casuy Cup 2024:

Some Masigasig golfers were privileged to participate in Casuy Cup held at Valley Golf Club last 14 Oct. This is a yearly fund raising tournament organized by the Ladies Circle of Valley Golf and Country Club; the participation is by invitation only. Gene is a regular sponsor of this yearly and prestigious tournament. For this year, three flights of Masigasig golfers (Rock, Manding, Yeric, Johnny, Monying, Cel, Ogie, Celso and Fe) were recipients of Gene's kindness and generosity. There were plenty of raffle prizes and Johnny was lucky for winning a Callaway 5 wood club. Yours truly won an original and beautiful oil painting (Meet Me At Dawn) by certain artist, Mathilda Sula Sun. The tandem of Gene and Manding emerged as 1st Runner-up in Class B category. Congratulations



to the winners, in particular to Gene and Manding. We really enjoyed the bonding and moments with Johnny who was in his true self; cracking corny jokes and singing hilariously at our and caddy's delight,

all the way. Rock, Fe and I enjoyed every minute with him as flight mates. Welcome back Johnny. Gene and Monying, thank you very much for the wonderful moments in Valley. Till next year again.

Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to Masigasig family.

Till next Class Call and happy reading to all...OSLEC.



GEORGE T UY
President
EPHRAIM M RIO
Secretary

THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATION (GOCC) GOVERNANCE ACT OF 2011

Romy Alamillo and Del Lorenzana attended the 13th Anniversary of the Government Owned and Controlled Corporation (GOCC) Governance Act of 2011. The celebration was held by the Governance Commission for GOCC (GCG) hosted by its Chairperson, Atty. Marius P. Corpus, at the Philippine



(L-R) MGen. Romeo D. Alamillo PAF (Ret), President, Veterans Federation of the Philippines; LGen. Antonio Ramon Ang Lim PAF (Ret), Chairman, LBP Resources and Development Corporation; MGen. Delfin N. Lorenzana PA (Ret), Chairman of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA); Capt. Manuel "Skee" Tamayo, Director General, Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP).

International Convention Center (PICC) last Jun 04, 2024. The theme of the event focused on "Thriving at Thirteen: GCG's Governance for all – Diversity, Sustainability, and Excellence."

Del attended as the Chairman of the Bases Conversion Development Authority, one of the GOCCs in the GOCC Governance Act. Romy, on the other, attended as the President of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines.

VETERANS CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN COUNTRIES (VECONAC) 2024

Romy Alamillo, President of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), led the VFP delegation to the Veterans Confederation of Asean Countries (VECONAC) 2024, which was held in Singapore on Jun 24-25, 2024.

The first official engagement of the Philippine delegation was on Jun 24, 2024 which was a Bilateral Conference with the Singaporean delegation, led by BGen Winston Toh SAF (Ret), President of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) Veterans' League Inc. and the VECONAC 2024 Host.



The VFP delegation (L), led by its President, MGen. Romeo D. Alamillo PAF (Ret) had a Bilateral Conference with the SAF Veterans' League delegation (R), led by its President, BGen Winston Toh SAF (Ret).

The following day, Jun 25, 2024, the 36th Executive Board Meeting VECONAC 2024 was held at the Olivia Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel in Singapore.



MGen. Romeo D. Alamillo PAF (Ret), President of the VFP, poses at the entrance of the Olivia Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel where the VECONAC 2024 36th Executive Board Meeting was held.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MS. MARIA PACITA PASCUAL-MANGONON

Ms. Maria Pacita Pascual-Mangonon returned to her Creator on Aug 18, 2024. She is survived by her husband, Commo Franklin DG Mangonon PN (Ret), daughter, Maria Victoria Pilar, son-in-law, Emmanuel Rey R. Caintic, and grandchildren, Elija, Jacob, and Reese.

Celebrating the life of **Pat Pascual Mangonon**

MARCH 16, 1949 - AUGUST 18, 2024



Beloved wife of 50 years, Mama, Nana, Ate, Tita, and friend

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.'"
Proverbs 31:28-29

Commonly called "Pat," she was one of the most active Maagap Ladies. She was a superb 'EVENT ORGANIZER.' Her wake brought together Mistahs and their Ladies, and other friends to console with her grieving family members and provide support to one another during this difficult time.

On Aug 21, 2024, the Maagap Ladies rendered a Necrological Service for Pat with Monsie Torres as the emcee and moderator. It was a brief and sweet tribute to their Friend and all the speakers



The Maagap Clan who attended the Necrological Service for Pat.

acknowledged her lifetime achievements. It was attended by the Maagaps and Maagap Brats.

The Interment Service for Pat was held on Aug 24, 2024 at the Garden of Serenity, Manila Memorial Park, Paranaque.

The 40th Day Remembrance Ceremony for Pat was held on Sep 26, 2024 at the Seniors' Hall New Capitol Estates I, Batasan Hills, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City. Several Maagaps and Ladies attended this occasion.



Seated (L-R) Mayenne Saporsantos, Toots Uy, Judy Rio, and Ria Mangonon.

Standing (L-R) Ed Saporsantos, George Uy, Boy Rio, and Franklin Mangonon.

GOLFERS OF MAAGAP CLASS '73

PMGen Thompson C. Lantion '69 replaced Del Lorenzana as Chairman of BCDA on Sep 11, 2024. Five (5) days later, on Sep 16, 2024, he was enjoying a game of golf at the VAB Golf Course with his wife, Edith and a couple of Mistahs.



(L-R) Ms Edith A. Lorenzana, RAdm Gorge T. Uy PN (Ret), Comdr. Norberto J. Sosa PN (Ret), MGen Delfin N. Lorenzana PA (Ret).

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MS. SOCORRO "COY" BAQUIRAN

Last Oct 05, 2024, Tony Baquiran and his daughters rendered a 3rd Year Remembrance Ceremony at the columbarium of Coy. They prayed, offered a bouquet of flowers, and paid tribute to a wonderful wife and mother.



The columbarium of Coy was decorated with a bouquet of flowers and candles.



(L-R) Matt Mayuga, George Uy, Tito Angcanan, Joe Reyes, Ed Saporsantos, Franklin Mangonon, Del Lorenzana, Samy Bagasin, Bong Habacon, and Tony Billones.

PMGEN VIDAL QUEROL PNP (RET) TRAVELS ABROAD

VQ Querol had several travels abroad for the month of October.

First, he attended the Roundtable Dialogue held on Oct 15, 2024 at the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs in Beijing, China.



VQ Querol poses in front of the Chinese flag pole at the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Second, he was also a participant to the 2024 ASEAN Amateur Senior Golfers tournament in Pattaya, Thailand. The Send-Off Ceremony was held at Greenside Villamor Golf Club on October 22, 2024.



VQ Querol poses for a picture with the other participants after submitting their Tournament Documents.

GAME OF THE CAVALIERS 2024

The 1st Leg of the Game of the Cavalier (GoC) 2024 at the CGEA Golf Course was initially scheduled Oct 24, 2024. However, due to inclement weather brought about



(L-R) Ed Saporsantos, Del Lorenzana, Matt Mayuga, and George Uy.

by 'TS KRISTINE', it was rescheduled to Oct 28-31, 2024.

Since Oct 28, 2024 was the birthday of Del Lorenzana, he also scheduled a golf game at CGEA Golf Course with a prepared lunch for his guests. The Maagaps who played golf that day were able to participate in the 1st Leg of the GoC; and at the same time, enjoyed the sumptuous lunch of Del's birthday.

At the following day, Oct 29, 2024, Joe Reyes and Chris Datu participated in the GoC by playing a golf game at the CGEA Golf Course. They were in a flight with two 'UPPERCLASSMEN'; namely, Cav Bob Lastimoso '67 and Cav Mel Rosales '68.



(L-R) Joe Reyes, Cav Mel Rosales '68, Cav Bob Lastimoso '67, and Chris Datu.

OUTSTANDING MAAGAP 'APOS'

The Maagap 'APOS' are a generation of young ladies and gentlemen with 'BRAINS, MUSCLES, TALENT, AND BEAUTY.'

1. The Felix Brothers, Rebben Marion and Reuben Joseph, participated in the Hong Kong International Mathematical Olympiad (HKIMO) Final Round 2024,



Three Maagaps, Matt Mayuga (sitting leftmost) and (standing L-R) Bong Habacon and George Uy exchange pleasantries with the other guests during the sumptuous lunch of Del's birthday.

which was held in Hong Kong on August 23-24, 2024.

Rebben Marion was awarded the Gold Medal Award for the Secondary 1 Category. He also received the 'BOOLE' and 'EULER' Trophies for Mathematical Excellence.

Reuben Joseph was likewise awarded the Gold Medal Award; aside from receiving three (3) trophies, the 'BOOLE', 'LEIBNEZ' and 'EULER' for Outstanding Performance in Mathematics.



The Felix Brothers, Rebben Marion and Reuben Joseph, with the medals trophies and certificates they garnered at the HKIMO.

Furthermore, Rebben Marion and Reuben Jose also participated at the Philippine International Mathematical Olympics (PhIMO) held in Quezon City on Sep 21-22, 2024. They were awarded the Gold Medals.

The most remarkable achievement of Reuben Jose is that aside from the awards he received during both competitions; he was also declared the World Champion in both.



Rebben Marion receives his awards in the PhIMO Awarding Ceremonies.



Reuben Jose receives his awards in the PhIMO Awarding Ceremonies.

By the way, Rebben Marion Felix and Reuben Jose Felix are the 'APOs' of Joe and Tina Reyes from their daughter Jingjing who is married to Maj Ruben S. Felix, a former PAF officer who is now a pilot of Hong Kong Air Cargo.

2. Noa Mayuga Schlossberg is the 'APO' of Matt and Gee Mayuga from their daughter Joy who is married to Daniel Schlossberg. She was featured in the Maagap Class Call for the 3rd Quarter issue of the Cavalier Magazine as the champion amateur track and field athlete. She was awarded the Silver Medal in the US Junior Olympics last Aug 03, 2024.

But this time, she is making a name for herself in a very different field. It all

began as a project during their school fair at the Eastside Christian School in Marietta, Georgia, US of A. She set up a table at the pathway in the school grounds and sold scented candles, which she hand-crafted herself. Then, she packaged them in special cans, which she labeled 'HILOM CANDLES'. Matt was intrigued by the label and asked Noa whether 'HILOM' was a Hebrew word and what does it mean. Noa answered him, "No, Lolo, 'HILOM' is a



Noa, the 'BUSINESS LADY', manning her 'HILOM CANDLES' kiosk.



...with perseverance and hard work...



This was where the 'HILOM CANDLES' business started...



...a quality product was produced!

Tagalog word meaning 'TO HEAL' in English. On the 1st day of the fair, she was able to sell \$1,000 worth of HILOM CANDLES.

A week before Halloween, Noa set up a kiosk at the sidewalk in front of their house and started selling 'HILOM CANDLES'!

3. Nicole is the eldest 'APO' of Oca and Tess Calderon from their son, Ojay. She is now 15 years old and just attended her first social event, her 'SENIOR PROM.' From her prom picture, she has grown into a stunning young lady. She may be following



Nicole's Senior Prom picture.

the footsteps of her Lola Tess who was the Miss General Santos City during her prime.





AVELINO I RAZON, JR
President
BENIGNO T CABRIETO, JR
Secretary

The following is a summary of activities that the members of the PMA "Marangal" Class of 1974 participated during the 3rd quarter:

Quarterly Tournament of the Corps of 74567:

On August 21, 2024, our class graciously hosted the 3rd quarter tournament of the Corps of 74567. This golf tournament brought together the PMA classes of 1974, 1975, 1976, and 1977. The event took place at the Villamor Air Base Golf Course. Following the tournament, a lunch, award ceremony, and fellowship gathering were held at the Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse. It was a day filled with fun and camaraderie among fellow cavaliers. After tabulating the scorecards, our class was declared the champion team, not due to being the host, but because our players performed exceptionally well. Our team members included **Elbon Noble**, **Jun Esperon**, **Sonny Razon**, **Pons Crucero**, **Lito Gutierrez**, **Willie Garcia**, **Amy Tolentino**, **Jun Lopez**, **Caloy Carlos**, **Errol Pan**, **Gene Cedo**, **Ace Tolentino**, and **Ed Doromal**. The PMA class of 1976 secured the position of first runner-up. **Elbon Noble** achieved the lowest gross score of the tournament.

Quarterly Joint Birthday Celebration:

The regular quarterly birthday celebration for class members and their ladies was held on October 30, 2024, at the AGFO building in Camp Aguinaldo. This event also doubled as a Halloween party, with attendees dressing in themed attire. Despite some guests arriving late due to heavy traffic on the last day before the long weekend, the celebration was well attended. The birthday celebrators present included **Willie Garcia**, **Nick Radovan**, **James de Guzman**, **Ernie Belen**, and **Romy Ranay**, while the ladies' birthday celebrators included **Fely Ranay**, **Nani Nano**, **Marian Pamplona**, **Bong Cedo**, **Mitz dela Paz**, **Malou Gutierrez**, **Luz Yen**, and **Ditas Lopez**.

Recognition was given for the best Halloween costumes, with **Danny Abinoja** winning the best costume award for his circus clown attire. **Ellen Tolentino** took home the award for the best ladies' costume, while **Chu Buenaflor**



Team champion, "Marangal" Class of 1974 players



Elbon Noble, winner of the lowest gross in the Corps of 74567 golf tournament, with Jun Esperon



was recognized for the most innovative costume. Although **Pete Cruz** arrived late with a noteworthy Halloween costume, the winners had already been determined by that time.

Entertainment was provided by a band composed of cavaliers, featuring our mistahs **Romy Buenaflor** on lead guitar and **Skeet Nano** on bass. Other band members included Cavaliers **Kwek-**



Birthday celebrators of the 4th quarter.



"Marangal" Class of 1974
4th quarter birthday celebration

kwek Ebuen '72, Matt Mayuga '73, and drummer Ver Hernandez '83. This group of retired military professionals has pursued a meaningful passion in music post-retirement. The band played many of our favorite songs from the 60s, 70s, and 80s, and the "**Marangals**," along with their partners, danced the night away.

In Memoriam:

This quarter, we mourn the loss of two mistahs, **Joe Barbiato** and **Ed Escudero**. **Joe Barbiato** passed away on September 21, 2024 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center after a prolonged illness. He is survived by his wife, **Myrna**, and son, **Gerard James**. A necrological service was held on September 25, 2024, at the Mortuary of Libingan ng Mga Bayani, where eulogies were delivered by our class president, **Sonny Razon** and **Romy Ranay**. The following day, he was interred at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani.

Ed Escudero passed away on October 26, 2024, after being in a coma for over six months at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He is survived by his sons, Ace, who served with the US Army QRF in Iraq, and Billy. Ed's remains were inurned in Cebu.

Forthcoming Class Activities:

The class will hold its Christmas party on December 4, 2024, at the Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse.



"Marangal" Class of 1974 Ladies
4th quarter birthday celebration



Members of the class with Myrna Barbiato and family

President Sonny Razon
delivering his eulogy.

Pres Sonny Razon
with Ace Escudero.

Pons Crucero and Gene Cedo
with Ace Escudero.



RAUL S GONZALES
President
DANTE T FERRER
Secretary

Christmas 2024 is in the Air - The holiday season of Christmas brings a sense of joy and warmth to people around the world. As the air becomes crisp and festive lights illuminate homes and streets, the world comes together to celebrate the spirit of giving and love. This time is marked by the tradition of decorating trees, exchanging thoughtful gifts, and gathering with loved ones for a heartwarming meal. Christmas is a universal celebration that unites people across borders, cultures, and generations, creating shared moments of happiness and goodwill.

Raul Gonzales called for a class meeting on September 30 at the PMAAAI Center in Camp Aguinaldo to ensure preparation. The following Makabayans were present: Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Dante Ferrer, Cardozo Luna, Ernie Boac, Pet Magno, Cesar Carranza, Fernando Mesa, Ray Roderos, and Joseph Castro. The officers and their ladies settled to host the event at the Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse on December 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Before the Christmas party commences, we will take a dedicated hour or two to honor our beloved classmates who have passed away in a heartfelt tribute called "En Memoriam." This poignant observance will begin with a solemn requiem mass, a sacred occasion where we will come together to pray for the eternal peace of our departed mistahs. A touching video presentation, generously sponsored by Charlemagne Alejandrino, will illuminate the lives and contributions of our 31 departed classmates, showcasing cherished memories that many still hold dear. We warmly invite all available widows to participate in this ceremony. One will be selected to offer a heartfelt response at the program's conclusion, adding a personal touch to the remembrance.

Immediately following "En Memoriam," the festive spirit of the Christmas celebration will unfold. Our class president, Raul Gonzales, will kick off the festivities with heartfelt Season's greetings and a warm welcome to all attendees. Some of our fellow mistahs will graciously provide essential elements for the party, including state-of-the-art audio and video facilities, entertainment, and a beautifully decorated backdrop. Willie and Inday Palugod, along with Jeff and Nitz Sodusta, have kindly agreed to sponsor the entertainment segment by inviting a talented



PMA Class 1975 Meeting at the PMAAAI Center Sep 30, 2024. L-R: Ray Roderos, Andy Mesa, Ding Luna, Cesar Carranza, Charlie Alejandrino, Noe Wong, Raul Gonzales, Dante Ferrer, Ernie Boac, Pet Magno, and Joseph Castro.

music band to perform nostalgic "oldies but goldies" songs. This selection will surely resonate with many classmates, inspiring laughter, joy, and maybe even a few tears as we reminisce.

To enhance the festive atmosphere, the ladies will organize a variety of engaging raffles and entertaining games that everyone can participate in. These activities aim to add excitement and fun to the gathering. Additionally, there will be a delightful exchange of gifts specifically for couples, allowing them to share in the joy of the occasion. For the culinary experience, we have selected a highly regarded caterer known for their exquisite menu and outstanding service. Attendees can look forward to a sumptuous spread featuring a diverse range of delectable dishes, ensuring that something satisfies every palate. The lively games, thoughtful gift exchanges, and exceptional food will create a memorable celebration.

Updates on the 2025 Homecoming Preparations – The Makabayan Class of PMA 1975 is gearing up for its Golden Jubilee celebration in six months, with preparations starting four years ago under President Raul S. Gonzales. The strategy focuses on maximizing participation while minimizing costs. A steering committee developed several initiatives, including shared accommodations, uniform attire for events, class dinners for networking, and a special edition of the class yearbook, "Ang Kalis." Special thanks to Pete Cadungog and Benny Brizuela for their work on the publication. Regular meetings were held to gather ideas and move forward.

One common challenge of organizing a homecoming event is securing adequate accommodation for attendees. Thankfully, one of our classmates has arranged for us to stay at a hotel the class chose for the occasion. Noe Wong took the initiative and



PMA 75 Class Meeting. Raul Gonzales showing the class sample of the medallion to be given during the 2025 homecoming.

spearheaded the Baguio Golf and Country Club reservation process. This beautiful venue offers a variety of lodgings, including deluxe rooms, spacious executive suites, and charming cottages. With these options, there is more than enough space to comfortably accommodate all the members of our class, ensuring a pleasant and memorable stay during the event.

The event plan features a series of special dinners, designed to foster connection and camaraderie among attendees. Two of these dinners will be exclusively for spouses, while another will cater specifically to gentlemen, coinciding with the election for the new class officers set to serve from 2025 to 2030.

The first dinner, a welcome gathering aimed at breaking the ice and rekindling familiar bonds, will take place in the elegant grand ballroom of the Baguio Country Club on February 13, 2025. This pre-Valentine's Day affair promises a warm atmosphere for couples who will don the stylish Corps Jacket, graciously provided by Willie and Inday Palugod.

The second dinner will be a delightful evening exclusively for husbands and wives,

hosted at Mama's Table, located at 888 Ambuklao Rd., Baguio City. The generous hosts, Jeff and Nitz Sodusta, will welcome everyone to this intimate dining experience, which highlights exquisite French cuisine in a privileged setting. For this occasion, couples are encouraged to dress elegantly, with gentlemen wearing a blazer and a black turtleneck. At the same time, ladies are invited to choose appropriate formal attire for the evening.

A video presentation in the works will vividly recount the class's history, journey, and current updates. Charlemagne Alejandrino is leading the effort to craft this engaging video for the dinner event scheduled for February 13. He elaborated that the presentation will be divided into three segments: the cadet days, the experiences as active service officers, and the reflections from the post-retirement period.

Running for approximately 30 minutes, the production will adhere to professional guidelines to maintain a concise and engaging format, ensuring it captivates the audience without becoming tedious. This collaborative effort

involves Charlemagne Alejandrino, Ronald Roderos, Dick Capuyan, and Dante Ferrer, each contributing their unique insights and memories to create a comprehensive and memorable narrative.

During the homecoming parade, the gentlemen will wear barongs and black pants, along with *tabungao*, an Indigenous headgear shown in the class crest. The ladies will wear dresses they designed and made for the event. After the parade, the class and their families will have lunch at Lopez Hall. This gathering will give families a chance to reconnect.

The final dinner will be held the night after the parade at the Baguio Country Club Function Hall, during which the Class will elect a new set of officers (2025-2030).

To help those without transportation, the organizers will provide one bus to take attendees from Manila to Baguio City and back. Priority will go to those coming from abroad without transportation. Once in Baguio, six PMA buses will shuttle members and their families from the hotel to PMA and back. Ernie Boac will handle these arrangements. Mistahs are encouraged not to use private vehicles since parking inside the PMA compound can be difficult.

Birthday Celebrators for the 4th Quarter—We celebrate the birthdays of 13 mistahs who embody the spirit of Makabayan. As we honor five of them in memory, let us all take a moment to offer our prayers for their eternal peace. They will forever hold a special place in our hearts, cherished for the impact they made during their time with us.

Additionally, we rejoice in the vibrant lives of 17 gentlemen who mark another year of existence. To these gentlemen, may your smiles continue to brighten the world and your positive perspective guide you through life's journey. Happy Birthday to all!

For October

Nap M delos Santos Jr. +	October 7
Sergio M Alcubilla +	October 8
Roberto O Robles +	October 10

For November

Sofronio F Pasillao +	November 1
Cesar L Carranza	November 3
Bernardo G Julianda +	November 20
Florante J Baguio +	November 25

For December

Carlito C Claudio	December 7
Ruperto Rico C Borromeo	December 8
Arthur N Gosigan	December 9
Osmundo C Hernandez	December 10
Reynaldo P Ansay	December 26
Renato M Navarro	December 29



Tabungao: PMA 75 Makabayan icon.



MAGTANGGOL B GATDULA
President
LUIZO C TICMAN
Secretary

As we gather for recent events, we celebrate our bonds, honor our memories, and look forward to future milestones. Here's what's new:

Homecoming Celebration for Caloy Cagaanan. Mistah Caloy Cagaanan was warmly welcomed back at the Magilas main office with a homecoming lunch. Mistahs prepared a sumptuous spread, and the gathering was filled with laughter, stories, and the warmth of rekindled friendships.

Mrs. Barrera's Lunch Gathering at Vikings. Several of our Mistahs joined Mrs. Barrera, the wife of our late Mistah Isauro Barrera, for a special lunch at Vikings, where we enjoyed reminiscing about our shared history. Her presence was a reminder of the mentors, and friends that have supported us over the years.

Honoring Mistah Ernesto "Sluggo" Nano. It is with heavy hearts that we remember Mistah Ernesto "Sluggo" Nano. During a solemn gathering, Secretary Louie Ticman read the President's heartfelt eulogy, while Mistah Abner shared his own moving tribute. As we remember Sluggo's legacy, let us keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Honoring Mistah Jose "Joe" Gamos. Excerpts from Toto Golez recollections: "*Joe Gamos was my roommate during Yearling year from Delta Company. Every night before sleeping, ang towel na nakasabit sa bunks ang props nya to practice dancing. With the proper Marlboro skag on hand. Ang problema during the real macoy, hari ng sablay. To da max pa inaabot ang hiya. Kung gaano ka terror as an uppie, sobrang ka tiope naman sa dance floor. Sayang nagpaturo sana kay Vic Boco at Pol Bataoil para swabe ang ikot at hakbang mapa boogie man o chacha. Sa musika naman, mahilig makinig at ang peborit nya ay "When Summer is Gone." Matindi ang tama kay Joe ang kanta ng Gary Lewis and the Playboys. Intro palang... I'll see you in September... when summer is gone... have a goodtime but remember, come back to me when Summer is Gone... Yan... pampa high morale ni Joe. For him, it meant seeing his one and only Jowa before and up to now... Delia. Yan ang malinaw na recollection ko kay Joega... mga kalupitan nya ng Yearling natin siya sa Delta... Kinalimutan ko na..."*

The Magilas Sword Coffee Table Book. Our Magilas Sword coffee table book is in the works, capturing our history and cherished moments. Contributions



of photos, stories, and reflections are encouraged to make this project a meaningful tribute to Magilas Class '76.

Preparations for the 2026 PMA Homecoming Anniversary. Our anniversary homecoming at the Philippine Military Academy is coming up in 2026. Plans are underway for a grand celebration, and we encourage everyone to mark their calendars. This milestone will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Mistahs and families.

October Birthday Celebrants. This month, we also celebrate the birthdays of our Mistahs. Please join us in wishing a fantastic year ahead to:

Tui Deemongkol
Ely Dela Paz

Abner Cabalquinto
Louie Ticman
Ed Gurrea
Wilson Young
Alex Yapching
Pol Bataoil
Raffy Dacanay
Efren Veran
Joey Paz
Archie Armada

May each of you have a memorable celebration and a year filled with blessings, joy, and good health.

As we look forward, let us continue to honor our traditions, support each other, and celebrate the legacy of Magilas Class '76.





RICARDO A DAVID JR
President
MANUELITO G DAHAN
Secretary

It is Christmas season once again! Everyone focuses their sight on a happy and blessed celebration of the season. PMA Masikap Class of 1977 is one of them.

The Class scheduled its yuletide party on December 9, 2024 on a modest celebration at the Philippine Navy Golf Club. While it is envisioned to be as prudent and simple as it is, in consideration of the less fortunate fellow citizens devastated by the calamities and typhoons that visited the country, some of our mistahs proposed that instead of having a party, why not share our blessings to the victims of the calamities. Quite a number agreed but majority would like that the party must be pushed through.

Our dreaded Masikap 77 golfers once again, showed their prowess in golf in the recently concluded Games of Cavaliers held in four different courses of the military. They may not have won the prize but they all put a good fight. Handicapped by shortage of players, they were able to finish the qualifying courses. The team was led by our Class Prex Ric David with Vic Agdamag, Nes Ochoa, Art Mancenido, Andy Caro, Dan Cortez, and Mayor Fidel Cimat.

While they are sweating it out at the local military courses, three of our mistah



golfers joined the Jurado Cup tournament at Disney Palm Golf Course in Orlando, Florida on November 9, 2024. Jimmy Garingo and Zaldy Damazo were joined in by Sunny Pequiras all the way from the Philippines.

Next tournament is the Corps of 74567 which will be hosted by Class 1975 at the Riviera Golf and Country Club on November 21, 2024. Masikap golfers, let us give them a good fight again!

The Class was saddened by the loss of our mistah, Alex Taguinod, who bade

goodbye on November 9, 2024 after suffering from a lingering illness. Our heartfelt prayers that he may now rest in peace!

Whenever Masikap 77 gathers for a dine, the Chicken Club is revived! The group that joined Jurado Cup had its chicken club at the Cuba Libre resto in Orlando, Florida hosted by US based mistahs Jinggoy and Zaldy! On another location, the Carolinos of the Orange County in California hosted the chicken club at their residence in honor of the visit of Pitong Heredia to their place!





ROMEO D LUSTESTICA
President
FELIPE HB BUENA, JR
Corporate Secretary

An article on "There's every reason to embrace ageing with positivity" aptly described what our class has been doing.

"The importance of social connections - Joy is directly connected to the health of our relationships."

There is a significant body of research that suggests social connections make people happier and keep frailty at bay. Human beings are social creatures. We find joy in positive interpersonal relationships. By the same token, dysfunctional or non-existent relationships can cause anxiety, depression and loneliness.

To be well and stay well, particularly in our silver years, we need strong and healthy social connections."

One prerequisite of an active social life is a healthy body. I am pleased to say that our class has no lack of healthy bodies as can be seen at the golf course, dancing away at each gathering.

When we are filled with dread, it shows in our posture. We are hunched over, folded into ourselves. Conversely, when we stand up tall, hold our chest up and pull our shoulders back and suck our guts, we naturally feel more confident - thanks to our plebe training! We do so especially during photo taking!

July - The pride of 78 - Oca R was the 1st Runner up in the 2024 PMAAAI-PMARAI Chess Team Tournament at PN.



The Class participated with four flights at the 2ND MILITARY BISHOP CUP on Aug 7 at VGC.



August - Birthday celebration in US



Chito and V Panganiban and in the Philippines



On 14 September Saturday, we received the sad news that Mistah Arnel Gonzales has passed on. The class came together to support the bereaved family, especially our ladies.



Not forgetting the ladies – our Mistah Cora Rosales celebrated her birthday at Rosy Chicks Farm in Cavite.



October - A fun-filled Q3 and Q4 Fellowship was held on 11 Oct at Phil-Korea Friendship Center with 54 participants. The older - the merrier!





IRINEO C ESPINO
President
EDWIN I CORVERA
Secretary

Amidst the cacophony reverberating from the halls of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the MATAPAT Class of 1979 is quietly but keenly keeping tab of how things are evolving surrounding the issues of alleged extra judicial killings, misuse of confidential funds, the much-celebrated involvement in scam operations of a “suspected” Chinese spy elected as a mayor, and of course the increasingly volatile situation in the West Philippines Sea. While we may no longer be able to directly influence the situation, we will continue to let our voices be heard no matter how insignificant our views may be until they reach the high heavens.

As a manifestation of our class’ interest and deep concern for things that are now happening, we have joined hands with former comrades in arms in the military and the police organizations during the official launching of Matapat Ariel Querubin’s candidacy for senator dubbed as “A Gathering of Warriors: Military and Police Leaders.” This took place at the historic Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan City last July 8, 2024 with more than a thousand in attendance. Last October 7, the class joined again at the Quirino grandstand a throng of supporters from the military, police, academe, government officials and non-government organizations in ushering Ariel when he filed his certificate of candidacy with the COMELEC.

We now therefore appeal to all of our patriotic fellow Cavaliers to support Ariel in his bid for a seat in the Senate. PARA SA ATING BAYAN PO ETO!

On the lighter side of this quarterly SITREP, the MATAPAT gentlemen have found a way to make gatherings more enjoyable and fun-filled by piggybacking on the quarterly birthday celebrations of our ladies! Initially, we served as mere drivers of our wives as they gather to celebrate, until we invited ourselves to join their occasion. But not so clever move though. Kasi lalong naging mabongga ang celebration ergo, lumaki rin ang contribution chargeable to you know what...But this is one thing undeniable amongst us MATAPAT, our love for our ladies knows no limit. Is it not, boys?



Fellow MATAPATs braved the rain to express their support to Ariel when he filed his certificate of candidacy for senator last October 7.

Our Class (husbands included, baliktad ba?) had another blast when we honored our ladies who celebrated their birthdays in the second quarter. Our Ladies initiated a very successful Beatle mania retro bonding get together in Camp Aguinaldo. We hopped, sung and jammed with the retro band in our Beatle themed attires. And of course, with a lot of boodles and hot darn! Blessie Kison was the program host, effectively relegating Titan on the sideline.

We greet once again all MATAPATS who recently celebrated their birthdays namely: Oca Mapalo, Rene Abella, Tony Agtual, Jolu Alano, Cantoy Alcantara, Ram Alivio, Rolly Añonuevo, Drus Bolodo, Bummy Bumanglag, Butch Butalid, Alex Cabales, Romy Calizo, Diego Cruz, Rene David, Johnny Desuasido, Chuck Dizon, Vic Felix, Ron Fidel, Bong Golez, Cip Gundao, Mel Heredia, Jigs Hipolito, Boy Honoridez, Mel Inductivo, Titan Kison, Rey Lañada, Raul Leyritana, Paeng Llave, Toots Lucas, Addie Olan, Arnold Palma, Pol Pulanco, Arnold Revilla, Tony Reyes, Rolly Tenefrancia, Jun Valentin, Bing Vizcara, and Rey Rafal. Our Mistah Cong. Nonoy Libanan had a repeat celebration of his birthday in his home province Samar.

Not wanting to miss the beautiful summer in Europe and America, a number of MATAPAT couples embarked on a much-needed respite from the drudgery of a retiree’s life in the Philippines. Based on the records of the Bureau of Immigration the following MATAPATS were monitored to have travelled during the past three



Alex P, Ed O and Art O at the Vazco Da Gama shrine.

months or so: Vic and Dodie Felix in Europe; Mark and Maloli Supnet in the USA and Europe; Edwin and Yolly Corvera in the USA; Eric and Michelle Mananquil in the USA; Sammy and Chay Pagdilao in Europe and USA; Butch and Annie Butalid in Europe; Ed and Toton Oban in Europe; Alex and Carlette in Europe; Art and Cindy in Europe; Pete and Menchie in Europe

and USA. Boy and Marion Espino have also been practically all over the globe on many occasions. Others who went abroad evaded the Bureau of Immigration via the Southern Philippines backdoor! SANA ALL.

But the most celebrated MATAPAT traveler of the year is none other than Alex Estomo, who, of course was always under the watchful eyes of Jo. They spent more than two months in Europe visiting historical places in World War 2 and many scenic tourist spots. Abandoning his "cover" and Boholano accent, Alex E was able to obtain his Schengen visa and passed through all immigration interviews in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Estonia, Sweden and Greece. This was in contrast to a previous trip where he was rejected entry in a country when he started speaking in Spanish while trying to mimic Antonio Banderas.



Alex and Jo Estomo in Europe



Ampy proudly smiles after Fred completed a 100-mile run.

Traveling, regardless of whether it is local or international, indeed reinvigorates both body and mind. So, while our hearts are still healthy and our limbs are still able to prop us up without the aid of a cane or a walker, let us look for those promo trips and get going!

Speaking of travel, MATAPAT Fred Peralta continues to travel differently. With the support of his ever-loving beautiful wife Ampy, he recently completed three super ultra-marathons of 100 miles each in the past two months: the ALTRA 100 Philippines 2024, the Cagayan Valley 100-mile Endurance Run Leg 2, and the Taal Loop 100-mile Endurance Run. Mistah, you deserve a "Tarzan Award" many times over. Wish you more mileage Bok!



Art O joined the 62-kilometer fun bike of the SFRA.

Congratulations also to MATAPAT Art O for completing the 62-kilometer fun bike in connection with the 62nd anniversary of the Special Forces Regiment (Airborne). He was the most senior SF guy who finished the course!

Art Ortiz and family went on a 12-day Lenten road trip, Luzon - Visayas - Mindanao - Visayas - Luzon via RORO (March 26-April 6 2024) with the following itinerary:

Day 1: Calabarzon-Bicol
Day 2: Samar-Leyte
Day 3-4: Surigao-Agusan -Mis Or-CDO
Day 5-6: Bukidnon - Lanao Sur
- Lanao Norte - Zambo peninsula
Day 7: Negros Island
Day 8: Panay Island
Day 9-10: Boracay island
Day 11: Mindoro
Day 12: Batangas-Manila

This road trip gave Art O an opportunity to visit his former field assignments as a junior officer. He was glad to see the transformation of the once forsaken, neglected and conflicted areas turn into peaceful, developed and progressive towns/cities particularly Samar, Southern Leyte, Lanao and Negros Provinces, where several resorts and tourist spots were established, generating business and other livelihood opportunities to the locals. It gave him a great feeling with the thought that our efforts and sacrifices have somehow contributed to the peace prevailing in these areas right now.





Brother Essel Soriano, President of the AMCF, with other foreign military evangelists in Sao Paolo, Brazil.



Bob Rongavilla, Essel Soriano and Maxwell Oligane with another foreign delegate at the AMCF.

While many of our mistahs are engaged in other sports, many are heavily engaged in golf. The passion for golf is evident in the class such that our golfers have organized the MATAPAT 79 Golf Club. They have a monthly fellowship golf game with lunch and raffles. The club is headed by MATAPAT Tattu S.

We take pride in our mistah MATAPAT Essel Soriano in his leadership as the current head of the Association of Military Christian Fellowship, an international organization of military evangelists promoting Christian values. He recently chaired a huge gathering of AMCF members

in Sao Paolo, Brazil that was attended by military evangelists from all over the world. He was accompanied by MATAPATs Maxwell Oligane and Bob Rongavilla. By the way, there is an open invitation to all MATAPATs to join the weekly Bible study spearheaded by Essel every Wednesday from 0630 to 0800 via Zoom. Kudos to you Brother Essel!

We also express appreciation to MATAPAT Class President Boy Espino who has been doing a tremendous job as Senior Undersecretary of National Defense. As one of two MATAPATs serving under the present administration, Boy has been

competently assisting his boss Secretary Gibo Teodoro as he continues to critical jobs like representing the country in high-level meetings with defense officials of different countries.

At Camp Crame, we have MATAPAT Cantoy Alcantara who is presently the Executive Director of the Philippine Center on Transnational Crimes. His return to law enforcement brings his career full circle. He was formerly with the Philippine Constabulary. Then he decided to transfer to the Army. Now he is back where he started his service to the country. Cantoy currently holds the rank of undersecretary. Cantoy, Boy E and Raul L are the only MATAPATs serving under the current administration. Raul L is a member of the board of PHILPOST.

Overseas, MATAPATs Rene Abella, Addie Olan, Gimboy Guimbatan, and others are busy preparing for this year's Jurado Cup competition. They are expecting Mark Supnet, Rey Lañada, Bong Golez, Sammy Pagdilao to participate given their track records in many of the sports to be played.

MATAPATs Roy Ruiz and Addie Olan recently shared that most of our mistahs in the USA are busy in their apostolic work (read: baby-sitting of grandchildren), a non-paying but a truly fulfilling job.

As we are about to end 2024, we all look forward to a more meaningful, productive, and joyful experiences in 2025. May we and our families be continually blessed spiritually and temporally and endure whatever challenges there may be while always bearing in our minds and hearts the essence of being MATAPAT to all that we cherish - God, family, country and Alma Mater!



MATAPAT golfers relaxing after a round of golf.



CAESAR RONNIE F ORDOYO
President
EDMUND C TAN
Secretary

Mapitagan Birthday Boys

In keeping with the class tradition, the Mapitagan Birthday celebrators for May-June-July-August hosted the Fellowship held at the Navy Headquarters View Deck in Roxas Boulevard last 24 August 2024. Twenty (20) mistahs joined the nine (9) Mapitagan Birthday Boys who were present in the occasion.

Ed Tamayo together with Arnold Perez, Gil Meneses and Emil Sarmiento, all celebrants, took the lead to organize the event to make it jovial, entertaining and dynamic. Navy Personnel were assigned to render cheerful assistance that made the attendees feel relaxed and experienced an enjoyable event.

With all attendees seated at 12:00 noon, Class President Ces Ordoyo called the gathering to order. His brief opening words of welcome and inspiration were warmly applauded. As the Mapitagans went to the buffet to partake of the senior-friendly meal, the Philippine Navy provided oldies but goldies oldies sprinkled with some jazz vocals.

Then the time was at hand for the celebration's culmination. Gathering around a small table with two cakes, one chocolate and the other ube, both topped by a single symbolic candle, Sammy Diciano was called front and center to lead the Mapitagan Birthday Chant he patented. The celebrants then blew the candles by clapping their hands, the DOH-correct way in these Covid and MPox times.

Those who wanted a taste of either cake, took a slice, then ordered brewed coffee. This was the cue for Videoke Time! Class Secretary Edmund Tan first seized the microphone, his opening song of the Mapitagan machos favorite "Bikining Itim." Ed Tamayo followed with a few songs. Later, the trio of PNP'ers Jardie Mantele, Vic Caragan and Arnold Perez regaled everyone with well rendered numbers. The last performer, Herbert Yambing, was a revelation with his crooner-ish delivery of ballads.

Two months later on 26 October 2024, the birthday celebration for the September-October-born Mapitagans followed at the Villamor GC Clubhouse Social Hall. TS Kristine and the rains did not prevent the 34 attendees from having a good time, with celebrant Ige Rodriguez tagging along his Kaydet Girl Aleli and daughter Ara, who was

sad not to have seen her Ninong Edmund, then in Dumaguete for his Mom's First Death Anniversary.

El Presidente Ces Ordoyo gave an update on next year's PMA Homecoming, with Mapitagan '80 as Host Class. He took on a more somber note as he spoke about ailing class members, a grim reminder to always attend class activities while we still can.

Incoming honorary member Jigs Cristales equally enjoyed the merriment over good food, great wine, and wonderful stories told a thousand times!

The Social Hall of the Villamor GC Clubhouse was filled with the wonderful music of the PAF Combo, courtesy of COL Marc Yambing, the younger variety. It gave life to the nine celebrators present as they all stood up and cheered to the Class '80 Happy Birthday Chant, but this time, without the birthday cake. Nakalimutan! (Now, does that tell us something?)

As soon as it began, it was over. Suddenly there were errands to do, other places to visit,

but most of all, seniors just wanting to catch up with their afternoon naps. Until the next birthday party brings us all together again!

Golfing Mapitagans

On the 31st of August 2024, the August Monthly Game and Fellowship, after being postponed twice, took place in Hallow Ridge Filipinas Golf Club in nearby San Pedro, Laguna. Eight Mapitagan Golfers (MGs) registered then had breakfast and coffee in the driving range cafe, while enjoying the wonderful view of "fairer" golfers in the driving range.

Teeing off from the Back 9 starting 8:00 a.m., the MGs played comfortably under an overcast sky, but the sun in the second nine came out beaming. After holing out in the final hole, all eight sweaty golfers went to the main resto, the Caba Garden Cafe, which has a commanding view of the tees and greens.

Late lunch was pizza, pasta, nachos and Hainanese chicken washed down with red wine. A friendly statuesque staff provided



In jubilant celebration held on 24 August 2024 at the HPN View Deck in Roxas Boulevard, Manila, nine (9) of the May-June-July-August Mapitagan birthday boys gather around the ube and chocolate cakes before blowing the candles, a symbolic way to seek blessings and protection for the coming year. In photo are (L-R): Arnold Perez, Ager Ontog, Manny Amat, Pol Palacio, Noel Manabat, Jardie Mantele, Emil Gupana, Raffy Torres and Ed Tamayo.



The nine (9) Mapitagan September and October Birthday celebrants honored for the occasion on 26 October 2024 with the Mapitagan Birthday Chant. In photo are (L-R): Orly Beltran, Nolet Ojeda, Nes Deona, Prez Ces Ordoyo, Commissioner Rainier Cruz, Paco Francisco, Ige Rodriguez, Gerry Layug and Bong Cabantac.

excellent service. After two hours of banter and bragging rights, the pleased MGs bundled off to their cars for the short drive home.

For the second time in almost two months, on the 28th of September 2024, ten (10) Mapitagan Golfers and an MG golfer friend (Jun Madayag) motored to Hacienda Luisita for the monthly Mapitagan Golf and Fellowship at the Luisita Golf and Country Club, which was hosted by the Mapitagan September birthday celebrants.

After a hearty breakfast of finer tapsilog fare in the al fresco clubhouse resto, highlighted by cups of fine brewed coffee, the MGs teed-off starting at 8 o'clock in Hole #1. Under a cool overcast sky, they played well in the soft well-maintained fairway. But in the Back 9, the sun broke through the clouds, warming the fairway and MGs. Despite the heat and numerous water hazards, they scored well, with four MGs scoring birdies.

Lunch was heftier, thanks to Mapitagan September birthday celebrants. Bottles of Aussie red wine and French cognac, thanks to Emil Sarmiento, spiced up the bragging rights. As all good things must come to an end, at past two it was time for the two hours-and-a-half drive back to Manila.

While TS Kristine lingered in the WPS, 13 Mapitagan Golfers and an MG son (PJ Francisco of Paco) had golfer's breakfast in Villamor GC clubhouse for the scheduled MG October Monthly Golf and Fellowship on the 26th of October 2024.

Teeing off successively in four flights from Hole #1 starting at 7:30AM, they played under an overcast sky on a wet and muddy fairway almost to themselves. When the last flight was battling the 17th Hole before noon, TS Kristine sent a heavy downpour, causing the play to stop. The three (3) wet MGs were not complaining though, due to an MG rule which stipulates that: *When play is stopped due to heavy rain, lightning, earthquake, or alien invasion, affected player is awarded a Par in the unfinished hole.* Hehehe.

The wet grass and muddy fairway, the plugged balls and the no roll fairway added to the challenge, on top of the anxiety that rain would come crashing down. But all 13 MGs were just happy to be playing again with familiar faces, with a history that stretched back to a day in April some 48 years ago.

Mapitagans Abroad

The travel bug has truly bitten quite a number of our full-time retired mistahs. With time on our hands and leading a sincerely relaxing lifestyle, traveling is the only thing we can buy that makes us richer. As travel provides precious benefits for a healthier aging process, taking a trip is an investment



Eight (8) MGs (L-R): Baron Hermie Colina, Larry DLC, Bong Cabantac, Prez Ces Ordoyo, Bogs Abogado, Emil Sarmiento, Onell Llano, and Jojie Segovia before teeing off in Hole #10 of Hallow Ridge Filipinas Golf Course in San Pedro, Laguna on 31 August 2024.



Ten (10) Mapitagan Golfers pose for posterity before teeing off in four flights one after another starting at 7:30AM in the front nine of Villamor Golf Course, namely (L-R): Emil Sarmiento, Herbert Yambing, Hermie Colina, Paco Francisco, Bong De Asis, Larry Dela Cruz, Prez Ces Ordoyo, Bogs Abogado, Nes Deona and Bong Cabantac. Three (3) other MGs not in the photo are Rainier Cruz, George Regis and Jojie Segovia, still having breakfast in the clubhouse resto when the photo was taken.

for longevity.

For a rundown of Mapitagans who ably juggled retirement and wanderlust, Ed Tamayo and Mayette went Down Under in September 2024 to check on their two sons, who have apparently grown fonder of Australia. They expected to meet Hermie Colina whose family lives in Canberra but were not able to do it due to conflict in their schedules.

Manny "Matley" Amat played tourist in the USofA early this year in March 2024, visiting its famous landmarks, away for a while from his familiar haunts in Quezon. Last year in August 2023, Matley also went to Switzerland, Denmark and Norway as a tourist, hoping perhaps to finally find a "foreigner partner" to improve his race. Hehehe...

Another Mapitagan who toured the US from July 31 to September 14, 2024, was Nes Deona with special friend Cora Mutuc, to visit Nes' sister and her family in Jacksonville, Florida and friends in New York, New Jersey

and Delaware. In a rare opportunity, Nes caught up with Van Solomon in Miami, Florida on August 17. Van, who has lived in Florida since he migrated to the US in 1987, still works in a computer systems company and intends to retire next year. Van and wife Moira toured Nes and Cora to the Everglades National Park and around downtown Miami, and hosted dinner at a Peruvian restaurant.

Still another Mapitagan who went on a trip to the USofA was Class Secretary (*yours truly . . . ehemm*), who flew to Chicago with Nini and son Anthony for a nostalgic trip to Greenfield, Wisconsin to attend the 50th year reunion of his Whitnall High School Class 1974 where he attended Grade 12 under the auspices of the American Field Services (AFS) as an Exchange Student and lived with an American foster family. On their way home, he had the chance to catch up with Oby and Dr. Chona Antonio in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, then later with Edwin and Marian Talens in San Francisco, California.

Meanwhile, four Mapitagans and



Ed and Mayette Tamayo with their sons Robbie and Alfonso, with the Parliament House of Australia (also known as Capital Hill) in the background, on a visit to Canberra in September 2024.



Having a brunch in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on 11 August 2024 are (L-R): Doc Chona and Oby Antonio, and Edmund and Nini Tan.



Nes Deona and special friend Cora Mutuc, with Van Solomon and wife Moira (leftmost and rightmost, respectively) in the Peruvian dinner hosted by Van and Moira in Miami, Florida on 17 August 2024.



Meeting up in San Francisco, California on 19 August 2024, are (L-R): Marian and Edwin Talens, Edmund and Nini Tan.

their spouses, namely: Prez Ces and Cheryl Ordoño, Ome and Daisy Carbonell, Emil and Mae Sarmiento, and Jojie and Pia Segovia had their excellent opportunity to experience a very memorable three-week tour (02-23 October 2024) through the heart of Central Europe, where they met up with Bobby and Lou Ramos who are now based in Vienna. The group returned to Manila with a treasure trove of unforgettable memories: from the imperial charm of Austria to the medieval allure of Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Croatia, with each country offering a unique glimpse into its culture, history, and architecture. The cobbled streets and magnificent castles of these cities brought centuries of history to life as the five of them together with their spouses shared stories, laughter, and camaraderie that deepened bond not only as mistahs but as family.

Lou Ramos, by the way, serves as the current Administrative Officer and Attaché of the Philippine Embassy and Philippine Mission to the UN in Vienna, Austria. Mistahs who are planning to also tour Europe may do

well to do it anytime from now up to March 2027 when Lou will retire, so you can have gracious hosts in Bobby and Lou to tour you around in the different fabulous places in Central Europe.

Mapitagan Tribe's Increasing and Otherwise

The 7th of September 2024 was a red-letter day for Herbert and Marivic Yambing as members of their family, relatives and friends, were in the City of Pines for the wedding of daughter Eula that was solemnized at the Saint Ignatius of Loyola Chapel in PMA, Fort Del Pilar. Five (5) Mapitagans were in the bridal entourage as Principal Sponsors: Class Prez Ces Ordoño, Emil Sarmiento, Bong Cabantac, Sammy Diciano and Mon Loria and of course, their beautiful ladies. The groom, Teks Gonzales, is a Captain in the Marines and a member of PMA Class 2017. He is the Training Director of the Marines OCS. Eula, on the other hand, had just earned her Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry (DMD) degree from CEU and is currently preparing for the board to become a full-time dentist.

After the ceremony, the bride and

groom on their way out of the chapel to the bridal car for the wedding reception passed under an honorary arch of swords drawn by PMA cadets in a salute to the newly married couple. The reception was in William Cameron Forbes Ballroom, Baguio Country Club in Camp John Hay where guests were greeted with cocktails followed by a buffet lunch. The highlight of the reception was the couple's dance, the bride and groom waltzing to the tune of Kaydet Girl sung by all Cavaliers present. Best wishes to the new couple, Teks and Eula, and to the proud and happy parents Herbert and Marivic, CONGRATULATIONS!!!

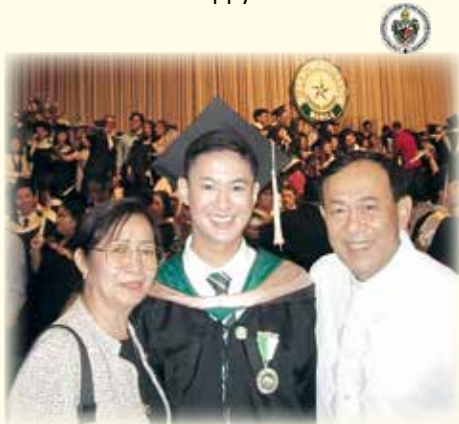
On a sad note, Ada, devoted wife of Mistah King Reyes, joined our Maker last 8 October 2024. Bong Cabantac and Fe Marie, Nene Delos Reyes and Cynthia, and Gupix Gupana and Diding went to Murcia, Negros Occidental to condole and comfort King and the bereaved family. We Mapitagans and our families express our deepest sympathy to King and his family for their loss. May the soul of Ada Reyes rest in eternal peace.

On a joyful note, Anthony Cresrey,

the youngest son of Edmund and Nini Tan, graduated Magna Cum Laude from DLSU with a degree on Marketing Management on 19 October 2024. Beaming with pride, his Ninong Bong Cabantac reacted to inform that his own son, Romulo III, also graduated Cum Laude from DLSU with a degree of BS Biology in 2007, and then finished his proper medicine course, passing the board exam in 2018. Doc Romulo III is now a colorectal surgeon at St Luke's Medical Center at BGC and QC, and at Las Piñas General Hospital. Bong further commented that "ang galing daw ng aming mga misis, Nini and Fe Marie" for producing achievers. As study shows that "women are more likely to transmit intelligence gene to children because they are carried on the X chromosome wherein women have two of these while men have just one", and na kaya if we men have more chromosome than women, siguro SUMMA na mga anak natin! He quipped. Hehehe.

From Our Class President

We call on the Mapitagans as we gather with our loved ones and friends in the spirit of this Christmas season. Let us remember that beyond the festivities and the years that have swiftly passed us by, the true essence of Christmas remains, a season of love, selflessness and hope. We have all walked long paths of service and sacrifice, and now, as most of us have embraced retirement, may we find joy in reflecting on those values and extending them to our families, communities and each other. Let us be reminded that Christmas should be God-centered, and that the season calls us to deepen our compassion, strengthen our bonds, and keep the light of faith and humility alive within us. May this Yuletide be a blessed one for each of you and your families, filled with peace, warmth and purpose. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Beaming with pride are parents Nini and Edmund Tan with their youngest son Anthony Tan on his graduation last 19 October 2024 from DLSU with a degree on Marketing Management, Magna Cum Laude.



Collage of photos above on the Tour in Central Europe from 02 October to 23 October 2024 of five mistahs and their respective bunkmates: Prez Ces and Cheryl Ordoño, Ome and Daisy Carbonell, Emil and Mae Sarmiento, Jojie and Pia Segovia with Bobby and Lou Ramos.



While the newlyweds danced, looking on are (L-R): Herbert's eldest son PAF pilot LTC Marc, parents Marivic and Herbert Yambing, Ninongs and Ninangs: Ces and Cheryl Ordoño, Fe Marie and Bong Cabantac, Emil and Mae Sarmiento, and Sammy Diciano, during the reception at the historic William Cameron Forbes Ballroom, Baguio Country Club in Camp John Hay, Baguio City on 7 September 2024. Not in photo is Mon Loria, one of the other Ninongs.



SHINE ON, DIMALUPIGS!!!

We are on the fourth quarter of the year. The year will over by the time this Class Call will be published. The Dimalupig Class is downplaying its usual merrymaking in the last quarter. However, it just can't moderate one activity of the Dimalupigs that is, golf. The Dimalupig Golf Team remains to be the formidable team to beat in the Game of the Cavaliers.

In this Class Call and the coming issues, the Class will be featuring Dimalupigs who still shine brightly where they are now. What they do is not the usual group activities of the Class but their deeds and accomplishments that maintain their relevance to society and continue to shine in their respective fields of undertaking.

There are many members of the Dimalupig Class who kept their relevance as public servants in government, private corporations, business and their 2ND profession. There are so many of them that they cannot be featured at one time in a single Class Call article. Because of this, the Class will be featuring them in as many number that each Class Call feature can accommodate. The Class is paying tribute and expressing its pride in them for their roles and accomplishments in their respective organizations. For this Class Call, we are featuring the most visible Dimalupig, Greg Catapang.

Dimalupig GREG CATAPANG is the Director General of the Bureau of Corrections. He was appointed to this position on October 21, 2022, first as the OIC and eventually as the Full-Time Director General with the rank of Undersecretary.



Members of the Dimalupig Golf Team shine bright in all the fairways of the metropolis in their immaculate crimson, black and white uniform and ready to beat the turf out of the competition.

Greg has inherited numerous problems which allegedly proliferated during the previous BuCor administrations. As one Mistah pointed out, all the BuCor Directors ahead of Greg came into the Bureau with their heads held high and shoulders pulled back and down but went out stooped and hunched. Greg admitted that he had to start from the bottom of a pit. But he said that his appointment was an answered prayer after he asked the Almighty to give him another opportunity to continue serving our country. And so, the Almighty gave BuCor to Greg from protecting the country from foreign invaders, Greg effortlessly transitioned to guarding the walls that keep within our wayward countrymen who invaded and transgressed the morals and morale of our people.

Indeed the problems are so numerous that a mere mortal couldn't sort and prioritize which would be addressed first. But Greg, who is no ordinary mortal, knows well his mettle. Under the "Bagong BuCor sa Bagong Pilipinas," Greg, is driving the modernization program of BuCor to make it relevant, sustainable, respected, and live up to its mandate of reforming the PDLs for their re-integration to their

communities. In the short time that he has taken the helm of the BuCor, he has achieved the following:

1. Cleansing the BuCor Management of the "unfits" and the "misfits" by dismissing 26 BuCor personnel for grave misconduct. He is investigating 106 more personnel for various reported offenses. On the other hand Greg also promoted 126 deserving BuCor personnel that include two Chief Superintendents to show his equanimity in management.
2. Creation of a Directorate Office for the education and training of BuCor personnel. This aims to address the problem of 805 invalidated personnel who were displaced for inadequate education and competencies when Bucor was made into a uniformed service. The Directorate will give the proper education and training for qualifications and competencies to these personnel to reclaim their positions in the Bureau.
3. Signing a Memorandum of Agreement with BP One Foods Inc. for employment opportunities for reformed PDLs to integrate them into society and reduce recidivism among released inmates.
4. Signing of Memorandum of Agreement with the De La Salle Santiago Zobel School (DLSZ) for the reformation and rehabilitation of persons deprived of liberty (PDLs). Under the MOA, DLZS faculty members, staff, and students will provide PDLs with social and civic services through social interactions, seminars, workshops, and training.

5. Modification to shorten the Executive Training Courses for prison management officers from six months to 45 days. This is to address the shortages of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, teachers, guidance counselors, priests, and other technical professionals. The training will focus on mandates, missions and vision, values, prison rules and regulations, duties and responsibilities, and the regimented nature of work.
6. Commissioning of 15 additional lawyers from the Department of Justice to provide the legal needs of deserving PDLs to facilitate their release after serving sentence under the "Balik Laya" Program.
7. Dismantling of the "Kubols" in the penitentiaries to clean and rid of hiding place for banned items, and make visible the PDLs (Persons Deprived of Liberty) for complete accounting and

prevent clandestine meetings of the PDLs for whatever illegal plans they have.

The forgoing list is just a part of the list of Greg's accomplishments. Still, Greg so far has maintained his bearing with shoulders back and down, head up and be head and shoulder above those who preceded him. His image is a true display of the proud Dimalupig Spirit. And, he is just one of the many Dimalupigs who shine on their own.



Sinagtalan Appointed to Higher Government Post

Mistah Gavin D. Edjawan was appointed to the position of Undersecretary of the Department of National Defense by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on September 27, 2024. Gavin took his oath as the new Undersecretary for Administration, to take charge of the Office for Human Resources and Administrative Service issues, in a ceremony presided by Secretary Gilberto C. Teodoro last October 2, 2024 at DND. His ascension to higher post manifests the DND leadership's recognition of his highly competent and excellent job performance as erstwhile Assistant Secretary for Financial Management, and the huge trust and confidence in his capacity to cope with the greater challenges associated with his new job. And while awaiting replacement, he still performs the functions of Officer-In-Charge, Office for Financial Management.

With this appointment, Sinagtala Class '86 now has two Undersecretaries serving in the defense department. The other mistah, Pablo M. Lorenzo currently holds the position as Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans, and Reserve Affairs.

Sinagtalans Running for Public Office In 2025

Seven Sinagtalans filed their certificates of candidacy for various posts in the election next year. Four of them have previous experience in politics, while three are newcomers. Their decision to run for public office was borne out of ardent desire to serve our country and people with utmost devotion and dedication to duty amidst the emerging national security challenges and the current political landscape. Leading the charge is incumbent **Senator Ronald M Dela Rosa (Dorouy)** who is pushing for a reelection bid. **Dorouy** who chairs the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs, is seeking a second term as lawmaker, motivated by a desire to continue with diligence and zealousness the legislative works he has started in the House of Senate.

Macairog S Alberto (Macky) is making a debut in politics when he decided to run for gubernatorial post in the island province of Catanduanes located in the Bicol Region.

Macky served as Commanding General, Philippine Army. He was later appointed to a diplomatic post of Ambassador in the holy land of Israel after his retirement from the military service.

Elmo Francis O Sarona (May-May), also a first-timer in the political arena, is aiming for a seat as Provincial Board Member in his home province of Quezon. He served as Director for Investigation and Detective Management prior to retirement from the PNP.

Three mistahs are running for mayoralty post in their respective localities:

Edward E Carranza (Ted), who just recently took his oath as Mayor of Silang, Cavite, clearly affirms his competence and ability to lead. **Ted** is seeking a fresh mandate driven by a commitment to serve the best interest of his constituents. Several months ago, he was sworn in as Acting Mayor after a suspension order was issued against the former sitting Mayor. Before joining politics, Ted served as Regional Director, Police Regional Office IV-A based in Calamba, Laguna.

Ronnie S Evangelista (Vangie), who currently serves as Mayor of Rodriguez (formerly Montalban) in Rizal province is also running anew to sustain the concrete reforms





and initiatives he has done, consistent with the governance platform he adopted when he first ran for office. **Vangie** served as Superintendent, Philippine Military Academy before his retirement from the AFP.

Oscar D. Albayalde (Odie) is a newcomer political aspirant joining the race for Mayor in Angeles City, Pampanga. A former Chief, Philippine National Police, **Odie's** decision to run as local chief executive of Pampanga's first class highly urbanized city was motivated by his desire to make a difference in the lives of his *cabalen*, putting their interests first over his own.

Lastly, **Melvin Ramon G Buenafe (Omar)**, a Councilor of Naga City in Camarines Sur, is eyeing for the same post for the second term. **Omar**, was a former PNP Regional Director in Bicol. After his retirement, he was appointed as Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Corrections, a three-star general rank position.

Future Activities

As Yuletide Season fast approaches, class officers ramp up preparation for the Christmas Fellowship scheduled on December 9, 2024 at the Ballroom of Villamor Airbase Golf Clubhouse. A once-in-a year event, said Fellowship is expected to draw mistahs and ladies, including widows of those who have gone ahead of us to join in a fun-filled Yuletide celebration. To add more excitement, gifts will be given away to those who will come, and several raffle prizes are up for grab as well. These gestures are consistent with the spirit of giving and sharing that the Yuletide celebration is meant to be.

Preparations are now underway for the 40th Graduation Anniversary of PMA Sinagtala Class 1986 in 2026. Initially, the class has made reservation at the Manor Hotel in Baguio City as billeting site for all graduates and their families.

Golf Fellowship

The Sinagtala Early Messers Golf Club (SEMGC) once again hosted a fellowship game last September 21, 2024 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course. The event brought together Sinagtala golfers for a game, sans the awards and trophies. It strengthened the

bond of brotherhood among mistahs, and helped relieve stress caused by daily grind. Dinner ensued at the PN Golf Clubhouse.

Below are the names of participants:

1st BN: Ludy Dela Paz, Jong Jurado, Gau Collado, Guido Rimando, Valfrie Tabian, Jun Misolas, Vince Batac and Harry Barber.

2nd BN - Art Biyo, Johnny Enguerra, Jun Santos and Danny Rodelas

3rd BN - Kid Arenas, Pepoy Concepcion, Rollie Manalo, Ces Mancao and Tim Pacleb

4th BN - Bob Empedrad, Egay Gonzales, Johnny Gulla and Cris Tumanda



Sinagtala Family loses a loved one

The Sinagtala Family expressed its condolences to one mistah who lost a loved one. Rey Aquino's elderly mother Carmen Aquino, aged 93 years old, passed away on July 21, 2024. The Class offer sympathies and prayers for strength and comfort to the bereaved family and loved ones in the midst of their sorrow.





FERNAN T TRINIDAD
President
TOINKS H VALENCIA
Class Historian

Greetings to all Hinirangs!!!

PMA Class 1987, handed over to the House of Somang (Hope) a cheque amounting to One Million Pesos, last August 11, 2024. It was Hinirang at its best sharing its blessings, giving hope and showing much love and care to abandoned elderly people and kids.

A simple event was organized, and it started with a mass, a solemn celebration of thanksgiving to God Almighty—the source of all blessings. After the mass, the abandoned kids presented song and dance numbers to welcome the mistahs present: Fernan and Gina, Loumer and Leonor, Peter and Dimples, Joby and Rachel with Giana, Toinks and his mom, Robert and Janet with Claire, Lyndon and Ping, Jerry C, Jojo and Lyn, Ramie and Choelo, Sergs and Carina, Eric and Naneth, Erick and Myla, Lito and Edna, Al and Aya, Mao and Cookie, Poopsie and Eve, Jimmy and Rose, and Henry R. The ladies approached and talked to the elderly to give them hope and feel cared for. They also distributed goodies that made the elderly smile. The Chapel events culminated with the formal handover of the cheque to the Kkotongnae Sisters of Jesus.

After the sumptuous lunch organized by the ladies, everyone gathered at the activity area of the elderly where an impromptu program was held. Hin Sarno led the Hinirangs to serenade the elderly. Watching their faces lit up with smiles and some singing from their wheelchairs was indeed—a special moment. A lola was celebrating her birthday, she was surprised by a cake and much attention. Did they remind us of our parents or made us think of how we will age? To continue, the elderly not to be outdone also rendered songs for





the Hinirangs. It was a fun and fulfilling day—while we shared our blessings, we were also blessed.

Golf Updates. Hin Gerry Cunanan was Class A Champion of Muntinlupa Mason Golf Tournament last 28 June 2024 scoring a brilliant net score of 2 under at the Hallow Ridge Golf Course. Hin Nick Parilla with an impressive Gross Score of 69 was declared Overall Champion of the inaugural Dapitan Rizal Golf Cup held last 20 to 21 July 2024 at the prestigious Dakak Golf Resort. And finally, Hin Bong Fajardo surprised everyone with an ace, a Hole-in-One at Hole Number 6 of the Couples Course at the Riviera Golf and Country Club. Congratulations mistahs, your achievements are inspiring as we participate in the Games of the Cavaliers 2024 and the Jurado Cup 2024 in Florida, USA scheduled from 08 to 11 November 2024. In the latter tournament, seven Hinirang members will participate: Hin Rico Magsino, Hin Cliff Empiso, Hin Nick Parilla, Hin Al Corpuz, Hin Orly Macatlang, Hin Jun Villanueva, and Hin Robert Fajardo. We wait for the good news!!!

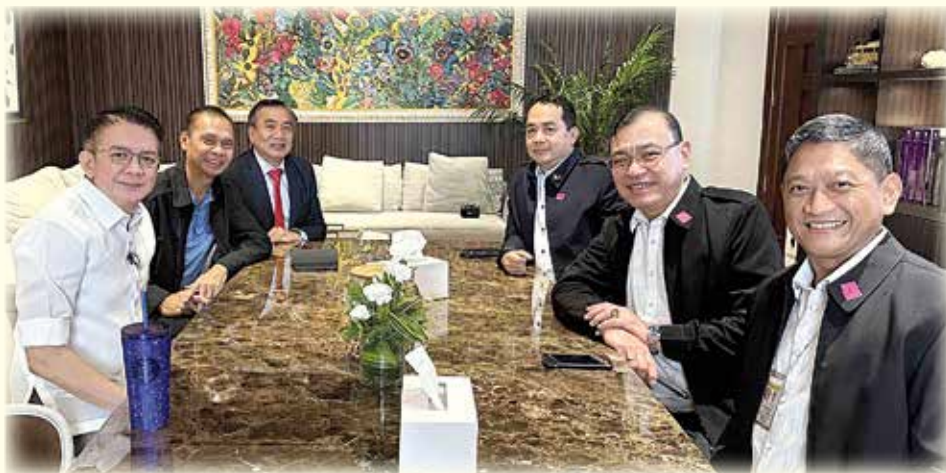
In the recent onslaught of strong typhoons, we saw mistahs in OCD work overdrive to mitigate the impact of climate



change. Thank you for the great service: Hin Nepomuceno, Hin Gepte, Hin Mogol and Hin Sermenio. Another mistah who hit the national news is Hin Ancan with his quick reaction during the infamous Senate

altercation. Hin Ancan also played host to many mistahs in government during their respective agency budget deliberation in Senate.

In the coming elections, we again have mistahs running for elective posts. They are Hin Arnel Escobal – Senator, Hin George Royeca - Angkas Party List Congressman, Hin Monsour Del Rosario - Vice Mayor Makati, Hin Rey Lyndon Lawas for City Councilor, Hin John Mendez for Board Member Bulacan, Hin Henry Dar - Councilor Moncada, Tarlac, and Lorraine Badoy-Partosa EPANAW Sambayanan Partylist. Let us support them in ways we can.





The Class 3rd Quarter Socials was held at the "Hinirang Hall" of OCD on 14 September 2024. This time, the title was RETRO 80's Night. It was going back to the disco music of college and PMA days. Kudos to those who had throwback attire, especially the ladies. We had a good turnout of attendees, as follows: Fernan and Gina, Loumer and Leonor, Erick and Myla, Jun C and Gillie, Sergs and Carina, Joby and Rachel, Mike and Ge, Guillor and Lally, Ramie and Choelo, George and Agnes, Jep, Neps, Joey and Babes, Mon and Mia, Poopsie and Eve, Jimmy and Joy, Nelson and Majo, Cesar and Agnes, Tom and Gigi Apol, Errol and Baby, Errol and Baby, Andy, Romy B and Liza, Ding and Gina, Peter and Dimples, Fajie, Mao and Cookie, Raul and Lorena, Elie G, Bong D, Lyndon and Ping. All mistahs are encourage to actively participate in the various class events.

Last 10 October 2024, Senate President Chiz Escudero celebrated his birthday. As a gift, the Class Officers decided to give him a Class Seal. After choosing the design, Hin Loumer went to Paete to have the Hinirang Seal carved. Hin Fernan personally handed over the gift to Hin Chiz who was very appreciative and extended his thanks to all mistahs.



As this Class Call is for the 4th Quarter of 2024. May I greet everyone—Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

May the essence of Christ's birth be in our hearts and let us share peace and goodwill to all!!!



ERNESTO C TORRES, JR
President
ADONIS R BAJAO
Class Historian

Makatao Class of 1989

The season is indeed packed with happy endings and new beginnings as a few of the remaining mistahs bid their final adieu and whispered hellos. As 2024 draws to a close, the Philippine Military Academy "Makatao" Class of 1989 witnessed pivotal moments as distinguished members of our ranks transitioned from active service.

Seven high-ranking general officers, including Lieutenant Generals, Major Generals and a Commodore who have shaped the nation's defense landscape, marked the end of their illustrious military careers. These seasoned leaders, who have commanded key military positions from the PMA Superintendency to various Infantry Divisions and vital staff functions, now embarked on new journeys, carrying forward their commitment to serve God, country, and people in different capacities.

LtGen Rowen Tolentino, Superintendent, PMA; LtGen Efen Baluyot, Commander, SolCom; LtGen Greg Almerol, Commander, EastMinCom; LtGen Charlton Sean Gaerlan, The Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP; MGen Don Bajao, Commander,

9th Infantry (Spear) Division; MGen Camilo Ligayo, Commander 8th Infantry (Stormtrooper) Division and Commodore John Garaña, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Financial Management all took their final bow and opened new chapters in their exciting destinies.

Each of us are now travelling along different paths that reflect our solid foundation, highlighting our ability to adapt and thrive. Some have ventured into the corporate world while others opt to remain in the public eye. And then there are others who chose to stay private and discreet while enjoying the fruits of their labor.

First, our financially savvy classmates have joined financial institutions of the



AFP-PNP in many ways. During the time of Jun Azurin as the PNP's top honcho, Chic Malayo, Bart Bustamante and Rex De la Rosa sat on the Board of Trustees of the Public Safety Mutual Benefit Fund Incorporated (PSMBFI). They have moved up the corporate ladder since then.

Across the highway, we have the following Makatao stalwarts heading the Armed Forces and Police Mutual Benefit Assistance Incorporated (AFPMBAI): Wibo Mamawag, Vice Chairman; Dorvin Legaspi, President and CEO; Ed Fabricante, Head, Insurance Sales Division; Nesty Rayos, Head, Real Estate Division; Rei Picar, Head, Information Technology Division; and Alex Tuprio, Chairman, Committee of RORPTC.



In addition, the Armed Forces and Police Savings and Loans Association, Incorporated (AFPSLAI) is currently headed by Makatao trailblazers, namely, Nic Driz, President and CEO; Mon Tampil, Treasurer/SVP for Treasury Department, Connor Canlas and Rex De la Rosa (from PSMBFI), as trustees; Nes Marcelino, Independent Trustee; and Leo Doctolero, Security and Investigation Officer.

Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC) remains afloat as Chappy Reyes and Chunks Gaerlan once headed the club as part of TDCSAFF's functions to oversee the morale and welfare of AFP personnel. Teeway Salamat was Vice Chairman of the Sub Committee on Tournament and Rules, with Dan Barotilla as an adviser and Vice

Chairman of the Sub Committee on Food and Beverage and member of the Sub Committee on Grounds and Facilities until September this year.





Of course, holding the top management of these AFP financial institutions is General Romeo S Brawner Jr, Chairman of the Board.

Also venturing into the maze and rat race of financial investments are pioneers like Jun Azurin as the Vice Chairman of the Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative; Connor Canlas (also of AFPSLAI) of the PAF Air Cooperative, and Leo Ramoran of the Innovative Bank.

Secondly, highly competitive mistahs who are raring to take on bigger challenges in public service are stepping into the world of politics. Rod Batang, Rhodel Sermonia and Connor Canlas are gunning for congressional seats as party list representatives, while Val De Leon is running to be a district representative of Nueva Viscaya.

Thirdly, our different branches of service have taken note of the significant strides made by our mistahs in various fields.

For the Army (by Marvin Licudine)

There are only three (3) Army Makataos left in the active service with General Romeo Brawner Jr leading the charge as the CSAFP; LtGen William Gonzales as the Commander, WestMinCom, and MGen Marvin Licudine as Comdr, AFPETDC. Working with private companies are Efren Baluyot as consultant of a foreign company; Alex Luna with Resorts World; Mao Licudine with a mining firm; Ace Esmeralda, running his own security consultancy firm; Nick Suemith with Robinsons group; Rick Bayhon as consultant/security of a local firm; Lincoln Tagle as Chairman of the Special Forces Alumni Association Incorporated (SFAAI), member of the Army Special Forces Special Educational Foundation, Incorporated (ASFSEFI) and consultant/ adviser to a

Senator of the Republic; John Oberio is also managing his security firm.

Others still working with government agencies include Jun Torres, Juvy Uy, Nono Plaza, Ariel Felicidadario, Terry Bitong and Manny Sequitin. Meanwhile, Joey Narciso; Joshua Santiago; Roger Migote; Mike Taningco; Nick Pongos; and Eman Magpayo are engaging in productive pursuits as ordinary citizens.

Based abroad are Kiram Grajo, Alan Borlasa, Bayani Fernadez, Ricky Carlos, Joji Raymundo, Jess Rosete, and Leo Asuncion.

Most Army Makataos are enjoying retirement while at the same time making up for the lost time with their loved ones.

For the Air Force (by Larry Tianchon)

Our Air Force group has truly spread its wings, with members excelling in various fields both in and out of the cockpit.

Larry Tianchon continues to perfect his golf swing while venturing into farming, humorously trying to grow golf balls in his garden. Joey Acedera remains an enigma, cool and seemingly ageless, guarding the secret of eternal youth. Toto Dela Pena is a dedicated environmental warrior at DENR, making strides with his ridge-to-reef plans.

Caloy Cristobal balances his time between piloting for Cebu Pacific and engaging in farming, mastering land and air like no other. Leo Peralta embraces retirement with zest, living life to the fullest. Cris Marquez innovates and leads, now a member of the MHHOA Council of Elders. Paul Mendoza continues his career as an airline captain with Hongkong Airlines, enjoying outdoor adventures in London.

Jerry Cabe has retired from helicopter piloting in the Middle East and now runs a thriving contracting business in Mindanao. Lito Villanueva enjoys the simple life in Batangas, reminding us of life's serene

pleasures. Aldrick Dela Torre is surely savoring another incredible adventure. Tony Lambino has achieved significant recognition in a leadership role in his field of work.

For the Navy - Coast Guard (by Rei Picar)

Two Navy Makataos continue to sail the seas, namely; VAdm Toribio "Jun" Adaci Jr, Flag Officer In-Command (FOIC) Philippine Navy and VAdm Alberto "Abet" Carlos PN, who is on an official leave.

Still continuing his service to the country is USec Ariel "Maculz" Caculitan, in his capacity as Undersecretary at the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Military Affairs. Though remarkably busy as an office boy, his week is not complete without riding and joining mountain cross adventures here and abroad. At the DOTR, Reginald "Reggie" Rapanan is Director IV, Office of the Transport Security (OTS). Bottomless coffee is served when you pass by NAIA. Ruben "Candel" Candelario reports daily to DENR to support USec Toto Dela Pena.

Chappy Reyes is still the VP and Group Security Head, Filinvest Development Corporation. Eniong Hernandez stays as VP and Security Consultant, San Miguel Global Powers of SMC. Timmy Aurelio serves as Consultant in MG/NC Security Specialist Agency and Valley Security Management Services, a private security industry.

William Isaga has settled in Bohol where he enjoys the beauty and beaches of his place, engaged in his weekend farming and bonding with his family. Butch Lobaton once spent his time counting all the yachts in Subic, Zambales as he managed operational activities of Watercraft Ventures Corporation. He is again enjoying a more peaceful retirement in Cavite. Ferdz Velasco is also in Cavite with his family and quite pre-occupied

managing his business, playing golf, and riding his bike.

The mistahs abroad and their endeavors are as follows: Jong Abellera is in UK as Senior Software Engineer in a Finance Company; Rey Baraca is in New Jersey, USA working at Symrise (Flavors); Maeng Climaco is in New York, USA taking care of sick people; Nonon Suniga is in California Bay area, City of Sunnyvale, USA; Orbille Piol is in Adelaide, South Australia, busy entertaining mistahs whenever they visit the Land Down Under.

Our honorary members are accounted for as well: Dexter Harold Emperador, practicing law even as he organizes the regular golf practices of the Makatao's Hampas Lupa Group; Camilo Balutan is now the Regional Director of NICA Cordillera coming from NICA 9; Francisco Gabudao Jr is in Alfonso, Cavite enjoying his retirement and his flourishing store business; John Lumicao is currently with the County of Santa Cruz, California USA, Department of Public Works as a Traffic Engineer; Randyll Fernandez is enjoying his retirement from the US Navy and Federal Government in Oxnard, California USA.

Ronaldo Mendoza was appointed by the Consul General Elmer G. Cato to be the Head of Safety and Security Committee of all Philippine events, especially during the celebration of Independence Day in June, and also as point of reference of some active/retired military who are arriving/passing in Milan, Italy and likewise with Military/PNP attaché based in Madrid, Spain; Raul Cortez is busy in the practice of law with his own law firm while still active with the PNP Anti Cybercrime Group as the Chairman of their Advisory Group and currently focused on upcoming lectures on cybersecurity

and technology in general; Brix Nabunat is with PAGCOR Casino Tagaytay as Security Officer; Virgilio Marcelo (US Army) is based in California USA and busy roaming the globe as of this writing.

Over time, the retired Makatao naval and coast guard officers found themselves becoming a source of inspiration, not only for their families and loved ones but also for other people. The personal challenges that they have faced became catalysts for self-discovery and growth. They began to view retirement not as an end but as a beginning, a new opportunity to explore uncharted territories, pursue new hobbies, and reinvent themselves in the name of service to others. Continue to sail on Navy and Coast Guard Makataos!

For the PNP (by Rex Dela Rosa)

The rest of the former PC SAF Rangers are still busy with their respective personal endeavors and private businesses. Not much has changed since the last class call, except perhaps for the upcoming political intramurals where some of our PNP leading lights will join the fray. One notable record though is Bart Bustamante's achievements after being conferred a Doctorate degree in Peace and Security Administration and included in the Career Executive Service Eligibility List as well. He is truly a model for life-long learning and continuous growth even after shedding his uniform.

In closing, as we navigate the remaining months of the year, let us continue to support each other with the camaraderie that defines the Makataos. Our diverse paths reflect the adaptability and strength instilled in us, serving as a

foundation for continued success and long-lasting friendship.

To our mistahs and other cavaliers who are stepping forward to run for Congress and other elective positions, may the virtues of honesty and integrity that were the cornerstones of our training and experiences continue to guide your way forward. It is with a profound sense of duty that we call on you to not only remember but actively embody these principles in your campaigns and, potentially, in your service in the civilian bureaucracy.

We understand the challenges and temptations that come with public office, yet we trust that you will not be swayed or engulfed by the often-murky waters of politics. Instead, we stand united in our hope and prayer that, if you will be given the opportunity to serve once more, each one will remain steadfast and true to the commitment we made together as young cadets and noble cavaliers.

Let us be exemplars of the spirit of MAKATAO, serving our nation with unyielding dedication and moral courage. Together, may we inspire and lead with integrity, contributing positively to our nation's legacy and to the greater good.

Together, united by our shared history and enduring camaraderie, may we all continue to stand and serve as pillars of strength and integrity. Here is to good health, rewarding retirements, and successful service in all forms. May we all carry the beacon of hope and the torch of the bright Makatao light wherever we go.

Let us make the future more prosperous as we trust in the Lord Almighty to guide all of us!



DENNIS GODFREY F GAMMAD
President
CRISOSTOMO S BAS JR
Secretary

As the class looks forward to its 35th year alumni anniversary celebration on the upcoming 2025 PMA Alumni Homecoming on 15 February 2025, the class officers are busy and are proud to announce the preparation of the following activities on this most exciting, memorable and momentous event.

Firstly, we will begin the celebration on 14 February 2025, Friday, which coincides with Valentines Day, and of course it will start with a game of golf at Camp John Hay that will surely be participated in by most of the class members whose appetite for

golf is at its peak nowadays, which will be facilitated by the 9Tee Golf Club. For ladies and brats, a novel Community Service at the Ambuclao Area will be organized by Benjie, which will be supported by dentists, doctors and volunteers of the class' spouses and brats. This day will culminate with a Valentine's BBQ party at the Forest Lodge area. Uniform for this event is casual attire to suit the fun and games.

Secondly, the highlight of this celebration is on 15 February 2025, Saturday, which will start with the Homecoming Parade at the PMA Parade Ground wherein the class uniform shall be worn. A bus ride is available from the hotel and back. Lunch will be at the Jurado Hall, which will include an election of a new set of class officers. Later in the day, a class dinner party will be held at Forest Lodge with everyone expected to be in a tie-less

business attire.

Thirdly, the celebration ends on 16 February 2025, Sunday, with a Class Trekking at Camp John Hay area for a distance of around three kilometers, which will end at a venue in the same place that will accommodate breakfast and fun games.

By the way, hotel accommodations are reserved for those class members who would like to avail of the 90 units at Forest Lodge and 30 units at the Manor. Reservation is good for two nights, and the class will shoulder one night only, while the balance will be to the account of the availing mistah.

In as much as the class would like to cover all costs for all participating class members during this 2025 PMA Alumni Homecoming, it all boils down to the capacity of the class fund to cover them, so good luck on our fund generating efforts;



but most importantly, a sufficient amount of the class fund shall remain for turn-over to the succeeding set of class officers. Thus, through the leadership of PDennis, along with the outgoing class officers, we are striving to meet the set financial goal along with the active support and involvement by every class member.

Currently, the class is more than halfway of our financial target and we are hoping that the upcoming class project will bear the same (or more) success than the previous ones that we have had accomplished. A congratulation is in order for the success of the recent golf project that was expertly and successfully handled, managed and administered by the Navy Service Branch under the leadership of Toinks as Project Chairman and Ric as Project Director. Special thanks to all mistahs for the usual, prompt and active involvement that made its success.

Expectedly, the 3rd BIGKISLAHI GOLF TOURNAMENT is underway which will

be held at the Riviera Golf Club on 28 November 2024 with Benjie as Project Chairman. Active participation of mistahs in the sale of tickets and generation of sponsors is key to the success of this project. Categories of sponsors are: Major Sponsor, Hole Sponsor, Minor Sponsor, and Special Sponsor. Everyone is encouraged to coordinate with Benjie for more sponsorship details and ticket price.

Another big activity that is anticipated is the Class Christmas Party on 07 December 2024 at the Army Officers Clubhouse with the theme: "Sayawan Natin Ang Pasko" wherein everyone is expected to be in their 80's retro outfit. There will be dinner, games, exchange gifts and dance lessons (which is intended as practice in preparation for the homecoming class dinner party).

Our class adoption activity has 14 mistahs who are recommended to the PMAAAI Board of Trustees for adoption approval. However, the adoption

deliberation is still ongoing. Since they are already adopted by the class as members and yet their adoption as member to the PMAAAI is pending, they can now join all class activities except the PMA Alumni Homecoming Parade and all PMA Alumni related activities.

For the period, the class welcomes the following mistahs who recently retired from the military service: MGEN Robert Capulong, MGEN Elpidio Talja, MGEN Steve Crespillo, MGEN Rommel Tello and BGEN Jose Augusto Villareal. Likewise, in the same period we witnessed the assignment of MGEN Luis Rex Bergante as the Commanding General of Eastern Mindanao Command. Meanwhile the retired members of the class are enjoying their time in getting better with their handicaps. Organized golf practices are actively done in preparation to defend and keep the Game of Cavalier Championship.





RONIE D PETINGLAY
President
ULYSSES S MARQUEZ
Secretary

Introduction:

As we journey through the ever-evolving chapters of our shared history, the PMA “Maalab” Class of 1993 stands as a beacon of excellence, camaraderie, and dedication to the noble cause of nation-building. Rooted in the spirit of service, the Maalab family continues to rise to greater heights, carrying the honor and pride that define our legacy. This issue is a celebration of our achievements, milestones, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Together, we recognize and honor the individuals who embody the values of leadership, integrity, and unity that distinguish the Maalabs.

Our Pride and Honor as the MAALABS

The PMA “Maalab” Class of 1993 celebrates with immense pride and honor as our Mistahs ascend to even greater heights of leadership and service. With their well-deserved promotions to Generals and Flag



Officers, our snappy Maalabs have taken on greater responsibilities in various critical roles, embodying the true spirit of dedication and service to the Filipino people. Each promotion is a testament to their hard work,

perseverance, and unwavering commitment to excellence.

Here are the Maalabs who continue to make us proud:

1. **Vice-Admiral Edgar L. Ybañez, PCG** – Deputy Commandant for Administration, Philippine Coast Guard
2. **MGen Rommel R. Cordova, PA** – Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, J5, AFP
3. **MGen Francis Anthony M. Coronel, PA** – Deputy Chief of Staff for Financial Management, J10, AFP
4. **MGen Thad Rufino P. Candelario, PAF** – Inspector General, PAF
5. **MGen Eric A. Gachalian, PAF** – Commander, Air Education, Training, and Doctrine Command, PAF
6. **RAdm Juario C. Marayag, PN** –





Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, PN

7. Comm Constancio Arturo M. Reyes Jr., PN – Commander, Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao, AFP

8. BGen Jonathan M. Aquino, PAF – Wing Commander, 355th Aviation Engineer Wing, PAF

9. BGen Jose Bonifacio F. Calub, PAF – Wing Commander, 410th Maintenance Wing, Air Logistics Command, PAF

10. Comm Edward Ike M. de Sagon, PN – Commander, Naval Forces Northern Luzon, PN

11. BGen Hubert S. Acierto, PA – Commander, Army Artillery Regiment, PA

12. Comm Raul A. Regis, PN – Commander, Offshore Combat Force, Philippine Fleet, PN

13. Comm Dwight Steven M. Dulnoan, PN – Deputy Commander, Eastern Mindanao Command, AFP

14. BGen Bob R. Apostol, PN (M) – Commander, 4th Marine Brigade, PMC, PN

15. BGen Allan Jose L. Taguba, PA – Commander, 701st Infantry Brigade, PA

16. BGen Redosendo C. Abad Jr., PA – Commander, Special Forces Regiment (Airborne), PA

17. BGen Jose Ambrosio F. Rustia, PA – Commander, 201st Infantry Brigade, PA

18. BGen Michael G. Logico, PA – Deputy Commander, Training Command, PA

19. BGen Moises L. Micor, PAF – Wing Commander, Tactical Operations Wing Central, PAF

20. BGen Ronald Jess S. Alcudia, PA – Commander, 202nd Infantry Brigade, PA

21. Capt Aldrin B Doctor PN – Deputy Commander, Naval Forces Central, PN.

Special recognitions that makes the Maalabs proud include the following achievements:



- **Maalab JJ Moreno** was elected as one of the new Trustees of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD).

- **Maalabs Ronnie Gavan, Fabbie Pedregosa, Charlie Rances, and Edgar Ybañez** received the prestigious **Lingkod Bayan Awards** and were recognized among the **Top Uniformed Personnel of the Philippines**.

- Our congratulations also go to the **Maalab Golfers**, who secured the **Championship Award** in the Firsties Division

of the **Game of Cavaliers**. The team members are Maalabs Josel, Joseph, JJ, Greg, Bates, Rey, Mulong, Earl, Raymund, Alex, and Niq

Our Source of Strength and Inspiration

The Maalab family celebrates the achievements of our members who continue to inspire us with their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments:

- **Maalab Brat Aaliyah C. Tacandong** – A proud graduate of Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Santo





Tomas (June 15, 2024), Aaliyah is now a Registered Psychometrician as of August 19, 2024. She took her oath at the Philippine International Convention Center on September 30, 2024. Congratulations on this remarkable achievement!

- **Maalab Brat PLT Patricia "Pat" Millen A. Leron** – Pat recently graduated with a Master's in Public Administration from the Philippine Christian University (August 26, 2024). Additionally, she successfully completed the 45-Day Specialized Logistics Management Course, earning recognition as a PNP Certified Logistician on October 4, 2024. Bravo, Pat!

- **Maalabelle Former Mayor Ivy Mendez-Coronel** – We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Ivy on her well-deserved promotion to Major of the Philippine Army

(Reserve). With her unwavering commitment to public service, she truly exemplifies the spirit of a dedicated servant-leader.

Our Salute to MAALAB Retirees

With deepest gratitude and respect, we honor our beloved Mistahs who have retired from the noble profession of arms. As they transition into new chapters of life, we salute their service and sacrifice. Now, they wear civilian attire with pride and continue to serve as pillars of strength for their families:

- **BGen Federico B. Enriquez, PAF (Ret)** – September 22, 2024
- **Comm Roger P. Viduya, PN (Ret)** – October 29, 2024
- **Comm Socrates M. Daza, PN (Ret)** – November 13, 2024

Thank you for your years of unwavering

service to the nation. You will always be revered as honorable and respected members of our Maalab family.

MAALAB Weddings and Milestones

We celebrate the sacred bonds of love and commitment within our Maalab family:

- **Renewal of Vows:** Congratulations to Maalab Jun and Kay Reyes, who renewed their marriage vows on October 30, 2024, at the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Western Command, AFP, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. This joyous celebration was followed by a dinner at Hue Hotel, Puerto Princesa City. May your love continue to flourish.

- **Upcoming 25th Wedding Anniversary:** The Maalabs are excited to celebrate the 25th Wedding Anniversary and Renewal of Vows of Maalab Couple Arthur





and Jo Romanillos on December 10, 2024. The event will take place at St. Michael the Archangel Chapel, Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City, followed by a reception at Ricarte Hall, Philippine Army Officers' Clubhouse. May your love story remain a source of inspiration to us all.

Conclusion:

With steadfast hearts and a shared vision, the PMA "Maalab" Class of 1993 remains a vibrant force dedicated to service, camaraderie, and nation-building. As we celebrate the successes of our peers, cherish the bonds within our community, and honor the contributions of those who have come before us, we renew our commitment to the ideals that define our class. Let us continue to inspire one another and serve as shining examples of leadership and dedication. Together, as Maalabs, we will forever carry the torch of courage, integrity and loyalty, blazing a trail for generations to come.



Institute of Corporate Directors

Congratulations

NEWLY ELECTED TRUSTEES
2025 TO 2027



Cathy
Catherine L. Hufana-Ang, FICD
Managing Director and
Chief Audit Executive
Ayala Corporation



Tonton
Jose Antonio T. Mapa, Jr., FICD
Chairman
Primrose Ventures Inc.



JJ
Jonathan Juan DC Morera, FICD
President & CEO
AF Payments Inc.



Maricelle
Maria Celeste S. Narciso, FICD
Independent Director
Republic Glass Holdings Inc.



FERMIN M MABULO
President
IVAN V SAN JOSE
Secretary
CHARLIE L TIU, JR
Writer

The Marilag Class of 1995 as Champions of Service and Excellence

The Art of Leadership

The Marilag Class of 1995 stands as a testament to the transformative power of leadership forged through rigorous training and camaraderie at the Philippine Military Academy. Each member emerged from this esteemed institution not just as officers but as exemplars of service and excellence. Their military training equipped them with discipline and resilience, traits that they have harnessed to navigate their post-military careers. In every endeavor, they have displayed an unwavering commitment to uplifting their communities, demonstrating that true leadership transcends rank and uniform. It thrives in the hearts of individuals dedicated to fostering positive change, paving the way for a brighter future.

Social Transformation in Action

Beyond their military service, the Marilag Class of 1995 has actively engaged in initiatives that strengthen community resilience and enhance public welfare. Their unity has sparked numerous



programs in collaboration with local governments and non-governmental organizations, addressing pressing societal needs. Notably, they have established scholarship programs for underprivileged youth, creating pathways to education and personal development. By investing in the younger and future generations, they cultivate future leaders who embody the values of honor and excellence. Through these transformative efforts, the Marilag Class not only empowers individuals but also weaves a stronger social fabric,



ensuring their legacy of positive change resonates for years to come.

Leading with Integrity

Integrity and ethical leadership are cornerstones of the Marilag Class' advocacy. They recognize the importance of accountability in public service and have actively participated in forums and workshops promoting transparency within the Armed Forces and government institutions. Their commitment to ethical principles ensures that they serve as positive role models for younger generations. By championing these values, the Marilag Class exemplifies that strong leadership must be rooted in integrity, inspiring others to follow suit in their own spheres of influence.

Conclusion

The Marilag Class of 1995 embodies the spirit of service, leadership, and dedication to community welfare, inspiring both current and future generations. Their commitment to excellence is reflected in their diverse initiatives, showing that true leadership extends well beyond military duty. As they achieve significant milestones across various sectors, they demonstrate that the bonds of brotherhood and the call to serve endure long after their



uniforms are laid aside. Their journey serves as a powerful reminder to today's youth that they, too, can embody these

values and make a meaningful impact in their communities. The legacy of the Class of '95 stands as a lighthouse for future

leaders, illuminating the path to a better tomorrow through service, integrity, and compassion.





NOEL A LAURIO
President
JESUS FRANCISCO M TORBELA
Secretary

Twenty-four years and seven months after graduation, here are some updates on our whereabouts:

Philippine Air Force

Ablog - DO, 950CEWW; Bateria - Dep OA10, HPAF; Bautista - DWC/220AW; Bodegon - U3, NOLCOM; Casuncad - CO, LTC/AETDC; Gerodiaz - C3/AIBDC; Macatingrao - Dep OA-3, HPAF; Madarang - CIG/CIA, PSC; Ordoñez-Basco - Chief, International Affairs Div, OJ5; Patrimonio-Antig - C, AFSMO and; Templonuevo - CCS/ADC.

They are the few and the proud remaining Masinag pilots in active service.

Philippine Navy

Angdason - DN5, HPN; Bogñalbal - C, FRG, PMC; Buted - Deputy CNLC; Cabungcal - Dep, N10; Cartin-Domine - Director, PN Modernization Office; David - Deputy NAW; Dela Calzada - CS, NIC; Fabian Jr - CNRCen-NL, NRC, PN; Facundo - C, PPPD, OJ3; Hechanova - CS, NAVFORSOL; Ibañez - CS, NETDC; Laurio - Chief, Capabilities and Weapons Sys Div, OJ5; Mangahas - MA5, PMA; Musil - MNSA; Robles - N8, HPN; Rotoni - N4, HPN; Sales - CNRCEN-NCR, NRC, PN; Santos - DBC, 4MBde; Sergio - DAFLO, Hawaii, Gonzalez - SNS, Rodriguez-Gonzalez - Naval Adjutant and; Tadulan - Supt, NRCTC, NRC, PN.

They compose the senior officers of the Navy already. Honolulu is waiving...Mahalo and Aloha!

Philippine Army

Alano - Chief GSMO, 1ID; Altre - MNSA; Alvaran - OJ1; Banaag - CS, SFRA; Banatao - Director, NTF ELCAC; Boransing- 1ID; Bumidang - MNSA; Busiños - ExO, OG10, PA; Castillo - G1, RESCOM; Delamide - 7ID, PA; Delos Santos - AGC,ISAFP; Dilag - CS, LRR, PA; Domingo, B - ExO, OACOCs; Domingo L - Bayombong, NV; Flores J - MNSA; Flores M - Chief, Strategy and Policy Div, OJ5; Garrido - PAMP; Hindang - MNSA; Hugo - CS, 54EBde; Jimenez - Director, Joint Special Operations Capability Dev't Center, AFPSOCOM; Kindipan - a/u CMOR, PA; Lazaro - SC3, AFPLSC, GHQ; Leviste - ASCOM; Ley - G4, 2ID; Mateo - Ex-O, OG1, PA; Mendoza - Inspector General, ASR, PA; Nepomuceno-Ang - MNSA; Pajarito - Ex-O, OG8, PA; Rabara - AC for Opns, CRS,AFP; Tabudlo - Schooling; Valdez - Dep Cmdr, TF Davao; Valencia - G3, 6ID, PA; Villanueva - ISAFP; and Vingno - Chief, FOCIS, OJ5.

At your service, across the land...and sea.

Technical Auxiliary Service

Simon - Assistant Dean, Corps of Professors, AFP and; Torbela - Director, Center for Leadership and Professional Excellence, PMA.

They produce the new generation of Lieutenants... alams na.

Philippine National Police

Castro J - Chief, Internal Security Operations Division, Directorate for Operations, National Headquarters, PNP and Recinto - (ehem).

Nasa Crame na daw sila.

Philippine Coast Guard

Barrameda - Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Civil Relations Service and; Sarmiento - Chief, Tech Intel Div, Coast Guard Intel Force.

Waiting for deployment sa WPS.

Business Industry and Retirees Chapter

Sonny Alfaro - Captain A330/A350, PAL; Callanta - PGM, VHAC Properties; Bungubung; DR De Ramos - Captain B777, PAL; Esboy - Security Head, Palm Concepcion Power Corp; Gallardo - Airline Captain, Cebu Air; Ronald Gucyam - Captain B777, PAL; Mogi Guillermo - Captain A320/A321, PAL; Vladimir Ilagan- Global Aerospace Logistics LLC (Abu Dhabi); Mundo - Calamba, Laguna; Navsky - Co Owner, Club Temptation, Hobbies of Asia, Macapagal Blvd. Pasay City; Pascua, Art - Security and Safety Manager, British School Manila; Garry Pinggen - Head, Security and Risk Management Dept, San Miguel Logistics; Isko Ramirez - Captain A320/A321 PAL; Edwin Remante- Captain, Starlux Airline; Roderos - Finance Manager/Part Owner- PMR Construction Services/ Partner - Sanchez, Roderos and Labarete Tax Consulting, LLC; Jun Samilin - Captain A320/A321, PAL; and Noah Villacrusis - Captain A320/A321, PAL.

Because they prefer civilian names and nicknames, then let it be. By the way, Julius Navales is always ready to accommodate guests daw.

Gone to Soon

Pacis J; Halasan; Que; Divina; Tamano; Gay-ya; Saturno; Dimaculangan; Nunez; and Villareal... may you all rest in peace, mistahs.

Until the next update.



CARLOS ELY C TINGSON
President

Alas! We awake from deep and long slumber from this column. But for the past years, we have witnessed a lot of dramatic changes on the way we "link up", communicate, and exchange information. The internet and social media have enabled us to instantly update everyone within our community about our statuses, whereabouts and our general horseplay. Furthermore, with the revolutionary data exchanges and digital transformation that we are experiencing in our daily lives, we become more and more

aware and concerned about the concepts of data privacy and information security.

As such, this column will not be listing down who is assigned where, who commands what unit or ship, who has hanged their uniforms for retirement, or who has finally got married. Surely, that information is readily available and constantly shared among our different chat groups that are exclusive to our class members.

Rather, this column will discuss the Mandala Spirit at a crucial point when most of our mistahs are leading the tips of the spear in the defense of our country. We say crucial because Mandalans have been entrusted with power and responsibilities not only over our country's military resources but more so, our country's sons and daughters who have taken up the noble profession of arms. Every decision we make can affect not only the

lives of our people but also the very people who have hinged their hopes on them. Such herculean responsibilities are placed upon us and bearing this alone can be tremendously difficult. As such, it is in these crucial times that we call upon each other for support and camaraderie.

Indeed, it can be lonely at the top. While we strive to inspire and embolden the people who follow us, we also need each other to nudge ourselves forward, especially at times when we are weary.

As such, I encourage all Mandalans to reach out to our mistahs. Be active in our groups. Share a joke or two, post pictures of your coffee or whisky shared with another Mistah, be there for one another.

By doing so, we keep the Circle of Kings rolling, ever forward even in an uphill battle.

Mabuhay tayo, Mandala!





MARK ANTHONY S TITO
President
MIRA JOY B ANDAWI
Secretary

As the holiday season surrounds us with joy and gratitude, BAGWIS would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. May everyone celebrate the true reason for this season—our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

This year has been exceptionally fruitful for our class. During the last PMA Alumni Homecoming in February, CPT MARK ERICK GARCIA PN(M) received the Cavalier Award for Naval Operations – Junior Category. This is the first Cavalier



MAJ HERRERA PA delivering his speech during the awarding. (Photo courtesy of USMA Official Website)



CPT GARCIA PN(M) is flanked by (L-R) CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO '94, President, PMAAAI; CAV DANNY A ABINOJA '74, Chairman, PMAAAI and Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri during the PMA Alumni Homecoming 2024.

Award ever received by a member of our class, and it certainly won't be the last.

Then, on 10 October 2024, MAJ FLOREN P HERRERA PA was awarded the Alexander R. Nininger Award for Valor at Arms at the United States Military Academy (USMA) in West Point, New York. This is the first time in USMA history that an international graduate has received this prestigious honor.

Both the Cavalier Award and the Nininger Award are bestowed upon individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, bravery, commitment, and

selfless service—qualities expected of an officer in the Armed Forces.

To Mark and Floren, congratulations once again for your gallantry in action. You have brought great honor to our class and to our alma mater.

For other class activities, the majority of the Navy group had the chance to spend time together after their PFT at BNS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, on 12 August 2024. It's always a joy to spend time with mistahs, as gatherings of this size don't happen often.



Navy Group PFT at BNS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City - 12 August 2024.



NICOLE L AYNERA
President
LEAN ARSEN N SADURAL
Secretary

Warm Greetings to all Madasigons!

One year after their graduation from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) on 21 May 2023, the proud 311 members of the **PMA Class of 2023** have continued to serve the nation with honor, integrity, and excellence, demonstrating the values instilled in them during their rigorous training at Fort Del Pilar. As they marked their first anniversary as commissioned officers in the AFP, they have made significant strides in their careers, taking on leadership roles, participating in critical missions, and embracing the challenges of serving the country's defence and security needs.

Since their commissioning into the PAF, the PMA Class of 2023 graduates have been soaring to new heights, both literally and figuratively. Officers have joined various operational and support units across the country, which are essential to maintaining air superiority and national security. Notably, a number of PAF MADASIGONS are currently undergoing Military Pilot Training at AETDC, Lipa, Batangas, flying the T-41 Aircraft across the Islands of Luzon.

Among the Air Force 2LTs, **2LT BANAC PAF** was sent by the PAF for foreign schooling in the US to undergo the Aviation Leadership Program at Lackland AFB, Texas, and Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Truly, exceptionalism pays, as this quality alumnus of PMA has travelled longer distances to hone his skills and adopt good practices from different countries around the globe, all in the name of AFP for the future of the Nation's Air Supremacy.

In the Philippine Navy, the alums of the PMA Class of 2023 are already taking on critical responsibilities in the Philippine Fleet and the Marines, which are tasked with securing the country's vast maritime borders and safeguarding its territorial waters.

For the Navy Ensigns, **ENS LAWINGAN PN** finished her schooling at the Britannia Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, Devon, England. She graduated from her Initial Naval Training for Officers Course as the Top International cadet, the highest-achieving international cadet, and obtained the Francisco Jose de Caldas Medal with the highest overall academic average in all assessments. Her performance in schooling indeed shows how exceptional and capable PMAers are around the globe.

Many Navy graduates also undergo numerous specializations and schooling that propels the class to sail on farther areas of the archipelago, earning different skills and



practicing what its class stands for Honor and excellence. To highlight, the aspiring MADASIGON Naval Special Operations Command (NAVSOCOM) Frogs have undergone their rigorous Hell Week, Swam the exhausting seven miles from Manila to Cavite, went to train for their no amount 120 ft Dive Scuba and have just finished battling FTX in demolition.

In the Philippine Army, PMA Class of 2023 graduates have been deployed across various areas of the country, from Mindanao's jungles to Luzon's urban centers. They actively engage in counterterrorism operations, civil-military operations, and peace and order in conflict-prone areas.

One of the most notable achievements from this cohort has been the successful deployment of the army 2LTs first achiever, who has undeniably displayed vigilance in preserving peace and freedom within his area of operations. Just a month into his unit, **2LT ROMEROSA PA** and **2LT BOQUIDA PA** exemplified the spirit of MADASIGONS by showing determination and courage as Platoon Leaders in their armed encounters as both being awarded the Gold Cross Medal (the third highest military award of the AFP).

After graduating for a year and a half, it is clear that the PMA Class of 2023 graduates are already making a lasting impact in their respective branches and units. Their commitment to the country's defense is unwavering, and the values they carry from Fort Del Pilar—*Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty*—continue to guide their service as they face the challenges of an ever-evolving global security landscape.

In the coming years, the PMA Class of 2023 officers will undoubtedly rise to even greater responsibilities. They are expected to play critical roles in the Armed Forces' modernization programs and contribute to strengthening regional security partnerships. Their leadership potential, honed through their training at the premier military institution in the Philippines, promises a future of greater professionalism and excellence within the Armed Forces of the Philippines. As they continue their military careers, members of the Class of 2023 remain a source of pride for the PMA, the Armed Forces, and the entire nation. Their current achievements are just the beginning of what will surely be a distinguished legacy of service and leadership. **To all the members of the PMA Class of 2023, may your journey continue to inspire, and may you always lead with Honor and Excellence.**



*“Be strong and courageous,
for the Lord will be with you
wherever you go.”*

LAST CALL

LTCOL ISRAEL N CORONG 2000

5 Nov 1974 - 23 Aug 2024

Cav Corong passed away on 23 August 2024. He was interred at the La Travesia Park, Lipa City, Batangas on 30 August 2024. He is survived by his wife Angela Pia and children: Ella Angela and David Israel. His position last held at the AFP was as Group Commander of the 570th Air Base Group, TOW West, Puerto Princesa City.



COMMO ROSAURO ARNEL Q GONZALES, JR '78

29 Apr 1956 - 14 Sept 2024

Cav Gonzales joined our Creator on 14 September. Wake was held at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary. He was a former Regional Director, Civil Defense Northern Mindanao – Region 10.



CDR DEXTER A CAGA-ANAN '02

29 Nov 1975 - 15 Sept 2024

Cav Caga-anan died of Acute Myocardial Infarction on 15 September 2024.

He is survived by his wife Rency M Caga-Anan and children Doreine, Adreinne, and Cyreinne. Wake was held at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary on 16-23 September 2024 until his interment on 24 September.



LTCOL ESMERALDO A ROMANO JR '72

06 Jan 1950 - 18 Sept 2024

Cav Romano passed away last 18 September due to lingering illness that he endured for a long time. Wake was held at St. Ignatius



Cathedral, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. A simple but dignified necrological service was rendered in his honor during the last day of wake at Mortuary in Camp Aguinaldo. He was also accorded a solemn military honors prior to his inurnment in Funeraria Paz last 24 September.

MGJEN JOSE T BARBIETO '74

Died on 21 Sept 2024

Cav Barbieto passed away on 21 September 2024 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center after a prolonged illness. He is survived by his wife, Myrna, and son, Gerard James. A necrological service was held on 25 Sept 2024 at the Mortuary of Libingan ng Mga Bayani. The following day, he was interred at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani.



LCDR MARIANO VICTOR A CORDERO '67

27 Nov 1944 - 04 Oct 2024

Cav Mariano “Cords” Cordero passed away on 4 October 2024 due to heart attack at his home in Quezon City. His body was cremated immediately and the wake was held at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Commonwealth, Q.C. on 5-7 October. He died at the age of 80. He is survived by his wife Mina, children: Jose Dax Adrian, Monina Jean, and Monica Joy.



PBGEN ALEJANDRO F DE GUZMAN '67

10 July 1942 - 09 Oct 2024

Cav Alejandro “Guzi” De Guzman died on 9 October 2024 at the age of 82 at the VMMC where he had been confined for some time due to a lingering



illness. The wake was held at the LNMB Mortuary, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City on 10-14 October and followed by an interment on 15 October. He is survived by his wife Estelita and children Luis, Bernard, Alexander, Chrisely and Chrisine.

LTCOL DANTE C SIMBULAN '52

03 May 1930 - 12 Oct 2024

Cav Simbulan died on Oct. 12 in Fairfax County, Virginia. He was 94. He left the Armed Forces to become an educator, returned to PMA in 1965 and taught there for two years before moving on to other universities.

He went into involuntary exile in the United States in 1980. He wrote several acclaimed books, such as *“The Modern Principalia: The Historical Evolution of the Philippine Ruling Oligarchy”* in 2005, *“Whose side are we on?”* in 2016, and *“When the Rains Come, Will Not the Grass Grow Again?: The Socialist Movement in the Philippines, 1920–1960”* in 2018.



BGEN JESUS RICO D ATENCIO '91

4 July 1967 - 15 Oct 2024

Cav Atencio, a member of PMA Class 1991, joined our Creator on 15 October. Wake was held at his residence in Elrico Farm, Brgy. Calantas, Floridablanca, Pampanga on Oct 15-19. Necro on 19 Oct and cremation on 20 October at Eternal Covenant, Floridablanca, Pampanga. He is survived by his wife Ma. Elizabeth A. Atencio and children: Joseph Arjay Atencio (wife Allaine, child Alric Martin); and Joshua Atencio (wife Anne and children Jasmine and Erin). His last position held in the AFP was as Asst. Division Commander, Armor Division.



COL PATERNO D ESCUDERO JR '74

11 May 1951 - 24 Oct 2024

Cav Escudero passed away on 26 October 2024, after being in a coma for over six months at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center, he was 73. Wake was held on 5-8 Nov at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart N. Escario St., Capitol, Cebu City. A necrological service was held on 9 Nov. He is survived by his sons Ace and Billy.

**BGEN EDUARDO T CABANLIG '61 PN (M)**

03 Mar 1938 - 25 Oct 2024

Cav Cabanlig, 13th Commandant, Philippine Marine Corps, joined our Creator on 25 October, he was 86. Wake was held at St. Peter Memorial Chapels Quezon Ave, 296 SPMC Building, Quezon Ave, Q.C. He was laid to rest on 29 October at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. He was married to the late Lina Cabanlig with whom he has three children: Dominic, Amiel, and Edelyn.

**PN CAPT FELIX L TURINGAN '65**

29 July 1943 - 4 Nov 2024

Cav Turingan died on 4 November of COPD complications. He is survived by his wife Victoria and children: Rommel, Regina and Angelica. Wake was held at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Paranaque on 4-6 November before his interment on 12 Nov at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

**MGEN ALEXANDER C COSTALES '68**

21 Dec 1944 - 05 Nov 2024

Cav Costales, former vice commander of Philippine Army, died peacefully on 5 Nov 2024. Wake was held at the Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel, Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Paranaque. Funeral honors and burial ceremony were held on 16 Nov at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. Cav Costales was the Chairperson of Cooperative Union of Taguig and Pateros at the time of his passing.

**BGEN ALEXANDER D TAGUINOD '77**

15 April 1953 - 09 Nov 2024

Cav Taguinod passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on 09 November. Wake took place at Ortiza Memorial Chapel, Diversion Road Tuguegarao. He was finally laid to rest on 19 November at Guzman Memorial Park, Tuguegarao City.

**PLTGEN PEDRO G SISTOZA '60**

31 Jan 1939 - 10 Nov 2024

Cav Sistoza, 85 passed away on 09 Nov 2024. He resided in Fontana, CA at the time of his passing. He left behind his caring wife Marina.

**MAJ ROLEN S SOBREVEGA 2010**

21 April 1985 - 10 Nov 2024

Cav Sobrevega died peacefully on 10 November 2024. Wake was held at his residence at Sub Purok Gumamela, Purok Que Alma Norala, South



Cotabato. Burial was held on 22 November at Cemetery Norala, South Cotabato. He was a staff officer of 8ID Catbalogan, Samar at the time of his passing.

CAV JAMES LESTER B BUENAOBRA '83

21 May 1959 - 13 Nov 2024

Cav Buenaobra, member of PMA Class of 1983 died peacefully on 13 Nov 2024. Funeral services were held on Nov 22 and Nov 23 at Thomas F. Dalton Funeral Home New Hyde Park, New York. He left behind his caring wife, Rowena and children.

**CAPT MANUEL M DOMINGO '71**

6 May 1948 - 21 Nov 2024

Cav Domingo, a retired pilot and instructor of Cebu Pacific and PAL passed away on 21 November at Veterans Memorial Medical Center after a lingering illness, he was 76. Funeral services were held at St Peter Chapels, Sucat, Paranaque on 23-27 November and interment on 28 November at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig.

**COL EMMANUEL P PRIVADO '86**

24 Dec 1962 - 22 Nov 2024

Cav Privado passed away on 22 November. Wake was held at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary. He was finally laid to rest on 28 November at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig City. Cav Privado was a former Director of DSWD, Pasay. He was married to the former Lilibeth Panimdin.





Christmas Message

As we celebrate this festive season, it is an opportunity to pause and reflect on the values that unite us all—courage, integrity and loyalty. The Christmas season brings with it a renewed sense of hope and a reminder of the strength we have as an alumni community.

This year, we have stood together through challenges and triumphs, and it is with immense pride that I acknowledge the resilience and commitment of every Cavalier. Your continued dedication to the ideals of the Philippine Military Academy inspires us all and serves as a beacon for the generations to come.

In this yuletide season of giving, let us remember to extend kindness and gratitude to those around us, and to embrace the joy that comes with the fellowship of family and friends. Together, we will continue to make a difference in our communities and in the lives of those we serve.

On behalf of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with peace, joy, and fulfillment. May the coming year be one of renewed strength and purpose as we continue to honor our shared commitment to excellence.

Mabuhay ang PMA Alumni Association!


CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75
Chairman
PMA Alumni Association, Inc.



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